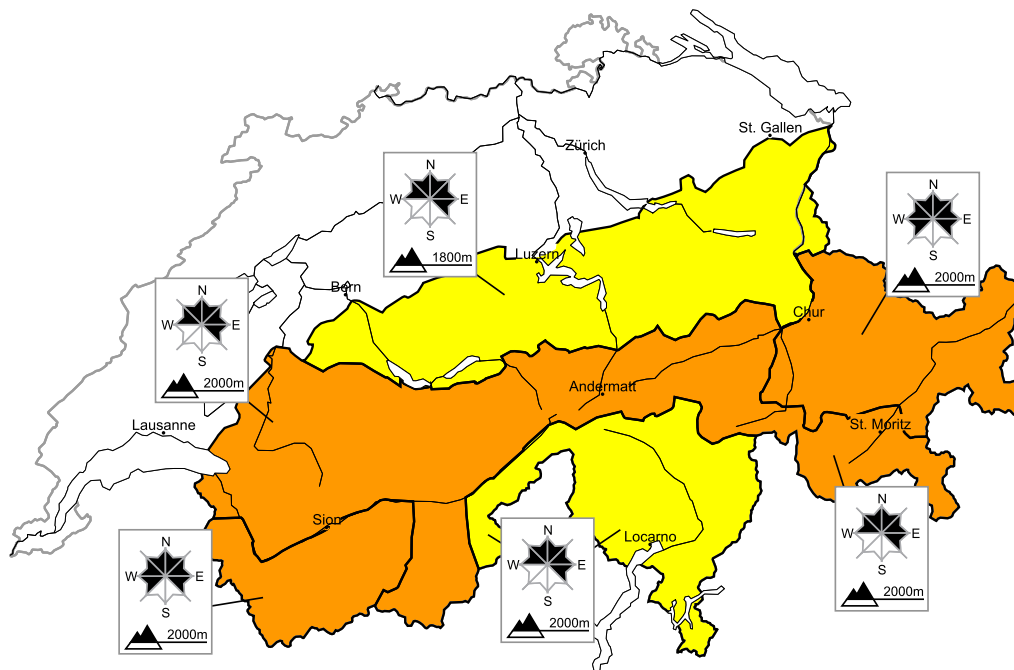


## Snow drifts and weakly bonded old snow require caution

Edition: 3.1.2014, 08:00 / Next update: 3.1.2014, 17:00

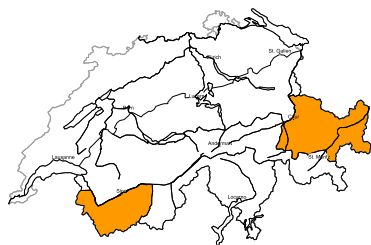
### Avalanche danger

updated on 3.1.2014, 08:00



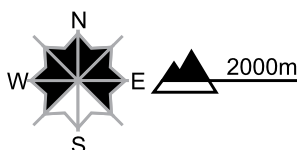
#### Region A

#### Level 3, considerable



#### Old snow, snow drifts

##### Avalanche prone locations

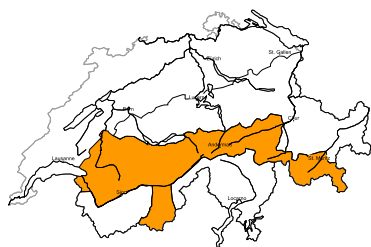


##### Danger description

Distinct weak layers exist in the bottom section of the snowpack in particular on shady slopes. Avalanches can be released by a single winter sport participant and reach dangerously large size. In addition, avalanche prone snow drift accumulations have formed, especially at elevated altitudes. These are to be avoided as far as possible. Snow sport activities outside marked and open pistes call for experience in the assessment of avalanche danger.

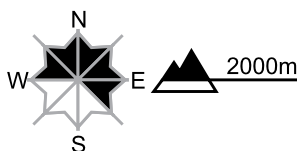
## Region B

## Level 3, considerable



### Snow drifts, old snow

#### Avalanche prone locations



#### Danger description

In the last two days avalanche prone snow drift accumulations have formed. These are to be avoided as far as possible. In isolated cases avalanches can also be released in deep layers and reach medium size. These avalanche prone locations are to be found in particular on shady slopes and at transitions from a shallow to a deep snowpack. Off-piste activities call for experience in the assessment of avalanche danger.

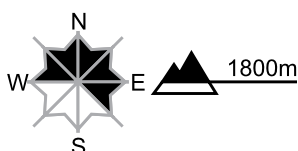
## Region C

## Level 2, moderate



### Snow drifts, old snow

#### Avalanche prone locations



#### Danger description

In the last two days sometimes avalanche prone snow drift accumulations have formed. These are mostly small but to be assessed with care and prudence. In isolated cases avalanches can also be released in deep layers, this applies in particular in case of a large load. Careful route selection is important.

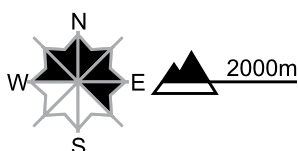
## Region D

## Level 2, moderate



### Snow drifts, old snow

#### Avalanche prone locations



#### Danger description

The older snow drift accumulations are in some cases prone to triggering. These are mostly small but to be assessed with care and prudence. The number and size of avalanche prone locations will increase with altitude. Careful route selection is required. Southern Upper Valais: In isolated cases avalanches can also be released in deep layers, this applies in particular in case of a large load.

## Snowpack and weather

updated on 2.1.2014, 17:00

### Snowpack

On the northern flank of the Alps, in the Valais and in Grisons, the more deeply embedded layers inside the snowpack are for the most part weak and faceted. Over the last few days several avalanches have been triggered from these deep, weakly bonded layers. These avalanches were especially frequent in southern Lower Valais, in parts of northern and central Grisons and in the Lower Engadine. In Ticino the snow cover is more favourably layered in general. As a result of southerly winds, fresh snowdrift accumulations arose on 2 January, Berchtolds Day, particularly at high altitude.

### Observed weather on Thursday, 2.1.2014

Skies were heavily overcast. There was intermittent light snowfall. During the afternoon it cleared up from the west.

#### Fresh snow

Lower Valais, Vaud and Fribourg Alps: over widespread areas 5 to 15 cm  
remaining regions: only a few centimeters, or it remained dry

#### Temperature

At midday at 2000 m in northern regions -2 °C and in southern regions -4 °C

#### Wind

Moderate to strong velocity southerly to southwesterly winds, slackening off during the day

### Weather forecast through Friday, 3.1.2014

Following a night of partially clear skies, cloud will move in from the west and south over the course of the day. In western regions, snowfall will set in.

#### Fresh snow

On the northern flank of the Alps and in the Lower Valais above approximately 1500 m, just a few centimeters, elsewhere dry.

#### Temperature

At midday at 2000 m in northern regions 0 °C and in southern regions -2°C

#### Wind

in northern and high alpine regions, moderate to strong velocity winds from westerly directions

### Outlook through Sunday, 5.1.2014

On Saturday regional snowfall, to some extent heavy in western and southern regions. Strong southerly winds. In northern regions, bright intervals as a result of foehn wind. On Sunday the snowfall will taper off. Avalanche danger is expected to increase on the southern flank of the Alps in particular. The overall avalanche situation in outlying terrain away from secured ski runs remains treacherous for skiers and freeriders over widespread areas.