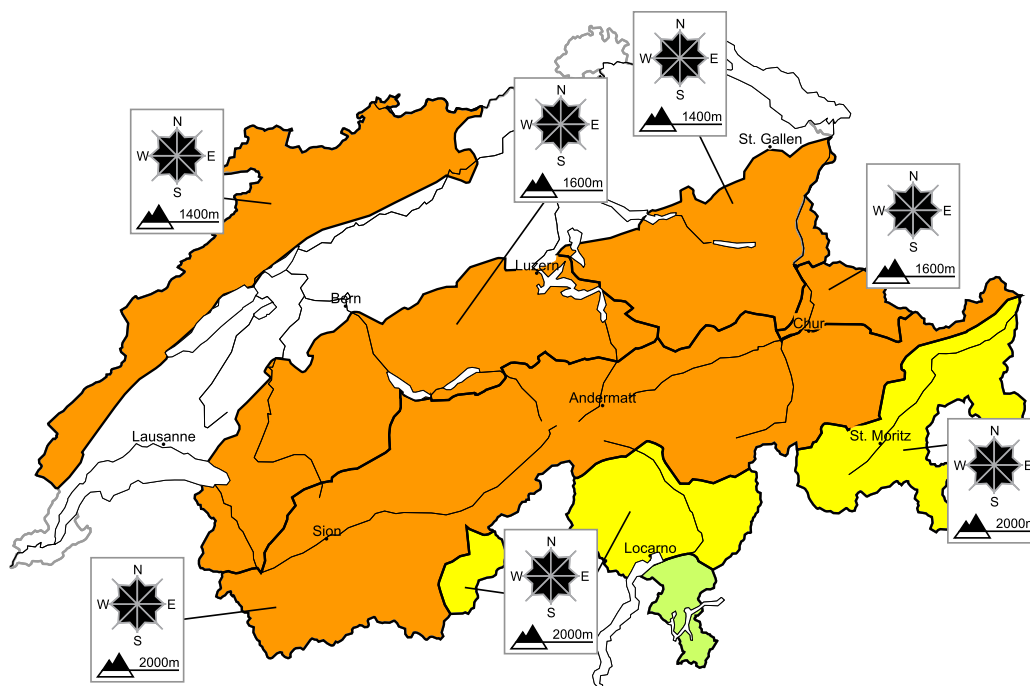


# Outside marked and open pistes a very precarious avalanche situation will be encountered in some regions

Edition: 30.12.2014, 08:00 / Next update: 30.12.2014, 17:00

## Avalanche danger

updated on 30.12.2014, 08:00



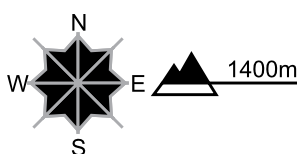
region A

Level 3, considerable



### Fresh snow and snow drifts

#### Avalanche prone locations



#### Danger description

As a consequence of fresh snow and wind further snow drift accumulations will form. Somewhat older snow drift accumulations are covered with fresh snow and therefore barely recognisable. Even single snow sport participants can release avalanches, including medium-sized ones. Natural avalanches are possible. Slides are to be expected on cut slopes. Backcountry touring and other off-piste activities call for extensive experience in the assessment of avalanche danger and great restraint.

Danger levels

1 low

2 moderate

3 consider.

4 high

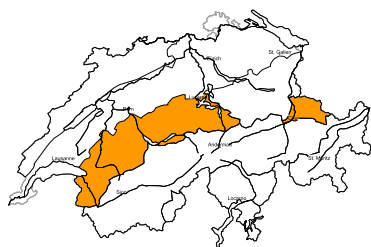
5 very high



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Avalanche Research SLF  
www.slf.ch

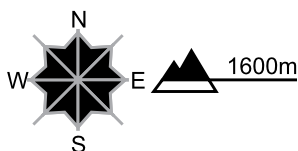
**region B**

**Level 3, considerable**



**Fresh snow and snow drifts**

**Avalanche prone locations**

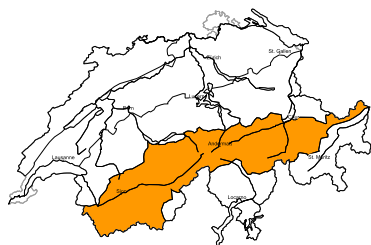


**Danger description**

As a consequence of fresh snow and wind further snow drift accumulations will form. Somewhat older snow drift accumulations are covered with fresh snow and therefore barely recognisable. Even single snow sport participants can release avalanches, including medium-sized ones. Individual natural avalanches are possible. Backcountry touring and other off-piste activities call for experience and restraint.

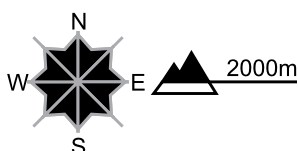
**region C**

**Level 3, considerable**



**Snow drifts, old snow**

**Avalanche prone locations**

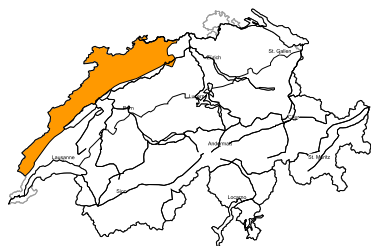


**Danger description**

The fresh and somewhat older snow drift accumulations represent the main danger. Additionally avalanches can also be released in the old snowpack. In isolated cases avalanches are medium-sized and easily released. Backcountry touring and other off-piste activities call for experience in the assessment of avalanche danger.

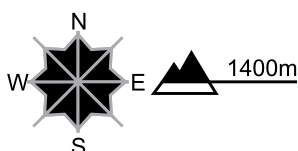
**region D**

**Level 3, considerable**



**Snow drifts**

**Avalanche prone locations**

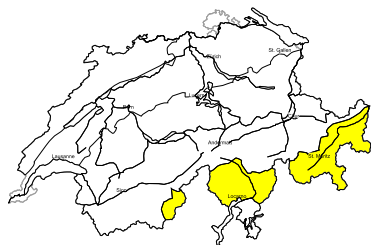


**Danger description**

In particular in gullies and bowls, and behind abrupt changes in the terrain avalanches can be triggered in the various layers of snow drift accumulations. The snow drift accumulations of the last few days are to be avoided. Backcountry snowshoe touring also calls for experience in the assessment of avalanche danger.

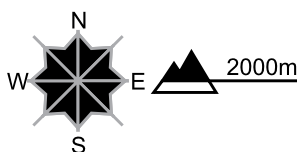
**region E**

**Level 2, moderate**



**Snow drifts, old snow**

**Avalanche prone locations**

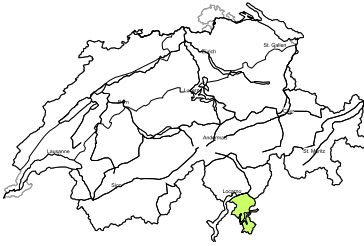


**Danger description**

Fresh and somewhat older snow drift accumulations represent the main danger. Faceted weak layers exist in the top section of the old snowpack in particular in areas where the snow cover is rather shallow. Avalanches can be released by a single winter sport participant, but they will be small in most cases. The prevalence of avalanche prone locations will increase with altitude. Off-piste activities call for careful route selection. The fresh snow drift accumulations are to be avoided.

**region F**

**Level 1, low**



**Favourable situation**

Only a little snow is lying. Individual avalanche prone locations are to be found in extremely steep terrain. Restraint should be exercised because avalanches can sweep people along and give rise to falls.

## Snowpack and weather

updated on 29.12.2014, 17:00

### Snowpack

Last week's fresh snow and snow drift accumulations are settling and bonding slowly. These layers are lying on top of an inconsistent old snowpack that has been influenced by the wind in many cases. Below approximately 2400 m they are lying on a melt-freeze crust in many places. Some of these snow drift accumulations remain prone to triggering. In the west and north some small and medium-sized natural avalanches have occurred.

As a consequence of the strong northerly wind, fresh, generally well-bonded snow drift accumulations have formed in all regions at high altitudes and at elevated altitudes in the Jura. These accumulations are more widespread and deeper in the western and northern regions exposed to precipitation than in the regions of southern Upper Valais, the southern flank of the Alps and Engadine.

Apart from the avalanche danger, the danger of frostbite warrants caution as well in view of the low temperatures and wind.

### Observed weather on Monday, 29.12.2014

On Sunday night, a few more centimetres of snow fell in the Prealps. The weather then brightened up again everywhere and the morning was sunny at first. Later in the morning dense cloud quickly built up from the north and, on the northern flank of the Alps and in northern Grisons, light snowfall set in again even on low ground. It was partly sunny in the far west and mostly sunny to the south of the main Alpine ridge.

#### Fresh snow

- Northern flank of the Alps east of the Brienzersee, northern Grisons: 10 to 20 cm
- Other regions: less than 10 cm

#### Temperature

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

#### Wind

Strong during the night, becoming moderate to strong during the day from the north

### Weather forecast through Tuesday, 30.12.2014

During the night a little snow will fall only in the east. During the day the weather will be partly sunny in the west and mostly sunny in the far south. It will be mostly cloudy in the north and east. Snow will fall in the east at first and on the northern flank of the Alps as well in the afternoon. Snow will fall even at low altitudes.

#### Fresh snow

- Northern flank of the Alps east of the Brienzersee, Prättigau: 10 to 20 cm
- Rest of the western part of the northern flank of the Alps, rest of northern and central Grisons, northern Engadine: 5 to 10 cm
- Other regions: smaller amounts or none

#### Temperature

At midday at 2000 m: between -9 °C in the west and -12 °C in the east

#### Wind

Moderate at 2000 m, but strong to storm force at elevated altitudes from the north to northeast

### Outlook through Thursday, 1.1.2015

On New Year's Eve cloud will persist in the north in the morning and the snowfall will cease in the eastern regions. It will become increasingly sunny from the west as the day progresses. It will be mostly sunny in the south. The northerly wind will be strong at elevated altitudes. New Year's Day will be mostly sunny and a little less cold. The northerly wind will ease. The avalanche danger will decrease only slowly.