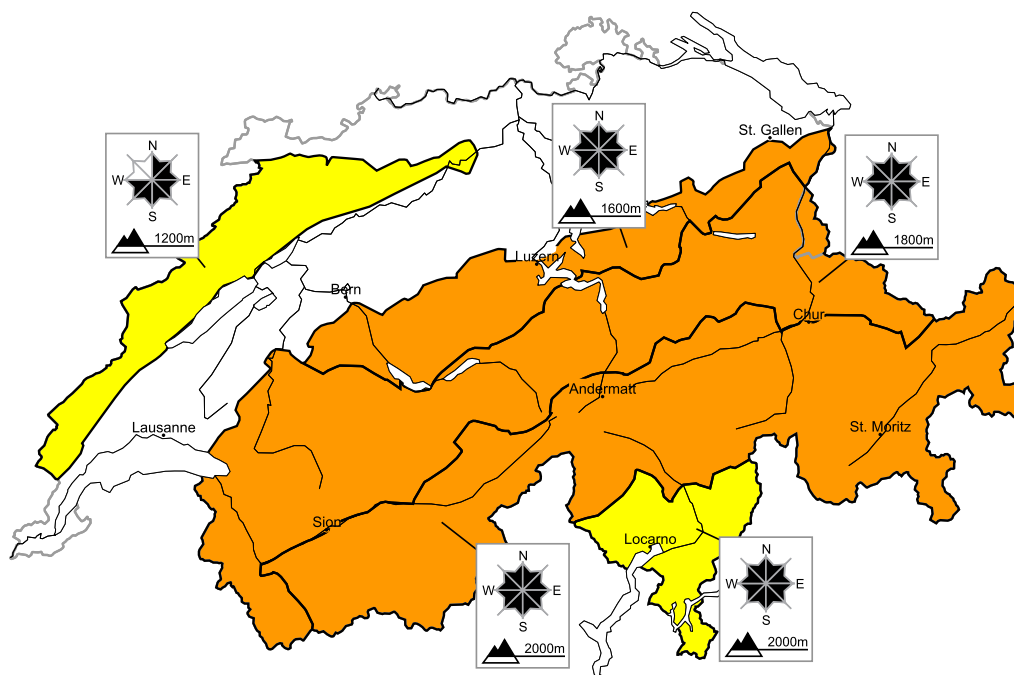


# For those venturing off piste a precarious avalanche situation will be encountered over a wide area

Edition: 12.2.2019, 08:00 / Next update: 12.2.2019, 17:00

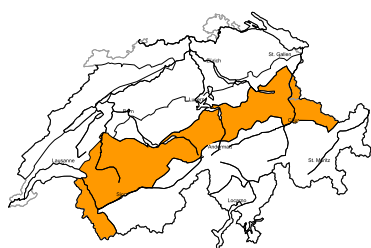
## Avalanche danger

updated on 12.2.2019, 08:00



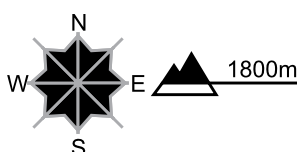
region A

Level 3, considerable



### Fresh snow and snow drifts, old snow

#### Avalanche prone locations



#### Danger description

Much of the fresh and wind-drifted snow of the last two days are lying on the unfavourable surface of an old snowpack on shady slopes. Avalanches can additionally in some places be released in deeper layers also. These avalanche prone locations are to be found especially on rather lightly snow-covered west, north and east facing slopes and in areas close to the tree line. Even single winter sport participants can release avalanches easily. As a consequence of the solar radiation, the likelihood of avalanches being released will increase a little especially on very steep south facing slopes. Snow sport activities outside marked and open pistes call for extensive experience and restraint.

### Gliding avalanches

In particular on very steep south facing slopes medium-sized and, in isolated cases, large gliding avalanches are possible below approximately 2400 m. Caution is to be exercised in areas with glide cracks.

Danger levels

1 low

2 moderate

3 consider.

4 high

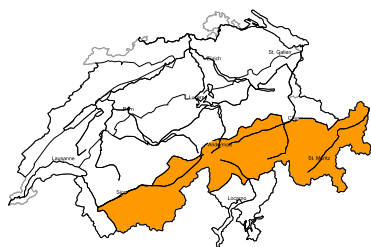
5 very high



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Avalanche Research SLF  
www.slf.ch

**region B**

**Level 3, considerable**



**Wind slabs, old snow**

**Avalanche prone locations**



**Danger description**

The sometimes large wind slabs of the last two days represent the main danger. Additionally in some places avalanches can be released in the old snowpack and reach dangerously large size. These avalanche prone locations are to be found especially on rather lightly snow-covered west, north and east facing slopes. Even single winter sport participants can release avalanches. As a consequence of the solar radiation, the likelihood of avalanches being released will increase a little especially on very steep south facing slopes. Snow sport activities outside marked and open pistes call for experience in the assessment of avalanche danger.

**Gliding avalanches**

In particular on very steep south facing slopes medium-sized and, in isolated cases, large gliding avalanches are possible below approximately 2400 m. Caution is to be exercised in areas with glide cracks.

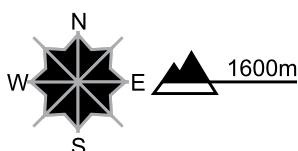
**region C**

**Level 3, considerable**



**Wind slabs, old snow**

**Avalanche prone locations**



**Danger description**

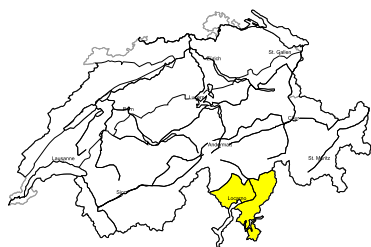
The sometimes large wind slabs of the last two days can be released easily, even by a single winter sport participant,. Additionally in some places avalanches can also be triggered in the old snowpack and reach medium size. These avalanche prone locations are to be found especially on rather lightly snow-covered west, north and east facing slopes and in areas close to the tree line. Ski touring and other off-piste activities, including snowshoe hiking, call for defensive route selection.

**Gliding avalanches**

In particular on very steep south facing slopes medium-sized and, in isolated cases, large gliding avalanches are possible below approximately 2400 m. Caution is to be exercised in areas with glide cracks.

**region D**

**Level 2, moderate**



**Wind slabs**

**Avalanche prone locations**



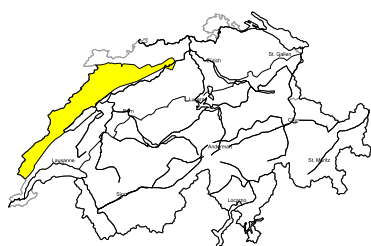
**Danger description**

As a consequence of a sometimes strong wind, mostly small wind slabs formed. These are to be avoided especially in steep terrain. Avalanches can be released, even by a single winter sport participant, but they will be small in most cases.

Backcountry touring and other off-piste activities call for careful route selection.

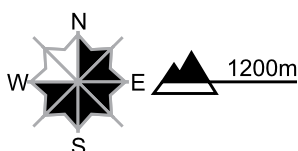
**region E**

**Level 2, moderate**



**Wind slabs**

**Avalanche prone locations**



**Danger description**

The clearly visible wind slabs of the last two days represent the main danger. They are to be evaluated with care and prudence especially in very 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. Careful route selection is advisable.

**Gliding avalanches**

More small and, in isolated cases, medium-sized gliding avalanches are possible. Caution is to be exercised in areas with glide cracks.



## Snowpack and weather

updated on 11.2.2019, 17:00

### Snowpack

Fresh snow and strong winds from the southwest, later from the northwest, gave rise to extensive snow drift accumulations in many places on Sunday and Monday. These will remain prone to triggering on Tuesday as well. In the middle of the snowpack, faceted, soft weak layers exist in some instances. In some places, avalanches can be released in these layers. These avalanche prone locations are to be found in particular on the northern flank of the Alps in the altitude zone around the tree line, and in some instances in southern Valais and Grisons. Below approximately 2400 m, gliding avalanches can still occur on very steep 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, 11.02.2019

To the north of the main Alpine ridge it was mostly very cloudy. Snow fell even at low altitudes. South of the main Alpine ridge a little snow fell during the night. During the day there was a northerly wind and it was quite sunny in central and southern Ticino in particular.

#### Fresh snow

From Sunday afternoon until Monday afternoon the following amounts of snow fell above 1200 m:

- Extreme west of Lower Valais, northern Alpine ridge west of the Jungfrau: 30 to 50 cm
- Remaining parts of both the northern flank of the Alps and Valais, Val Bedretto, northern Grisons, Samnaun: 20 to 40 cm
- Central Grisons, Engadine excluding Samnaun, northern Ticino: 10 to 20 cm
- Elsewhere: 5 to 10 cm

#### Temperature

At midday at 2000 m: about -9 °C

#### Wind

- During the night moderate to strong, occasionally storm force, from the west to northwest
- During the day moderate to strong from the northwest, but in the south moderate from the north

### Weather forecast through Tuesday, 12.02.2019

During the night a little more snow will fall in the north and east, even at low altitudes. During the day the west and south will be quite sunny. The east will remain cloudy at first before becoming partly sunny.

#### Fresh snow

Central and eastern parts of the northern flank of the Alps, northern Grisons, Samnaun: 5 bis 10 cm; elsewhere mostly dry

#### Temperature

At midday at 2000 m: between -5 °C in the west and south, and -9 °C in the northeast

#### Wind

Mostly moderate, but strong at elevated altitudes and on the southern flank of the Alps, from the north

### Outlook through Thursday, 14.02.2019

On each of the next two days it will be sunny in the mountains. It will become significantly warmer. The danger of dry avalanches will decrease. On very steep sun-exposed slopes in particular, an increasing number of moist snow slides and gliding avalanches are to be expected as a consequence of the warming.