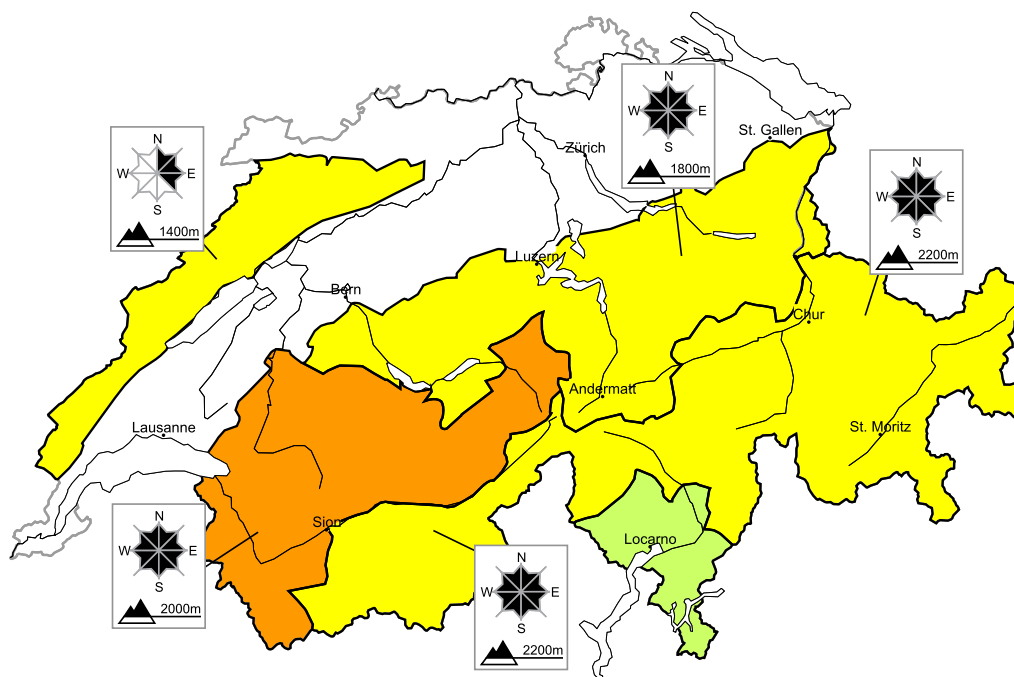


# In the west a considerable avalanche danger will be encountered over a wide area. Snow drifts require caution

Edition: 3.3.2018, 08:00 / Next update: 3.3.2018, 17:00

## Avalanche danger

updated on 3.3.2018, 08:00



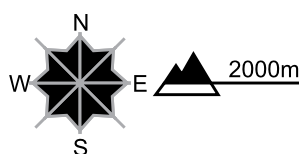
**region A**

**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 prone to triggering. Single snow sport participants can release avalanches, including medium-sized ones. The avalanche prone locations are covered with fresh snow and difficult to recognise. Individual natural avalanches are possible, in particular along the border with France. Backcountry touring and other off-piste activities call for experience in the assessment of avalanche danger and careful route selection.

**Danger levels**

1 low

2 moderate

3 consider.

4 high

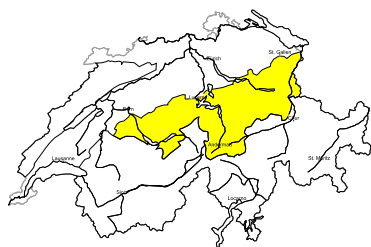
5 very high



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 Avalanche Research SLF  
 www.slf.ch

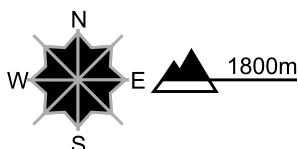
**region B**

**Level 2, moderate**



**Snow drifts**

**Avalanche prone locations**

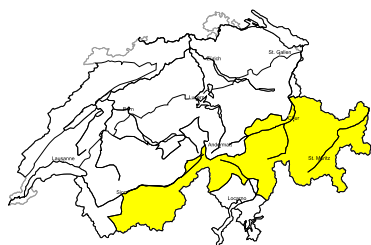


**Danger description**

Fresh and somewhat older snow drift accumulations can be released by a single winter sport participant. The avalanche prone locations are to be found in particular on steep west, north and east facing slopes and adjacent to the ridge line and in pass areas. They are covered with fresh snow and difficult to recognise. The number and size of avalanche prone locations will increase with altitude. Mostly avalanches are small. The snow drift accumulations are to be avoided in steep terrain. Backcountry touring calls for careful route selection.

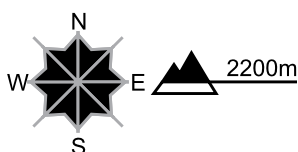
**region C**

**Level 2, moderate**



**Snow drifts**

**Avalanche prone locations**

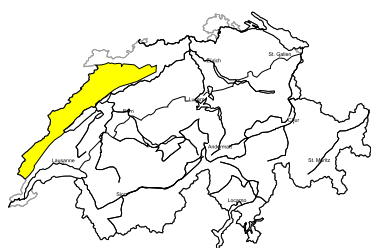


**Danger description**

Fresh and somewhat older snow drift accumulations can be released by a single winter sport participant. The avalanche prone locations are to be found in particular on steep west, north and east facing slopes and adjacent to the ridge line and in pass areas. They are covered with fresh snow and difficult to recognise. The number and size of avalanche prone locations will increase with altitude. Mostly avalanches are small. The snow drift accumulations are to be avoided in steep terrain. Backcountry touring calls for careful route selection.

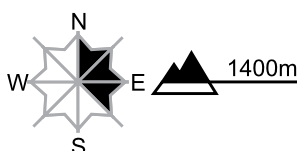
**region D**

**Level 2, moderate**



**Snow drifts**

**Avalanche prone locations**

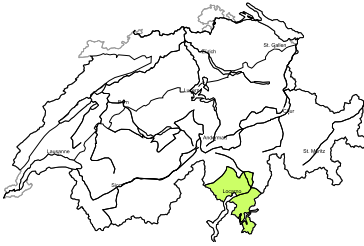


**Danger description**

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 steep terrain. 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.

**region E**

**Level 1, low**



A favourable avalanche situation will prevail. 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 2.3.2018, 17:00

### Snowpack

Freshly formed as well as somewhat older snowdrift accumulations have been deposited in wind-protected terrain on top of a loosely-packed old snowpack surface of faceted snow crystals or surface hoar over widespread areas. For that reason, they can be triggered even from the weight of one single skier or freerider. In western regions where on Thursday there was 15 to 30 cm of fresh snow registered, avalanches can grow to medium size, in the other regions of Switzerland they will tend to be small. As a result of the fresh snow from Saturday, the avalanche prone locations have been blanketed and are thus very difficult to recognize.

On steep south-facing slopes, the fresh snow and freshly generated snowdrifts were deposited on top of a melt-freeze crust.

### Observed weather on Friday, 02.03.2018

In eastern regions it was quite sunny during the morning hours, subsequently cloud cover moved in. Light precipitation set in from the southwest. The snowfall level was approximately 1200 m.

#### Fresh snow

Only a few centimeters over widespread areas.

#### Temperature

At midday at 2000 m, between -2 °C in western and southern regions and +1 °C in eastern regions.

#### Wind

Nocturnal winds were blowing at moderate to strong velocity from southerly directions; slackening off somewhat during the daytime and shifting to westerly.

### Weather forecast through Saturday, 03.03.2018

Following a night of partially clear skies, cloud cover will swiftly move in from the west during the morning, and subsequently precipitation will set in. The snowfall level will be approximately 1000 m. In eastern regions, the morning skies will be intermittently bright.

#### Fresh snow

On Saturday during the daytime, the following amounts of fresh snow are anticipated above approximately 1200 m:

- northern flank of the Alps, northern Valais and Lower Valais, western Jura region: 5 to 15 cm;
- in other regions of Switzerland, only a few centimeters.

#### Temperature

At midday at 2000 m, between -2 °C in northern regions and -5 °C in southern regions.

#### Wind

Winds will be blowing at moderate strength from westerly directions.

### Outlook through Monday, 05.03.2018

On Sunday, following a morning of sunshine, cloud cover will move in from the west. In eastern regions it will remain quite sunny until afternoon. On Monday in northern regions, skies will be bright as a result of foehn. In southern regions, a small amount of snowfall is anticipated above approximately 1000 m. Winds will shift on Sunday from westerly to southwesterly and be blowing at moderate to strong velocity. Southerly foehn will arise in the Alpine valleys. The avalanche danger will incrementally diminish in northern regions on both days. On the Main Alpine Ridge and southwards therefrom, the danger level will increase somewhat on Monday.