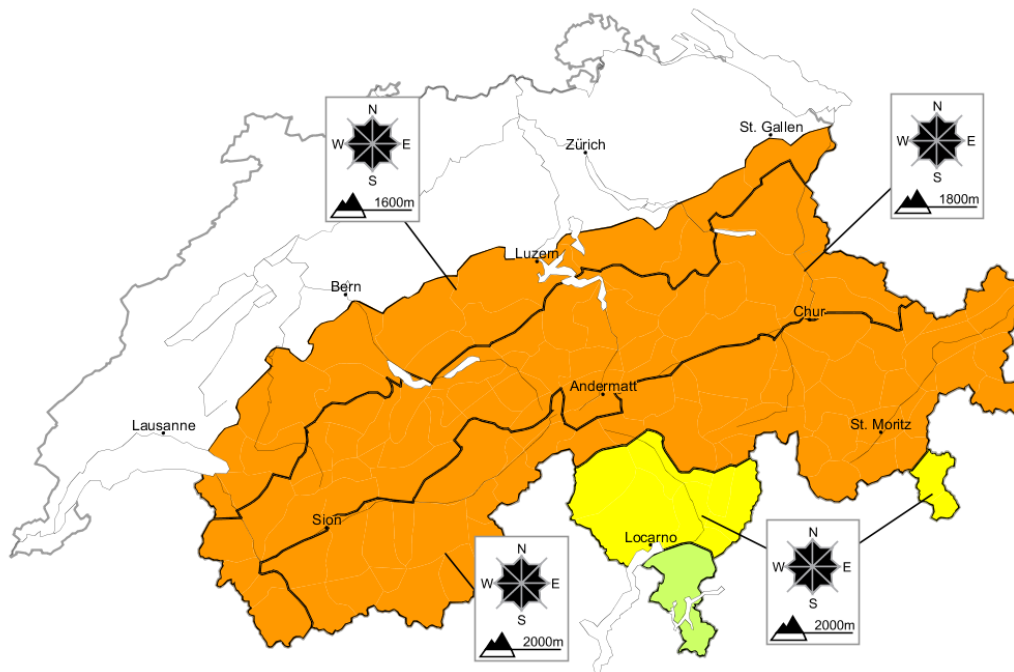


## In the north a critical avalanche situation will prevail

Edition: 8.2.2013, 08:00 / Next update: 8.2.2013, 17:00

### Avalanche danger

updated on 8.2.2013, 08:00



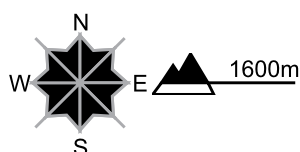
#### Region A

#### Level 3, considerable



#### Fresh snow and snow drifts

##### Avalanche prone locations



##### Danger description

The fresh snow and 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 by a single winter sport participant. Small to medium-sized natural avalanches are possible. Exposed parts of transportation routes can be endangered. Ski touring and other off-piste activities, including snowshoe hiking, call for experience in the assessment of avalanche danger.

#### Full-depth avalanches

In particular on steep grassy slopes small to medium-sized full-depth avalanches are possible below approximately 2000 m.

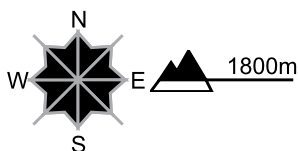
## Region B

## Level 3, considerable



### Fresh snow and snow drifts

#### Avalanche prone locations



#### Danger description

The fresh snow and 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 by a single winter sport participant. Small and medium-sized natural avalanches are possible. Exposed parts of transportation routes can be endangered. Ski touring and other off-piste activities, including snowshoe hiking, call for experience in the assessment of avalanche danger.

### Full-depth avalanches

In particular on the northern flank of the Alps small to medium-sized full-depth avalanches are possible below approximately 2000 m. This applies especially on steep grassy slopes.

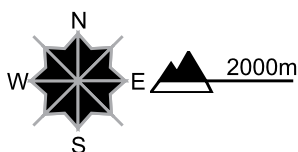
## Region C

## 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. Even single persons can release avalanches. In addition avalanches can in isolated cases be released in deep layers and reach medium size, especially in the inneralpine regions, in Engadine and in Val Müstair. Snow sport activities outside marked and open pistes call for experience in the assessment of avalanche danger.

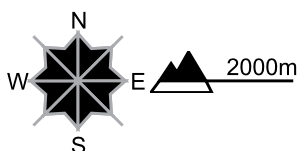
## Region D

## Level 2, moderate



### Snow drifts

#### Avalanche prone locations



#### Danger description

As a consequence of the northerly wind mostly small snow drift accumulations have formed. They are in some cases prone to triggering. Careful route selection is recommended.

**Region E**

**Level 1, low**



**Snow drifts**

Only a little snow is lying. Individual avalanche prone locations are to be found in particular in extremely steep terrain.

## Snowpack and weather

updated on 7.2.2013, 17:00

### Snowpack

Both new fallen and freshly drifted snow masses are prone to triggering. In isolated cases, even older, more deeply embedded layers of accumulated snowdrift from the last few days could release as avalanches. These avalanche prone locations have now been blanketed over by fresh fallen snow, which makes them difficult to recognize. In the inneralpine regions of the Valais, in central Grisons and in the Engadine, more than anywhere else, 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, the layers of the snow cover nearest to the ground are not likely to fracture.

### Observed weather on Thursday, 7.2.2013

In the furthestmost western and in northern regions skies were overcast accompanied by snowfall down to low altitudes. In central Valais there were bright intervals, in southern regions it was quite sunny.

#### Fresh snow

Between Wednesday evening and Thursday evening the following amounts of snowfall were registered down to low altitudes:

- western Lower Valais, northern flank of the Alps not including Gotthard region: 20 to 40 cm
- remaining Lower Valais, Goms, northern Grisons: 10 to 20 cm
- remaining regions, less; in southern regions it was dry

#### Temperature

At midday at 2000 m, in northern regions minus 12 degrees C, in southern regions minus 8 degrees C

#### Wind

During the night the winds shifted to northerly. On the Main Alpine Ridge they were blowing at moderate to strong velocity, in the remaining regions at light to moderate strength.

### Weather forecast until Friday, 8.2.2013

In western and northern regions skies will be heavily overcast accompanied by snowfall down to low altitudes. The snowfall will taper off in western regions in particular during the course of the day and the skies are expected to brighten up intermittently. South of the Main Alpine Ridge it will be rather sunny.

#### Fresh snow

- central and eastern sectors of northern flank of the Alps: 20 to 30 cm
- western sector of northern flank of the Alps, Lower Valais, Gotthard region, Engadine north of the Inn: 10 to 20 cm
- remaining regions, less; in southern regions it will remain dry

#### Temperature

At midday at 2000 m, minus 12 degrees C

#### Wind

Light to moderate velocity northerly winds

### Outlook until Sunday, 10.2.2013

#### Saturday

In northern regions, skies will be heavily overcast in general accompanied by a small amount of snowfall, particularly in the eastern sectors. In the west and in the inneralpine regions there will be increasingly frequent bright intervals. In southern regions it will be rather sunny. The avalanche danger is expected to slowly diminish.

#### Sunday

Predominantly overcast. Snowfall is expected to set in from the west. It will remain very cold. The avalanche danger may well increase somewhat in western and northern regions.