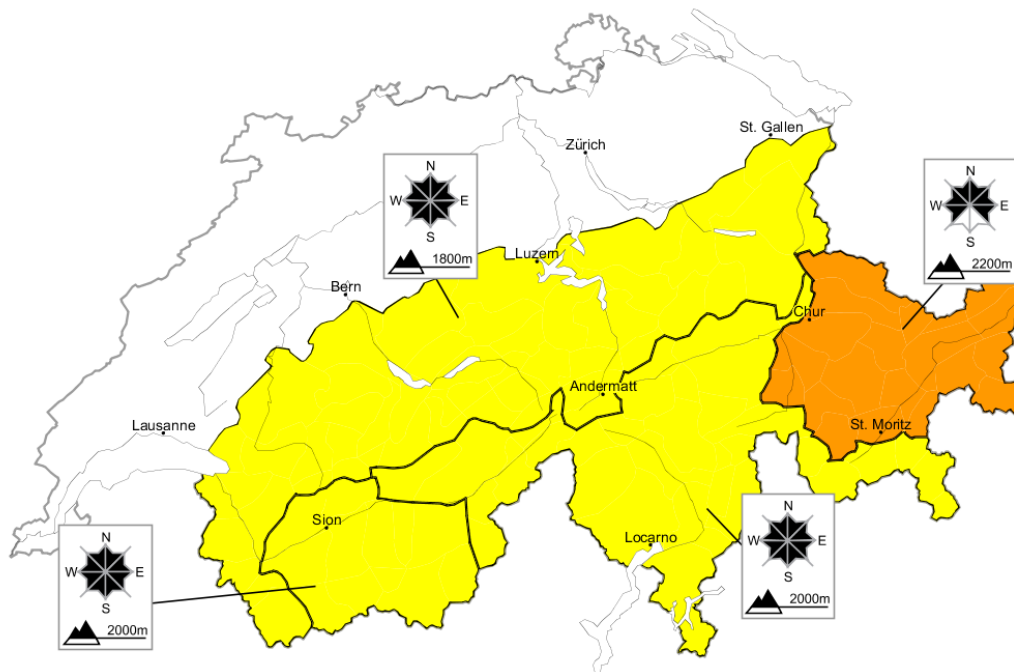


Decrease in avalanche danger

Edition: 30.12.2012, 08:00 / Next update: 30.12.2012, 17:00

Avalanche danger

updated on 30.12.2012, 08:00



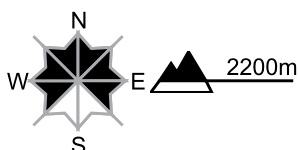
Region A

Level 3, considerable



Old snow

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

The older snow drift accumulations can in some places be released by a single winter sport participant and reach medium size. This applies in particular at transitions from a shallow to a deep snowpack, when entering gullies and bowls for example. Avalanches can in addition be released in deeper layers, mostly by large additional loads in isolated cases. This applies in particular on west, north and east facing slopes above approximately 2200 m. Careful route selection and spacing between individuals are recommended.

Danger levels



1 low



2 moderate



3 consider.



4 high



5 very high



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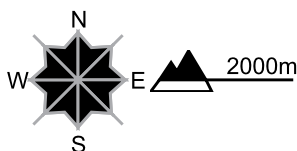
Region B

Level 2, moderate



Old snow

Avalanche prone locations

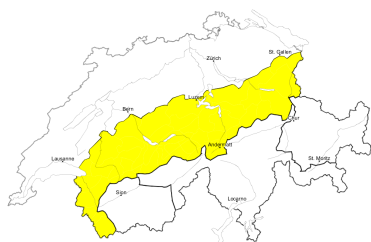


Danger description

The older snow drift accumulations can be released, in particular by large loads. This applies in particular at transitions from a shallow to a deep snowpack, when entering gullies and bowls for example. Avalanches can in addition be released in deeper layers, mostly by large additional loads in isolated cases. This applies in particular on west, north and east facing slopes above approximately 2200 m. Avalanches can reach medium size. Backcountry touring and other off-piste activities call for careful route selection.

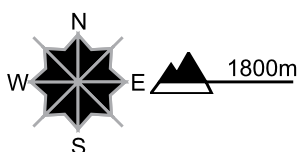
Region C

Level 2, moderate



Snow drifts, old snow

Avalanche prone locations

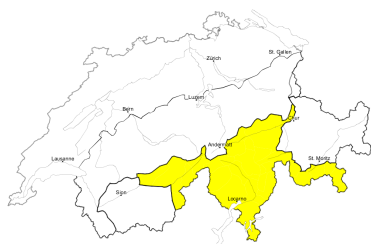


Danger description

The older snow drift accumulations can be released, in particular by large loads. This applies in particular at transitions from a shallow to a deep snowpack, when entering gullies and bowls for example. Small and, in isolated cases, medium-sized avalanches are possible. The fresh snow drift accumulations are to be found in particular adjacent to the ridge line and in pass areas. These are to be evaluated with care and prudence. Backcountry touring and other off-piste activities call for careful route selection.

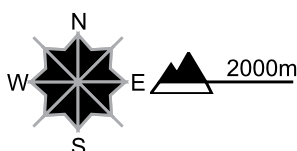
Region D

Level 2, moderate



Old snow

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

The older snow drift accumulations can be released, in particular by large loads. This applies in particular at transitions from a shallow to a deep snowpack, when entering gullies and bowls for example. Small and, in isolated cases, medium-sized avalanches are possible. Backcountry touring and other off-piste activities call for careful route selection.

Snowpack and weather

updated on 29.12.2012, 17:00

Snowpack

Fresh, predominantly small sized snow drift accumulations formed anew on Saturday in some high altitude ridge line and pass areas. They are prone to triggering. The older snow drift accumulations have by and large consolidated well in the interim. They can be triggered in general by large additional loading. Most treacherous are the transition areas from shallow to deep snow. Fracturing in more deeply embedded layers inside the snowpack is still possible only in isolated cases, particularly in the inneralpine regions of the Valais and Grisons, where avalanches can attain medium size. Full depth snowslides continue to be possible in isolated cases.

Observed weather on Saturday, 29.12.2012

Apart from high altitude cloudbanks it was generally sunny.

Fresh snow

-

Temperature

At midday at 2000 m, plus 5 degrees in northern regions, minus 2 degrees in southern regions

Wind

- western Lower Valais and western part of northern flank of the Alps, moderate to strong velocity southwesterly to southerly winds
- remaining regions, light to moderate velocity southwesterly winds

Weather forecast until Sunday, 30.12.2012

In western and northern regions, skies will be predominantly overcast and some snowfall is anticipated. During the course of the day, bright spells will appear. On the southern flank of the Alps and in the Engadine, it will be relatively sunny.

Fresh snow

- Lower Valais and northern flank of the Alps, approximately 5 cm, in westernmost regions as much as 10 cm
- Upper Valais, Grisons, southern flank of the Alps, dry

Temperature

At midday at 2000 m, minus 5 degrees in northern regions, minus 2 degrees in southern regions

Wind

- northern flank of the Alps, moderate to strong velocity southwesterly winds, shifting to northwesterly
- Valais, Ticino, Grisons, light to moderate northwesterly winds

Outlook until Tuesday, 1.1.2013

Monday

Apart from high altitude cloud, skies will be generally sunny. The avalanche danger will recede only in slow increments.

Tuesday

In the upstream zone of a cold front, cloudbanks will move in from the west and during the afternoon snowfall will set in. Strong southwesterly winds. The avalanche danger is not expected to change significantly for a time.