

A little fresh snow with strong SW winds are generating fresh trigger-sensitive snowdrift accumulations

	2200 m	Rätikon West, Rätikon Ost, Silvretta, Verwall, Lechquellengebirge, Lechtaler Alpen				
		Voralpenbereich				
	2000 m	Bregenzerwaldgebirge, Allgäuer Alpen				

Avalanche problems



Danger ratings



Expositions



Avalanche report for Friday, 30.12.2022

Rätikon West, Rätikon Ost, Silvretta, Verwall, Lechquellengebirge, Lechtaler Alpen



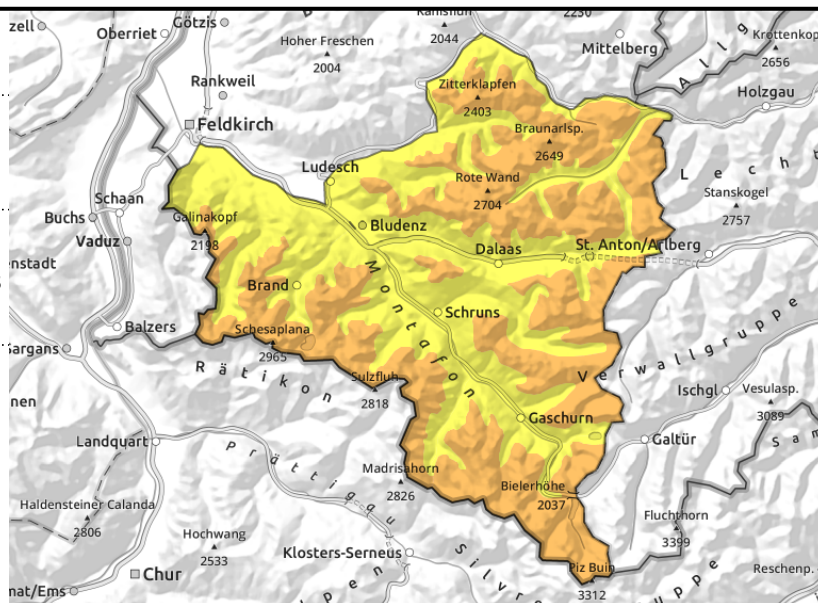
2200 m



fresh and older snowdrifts are prone to triggering / transitions from shallow to deep snow



>2200 m blanketed weak layers are difficult to recognize



Main danger: fresh and older snowdrifts and weak layers in the old snow

At high altitudes, particularly on steep ridgeline slopes, in wind-loaded gullies and bowls and behind abrupt discontinuities in the terrain, fresh and older snowdrift accumulations require high attentiveness. Size and spread of danger zones increase with ascending altitude. In addition, above 2200/2300 m on steep shady slopes in particular, there are unfavourable weak layers evident. Settling noises and glide cracks are signals of imminent danger. One sole winter sports enthusiast can trigger avalanches of medium size which can then sweep away the entire snowpack and grow, in isolated cases, to large size. On steep grassy slopes in all aspects below about 2200 m, small-to-medium glide-snow avalanches can trigger naturally in zones which have not yet discharged.

Snowpack structure

During the night as snowdrift levels descend, 5-10 cm of fresh snow is expected, only a few cm in the Silvretta and in the Rätikon. As a result of strong SW winds the fresh snow will be transported and will form fresh trigger-sensitive snowdrift accumulations. The older snowdrifts particularly on sunny slopes were able to settle and increasingly consolidate, but are often still prone to triggering. In ridgeline zones it is still windy, snow is being transported, drifts are accumulating which are prone to triggering. At high altitude the snowpack snows heavy wind impact from the west. Particularly shady slopes above 2200 m have poor snowpack layering. These danger zones are not visible to the naked eye. Wind-protected areas have loose snowpack surfaces, often surface hoar. The generally shallow snowpack is moist up to intermediate altitudes. Skiing tours and descents in outlying terrain below the timberline, often below 2000 m, are unrewarding due to the lack of snow. At low altitudes there is often no snow on the ground.

Weather

Thursday night: a front will reach Vorarlberg in the evening, precipitation will follow during the nocturnal hours. The snowfall level will descend from 1500 down to 1300 m. Friday: Some residual clouds with final rainfall will swiftly recede, drier air will follow with sunshine. In the afternoon clouds will again move in, minor precipitation is expected in the evening. At 2000 m: from -2 to +3 degrees. Winds will initially be brisk, intensifying in the evening, from the west.

Avalanche problems



Danger ratings



Expositions



Avalanche report for **Friday, 30.12.2022**

Outlook

As a result of a strong westerly air current on Saturday, conditions will be pleasant with some cirrus clouds. The air masses are much too mild for this juncture of the season. The warmth will reach its high point at the new year, the zero-degree level will ascend temporarily to 3500 m. The risks of dry-snow avalanches are not expected to change significantly at high altitudes. As a result of higher temperatures, increasingly frequent glide-snow avalanches and moist slides are possible, particularly on sunny slopes.

Avalanche problems

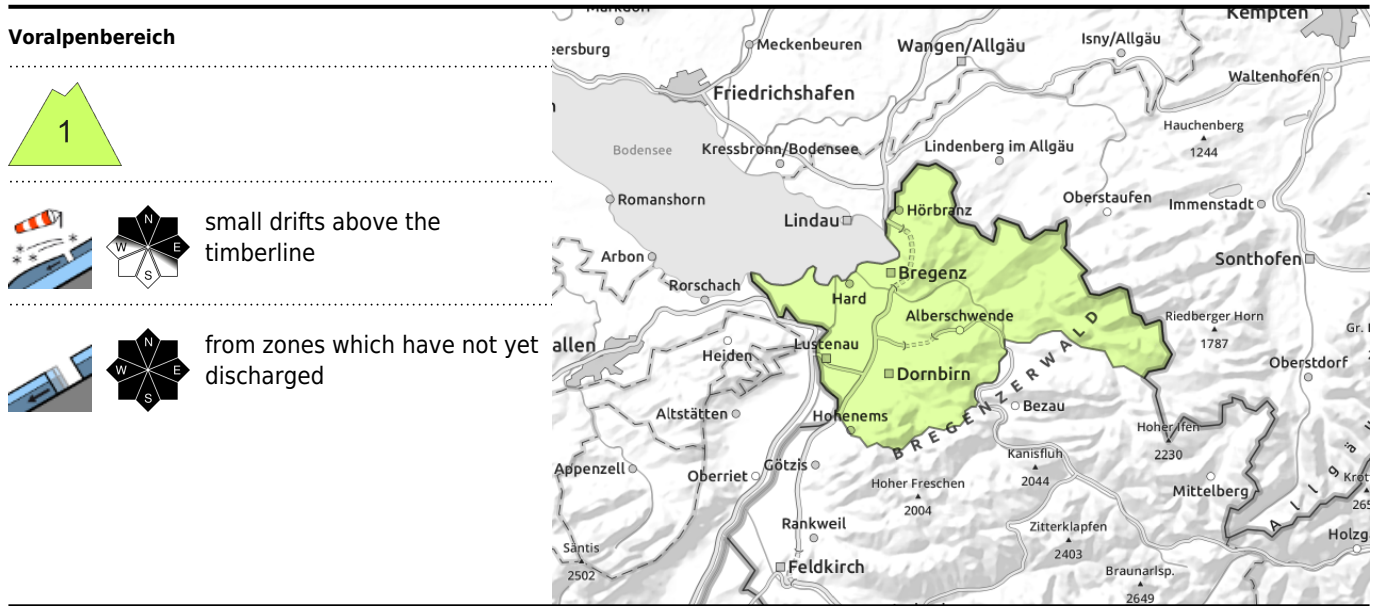


Danger ratings



Expositions





Small drifts above the treeline require attentiveness

Mostly low danger prevails. On steep slopes which have not yet discharged, small glide-snow avalanches can trigger naturally. With ascending altitude the small trigger-sensitive snowdrift accumulations require attentiveness. On very steep sunny slopes small loose-snow avalanches are possible due to solar radiation.

Snowpack structure

The snowdrifts were able to settle and increasingly consolidate with the higher temperatures. The generally shallow snowpack is moist up to intermediate altitudes. Skiing tours and descents in outlying terrain below the timberline, often below 2000 m, are unrewarding due to the lack of snow. At low altitudes there is often no snow on the ground.

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Outlook

Avalanche danger will remain low.

Avalanche problems

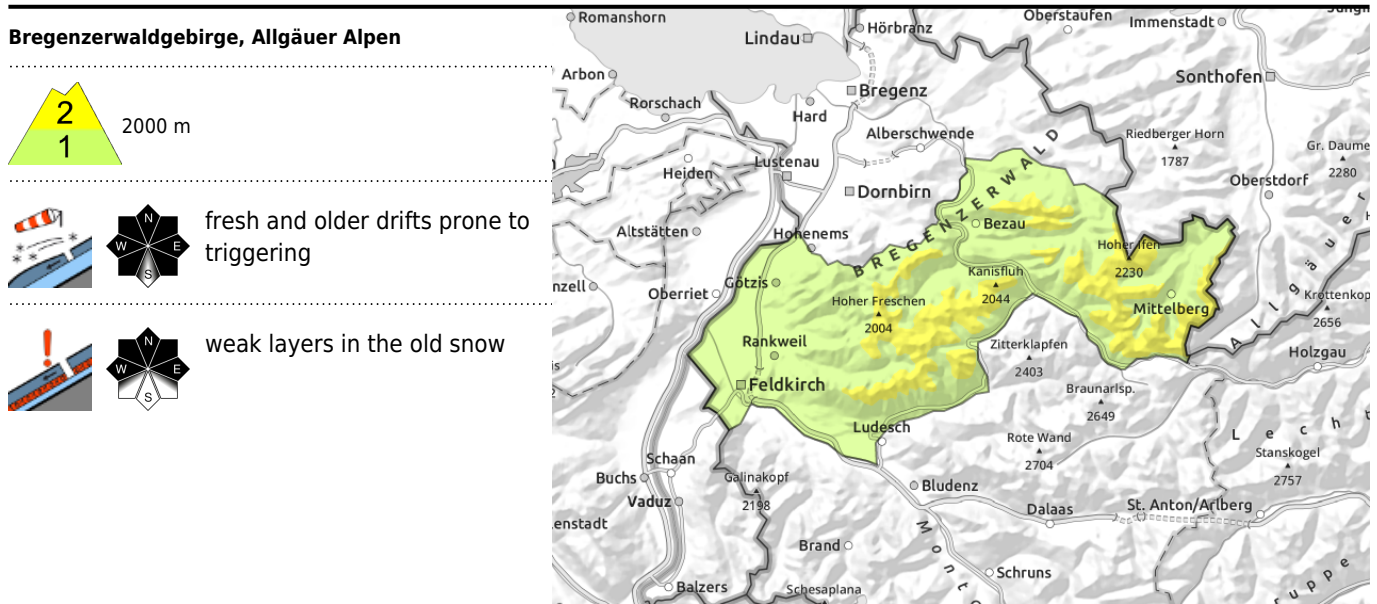


Danger ratings



Expositions





Main danger: fresh and older snowdrifts plus weak layers in the old snow

Particularly in steep ridgeline terrain above 1800 m, in wind-loaded gullies and bowls and behind abrupt discontinuities in the terrain, the fresh and older snowdrift accumulations require attentiveness. Size and spread of danger zones increase with ascending altitude. In addition, above 2200/2300 m on steep shady slopes in particular, there are unfavourable weak layers evident. Settling noises and glide cracks are signals of imminent danger. One sole winter sports enthusiast can trigger avalanches of medium size which can then sweep away the entire snowpack and grow, in isolated cases, to large size. On steep grassy slopes in all aspects below about 2200 m, small-to-medium glide-snow avalanches can trigger naturally in zones which have not yet discharged.

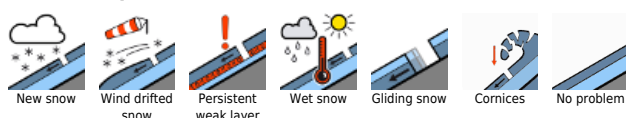
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Translated by Jeffrey McCabe, www.creativtrans.com

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