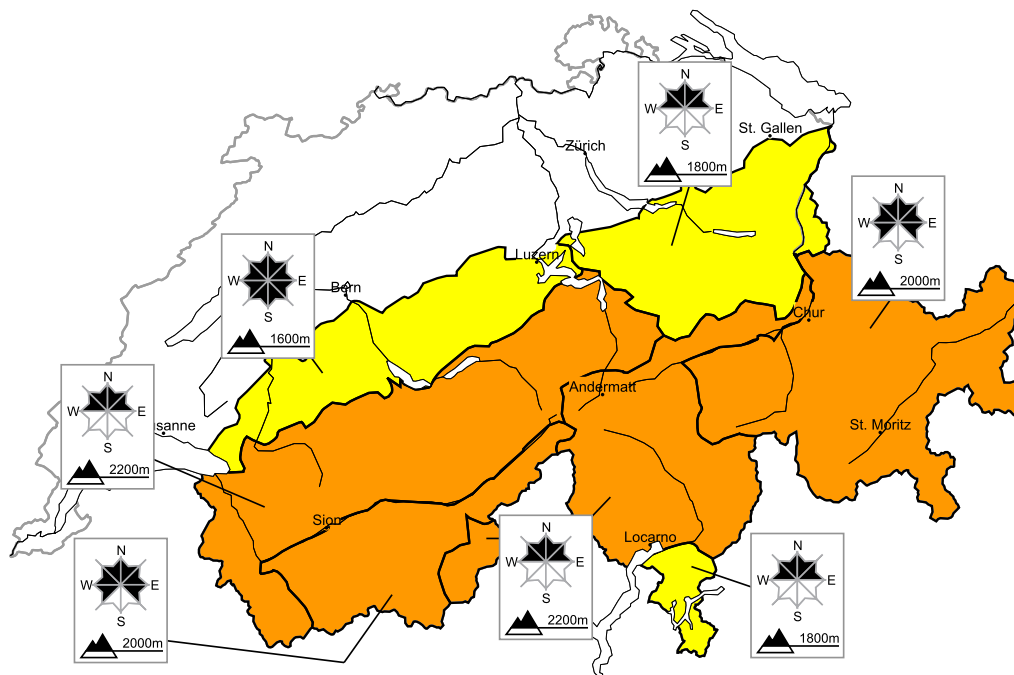


Considerable avalanche danger will be encountered over a wide area

Edition: 9.2.2017, 08:00 / Next update: 9.2.2017, 17:00

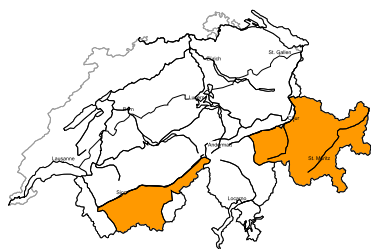
Avalanche danger

updated on 9.2.2017, 08:00



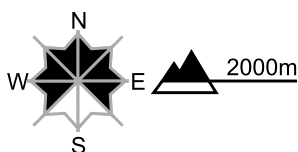
region A

Level 3, considerable



Old snow, snow drifts

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

Distinct weak layers in the old snowpack necessitate caution. Single winter sport participants can release avalanches. In particular on shady slopes these can penetrate even deep layers and reach a dangerous size. Whumpfung sounds and the formation of shooting cracks when stepping on the snowpack can indicate the danger. Remote triggering is possible. Backcountry touring and other off-piste activities call for extensive experience in the assessment of avalanche danger.

Danger levels

1 low

2 moderate

3 consider.

4 high

5 very high



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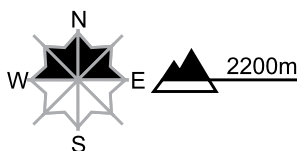
region B

Level 3, considerable



Snow drifts

Avalanche prone locations

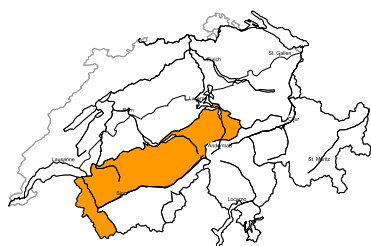


Danger description

The older snow drift accumulations can especially at their margins be released by a single winter sport participant. The avalanche prone locations are to be found in particular at transitions from a shallow to a deep snowpack, when entering gullies and bowls for example. Careful route selection is important.

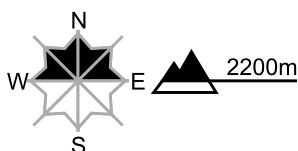
region C

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 are in some cases still prone to triggering. The avalanche prone locations are difficult to recognise. Single winter sport participants can release avalanches, including medium-sized ones. In addition, mostly small snow drift accumulations have formed. These are to be found in particular adjacent to the ridge line. They are to be evaluated with care and prudence. Backcountry touring and other off-piste activities call for experience in the assessment of avalanche danger.

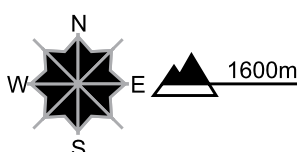
region D

Level 2, moderate



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, especially by large additional loads. The avalanche prone locations are difficult to recognise. Careful route selection is important.

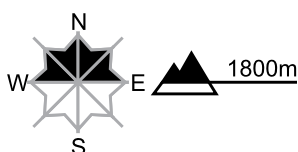
region E

Level 2, moderate



Fresh snow and snow drifts

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

The fresh snow and snow drift accumulations of the last few days can still be released in some cases. This applies especially on very steep slopes. Avalanches are rather small. The avalanche prone locations are covered with fresh snow and barely recognisable. At elevated altitudes the avalanche prone locations increase. Careful route selection is important.

Snowpack and weather

updated on 8.2.2017, 17:00

Snowpack

In terrain adjacent to ridgelines more than anywhere else, fresh, relatively small-sized snowdrift accumulations have formed. These drifted masses are prone to triggering in some places. The frequently thick layers of new fallen and newly drifted snow of the last few days are gradually stabilising. However in some places they are still prone to triggering, particularly so on shady slopes where they now blanket layers of faceted-crystal snow.

More deeply embedded inside the old snowpack at altitudes between 2200 and 2800 m, in particular on shady, wind-protected slopes, there are weak layers lurking inside the snowpack. These are especially threatening, i.e. prone to triggering, in the inneralpine regions of the Valais and Grisons. In the remaining regions of Switzerland, it is in the places where snow is shallow or in transitions from shallow to deep snow that avalanches are most likely to trigger in the weakened old snow cover.

Observed weather on Wednesday, 8.2.2017

There was snowfall during the night and during the daytime, more than anywhere else in northern regions and in the Valais. The snowfall level lay at 800 to 1000 m. In the remaining regions of Switzerland, skies were heavily overcast for the most part. Only in the Engadine there there extended bright intervals.

Fresh snow

Between Tuesday midday and Wednesday evening, the follow amounts of fresh fallen snow were registered:

- northern flank of the Alps west of the Reuss, Lower Valais: 10 to 20 cm;
- remaining sectors of the northern flank of the Alps Upper Valais: 5 to 10 cm;
- Grisons and Ticino: only a few centimeters or no new fallen snow.

Temperature

At midday at 2000 m, -4 °C.

Wind

- During the night, winds were northwesterly, blowing temporarily at moderate to strong velocity, slackening off later on.
- During the daytime, winds were northeasterly, blowing predominantly at light strength.

Weather forecast through Thursday, 9.2.2017

During the night skies in eastern regions will be partly clear. In the other regions of Switzerland skies will be overcast and a small amount of snowfall is possible above approximately 1000 m. During the daytime in northern regions, residual cloud resembling high-fog will prevail below approximately 1500 m. Above that altitude it will be partly sunny. In southern regions skies will remain overcast.

Fresh snow

-

Temperature

At midday at 2000 m, -5 °C in northern regions, and -7 °C in southern regions.

Wind

- During the night, winds will be northeasterly, along the Prealps blowing at moderate strength; in the other regions winds will be light.
- During the daytime, winds will be southerly, blowing at light strength, at high altitudes at moderate strength.

Outlook through Saturday, 11.2.2017

On Friday in northern regions, it will be predominantly sunny above the high fog. In southern regions, a small amount of snowfall is anticipated above approximately 800 m. On Saturday in northern regions, it will be sunny for the most part, apart from some high-altitude cloudbanks. In southern regions skies will be predominantly overcast and a small amount of snowfall is possible. The avalanche danger is expected to decrease, but only slowly in the regions where the snow cover is weakened.