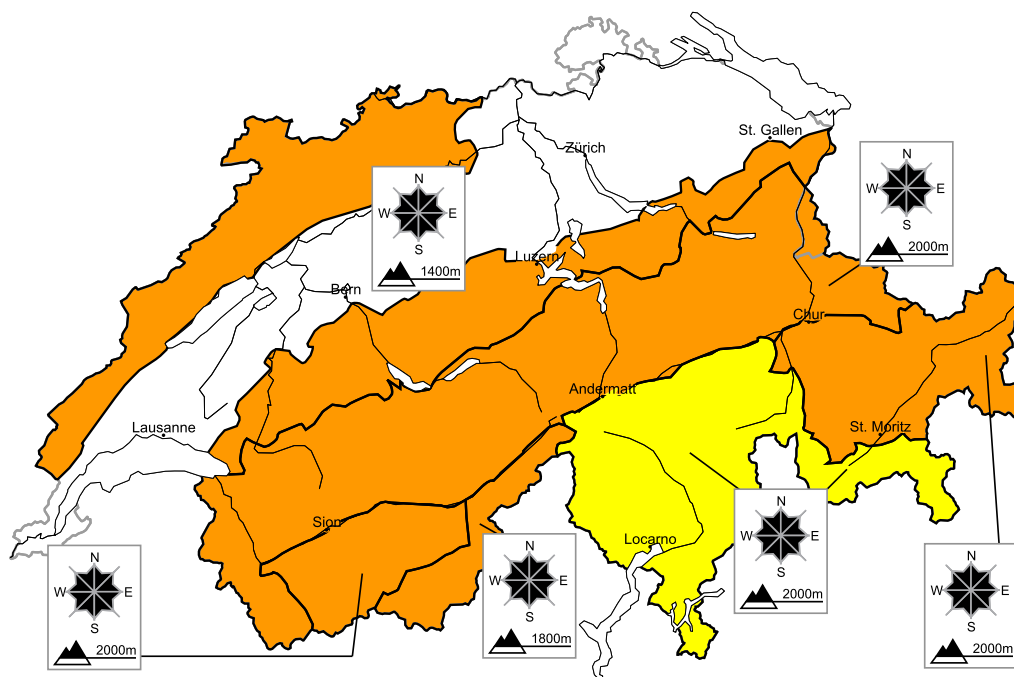


Considerable avalanche danger will be encountered over a wide area

Edition: 6.2.2015, 08:00 / Next update: 6.2.2015, 17:00

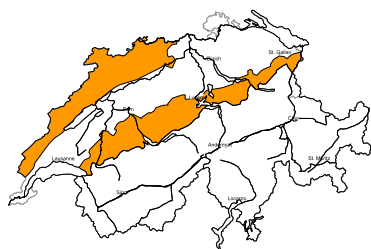
Avalanche danger

updated on 6.2.2015, 08:00



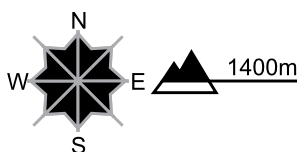
region A

Level 3, considerable



Snow drifts

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

As a consequence of the sometimes strong wind easily released snow drift accumulations will form. These are to be bypassed in steep terrain. Ski touring and other off-piste activities, including snowshoe hiking, call for experience in the assessment of avalanche danger and careful route selection.

Full-depth avalanches

Small and medium-sized full-depth avalanches are possible on cut and grassy slopes, in particular at low and intermediate altitudes. Caution is to be exercised in areas with glide cracks.

Danger levels

1 low

2 moderate

3 consider.

4 high

5 very high



WSL Institute for Snow and
Avalanche Research SLF
www.slf.ch

region B

Level 3, considerable



Fresh snow and snow drifts

Avalanche prone locations

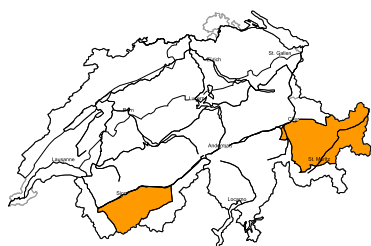


Danger description

As a consequence of fresh snow and wind snow drift accumulations will form. Even single snow sport participants can release avalanches easily, including medium-sized ones. Natural avalanches are to be expected. Backcountry touring and other off-piste activities call for experience and restraint.

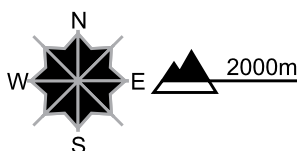
region C

Level 3, considerable



Snow drifts, old snow

Avalanche prone locations

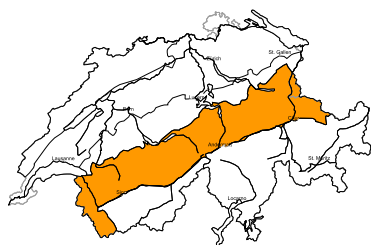


Danger description

More recent snow drift accumulations can be released easily. Remote triggering is possible. Avalanches can additionally be released in the weakly bonded old snow in particular in little used backcountry terrain. Whumping sounds and the formation of shooting cracks when stepping on the snowpack serve as an alarm indicating the danger. Avalanches can reach medium size in isolated cases. Backcountry touring and other off-piste activities call for experience in the assessment of avalanche danger and caution.

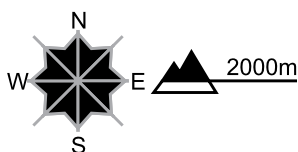
region D

Level 3, considerable



Snow drifts

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

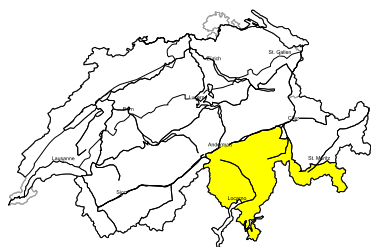
At elevated altitudes mostly small snow drift accumulations will form. These can be released by a single winter sport participant. The older snow drift accumulations can still in isolated cases be released by small loads, in particular at transitions from a shallow to a deep snowpack. Ski touring and other off-piste activities, including snowshoe hiking, call for experience in the assessment of avalanche danger.

Full-depth avalanches

Northern flank of the Alps and Prättigau: Small and medium-sized full-depth avalanches are possible on cut and grassy slopes, in particular at low and intermediate altitudes. Caution is to be exercised in areas with glide cracks.

region E

Level 2, moderate



Snow drifts

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

Fresh snow drift accumulations are mostly small but can be released easily. The number and size of avalanche prone locations will increase with altitude. In high Alpine regions the danger is one level higher. Careful route selection is recommended.

Old snow

Central Grisons: Avalanches can in isolated cases be released in the weakly bonded old snow in particular in little used backcountry terrain. Whumpfung sounds and the formation of shooting cracks when stepping on the snowpack serve as an alarm indicating the danger. Defensive route selection is advisable.

Danger levels



1 low



2 moderate



3 consider.



4 high



5 very high



WSL Institute for Snow and
Avalanche Research SLF
www.slf.ch

Snowpack and weather

updated on 5.2.2015, 17:00

Snowpack

Layers of new fallen and newly drifted snow from the last few days are settling to an increasing extent. Older snowdrift accumulations can still be triggered in isolated cases, more than anywhere else at the rim areas of the drifted masses. However, they have been deposited on top of surface hoar and continue to be prone to triggering as a whole. These avalanche prone locations cannot be discerned from the looks of the snowpack surface.

At high altitudes in particular, fresh snowdrift accumulations are continuing to form. They can easily be triggered. In addition, particularly in southern Valais and in Grisons, avalanches can fracture deeper in the old snowpack and sweep away as a greater mass. On the northern flank of the Alps, intermediate-level and deeper-down layers of the snow cover are structured somewhat more favourably. On the southern flank of the Alps the structuring is more favourable for the most part.

Observed weather on Thursday, 5.2.2015

Skies were heavily overcast by and large. Only in eastern regions were there some bright intervals. In southern regions there was snowfall down to low lying areas from region to region.

Fresh snow

- Simplon region: 15 to 25 cm
- Saas Fee, Binntal, valleys of Maggia, Sotto Ceneri: 5 to 15 cm

Temperature

At midday at 2000 m, -6 °C

Wind

- Alps: light to moderate strength winds from easterly directions
- Prealps and Jura: moderate to strong velocity bise winds

Weather forecast through Friday, 6.2.2015

In northern regions it will be partly sunny above the high altitude fogbanks. The upper ceiling will lie between 1500 m and 2000 m. Below that altitude, light snowfall is anticipated. In southern regions skies will be heavily overcast. During the night in particular, snowfall is expected there as well.

Fresh snow

- Monte Rosa, southern Simplon region: 20 to 30 cm, more is possible from place to place
- remaining parts of Valais, central sector of southern flank of the Alps, Engadine: 5 to 10 cm

Temperature

At midday at 2000 m, between -2 °C in western and southern regions; -4 °C in eastern regions

Wind

- Alps: at high altitudes, moderate to strong velocity easterly winds
- Prealps and Jura: strong bise winds

Outlook through Sunday, 8.2.2015

Saturday

In the mountains it will be quite sunny. During the afternoon, a strong northeasterly wind will be blowing at high altitudes. More than anywhere else at high altitudes, fresh snowdrift accumulations are expected to form.

Sunday

Above the high altitude fogbanks in northern and in southern regions, it will be quite sunny to begin with. During the afternoon, clouds will move into eastern regions and a small amount of snowfall is anticipated. Temperatures are expected to drop significantly. The avalanche danger will incrementally diminish.