

Glide-snow avalanches persist, otherwise mostly favourable conditions

	Bregenz-erwaldgebirge, Rätikon West, Allgäuer Alpen	
	Lechtalengebirge, Lechtaler Alpen, Verwall, Silvretta, Rätikon Ost	
	Voralpenbereich	

Avalanche problems

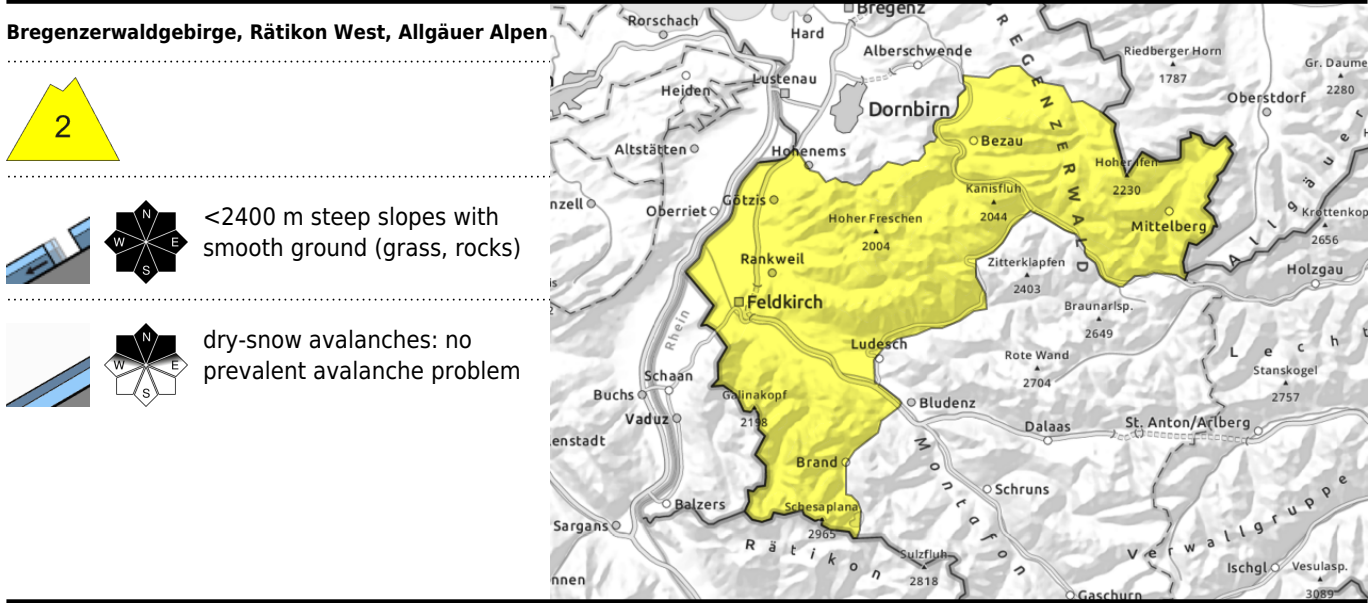


Danger ratings



Expositions





Moderate danger due to glide-snow avalanches

Avalanche danger is moderate. Main problem: gliding snow. On steep smooth slopes in all aspects above 2400 m, medium glide-snow avalanches are possible, indicated by glide cracks. No current risk of dry-snow avalanches, at most superficial layers or older drifts could trigger, usually only with large additional loading. A cautious route selection is advised. Caution near cornices, which could break. On sunny slopes, mostly small loose-snow avalanches can be expected if there is solar radiation.

Snowpack structure

Snow was irregularly distributed during the last few days due to storm-strength winds. Crests and ridges are utterly windblown, gullies and bowls and zones behind protruberances are filled to the brim with drifted snow. Older drifts are often hardened, many surfaced are wind-compacted. The drifts are bonding well with the snowpack beneath them. Fresher drifts have weak intermediate layers, sometimes with graupel, and are prone to triggering. The fresh snow has settled well. At intermediate altitudes the snowpack is often moist down to the ground. The weight-load of the fresh snow reinforces the process of gliding over smooth ground.

Weather

Nocturnal hours: Clear skies, dry, good outgoing radiation. Wednesday daytime: A sunny and mild day, merely thin clouds above summit level. At 2000 m: +6 degrees. Moderate to brisk W/SW winds.

Outlook

Thursday morning will be sunny but have diffuse light conditions. The danger of dry-snow avalanches is not expected to change significantly. Danger of glide-snow avalanches will persist.

Avalanche problems



Danger ratings



Expositions



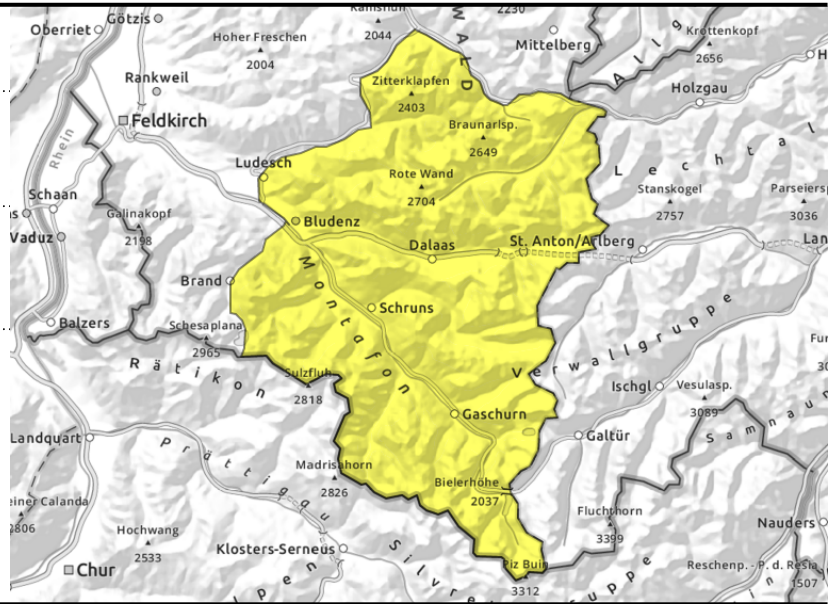
Lechquellengebirge, Lechtaler Alpen, Verwall, Silvretta, Rätikon Ost



<2400 m steep slopes with smooth ground (grass, rocks)



dry-snow avalanches: no prevalent avalanche problem



Glide-snow avalanches persist. Snowdrift accumulations increase with ascending altitude.

Avalanche danger is considerable. Main problem: gliding snow. On steep smooth slopes in all aspects above 2400 m, medium glide-snow avalanches are possible, indicated by glide cracks. No current risk of dry-snow avalanches, at most superficial layers or older drifts could trigger, usually only with large additional loading. A cautious route selection is advised. Caution near cornices, which could break. On sunny slopes, mostly small loose-snow avalanches can be expected if there is solar radiation. Apart from the danger of being buried in snow, the risks of being forced to take a fall need to be taken into consideration.

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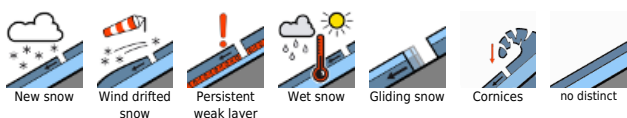
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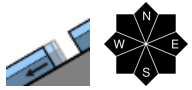
Danger ratings



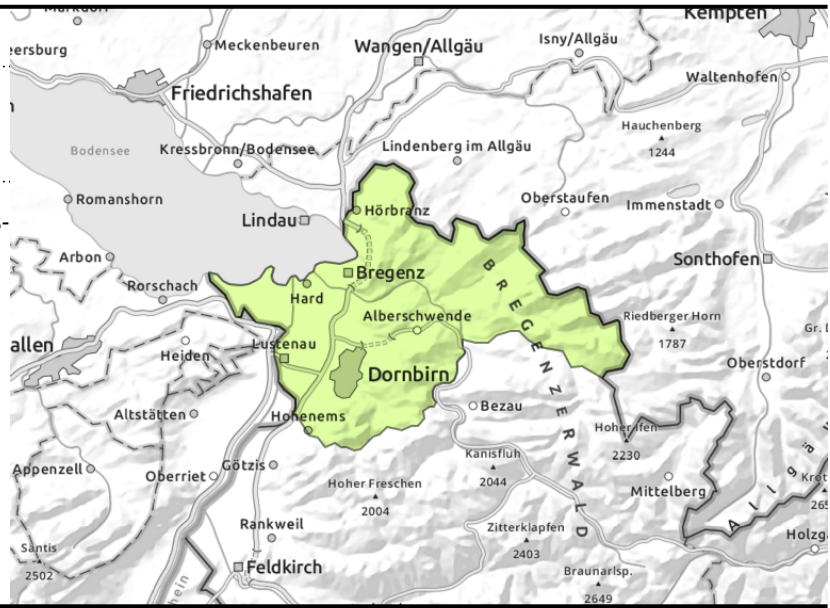
Expositions



Voralpenbereich



isolated on smooth steep grass-covered slopes



Little snow, isolated glide-snow avalanches

Avalanche danger is low. On steep smooth slopes in all aspects, small glide-snow avalanches are possible in zones which have not yet discharged. Glide cracks should be circumvented. No prevalent problem for dry-snow avalanches. Small avalanches can be triggered in extremely steep terrain, mostly by large additional loading. Apart from the danger of being buried in snow, the risks of being forced to take a fall need to be taken into consideration. A cautious route selection is advised.

Snowpack structure

Little snow on the ground. Often the crust is capable of bearing loads, but softens up during the course of the day. Many surfaces are wind-hardened or icy. The snowpack up to intermediate altitudes is moist down to the ground, which enhances the snowpack gliding downhill over smooth ground surfaces.

Weather

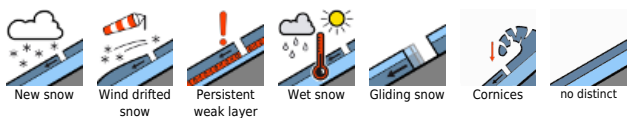
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Translated by Jeffrey McCabe, www.creativtrans.com

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