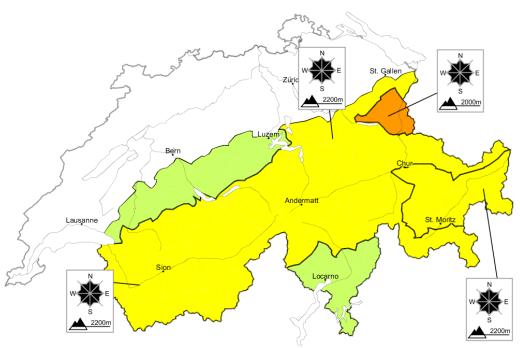
4.1.2013, 07:56

Moderate avalanche danger will be encountered over a wide area

Edition: 4.1.2013, 08:00 / Next update: 4.1.2013, 17:00

Avalanche danger

updated on 4.1.2013, 08:00



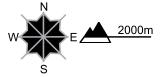
Region A

Level 3, considerable



Snow drifts

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

As a consequence of the sometimes strong wind avalanche prone snow drift accumulations have formed. The fresh snow drift accumulations can be released, even by a single winter sport participant. Off-piste activities call for experience in the assessment of avalanche danger.

Wet and full-depth avalanches

As a consequence of the rain mostly small full-depth and wet avalanches are possible. This applies in particular on steep grassy slopes below approximately 2000 m.

4.1.2013, 07:56

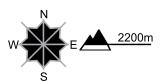
Region B

Level 2, moderate



Snow drifts, old snow

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

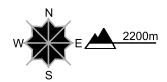
The fresh snow drift accumulations are to be evaluated with care and prudence. They are to be found in particular adjacent to the ridge line and in gullies and bowls. Additionally, in isolated cases avalanches can be released in the old snowpack and reach medium size. Caution is to be exercised in particular in areas where the snow cover is rather shallow on west, north and east facing slopes. These avalanche prone locations are difficult to recognise. Snow sport activities outside marked and open pistes call for careful route selection.

Region C

Level 2, moderate

Snow drifts, old snow

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

The fresh snow drift accumulations are to be evaluated with care and prudence. They are rather small but can in some cases be released easily. They are to be found in particular adjacent to the ridge line and in gullies and bowls. Avalanches can additionally, in isolated cases be released in deeper layers, in particular by large additional loads. This applies especially on extremely steep shady slopes. Careful route selection is recommended.

Full-depth avalanches

On steep grassy slopes individual full-depth avalanches are possible. In the eastern part of the northern flank of the Alps and in Prättigau mostly small wet avalanches are to be expected as a consequence of the rain. This applies below approximately 1800 m.

Region D

Level 1, low



Snow drifts

The fresh snow drift accumulations are small but in some cases prone to triggering. They are to be evaluated with care and prudence. Restraint should be exercised in view of the danger of being buried, but in particular because avalanches can sweep people along and give rise to falls.

Avalanche bulletin for Friday, 4 January 2013

4.1.2013. 07:56

Snowpack and weather

updated on 3.1.2013, 17:00

Snowpack

As a result of northerly winds, further, relatively small sized snow drift accumulations are expected to form, particularly in areas adjacent to ridge lines, gullies and bowls. The drifted snow masses will be prone to triggering in some places. In addition, avalanches can release in the weak layers near the ground consisting of faceted snow crystals, more than anywhere else in the inneralpine regions of Grisons. This applies especially to shady spots where the snow is shallow. Avalanches fracturing in these places can attain medium size.

In the remaining regions the old snow cover is well structured for the most part. On the northern flank of the Alps and in high alpine regions in general, the snowpack has been heavily impacted by the wind.

Observed weather on Thursday, 3.1.2013

In northern regions skies were heavily overcast, in the west there were bright intervals during the morning. In eastern regions light snowfall set in during the afternoon. In the Valais and in southern regions it was rather sunny.

Fresh snow

In eastern regions above approximately 1700 m, just a few centimeters

Temperature

At midday at 2000 m, zero degrees

Wind

Moderate velocity northerly winds

Weather forecast until Friday, 4.1.2013

In northern regions skies will be overcast, in the east accompanied by light precipitation. In southern regions and in the Valais it will be predominantly sunny.

Fresh snow

Central and eastern sectors of northern flank of the Alps and northern Grisons, 5 to 10 cm Snowfall level at approximately 1300 m

Temperature

At midday at 2000 m, zero degrees

Wind

In high alpine regions and on the southern flank of the Alps, moderate to strong velocity, elsewhere light to moderate velocity northerly winds.

Outlook until Sunday, 6.1.2013

Saturday

Above the high fog in western regions it will be predominantly sunny, in eastern regions increasingly so. In southern regions it will be generally sunny. The northerly winds will be blowing at storm strength at high altitudes. The avalanche danger may well increase somewhat at high altitudes.

Sunday

In northern regions high fog is anticipated. Above it, as well as in southern regions, it will be predominantly sunny and mild. The avalanche danger is not expected to change significantly.

