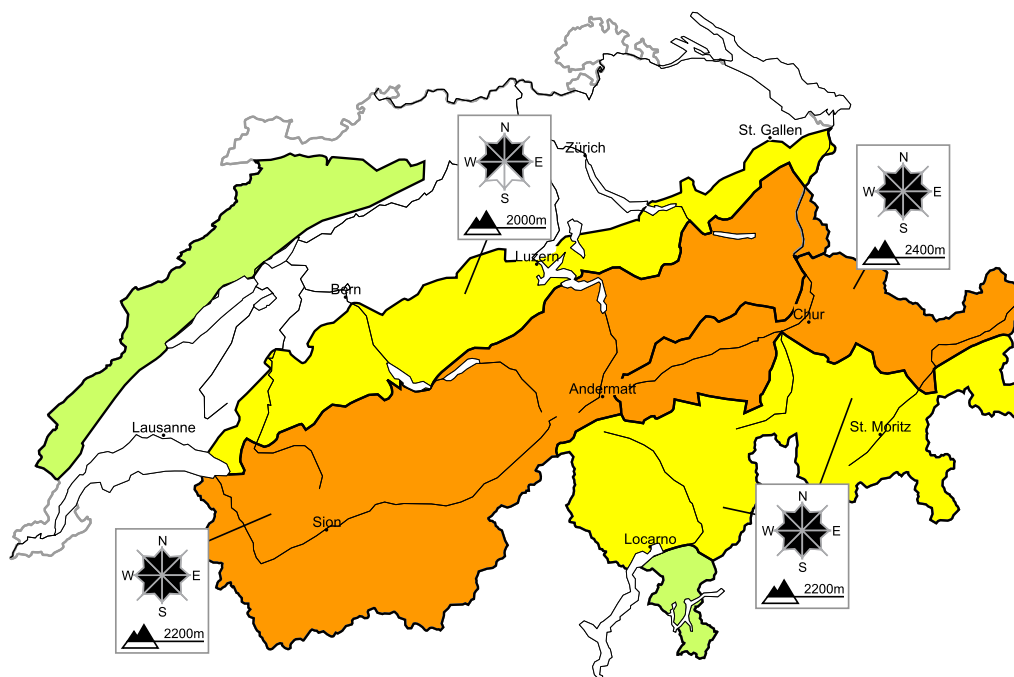


Outside marked and open pistes a considerable avalanche danger will be encountered over a wide area

Edition: 20.2.2018, 08:00 / Next update: 20.2.2018, 17:00

Avalanche danger

updated on 20.2.2018, 08:00



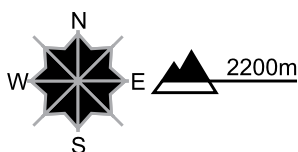
region A

Level 3, considerable



Fresh snow and snow drifts

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

The somewhat older snow drift accumulations can be released by a single winter sport participant in some cases. The avalanche prone locations are covered with fresh snow and difficult to recognise. Isolated whumpfung sounds can indicate the danger. Off-piste activities call for experience in the assessment of avalanche danger.

Full-depth avalanches

Individual 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.

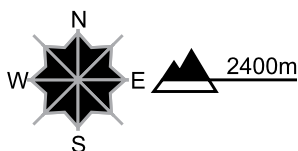
region B

Level 3, considerable



Fresh snow and snow drifts

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

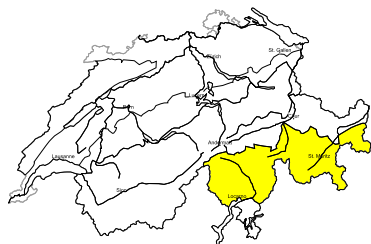
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Full-depth avalanches

Individual 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.

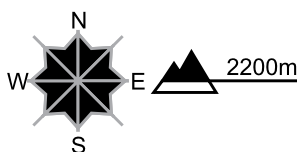
region C

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 evaluated with care and prudence in particular in very steep terrain. The avalanche prone locations are to be found in particular adjacent to the ridge line and in gullies and bowls. 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.

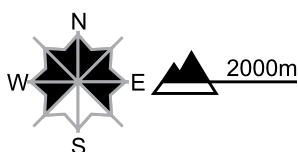
region D

Level 2, moderate



Snow drifts

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

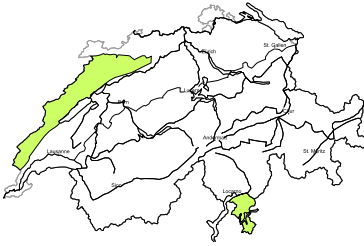
The somewhat older snow drift accumulations are mostly small but in some cases prone to triggering. They are to be found especially adjacent to the ridge line. The avalanche prone locations are sometimes covered with fresh snow and difficult to recognise. Careful route selection is recommended.

Full-depth avalanches

Isolated full-depth avalanches are possible in all aspects.

region E

Level 1, low



Individual avalanche prone locations are to be found in particular in extremely steep terrain. Restraint should be exercised because avalanches can sweep people along and give rise to falls.

Snowpack and weather

updated on 19.2.2018, 17:00

Snowpack

The highly varied layers of fresh snow and freshly formed snowdrift accumulations from the last few days have been deposited to some extent on top of surface hoar or on weak layers of faceted snow crystals. The deepest of these drifted masses are found in western and northern regions. They remain prone to triggering in high altitude locations. The avalanche prone locations have been blanketed by fresher snow in some places, which makes them difficult to recognize. Beneath these fresher layers of snow from the last few days, the snowpack is favourably structured for the most part. In central Grisons, in the Engadine, in the southern valleys of Grisons and in the Ticino, the lowermost fundament of the snowpack is somewhat weaker than in the other regions of Switzerland from place to place. Nevertheless, an avalanche triggering in these layers is no longer likely.

Gliding avalanches continue to be possible in isolated cases. Due to the depths of the snowpack, such avalanches could grow to dangerously large size.

Observed weather on Monday, 19.02.2018

Below approximately 1500 m in northern regions, banks of high fog prevailed. Above the ceiling of fog, nighttime skies were clear, daytime skies sunny. In southern regions, skies were frequently overcast.

Fresh snow

A small amount of snowfall in southern regions.

Temperature

At midday at 2000 m, -5 °C.

Wind

Winds were generally light, blowing from northerly directions.

Weather forecast through Tuesday, 20.02.2018

In southern regions, skies will be variably cloudy. In the other regions of Switzerland, isolated bright intervals are expected during the morning hours, particularly in western regions. In the other regions, skies will be heavily overcast by and large. In northern regions, a small amount of snowfall is anticipated down to low lying areas.

Fresh snow

On the northern flank of the Alps and in northern Grisons, only a few centimeters.

Temperature

At midday at 2000 m, -9 °C.

Wind

In southern regions and at high altitudes in general, northerly winds will be blowing for the most part at moderate strength; in other regions, winds will be light.

Outlook through Thursday, 22.02.2018

On Wednesday and on Thursday, skies will frequently be overcast and it will be cold. In northern regions, a small amount of snowfall is possible. In the inneralpine regions and at high altitudes in general, it will be partly sunny. An intermittently strong-velocity bise wind will be blowing in northern regions. The danger of dry-snow avalanches is not expected to change significantly. Gliding avalanches continue to be possible in isolated cases.