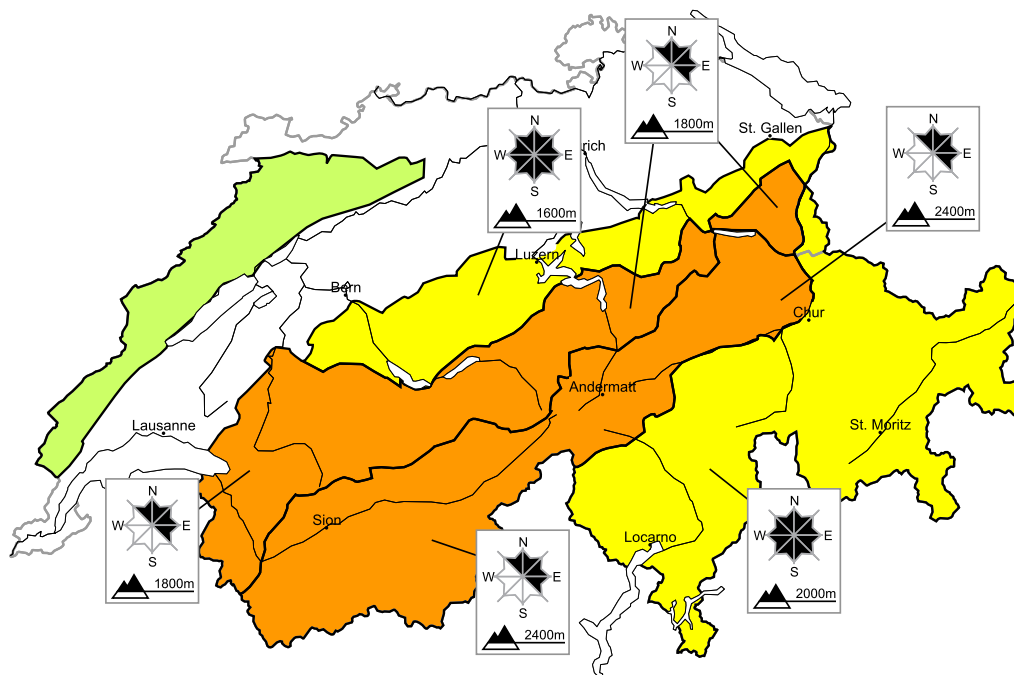


Considerable avalanche danger will be encountered over a wide area. Wind slabs and weakly bonded old snow require caution

Edition: 9.2.2019, 08:00 / Next update: 9.2.2019, 17:00

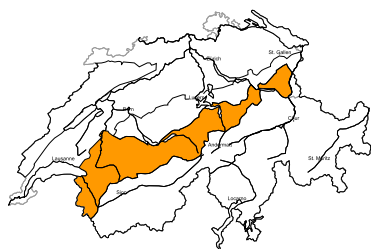
Avalanche danger

updated on 9.2.2019, 08:00



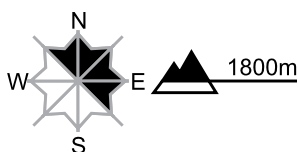
region A

Level 3, considerable



Wind slabs, old snow

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

As a consequence of a strong to storm force westerly wind, avalanche prone wind slabs will form. These are to be avoided in steep terrain.

Additionally avalanches can also be released in the old snowpack and reach dangerously large size. These avalanche prone locations are to be found in particular at transitions from a shallow to a deep snowpack and in areas close to the tree line. Isolated whumpfung sounds can indicate the danger.

Ski touring and other off-piste activities, including snowshoe hiking, call for defensive route selection.

Gliding avalanches

In particular on very steep sunny slopes medium-sized and, in isolated cases, large gliding avalanches are possible below approximately 2200 m. Caution is to be exercised in areas with glide cracks.

Danger levels

1 low

2 moderate

3 consider.

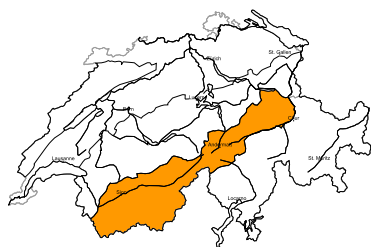
4 high

 5 very high

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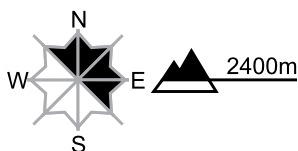
region B

Level 3, considerable



Wind slabs, old snow

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

As a consequence of a strong to storm force westerly wind, avalanche prone wind slabs will form. These are to be avoided in steep terrain.

Additionally avalanches can also be released in the old snowpack and reach dangerously large size. These avalanche prone locations are to be found in particular at transitions from a shallow to a deep snowpack and in areas where the snow cover is rather shallow. Isolated whumpfung sounds can indicate the danger.

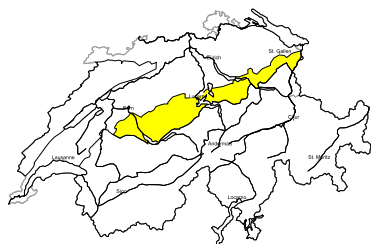
Ski touring and other off-piste activities, including snowshoe hiking, call for defensive route selection.

Gliding avalanches

In particular on very steep sunny slopes medium-sized and, in isolated cases, large gliding avalanches are possible below approximately 2200 m. Caution is to be exercised in areas with glide cracks.

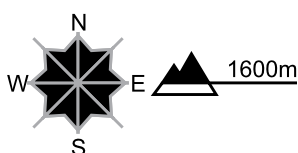
region C

Level 2, moderate



Wind slabs, old snow

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

As a consequence of a strong westerly wind, mostly small wind slabs will form. They can be released easily.

Weak layers exist in the top section of the snowpack in particular in areas close to the tree line. Avalanches can in some places be released by small loads. These can reach dangerously large size. The avalanche prone locations are to be found in particular at transitions from a shallow to a deep snowpack and in areas where the snow cover is rather shallow. Isolated whumpfung sounds can indicate the danger.

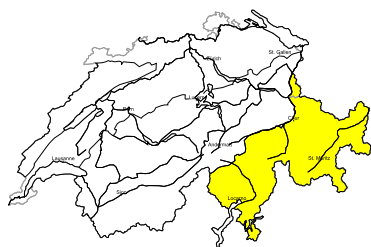
Ski touring and other off-piste activities, including snowshoe hiking, call for defensive route selection.

Gliding avalanches

In particular on very steep sunny slopes medium-sized and, in isolated cases, large gliding avalanches are possible below approximately 2200 m. Caution is to be exercised in areas with glide cracks.

region D

Level 2, moderate



Old snow

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

Avalanches can be released in near-surface layers, even by small loads in isolated cases. The avalanche prone locations are to be found especially at transitions from a shallow to a deep snowpack and in areas where the snow cover is rather shallow.

At elevated altitudes mostly small wind slabs will form. They are in some cases prone to triggering. In high Alpine regions the avalanche prone locations are more prevalent and larger.

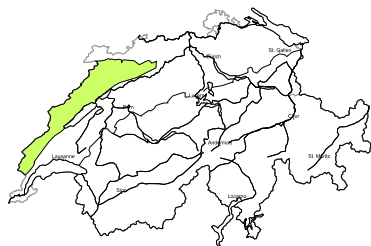
Careful route selection is recommended.

Gliding avalanches

Liechtenstein, northern and central Grisons: In particular on very steep sunny slopes medium-sized and, in isolated cases, large gliding avalanches are possible below approximately 2200 m. Caution is to be exercised in areas with glide cracks.

region E

Level 1, low



Dry avalanches

The older wind slabs can in isolated cases be released, in particular by large loads. They are to be evaluated with care and prudence in particular in extremely steep terrain. Apart from the danger of being buried, restraint should be exercised as well in view of the danger of avalanches sweeping people along and giving rise to falls.

Gliding avalanches

In particular on very steep sunny slopes small to medium-sized gliding avalanches are possible. Caution is to be exercised in areas with glide cracks.

Snowpack and weather

updated on 8.2.2019, 17:00

Snowpack

Predominantly small-sized snowdrift accumulations at high altitudes are easily triggered in some places. These drifted masses are continuing to grow further as a result of strong to storm-velocity winds.

In the uppermost section of the snow cover there are softened, expansively metamorphosed (faceted), weak layers evident in some places. Nevertheless, reports of avalanche releases from these layers from the northern regions of the western sector of the northern flank of the Alps, from the Prealps, from Grisons and from the Lower Valais have diminished. These layers continue to be particularly prone to triggering on the northern flank of the Alps in an altitude band around the timberline.

Below approximately 2200 m, glide-snow avalanches are possible on sunny slopes more than anywhere else. In the regions of the north and the east where snowfall has been heaviest, these releases can attain great magnitude.

Observed weather on Friday, 08.02.2019

On Thursday night, the light precipitation came to an end. During the daytime on Friday it was sunny for the most part.

Fresh snow

Between Thursday midday and Friday morning, the following amounts of fresh snow were registered above 1700 m:

- Lower Valais, northern flank of the Alps: 5 to 15 cm
- in the other regions of Switzerland, only a few centimetres, or else it remained dry.

Temperature

At midday at 2000 m, between 0 °C in the Valais and southern regions and -3 °C in the remaining regions of Switzerland.

Wind

- In the Jura region, in the Valais, on the northern flank of the Alps and in the central sector of the Main Alpine Ridge, winds were blowing at predominantly moderate strength from westerly directions;
- in the other regions, winds were light.

Weather forecast through Saturday, 09.02.2019

During the night, skies will be heavily overcast and a small amount of intermittent snowfall is expected on the northern flank of the Alps and in the western regions. During the daytime, it will be intermittently sunny in all regions of Switzerland.

Fresh snow

Between Friday evening and Saturday morning, the following amounts of fresh snow are anticipated above 1500 m:

- western Lower Valais, northern flank of the Alps: only a few centimetres;
- in the other regions of Switzerland it will remain dry.

Temperature

At midday at 2000 m, between -4 °C in northern regions and -2 °C in southern regions.

Wind

During the night in the Jura region, in the Valais and on the northern flank of the Alps, winds will be stormy in some places; during the daytime and in the remaining regions of Switzerland, predominantly strong-velocity westerly winds will prevail at high altitudes.

Outlook through Monday, 11.02.2019

On Sunday in eastern regions, skies will still be bright in the early morning as a result of foehn conditions, in the other regions skies will be heavily overcast. During the course of the day, snowfall will set in from the west. In the furthestmost western regions, 10 to 20 cm of fresh snow is anticipated. A strong to storm-strength southwesterly wind will be blowing. On Monday, snowfall will prevail over widespread areas and be persistent. In the Valais, on the northern flank of the Alps and in northern Grisons, 30 to 50 cm of fresh snow is expected by evening. The winds will be blowing at strong to storm strength from westerly to northwesterly directions.

Starting on Sunday evening, avalanche danger will increase over widespread areas, significantly so in the major areas of precipitation.