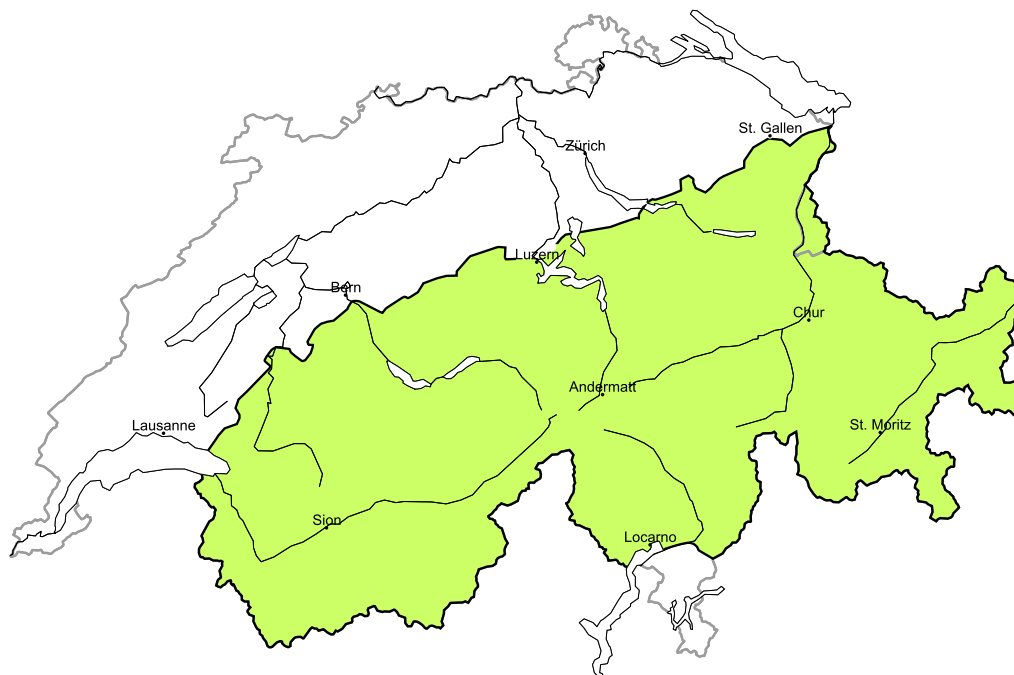


In the early morning a favourable avalanche situation will prevail. Wet avalanches as the day progresses

Edition: 19.4.2019, 17:00 / Next update: 20.4.2019, 17:00

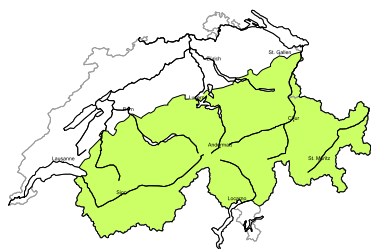
Dry avalanches

updated on 19.4.2019, 17:00



Dry

Level 1, low



Individual avalanche prone locations for dry avalanches are to be found especially on extremely steep north facing slopes above approximately 2400 m. 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.

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

Danger levels

1 low

2 moderate

3 consider.

4 high

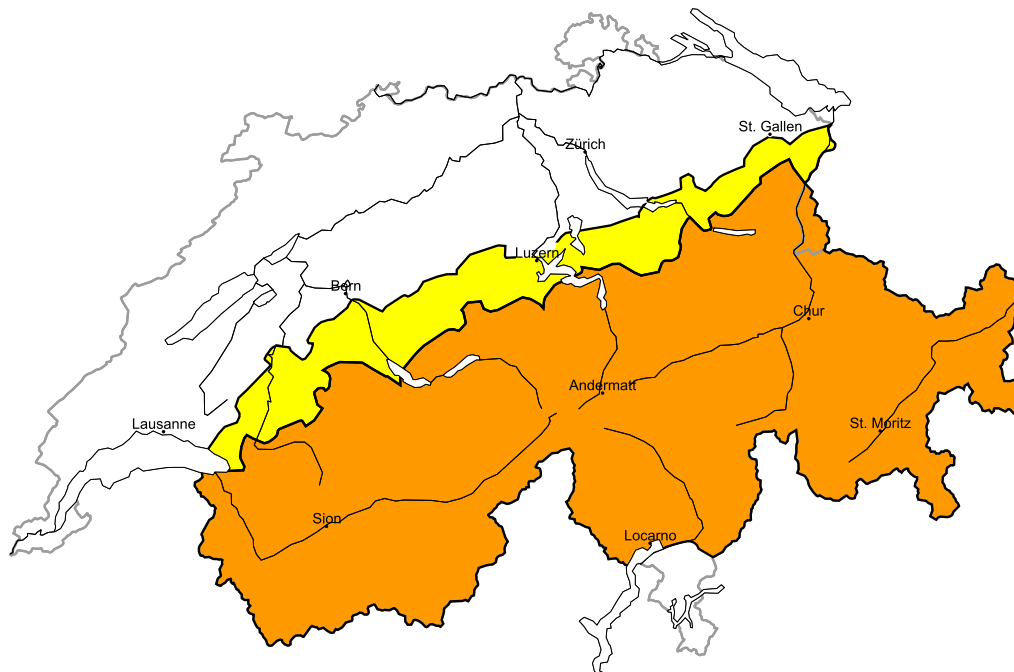
5 very high



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Wet avalanches as day progresses

updated on 19.4.2019, 17:00



Wet, region A

Level 3, considerable



Wet avalanches as day progresses

As a consequence of warming during the day and solar radiation medium-sized and, in isolated cases, large wet and gliding avalanches are to be expected. This applies on very steep south facing slopes below approximately 3000 m as well as on north facing slopes below approximately 2000 m. On very steep east and west facing slopes the avalanche prone locations are to be found below approximately 2700 m.

Backcountry tours and off-piste skiing should be started early and concluded timely.

Additional danger: Dry avalanches (see 1st map)

Wet, region B

Level 2, moderate



Wet avalanches as day progresses

As a consequence of warming during the day and solar radiation small and medium-sized wet and gliding avalanches are to be expected. The avalanche prone locations are to be found in all aspects.

Backcountry tours and off-piste skiing should be started early and concluded timely.

Additional danger: Dry avalanches (see 1st map)

Snowpack and weather

updated on 19.4.2019, 17:00

Snowpack

The snowpack is favourably layered for the most part, and during the morning hours, stable.

On north-facing slopes the snow cover is thoroughly wet up to the upper limits of the treeline. On east-facing and west-facing slopes it is thoroughly wet up to nearly 2500 m; on south-facing slopes as far up as high alpine regions. As a consequence of the springtime conditions, east-facing and west-facing slopes at 2500 to 3000 m are becoming wet to an ever-increasing degree, and thereby weakened. During the night, a crust forms on the moist snowpack surface. In the western regions, the crust is hardly capable of bearing loads at intermediate altitudes because of the reduced outgoing (longwave) radiation during the nocturnal hours. The crust subsequently melts swiftly during the course of the day and the danger of wet-snow avalanches increases significantly.

On north-facing slopes on the northern flank of the Alps and in northern Grisons above 1000 to 1400 m, and in the remaining regions of Switzerland above 1400 to 1800 m, there is a cohesive, area-wide snowpack. On south-facing slopes the snow levels lie about 400 m higher up.

Observed weather on Friday, 19.04.2019

Nocturnal skies were clear in the Lower Valais, in the western sector of the northern flank of the Alps, in the Prealps and in northern Grisons. In the other regions of Switzerland, skies were predominantly overcast, in southern regions completely overcast. In isolated cases there were showers. During the daytime on the Main Alpine Ridge and southwards therefrom there were heavily overcast skies, accompanied by bright intervals, during the course of the day. In the northern regions it was rather sunny. In the afternoon, there was convective cloud build-up.

Fresh snow

In the southern regions there was a few centimetres of fresh snow registered above 2500 m.

Temperature

At midday at 2000 m, between +6 °C in the western regions and +3 °C in the southeastern regions.

Wind

Winds were blowing intermittently at moderate strength from southerly directions.

Weather forecast through Saturday, 20.04.2019

On Friday evening, isolated showers are possible in the northwestern regions more than anywhere else. Nighttime skies will be partially overcast and the outgoing radiation thereby reduced. In the eastern regions, nocturnal skies will be clear. During the daytime it will be predominantly sunny, accompanied by convective cloud build-up during the course of the day in the Prealps and in the Ticino more than anywhere else.

Fresh snow

As a consequence of showers, a few centimetres of fresh snow is possible, particularly in the northwestern regions.

Temperature

At midday at 2000 m, between +7 °C in the northern regions and +5 °C in the southern regions.

Wind

Winds will be southerly, predominantly blowing at light strength, intermittently moderate strength foehn wind in northern regions.

Outlook through Monday, 22.04.2019

It is expected to remain quite sunny. In the western and southern regions, however, high and intermediate altitude clouds, and in some places cloudbanks, will intermittently pass through. The outgoing radiation during the nights will thereby be reduced. On Monday, conditions will become increasingly subject to the impact of foehn wind.

The avalanche situation during the early morning hours will be predominantly favourable. During the course of the day on both days, danger of wet-snow and glide-snow avalanches will increase significantly.