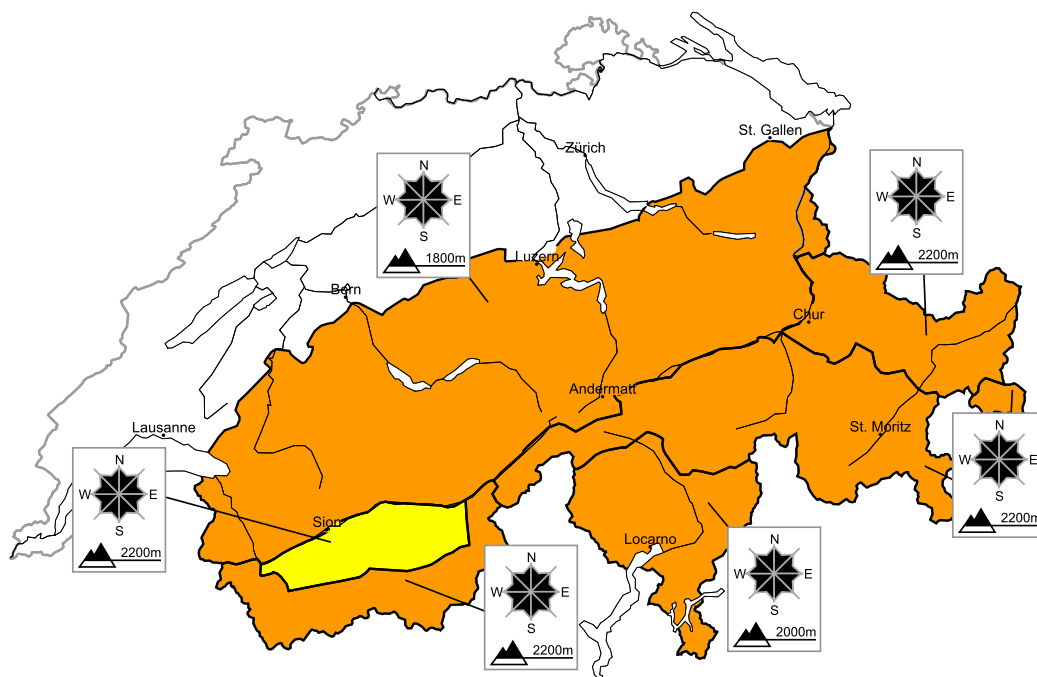


# The conditions are wintry. At elevated altitudes a precarious avalanche situation will be encountered over a wide area

Edition: 28.4.2017, 17:00 / Next update: 29.4.2017, 17:00

## Avalanche danger

updated on 28.4.2017, 17:00



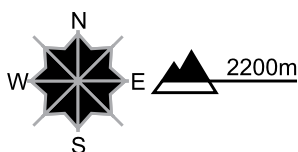
region A

Level 3, considerable



### Fresh snow and snow drifts, old snow

#### Avalanche prone locations



#### Danger description

As a consequence of fresh snow and strong wind extensive snow drift accumulations have formed. Avalanches can be released by a single winter sport participant or triggered naturally. They can reach medium size. As a consequence of warming, the likelihood of avalanches being released will increase a little. Additionally avalanches can penetrate deep layers. These avalanche prone locations are rare. They are to be found in particular on very steep north facing slopes above approximately 2400 m. Backcountry touring calls for experience and restraint.

### Wet avalanches as day progresses

East, south and west facing slopes below approximately 2600 m: As a consequence of warming during the day and solar radiation numerous small to medium-sized moist snow slides and avalanches are to be expected. Slides are to be expected on cut slopes.

Danger levels

1 low

2 moderate

3 consider.

4 high

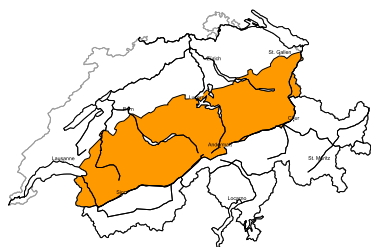
5 very high



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Avalanche Research SLF  
www.slf.ch

**region B**

**Level 3, considerable**



**Fresh snow and snow drifts**

**Avalanche prone locations**



**Danger description**

As a consequence of fresh snow and strong wind extensive snow drift accumulations have formed. Avalanches can be released by a single winter sport participant or triggered naturally. They can reach medium size. As a consequence of warming, the likelihood of avalanches being released will increase a little. Backcountry touring calls for extensive experience in the assessment of avalanche danger.

**Wet avalanches as day progresses**

East, south and west facing slopes below approximately 2600 m: As a consequence of warming during the day and solar radiation numerous small to medium-sized moist snow slides and avalanches are to be expected. Slides are to be expected on cut slopes.

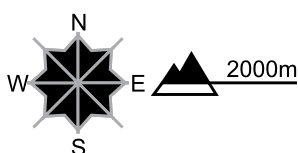
**region C**

**Level 3, considerable**



**Fresh snow and snow drifts**

**Avalanche prone locations**



**Danger description**

Over a wide area 120 cm of snow has fallen in the last three days above approximately 2200 m. Avalanches can be released by a single winter sport participant or triggered naturally. They can reach medium size. As a consequence of warming, the likelihood of avalanches being released will increase a little. Backcountry touring calls for experience and restraint.

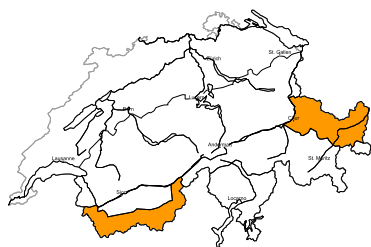
**Wet avalanches as day progresses**

East, south and west facing slopes below approximately 2600 m: As a consequence of warming during the day and solar radiation numerous small to medium-sized moist snow slides and avalanches are to be expected. Slides are to be expected on cut slopes.



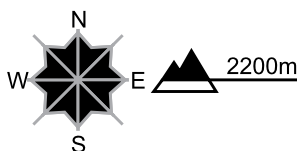
**region D**

**Level 3, considerable**



**Fresh snow and snow drifts, old snow**

**Avalanche prone locations**



**Danger description**

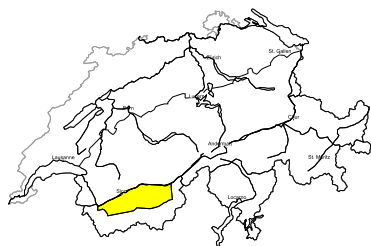
The fresh snow and snow drift accumulations can be released by a single winter sport participant. Additionally avalanches can penetrate deep layers. These avalanche prone locations are very rare. They are to be found in particular on very steep north facing slopes above approximately 2400 m. Backcountry touring calls for experience in the assessment of avalanche danger.

**Wet avalanches as day progresses**

East, south and west facing slopes below approximately 2600 m: As a consequence of warming during the day and solar radiation numerous small to medium-sized moist snow slides and avalanches are to be expected. Slides are to be expected on cut slopes.

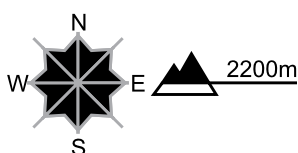
**region E**

**Level 2, moderate**



**Snow drifts, old snow**

**Avalanche prone locations**



**Danger description**

Fresh and somewhat older snow drift accumulations are mostly small but can be released easily. The number and size of avalanche prone locations will increase with altitude. Additionally avalanches can be released in deep layers. These avalanche prone locations are very rare. They are to be found in particular on very steep north facing slopes above approximately 2400 m. Backcountry touring calls for careful route selection.

**Wet avalanches as day progresses**

East, south and west facing slopes below approximately 2600 m: As a consequence of warming during the day and solar radiation mostly small moist snow slides and avalanches are to be expected.

## Snowpack and weather

updated on 28.4.2017, 17:00

### Snowpack

At high altitudes and in high alpine regions, wintery conditions prevail. During the last few days there has been 50 cm of fresh fallen snow registered over widespread areas, in southern regions as much as 100 cm and more, of new fallen snow, accompanied by winds of intermittently strong velocity. Avalanches can be triggered even by the weight of one single skier and subsequently, in most regions, grow to medium size. On Saturday, furthermore, the proneness of the snowpack triggering will increase somewhat during the course of the day as a result of daytime warming. In isolated cases, avalanches which fracture on north-facing slopes can sweep away the entire snowpack. This applies particularly to altitudes between 2400 and 3000 m, where layers of faceted-crystal snow are evident deeply embedded inside the snow cover.

As a result of daytime warming and solar radiation, numerous moist-snow avalanches and slides can be expected from the new fallen snow on east-south-and-west facing slopes below approximately 2600 m.

### Observed weather on Friday, 28.4.2017

On Thursday night there was snowfall over widespread areas which from region to region was intensive. During the morning on Friday, the snowfall came to an end, to begin with in southern regions, later on in western regions. In these parts of Switzerland, bright intervals became evident over the course of the day. In eastern regions the precipitation persisted until evening, although weakening incrementally. The snowfall level in southern regions descended from 1600 to 800 m; in northern regions the snowfall level was at approximately 600 m.

#### Fresh snow

Since Thursday afternoon, the following amounts of snowfall have been registered above approximately 2200 m:

- northern flank of the Alps, southern Upper Goms, central sector of the southern flank of the Alps, remaining parts of the central and eastern Main Alpine Ridge, remaining parts of central Grisons: 30 to 50 cm in general;
- remaining parts of the Valais, northern Grisons, remaining parts of the Engadine: 10 to 30 cm.

Thus, since the beginning of this period of precipitation on Monday evening, the following amounts of fresh fallen snow have been registered:

- central sector of the southern flank of the Alps, Main Alpine Ridge from Lukmanier Pass to Bernina Pass, Val Poschiavo: 100 to 140 cm;
- immediately north of the bordering regions: 80 to 100 cm;
- regions on the northern Alpine Ridge on the border of Berne and the Valais, Grimsel and Susten regions: 60 to 80 cm;
- remaining regions north of an imaginary Rhine-Rhone line not including the Alpstein, regions in the Valais section of the Main Alpine Ridge along the Italian border, remaining parts of Goms, remaining parts of central Grisons, Val Müstair: 40 to 60 cm;
- remaining regions of Switzerland: 20 to 40 cm.

#### Temperature

At midday at 2000 m, between -7 °C in northern regions and -3 °C in southern regions.

#### Wind

Winds over widespread areas were blowing at moderate to strong velocity from northerly directions.

## Weather forecast through Saturday, 29.4.2017

In the early part of the night in northern and eastern regions, a few centimeters of snowfall is expected. Subsequently, the snowfall will come to an end in those regions as well. In western and in southern regions, nocturnal skies are expected to be clear. During the daytime it will be sunny in the mountains, apart from some residual cloud in eastern regions during the morning.

### Fresh snow

-

### Temperature

At midday at 2000 m, between -2 °C in northern regions and 0 °C in southern regions.

### Wind

Winds will be light, apart from moderate-strength northerly foehn winds in southern regions during the night.

## Outlook through Monday, 1.5.2017

### Sunday

Following a night of clear skies it will be sunny to begin with. During the course of the day, high-altitude cloud cover will move in from the southwest. The danger of dry-snow avalanches is expected to incrementally diminish. The danger of wet-snow avalanches will increase during the course of the day.

### Monday

Apart from the final, foehn-induced bright intervals in eastern regions during the morning, skies will be heavily overcast. By Monday evening, a small amount of snowfall is anticipated above approximately 1200 m, accompanied by moderate to strong-velocity westerly winds. The danger of dry-snow avalanches will increase. As a result of descending temperatures, only isolated wet-snow avalanches can be expected.