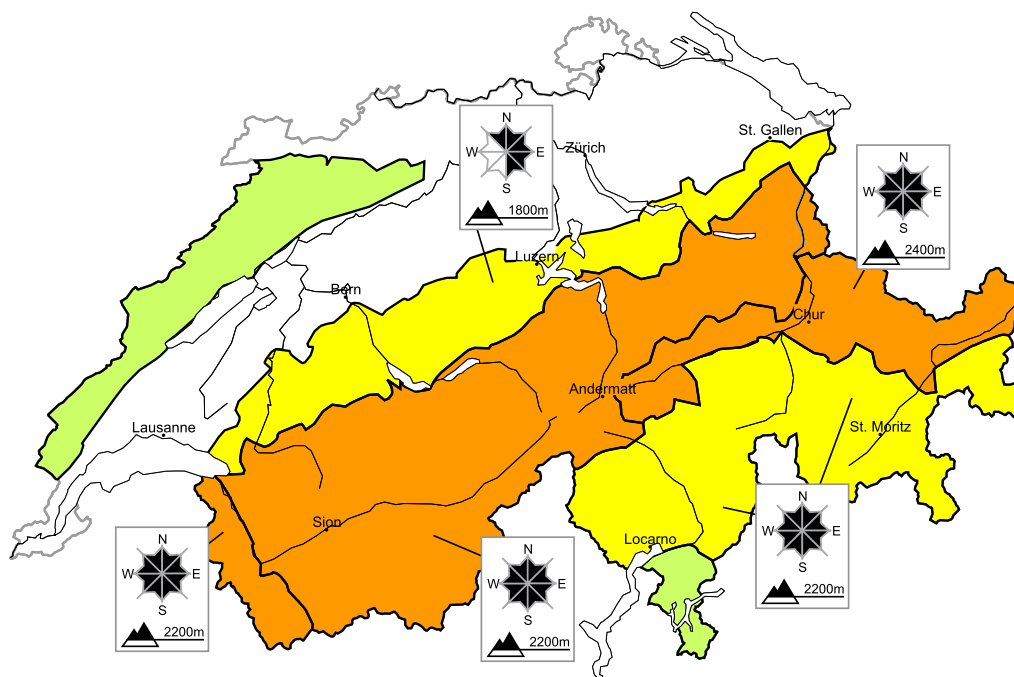


Outside marked and open pistes a considerable avalanche danger will be encountered over a wide area

Edition: 17.2.2018, 08:00 / Next update: 17.2.2018, 17:00

Avalanche danger

updated on 17.2.2018, 08:00



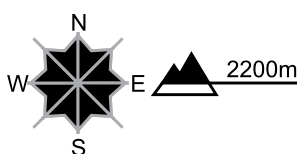
region A

Level 3, considerable



Fresh snow and snow drifts

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

The more recent snow drift accumulations are prone to triggering. Avalanches can reach dangerously large size. Whumpfung sounds and the formation of shooting cracks when stepping on the snowpack can indicate the danger. As the day progresses as a consequence of the fresh snow there will be an increase in the avalanche danger within the current danger level. In the afternoon natural avalanches are possible. Snow sport activities outside marked and open pistes call for experience in the assessment of avalanche danger.

Wet and full-depth avalanches

As a consequence of the rain full-depth and wet avalanches are to be expected, especially on east, south and west facing slopes below approximately 2400 m as well as on north facing slopes below approximately 2000 m. Caution is to be exercised in areas with glide cracks.

Danger levels

1 low

2 moderate

3 consider.

4 high

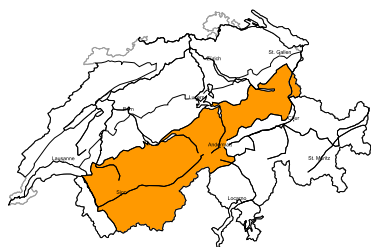
5 very high



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region B

Level 3, considerable



Fresh snow and snow drifts

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

As a consequence of fresh snow and wind snow drift accumulations have formed. Single winter sport participants can release avalanches, including dangerously large ones. Whumpfing sounds and the formation of shooting cracks when stepping on the snowpack can indicate the danger. Snow sport activities outside marked and open pistes call for experience in the assessment of avalanche danger.

Full-depth avalanches

Full-depth avalanches are possible, especially on east, south and west facing slopes below approximately 2400 m as well as on north facing slopes below approximately 2000 m. Caution is to be exercised in areas with glide cracks.

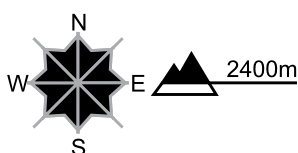
region C

Level 3, considerable



Fresh snow and snow drifts

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

As a consequence of fresh snow and wind snow drift accumulations have formed. Single winter sport participants can release avalanches. Whumpfing sounds and the formation of shooting cracks when stepping on the snowpack can indicate the danger. Snow sport activities outside marked and open pistes call for experience in the assessment of avalanche danger.

Full-depth avalanches

Full-depth avalanches are possible, especially on east, south and west facing slopes below approximately 2400 m as well as on north facing slopes below approximately 2000 m. Caution is to be exercised in areas with glide cracks.

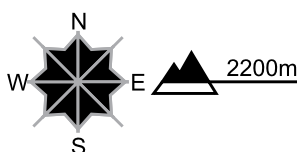
region D

Level 2, moderate



Snow drifts

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

Fresh and somewhat older snow drift accumulations are mostly small but prone to triggering. They are to be found adjacent to the ridge line and in gullies and bowls. The number and size of avalanche prone locations will increase with altitude. Apart from the danger of being buried, restraint should be exercised also in view of the danger of avalanches sweeping people along and giving rise to falls. Careful route selection is recommended.

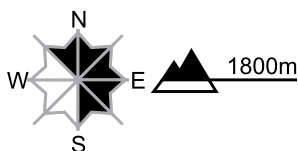
region E

Level 2, moderate



Snow drifts

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

Fresh and somewhat older snow drift accumulations are mostly small but in some cases prone to triggering. They are to be found especially adjacent to the ridge line. The snow drift accumulations are to be evaluated with care and prudence.

Full-depth avalanches

In all aspects full-depth avalanches are possible. Caution is to be exercised in areas with glide cracks.

region F

Level 1, low

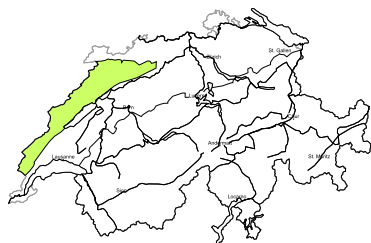


Old snow

Individual avalanche prone locations for dry avalanches are to be found in particular in extremely steep terrain. Even a small avalanche can sweep snow sport participants along and give rise to falls.

region G

Level 1, low



Wet avalanches

In all aspects small wet avalanches are possible as a consequence of the rain.

Snowpack and weather

updated on 16.2.2018, 17:00

Snowpack

Fresh and older snow drift accumulations are to be found at high altitudes, in most cases lying on top of loosely bonded weak layers. They can be released even by a single winter sport participant.

At lower altitudes the bonding of the snowpack is mostly favourable. In central Grisons, Engadine, the Grisons southern valleys and Ticino the base of the snowpack is a little weaker. Avalanches are now highly unlikely to be triggered, however, in these deep layers.

On steep smooth slopes below approximately 2400 m, in particular those facing east, south and west, and in some places on north facing slopes below approximately 2000 m, individual gliding avalanches can occur.

Observed weather on Friday, 16.02.2018

In the north precipitation fell until the afternoon, when isolated bright spells occurred. The snowfall level was approximately 2000 m during the night before dropping towards 1600 m by the end of the precipitation period. The south was partly sunny.

Fresh snow

The following amounts of snow fell above approximately 2200 m in the period from Thursday night until midday on Friday:

- Northern Alpine ridge, rest of Valais excluding the southern Simplon region, rest of the Gotthard region: 20 to 40 cm
- Rest of the northern flank of the Alps, southern Simplon region, rest of northern Ticino, rest of northern and central Grisons, Lower Engadine north of the Inn: 10 to 20 cm
- Elsewhere: smaller amounts, none in the south

Temperature

At midday at 2000 m: from +2 °C in the west to -1 °C in the northeast and +4 °C in the south

Wind

Westerly, moderate to strong during the night, most light during the day

Weather forecast through Saturday, 17.02.2018

The first half of the night will be partly clear. Later it will be very cloudy. In the morning precipitation will arrive from the west. The snowfall level will be approximately 1800 m at first, before dropping to low altitudes by the evening.

Fresh snow

By Saturday evening the following amounts of snow will fall above approximately 2000 m:

- Extreme west of Lower Valais: 20 to 30 cm
- Northern flank of the Alps, rest of Valais, Jura: 5 to 10 cm
- Elsewhere: smaller amounts or dry

Temperature

At midday at 2000 m: between 0 °C in the north and -3 °C in the south

Wind

In the north and generally at elevated altitudes, moderate to strong from the west to southwest.

Outlook through Monday, 19.02.2018

On Saturday night the precipitation will cease. During the day in the mountains the weather will be quite sunny. Monday will be sunny at first, but cloud will then build up from the north. The wind will be northerly, and the temperature will fall a little. The danger of dry avalanches will decrease slowly. Wet snow avalanches are no longer likely, but gliding avalanches can still occur.