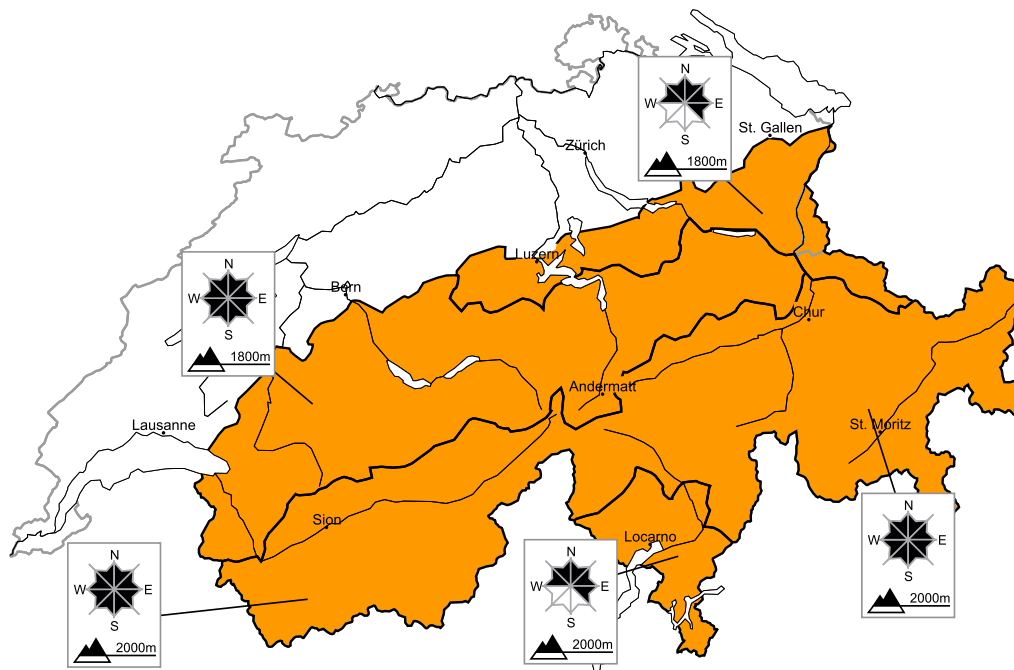


A precarious avalanche situation will persist

Edition: 28.12.2013, 08:00 / Next update: 28.12.2013, 17:00

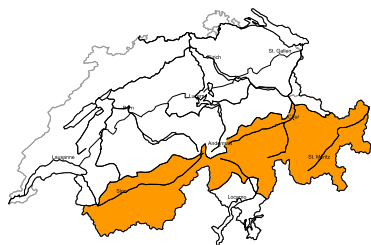
Avalanche danger

updated on 28.12.2013, 08:00



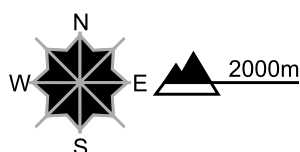
Region A

Level 3, considerable



Fresh snow and snow drifts, old snow

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

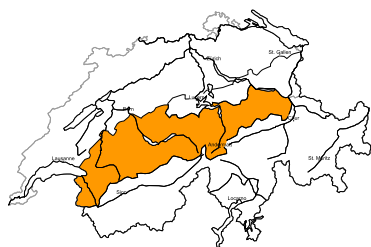
In particular in Valais and in Grisons avalanches can be triggered in the weakly bonded old snow. As a consequence of the sometimes strong wind avalanche prone snow drift accumulations will form. Avalanches can be released, even by a single winter sport participant. Whumpung sounds and the formation of shooting cracks when stepping on the snowpack serve as an alarm indicating the danger. Snow sport activities outside marked and open pistes call for experience in the assessment of avalanche danger.

Full-depth avalanches

On steep grassy slopes full-depth avalanches are to be expected below approximately 2000 m.

Region B

Level 3, considerable



Fresh snow and snow drifts

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

The fresh snow of Boxing Day is lying on top of a weakly bonded old snowpack in particular on shady slopes and generally at elevated altitudes. As a consequence of the storm force foehn wind avalanche prone snow drift accumulations will form. These are easy for the trained eye to recognise. Avalanches can be released, even by a single winter sport participant. Whumpfung sounds and the formation of shooting cracks when stepping on the snowpack serve as an alarm indicating the danger. Snow sport activities outside marked and open pistes call for experience in the assessment of avalanche danger.

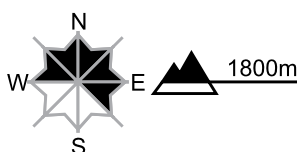
Region C

Level 3, considerable



Fresh snow and snow drifts

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

The fresh snow of Boxing Day is lying on top of a weakly bonded old snowpack in particular on shady slopes and generally at elevated altitudes. As a consequence of the storm force foehn wind avalanche prone snow drift accumulations will form. These are easy for the trained eye to recognise. Avalanches can be released, even by a single winter sport participant. Whumpfung sounds and the formation of shooting cracks when stepping on the snowpack serve as an alarm indicating the danger. Snow sport activities outside marked and open pistes call for experience in the assessment of avalanche danger.

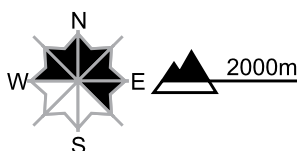
Region D

Level 3, considerable



Fresh snow

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

The fresh snow of Christmas Day represents the main danger. Avalanches can in some places be released by a single winter sport participant. The avalanche prone locations are to be found in particular at transitions from a shallow to a deep snowpack. Experience in the assessment of avalanche danger is important.

Full-depth avalanches

On steep grassy slopes full-depth avalanches are to be expected below approximately 2000 m.

Snowpack and weather

updated on 27.12.2013, 17:00

Snowpack

The deep layers of new fallen snow from the Christmas holidays have been deposited on shady slopes atop a weak old snow cover for the most part, and are bonding only very slowly with it. The foehn wind is transporting the loosely packed old snow and forming trigger sensitive snowdrift accumulations. The proneness to triggering is very high in some regions.

Observed weather on Friday, 27.12.2013

During the night in northern regions an additional bit of snowfall was registered. Today during the day it was sunny.

Fresh snow

-

Temperature

At midday at 2000 m between +2 °C in western regions and 0 °C in southern regions

Wind

- In the central sector of the Main Alpine Ridge and southwards thereof to some extent strong winds, in the other regions at light to moderate strength
- During the day light southerly winds to begin with, intensifying to moderate velocity

Weather forecast through Saturday, 28.12.2013

In northern regions it will be rather sunny in the early morning. As of midday clouds will rapidly move in from the west and a bit of snowfall is anticipated in western regions. In Grisons it will remain quite sunny until evening. In southern regions it will be predominantly sunny and a bit of snowfall is expected.

Fresh snow

In western and southern regions, just a few centimeters, snowfall level in western regions at 1400 m to begin with, elsewhere at 1000 m.

Temperature

At midday in northern regions, +2 °C, in southern regions -3 °C

Wind

Moderate to strong velocity (in the foehn-exposed regions at storm force) southerly to southwesterly winds.

Outlook through Monday, 30.12.2013

Sunday

Conditions will be variable, including bright intervals and snow showers. In southern regions snowfall down to low lying areas is anticipated during the night, thereafter it will turn sunny. The avalanche danger is not expected to change significantly.

Monday

It will be rather sunny. The avalanche danger is expected to incrementally decrease.