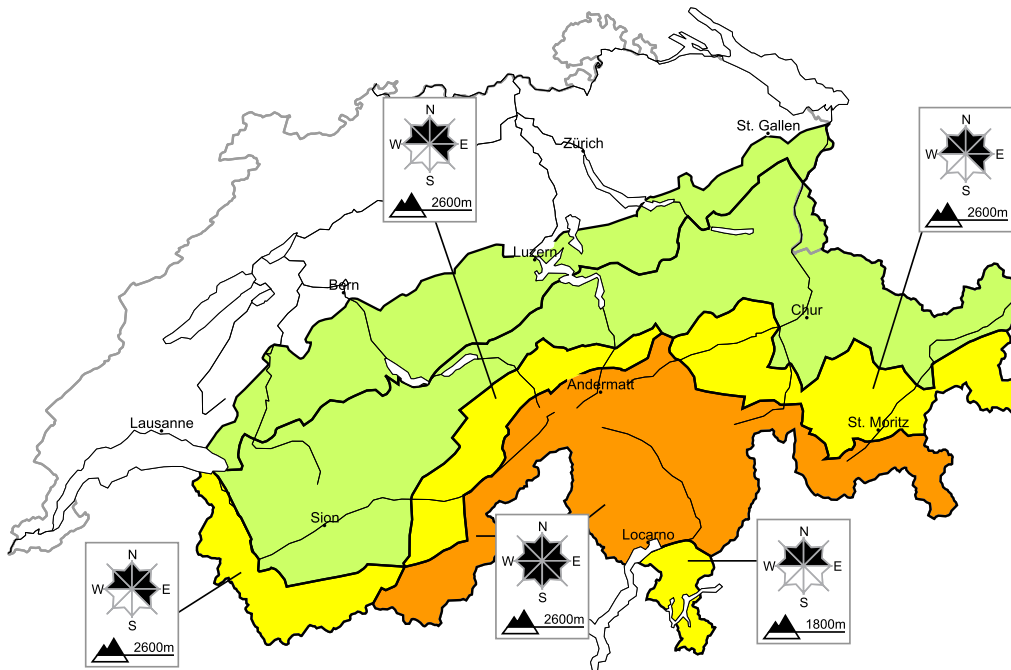


In the south a critical avalanche situation will prevail

Edition: 29.4.2018, 17:00 / Next update: 30.4.2018, 17:00

Avalanche danger

updated on 29.4.2018, 17:00

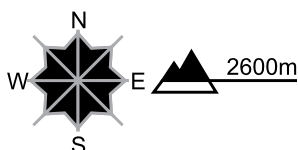


region A **Level 3, considerable**



Fresh snow and snow drifts

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

As a consequence of fresh snow and wind the snow drift accumulations will increase in size additionally. The fresh snow and snow drift accumulations can be released by a single winter sport participant. In particular in the central part of the southern flank of the Alps and in high Alpine regions medium-sized natural avalanches are to be expected. The backcountry touring conditions are unfavourable. Caution and restraint are required.

Wet avalanches

In particular on steep north facing slopes small and medium-sized full-depth and wet avalanches are to be expected below approximately 2600 m. In the event of rain this applies in particular during the night.

On very steep sunny slopes moist snow slides and avalanches are possible as the day progresses.

Danger levels

1 low

2 moderate

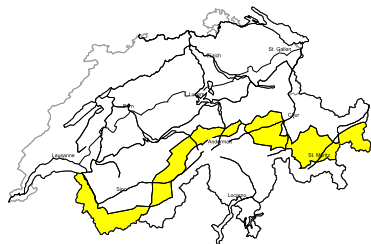
3 consider.

4 high

5 very high

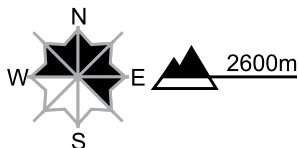
region B

Level 2, moderate



Snow drifts

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

As a consequence of fresh snow and wind the snow drift accumulations will increase in size. The fresh snow drift accumulations are rather small but in some cases prone to triggering. They are to be evaluated with care and prudence in steep terrain. Apart from the danger of being buried, restraint should be exercised also in view of the danger of avalanches sweeping people along and giving rise to falls.

Wet and full-depth avalanches

In particular on steep north facing slopes full-depth and wet avalanches are possible below approximately 2600 m. In the event of rain this applies in particular during the night.

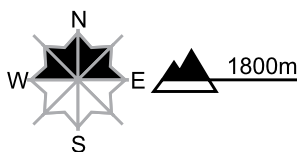
region C

Level 2, moderate



Wet avalanches

Avalanche prone locations

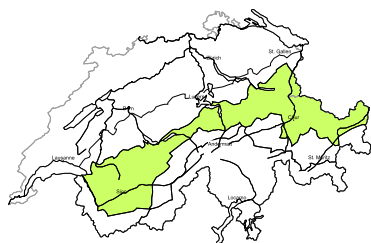


Danger description

In particular on steep north facing slopes natural wet avalanches are possible as a consequence of the rain. On south facing slopes hardly any snow is lying.

region D

Level 1, low



Snow drifts

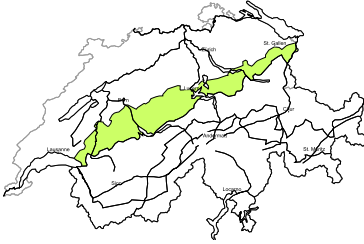
Fresh snow drift accumulations are to be found in particular on north and east facing slopes. These are only small but in some cases prone to triggering. They are to be evaluated with care and prudence in extreme terrain. Apart from the danger of being buried, restraint should be exercised in particular in view of the danger of avalanches sweeping people along and giving rise to falls.

Wet and full-depth avalanches

On steep north facing slopes individual full-depth and wet avalanches are possible as a consequence of the rain. This applies especially during the first half of the night.

region E

Level 1, low





Wet and full-depth avalanches

On steep north facing slopes individual full-depth and wet avalanches are possible as a consequence of the rain. This applies especially during the first half of the night. On south facing slopes hardly any snow is lying.


Danger levels

 1 low

 2 moderate

 3 consider.

 4 high

 5 very high



WSL Institute for Snow and
Avalanche Research SLF
www.slf.ch

Snowpack and weather

updated on 29.4.2018, 17:00

Snowpack

The wind is transporting the fresh fallen snow intensively at high altitude. In the major areas of precipitation, significant masses of snowdrift accumulations are forming again.

Prior to the snowfall in southern regions, the snowpack in general was thoroughly wet up to high alpine regions on steep south-facing slopes. On north-facing slopes it was thoroughly wet up to approximately 2400 m and superficially moist up to approximately 3200 m. During the night, as a consequence of the rainfall, wet-snow and gliding-snow avalanches can be expected on north-facing slopes in particular. Subsequently, the danger of wet-snow avalanches will swiftly diminish as a result of the noticeably lower temperatures.

The snow line on north-facing slopes of the northern flank of the Alps lies at 1200 to 1600 m; in other regions of Switzerland at 1600 to 1800 m. On south-facing slopes the snow line is approximately 500 m further up.

Observed weather on Sunday, 29.04.2018

In northern regions it was mild as a result of foehn influence. Nighttime skies in western regions were partly clear, in eastern regions predominantly overcast. During the daytime it was partly sunny. On the Main Alpine Ridge from Upper Valais into the Upper Engadine and southwards therefrom, skies were heavily overcast and there was snowfall above approximately 2700 m.

Fresh snow

Since Saturday afternoon, the following amounts of fresh snow have been registered in high alpine regions:

- western part of Ticino: 40 to 60 cm;
- remaining sections of the Main Alpine Ridge from Monte Rosa into the Upper Engadine and southwards therefrom: 10 to 30 cm;
- further to the north: by and large dry.

Temperature

At midday at 2000 m, between +11 °C in northern regions and +5 °C in southern regions.

Wind

Winds were southerly, blowing at strong velocity. In the valleys of the north, foehn wind was blowing.

Weather forecast through Monday, 30.04.2018

On Sunday night a cold front will traverse Switzerland from the west, bringing precipitation over widespread areas, most of which is expected to fall on the Main Alpine Ridge and southwards therefrom. During the daytime on Monday it will temporarily be quite sunny in all regions except in the central section of the Main Alpine Ridge and in northern Ticino. During the afternoon, convective cloud build-up is anticipated which could cause some isolated showers.

Fresh snow

The snowfall level will descend during the night from 2600 m down to approximately 1800 m. Between Sunday afternoon and Monday afternoon, the following amounts of fresh snow are expected above 2800 m, most of which will fall during the night:

- Main Alpine Ridge from the Matterhorn to the Bernina and southwards therefrom: 20 to 40 cm; more from place to place in the central sector of the southern flank of the Alps.
- Lower Valais section of the Main Alpine Ridge, regions immediately to the north of the central section of the Main Alpine Ridge, Val Poschiavo and Val Müstair: 10 to 25 cm;
- further to the north: generally less than 10 cm.

Temperature

During the night, significantly colder air masses will be pushed our way. The midday temperature at 2000 m will be between +1 °C in western regions and +3 °C in eastern regions.

Wind

- Winds on Sunday evening will be southerly, blowing at storm strength. In the valleys of the north, foehn wind will be blowing.
- Subsequently winds will be southwesterly, blowing at moderate to strong velocity.

Current avalanche bulletin

Internet www.slf.ch
App White Risk
(iPhone, Android)

Feedback to avalanche warners

(Avalanche released? Bulletin inaccurate?)
Questionnaire www.slf.ch
E-Mail lwp@slf.ch
Toll-free phone number 0800 800 187

Additional specialized federal departments

MeteoSwiss (weather) / www.meteoswiss.ch –
Alpine weather report: tel. 0900 162 138 (CHF 1.20/min., in German)
FOEN (flood, forest fire) / www.bafu.admin.ch
SED (Earthquakes) / www.seismo.ethz.ch



Outlook through Wednesday, 02.05.2018

Tuesday

Skies will be predominantly overcast and a small amount of precipitation is anticipated in western regions more than anywhere else. The snowfall level will be at approximately 1500 m. The danger of dry-snow avalanches could increase somewhat from region to region in the west. In eastern regions and in the Ticino, danger levels will diminish slightly. Wet-snow avalanches are to be expected only out of the fresh snow in the major areas of precipitation.

Wednesday

Skies will frequently be overcast. A small amount of precipitation is expected over widespread areas which will fall as showers, but possibly more intense in the Upper Valais section of the Main Alpine Ridge and in southern regions. The snowfall level will ascend to approximately 2000 m. Avalanche danger will stem predominantly from dry-snow avalanches. In most regions, danger levels are not expected to change significantly. In the Upper Valais section of the Main Alpine Ridge and in southern regions, danger levels could increase, depending on the amounts of precipitation.