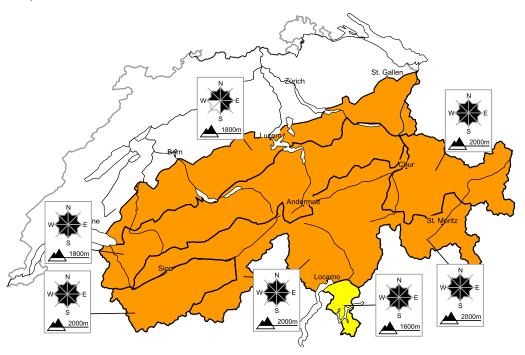
28.1.2014, 07:34

A precarious avalanche situation will prevail

Edition: 28.1.2014, 08:00 / Next update: 28.1.2014, 17:00

Avalanche danger

updated on 28.1.2014, 08:00



Region A

Level 3, considerable



Snow drifts

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

The various snow drift accumulations of the last few days are in some cases still prone to triggering. They are covered with fresh snow in some cases and therefore difficult to recognise. Single snow sport participants can release avalanches. Backcountry touring and other off-piste activities call for experience in the assessment of avalanche danger.

Region B

Level 3, considerable



Fresh snow and snow drifts

Avalanche prone locations

W E 1800m

Danger description

The fresh snow and snow drift accumulations of the last few days are in some cases still prone to triggering. The snow drift accumulations are covered with fresh snow and therefore difficult to recognise. Single snow sport participants can release avalanches. Whumpfing sounds and the formation of shooting cracks when stepping on the snowpack serve as an alarm indicating the danger. Backcountry touring and other off-piste activities call for experience in the assessment of avalanche danger.

Region C

Level 3, considerable



Snow drifts, old snow

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

The fresh snow and snow drift accumulations of the last few days are in some cases still prone to triggering. The snow drift accumulations are covered with fresh snow and therefore difficult to recognise. Single snow sport participants can release avalanches. Whumpfing sounds and the formation of shooting cracks when stepping on the snowpack serve as an alarm indicating the danger.

Avalanches can in isolated cases penetrate near-ground layers of the snowpack and reach dangerously large size. This applies especially on very steep north facing slopes. Backcountry touring and other off-piste activities call for extensive experience in the assessment of avalanche danger.

Region D

Level 3, considerable

Fresh snow and snow drifts

Avalanche prone locations

W = 2000m

Danger description

The fresh snow and snow drift accumulations of the last few days are in some cases still prone to triggering. The snow drift accumulations are covered with fresh snow in some cases and therefore difficult to recognise. Single snow sport participants can release avalanches. Whumpfing sounds and the formation of shooting cracks when stepping on the snowpack serve as an alarm indicating the danger. Backcountry touring and other off-piste activities call for experience in the assessment of avalanche danger.

Danger levels

1 low

2 moderate

3 consider.

4 high

5 very high

Region E

Level 2, moderate



Snow drifts

Avalanche prone locations

W E 1600m

Danger description

The snow drift accumulations of the last few days represent the main danger. They are mostly small but in some cases prone to triggering. Careful route selection is advisable.

Full-depth avalanches

On steep grassy slopes individual full-depth avalanches are possible.

Avalanche bulletin for Tuesday, 28 January 2014

28.1.2014. 07:34

Snowpack and weather

updated on 27.1.2014, 17:00

Snowpack

On the southern flank of the Alps and in Upper Engadine the bonding of the old snowpack is favourable. The bonding of the snowpack is most unfavourable in central Valais, southern Lower Valais, northern and central Grisons, Lower Engadine and Val Müstair. Here, avalanches can penetrate even near-ground layers in some cases on steep north facing slopes in particular, or they can be released in deep faceted layers. Although these avalanche prone locations are encountered only seldom, any avalanches that are released can still reach a dangerously large size. As a consequence of the stormy weather and fresh snow, snow drift accumulations have formed in all regions in recent days. This also applies in areas that are some distance from ridge lines and down to areas close to the tree line. These snow drift accumulation were covered with fresh snow on Monday and are now difficult to recognise.

Observed weather on Monday, 27.1.2014

In the north and in Valais during the night the wind was strong from the west and snow fell. In the south the weather remained largely dry. During the day, some prolonged bright spells occurred in the west in particular. The south was quite sunny.

Fresh snow

The snowfall level rose to 1400 m for a time in the northwest but otherwise remained at low altitudes. The following amounts of snow fell above approximately 1500 m in the period from Sunday evening until Monday evening:

- · Eastern parts of the northern flank of the Alps excluding the Prealps, Val Ferret, northern Valais: 20 to 30 cm
- · Western and central parts of the northern flank of the Alps, northern Grisons: 10 to 20 cm over a wide area
- · Prealps, southern flank of the Alps excluding the Gotthard region, central Grisons, Engadine: a few centimetres or none

Temperature

At midday at 2000 m: about -7 °C

Wind

The westerly wind was strong on the northern flank of the Alps and in Upper Valais during the night, but otherwise moderate. It eased during the day.

Weather forecast through Tuesday, 28.1.2014

During the night a little further snow will fall in the far east. In the morning, cloud will persist in the far east but it will be quite sunny everywhere else.

Fresh snow

A few centimetres in the far east

Temperature

At midday at 2000 m: about -8 °C

Wind

Moderate from the west to north during Monday night, and mostly light during the day

Outlook through Thursday, 30.1.2014

On each of the next two days the foehn wind will give rise to some bright spells in the north. In the west it will be mostly very cloudy. The south will be very cloudy and a little snow will fall, even at low altitudes. The avalanche danger may already increase a little on Wednesday in the northern regions that are exposed to the foehn wind. On Thursday it will increase a little in the south as well.