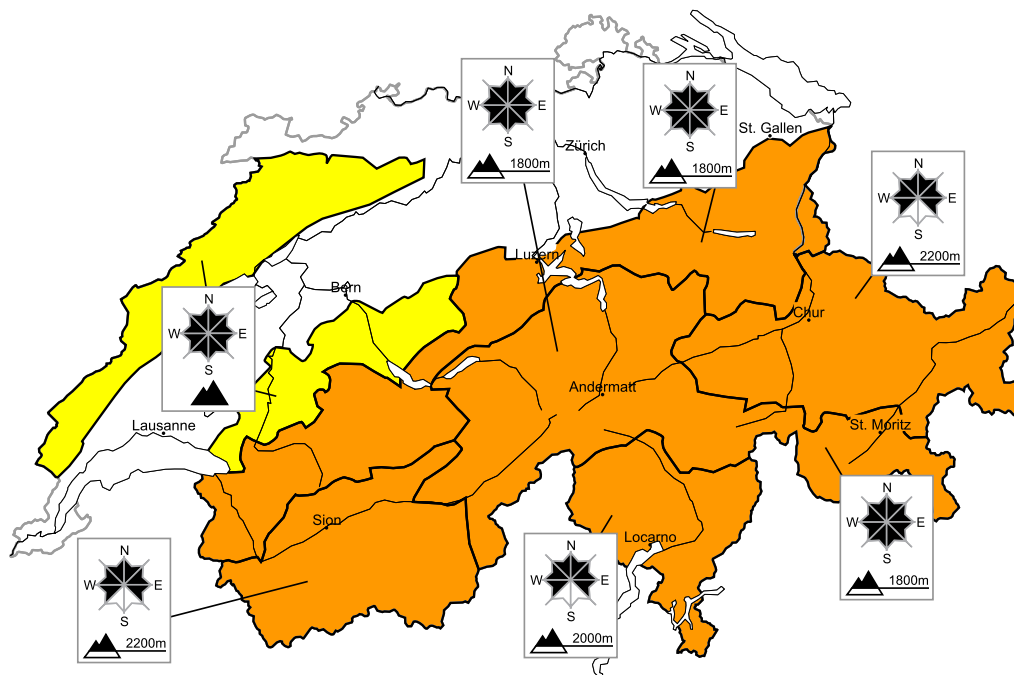


In the north significant warming. A precarious avalanche situation will prevail

Edition: 2.4.2018, 08:00 / Next update: 2.4.2018, 17:00

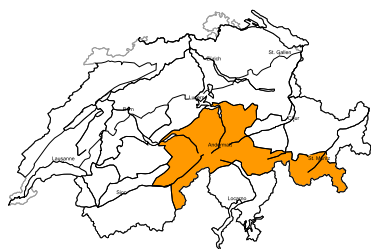
Avalanche danger

updated on 2.4.2018, 08:00



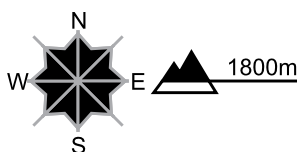
region A

Level 3, considerable



Fresh snow and snow drifts, old snow

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

The fresh snow and snow drift accumulations of the last few days are prone to triggering. As a consequence of the southerly wind further snow drift accumulations will form. Even single snow sport participants can release avalanches. In isolated cases avalanches can release the weakly bonded old snow as well and reach quite a large size. As the day progresses the likelihood of dry avalanches being released will increase. Natural avalanches are possible. Backcountry touring and other off-piste activities call for extensive experience in the assessment of avalanche danger.

Wet avalanches as day progresses, Full-depth avalanches

On steep sunny slopes numerous moist avalanches are to be expected. Below approximately 2400 m full-depth avalanches are possible. Avalanches can in some cases reach dangerously large size. Exposed parts of transportation routes can be endangered. Backcountry tours should be concluded timely.

Danger levels

1 low

2 moderate

3 consider.

4 high

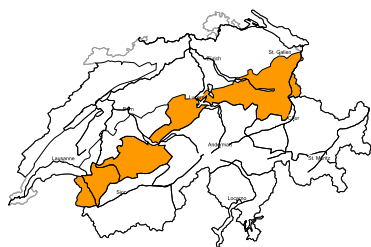
5 very high



WSL Institute for Snow and
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region B

Level 3, considerable



Fresh snow and snow drifts

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

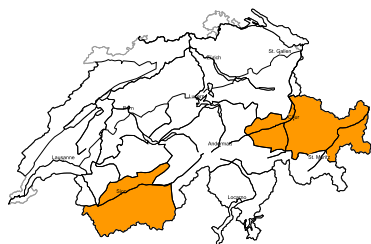
The fresh snow and snow drift accumulations of the last few days are in some cases prone to triggering. As a consequence of the southerly wind further snow drift accumulations will form. Avalanches can be released by a single winter sport participant. They can reach medium size in isolated cases. As the day progresses the likelihood of dry avalanches being released will increase. Natural avalanches are possible in isolated cases. Backcountry touring and other off-piste activities call for experience in the assessment of avalanche danger.

Wet avalanches as day progresses, Full-depth avalanches

On steep sunny slopes numerous moist avalanches are to be expected. Below approximately 2400 m full-depth avalanches are possible. Avalanches can reach medium size. Backcountry tours should be concluded timely.

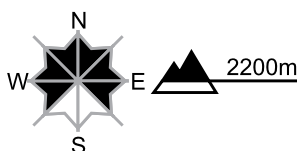
region C

Level 3, considerable



Fresh snow and snow drifts, old snow

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

The fresh snow and snow drift accumulations of the last few days are in some cases prone to triggering. As a consequence of the southerly wind further snow drift accumulations will form. Avalanches can additionally in isolated cases be released in deeper layers. This applies in particular on very steep north facing slopes in little used backcountry terrain. Such avalanche prone locations are barely recognisable. Avalanches can be released by a single winter sport participant. They can in some cases reach medium size. As the day progresses the likelihood of dry avalanches being released will increase. Natural avalanches are possible in isolated cases. Experience in the assessment of avalanche danger is required.

Wet avalanches as day progresses, Full-depth avalanches

On steep sunny slopes numerous moist avalanches are to be expected. Below approximately 2400 m full-depth avalanches are possible. Avalanches can reach medium size. Backcountry tours should be concluded timely.

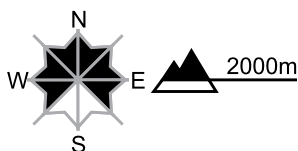
region D

Level 3, considerable



Fresh snow and snow drifts, old snow

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

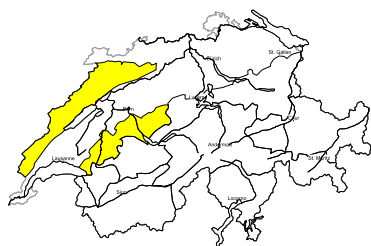
The fresh snow and snow drift accumulations of the last few days are in some cases prone to triggering. Avalanches can additionally in isolated cases be released in deeper layers. This applies in particular on very steep north facing slopes in little used backcountry terrain. Such avalanche prone locations are barely recognisable. Avalanches can be released by a single winter sport participant. They can in some cases reach medium size. Experience in the assessment of avalanche danger is required.

Wet avalanches as day progresses

On steep sunny slopes small and medium-sized full-depth and wet avalanches are possible.

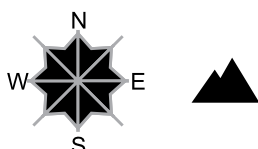
region E

Level 2, moderate



Wet avalanches as day progresses

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

As the day progresses as a consequence of warming during the day and solar radiation there will be an increase in the danger of wet avalanches. Numerous small moist and wet snow slides are to be expected. Backcountry tours should be concluded timely.

Snow drifts

Fresh snow drift accumulations are to be evaluated with care and prudence at elevated altitudes. They are mostly small but in some cases prone to triggering. Apart from the danger of being buried, restraint should be exercised in particular in view of the danger of avalanches sweeping people along and giving rise to falls.

Snowpack and weather

updated on 1.4.2018, 17:00

Snowpack

As a consequence of winds from varying directions which were frequently blowing at strong velocity, far reaching snowdrift accumulations have been generated in the major areas of precipitation. The fresh snow and freshly-formed snowdrifts of the last few days have settled and consolidated, but at high altitudes they are still prone to triggering. As a result of increasingly strong southerly winds, snowdrift accumulations will be generated afresh again on Easter Monday.

In the uppermost layer of the snow cover, weak layers inside the old snowpack are still prone to triggering in some places in the Valais and in Grisons more than anywhere else.

The danger of wet-snow avalanches is currently dependent on a pronounced daytime danger cycle as a consequence of intensive daytime warming and solar radiation. Gliding avalanches are possible in all regions of Switzerland at any time. Due to the extraordinary snow depths, such releases can grow to dangerously large size.

Observed weather on Sunday, 01.04.2018

In northern regions, skies were heavily overcast for the most part, and there was precipitation in the form of showers over widespread areas. The snowfall level was at 800 m. During the course of the day there were bright intervals in western regions more than anywhere else. On the southern flank of the Alps it was predominantly sunny as a result of northerly winds; in southern Valais it became increasingly sunny during the day.

Fresh snow

Between Saturday afternoon and Sunday afternoon on the northern flank of the Alps, in the Gotthard region and in northern Grisons, 15 to 30 cm above approximately 1400 m, in other regions of Switzerland 5 to 15 cm. Overall between Thursday afternoon and Sunday afternoon, the following amounts of fresh snow were registered above approximately 2000 m:

- Simplon region, Goms, Gotthard region, northern flank of the Alps from the eastern Bernese Alps as far as the Glarner Alps not including the Prealps, northwestern Ticino: 80 to 120 cm;
- remaining sectors of the northern flank of the Alps not including the western Prealps, remaining sectors of the southern flank of the Alps not including Sotto Ceneri, Main Alpine Ridge from the Rheinwald region into the Bernina region: 50 to 80 cm;
- in other regions of Switzerland 30 to 50 cm; in central Valais and in the Lower Engadine 15 to 30 cm.

Temperature

At midday at 2000 m, between -6 °C in northern regions and -3 °C in southern regions.

Wind

Winds in the Lower Valais as well as in the western sector of the northern flank of the Alps were blowing at light to moderate strength, in other regions at moderate to strong velocity over widespread areas, from westerly to northwesterly directions.

Weather forecast through Monday, 02.04.2018

The light snow showers will come to an end in eastern regions, and skies are expected to be predominantly clear during the night. During the daytime it will be quite sunny, accompanied by some cloudbanks. In northern regions, foehn winds are expected to arise during the course of the day and it will become very mild. In western and in southern regions, skies will become increasingly overcast during the afternoon.

Fresh snow

-

Temperature

Temperatures will rise significantly in northern regions, at midday at 2000 m between +4 °C in northern regions and -2 °C in southern regions.

Wind

- Nocturnal winds: blowing at light to moderate strength from westerly directions;
- daytime winds: shifting to southwesterly and strengthening, reaching moderate to strong velocity at high altitudes during the afternoon; in the northern Alpine valleys, southerly foehn winds will arise.

Outlook through Wednesday, 04.04.2018

Tuesday

In the central and eastern sectors of the northern flank of the Alps in particular, it will be quite sunny as a result of the foehn winds, accompanied by some cloudbanks. In western and southern regions, skies will be overcast, accompanied by precipitation which will presumably be light to begin with. The snowfall level will be between 2000 m in western regions and 1200 m in southern regions. The danger of dry-snow avalanches will increase somewhat in northern regions in particular, as a consequence of freshly generated snowdrift accumulations; in southern regions dry-avalanche danger will decrease. The danger of wet-snow and gliding avalanches is expected to increase during the course of the day.

Wednesday

In eastern regions and in central Valais, it will be sunny to start with as a result of foehn influence, then during the course of the day skies will become increasingly overcast. In other regions of Switzerland, skies will be heavily overcast, accompanied by precipitation in southern regions more than anywhere else. The snowfall level will be at 1500 to 2000 m, in the upper Alpine Valleys at 1000 m. The avalanche danger levels are expected to increase in southern regions, in northern regions the danger is not expected to change significantly.