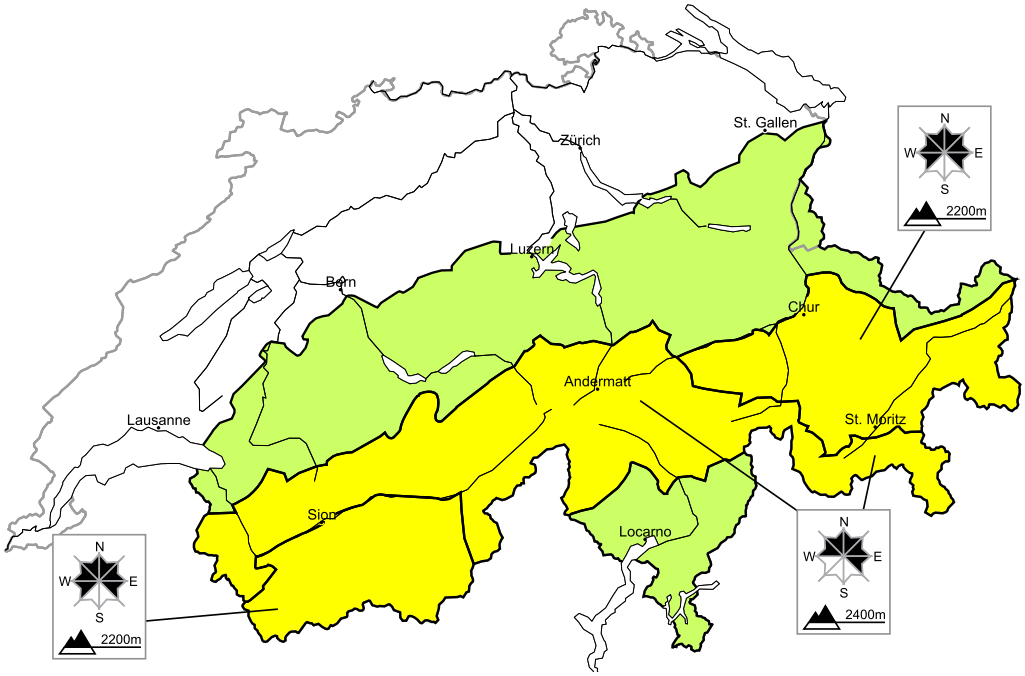
A generally favourable avalanche situation will prevail

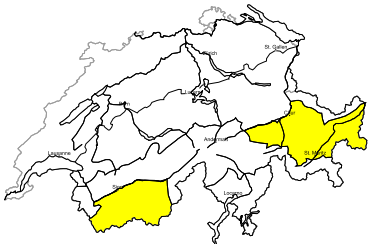
Edition: 20.2.2015, 08:00 / Next update: 20.2.2015, 17:00

Avalanche danger

updated on 20.2.2015, 08:00

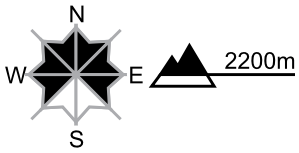


region A — Level 2, moderate



Old snow, snow drifts

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

In some places avalanches can penetrate even deep layers and reach medium size in isolated cases. These avalanche prone locations are to be found in particular in little used backcountry terrain. They are barely recognisable. Backcountry touring and other off-piste activities call for careful route selection.
High Alpine regions: As the day progresses small snow drift accumulations will form.

Full-depth avalanches

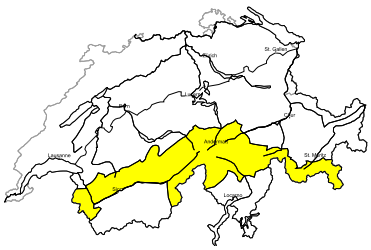
In particular on south facing slopes mostly small full-depth avalanches and moist snow slides are possible below approximately 2200 m.

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

Avalanche bulletin for Friday, 20 February 2015

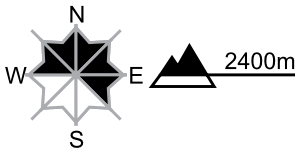
20.2.2015, 07:23

region B — Level 2, moderate



Snow drifts

Avalanche prone locations



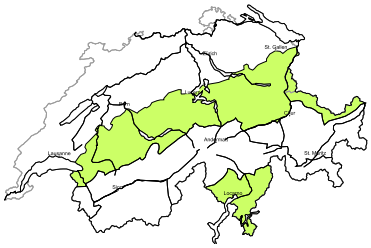
Danger description

Older snow drift accumulations can still be released in some cases. This applies in particular at transitions from a shallow to a deep snowpack, when entering gullies and bowls for example. As the day progresses small snow drift accumulations will form, especially adjacent to the ridge line. Careful route selection is recommended.

Full-depth avalanches

In particular on south facing slopes mostly small full-depth avalanches and moist snow slides are possible below approximately 2200 m.

region C — Level 1, low



Favourable situation

Avalanches can be released in isolated cases. The avalanche prone locations are to be found in particular on extreme shady slopes and in steep rocky terrain. Restraint should be exercised because avalanches can sweep people along and give rise to falls.

Full-depth avalanches

In particular on south facing slopes mostly small full-depth avalanches and moist snow slides are possible below approximately 2200 m.

Snowpack and weather

updated on 19.2.2015, 17:00

Snowpack

In the north the surface of the snowpack has been significantly influenced by the wind in many places. On steep south facing slopes below approximately 2200 m, clear skies during the night will give rise to a mostly strong melt-freeze crust on the surface.
On the main Alpine ridge from the Simplon region to Val Bedretto, and in the central part of the southern flank of the Alps, the snow surface remains loosely bonded on shady slopes in particular. Somewhat older snow drift accumulations remain prone to triggering here in some cases.
In southern Valais and the inneralpine regions of Grisons in particular, weak layers exist deeper in the snowpack. In these regions in particular, avalanches can be released in fairly deep layers of the snowpack in some places. On the northern flank of the Alps, the bonding of the snowpack is more favourable. On the southern flank of the Alps, the bonding of the old snowpack is mostly favourable.

Observed weather on Thursday, 19.2.2015

The weather in the mountains was sunny.

Fresh snow

-

Temperature

At midday at 2000 m: between 0 °C in the west and south, and +2 °C in the east

Wind

Mostly light from the west

Weather forecast through Friday, 20.2.2015

The weather in the mountains will be sunny. In the evening, cloud will build up in the far south.

Fresh snow

-

Temperature

At midday at 2000 m: about -1 °C in the north and -4 °C in the south

Wind

- In the Prealps and high Alpine regions, moderate, elsewhere light from the southwest; towards the evening in the Alpine valleys, foehn
- As the day progresses, small snow drift accumulations will form in the high Alpine regions

Outlook through Sunday, 22.2.2015

Saturday

In the east, the foehn wind will give rise to bright spells in the morning. Elsewhere it will be very cloudy. At first snow will fall only in the south. The arrival of a cold front will then give rise to some precipitation over a wide area. By the evening, the snowfall level will drop towards 500 m. The avalanche danger will increase slightly during the day.

Sunday

During the night, snow will continue to fall in the south. During the day, a little more snow will fall at first in the north. It will then become sunnier from the west. In the south a northerly wind will develop and the weather will become sunny here as well. The avalanche danger will increase as a consequence of fresh snow and wind in the south in particular.