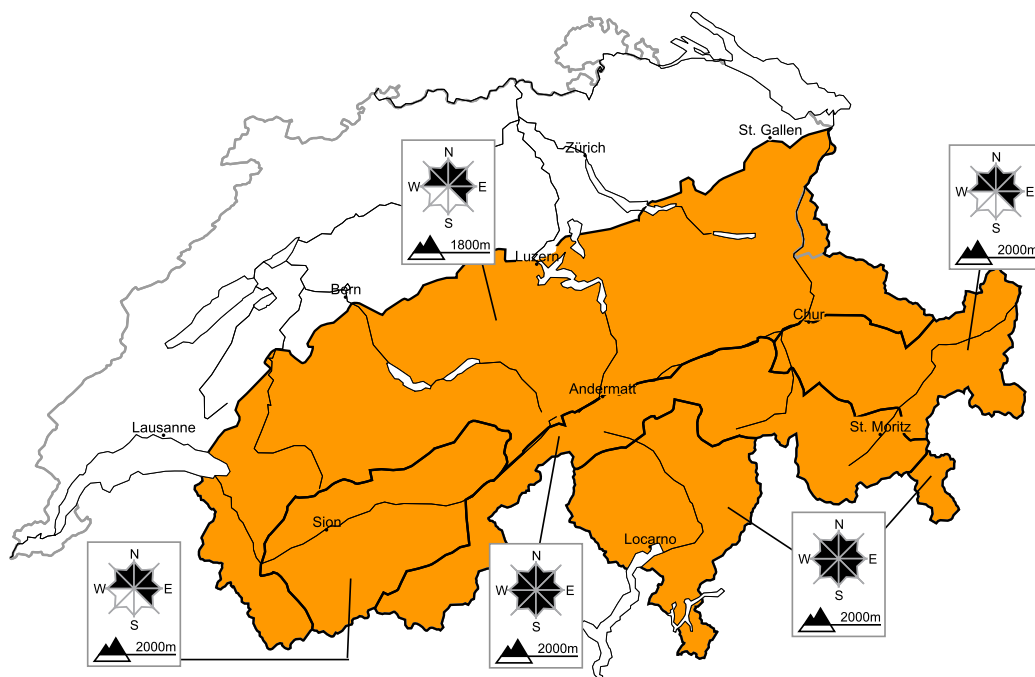


Increase in avalanche danger as a consequence of fresh snow and strong wind

Edition: 7.2.2016, 08:00 / Next update: 7.2.2016, 17:00

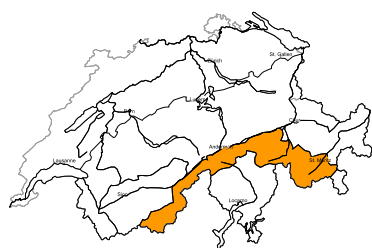
Avalanche danger

updated on 7.2.2016, 08:00



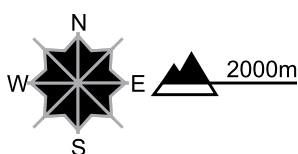
region A

Level 3, considerable



Fresh snow and snow drifts, old snow

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

As a consequence of fresh snow and strong wind extensive snow drift accumulations will form. Additionally avalanches can also be triggered in near-ground layers. Whumpfung sounds and the formation of shooting cracks when stepping on the snowpack can indicate the danger. Even single winter sport participants can release avalanches, including dangerously large ones. In the afternoon more frequent natural avalanches are to be expected. Backcountry touring and other off-piste activities call for experience and restraint.

Danger levels

1 low

2 moderate

3 consider.

4 high

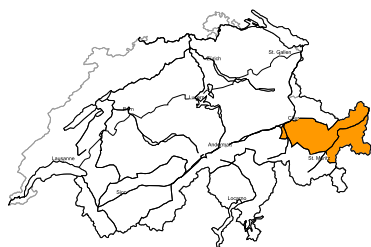
5 very high



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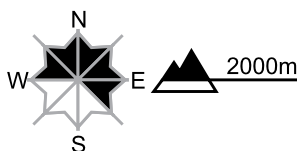
region B

Level 3, considerable



Snow drifts, old snow

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

As a consequence of the storm force foehn wind precarious snow drift accumulations will form. Additionally avalanches can be released in the old snowpack and reach dangerously large size. These avalanche prone locations are to be found in particular in little used backcountry terrain. Whumpfung sounds and the formation of shooting cracks when stepping on the snowpack can indicate the danger. Avalanches can be released, even by a single winter sport participant. In the afternoon individual natural avalanches are possible. Backcountry touring and other off-piste activities call for extensive experience in the assessment of avalanche danger.

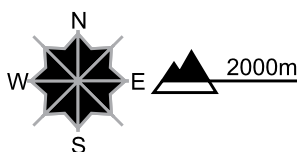
region C

Level 3, considerable



Fresh snow and snow drifts

Avalanche prone locations

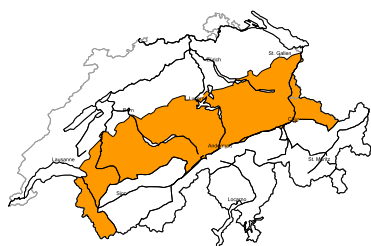


Danger description

As a consequence of fresh snow and strong wind extensive snow drift accumulations will form. The fresh snow and snow drift accumulations can be released by a single winter sport participant. The danger level 3 (considerable) will be reached as the day progresses. As the snowfall becomes more intense natural avalanches are possible, this applies in particular in the afternoon. Ski touring and snowshoe hiking call for experience in the assessment of avalanche danger.

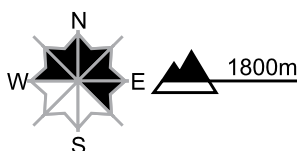
region D

Level 3, considerable



Snow drifts

Avalanche prone locations

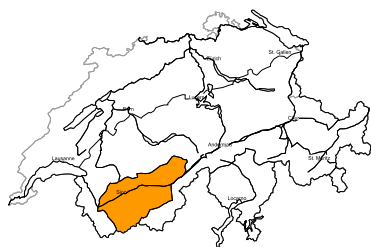


Danger description

As a consequence of the storm force foehn wind precarious snow drift accumulations will form. These are to be found also areas not adjacent to the ridge line. Avalanches can be released by a single winter sport participant. Individual natural avalanches are possible. Snow sport activities outside marked and open pistes call for experience in the assessment of avalanche danger.

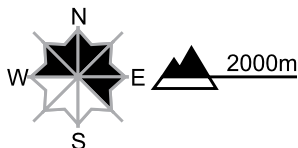
region E

Level 3, considerable



Snow drifts

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

As a consequence of the storm force foehn wind precarious snow drift accumulations will form. These are to be found also areas not adjacent to the ridge line. The avalanche prone locations are covered with fresh snow and therefore barely recognisable. Avalanches can be released by a single winter sport participant. Snow sport activities outside marked and open pistes call for experience in the assessment of avalanche danger.

Danger levels



1 low



2 moderate



3 consider.



4 high



5 very high



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Snowpack and weather

updated on 6.2.2016, 17:00

Snowpack

On Sunday, as a result of strong velocity southwesterly winds, snowdrift accumulations are expected to form anew, including far distant from ridgeline terrain. In southern regions where during the night on Sunday a large amount of fresh fallen snow is anticipated, these drifted masses will be particularly thick and will be deposited in all aspects. In northern regions, the loosely-packed snow more than anything else will be whipped up and transported by the winds and deposited on north-facing slopes.

Deeply embedded or ground-level layers inside the snowpack on west-facing, north-facing and east-facing slopes above approximately 2200 m are faceted and weak. In the eastern and southern regions where there has been much less snowfall, avalanches can be triggered in the weakened snowpack fundament even by one single skier or freerider. In the regions of the north and the west where snowfall has been heavy, this is possible only in very isolated cases.

Observed weather on Saturday, 6.2.2016

Apart from high altitude clouds it was sunny by and large in northern regions. In southern regions, dense cloud cover moved in already during the morning, however it remained dry until evening.

Fresh snow

-

Temperature

At midday at 2000 m, between -2 °C in southern regions and +4 °C in northern regions.

Wind

Winds were southwesterly, blowing at moderate strength, subsequently becoming increasingly strong over the course of the day particularly at high altitudes and in the foehn-exposed regions

Weather forecast through Sunday, 7.2.2016

Snowfall will set in during the night on the Main Alpine Ridge and southwards therefrom. The snowfall level in those regions will descend down to lower altitudes as the precipitation intensifies, from approximately 1500 m to start with down to low altitudes. During the morning in northern regions, the last bright intervals will still be evident as a result of the foehn-wind scenario. Subsequently, snowfall is expected to set in from the west. To begin with, the precipitation will be as snow above approximately 1500 m; by evening it will snow down to 1000 m.

Fresh snow

Between Saturday evening and Sunday evening, the following amounts of snowfall are anticipated:

- central sector of the southern flank of the Alps, Bergell, Corvatsch: 40 to 60 cm
- remaining parts of the Main Alpine Ridge from the Dent Blanche to the Bernina Pass and in Grisons bordering immediately to the north: 20 to 40 cm
- remaining regions: 10 to 20 cm

Temperature

Temperatures will drop during the course of the day: at midday at 2000 m, to between -4 °C in western and southern regions and 0 °C in eastern regions.

Wind

- Winds will be southwesterly, blowing at strong to storm strength at high altitudes and in the foehn-exposed regions during the night.
- During the afternoon in western and northern regions, winds will be significantly weaker. In southern and eastern regions at high altitudes, southwesterly winds will be blowing at strong velocity until evening.

Outlook through Tuesday, 9.2.2016

On Sunday night the precipitation will come to an end, including in eastern regions. During the day on Monday, bright intervals are anticipated before in the evening snowfall recommences from the west. On Tuesday, skies will be heavily overcast accompanied by snowfall above approximately 1400 m. It is presumed that most of the snowfall will be in western regions. A strong velocity westerly wind will be blowing in the mountains on both days. The avalanche danger is expected to incrementally diminish in the regions of the south where precipitation has been heaviest. Danger levels could well increase again on Tuesday in the western regions more than anywhere else. In the remaining regions, danger levels are not expected to change significantly. The conditions for backcountry tours in outlying terrain away from secured ski runs will remain treacherous.