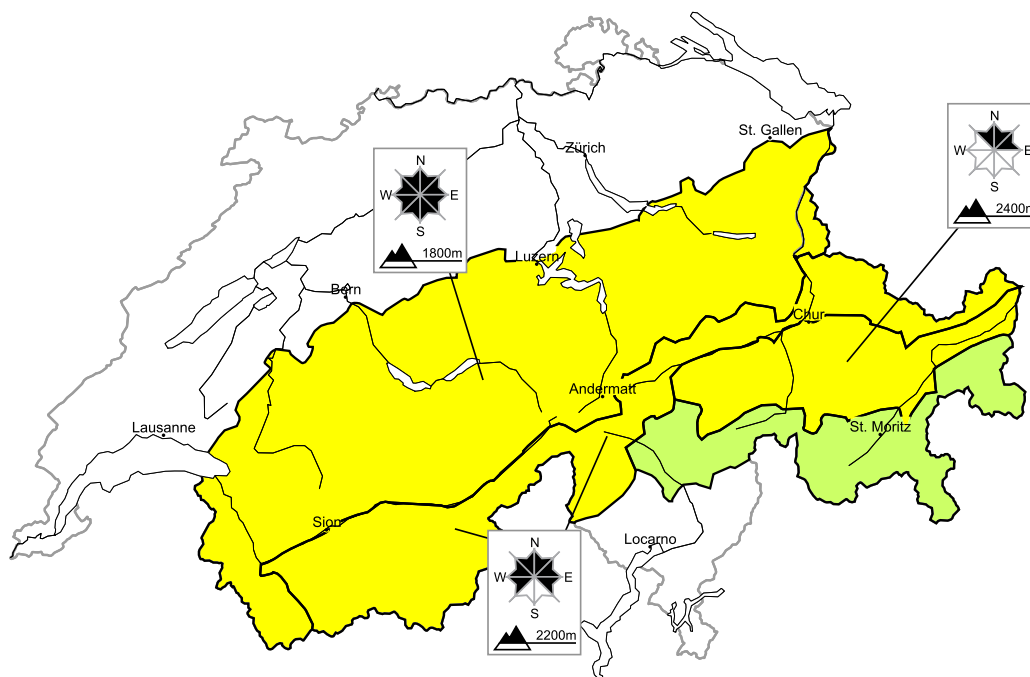


# Increase in avalanche danger as a consequence of fresh snow and wind

Edition: 24.11.2015, 17:00 / Next update: 25.11.2015, 17:00

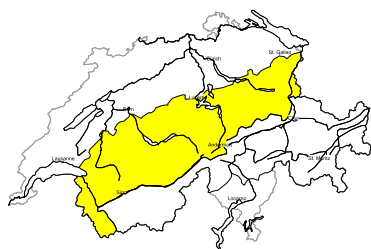
## Avalanche danger

updated on 24.11.2015, 17:00



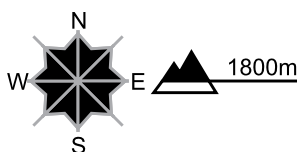
region A

**Level 2, moderate**



### Snow drifts, old snow

#### Avalanche prone locations



#### Danger description

The sometimes strong wind will transport the fresh and old snow. The snow drift accumulations will be deposited on surface hoar in some places on shady slopes. They can be released easily. Careful route selection is important.

North facing slopes above approximately 2500 m: Avalanches can in some cases be triggered in the old snowpack and reach medium size. These avalanche prone locations are difficult to recognise. Caution is to be exercised at transitions into gullies and bowls. The avalanche danger will increase during the day. In the afternoon danger level 3 (considerable) will be reached on north and east facing slopes. This applies above approximately 2500 m.

### Full-depth avalanches

Small full-depth avalanches are to be expected on steep grassy slopes.

Danger levels

1 low

2 moderate

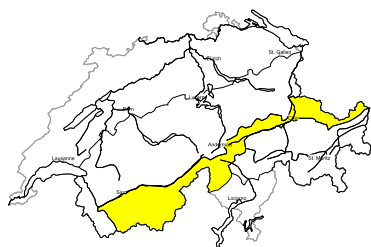
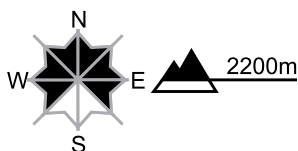
3 consider.

4 high

5 very high



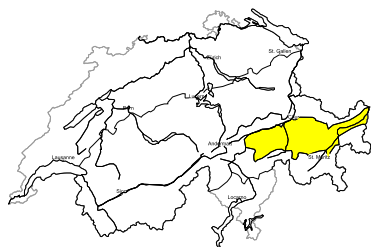
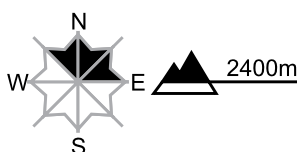
WSL Institute for Snow and  
Avalanche Research SLF  
www.slf.ch

**region B****Level 2, moderate****Snow drifts, old snow****Avalanche prone locations****Danger description**

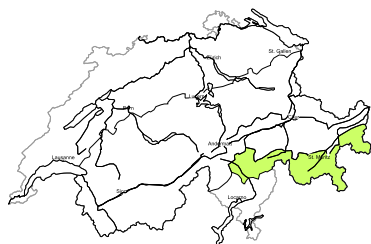
The somewhat older snow drift accumulations are to be found in particular adjacent to the ridge line and in gullies and bowls. They are in some cases still prone to triggering. Careful route selection is advisable. North facing slopes above approximately 2500 m: Avalanches can be triggered in the old snowpack and reach medium size in isolated cases. These avalanche prone locations are difficult to recognise. Caution is to be exercised at transitions into gullies and bowls.

**Full-depth avalanches**

Small full-depth avalanches are to be expected on steep grassy slopes.

**region C****Level 2, moderate****Old snow****Avalanche prone locations****Danger description**

The snow drift accumulations of the last few days are lying on top of a weakly bonded old snowpack on northwest to north to east facing aspects above approximately 2400 m. The snow drift accumulations are mostly only small but in some cases prone to triggering. They are to be found in particular adjacent to the ridge line and in gullies and bowls. Apart from the danger of being buried, restraint should be exercised in particular in view of the danger of avalanches sweeping people along and giving rise to falls. Below approximately 2400 m only a little snow is lying.

**region D****Level 1, low****Favourable situation**

The small snow drift accumulations of the last few days are lying on top of a weakly bonded old snowpack on shady slopes above approximately 2400 m. They are to be evaluated with care and prudence in extreme terrain. Restraint should be exercised because avalanches can sweep people along and give rise to falls. Below approximately 2400 m hardly any snow is lying.

## Snowpack and weather

updated on 24.11.2015, 17:00

### Snowpack

The snowfall over the weekend was frequently deposited on top of bare ground. Where that was the case, the snow structure is quite favourable and the avalanche danger stems primarily from newly formed snowdrift accumulations which have amassed as a result of the fresh fallen snow, as well as from transport of the loosely packed old snow in northern regions more than anywhere else. In many places, particularly on shady slopes, the snowdrift accumulations formed on top of surface hoar, which makes them very easy to trigger. In addition, small-sized full depth snowslides continue to be possible.

In high alpine regions as well as above approximately 2400 m on northern slopes in particular, the weekend's snowfall was often deposited atop an old snow cover riddled with faceted snow crystals, which weakens the snowpack. In those regions, avalanches still continue to be triggered in the old snowpack.

### Observed weather on Tuesday, 24.11.2015

On Tuesday it was sunny. During the afternoon, high cirrostratus clouds moved in from the northwest.

#### Fresh snow

-

#### Temperature

At midday at 2000 m, -6 °C

#### Wind

Predominantly light winds

### Weather forecast through Wednesday, 25.11.2015

On Wednesday skies will be heavily overcast and snowfall is anticipated down to low altitudes. In the furthestmost southern regions it will be partly sunny.

#### Fresh snow

By Wednesday evening, the following amounts of fresh fallen snow are expected:

- northern flank of the Alps, Lower Valais: 10 to 20 cm; particularly in the central sector of the northern flank of the Alps, as much as 30 cm
- in remaining regions, less; in the furthestmost south, dry

#### Temperature

At midday at 2000 m, -5 °C in northern regions and -3 °C in southern regions

#### Wind

- to begin with, moderate strength westerly winds, intermittently stronger on the northern flank of the Alps
- during the afternoon, moderate velocity northwesterly winds

### Outlook through Friday, 27.11.2015

#### Thursday

On Thursday skies will be heavily overcast and snowfall is anticipated down to low altitudes. The heaviest snowfall is expected on the northern flank of the Alps. Winds will be blowing at moderate to strong velocity, shifting to northeasterly. In the furthestmost southern regions it will be sunny for the most part, accompanied by strong northerly winds. The avalanche danger is expected to increase further, particularly in northern regions.

#### Friday

On Friday it will be sunny by and large. The avalanche danger is expected to diminish somewhat in northern regions in particular.