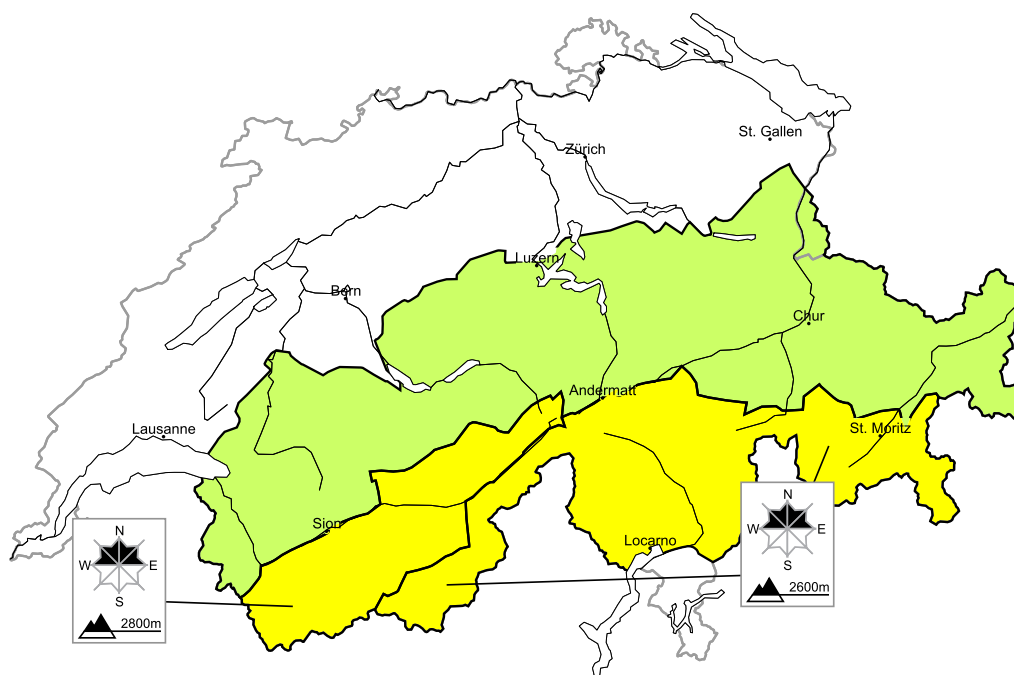


# Moderate avalanche danger will be encountered in some regions. Caution is to be exercised on steep shady slopes in high Alpine regions

Edition: 3.12.2016, 17:00 / Next update: 5.12.2016, 17:00

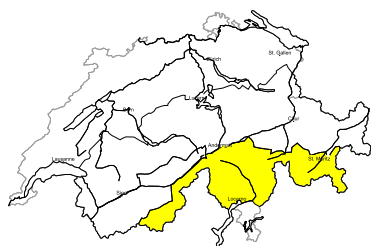
## Avalanche danger

updated on 3.12.2016, 17:00



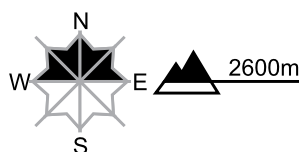
### region A

### Level 2, moderate



#### Old snow

#### Avalanche prone locations

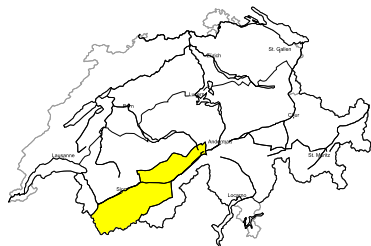
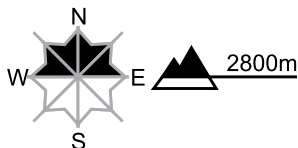


#### Danger description

Weak layers exist in the bottom section of the snowpack on shady slopes. This applies in particular above approximately 2800 m. Here avalanches can be released in deep layers of the snowpack and reach a dangerous size. The avalanche prone locations are rare but difficult to recognise. Caution is to be exercised in areas where the snow cover is rather shallow as well as at transitions from a shallow to a deep snowpack, when entering gullies and bowls for example. Careful route selection and spacing between individuals are recommended.

#### Snow drifts

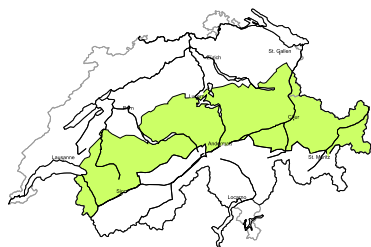
The snow drift accumulations of the last few days are in individual cases still prone to triggering. They are to be found in all aspects. They are to be evaluated with care and prudence in very steep terrain.

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

Weak layers exist in the bottom section of the snowpack on shady slopes. This applies in particular above approximately 2800 m. Here avalanches can be released in deep layers of the snowpack. The avalanche prone locations are rather rare but difficult to recognise. Caution is to be exercised at transitions from a shallow to a deep snowpack, when entering gullies and bowls for example.

**Snow drifts**

In particular in high Alpine regions mostly small snow drift accumulations have formed. They are to be evaluated with care and prudence in very steep terrain.

**region C****Level 1, low****Old snow**

In isolated cases avalanches can be released in near-ground layers. This applies in particular on extreme shady slopes above approximately 2800 m. In high Alpine regions small snow drift accumulations have formed. These are to be evaluated with care and prudence in very steep 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. The Avalanche Warning Service currently has only a small amount of information that has been collected in the high Alpine regions, so that the avalanche danger should be investigated especially thoroughly in the relevant locality.

## Snowpack and weather

updated on 3.12.2016, 17:00

### Snowpack

The northwesterly winds on Thursday and Friday have transported snow at high altitudes. This occurred in the regions with loosely-packed old snow on the Main Alpine Ridge from Upper Valais into Val Müstair and southwards therefrom more than anywhere else. The likelihood to trigger these snow drift accumulations has diminished significantly. In northern regions, the snow cover previously manifested heavy impact from the winds, there were next to no further snow masses transported.

In all regions of Switzerland above approximately 2800 m on smooth, shady slopes, a weak layer composed of faceted-crystal old snow is still evident from October. Inside this layer, avalanches can still be triggered. Many of these avalanches have been observed on glaciers.

The snow level on north-facing slopes lies between 1600 and 2000 m, on south-facing slopes approximately 200 to 400 m higher up.

### Observed weather on Saturday, 3.12.2016

Skies were for the most part overcast between the Simplon region over the central sector of the southern flank of the Alps and into Bergell. In northern regions, high fog prevailed, with the uppermost border at approximately 1200 m. Above that altitude it was sunny, apart from some high altitude clouds.

#### Fresh snow

-

#### Temperature

At midday at 2000 m in western regions, +3 °C; in northeastern regions, 0 °C; and in southern regions, -4 °C.

#### Wind

Winds in the Alps were blowing from westerly directions at light to moderate strength.

### Weather forecast through Monday, 5.12.2016

It is expected to be sunny on both days.

#### Fresh snow

-

#### Temperature

The midday temperatures at 2000 m will be between 0 °C in northern regions and -3 °C in southern regions.

#### Wind

Winds are expected to be predominantly light.

### Outlook through Wednesday, 7.12.2016

On Tuesday it will be sunny; on Wednesday, dense, high-altitude cloudbanks are expected to pass through in some regions. Winds are expected to remain light. The avalanche scenario will not change significantly.