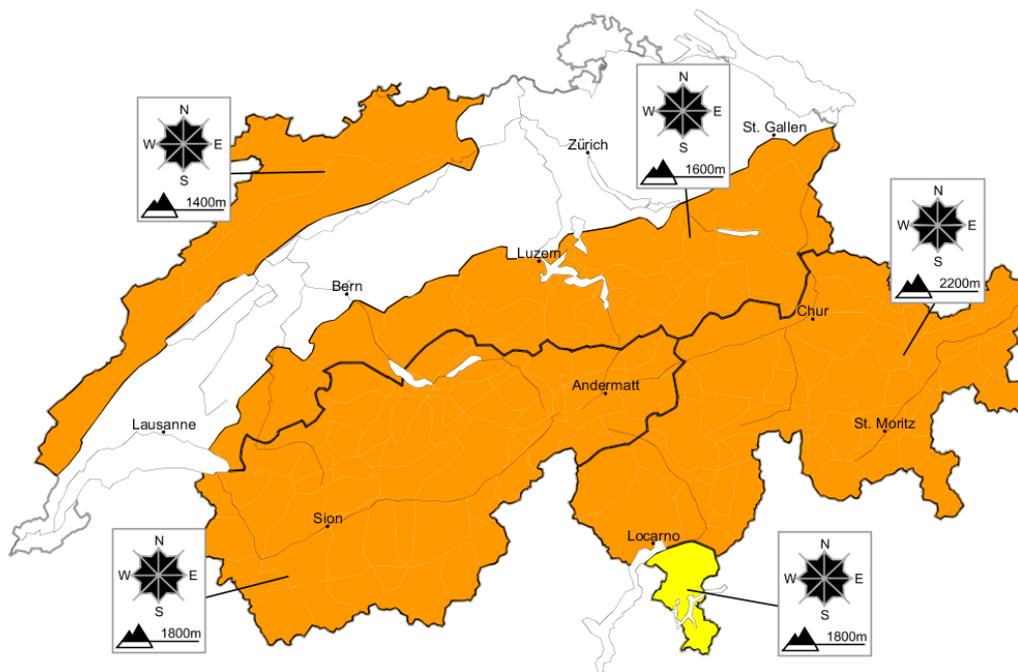


# Considerable avalanche danger will be encountered over a wide area.

Edition: 5.12.2012, 08:00 / Next update: 5.12.2012, 17:00

## Avalanche danger

updated on 5.12.2012, 08:00

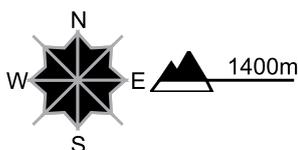


### Region A Level 3, considerable



#### Snow drifts

#### Avalanche prone locations



#### Danger description

As a consequence of fresh snow and stormy weather precarious snow drift accumulations have formed. These must be evaluated with care and prudence.

**Danger scale**

1 low

2 moderate

3 consider.

4 high

5 very high



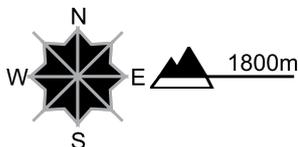
## Region B

## Level 3, considerable



## Fresh snow and snow drifts

## Avalanche prone locations



## Danger description

The avalanche-prone snow drift accumulations of yesterday are covered with fresh snow and therefore difficult to recognise. Avalanches can be released, even by a single winter sport participant or triggered naturally. They can in isolated cases be released in the old snowpack. This applies especially on north facing slopes above approximately 2200 m. Avalanches can reach medium size. In particular from starting zones at higher altitudes individual large avalanches are possible. Exposed transportation routes can be endangered. Backcountry touring and other off-piste activities call for extensive experience in the assessment of avalanche danger and great restraint.

## Full-depth avalanches

On steep south facing slopes mostly small full-depth avalanches are possible below approximately 2000 m.

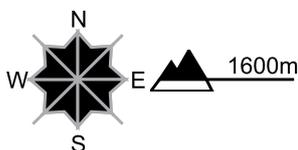
## Region C

## Level 3, considerable



## Fresh snow and snow drifts

## Avalanche prone locations

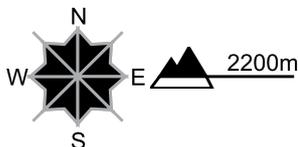


## Danger description

The avalanche-prone snow drift accumulations of yesterday are covered with fresh snow and therefore difficult to recognise. Avalanches can be released, even by a single winter sport participant or triggered naturally. They can in isolated cases be triggered in the old snowpack. This applies especially on north facing slopes above approximately 2200 m. Avalanches can reach medium size. Backcountry touring and other off-piste activities call for extensive experience in the assessment of avalanche danger and great restraint.

## Full-depth avalanches

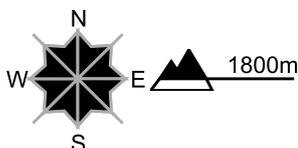
On steep south facing slopes mostly small full-depth avalanches are possible below approximately 2000 m.

**Region D****Level 3, considerable****Snow drifts****Avalanche prone locations****Danger description**

The avalanche-prone snow drift accumulations of yesterday are covered with fresh snow and therefore difficult to recognise. These are to be bypassed as far as possible. In some cases avalanches can be released easily. They can in isolated cases be triggered in the old snowpack. This applies especially on north facing slopes above approximately 2200 m. Backcountry touring and other off-piste activities call for experience in the assessment of avalanche danger.

**Full-depth avalanches**

On steep south facing slopes small full-depth avalanches are possible below approximately 2000 m.

**Region E****Level 2, moderate****Snow drifts****Avalanche prone locations****Danger description**

Fresh and older snow drift accumulations are in some cases prone to triggering. They are to be evaluated with care and prudence.

**Full-depth avalanches**

On steep south facing slopes small full-depth avalanches are possible.

## Snowpack and weather

updated on 4.12.2012, 17:00

### Snowpack

As a result of the new fallen snow and the strong to storm strength westerly to northwesterly winds, snow drift accumulations have formed far and wide. On the southern flank of the Alps, the old snow cover is favourably layered for the most part and fractures from deeper down in the snowpack are unlikely. In the remaining regions, the structuring of the old snowpack is unfavourable on north facing slopes above approximately 2200 m in particular. In those places the base of the snowpack is faceted to some extent and weak. As the loading on top of the old snow cover increases through the fresh fallen and drifted snow, increasingly frequent fractures in the snowpack can be expected.

### Observed weather on Tuesday, 4.12.2012

On Sunday night there was heavy snowfall in western and northern regions. Throughout the day on Monday, conditions were variable accompanied by snow showers. In southern regions it was partly sunny during the day.

#### Fresh snow

In the western sector of the northern flank of the Alps, the snowfall level temporarily ascended to 1400 to 1800 m on Sunday night, then during the day on Monday dropped back down again.

New fallen snow since Monday midday:

- Valais, 50 to 70 cm
- northern flank of the Alps, 30 to 50 cm
- remaining Gotthard region, northern Grisons, Lower Engadine, 15 to 30 cm
- further south, maximum 10 cm

#### Temperature

at 2000 m at midday, minus 6 degrees

#### Wind

Monday night: strong to storm strength westerly winds

Tuesday during the day: moderate to strong velocity, shifting to northwesterly

### Weather forecast until Wednesday, 5.12.2012

In northern regions, skies will be predominantly overcast, accompanied by snow showers which will slacken off during the afternoon. In southern regions it will be partly sunny.

#### Fresh snow

- Valais, northern flank of the Alps, northern Grisons, 15 to 30 cm
- northern Ticino, central Grisons, Engadine and southern valleys of Grisons, 5 to 15 cm
- central Ticino and Sotto Ceneri will be dry

#### Temperature

at 2000 m at midday, minus 9 degrees

#### Wind

northwesterly at moderate velocity

### Outlook until Friday, 7.12.2012

#### Thursday

In northern regions, an additional 15 to 30 cm of snowfall is anticipated by midday, accompanied by strong velocity northwesterly winds. The avalanche danger will continue to remain critical. In southern regions it will be predominantly sunny.

#### Friday

Following a pause in the precipitation, renewed snowfall will set in from the west during the course of the day. The avalanche situation will remain critical.