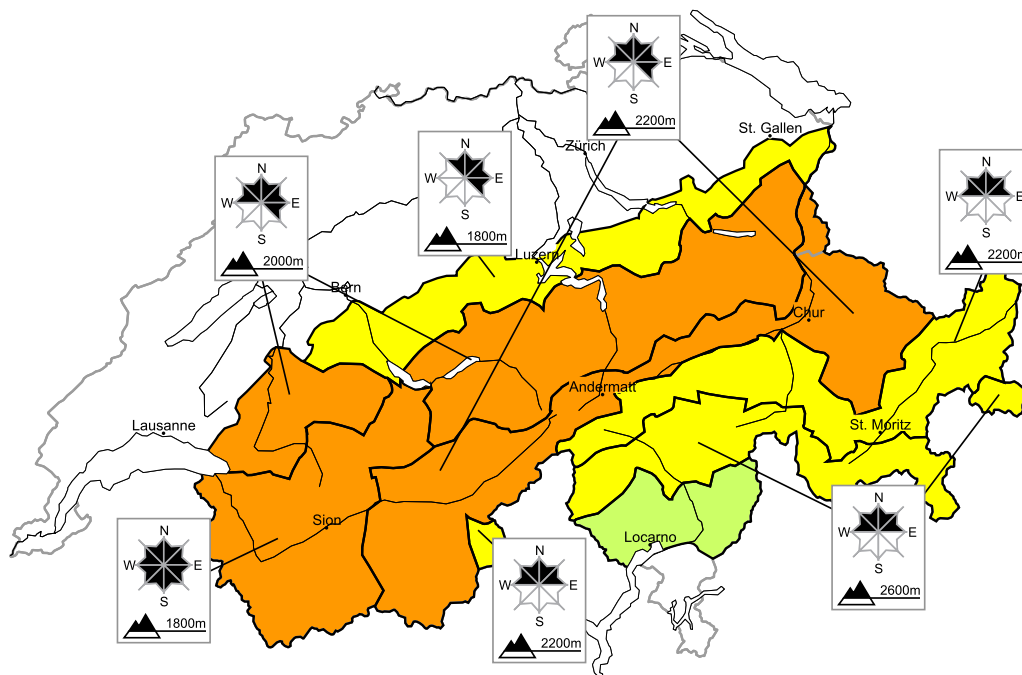


Considerable avalanche danger will be encountered over a wide area

Edition: 6.1.2016, 08:00 / Next update: 6.1.2016, 17:00

Avalanche danger

updated on 6.1.2016, 08:00



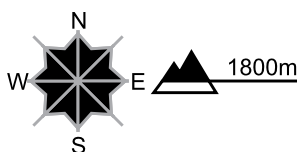
region A

Level 3, considerable



Fresh snow and snow drifts, old snow

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

The fresh snow and snow drift accumulations of the last few days are lying on top of a weakly bonded old snowpack on shady slopes at elevated altitudes. Avalanches can be released, even by a single winter sport participant and reach dangerously large size. Whumpfung sounds and the formation of shooting cracks when stepping on the snowpack serve as an alarm indicating the danger. Remote triggering is possible. Ski touring and other off-piste activities, including snowshoe hiking, call for great caution and restraint.

Danger levels

1 low

2 moderate

3 consider.

4 high

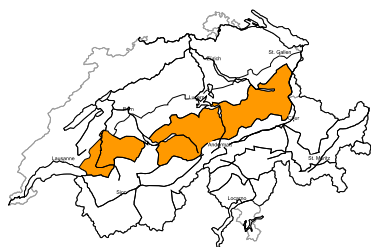
5 very high



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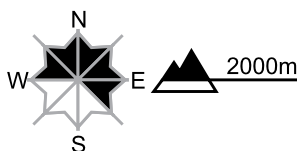
region B

Level 3, considerable



Fresh snow and snow drifts, old snow

Avalanche prone locations

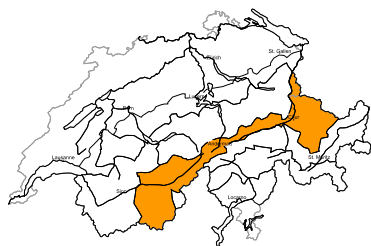


Danger description

The fresh snow and snow drift accumulations of the last few days are lying on top of a weakly bonded old snowpack on shady slopes at elevated altitudes. Avalanches can be released, even by a single winter sport participant, but they will be small in most cases. Whumpfung sounds and the formation of shooting cracks when stepping on the snowpack can indicate the danger. Backcountry touring calls for experience in the assessment of avalanche danger. Apart from the danger of being buried, restraint should be exercised also in view of the danger of avalanches sweeping people along and giving rise to falls.

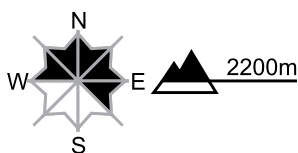
region C

Level 3, considerable



Old snow

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

Avalanches can be released in the weakly bonded old snow, even by a single winter sport participant. Remote triggering is possible. Whumpfung sounds and the formation of shooting cracks when stepping on the snowpack serve as an alarm indicating the danger. Backcountry touring calls for experience in the assessment of avalanche danger.

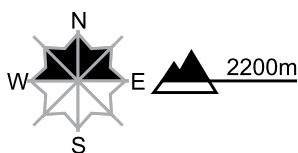
region D

Level 2, moderate



Old snow, snow drifts

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

Snow drift accumulations are lying on top of a weakly bonded old snowpack on shady slopes at elevated altitudes. Whumpfung sounds and the formation of shooting cracks when stepping on the snowpack can indicate the danger. Avalanches can in some places be released, even by a single winter sport participant, but they will be small in most cases. Caution is to be exercised in particular on very steep north facing slopes as well as in gullies and bowls, and behind abrupt changes in the terrain. 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.

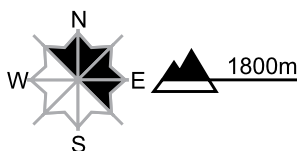
region E

Level 2, moderate



Snow drifts

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

Fresh and older snow drift accumulations represent the main danger. The avalanche prone locations are to be found especially in gullies and bowls, and behind abrupt changes in the terrain. Avalanches can in some cases be released by a single winter sport participant, but they will be small in most cases. 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.

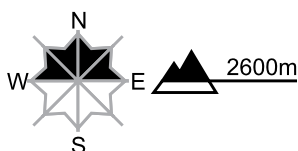
region F

Level 2, moderate



Snow drifts

Avalanche prone locations

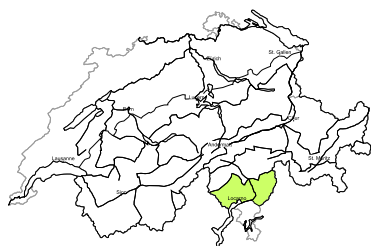


Danger description

Only a little snow is lying. Somewhat older snow drift accumulations are only small but in some cases prone to triggering. They are lying on the unfavourable surface of an old snowpack on shady slopes at elevated altitudes. The snow drift accumulations 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.

region G

Level 1, low



Favourable situation

Hardly any 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 5.1.2016, 17:00

Snowpack

On wind-protected shady slopes at high altitudes and in the high Alpine regions over a wide area, the fresh snow and snow drift accumulations of recent days have been deposited on a highly faceted and loosely bonded snowpack, which in some places is covered with a layer of surface hoar. For this reason the layers that have formed since the start of the year have bonded only very poorly with the old snowpack underneath.

Fresh snow and snow drift accumulations can very easily be released. Especially dangerous locations are steep north facing slopes and gullies and bowls where cohesive snow cover existed at the end of December.

On very steep south facing slopes the fresh snow has fallen mostly on a melt-freeze crust or even on bare ground.

Observed weather on Tuesday, 5.1.2016

During the night snowfall commenced from the west. In the morning a little more snow fell in some regions in the north and east. Elsewhere the weather was cloudy with sunny intervals.

Fresh snow

- Northern flank of the Alps from the Brienzersee to the Glarus Alps, Lower Valais: 10 to 20 cm
- Rest of the northern flank of the Alps and northern Upper Valais: 5 to 10 cm
- Elsewhere: a few centimetres or none

Temperature

At midday at 2000 m: -5 °C

Wind

In the Prealps and at elevated altitudes and in the north, mostly moderate, elsewhere light to moderate from the southwest to west

Weather forecast through Wednesday, 6.1.2016

In the north the night will be cloudy but mostly dry. During the day in the north it will be mostly cloudy. Towards midday light snow will begin to fall above approximately 800 m. The south will be sunny at times and dry.

Fresh snow

- Northern flank of the Alps and Lower Valais: 5 to 15 cm; along the border to France: up to 20 cm in some localities
- Elsewhere: a few centimetres or none

Temperature

At midday at 2000 m: -5 °C

Wind

In the north at elevated altitudes and in the Prealps, moderate, elsewhere mostly light from the west to southwest

Outlook through Friday, 8.1.2016

On Thursday snow will fall in the north and west. The snowfall level will rise to 1400 m at times. On the northern flank of the Alps and in Valais strong wind is likely to be accompanied by up to 40 cm of fresh snow. Friday will be mostly cloudy. Only a little further snow will fall. In the south and east only a little snow will fall in the next two days.

The avalanche danger will increase on Thursday, in particular in the west and north. In the east and south the danger will not change significantly.