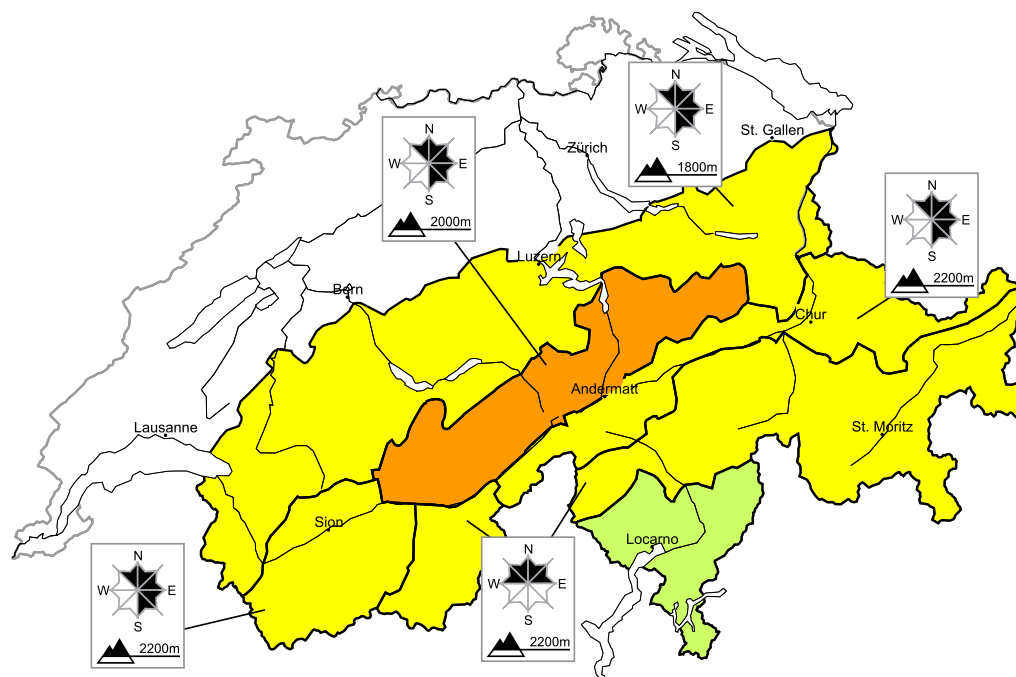


# Increase in avalanche danger as a consequence of fresh snow and strong wind

Edition: 18.11.2017, 17:00 / Next update: 19.11.2017, 17:00

## Avalanche danger

updated on 18.11.2017, 17:00



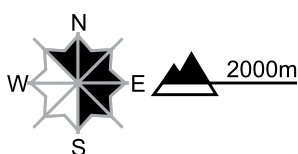
region A

Level 3, considerable



### Snow drifts, old snow

#### Avalanche prone locations



#### Danger description

The danger level 3 (considerable) will be reached as the day progresses. The wind will transport the fresh snow and, in some cases, old snow as well. The snow drift accumulations are bonding poorly with the old snowpack in particular on north and east facing slopes. They can be released by a single winter sport participant. Avalanches can in isolated cases penetrate deep layers and reach medium size. This applies in particular on steep northwest, north and east facing slopes above approximately 2200 m.

Backcountry touring and other off-piste activities call for experience in the assessment of avalanche danger.

Danger levels

1 low

2 moderate

3 consider.

4 high

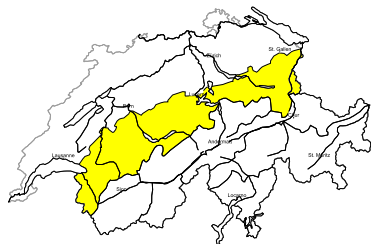
5 very high



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www.slf.ch

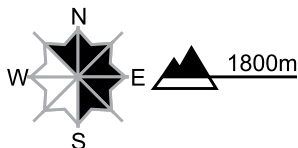
## region B

## Level 2, moderate



## Snow drifts, old snow

## Avalanche prone locations



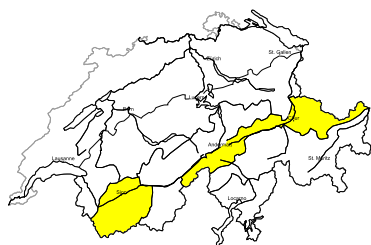
## Danger description

As a consequence of fresh snow and strong wind snow drift accumulations will form. These are mostly small but can in some cases be released easily. They are to be avoided in steep terrain.

Avalanches can in very isolated cases penetrate deep layers and reach medium size. This applies in particular on steep northwest, north and east facing slopes above approximately 2200 m. Defensive route selection is appropriate.

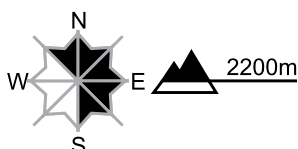
## region C

## Level 2, moderate



## Snow drifts

## Avalanche prone locations



## Danger description

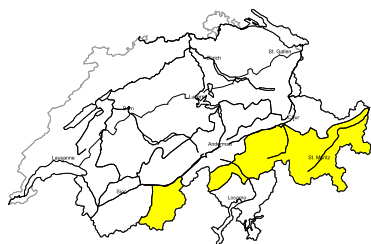
As the day progresses snow drift accumulations will form. These are rather small but can in some cases be released easily. They are to be avoided in steep terrain.

## Old snow

In some places avalanches can be triggered in the old snow. Caution is to be exercised in particular at transitions from a shallow to a deep snowpack. The avalanche prone locations are barely recognisable, even to the trained eye. They are to be found in particular on steep west, north and east facing slopes.

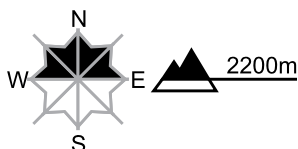
## region D

## Level 2, moderate



## Old snow

## Avalanche prone locations



## Danger description

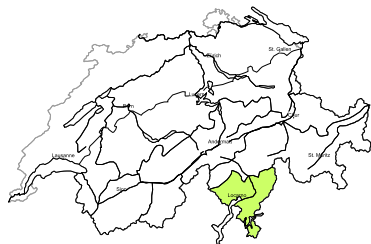
Thus far only a little snow is lying. In some places avalanches can be triggered in the old snow. Caution is to be exercised in particular at transitions from a shallow to a deep snowpack. These avalanche prone locations are barely recognisable, even to the trained eye. Defensive route selection is appropriate.

## Snow drifts

As the day progresses snow drift accumulations will form. They are to be found in all aspects. The fresh snow drift accumulations are mostly small but can in some cases be released easily. They are to be avoided in steep terrain.

## region E

## Level 1, low



From a snow sport perspective, in most cases insufficient snow is lying. Individual avalanche prone locations are to be found in particular in extremely 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.

## Snowpack and weather

updated on 18.11.2017, 17:00

### Snowpack

The fresh snow and to some extent also the old snow on shady slopes of the northern flank of the Alps are being transported by northwesterly winds. Wherever the snowdrift accumulations have been deposited on top of surface hoar or atop a soft snowpack surface consisting of faceted snow crystals, they are bonded very inadequately with the old snow cover.

The few available snow profile analyses demonstrate that the snow cover consists of weak layers of faceted snow crystals in part, from place to place also of surface hoar which has now been blanketed in newer snow. Since other alarm signals are lacking, it is extremely difficult to evaluate the danger level precisely. Isolated avalanches triggering from these more deeply embedded layers inside the snowpack still seem possible.

At 2000 m altitude, the following approximate amounts of snow are on the ground:

- northern Alpine Ridge and northern part of Prättigau: 50 to 80 cm, from Brünig into the Glarner Alps as much as 120 cm;
- remaining regions of Switzerland: 20 to 50 cm over widespread areas; in the valleys of Visp, in central Ticino, in Sotto Ceneri, in parts of the Engadine and in the southern valleys of Grisons, less.

### Observed weather on Saturday, 18.11.2017

In northern regions there was high fog up to a ceiling at 1200 to 1500 m, which dispersed only to a certain degree. Above the fog and in the other regions it was sunny.

#### Fresh snow

-

#### Temperature

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

#### Wind

Winds were blowing light to moderate strength; during the night from northeasterly directions, during the daytime from northwesterly directions.

### Weather forecast through Sunday, 19.11.2017

Skies will be heavily overcast and snowfall is anticipated over widespread areas down to low lying areas. In the furthestmost southern regions it will be predominantly sunny as a result of the northerly foehn wind.

#### Fresh snow

By Sunday evening above approximately 1500 m, the following amounts of snowfall are expected:

- northern Alpine Ridge from the Gemmi into the Glarner Alps: 20 to 30 cm;
- remaining sectors of the northern flank of the Alps from the Bernese Oberland into the St. Gallen Alps, northern Grisons, Silvretta and Samnaun: 10 to 20 cm;
- remaining regions of Switzerland, less than 10 cm; in the furthestmost southern regions it will remain dry.

#### Temperature

At midday at 2000 m, between -7 °C in northeastern regions, -3 °C in western regions and -1 °C in southern regions.

#### Wind

Winds will be blowing at strong velocity, on the Main Alpine Ridge and in high alpine regions reaching storm strength, from northwesterly directions.

**Outlook** through Tuesday, 21.11.2017**Monday**

Skies will be heavily overcast and particularly towards the northeast a small amount of precipitation is anticipated. The snowfall level is expected to ascend during the afternoon to 1400 m. In southern regions it will continue to be predominantly sunny as a result of the northerly foehn wind. In northern regions the avalanche danger will decrease somewhat. However, in inneralpine and southern regions the danger levels are not expected to change significantly.

**Tuesday**

In northern regions skies will continue to be predominantly overcast and a small amount of precipitation is possible towards the east more than anywhere else. The snowfall level will ascend to approximately 1600 m. In the Valais bright intervals are anticipated during the course of the day. In the furthestmost southern regions it will continue to be predominantly sunny as a result of the northerly foehn wind. Avalanche danger is not expected to change significantly.