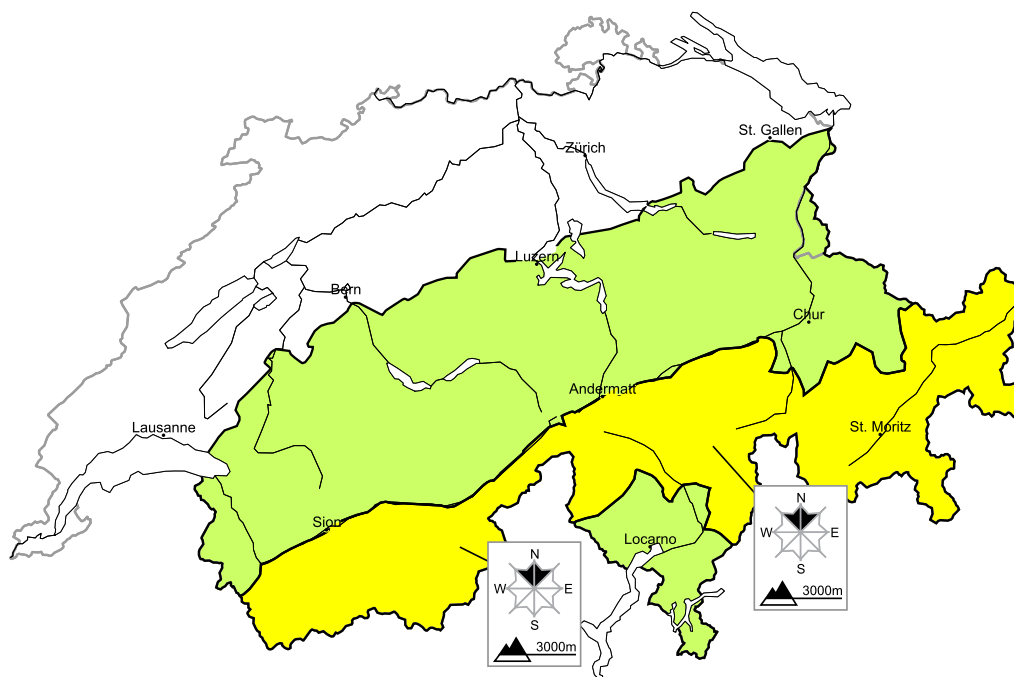


# In the early morning a generally favourable avalanche situation will prevail. Full-depth and wet avalanches as the day progresses

Edition: 20.4.2018, 17:00 / Next update: 21.4.2018, 17:00

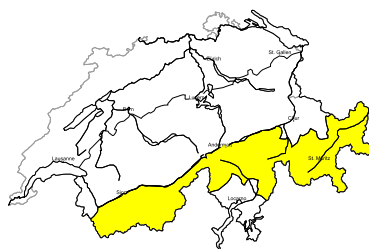
## Dry avalanches

updated on 20.4.2018, 17:00

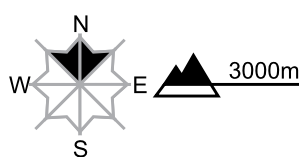


### Dry, region A

### Level 2, moderate



#### Avalanche prone locations



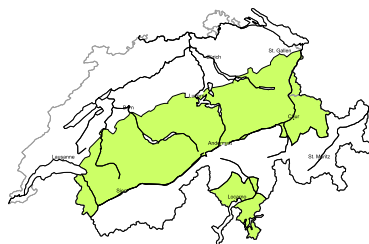
#### Danger description

Fresh and somewhat older snow drift accumulations can be released in isolated cases, but mostly only by large additional loads,. Careful route selection is advisable.

**Additional danger: Wet avalanches as day progresses (see 2nd map)**

### Dry, region B

### Level 1, low

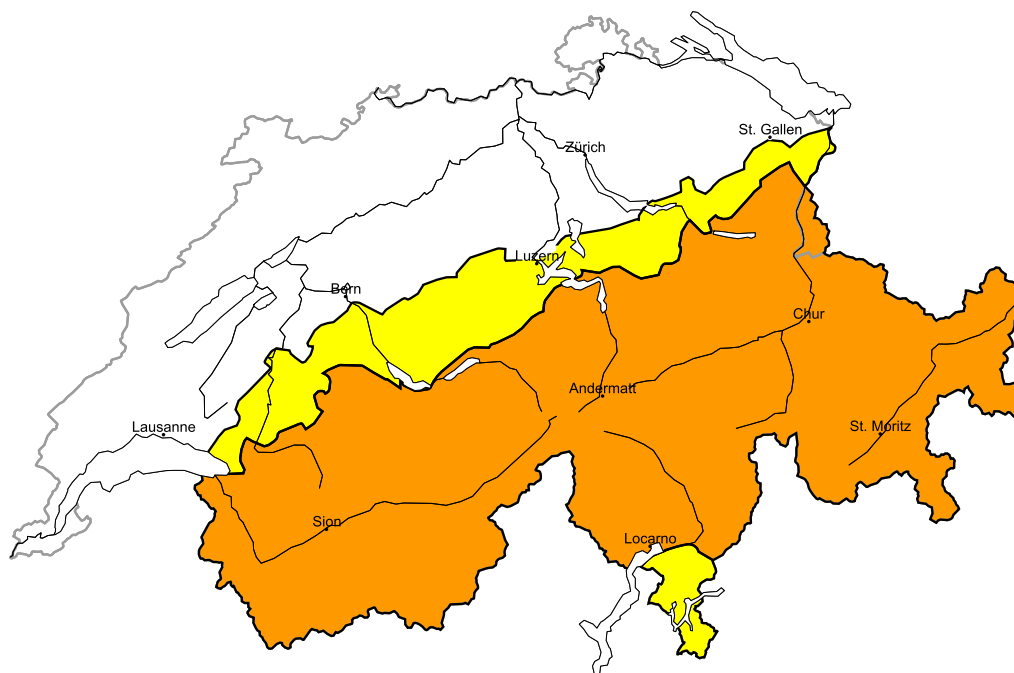


Individual avalanche prone locations for dry avalanches are to be found in particular in extremely steep terrain and adjacent to the ridge line. Restraint should be exercised because avalanches can sweep people along and give rise to falls.

**Additional danger: Wet avalanches as day progresses (see 2nd map)**

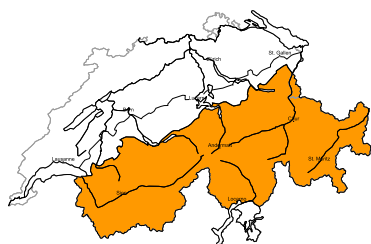
## Wet avalanches as day progresses

updated on 20.4.2018, 17:00



## Wet, region A

## Level 3, considerable



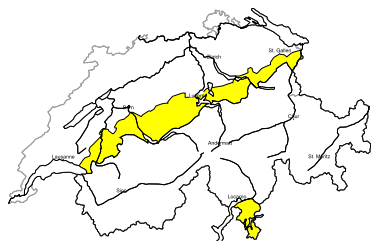
## Wet avalanches as day progresses

In the late morning as a consequence of warming during the day and solar radiation there will be a rapid increase in the danger of wet and full-depth avalanches. Full-depth and wet avalanches are to be expected. The avalanche prone locations are to be found in particular in east to south to west facing aspects below approximately 3000 m and on north facing slopes below approximately 2400 m. Large avalanches are possible in starting zones where no previous releases have taken place. In avalanche paths that are already filled with snow in particular these can in some cases reach intermediate altitudes. Exposed parts of transportation routes can be endangered. Backcountry tours, off-piste skiing and ascents to alpine cabins should be started early and concluded timely. Areas with glide cracks are to be avoided as far as possible.

## Additional danger: Dry avalanches (see 1st map)

## Wet, region B

## Level 2, moderate



## Wet avalanches as day progresses

In the late morning as a consequence of warming during the day and solar radiation there will be a rapid increase in the danger of wet and full-depth avalanches. From origins in starting zones where no previous releases have taken place full-depth and wet avalanches are to be expected, including quite large ones. The avalanche prone locations are to be found in all aspects. Backcountry tours should be started early and concluded timely. Caution is to be exercised in areas with glide cracks.

## Additional danger: Dry avalanches (see 1st map)

## Snowpack and weather

updated on 20.4.2018, 17:00

### Snowpack

The snow cover on steep, south-facing slopes is thoroughly wet up as far as high alpine regions. On north-facing slopes the snowpack is becoming increasingly wet as high up as areas between 2200 and 2500 m. Thus, the snow cover in these altitude zones is severely weakened. As a consequence of nocturnal outgoing radiation, a melt-freeze crust capable of bearing loads tends to form at high altitudes. Below approximately 2000 m, the snowpack surface can hardly freeze at night, due to the heightened temperatures. As a result of solar radiation and daytime warming, the snowpack subsequently forfeits much of its firmness quite rapidly during the course of the morning. Wet-snow and gliding-snow avalanches can be expected. Due to the extraordinary snow depths in many places, these avalanches can in isolated cases grow to large size.

Isolated avalanche prone locations for dry-snow avalanches are found particularly on north-facing slopes in high alpine regions, south of an imaginary Rhine-Rhone line more than anywhere else.

The snow line on north-facing slopes of the northern flank of the Alps is at 1200 to 1400 m; in other regions of Switzerland it is at 1600 to 1800 m. On south-facing slopes it is approximately 400 m higher.

### Observed weather on Friday, 20.04.2018

Following a night of clear skies it was sunny and quite mild, apart from some high altitude clouds.

#### Fresh snow

-

#### Temperature

At midday at 2000 m, between +8 °C and +12 °C. The zero-degree level was between 3300 m in western regions and 3800 m in eastern regions.

#### Wind

Winds during the night, particularly on the northern Alpine Ridge, were southeasterly, blowing at moderate strength; in other regions, winds were light.

### Weather forecast through Saturday, 21.04.2018

Following a night of clear skies it will be sunny and quite mild. During the afternoon, some convective cloud build-up can be expected. In the evening, local showers cannot be ruled out.

#### Fresh snow

-

#### Temperature

At midday at 2000 m, +11 °C. The zero-degree level will be at 3500 m.

#### Wind

Winds during the night will be blowing intermittently at moderate strength from the southeast; otherwise winds will be predominantly light.

**Outlook** through Monday, 23.04.2018**Sunday**

Following a night of clear skies, it will be sunny for the most part, in spite of some high-altitude clouds, and ongoingly quite mild. During the afternoon, some convective cloud build-up is possible, consequently some local showers are possible in the evening. In the early morning hours, the avalanche situation is favourable. However the snowpack below approximately 2000 m is barely able to freeze at night due to the heightened temperatures. During the course of the day, the danger of wet-snow and gliding-snow avalanches is expected to increase significantly. In isolated cases, gliding-snow avalanches are even possible during the night. Backcountry skiing and freeriding tours, as well as ascents to mountain refuges and descents to the valleys, should be brought to a close early in the day.

**Monday**

On Sunday night, the cloud cover will become denser and will thereby impede nocturnal outgoing radiation of the snowpack. During the daytime on Monday in northern regions, skies will be variably cloudy, and during the daytime there will be some showers from the west. In southern regions, conditions will be more pleasant. Due to the reduced nocturnal outgoing radiation, the snowpack is hardly able to freeze at night, including at high altitudes. The major peril thus stems from wet-snow and gliding-snow avalanches all day long.