Avalanche bulletin for Saturday, 16 February 2019

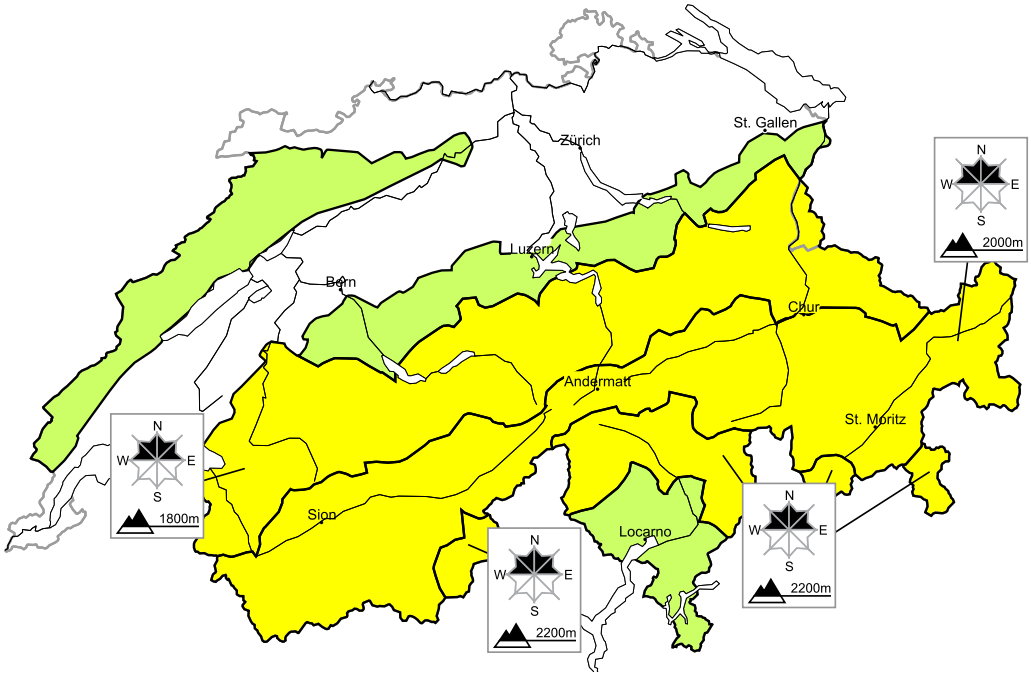
16.2.2019, 07:25

A generally favourable avalanche situation will prevail

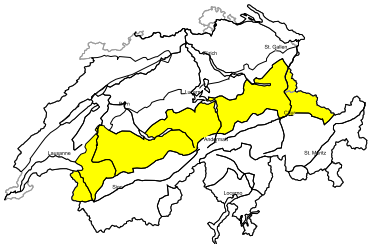
Edition: 16.2.2019, 08:00 / Next update: 16.2.2019, 17:00

Avalanche danger

updated on 16.2.2019, 08:00

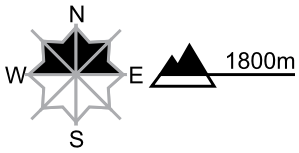


region A — Level 2, moderate



Old snow

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

Faceted weak layers exist in the snowpack. In some places avalanches can be released in the old snowpack and reach medium size. The avalanche prone locations are to be found in particular on little-used, rather lightly snow-covered slopes and in areas close to the tree line.

Careful route selection is recommended.

Gliding avalanches

As a consequence of warming during the day and solar radiation gliding avalanches are to be expected, even large ones. This applies in particular on very steep sunny slopes below approximately 2400 m. Individual gliding avalanches can also be released in the night or in the morning. Caution is to be exercised in areas with glide cracks.
In addition as the day progresses on west, south and east facing slopes, individual mostly small wet avalanches are possible.

Danger levels 1 low | 2 moderate | 3 consider. | 4 high | 5 very high

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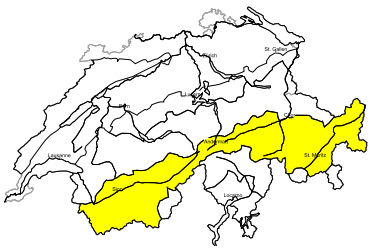
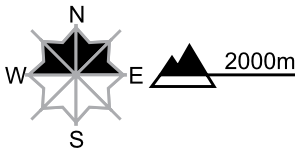
region B — Level 2, moderate



Old snow

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

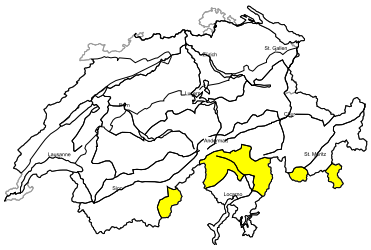
Faceted weak layers exist in the snowpack. In some places avalanches can be released in the old snowpack and reach medium size. The avalanche prone locations are to be found in particular on little-used, rather lightly snow-covered slopes and in areas close to the tree line.

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

Gliding avalanches

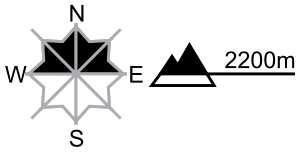
As a consequence of warming during the day and solar radiation gliding avalanches are to be expected, even large ones. This applies in particular on very steep sunny slopes below approximately 2400 m. Individual gliding avalanches can also be released in the night or in the morning. Caution is to be exercised in areas with glide cracks.
In addition as the day progresses on west, south and east facing slopes, individual mostly small wet avalanches are possible.

region C — Level 2, moderate



Dry avalanches

Avalanche prone locations



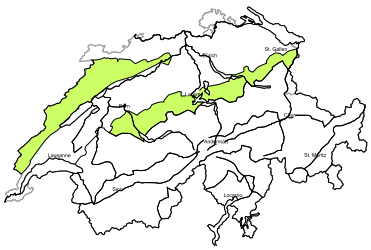
Danger description

The older wind slabs can especially at their margins still occasionally be released. They are to be evaluated with care and prudence especially in very steep terrain. The avalanche prone locations are to be found in particular at transitions from a shallow to a deep snowpack, when entering gullies and bowls for example.
Careful route selection is recommended.

Wet avalanches as day progresses

As a consequence of warming during the day and solar radiation mostly small wet avalanches are to be expected. These avalanche prone locations are to be found in particular on very steep east, south and west facing slopes below approximately 2400 m.

region D — Level 1, low



Gliding avalanches, Wet avalanches as day progresses

As a consequence of warming during the day and solar radiation small and, in isolated cases, medium-sized wet and gliding avalanches are to be expected. Caution is to be exercised in areas with glide cracks.

Dry avalanches

Individual avalanche prone locations are to be found in particular on extremely steep shady slopes. Restraint should be exercised because avalanches can sweep people along and give rise to falls.

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region E

Level 1, low

Dry avalanches

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

Wet avalanches as day progresses

As a consequence of warming during the day and solar radiation mostly small wet avalanches are to be expected. These avalanche prone locations are to be found in particular on very steep west, south and east facing slopes.

Snowpack and weather

updated on 15.2.2019, 17:00

Snowpack

In the middle section of the snow cover there are expansively metamorphosed (faceted) and softened weak layers evident particularly on the northern flank of the Alps, also in some spots of the Valais and in Grisons. These layers are prone to triggering from place to place, particularly in spots where the snow is relatively shallow on shady slopes and in the vicinity of the timberline edges.
In addition, as a consequence of the daytime warming and solar radiation cycle, moist-snow avalanches can be expected on very steep, sunny slopes. Particularly below approximately 2400 m on steep, grass-covered sunny slopes, glide-snow avalanches are possible at any time of day or night. In the regions of the north and the east where recent snowfall has been heaviest, these releases can grow to large size.
On steep north-facing slopes the snowpack surface above approximately 1000 m is frequently still powdery. On very steep south-facing slopes below approximately 2400 m, a crust capable of bearing loads forms during the nocturnal hours when skies are clear; on east and west-facing slopes, a melt-freeze crust forms.

Observed weather on Friday, 15.02.2019

Following a night of clear skies, it was sunny.

Fresh snow
-

Temperature
At midday at 2000 m, +7 °C.

Wind
Winds were predominantly light, blowing from northerly directions.

Weather forecast through Saturday, 16.02.2019

Following a night of clear skies, it will be sunny and very mild during the daytime.

Fresh snow
-

Temperature
At midday at 2000 m, +6 °C.

Wind
Wind will be light.

Outlook through Monday, 18.02.2019

It is will sunny and very mild. The zero-degree level on Sunday will be at approximately 3000 m, on Monday at about 2700 m.
The danger of dry-snow avalanches will continue to decrease. The danger of wet-snow and glide-snow avalanches will increase on sunny slopes below approximately 2500 m during the course of each day. Glide-snow avalanches can also grow to large size.