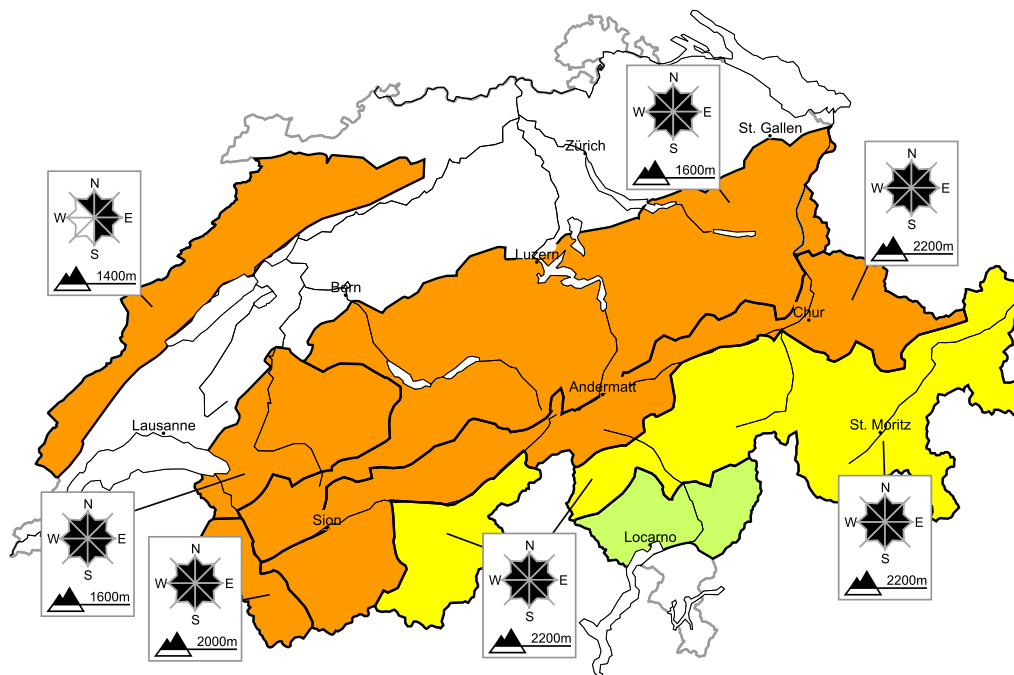


Outside marked and open pistes a critical avalanche situation will be encountered over a wide area

Edition: 29.1.2019, 08:00 / Next update: 29.1.2019, 17:00

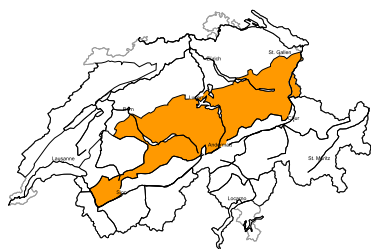
Avalanche danger

updated on 29.1.2019, 08:00



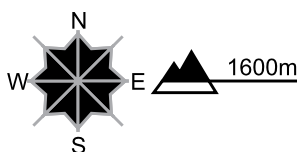
region A

Level 3, considerable



Fresh snow

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

The fresh snow of the last few days is lying on the unfavourable surface of an old snowpack. Wind slabs are covered with fresh snow and therefore barely recognisable. They are prone to triggering. Even single winter sport participants can release avalanches, including dangerously large ones. Remotely triggered and natural avalanches are possible. Ski touring and other off-piste activities, including snowshoe hiking, call for experience in the assessment of avalanche danger and restraint.

Danger levels

1 low

2 moderate

3 consider.

4 high

5 very high



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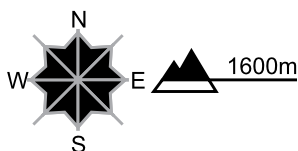
region B

Level 3, considerable



Fresh snow, old snow

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

The fresh snow of the last few days is lying on the unfavourable surface of an old snowpack. Wind slabs are covered with fresh snow and therefore barely recognisable. They are prone to triggering. Even single winter sport participants can release avalanches. Remotely triggered and natural avalanches are possible.

In isolated cases avalanches can penetrate deep layers and reach dangerously large size. This applies in particular on steep shady slopes in areas close to the tree line.

Ski touring and other off-piste activities, including snowshoe hiking, call for experience in the assessment of avalanche danger and restraint.

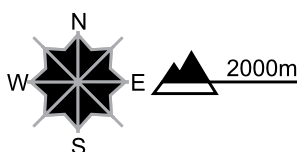
region C

Level 3, considerable



Fresh snow

Avalanche prone locations



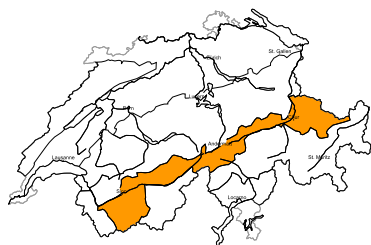
Danger description

The fresh snow of the last few days is lying on the unfavourable surface of an old snowpack. Wind slabs are covered with fresh snow and therefore barely recognisable. They are prone to triggering. Even single winter sport participants can release avalanches, including dangerously large ones. Remotely triggered avalanches are possible.

Ski touring and other off-piste activities, including snowshoe hiking, call for experience in the assessment of avalanche danger and restraint.

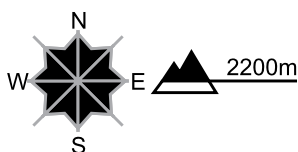
region D

Level 3, considerable



Wind slabs

Avalanche prone locations



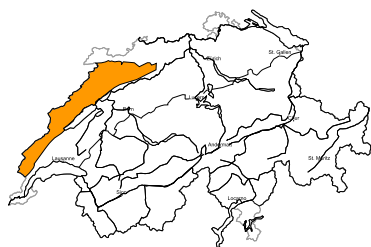
Danger description

Wind slabs are lying on the unfavourable surface of an old snowpack. They are covered with fresh snow in some cases and therefore difficult to recognise. The wind slabs can be released even by a single winter sport participant. They are to be avoided in steep terrain.

Ski touring calls for experience in the assessment of avalanche danger and careful route selection. Whumpfung sounds and the formation of shooting cracks when stepping on the snowpack serve as an alarm indicating the danger.

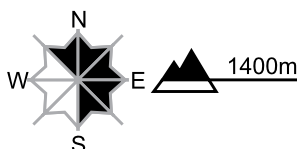
region E

Level 3, considerable



Wind slabs

Avalanche prone locations

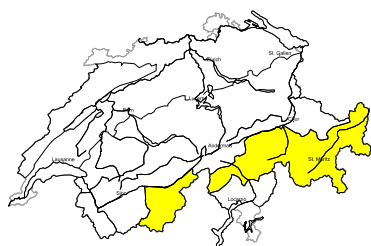


Danger description

Somewhat older wind slabs are to be found in particular in gullies and bowls, and behind abrupt changes in the terrain. They are covered with fresh snow in some cases and therefore difficult to recognise. The wind slabs can be released easily. They are to be avoided in steep terrain.

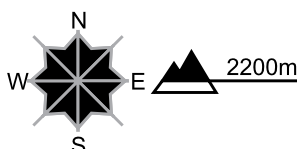
region F

Level 2, moderate



Wind slabs

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

Fresh and somewhat older wind slabs can be released easily. They are mostly small. The number and size of avalanche prone locations will increase with altitude. The wind slabs are to be bypassed in steep terrain. Backcountry touring and other off-piste activities call for careful route selection.

region G

Level 1, low



Wind slabs

Individual avalanche prone locations are to be found especially on extremely steep slopes. The small wind slabs are to be avoided in terrain where there is a danger of falling.

Snowpack and weather

updated on 28.1.2019, 17:00

Snowpack

Over a wide area, the fresh snow and snow drift accumulations of recent days are lying on a soft old snow surface consisting of faceted snow crystals and, in some cases, on surface hoar as well. This snow is very prone to triggering, even at intermediate altitudes in some cases.

In the Vaud and Fribourg Alps and the neighbouring regions of the Bernese Oberland, in particular close to the tree line, in isolated cases avalanches can also penetrate relatively deep layers and reach a dangerously large size. In the northern and eastern regions with a lot of snow, the bonding of the middle and deep layers of the snowpack is favourable. Below 2200 to 2500 m, individual gliding avalanches can occur on south facing slopes in particular. In the northern and eastern regions with a lot of snow, these can reach a large size.

Observed weather on Monday, 28.01.2019

During the night, precipitation fell over a wide area. It was very heavy in the west. The snowfall level dropped into the valleys. During the day, the remaining snow showers were only isolated, and there were bright spells in southern Valais and Upper Engadine. It was quite sunny in the south.

Fresh snow

In the period from the start of precipitation on Sunday until Monday afternoon, the following amounts of snow fell:

- Extreme west of Lower Valais, northern Alpine ridge west of Les Diablerets: 40 to 70 cm
- Rest of the northern flank of the Alps excluding both the Hasli valleys and the Gotthard region, rest of western Lower Valais: 20 to 40 cm
- Rest of Valais excluding both the Visp valleys and the Simplon region, Hasli valleys, Gotthard region, Jura: 10 to 20 cm
- Less elsewhere

Temperature

At midday at 2000 m: between -11 °C in the north and -7 °C in the south

Wind

From the west, but northerly in Grisons and on the main Alpine ridge and to the south

- Strong at times during the night, except in southern Lower Valais
- Remaining occasionally strong at elevated altitudes on the main Alpine ridge from the Simplon region to Engadine, and in the eastern regions, otherwise light to moderate

Weather forecast through Tuesday, 29.01.2019

During the night snow will fall over a wide area, even in the valleys. After eventually clearing the northern flank of the Alps in the morning, the snowfall will cease and the weather will become quite sunny for a time from the west. Southern Valais, the southern flank of the Alps and Engadine will be mostly sunny.

Fresh snow

From Monday evening until the precipitation ceases on Tuesday morning, the following amounts of snow will fall:

- Regions north of a line between the Rhone and Rhine, Prättigau: 10 to 20 cm, but up to 30 cm from the eastern Bernese Oberland to the Urn Alps
- Rest of western Lower Valais, southern Goms, rest of the Gotthard region, northern Lower Engadine, Jura: 5 bis 10 cm; further south, smaller amounts or remaining dry

Temperature

At midday at 2000 m: about -10 °C

Wind

- During the night moderate, but initially remaining strong from the northwest in the eastern regions and the south
- Light to moderate during the day, veering southwesterly

Outlook through Thursday, 31.01.2019

Wednesday

Wednesday will be mostly cloudy. Approximately 10 to 20 cm of snow will fall down to low altitudes in the far west, but smaller amounts will fall elsewhere. In the east, the foehn wind will give rise to bright spells in the morning and it will remain largely dry until the afternoon. The avalanche danger will not change significantly.

Thursday

The weather will be changeable with sunny intervals, but in some localities a little snow will fall down to low altitudes. The south will become fairly sunny as the day progresses. The avalanche danger will decrease slowly.