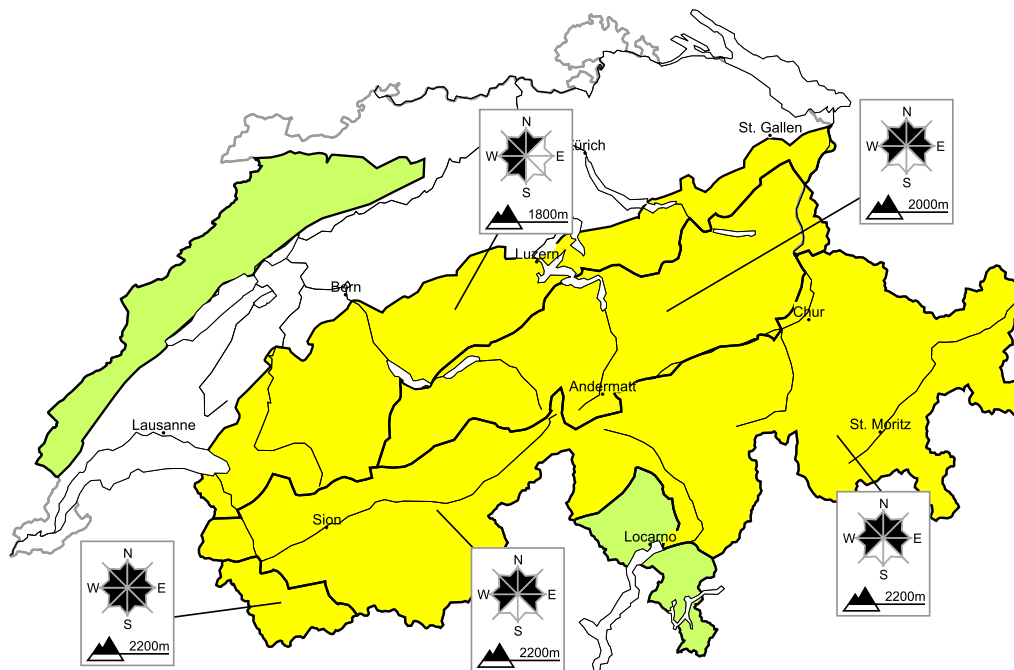


## Moderate avalanche danger will be encountered over a wide area

Edition: 23.2.2018, 08:00 / Next update: 23.2.2018, 17:00

### Avalanche danger

updated on 23.2.2018, 08:00



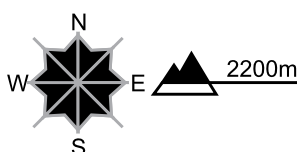
**region A**

**Level 2, moderate**



#### Old snow, snow drifts

##### Avalanche prone locations



##### Danger description

Avalanches can be released in near-surface layers, this applies even in case of a single winter sport participant in isolated cases. The avalanche prone locations are covered with fresh snow and barely recognisable. The conditions are treacherous. Defensive route selection is recommended.

The fresh and somewhat older snow drift accumulations are in many cases small but prone to triggering. They can be released by a single winter sport participant in some cases. Caution is to be exercised in particular on very steep slopes.

**Danger levels**

1 low

2 moderate

3 consider.

4 high

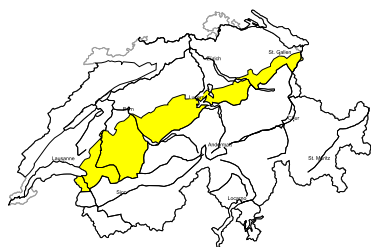
5 very high



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 Avalanche Research SLF  
 www.slf.ch

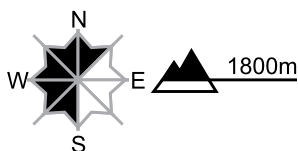
**region B**

**Level 2, moderate**



**Snow drifts**

**Avalanche prone locations**

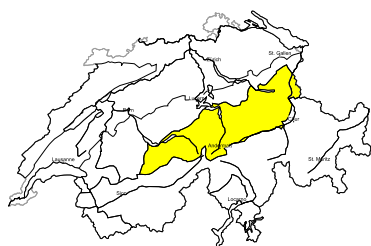


**Danger description**

As a consequence of the Bise wind easily released snow drift accumulations have formed. They are mostly small. The snow drift accumulations are to be found in particular adjacent to the ridge line and in gullies and bowls. They are to be avoided in particular in very steep terrain.

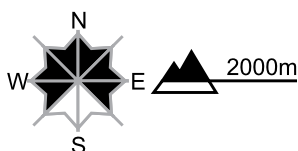
**region C**

**Level 2, moderate**



**Old snow, snow drifts**

**Avalanche prone locations**



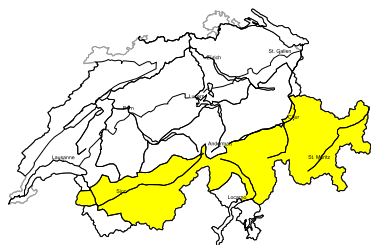
**Danger description**

Weak layers in the upper part of the snowpack can be released by people in particular in little used backcountry terrain. The avalanche prone locations are rather rare but barely recognisable, even to the trained eye. Careful route selection is important.

As a consequence of the northeasterly wind clearly visible snow drift accumulations have formed. These are mostly small but can in some cases be released easily. They are to be avoided in particular in very steep terrain.

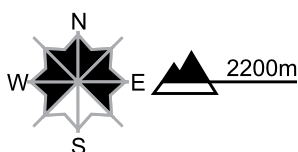
**region D**

**Level 2, moderate**



**Old snow, snow drifts**

**Avalanche prone locations**



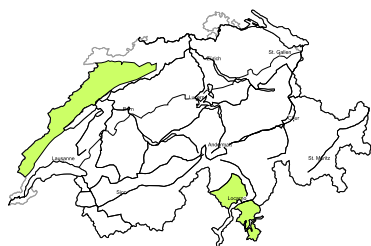
**Danger description**

Weak layers in the upper part of the snowpack can be released by people in particular in little used backcountry terrain. The avalanche prone locations are rather rare but barely recognisable, even to the trained eye. Careful route selection is important.

As a consequence of the northeasterly wind clearly visible snow drift accumulations have formed. These are mostly small but can in some cases be released easily. They are to be avoided in particular in very steep terrain.

**region E**

**Level 1, low**



**Snow drifts**

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 22.2.2018, 17:00

### Snowpack

It is possible for persons to trigger avalanches in the uppermost layers of the snowpack, where in some places surface hoar or weak layers consisting of faceted snow crystals lurk. These avalanche prone locations are frequently blanketed by fresher snow and can hardly be recognized in outlying terrain. As a result of bise wind, easily recognizable, generally small-sized snowdrift accumulations have been generated along the Prealps more than anywhere else, as well as in terrain adjacent to ridgelines and in pass areas.

The mid-level and lowermost layers of the snow cover are well consolidated and stable. 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. Avalanche triggerings are no longer likely, however, in these more deeply embedded layers of the snowpack.

### Observed weather on Thursday, 22.02.2018

On Thursday, skies were variably cloudy to heavily overcast. The sun showed itself only rarely. There was a small amount of intermittent snowfall from the southeast.

#### Fresh snow

Between Wednesday afternoon and Thursday afternoon, very little snowfall was registered:

- in the western sector of the northern flank of the Alps, maximum 10 cm;
- in other regions of Switzerland, less; or else it remained dry.

#### Temperature

At midday at 2000 m, between -12 °C in northwestern regions and -7 °C in the other regions of Switzerland.

#### Wind

- western Prealps and Jura region: moderate to strong-velocity bise;
- in other regions, predominantly moderate-strength winds, strong from place to place, from easterly directions.

### Weather forecast through Friday, 23.02.2018

In northern regions it will be intermittently sunny above the high fog (extending to a ceiling at approximately 2000 m). In southern regions, skies will be overcast accompanied by light snowfall during the afternoon.

#### Fresh snow

Along the Main Alpine Ridge and southwards therefrom, only a few centimeters.

#### Temperature

At midday at 2000 m, -5 °C.

#### Wind

Winds will be easterly to southeasterly,

- blowing predominantly at light to moderate strength in the mountains;
- in the Jura region and western Prealps, moderate bise wind will prevail.

### Outlook through Sunday, 25.02.2018

In northern regions it will be quite sunny on both days above the high fog. In southern regions, skies will be overcast by and large, accompanied by intermittent snowfall. On Saturday, temperatures will be slightly higher for a short interim; in southern regions the snowfall level will ascend to nearly 1000 m. On Sunday, the snowfall level will descend again. On Saturday, avalanche danger levels can increase somewhat in the Valais section of the Main Alpine Ridge. In other regions danger levels are not expected to change significantly.