



Snow and avalanche Bulletin n° 53 issued on 04/18/2016 at 04.30 p.m.

valid 72 hours out of controlled and open ski runs - Next update on 04/20/2016

GENERAL CONDITION

Sunday storm snow and wind: new accumulations!

	Snow height [cm]			Ta [°C]	Last snowdrift event	Last snowfall	Continuous snowcover above [m a.s.l.]		
	Ground level		New				Shady	Sunny	
	h 07.00	h 07.00	h 8.00	h 07.00					
	2000 m	2500 m	2500 m	2000 m					
									
A - Central Valle d'Aosta	30-70	70-80	1-5	+1 °C	04/18/2016 moderate/strong W-SW >2000-2200	04/17/2016	1800-1900	2100-2300	
B - Gressoney, Ayas, Champorcher Valleys	10-60	50-110	1-5	+1 °C	04/18/2016 moderate/strong W-SW >2000-2200	04/17/2016	1800-1900	2000-2300	
C - Rhêmes, Valsavarenche, Cogne Valleys	10-70	75-130	1-10	+2 °C	04/18/2016 moderate/strong W-SW >2000-2200	04/17/2016	1700-1900	2000-2200	
D - Alpine ridge	20-135	80-280	10-25	+1 °C	04/18/2016 moderate/strong W-SW >2000-2200	04/17/2016	1700-1900	2000-2200	

During the weekend bad weather was alternated with few clearings: cloudiness, high temperatures and rain limit below 2200-2400 m have further settled the snowpack. Especially on sunny aspects the snow limit increased a lot.

Storm snow fell above 2200-2400 m (at higher altitude in the SE portion of the Valle d'Aosta). **Along the ridge bordering with France and Switzerland up to 20-40 cm of new snow were recorded.** The dry snow was accompanied by strong winds from W that, above 2500-2700 m, have found even 50 cm of loose snow easy to drift. New windloads has so formed mainly on the E and N slopes.

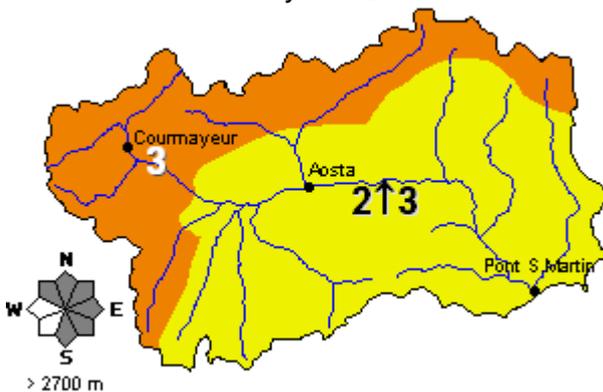
At S aspects, below 3000 m, the snowpack is moist/wet throughout its thickness, with thick superficial melt/freeze crusts covered by the recent snow layer, which is rapidly getting humid; at N aspects it is wet below 2800 m and then dry above this altitude with superficial loose snow.

Because of the new wind accumulations the avalanche danger level is 3-considerable from Valgrisenche to the heads of Ayas and Gressoney, 2-moderate elsewhere.

FORECAST

Watch out at high altitude for the windslabs (low overload enough to trigger them) and strong rise in temperature!

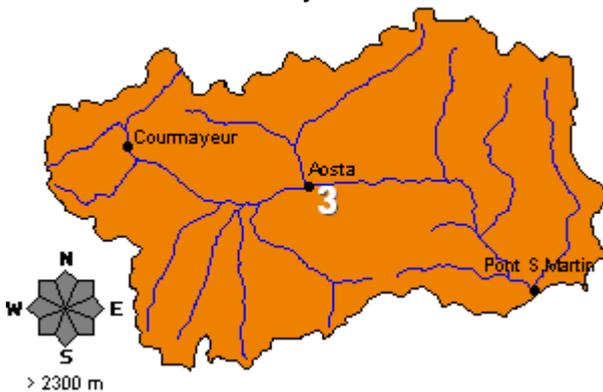
Tuesday 04/19/2016



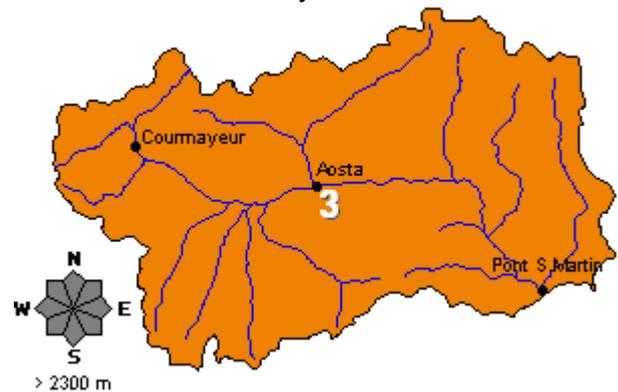
Tuesday: good refreezing due to the clear night. **Good conditions for ski mountaineering, but activities should be concluded in time (fast rise in temperatures).** Above 2700-2800 m, attention to the presence of wind slabs, even soft, not well visible, which may be triggered at the passage of a single skier on the steep slopes close to slope changes releasing medium size avalanches with a thickness of 30-50 cm. These slabs are often gliding on the "red dusty snow" and on crusts with which there is currently a lack of bond; the most critical localizations are close to ridges and passes. Beware of being dragged especially close to outcropping rocks and steep drops. **The avalanche danger level is 3-considerable from Valgrisenche to the Ayas and Gressoney heads, 2-moderate increasing to 3-considerable elsewhere.**

Wednesday: the night refreezing will not be optimal and temperatures will rapidly increase during the morning destabilizing the snowpack. So at all aspects (even on the N slopes who have not yet released) natural avalanches of loose snow and slabs, even of medium size, of moist/wet snow, both superficial and full-depth, could release below 2700-2800 m; above these altitudes, superficial slabs will be possible. Warm temperatures will improve the bond between new slabs and old snowpack, but it will be still possible to trigger them even by low overloading in particular from the shady slopes above 2800-3000 m of altitude. **The avalanche danger level expected is 3-considerable on the whole region.**

Wednesday 04/20/2016



Thursday 04/21/2016

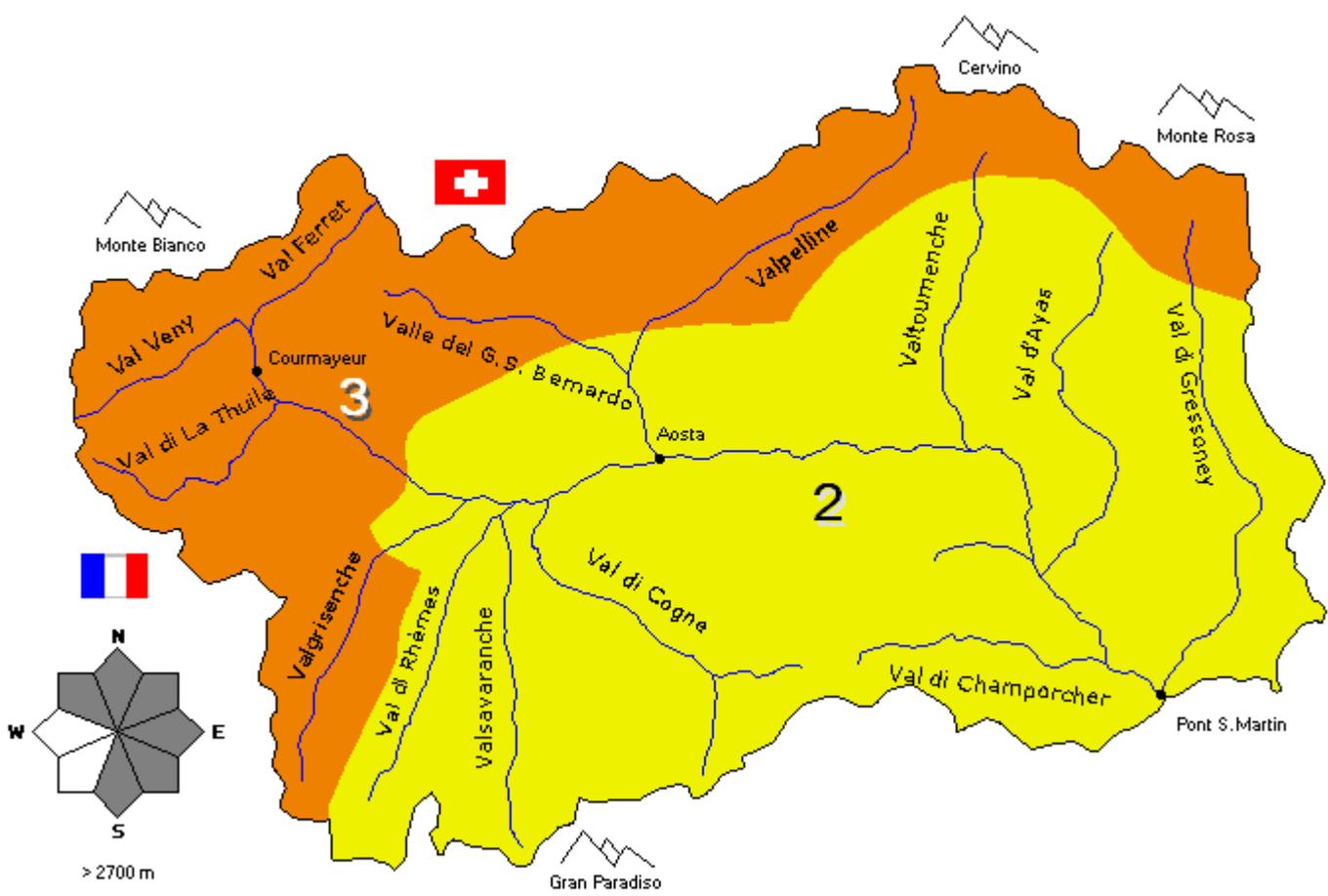


KEY  Critical slopes altitude and aspects

 Rising avalanche danger during the day

Hazard scale **5**  **4** **HIGH** **3** **CONSIDERABLE** **2** **MODERATE** **1** **LOW**





Monday 04/18/2016