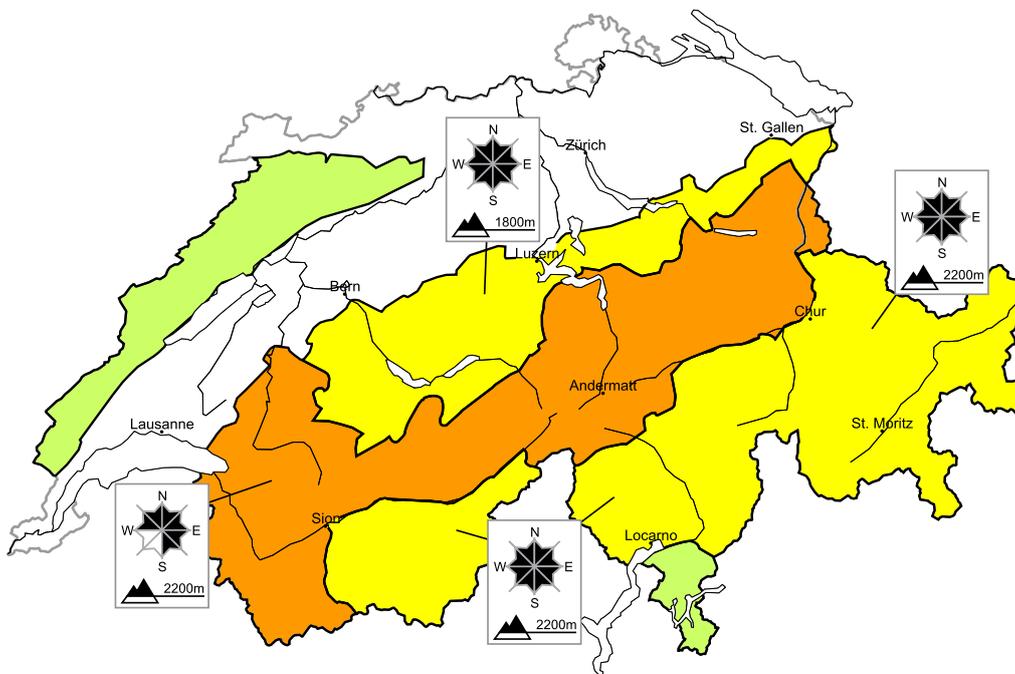


Considerable avalanche danger will be encountered over a wide area. Wind slabs require caution

Edition: 13.3.2019, 08:00 / Next update: 13.3.2019, 17:00

Avalanche danger

updated on 13.3.2019, 08:00



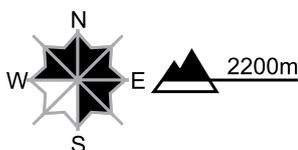
region A

Level 3, considerable



Wind slabs

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

The somewhat older wind slabs can be released by a single winter sport participant in some cases, especially at their margins. These avalanche prone locations are but are barely recognisable. The fresh wind slabs are rather small. These are to be avoided. Backcountry touring and other off-piste activities call for experience in the assessment of avalanche danger and careful route selection.

Danger levels

1 low

2 moderate

3 consider.

4 high

5 very high



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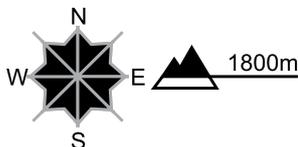
region B

Level 2, moderate



Wind slabs

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

The fresh and somewhat older wind slabs represent the main danger. They are to be evaluated with care and prudence in steep terrain. The avalanche prone locations are to be found in particular in gullies and bowls, and behind abrupt changes in the terrain. Backcountry touring and other off-piste activities call for careful route selection.

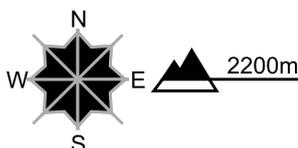
region C

Level 2, moderate



Wind slabs

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

The fresh and somewhat older wind slabs represent the main danger. These are to be evaluated with care and prudence in steep terrain. The avalanche prone locations are to be found in particular in gullies and bowls, and behind abrupt changes in the terrain,, also at a distance from ridgelines. Backcountry touring and other off-piste activities call for careful route selection.

region D

Level 1, low



Wind slabs

Individual avalanche prone locations are to be found 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.

region E

Level 1, low



In the vicinity of peaks only a little snow is lying. Individual avalanche prone locations are to be found in particular in extremely steep terrain. Restraint should be exercised because avalanches can sweep people along and give rise to falls.

Snowpack and weather

updated on 12.3.2019, 17:00

Snowpack

Over a wide area, the fresh snow and snow drift accumulations of recent days are lying on strong layers of old snow. An exception applies on north facing slopes sheltered from the wind and generally in areas with shallow snow cover, where layers of old snow are highly faceted and loosely bonded in some instances. Here in particular this week's snow drift accumulations remain prone to triggering. Weak boundaries between layers in the fresh snow and snow drift accumulations are becoming more stable. In the west during the day the fresh snow became moist up to high altitudes on east to south to west facing steep slopes.

Fresh snowfall and a strong wind on Wednesday will give rise to further rather small snow drift accumulations.

Observed weather on Tuesday, 12.03.2019

It was quite sunny over a wide area. There was a little precipitation during the day only in the Bernese Oberland and Upper Valais.

Fresh snow

On Monday night:

- Northern Valais, Goms, Northern Surselva, Glarus Alps, northern Grisons, northern Lower Engadine: 10 to 20 cm
- Elsewhere: smaller amounts or none

From Saturday morning until Tuesday morning the following amounts of snow fell above 2400 m:

- From the extreme west of Lower Valais via northern Valais and the Urn Alps to the Glarus Alps: 40 to 60 cm, but as much as 80 cm in northern Lower Valais
- Remaining parts of the northern Alpine ridge and of both Valais and the Gotthard region, northern Grisons, Silvretta, Samnaun: 20 to 40 cm
- Elsewhere: less than 20 cm, dry in the far south

Temperature

At midday at 2000 m: between -2 °C in the west and -6 °C in the east

Wind

- Gradually easing on Monday night
- During the day, light to moderate from the west

Weather forecast through Wednesday, 13.03.2019

On Tuesday evening the skies will become overcast from the west and light snowfall will commence above approximately 1000 m. On Wednesday in the north there will be variable cloud with bright spells and snow showers even at low altitudes. It will be fairly sunny in the south.

Fresh snow

In the period to Wednesday afternoon:

- Extreme west of Lower Valais, Vaud and Fribourg Alps, northern Alpine ridge: 10 to 20 cm
- Elsewhere over a wide area: 5 to 10 cm
- Southern flank of the Alps: remaining dry

Temperature

At midday at 2000 m: between -8 °C in the north and -6 °C in the south

Wind

From the west to northwest, moderate to strong in the mountains

Outlook through Friday, 15.03.2019

Each of the next two days will be very cloudy in the north, and precipitation will fall. It will be especially heavy and abundant on Thursday night in the extreme western parts of the northern flank of the Alps, on the northern Alpine ridge, in Valais, and from Prättigau to Samnaun. At elevated altitudes there will be a storm force northwesterly wind. The snowfall level will be below 1000 m on Thursday and rise to 1500 m to 1900 m on Friday. The avalanche danger will increase; on Thursday night in the regions exposed to heavier precipitation it is expected to reach "high" (level 4). The south will be fairly sunny on both days. The avalanche danger will not change significantly there.