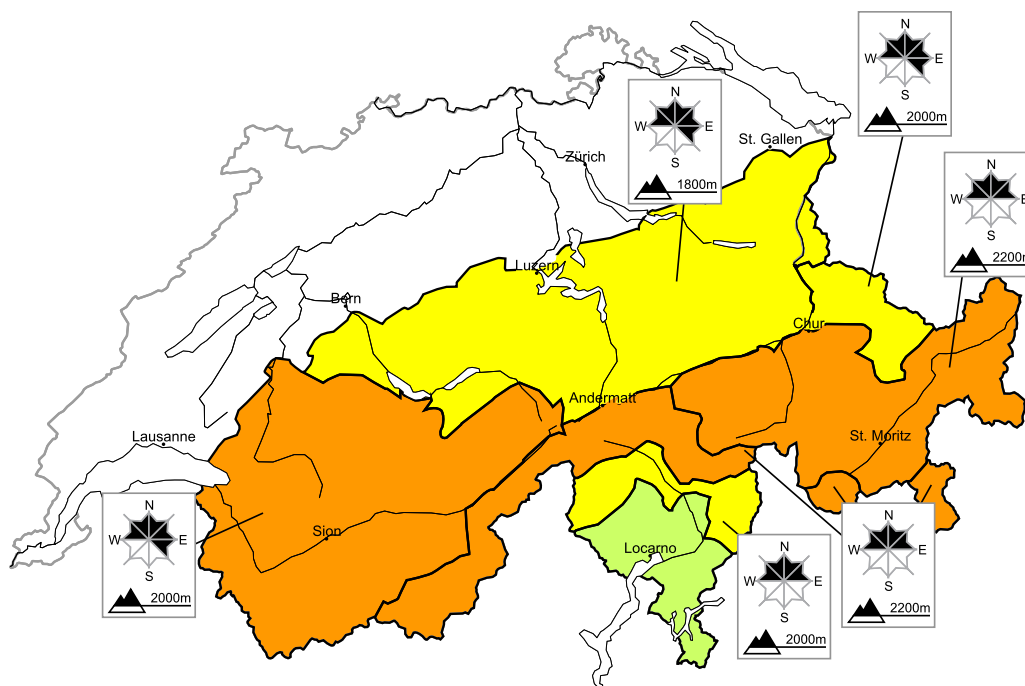


Considerable avalanche danger will be encountered in some regions

Edition: 15.2.2016, 08:00 / Next update: 15.2.2016, 17:00

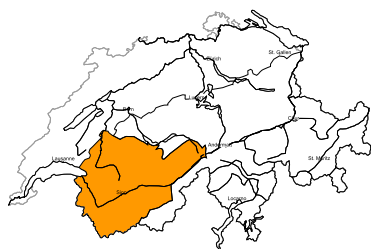
Avalanche danger

updated on 15.2.2016, 08:00



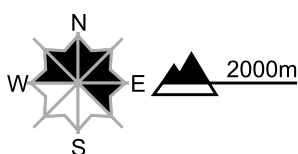
region A

Level 3, considerable



Fresh snow and snow drifts

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

The fresh snow and snow drift accumulations of the last few days can be released by a single winter sport participant. The avalanche prone locations are covered with fresh snow and barely recognisable. Avalanches can reach medium size. Off-piste activities call for experience in the assessment of avalanche danger and caution.

Danger levels

1 low

2 moderate

3 consider.

4 high

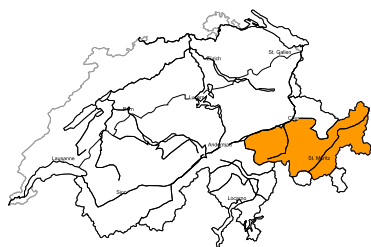
5 very high



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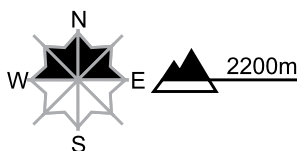
region B

Level 3, considerable



Old snow, snow drifts

Avalanche prone locations



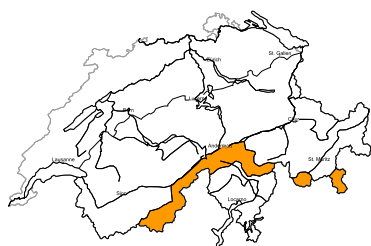
Danger description

Avalanches can be released in near-ground layers and reach dangerously large size. These avalanche prone locations are to be found especially in shady places that are protected from the wind and at transitions into gullies and bowls. In little used backcountry terrain avalanche prone locations are more prevalent. Whumpfung sounds can indicate the danger. Avalanches can be released by a single winter sport participant. Remote triggering is possible.

In particular adjacent to the ridge line and in pass areas mostly small snow drift accumulations have formed. Backcountry touring and other off-piste activities call for experience in the assessment of avalanche danger and caution.

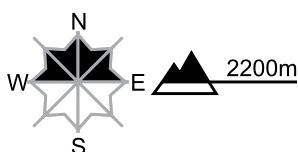
region C

Level 3, considerable



Snow drifts, old snow

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

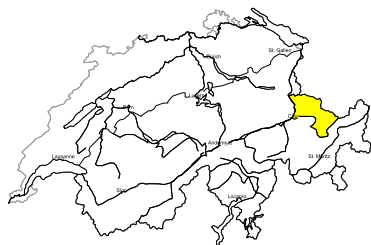
In particular at elevated altitudes sometimes avalanche prone snow drift accumulations have formed. These are to be found especially in gullies and bowls, and behind abrupt changes in the terrain.

Additionally in some places avalanches can penetrate near-ground layers of the snowpack and reach dangerously large size. Caution is to be exercised in particular at transitions from a shallow to a deep snowpack.

Snow sport activities outside marked and open pistes call for experience in the assessment of avalanche danger.

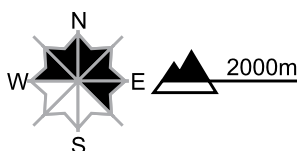
region D

Level 2, moderate



Old snow

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

Avalanches can in isolated cases be released in near-ground layers and reach dangerously large size. The avalanche prone locations are to be found especially in shady places that are protected from the wind and at transitions into gullies and bowls. In little used backcountry terrain avalanche prone locations are more prevalent. Maintaining distances between individuals and one-at-a-time descents are recommended.

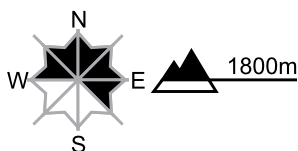
region E

Level 2, moderate



Snow drifts

Avalanche prone locations

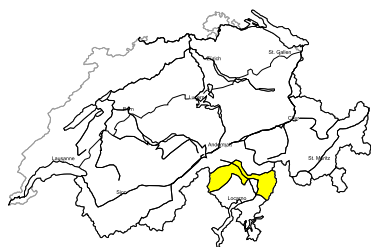


Danger description

The more recent snow drift accumulations can still be released in some cases. These are to be found in gullies and bowls, and behind abrupt changes in the terrain. They are covered with fresh snow and therefore difficult to recognise. At elevated altitudes the prevalence and size of the avalanche prone locations will increase. Meticulous route selection is recommended.

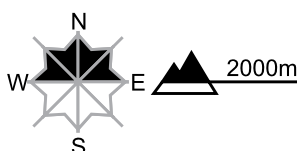
region F

Level 2, moderate



Old snow

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

Only a little snow is lying. In some places avalanches can be released in near-surface layers of the snowpack. They are rather small. Careful route selection is recommended.

region G

Level 1, low



Favourable situation

Only a little snow is lying. Individual avalanche prone locations are to be found especially on extremely steep slopes. Restraint should be exercised because avalanches can sweep people along and give rise to falls.

Snowpack and weather

updated on 14.2.2016, 17:00

Snowpack

The new fallen and newly drifted layers of snow from Saturday are stabilising increasingly, particularly in western and northern regions. They are now blanketed by fresh fallen snow over widespread areas, which makes them difficult to recognize.

In Grisons, in the southern part of Upper Valais and in Ticino, avalanches can also be triggered in deeply-embedded or ground-level layers of the snow cover which are faceted and weak. This is particularly the case on west-facing, north-facing and east-facing slopes above approximately 2200 m. These conditions threaten with especially pronounced risk in central Grisons and in the Engadine. In the regions of the west and the north where there has been more snowfall, the snowpack structure is frequently favourable, which means that fractures down to deeply-embedded layers of the snowpack are unlikely.

Observed weather on Sunday, 14.2.2016

On Friday night on the northern flank of the Alps and in the Valais, there was a small amount of snowfall. During the day on Saturday in eastern regions and in the Upper Valais, prolonged periods of bright skies were evident; in other regions skies were heavily overcast for the most part, accompanied by snow showers. The snowfall level was 1000 m.

Fresh snow

Between Saturday evening and Sunday evening, the following amounts of fresh fallen snow were registered:

- Vaud and Fribourg Alps, northern and furthestmost western parts of Lower Valais: 15 to 30 cm
- remaining sectors of the northern flank of the Alps, remaining parts of Valais not including the regions of Zermatt, Saas Fee and Simplon, as well as Bedretto valley: 5 to 15 cm
- remaining regions: less, or no snowfall at all.

Temperature

At midday at 2000 m, in northern regions -2 °C, in southern regions -5 °C.

Wind

During the night in western regions and in the Valais winds were southwesterly, blowing at strong velocity; in other regions blowing at moderate strength. During the day, winds slackened off, prevailed at predominantly moderate velocity from southerly directions.

Weather forecast through Monday, 15.2.2016

In northern regions, skies will be overcast for the most part, accompanied by intermittent snowfall. The snowfall level will be 800 m. In the Valais and in southern regions, it will be rather sunny.

Fresh snow

Between Sunday evening and Monday evening, the following amounts of fresh fallen snow are anticipated:

- central and eastern sectors of the northern flank of the Alps, northern and central Grisons: 5 to 10 cm
- western sector of the northern flank of the Alps, Engadine: only a few centimeters
- remaining regions: it will remain dry.

Temperature

At midday at 2000 m, in northern regions -8 °C, in southern regions -3 °C.

Wind

During the night in northern regions and at high altitudes in general, winds will be westerly, still blowing at moderate strength. During the day, winds will shift to easterly and be blowing predominantly at light strength.

Outlook through Wednesday, 17.2.2016

On Tuesday in northern regions, a small amount of snowfall is anticipated. On Wednesday, skies will be overcast to begin with, but are expected to remain dry. In the inneralpine and southern regions, it will be quite sunny on both days. The avalanche danger levels are not expected to change significantly in eastern regions. In the remaining regions, danger levels are expected to diminish.