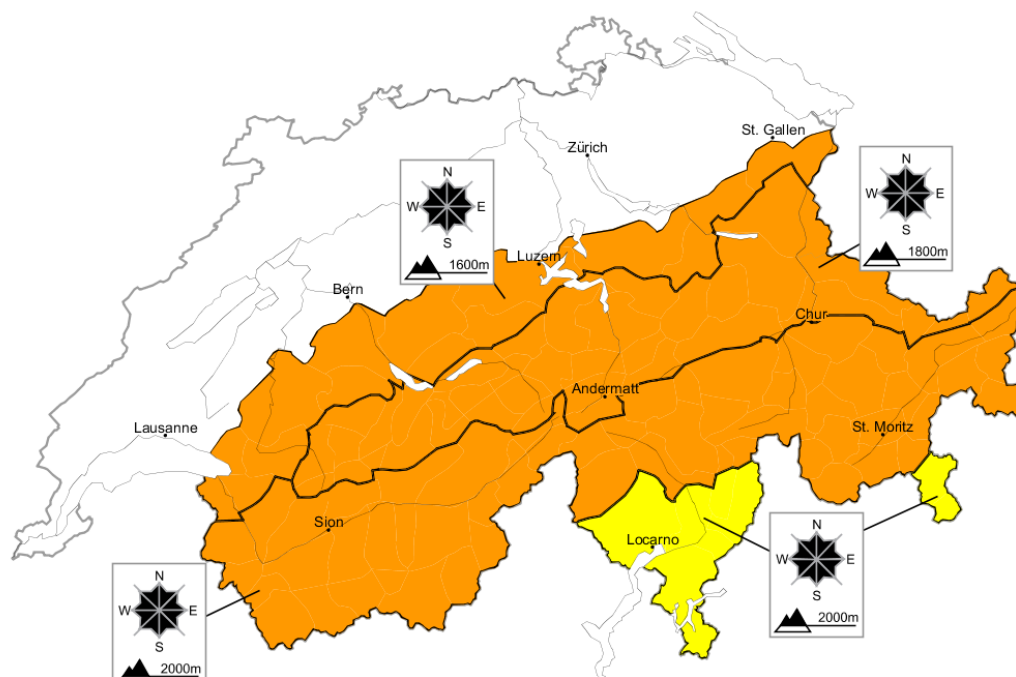


Considerable avalanche danger will be encountered over a wide area. Fresh snow drifts represent the main danger

Edition: 4.2.2013, 08:00 / Next update: 4.2.2013, 17:00

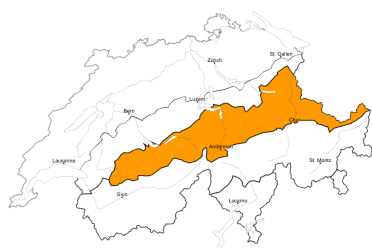
Avalanche danger

updated on 4.2.2013, 08:00



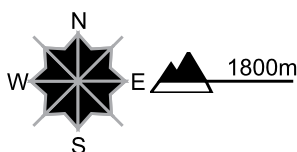
Region A

Level 3, considerable



Fresh snow and snow drifts

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

As a consequence of fresh snow and strong wind the snow drift accumulations will increase in size additionally. These can be released, even by a single winter sport participant or triggered naturally. Snow sport activities outside marked and open pistes call for great caution and restraint. Northern flank of the Alps from the Hasli valleys to Liechtenstein as well as Grisons: In particular from starting zones at higher altitudes individual medium-sized to large avalanches are possible. Exposed parts of transportation routes are endangered in isolated cases.

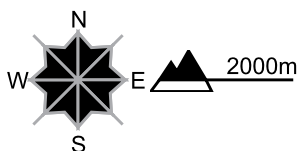
Region B

Level 3, considerable



Snow drifts, old snow

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

The fresh and older snow drift accumulations represent the main danger. The older snow drift accumulations are covered with fresh snow and therefore difficult to recognise. Avalanches can be released, even by a single winter sport participant and reach medium size. In addition avalanches can in isolated cases be triggered in the old snowpack, especially in the inneralpine regions. Snow sport activities outside marked and open pistes call for experience in the assessment of avalanche danger. Bernese Oberland, Valais: In high Alpine regions avalanche prone locations are more prevalent. Here individual natural avalanches are possible.

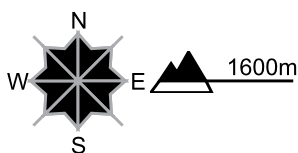
Region C

Level 3, considerable



Snow drifts

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

As a consequence of the sometimes strong wind snow drift accumulations will form. These can be released, even by a single winter sport participant. Ski touring and other off-piste activities, including snowshoe hiking, call for experience in the assessment of avalanche danger.

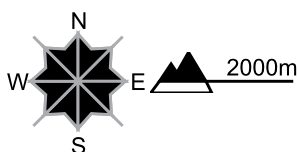
Region D

Level 2, moderate



Snow drifts

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

The mostly small snow drift accumulations represent the main danger. They are easy to recognise and can in some cases be released easily. Backcountry touring calls for careful route selection.



Snowpack and weather

updated on 3.2.2013, 17:00

Snowpack

In those regions on the northern flank of the Alps and in the Valais where precipitation has been heaviest, the massive amounts of new fallen and drifted snow of the last three days are gradually stabilizing. The bonding between these layers and the old snowpack remains unfavourable in some places, particularly above approximately 2000 m. The westerly to northwesterly winds which in some regions were strong have transported the loosely packed snow nearest to the uppermost surface together with the fresh fallen snow. The newly formed snow drift accumulations are prone to triggering.

In the inneralpine regions of the Valais, in central Grisons and in the Engadine there are intermediate and more deeply embedded layers inside the snowpack which are to some extent faceted and weak. Particularly on west to north to east facing slopes in those regions, dry avalanches can fracture in the old snow cover in isolated cases. In the remaining regions, fractures in the layers of the snow cover nearest to the ground are not likely.

Observed weather on Sunday, 3.2.2013

In northern regions skies were overcast. In eastern regions there was additional snowfall during the course of the day. In the afternoon there were bright spells from the west. In southern Valais, in Ticino and in the Upper Engadine it was quite sunny.

Fresh snow

Between Thursday evening and Sunday evening above approximately 2000 m, the following amounts of snowfall were registered:

- on the northern flank of the Alps, in the Lower Valais and in northern Valais, 50 to 80 cm, from place to place as much as 1 metre
- in the remaining Valais, in the remaining Gotthard region and in northern Grisons north of the Rhine, 30 to 50 cm
- from northern Ticino over central Grisons into the northern Lower Engadine, 15 to 30 cm
- further to the south, significantly less

Temperature

At midday at 2000 m, in northern regions minus 11 degrees, in southern regions minus 8 degrees

Wind

Moderate to strong velocity northerly to northeasterly winds

Weather forecast until Monday, 4.2.2013

During the night snowfall will again set in from the northwest. During the daytime skies will be heavily overcast in general and snowfall is anticipated. Over the course of the day the snowfall level will ascend towards 1100 m. In the furthestmost southern regions it will remain dry and quite sunny.

Fresh snow

Between Sunday evening and Monday evening above approximately 1000 m, the following amounts of snowfall are expected:

- on the northern flank of the Alps from the western Bernese Oberland to Liechtenstein, in northern Grisons and in northern Lower Engadine, 20 to 30 cm, from place to place as much as 40 cm
- in the remaining parts of the northern flank of the Alps, in the Valais and in the remaining regions of Grisons, 10 to 20 cm
- further to the south, significantly less

Temperature

At midday at 2000 m, minus 4 degrees in northern regions, minus 2 degrees in southern regions

Wind

Moderate to strong velocity westerly to northwesterly winds

Outlook until Wednesday, 6.2.2013

In southern regions it will be quite sunny on both days. In the remaining regions skies will be heavily overcast in general, accompanied by strong westerly winds. Intermittent snowfall is anticipated. The avalanche danger is not expected to change significantly.