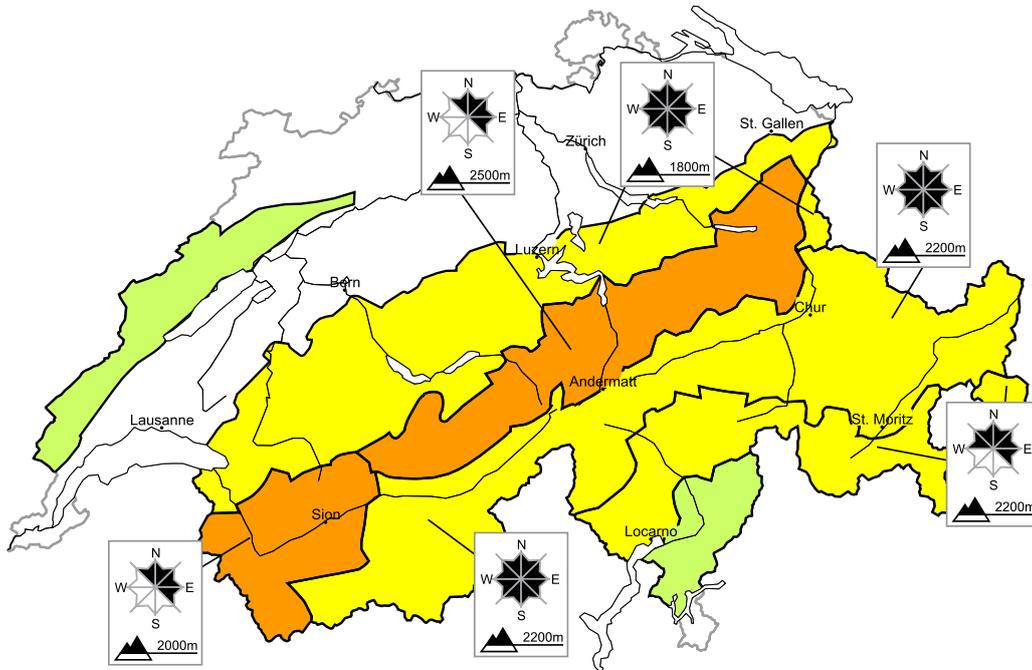


# Considerable avalanche danger will be encountered in some regions. Wind slabs are to be evaluated with care and prudence

Edition: 1.3.2020, 08:00 / Next update: 1.3.2020, 17:00

## Avalanche danger

updated on 1.3.2020, 08:00



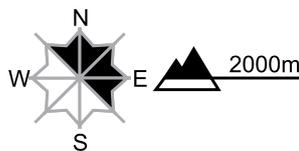
### region A

**Level 3, considerable**



#### Wind slabs

#### Avalanche prone locations



#### Danger description

As a consequence of new snow and a moderate to strong southwesterly wind, wind slabs formed. They are prone to triggering. Avalanches can be released by a single winter sport participant and reach large size in isolated cases. Backcountry touring calls for experience in the assessment of avalanche danger and careful route selection.

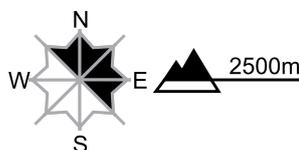
### region B

**Level 3, considerable**



#### Wind slabs

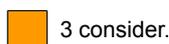
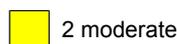
#### Avalanche prone locations



#### Danger description

As a consequence of a moderate to strong southwesterly wind, wind slabs formed. They are prone to triggering. Avalanches can be released by a single winter sport participant and reach large size in isolated cases. Backcountry touring calls for experience in the assessment of avalanche danger and careful route selection.

**Danger levels**



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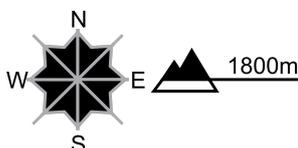
**region C**

**Level 2, moderate**



**Wind slabs**

**Avalanche prone locations**



**Danger description**

The somewhat older wind slabs can be released, especially by large additional loads,. These are to be found in particular areas not adjacent to ridgelines. They can be released, especially at their margins,. In some cases avalanches are medium-sized.

As a consequence of new snow and a moderate to strong southwesterly wind, mostly small wind slabs will form in particular in gullies and bowls and behind abrupt changes in the terrain. They can be released easily, but they will be small in most cases.

Backcountry touring and other off-piste activities call for careful route selection. As a consequence of new snow and a moderate to strong southwesterly wind, mostly small wind slabs will form in particular in gullies and bowls and behind abrupt changes in the terrain.

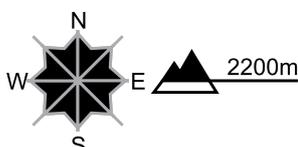
**region D**

**Level 2, moderate**



**Wind slabs**

**Avalanche prone locations**



**Danger description**

The somewhat older wind slabs can be released, especially by large additional loads,. These are to be found in particular areas not adjacent to ridgelines. They can be released, especially at their margins,. In some cases avalanches are medium-sized.

As a consequence of new snow and a moderate to strong southwesterly wind, mostly small wind slabs will form in particular in gullies and bowls and behind abrupt changes in the terrain. They can be released easily, but they will be small in most cases.

Backcountry touring and other off-piste activities call for careful route selection.

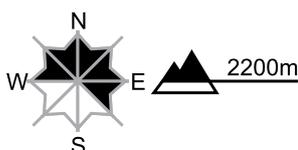
**region E**

**Level 2, moderate**



**Wind slabs**

**Avalanche prone locations**



**Danger description**

The fresh and somewhat older wind slabs can still be released in some cases. Mostly the avalanches are small.

The wind slabs are clearly recognisable to the trained eye. Backcountry touring calls for careful route selection.

region F

Level 1, low



**No distinct avalanche problem**

Individual avalanche prone locations are to be found in particular in gullies and bowls, and behind abrupt changes in the terrain at elevated altitudes. Dry and moist avalanches can be released in particular in extremely steep terrain. They are only small. Restraint should be exercised because avalanches can sweep people along and give rise to falls.

region G

Level 1, low



**Wind slabs**

The fresh wind slabs are mostly small but in some cases prone to triggering. They are to be evaluated with care and prudence in particular in extreme terrain. Restraint should be exercised because avalanches can sweep people along and give rise to falls.

## Snowpack and weather

updated on 29.2.2020, 17:00

### Snowpack

Both the southwestern winds which were blowing at strong to storm strength at high altitudes and the foehn windstorms transported a great deal of snow, in foehn exposed zones frequently extending to below the timberline. Ridgeline terrain has once again been blown bare. The snowdrift accumulations were easy to trigger in some places, but are rapidly stabilising. Fresh snow and freshly generated snowdrifts formed on Saturday night are being deposited on top of a favourable old snowpack surface.

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 triggering in these layers are currently unlikely. In very isolated cases avalanches which fracture on the surface can sweep away these weak layers and thereby grow to large size.

### Observed weather on Saturday, 29.02.2020

In the western regions it was partly sunny, in the eastern and the southern regions skies were for the most part heavily overcast.

#### Fresh snow

Just a small amount in the northern regions.

#### Temperature

At midday at 2000 m, between +3 °C in the northern regions and -5 °C in the southern regions.

#### Wind

Winds were southerly to southwesterly,

- intensifying to strong-to-storm strength during the course of the day;
- in the foehn-exposed valleys of the north, storm-strength foehn wind in some places.

### Weather forecast through Sunday, 01.03.2020

On Saturday night, snowfall is anticipated over widespread areas. Only in northern and central Grisons is it expected to remain dry. The snowfall level will descend from 1700 m down to approximately 1000 m. In the morning it will swiftly become sunny from the west. Following a rather sunny phase, renewed cloud cover will move in from the west in late afternoon, and precipitation will set in.

#### Fresh snow

Between Saturday evening and Sunday morning above 1700 m,

- northern and furthestmost western parts of Lower Valais: 15 to 30 cm;
- northern flank of the Alps, remaining parts of Lower Valais, northern Upper Valais, Main Alpine Ridge from Binntal as far as the Bernina Pass, Val Poschiavo and Jura region: 5 to 15 cm;
- in the other regions of Switzerland, less; or else it will remain dry.

#### Temperature

At midday at 2000 m, approximately -3 °C.

#### Wind

- The foehn wind will collapse during the night;
- subsequently, moderate to strong-velocity southwesterly winds will prevail.

**Outlook** through Tuesday, 03.03.2020

On Sunday night and on Monday night, snowfall is expected to fall over widespread areas. All in all, 30 to 50 cm of fresh snow is possible in the furthestmost western part of Lower Valais and on the northern Alpine Ridge west of Susten Pass. The amounts of precipitation and distribution are still uncertain. The snowfall level will descend from approximately 1200 m on Monday down to below 1000 m on Tuesday. During the daytime it will be partly sunny on both days. On the southern flank of the Alps on Tuesday it will be predominantly sunny as a result of strong-velocity northerly winds. In the other regions of Switzerland, winds will be southwesterly, blowing at moderate to strong velocity. The avalanche danger levels are expected to increase somewhat in the southern regions on Monday, and in the northern regions on Tuesday.