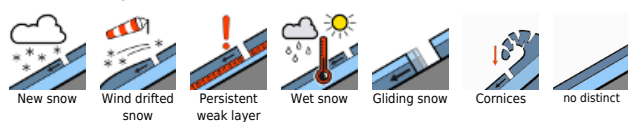


Only gradual decrease in avalanche danger at high altitudes

	2200 m	Rätikon West, Rätikon Ost, Silvretta, Lechquellengebirge, Lechtaler Alpen, Verwall	
		Voralpenbereich	
	1800 m	Bregenzwaldgebirge, Allgäuer Alpen	

Avalanche problems



Danger ratings



Expositions



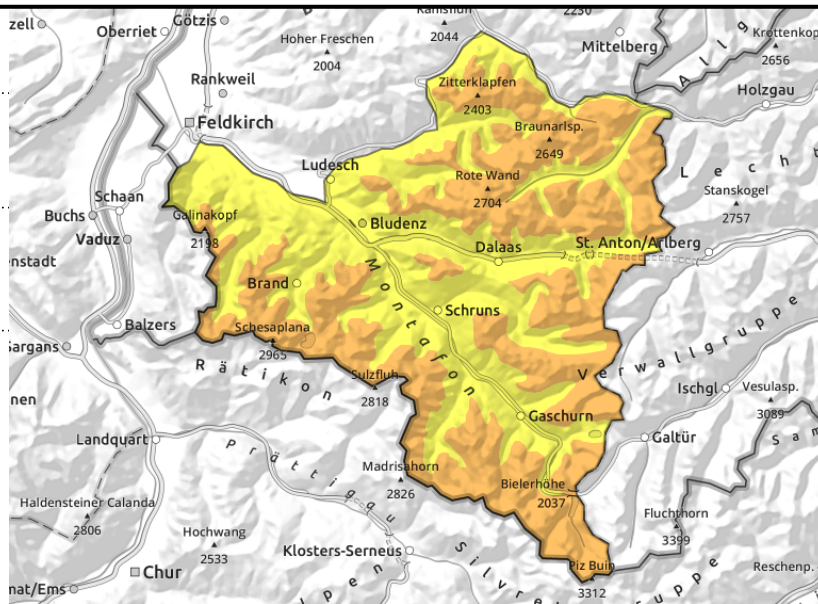
Rätikon West, Rätikon Ost, Silvretta, Lechquellengebirge, Lechtaler Alpen, Verwall



fresh and blanketed snowdrift accumulations



>2400 m blanketed weak layers are difficult to recognize



Main danger: snowdrift accumulations and weak layers in the old snow

Fresh (and already blanketed) snowdrifts are prone to triggering particularly in ridgeline zones, but also distant from ridgelines, wind-loaded gullies and bowls and behind abrupt discontinuities in the terrain. They tend to increase with ascending altitude. Medium slab avalanches can be triggered by one sole winter sports enthusiast. If they fracture to deeper layers they can grow to large size. Above 2400 m on steep shady slopes there are unfavourable layers in the old snowpack. Activities in backcountry demand experience in avalanche danger assessment on-site. In steep rocky terrain above 2400 m the fresh snow can trigger small to medium loose-snow avalanches naturally.

Snowpack structure

The small amount of fresh snowfall now blankets the snowdrift accumulations of recent days. Exposed zones and knolls are often windblown, gullies and bowls are filled to the brim with drifts. Fresh snow and snowdrifts often lie deposited atop loose and soft layers, on older snowdrifted masses or atop melt-freeze encrusted old snowpack surfaces and are often riddled with graupel. Bonding to the old snowpack deteriorates with ascending altitude. At high altitudes on steep shady slopes in particular, there are still weak layers deeply embedded inside the snowpack which are not visible to the naked eye.

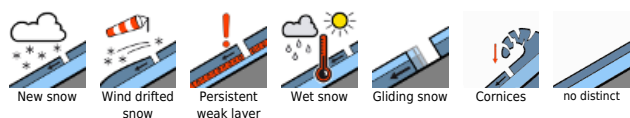
Weather

Nocturnal hours: skies mostly heavily overcast accompanied by snow showers down to low lying areas. The amounts of fresh snow will be minor. Thursday: variably cloud, very cold mountain weather. Clouds and fog will dominate. Light snowfall in repeated bouts. Brief intervals of brightness are possible. At 2000 m: -13 degrees; moderate NW winds.

Outlook

Friday will be heavily overcast, hardly any sunshine, a bit of minor snowfall, and it will remain cold. Setting and consolidating processes will proceed only slowly due to the low temperatures. Avalanche danger will incrementally decrease.

Avalanche problems

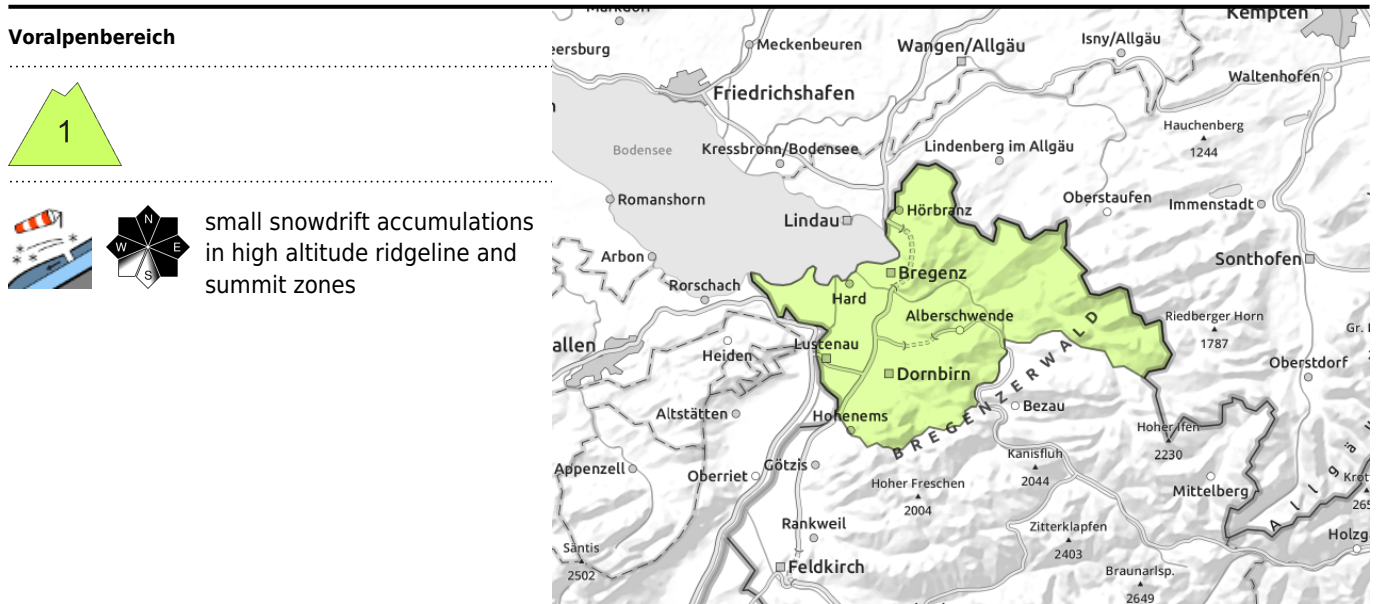


Danger ratings



Expositions





Small snowdrift accumulations have been generated due to some fresh snow and wind

The small amount of fresh snow still results in only low avalanche danger. As a result of fresh snow and strong westerly winds, small snowdrift accumulations are prone to triggering at high altitudes. Risks of falling need to be taken into consideration.

Snowpack structure

Amid intermittently strong winds, snow has been intensively transported. The fresh snow and drifts were able to settle in the higher temperatures on Saturday and Sunday morning, and consolidate. At low altitudes there is very little snow on the ground, conserved due to the low temperatures.

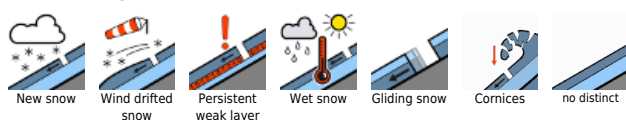
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Outlook

Friday will be heavily overcast, hardly any sunshine, a bit of minor snowfall, and it will remain cold. Setting and consolidating processes will proceed only slowly due to the low temperatures. Avalanche danger will not change significantly.

Avalanche problems

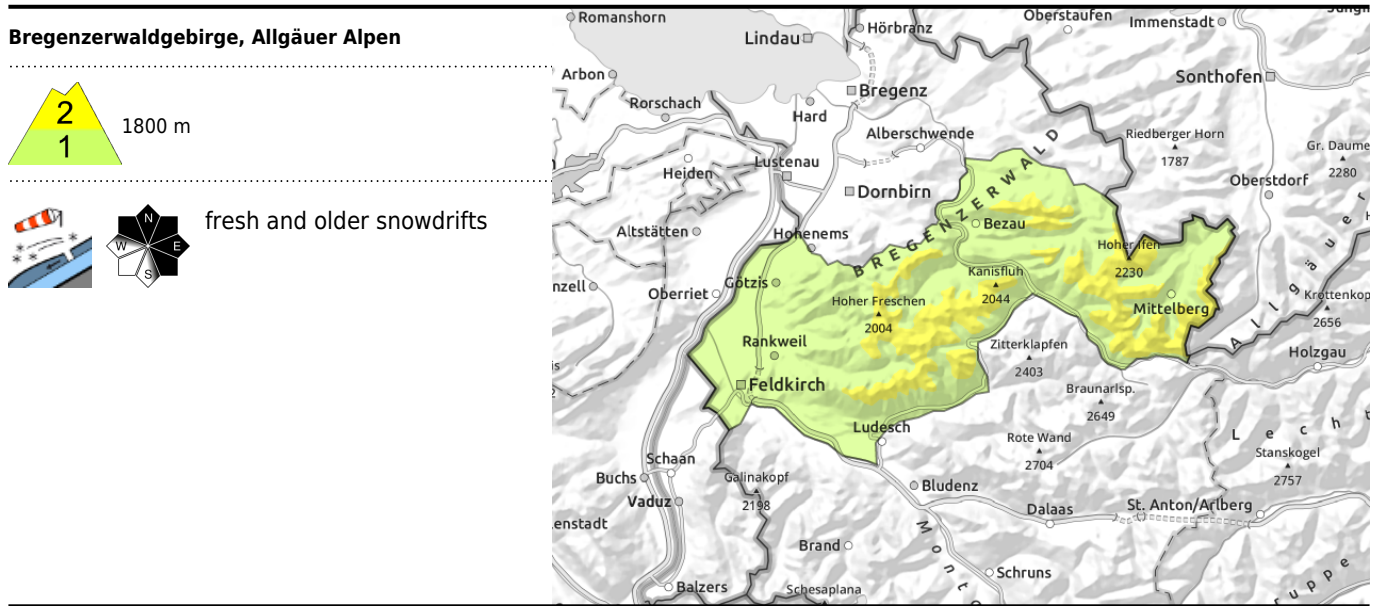


Danger ratings



Expositions





Main danger: fresh snow and snowdrift accumulations

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Translated by Jeffrey McCabe, www.creativtrans.com

Avalanche problems



Danger ratings



Expositions

