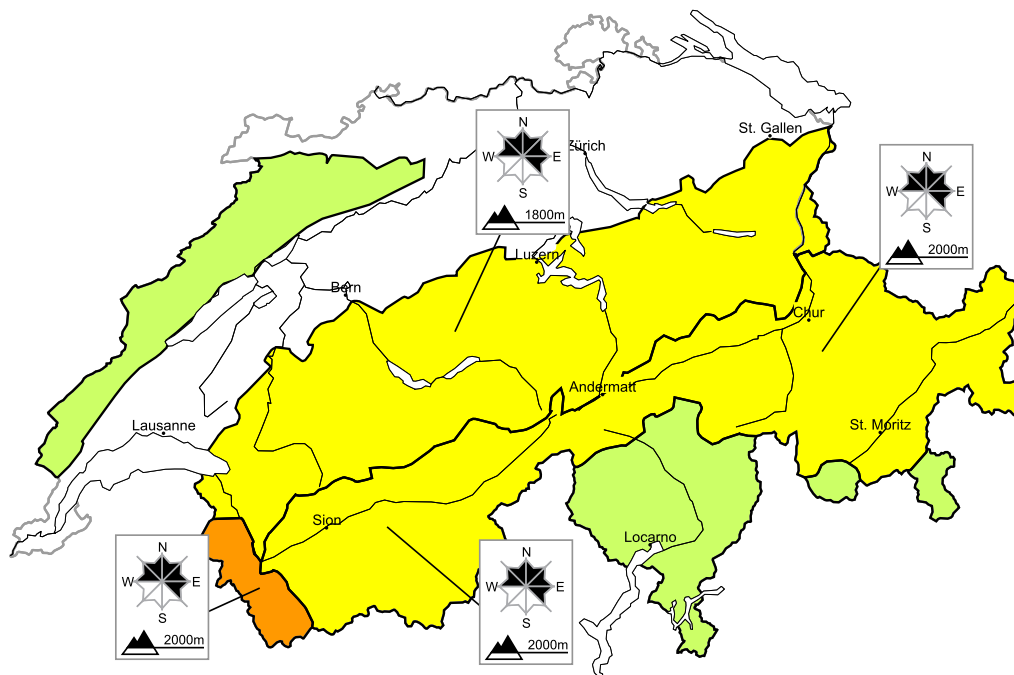


# The foehn wind will transport the loosely bonded old snow. Wind slabs require caution

Edition: 6.3.2019, 08:00 / Next update: 6.3.2019, 17:00

## Avalanche danger

updated on 6.3.2019, 08:00



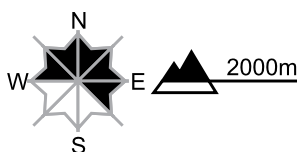
region A

Level 3, considerable



### Wind slabs

#### Avalanche prone locations



#### Danger description

The fresh snow and wind slabs of Monday are in some cases still prone to triggering. As a consequence of a strong foehn wind, further wind slabs will form as the day progresses. They are to be found also areas not adjacent to ridgelines. The fresh and somewhat older wind slabs can be released by a single winter sport participant. They are to be avoided in steep terrain. Avalanches can reach medium size.

Backcountry touring calls for experience in the assessment of avalanche danger.

### Gliding avalanches

As a consequence of warming individual gliding avalanches are possible as the day progresses, even large ones. This applies in particular on steep east, south and west facing slopes below approximately 2600 m as well as on steep north facing slopes below approximately 2000 m. Caution is to be exercised in areas with glide cracks.

Danger levels

1 low

2 moderate

3 consider.

4 high

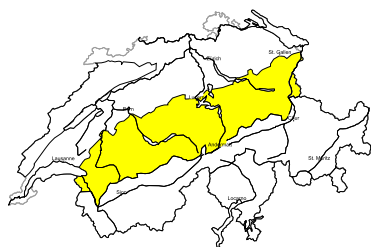
5 very high



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Avalanche Research SLF  
www.slf.ch

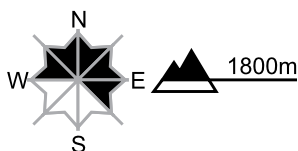
**region B**

**Level 2, moderate**



**Wind slabs**

**Avalanche prone locations**



**Danger description**

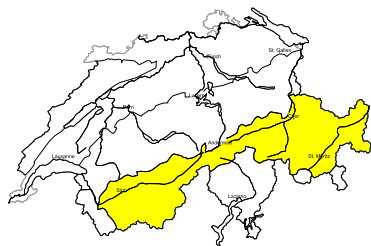
The wind slabs of Monday are in some cases still prone to triggering. As a consequence of a strong foehn wind, further wind slabs will form as the day progresses. They are to be found also areas not adjacent to ridgelines. The fresh and somewhat older wind slabs are to be evaluated with care and prudence. Avalanches can reach medium size in isolated cases. The number and size of avalanche prone locations will increase as the day progresses. Careful route selection is required.

**Gliding avalanches**

As a consequence of warming individual gliding avalanches are possible as the day progresses, even large ones. This applies in particular on steep east, south and west facing slopes below approximately 2600 m as well as on steep north facing slopes below approximately 2000 m. Caution is to be exercised in areas with glide cracks.

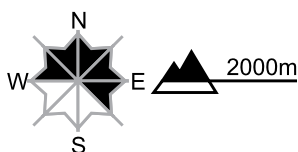
**region C**

**Level 2, moderate**



**Wind slabs**

**Avalanche prone locations**



**Danger description**

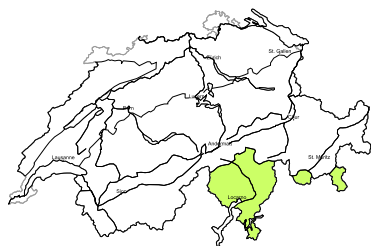
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**Gliding avalanches**

As a consequence of warming individual gliding avalanches are possible as the day progresses, even large ones. This applies in particular on steep east, south and west facing slopes below approximately 2600 m as well as on steep north facing slopes below approximately 2000 m. Caution is to be exercised in areas with glide cracks.

**region D**

**Level 1, low**

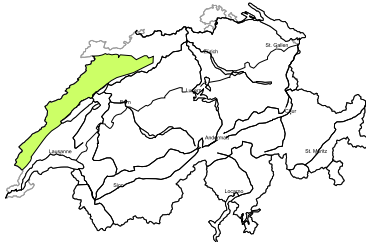


**Wind slabs**

In some localities small wind slabs formed. These represent the main danger. The wind slabs are to be evaluated with care and prudence in extreme terrain. Apart from the danger of being buried, restraint should be exercised in particular in view of the danger of avalanches sweeping people along and giving rise to falls.

**region E**

**Level 1, low**



**Wind slabs**

Wind slabs are to be found in particular in gullies and bowls, and behind abrupt changes in the terrain. These are small. They are to be evaluated with care and prudence in extreme terrain. Apart from the danger of being buried, restraint should be exercised in particular in view of the danger of avalanches sweeping people along and giving rise to falls.

## Snowpack and weather

updated on 5.3.2019, 17:00

### Snowpack

The south foehn will transport loosely bonded old snow during the day on Wednesday. Snow drift accumulations will form even in areas that are not adjacent to ridgelines. Older snow drift accumulations formed by the westerly wind at the beginning of the week are still prone to triggering in some instances.

In view of the rising temperatures, individual gliding avalanches can occur. These can reach a large size.

### Observed weather on Tuesday, 05.03.2019

On Monday night the snowfall came to an end in the north as well. Towards the end of the precipitation period, the snowfall level was approximately 1200 m. In the south the night skies were partly clear. During the day the weather was mostly sunny.

#### Fresh snow

In the period until Monday afternoon, the following amounts of snow fell above 1800 m:

- Extreme west of Lower Valais: approximately 30 cm
- Northern flank of the Alps, rest of northern and central Valais, Gotthard region, Prättigau: 10 to 20 cm
- Elsewhere: a few centimetres

#### Temperature

At midday at 2000 m: between -4 °C in the north and -1 °C in the south

#### Wind

Westerly wind:

- Strong during the night
- During the day moderate, but light in the east and south

### Weather forecast through Wednesday, 06.03.2019

As the south foehn picks up, the weather will be mostly sunny at first and mild in the north. In the afternoon cloud will build up from the south.

#### Fresh snow

-

#### Temperature

At midday at 2000 m: between +4 °C in the north and -2 °C in the south

#### Wind

Southwesterly wind:

- In the north, becoming stronger as the day progresses
- In the south, light, but moderate at elevated altitudes

In the northern Alpine valleys the foehn will steadily strengthen, becoming storm force at times in the afternoon.

**Outlook** through Friday, 08.03.2019**Thursday**

During the night snowfall will commence on the main Alpine ridge from the Matterhorn to the Bernina region and to the south. By Wednesday evening 30 to 50 cm of snow is expected there. The snowfall level will be 1100 m. In the north in the morning the storm force southwesterly wind and foehn will give rise to extremely mild and mostly dry weather. In the afternoon some snow will fall here as well. The snowfall level will be between 1000 m and 1500 m.

The danger of dry avalanches will increase significantly in the south, but only a little in the other regions. In view of the warm air, the danger of wet snow avalanches and gliding avalanches will already increase further on Wednesday night.

**Friday**

The snowfall in the south will cease during the night. With changeable weather and showers, it will be cold. It will become increasingly sunny in the south. The danger of dry avalanches will decrease a little in the south, but not change significantly in the north. The danger of gliding avalanches will decrease.