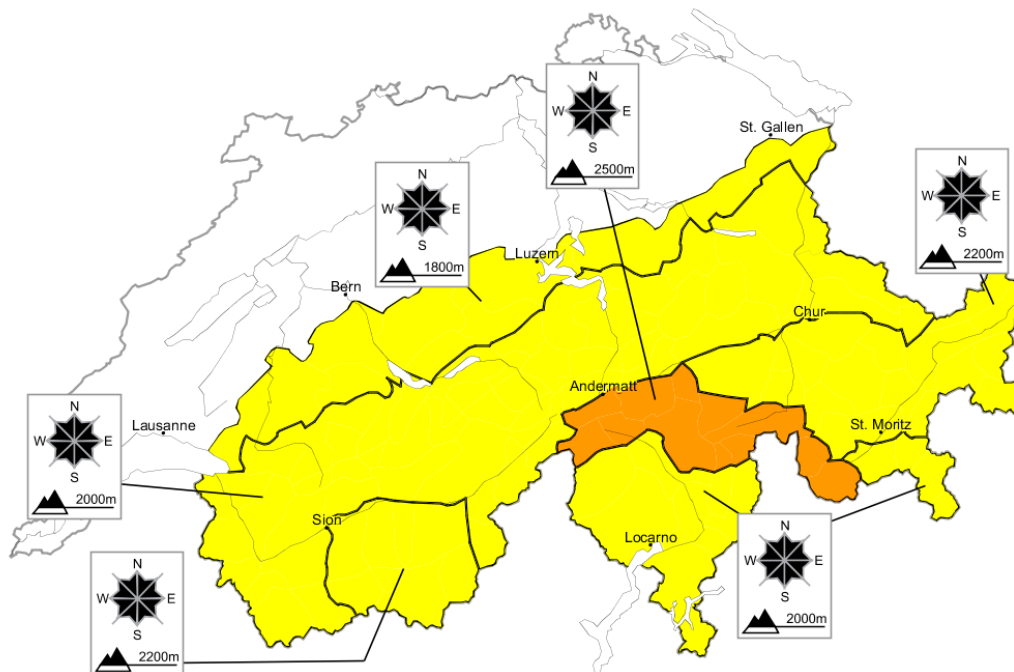


## Snow drifts require caution

Edition: 16.3.2013, 08:00 / Next update: 16.3.2013, 17:00

## Avalanche danger

updated on 16.3.2013, 08:00



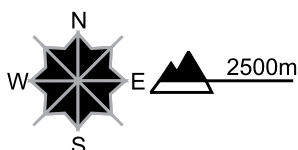
### Region A

### Level 3, considerable



#### Snow drifts

##### Avalanche prone locations

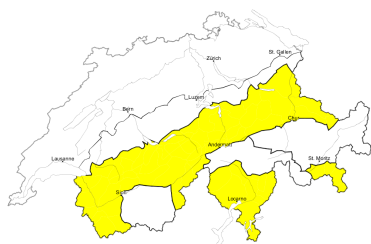


##### Danger description

As a consequence of the strong wind sometimes large snow drift accumulations have formed. They can be released by a single winter sport participant. On wind-loaded slopes the likelihood of avalanches will increase during the day. Backcountry touring and other off-piste activities call for experience in the assessment of avalanche danger.

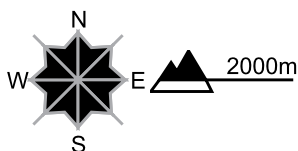
## Region B

## Level 2, moderate



### Snow drifts

#### Avalanche prone locations

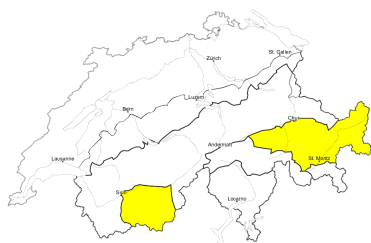


#### Danger description

Especially adjacent to the ridge line and in gullies and bowls sometimes easily released snow drift accumulations have formed. They are mostly rather small. In some localities large snow drift accumulations have formed. At elevated altitudes avalanche prone locations are more prevalent and the danger is slightly greater. On wind-loaded slopes the likelihood of avalanches will increase during the day. The snow drift accumulations are to be bypassed as far as possible.

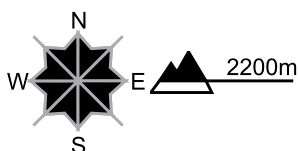
## Region C

## Level 2, moderate



### Snow drifts, old snow

#### Avalanche prone locations



#### Danger description

At elevated altitudes mostly small snow drift accumulations have formed. They are easy for the trained eye to recognise and can in some cases be released easily. The snow drift accumulations are to be found in particular adjacent to the ridge line and in gullies and bowls. Avalanches can in isolated cases release deeper layers of the snowpack, especially on very steep west, north and east facing slopes. Careful route selection is advisable.

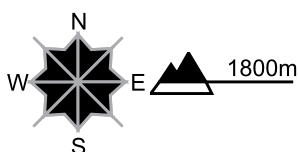
## Region D

## Level 2, moderate



### Fresh snow

#### Avalanche prone locations



#### Danger description

The fresh snow of the last few days is lying on a crust. Loose snow avalanches are the main danger. 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.

## Snowpack and weather

updated on 15.3.2013, 17:00

### Snowpack

The moderate to strong velocity northerly winds have transported the fresh fallen snow more than anything else, however to some extent also the light, loosely packed old snow. Trigger sensitive snowdrift accumulations have formed which are deep from place to place, particularly on the Northern Alpine Ridge and on the Main Alpine Ridge. In the inneralpine regions of the Valais, central Grisons, the Engadine and Val Müstair, intermediate and more deeply embedded layers inside the snow cover are to some extent faceted and weak. In those regions, avalanches which release from the uppermost surface can break through down to layers closer to the ground.

As a result of the low temperatures, the snow cover has stabilised to an increasing degree. Over the last few days the frequency of full depth snowslides has subsided.

### Observed weather on Friday, 15.3.2013

In northern regions there was snowfall down to low altitudes. During the day in western and southern regions it was predominantly sunny, in eastern regions skies were heavily overcast in general.

#### Fresh snow

Between Wednesday evening and Friday evening the following amounts of snowfall were registered:

- northern flank of the Alps and western regions of southern Lower Valais: 15 to 30 cm
- remaining Valais, northern Ticino, Grisons: 5 to 15 cm, elsewhere dry

#### Temperature

At midday at 2000 m, in northern regions -15 °C, in southern regions -12 °C

#### Wind

Northerly winds

- Main Alpine Ridge and southwards thereof: moderate to strong velocity winds
- remaining regions: light to moderate velocity winds

### Weather forecast until Saturday, 16.3.2013

To begin with it will be quite sunny, before cloud moves in from the west during the afternoon. In northern regions it will be significantly less cold.

#### Fresh snow

-

#### Temperature

At midday at 2000 m, in northern regions -5 °C, in southern regions -10 °C

#### Wind

At high altitudes, still moderate velocity northerly winds during the night. During the morning, winds will shift to southwesterly and be blowing at light strength to start with, intensifying to moderate strength towards evening.

### Outlook until Monday, 18.3.2013

On Sunday in eastern regions, there will still be foehn-induced bright intervals, elsewhere skies will be heavily overcast in general. There will be snowfall on the Main Alpine Ridge and southwards thereof. The southwesterly wind will be blowing at moderate to strong velocity. On Monday the foehn wind will come to an end and snowfall is anticipated widespread. The snowfall level will be at 1000 m on both days. The avalanche danger is expected to increase from region to region.