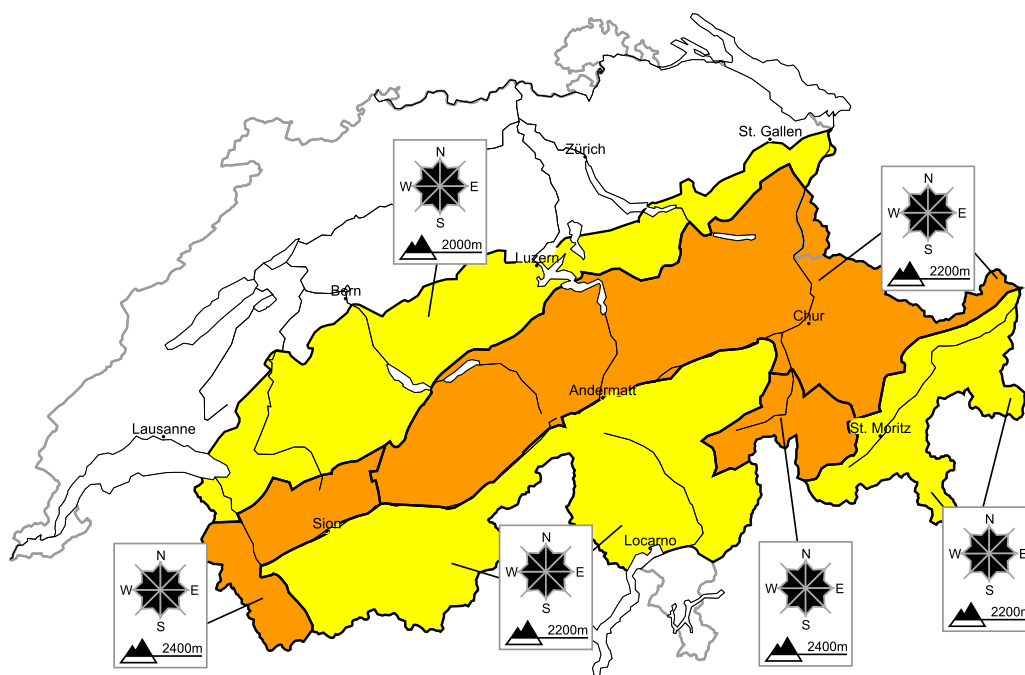


As a consequence of fresh snow and stormy weather a considerable avalanche danger will be encountered in some regions

Edition: 11.5.2019, 17:00 / Next update: 12.5.2019, 17:00

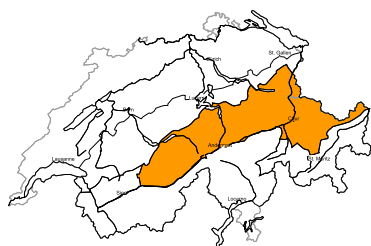
Avalanche danger

updated on 11.5.2019, 17:00



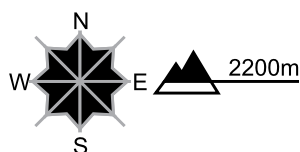
region A

Level 3, considerable



Fresh snow and snow drifts

Avalanche prone locations



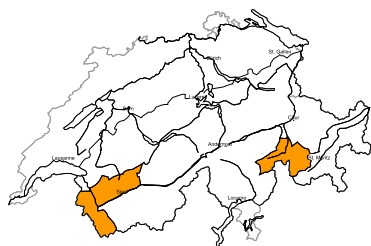
Danger description

The fresh snow and wind slabs are prone to triggering. Even single winter sport participants can release avalanches, including large ones. Avalanches can occur naturally as well.

Ski touring calls for experience in the assessment of avalanche danger and caution.

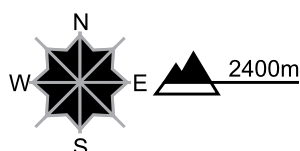
region B

Level 3, considerable



Wind slabs

Avalanche prone locations



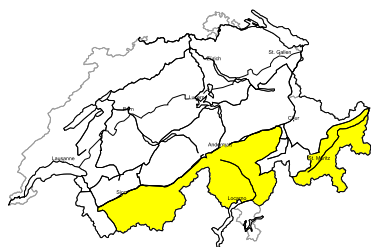
Danger description

The fresh wind slabs represent the main danger. They are prone to triggering. Single winter sport participants can release avalanches. These can in isolated cases reach large size.

Off-piste activities call for experience in the assessment of avalanche danger.

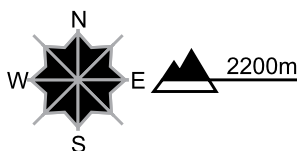
region C

Level 2, moderate



Wind slabs

Avalanche prone locations

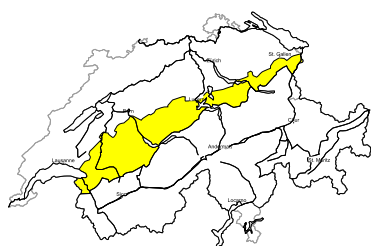


Danger description

The fresh wind slabs represent the main danger. They are in some cases quite large and prone to triggering. The fresh wind slabs are to be bypassed as far as possible. Avalanches can reach medium size. At elevated altitudes the prevalence and size of the avalanche prone locations will increase. Ski touring calls for careful route selection.

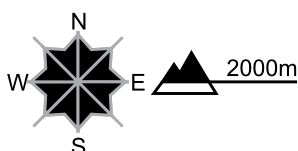
region D

Level 2, moderate



Fresh snow and snow drifts

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

As a consequence of fresh snow and a sometimes strong wind, sometimes avalanche prone wind slabs will form in all aspects. These are to be evaluated with care and prudence in steep terrain. Avalanches can reach medium size. At elevated altitudes the prevalence and size of the avalanche prone locations will increase. Backcountry touring calls for careful route selection.



Snowpack and weather

updated on 11.5.2019, 17:00

Snowpack

As a consequence of fresh snow and storm-strength northerly winds, snowdrift accumulations are forming which are prone to triggering. In the northern regions, these snowdrifts will be large-sized, in the other regions of Switzerland small-to-medium sized. At high altitudes and in high alpine regions, wintery conditions prevail.

At intermediate altitudes the wet old-snowpack is stabilising as a result of the descending temperatures. Wet-snow avalanches are no longer to be expected.

The Avalanche Warning Service currently has little information that has been collected in the field. For that reason, it is particularly important to evaluate each situation with great caution on-site.

Observed weather on Saturday, 11.05.2019

Following a night of predominantly overcast skies, there were a few bright intervals during the morning in the Valais and the Surselva more than anywhere else. In the other regions of Switzerland, skies were heavily overcast, accompanied by showers. The snowfall level lay at 2200 m and subsequently descended down to 1800 m in the northern regions during the afternoon.

Fresh snow

Above 2400 m:

- in the furthest western part of Lower Valais and from central Ticino over Moesano into Bergell: 10 to 20 cm; as much as 30 cm from place to place;
- northern Lower Valais, Vaud Alps and from place to place in the other sectors of the northern flank of the Alps: 5 to 10 cm;
- remaining regions of Switzerland: only a few centimetres.

Temperature

At midday at 2000 m, between +1 °C in the northern regions and +4 °C in the southern regions.

Wind

Winds were southwesterly:

- in the northern regions and the Valais, blowing at moderate to strong velocity;
- in Grisons and in the Ticino, predominantly light-to-moderate winds.

Weather forecast through Sunday, 12.05.2019

During the night in northern regions, snowfall is anticipated. The snowfall level will rapidly descend to 1200 m. South of the Main Alpine Ridge, skies will be overcast, but it will remain dry for the most part. In the morning, an additional amount of snowfall is anticipated in the eastern regions more than anywhere else. In the other regions of Switzerland, it will become increasingly dry. In the west and in the Valais, bright intervals are expected in the afternoon. In the Ticino, it will be quite sunny as a result of the northerly winds.

Fresh snow

Above 2000 m:

- northern Alpine Ridge from the Wildstrubel to Liechtenstein, northern Grisons: 30 to 50 cm;
- remaining parts of the northern flank of the Alps, remaining parts of Lower Valais, of Goms, of the Gotthard region and of central Grisons, as well as Engadine north of the Inn: 10 to 30 cm;
- further to the south, less; or no snow whatsoever.

Temperature

At midday at 2000 m, between -3 °C in the northern regions and 0 °C in the southern regions.

Wind

On Saturday evening, winds will rapidly shift to northerly-to-northeasterly:

- in southern regions and at high altitudes be blowing at strong to storm strength;
- in the other regions of Switzerland, blowing at moderate to strong velocity.

Outlook through Tuesday, 14.05.2019

Monday

In the northeastern regions, particularly during the morning hours, there will still be residual cloud. In the other regions of Switzerland it will be rather sunny, but cold. A strong northeasterly wind will continue to blow.

The danger of dry-snow avalanches is expected to incrementally recede. In the western and the southern regions, isolated wet-snow avalanches are possible as a result of solar radiation and daytime warming. In the eastern regions, moist slides can be expected to release from the fresh snow.

Tuesday

In the eastern regions, skies will be partially overcast, and above approximately 1200 m a small amount of snowfall is possible. In the other regions of Switzerland, it will be predominantly sunny. The northerly wind will slacken off.

The danger of dry-snow avalanches will decrease. The danger of wet-snow avalanches is expected to increase somewhat during the course of the day.