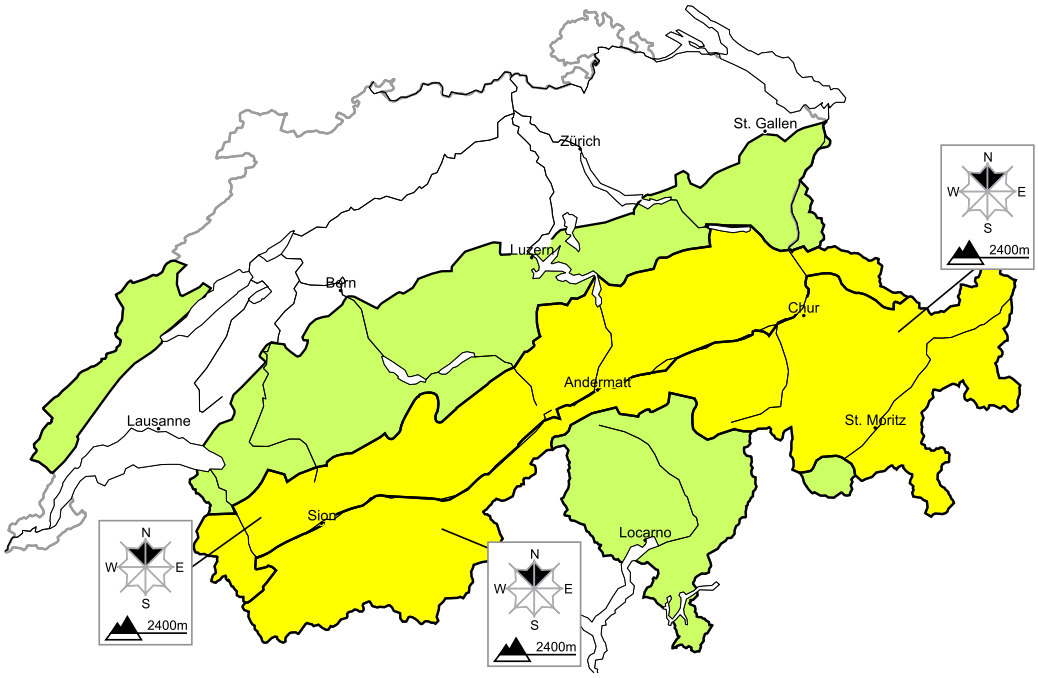
Avalanche bulletin through Tuesday, 30 March 2021

As a consequence of warming and solar radiation a considerable danger of wet and gliding avalanches will be encountered over a wide area

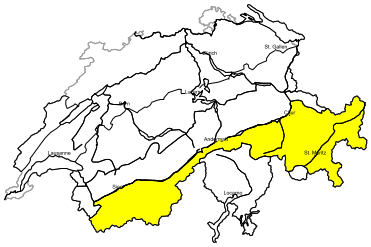
Edition: 29.3.2021, 17:00 / Next update: 30.3.2021, 17:00

Dry avalanches

updated on 29.3.2021, 17:00

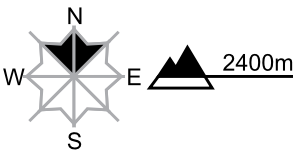


Dry, region A — Level 2, moderate



Old snow

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

Weak layers in the upper part of the snowpack can still be released in isolated cases especially on very steep north facing slopes. Avalanches can reach quite a large size. The avalanche prone locations are rare but are barely recognisable, even to the trained eye. Very steep, little used north facing slopes are to be evaluated with care and prudence.

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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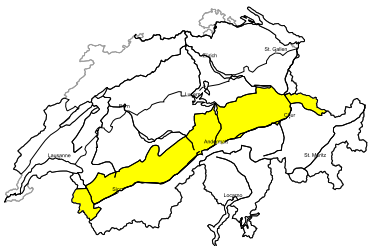
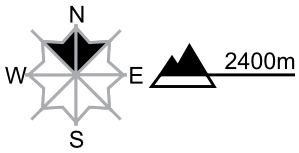
Dry, region B — Level 2, moderate



No distinct avalanche problem

Avalanche prone locations

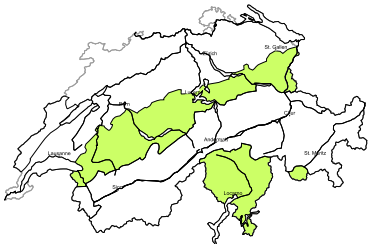


Danger description

In isolated cases avalanches can be released in near-surface layers of the snowpack. Older wind slabs are to be evaluated with care and prudence in very steep terrain. Dry avalanches can in isolated cases reach medium size. Careful route selection is advisable.

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

Dry, region C — Level 1, low

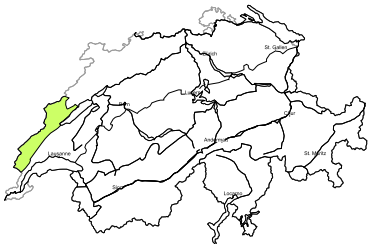


No distinct avalanche problem

Individual avalanche prone locations for dry avalanches are to be found in particular in extremely steep 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.

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

Dry, region D — Level 1, low



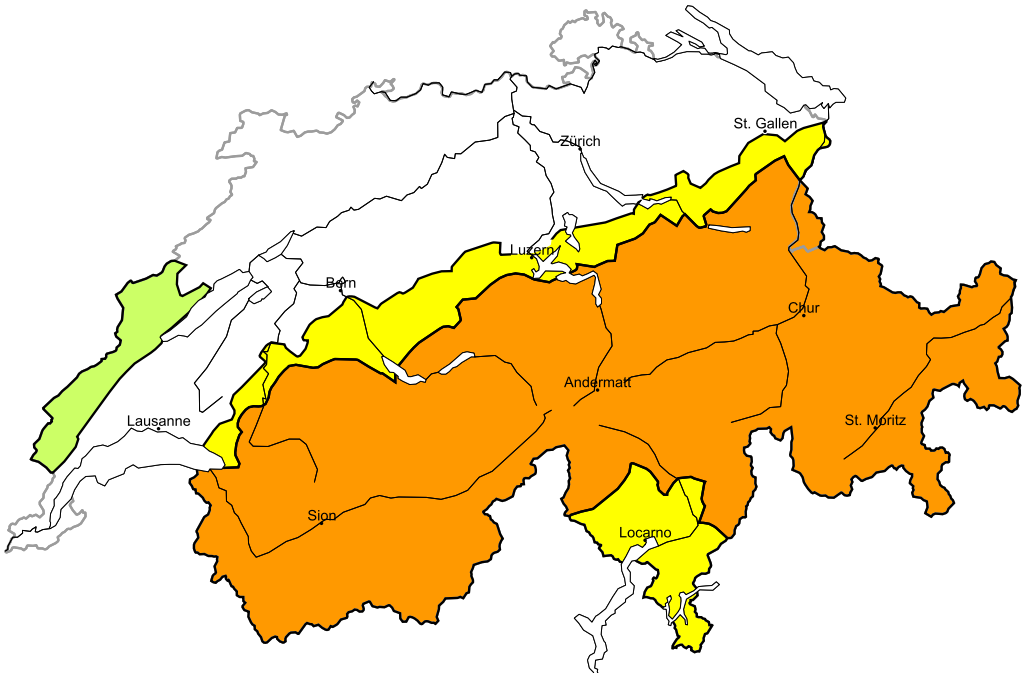
No distinct avalanche problem

Hardly any more dry avalanches are possible.

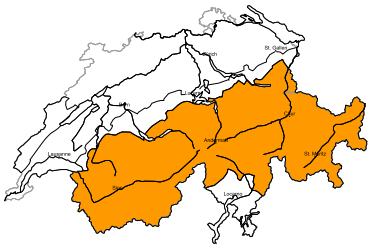
Additional danger: Wet avalanches as day progresses (see 2nd map)

Wet avalanches as day progresses

updated on 29.3.2021, 17:00



Wet, region A — Level 3, considerable



Wet avalanches as day progresses

As the day progresses medium-sized and, in isolated cases, large wet and gliding avalanches are to be expected. Wet avalanches can in some places be released by people. The avalanche prone locations are to be found in particular in east to south to west facing aspects below approximately 2800 m. Backcountry tours should be started early and concluded timely.

Additional danger: Dry avalanches (see 1st map)

Wet, region B — Level 2, moderate

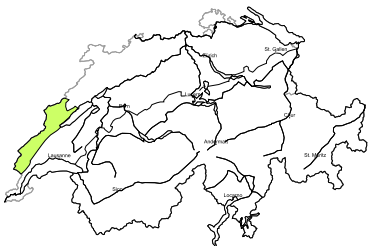
Wet avalanches as day progresses

As the day progresses small and medium-sized wet and gliding avalanches are to be expected. The avalanche prone locations are to be found in particular in east to south to west facing aspects. Backcountry tours should be started early and concluded timely.

Additional danger: Dry avalanches (see 1st map)

Wet, region C

Level 1, low



Wet avalanches as day progresses

The danger of wet avalanches will increase a little during the day. Individual mostly small natural wet avalanches are to be expected. Caution is to be exercised in particular on very steep slopes.

Additional danger: Dry avalanches (see 1st map)

Snowpack and weather

updated on 29.3.2021, 17:00

Snowpack

Clear skies during the night will increase the stability of the moist snowpack. On south facing slopes a strong melt-freeze crust will form up to the high Alpine regions. As a consequence of daytime warming and solar radiation, the stability of the snowpack will diminish as the day progresses. Both wet snow and gliding avalanches are to be expected, including large ones.
A distinct weak layer exists in the upper third of the snowpack in many regions. In most cases it has formed adjacent to the Saharan dust layers that were deposited in February. In particular in Valais and Grisons, isolated avalanches have been released in these layers by people in recent days, not only on north facing slopes, but also on east, south and west facing slopes. These releases occurred mostly in the afternoon.
On steep north facing slopes at high altitudes, dry avalanches can still be released in some places.

Observed weather on Monday, 29.03.2021

After a clear night, it was mostly sunny and mild

Fresh snow
-

Temperature
At midday at 2000 m: between +8 °C in the west and south, and +5 °C in the east

Wind
Moderate at times during the night, mostly light during the day, from westerly directions

Weather forecast through Tuesday, 30.03.2021

After a clear night, it will be sunny and very mild

Fresh snow
-

Temperature
At midday at 2000 m: about +10 °C; the zero degree level will be approximately 3300 m

Wind
Light

Outlook through Thursday, 01.04.2021

Wednesday will be sunny, and Maundy Thursday mostly sunny. A little convective cloud will build up during the day. The wind will be light. The zero degree level will be between 3000 and 3300 m.
After clear nights, the avalanche situation will be mostly favourable in the early morning. The danger of wet snow and gliding avalanches will increase significantly during each of the coming days. A large number of natural avalanches originating on east, south and west facing slopes are to be expected. Backcountry touring is to be commenced early and concluded timely.