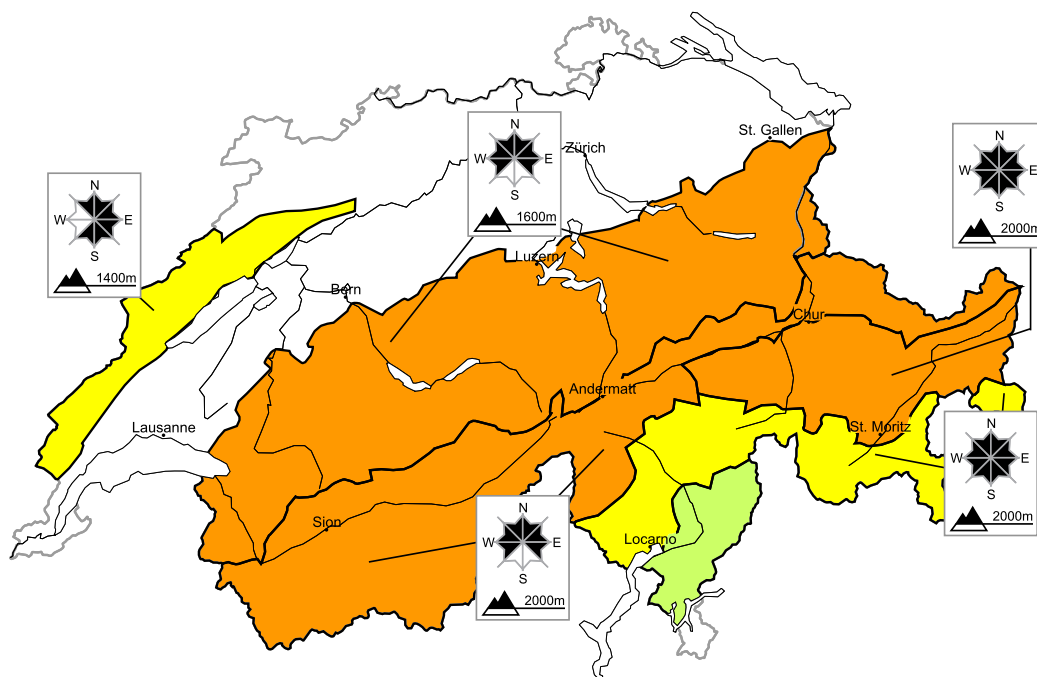


Considerable avalanche danger will be encountered over a wide area

Edition: 29.2.2020, 08:00 / Next update: 29.2.2020, 17:00

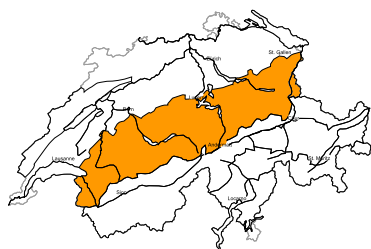
Avalanche danger

updated on 29.2.2020, 08:00



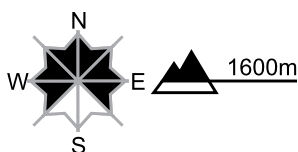
region A

Level 3, considerable



Wind slabs

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

The storm force foehn wind will transport the new snow significantly. The fresh and somewhat older wind slabs are prone to triggering. Avalanches can in many cases be released by a single winter sport participant. They can in some cases reach large size. Individual natural avalanches are possible in the afternoon. Backcountry touring calls for experience in the assessment of avalanche danger and careful route selection.

Wet avalanches

As a consequence of warming moist snow slides are possible, in particular on steep south facing slopes.

Danger levels

1 low

2 moderate

3 consider.

4 high

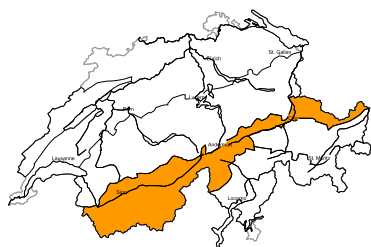
5 very high



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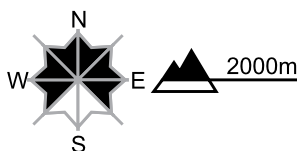
region B

Level 3, considerable



Wind slabs

Avalanche prone locations

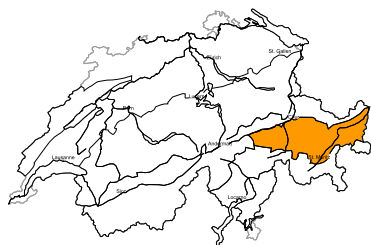


Danger description

The sometimes storm force wind will transport the new snow significantly. The fresh and somewhat older wind slabs are prone to triggering. Avalanches can be released by a single winter sport participant. They can in some cases reach large size.
 Backcountry touring calls for experience in the assessment of avalanche danger and careful route selection.

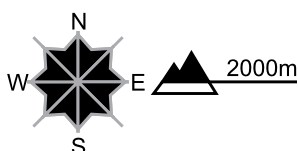
region C

Level 3, considerable



Wind slabs, old snow

Avalanche prone locations

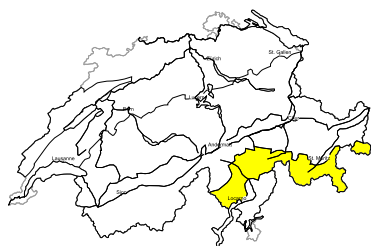


Danger description

The storm force foehn wind will transport the new snow significantly. The fresh and somewhat older wind slabs are in some cases prone to triggering. Avalanches can be released by a single winter sport participant. Mostly the avalanches are medium-sized.
 Avalanches can in isolated cases penetrate deep layers and reach dangerously large size.
 Backcountry touring calls for experience in the assessment of avalanche danger.

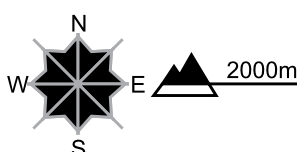
region D

Level 2, moderate



Wind slabs

Avalanche prone locations

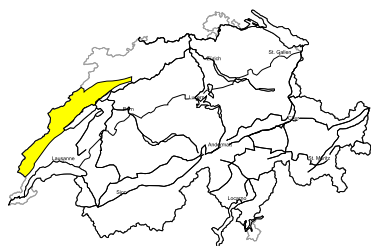


Danger description

The fresh and somewhat older wind slabs are prone to triggering. They can be released by a single winter sport participant in some cases. In some cases the avalanches are medium-sized.
 Wind slabs are clearly recognisable to the trained eye.
 Backcountry touring calls for careful route selection.

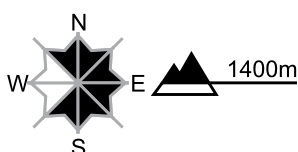
region E

Level 2, moderate



Wind slabs

Avalanche prone locations

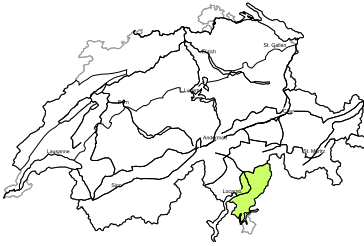


Danger description

The more recent wind slabs are prone to triggering. They are to be found in particular in gullies and bowls, and behind abrupt changes in the terrain. They can still be released in some cases. Avalanches can in some cases reach medium size.
 The wind slabs in steep terrain are to be bypassed as far as possible.

region F

Level 1, low



Wind slabs

The wind slabs of the last two days are in some cases prone to triggering. They are to be evaluated with care and prudence in particular in extreme terrain. Mostly the avalanches are only small. Restraint should be exercised because avalanches can sweep people along and give rise to falls.

Snowpack and weather

updated on 28.2.2020, 17:00

Snowpack

The strong to storm-strength southwesterly to northwesterly winds have intensively transported the fresh snow of the last three days. Both fresh snow and freshly generated snowdrifts lie deposited on top of a favourable old snowpack surface. Avalanches are triggering predominantly from inside the layers of fresh snow and snowdrifts. As a result of higher temperatures and foehn windstorms, compact, easily triggerable snowdrift accumulations are expected to be generated frequently on Saturday.

More deeply embedded inside the snowpack, particularly in the inneralpine regions of Grisons and in isolated cases also of the Valais, weak layers are evident above approximately 2400 m more than anywhere else. Avalanches can sweep away these weak layers and thereby grow to large size.

Observed weather on Friday, 28.02.2020

During the night there was snowfall registered over widespread areas. The precipitation came to an end during the latter part of the night in western regions, in the early morning hours in the eastern regions as well. Subsequently it became quite sunny before renewed cloud cover moved in from the west during the afternoon. In the southern regions it was altogether sunny.

Fresh snow

Between Thursday evening and Friday morning there was 10 to 20 cm of fresh snow registered over widespread areas, in the Gotthard region and in northern Grisons as much as 30 cm.

Between Tuesday morning and Friday morning the following overall amounts of snowfall were registered:

- northern flank of the Alps not including Prealps, northern Valais and the western part of Lower Valais: 50 to 80 cm;
- from Lower Valais over the southern part of the Gotthard region and northern Grisons into Samnaun: 30 to 50 cm;
- Jura region, Prealps, remaining parts of northern Ticino, remaining parts of central Grisons, Lower Engadine: 15 to 30 cm;
- in the other regions of Switzerland, less.

Temperature

Temperatures rose during the course of the day, starting from the west; at midday at 2000 m to between -6 °C in the western regions and -10 °C in the eastern regions.

Wind

- On Thursday night, strong to storm strength westerly to northwesterly winds were blowing; in the southern regions winds were northerly;
- slackening off significantly from the west as of the latter part of the night.

Weather forecast through Saturday, 29.02.2020

Following a night of overcast skies it will be partly sunny in the morning. In the latter part of the day the cloud cover will become heavier from the west. In the western regions above approximately 1600 m a small amount of snowfall is possible.

Fresh snow

-

Temperature

At midday at 2000 m, between 0 °C in the western regions, +4 °C in the eastern regions and -6 °C in the southern regions.

Wind

- Winds in the mountains will be southwesterly, intensifying to strong velocity;
- in the Alpine valleys, strong to storm-strength foehn winds will be blowing.

Outlook through Monday, 02.03.2020

Sunday

On Saturday night the foehn wind will collapse. Above 1000 m a small amount of snowfall is anticipated. During the daytime in the northern regions, skies will be predominantly overcast accompanied by intermittent sunny phases, in the southern regions it will be quite sunny. Temperatures are expected to drop. Winds will be blowing at moderate to strong velocity from westerly directions. The avalanche danger levels will decrease.

Monday

On Monday it will be variably cloudy accompanied by a small amount of precipitation, particularly in the southern regions. In the eastern regions there will also be extended sunny intervals. The snowfall level will lie at 1000 metres. The avalanche danger levels are expected to increase in the southern regions, depending on the amounts of fresh snow.