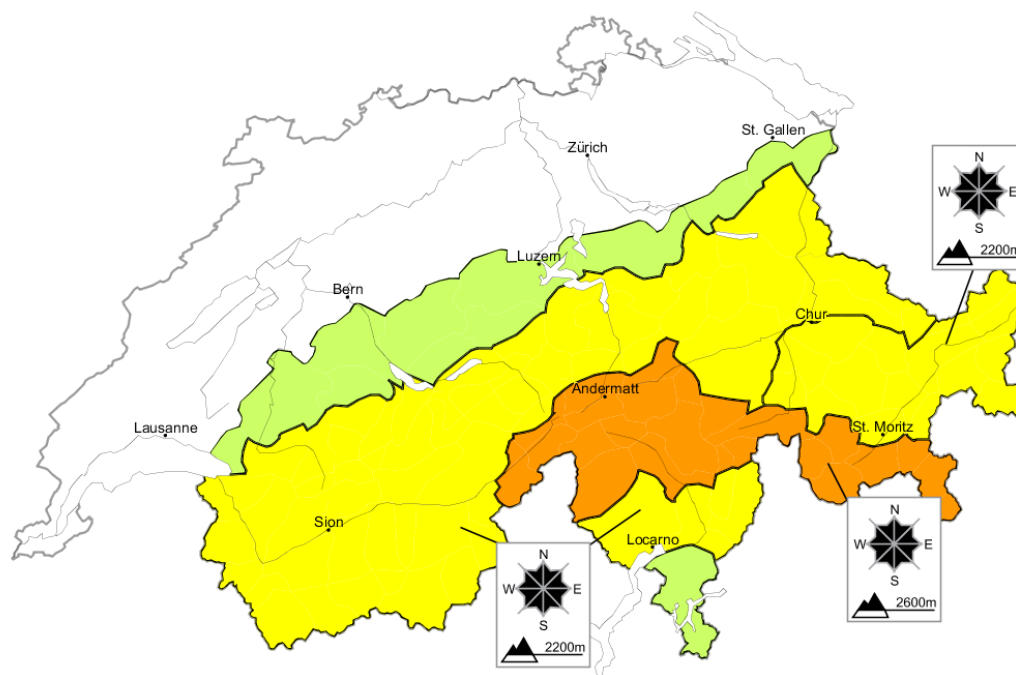


At high altitude a considerable avalanche danger will be encountered in some regions

Edition: 6.1.2013, 08:00 / Next update: 6.1.2013, 17:00

Avalanche danger

updated on 6.1.2013, 08:00



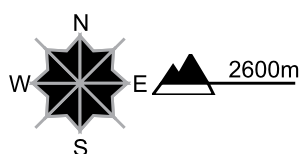
Region A

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 be released by a single winter sport participant. Off-piste activities call for experience in the assessment of avalanche danger.

Old snow

Engadine: 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.

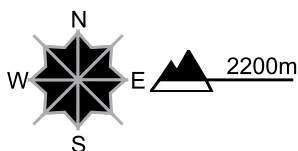
Region B

Level 2, moderate



Snow drifts, old snow

Avalanche prone locations

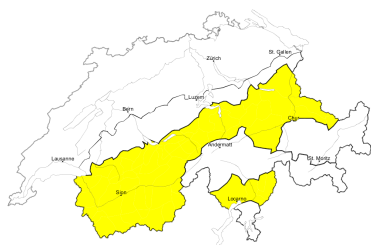


Danger description

Avalanches can in isolated cases be released in the old snowpack and reach medium size. This applies in particular in areas where the snow cover is rather shallow on very steep west, north and east facing slopes. These avalanche prone locations are difficult to recognise. In particular adjacent to the ridge line and in gullies and bowls mostly small snow drift accumulations have formed. These are to be found in all aspects. They are to be bypassed as far as possible. Backcountry touring calls for careful route selection.

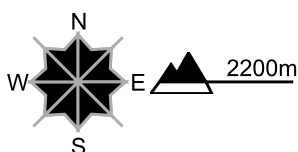
Region C

Level 2, moderate



Snow drifts

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

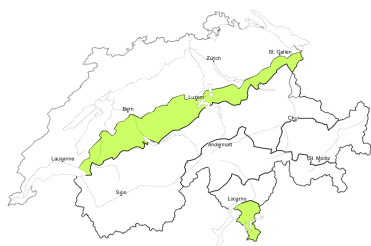
The fresh snow drift accumulations are to be evaluated with care and prudence. They are rather small but can in some cases be released easily. They are to be found in particular adjacent to the ridge line and in gullies and bowls. In high Alpine regions avalanche prone locations are more prevalent. Careful 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 D

Level 1, low



Snow drifts

The fresh snow drift accumulations are to be found at high altitude. They are small but in some cases prone to triggering. 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.

Wet and full-depth avalanches

In particular in the Prealps moist snow slides and avalanches are possible below approximately 2000 m.

Snowpack and weather

updated on 5.1.2013, 17:00

Snowpack

As a result of the strong northerly winds, snow drift accumulations formed at high altitudes on Saturday. On Sunday they are expected to increase somewhat in magnitude, reaching medium size. The snow drift accumulations are to be found particularly behind abrupt changes in the terrain, in gullies and bowls and are prone to triggering in places. Particularly in the inneralpine regions of Grisons, in the Engadine and in the Münstertal, more deeply embedded layers inside the snow cover are faceted and weak in places. In isolated cases avalanches can be triggered in these weak layers and attain medium size. In the remaining regions the old snowpack is favourably structured in most places and is often heavily impacted by the wind.

As a result of the mild temperatures, full depth snowslides can be expected to continue.

Observed weather on Saturday, 5.1.2013

In eastern regions skies were overcast, accompanied by a small amount of precipitation. In western regions, in the Valais and on the southern flank of the Alps it was predominantly sunny.

Fresh snow

In eastern regions, just a few centimeters above approximately 1600 m

Temperature

At midday at 2000 m

- in northern regions, zero degrees
- in southern regions, plus 4 degrees

Wind

At high altitudes strong, elsewhere light to moderate velocity northerly winds

Weather forecast until Sunday, 6.1.2013

In the easternmost regions it will turn increasingly sunny during the morning after the rainfall comes to an end. In the remaining regions it will be generally sunny.

Fresh snow

In eastern regions, just a few centimeters on Saturday night

Snowfall level at approximately 1800 m

Temperature

At midday at 2000 m

- in western and southern regions, plus 4 degrees
- in eastern regions, zero degrees

Wind

Northerly winds

- at 2000 m, light to moderate velocity
- in high alpine regions, strong to storm strength winds

Outlook until Tuesday, 8.1.2013

On Monday and Tuesday in northern regions, high fog is anticipated. Above it, as well as in southern regions, it will be predominantly sunny and mild. In high alpine regions the northerly wind will be blowing at storm strength to begin with, then slacken off. The danger of dry avalanches is expected to decrease slightly. The danger of full depth snowslides will remain unchanged.