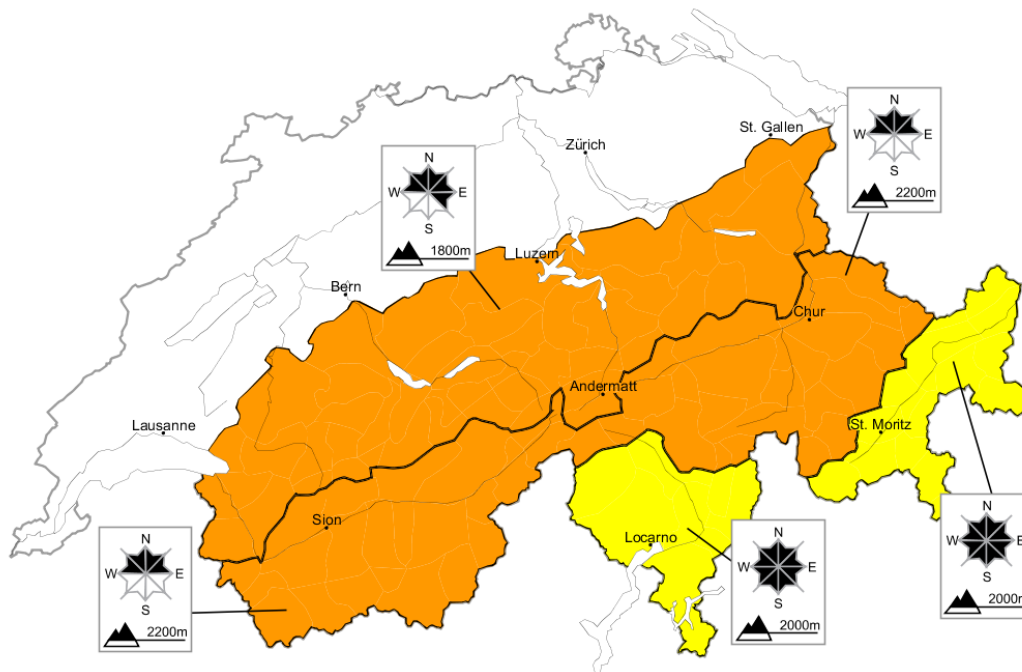


Fresh snow drifts represent the main danger

Edition: 11.2.2013, 08:00 / Next update: 11.2.2013, 17:00

Avalanche danger

updated on 11.2.2013, 08:00



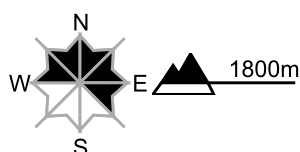
Region A

Level 3, considerable



Snow drifts

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

The fresh snow drift accumulations can be released easily. They are to be found in particular on west to north to southeast facing aspects. This also applies adjacent to the ridge line in all aspects. Natural dry avalanches are possible, in particular in the regions of the north that are exposed to the foehn wind. Ski touring and other off-piste activities, including snowshoe hiking, call for experience in the assessment of avalanche danger and careful route selection.

Full-depth avalanches

In particular on steep grassy slopes small and medium-sized full-depth avalanches are possible below approximately 2200 m.

Danger levels

1 low

2 moderate

3 consider.

4 high

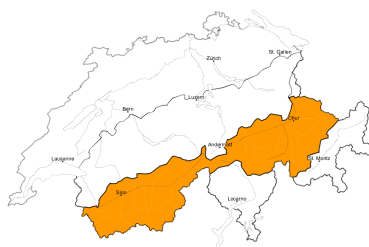
5 very high



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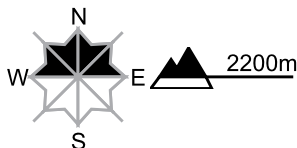
Region B

Level 3, considerable



Snow drifts, old snow

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

The fresh snow drift accumulations are can be released easily. They are to be found in particular on west to north to east facing aspects. This also applies adjacent to the ridge line in all aspects. In addition avalanches can in isolated cases be released in deep layers, especially in the inneralpine regions. Ski touring and other off-piste activities, including snowshoe hiking, call for experience in the assessment of avalanche danger and careful route selection.

Full-depth avalanches

In particular in Lower Valais and in northern Grisons small and medium-sized full-depth avalanches are possible below approximately 2200 m. This applies especially on steep grassy slopes.

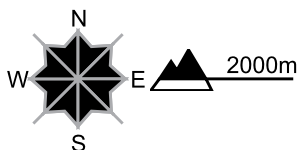
Region C

Level 2, moderate



Snow drifts, old snow

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

The fresh snow drift accumulations are to be found in particular adjacent to the ridge line and in gullies and bowls. Avalanches can in isolated cases be released by a single winter sport participant, but they will be small in most cases. At elevated altitudes avalanche prone locations are more prevalent. In addition avalanches can in isolated cases be released in deep layers and reach medium size, especially in Engadine. Careful route selection is recommended.

Snowpack and weather

updated on 10.2.2013, 17:00

Snowpack

In the northern regions there has been heavy snowfall over the last week. Excluding on south facing slopes, the new fallen snow on the uppermost surface is still extremely loosely packed and light, making it easily transported.

The major peril stems from freshly formed snowdrift accumulations, which are highly prone to triggering. In isolated cases even older, more deeply embedded layers of snowdrift from recent days can be triggered as avalanches. The avalanche prone locations have now been blanketed over by fresh fallen snow, making 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 steep slopes which are rarely frequented by skiers or freeriders, 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 Sunday, 10.2.2013

On Sunday it was sunny and cold. During the afternoon, cloud moved in from the west.

Fresh snow

During the night in northern regions, just a few centimeters

Temperature

At midday at 2000 m, in western and southern regions -12 °C, in eastern regions -14 °C

Wind

Light to moderate velocity westerly winds

Weather forecast until Monday, 11.2.2013

On Sunday night skies will turn increasingly overcast; in western regions light snowfall will set in. During the day on Monday in western and southern regions, skies will be heavily overcast in general and snowfall is anticipated down to low altitudes. In northern and eastern regions, foehn conditions will prevail, giving rise to bright intervals to some extent.

Fresh snow

Between Sunday evening and Monday evening:

- western sector of northern flank of the Alps, Valais, southern flank of the Alps: 5 to 10 cm
- remaining regions, less than 5 cm, in eastern regions it will remain dry

Temperature

At midday at 2000 m, between -5 °C in the foehn exposed regions of the north and -10 °C in southern regions

Wind

For a brief interim, moderate to strong velocity southerly to southeasterly winds. New fallen snow and loosely packed old snow will be transported.

Outlook until Wednesday, 13.2.2013

Tuesday

Variably cloudy skies accompanied by light snowfall. During the afternoon it will brighten up in western and northern regions in particular. The avalanche danger is not expected to change significantly.

Wednesday

In western and southern regions, rather sunny. In eastern region conditions will be variable, amidst by snow showers and sunny phases. The avalanche danger is expected to diminish.