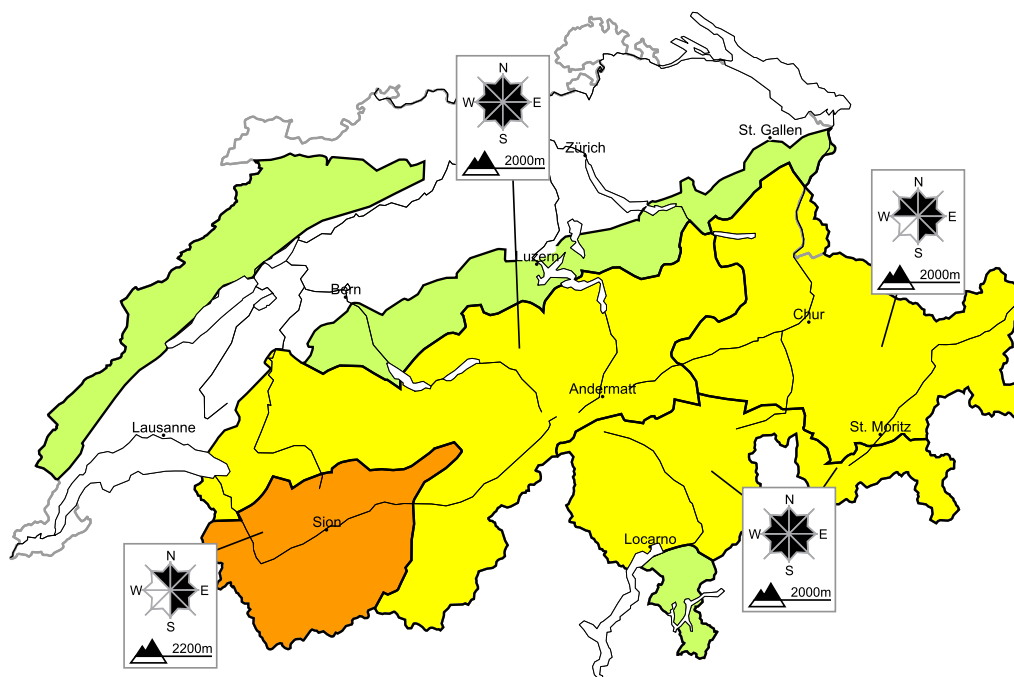


In the west a considerable avalanche danger will be encountered in some regions

Edition: 17.12.2018, 17:00 / Next update: 18.12.2018, 17:00

Avalanche danger

updated on 17.12.2018, 17:00



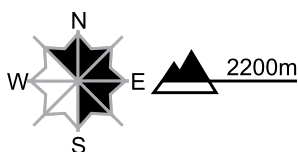
region A

Level 3, considerable



Wind slabs

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

Fresh and older wind slabs represent the main danger. Avalanches can be released, even by a single winter sport participant and reach medium size. The avalanche prone locations are sometimes covered with fresh snow and are therefore difficult to recognise.

Southern Valais: Avalanches can in isolated cases be triggered in the old snowpack. This applies especially in areas where the snow cover is rather shallow above approximately 2400 m.

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

Gliding avalanches

Individual gliding avalanches and moist snow slides are possible below approximately 2000 m.

Danger levels

1 low

2 moderate

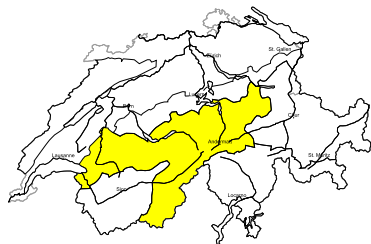
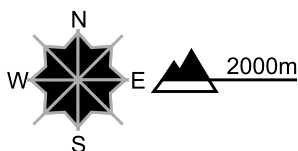
3 consider.

4 high

5 very high



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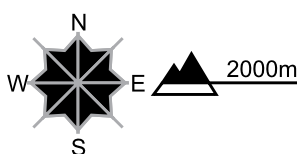
region B**Level 2, moderate****Dry avalanches****Avalanche prone locations****Danger description**

The no longer entirely fresh wind slabs can still be released in some cases. Mostly the avalanches are small. The number and size of avalanche prone locations will increase with altitude. The avalanche prone locations are covered with fresh snow and are therefore difficult to recognise.

Careful route selection is advisable.

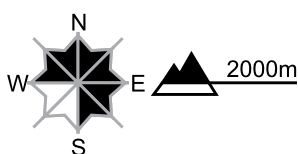
Gliding avalanches

Individual gliding avalanches and moist snow slides are possible below approximately 2000 m.

region C**Level 2, moderate****Wind slabs****Avalanche prone locations****Danger description**

As a consequence of northerly wind, mostly small wind slabs formed. They are to be found in particular in gullies and bowls, and behind abrupt changes in the terrain. They are to be avoided as far as possible. Avalanches can be released by a single winter sport participant, but they will be small in most cases.

Careful route selection is recommended.

region D**Level 2, moderate****Dry avalanches****Avalanche prone locations****Danger description**

The near-surface layers of the snowpack can be released in some places by people, especially on very steep slopes. Mostly the avalanches are small. The number and size of avalanche prone locations will increase with altitude.

Central Grisons, Lower Engadine south of the Inn, Val Müstair: Avalanches can in isolated cases be triggered in the old snowpack. This applies especially in areas where the snow cover is rather shallow above approximately 2400 m.

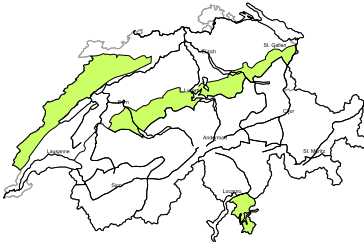
Careful route selection is recommended.

Gliding avalanches

Individual gliding avalanches and moist snow slides are possible below approximately 2000 m.

region E

Level 1, low



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

Snowpack and weather

updated on 17.12.2018, 17:00

Snowpack

Since Sunday, fresh snow and wind from variable directions have given rise to snow drift accumulations in particular in Valais, on the northern flank of the Alps and on the main Alpine ridge at high altitudes. On west, north and east facing slopes these are lying on an unfavourable loose old snowpack and remain prone to triggering in some cases. In the middle of the old snowpack, weak layers exist on west, north and east facing slopes at altitudes above approximately 2400 m. In many places these layers are embedded deep. In particular where the snow cover is shallow in the inneralpine regions of both Valais and Grisons, however, they can still be released by people. On south facing slopes and generally below 2200 m, the bonding of the snowpack is mostly favourable. In the north, individual gliding avalanches can still occur on very steep grassy slopes.

Observed weather on Monday, 17.12.2018

In the north and west, snow fell at times. The snowfall level was approximately 1000 m. The east was mostly very cloudy with isolated bright spells. The south was partly sunny.

Fresh snow

From the start of the precipitation on Saturday evening until Monday afternoon, the following amounts of snow fell above 2000 m:

- Western part of the northern flank of the Alps excluding the Prealps, Valais excluding the Saastal and Simplon regions, also Val Bedretto: 20 to 30 cm, but as much as 40 cm in Lower Valais
- Western Prealps, central part of the northern flank of the Alps, Glarus Alps, Saastal, Simplon region, rest of the Gotthard region: 10 to 20 cm
- Rest of the eastern part of the northern flank of the Alps, northern Grisons, central Grisons excluding the Gotthard region: 5 to 10 cm
- Elsewhere: a few centimetres, remaining dry in the far south

Temperature

At midday at 2000 m: between -5 °C in the north and -2 °C in the south

Wind

Light to moderate from the west to northwest

Weather forecast through Tuesday, 18.12.2018

Monday night will be cloudy at first in the east and a little more snow will fall. The snowfall level will be approximately 800 m.

During the day, the weather in the mountains will be sunny. As the afternoon progresses, high-altitude cloudbanks will build up in the west.

Fresh snow

Eastern part of the northern flank of the Alps, Grisons: 1 to 5 cm

Temperature

At midday at 2000 m: between +3 °C in the west and -1 °C in the east

Wind

Light to moderate from the southwest to west, with foehn tendency in the afternoon

Outlook through Thursday, 20.12.2018**Wednesday**

As a consequence of the foehn tendency, it will remain partly sunny at first in the east. The west will be mostly cloudy. Precipitation will arrive here in the morning and move eastwards during the day. The snowfall level will be between 900 and 1200 m. The avalanche danger will decrease a little.

Thursday

The north will be mostly very cloudy and some snow will fall at times above approximately 900 m. In the south there will be variable cloud cover with sunny spells and only a little precipitation. The snowfall level will be between 1000 m in the north and 600 m in the south. The avalanche danger may increase a little in the east, but it will not change significantly in the west and south.