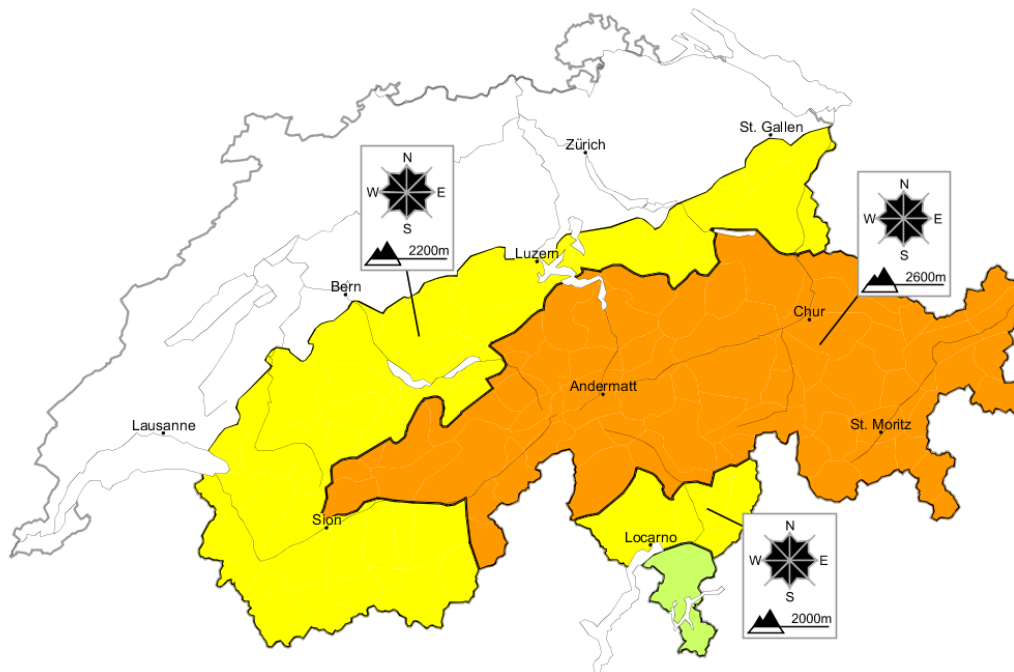


## Fresh snow drifts require caution

Edition: 5.1.2013, 08:00 / Next update: 5.1.2013, 17:00

## Avalanche danger

updated on 5.1.2013, 08:00



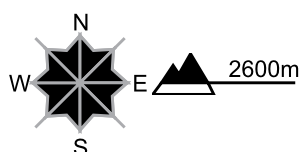
### Region A

### Level 3, considerable



#### Snow drifts

##### Avalanche prone locations



##### Danger description

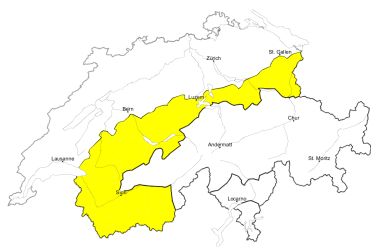
As a consequence of the sometimes storm force wind the snow drift accumulations will increase in size. They are to be found in particular in gullies and bowls, and behind abrupt changes in the terrain. The fresh snow drift accumulations can in many cases be released, even by a single winter sport participant. Off-piste activities call for experience in the assessment of avalanche danger. The inneralpine regions of Grisons, Lower Engadine and Val Müstair: Avalanches can in isolated cases be released in the old snowpack and reach medium size. Caution is to be exercised on steep, rather lightly snow-covered west, north and east facing slopes.

#### Full-depth avalanches

Small and, in isolated cases, medium-sized full-depth avalanches are to be expected on steep grassy slopes. Caution is to be exercised in particular on east, south and west facing slopes below approximately 2400 m.

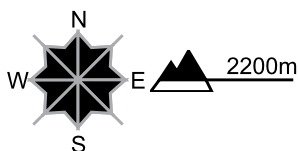
## Region B

## Level 2, moderate



### Snow drifts

#### 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. In high Alpine regions avalanche prone locations are more prevalent. Careful route selection is recommended.

### Full-depth avalanches

Small and, in isolated cases, medium-sized full-depth avalanches are to be expected on steep grassy slopes. Caution is to be exercised in particular on east, south and west facing slopes below approximately 2400 m.

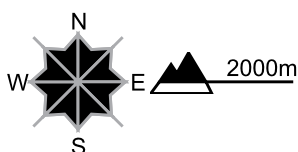
## Region C

## Level 2, moderate



### Snow drifts

#### Avalanche prone locations



#### Danger description

The fresh snow drift accumulations are mostly 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.

## Region D

## Level 1, low



### Snow drifts

Only a little snow is lying. 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.

## Snowpack and weather

updated on 4.1.2013, 17:00

### Snowpack

The northerly wind, which is storm force at elevated altitudes, will transport loosely bonded old snow. The snow drift accumulations are to be found, in particular, behind abrupt changes in the terrain and in gullies and bowls; they are prone to triggering in some cases.

In particular in the inneralpine regions of Grisons, avalanches can also be released in near-ground, faceted and weakly bonded layers of the snowpack. This applies in particular in shady areas where the snow cover is shallow. Avalanches here can reach medium size. In the other regions, the bonding of the old snowpack is favourable in the majority of cases. On the northern flank of the Alps and generally in the high Alpine regions, the snowpack has been significantly influenced by the wind.

As a consequence of the mild temperatures and, in some cases, rain up to high altitudes, the occurrence of gliding snow has increased again.

### Observed weather on Friday, 4.1.2013

It was cloudy in the north. A little precipitation fell in the east. In southern Valais and on the southern flank of the Alps, it was fairly sunny.

#### Fresh snow

5 to 10 cm above approximately 1800 m in the east

#### Temperature

At midday at 2000 m:

- 0 degrees in the north
- plus 4 degrees in the south

#### Wind

- Light to moderate northerly wind in the west
- Moderate to strong northerly wind in the east and south

### Weather forecast until Saturday, 5.1.2013

Cloudy with light precipitation in the east. It will be mostly sunny in the west and south.

#### Fresh snow

Central and eastern parts of the northern flank of the Alps and northern Grisons: a few centimetres  
Snowfall level approximately 1500 m

#### Temperature

At midday at 2000 m:

- minus 1 degree in the north
- plus 3 degrees in the south

#### Wind

Northerly. Strong at high altitude in the west, storm force in the east and south.

### Outlook until Monday, 7.1.2013

#### Sunday

It will be cloudy in the east. In the west it will be mostly sunny above the low stratus. It will be mostly sunny in the south. It will be mild in the mountains. The danger of dry avalanches will decrease slightly, but the danger of full-depth avalanches will persist.

#### Monday

Low stratus cloud cover in the north. Above the low stratus and in the south, it will be mostly sunny and mild. The danger of dry avalanches will decrease slowly, but the danger of full-depth avalanches will persist.