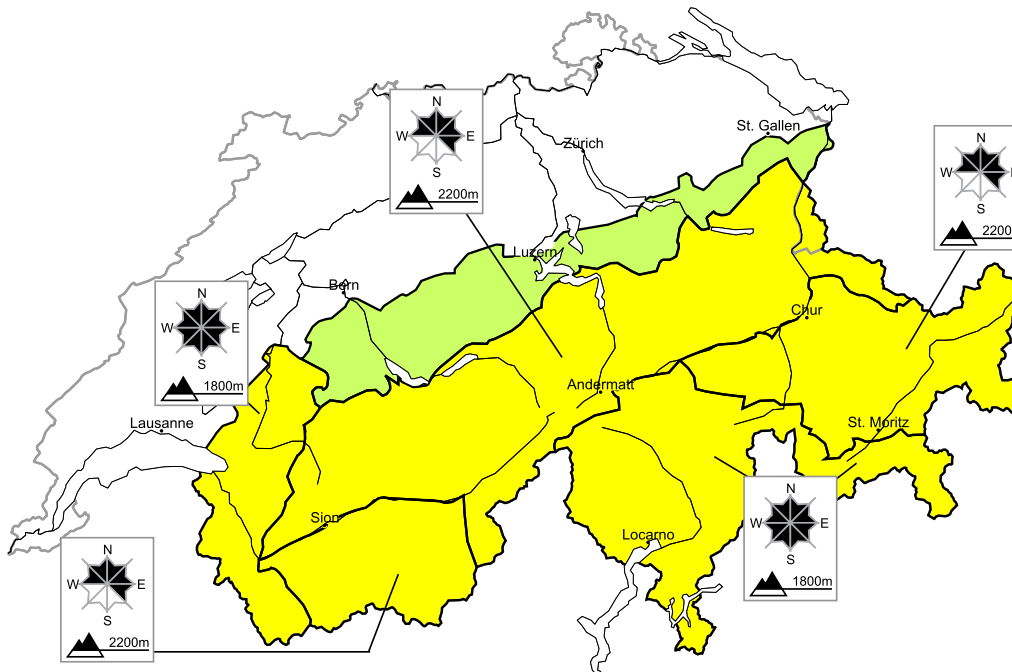


Moderate avalanche danger will be encountered over a wide area

Edition: 21.2.2015, 08:00 / Next update: 21.2.2015, 17:00

Avalanche danger

updated on 21.2.2015, 08:00

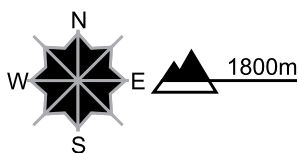


region A **Level 2, moderate**



Fresh snow and snow drifts

Avalanche prone locations



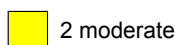
Danger description

As a consequence of fresh snow and wind snow drift accumulations will form. These will be deposited on the unfavourable surface of an old snowpack in particular on shady slopes. Avalanches can be released by a single winter sport participant. The number and size of avalanche prone locations will increase as the day progresses. In the afternoon danger level 3 (considerable) will be reached probably. Backcountry touring and other off-piste activities call for careful route selection.

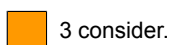
Danger levels



1 low



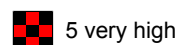
2 moderate



3 consider.



4 high



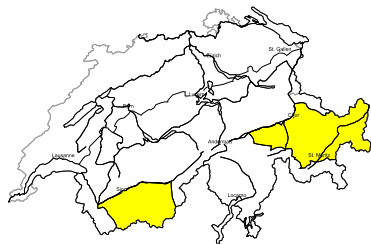
5 very high



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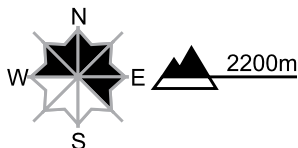
region B

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.

As a consequence of the strong wind easily released snow drift accumulations will form. This applies in particular at elevated altitudes. These are to be bypassed in steep terrain.

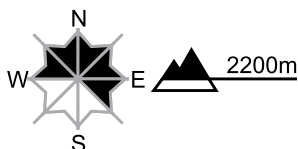
region C

Level 2, moderate



Snow drifts

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

As a consequence of the strong wind mostly small snow drift accumulations will form. These will be deposited on the unfavourable surface of an old snowpack in particular on shady slopes. Avalanches can be released by a single winter sport participant, but they will be small in most cases. Careful route selection is important.

Full-depth avalanches

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

region D

Level 1, low



Snow drifts

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 are possible below approximately 2200 m.

Snowpack and weather

updated on 20.2.2015, 17:00

Snowpack

Strong wind is giving rise to mostly small snow drift accumulations. As a consequence of the fresh snow these are becoming a little larger as the day progresses in the west and south in particular. On shady slopes over a wide area, fresh and drifted snow is coming to rest on a loosely bonded snowpack or surface hoar and is prone to triggering.

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 snowpack is mostly favourable.

Observed weather on Friday, 20.2.2015

The weather was sunny

Fresh snow

-

Temperature

At midday at 2000 m: between 0 °C in the north and -2 °C in the south

Wind

In the Prealps and at elevated altitudes moderate, elsewhere light from the southwest

Weather forecast through Saturday, 21.2.2015

In the far west and the south light snowfall will commence during the night. During the day, snow will fall over a wide area. Only in the east will the foehn wind give rise to further bright spells in the morning. The snowfall level will drop to low altitudes.

Fresh snow

The following amounts of snow will fall above approximately 1500 m:

- Vaud and Fribourg Alps, western Lower Valais, central part of the southern flank of the Alps, main Alpine ridge from the Lukmanier Pass to the Bernina region: 15 to 30 cm
- Rest of the western and central parts of the northern flank of the Alps, rest of Valais, central Grisons, rest of Upper Engadine, Val Poschiavo, Val Müstair: 5 to 15 cm, but smaller amounts or none elsewhere

Temperature

At midday at 2000 m: about -7 °C in the west and south, and -3 °C in the east

Wind

During the night and in the morning in the far west and at elevated altitudes, strong southwesterly, easing in the west in the afternoon

Outlook through Monday, 23.2.2015

Sunday

During the night, some snow will fall in many areas. During the day, it will become increasingly sunny from the west. In the east a little more snow will fall in the morning. In the south it will be quite sunny with a northerly wind. The avalanche danger will increase slightly.

Monday

In the north it will be mostly very cloudy. Light snowfall will arrive from the west in the morning. It will be fairly sunny in the south. The avalanche danger will not change significantly in the north, and decrease slowly in the south.