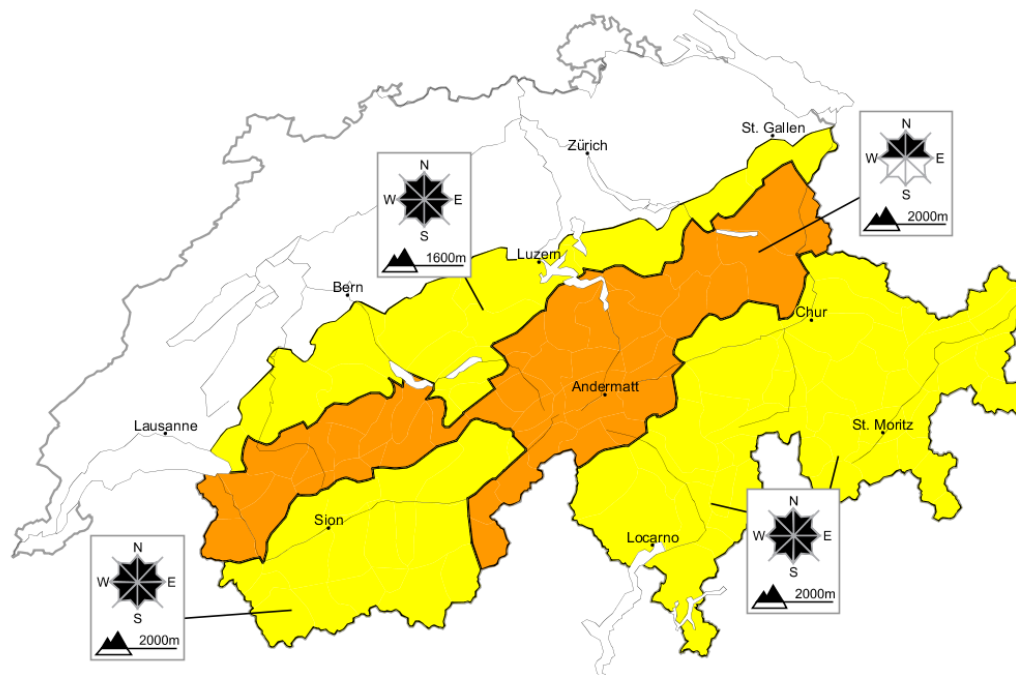


Considerable avalanche danger will be encountered in some regions

Edition: 13.2.2013, 08:00 / Next update: 13.2.2013, 17:00

Avalanche danger

updated on 13.2.2013, 08:00



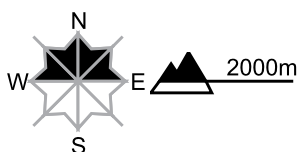
Region A

Level 3, considerable



Snow drifts

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

Fresh and older snow drift accumulations are prone to triggering. The avalanche prone locations are to be found in particular in west to north to east facing aspects and adjacent to the ridge line and in pass areas in all aspects. These avalanche prone locations are covered with fresh snow and barely recognisable. Especially on steep sunny slopes mostly small loose snow avalanches are possible as the day progresses. 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 2400 m.

Danger levels

1 low

2 moderate

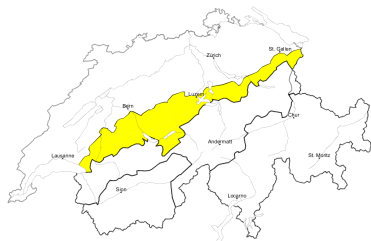
3 consider.

4 high

5 very high

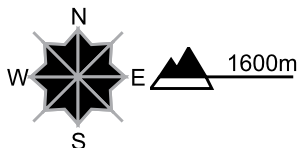
Region B

Level 2, moderate



Snow drifts

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

Fresh and somewhat older snow drift accumulations are to be found in particular adjacent to the ridge line and in gullies and bowls. These avalanche prone locations are covered with fresh snow and barely recognisable. Avalanches can in isolated cases be released by a single winter sport participant, but they will be small in most cases. Especially on steep sunny slopes mostly small loose snow avalanches are possible as the day progresses. Careful route selection is important.

Full-depth avalanches

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

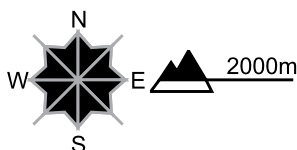
Region C

Level 2, moderate



Snow drifts, old snow

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

Fresh and somewhat older 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 and the danger is greater. The inneralpine regions of Valais, the inneralpine regions of Grisons, Engadine and Val Müstair: In addition avalanches can in isolated cases be released in deep layers and reach medium size. Careful route selection is important.

Full-depth avalanches

In particular in Lower Valais and in Prättigau small and medium-sized full-depth avalanches are possible below approximately 2400 m. This applies especially on steep grassy slopes.

Snowpack and weather

updated on 12.2.2013, 17:00

Snowpack

Recent snow drift accumulations that are prone to triggering are to be found, in particular, adjacent to the ridge line and in gullies and bowls. Over a wide area, the uppermost layers of these avalanche prone locations are covered with fresh snow and barely recognisable.

In particular in the inneralpine regions of Valais, and in central Grisons and Engadine, middle and deep layers of the snowpack are faceted and weak in some cases. Here, isolated avalanches can be released in the old snowpack, in particular on little used steep slopes. In the other regions, fractures are unlikely to occur in the near-ground layers of the snowpack.

The gliding movement of the snow has accelerated in recent days and the prevalence of full-depth avalanches has increased in all aspects below 2200 to 2400 m.

Observed weather on Tuesday, 12.2.2013

Tuesday was mostly very cloudy with light snowfall, even at low altitudes. In Valais and on the southern flank of the Alps, it was sunny at times.

Fresh snow

- Western and eastern parts of the northern flank of the Alps, Lower Valais: 10 to 20 cm
- Elsewhere over a wide area: 5 to 10 cm

Temperature

At midday at 2000 m: about -9 °C in the north and -6 °C in the south

Wind

Light to moderate from the north

Weather forecast until Wednesday, 13.2.2013

In the west and south and the inneralpine regions, the weather will be quite sunny. In the Prealps and the east, low stratus-like cloud cover will prevail at first, before it becomes increasingly bright later.

Fresh snow

On Tuesday night, a few centimetres of snow will fall in the central and eastern parts of the northern flank of the Alps, and in northern Grisons.

Temperature

At midday at 2000 m: between -12 °C in the north and -9 °C in the south

Wind

Light to moderate from the north to northeast.

Outlook until Friday, 15.2.2013

Thursday will be mostly sunny with cloudbanks in the east. On Friday, some snow will fall in the north, even at low altitudes. During the day the weather will brighten up in the west. It will be mostly sunny in the south. The danger of dry avalanches will slowly decrease. The danger of full-depth avalanches will not change significantly.