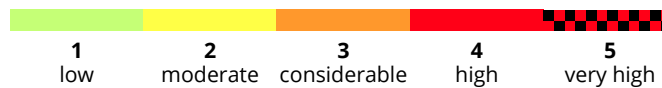
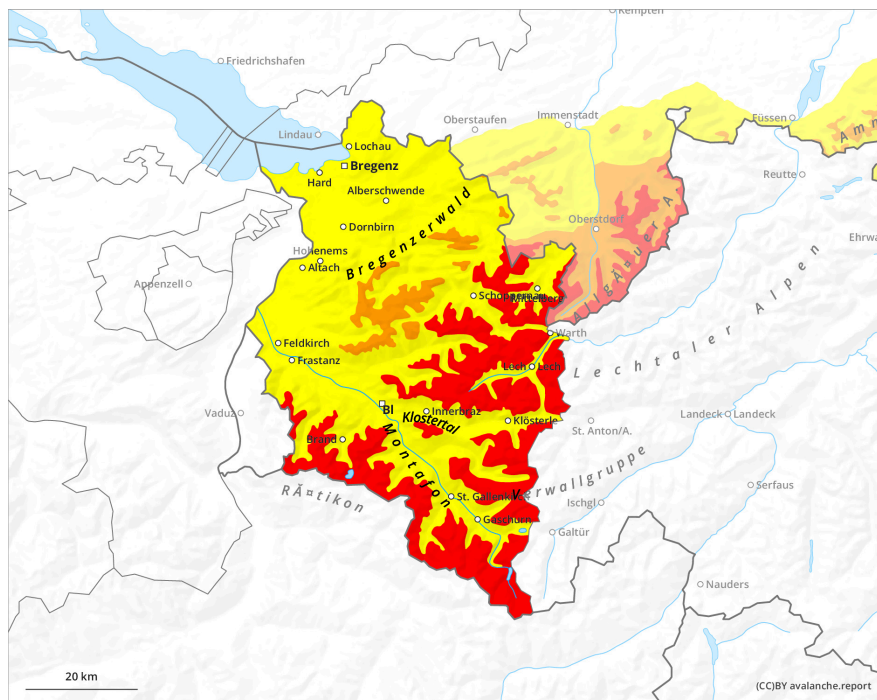
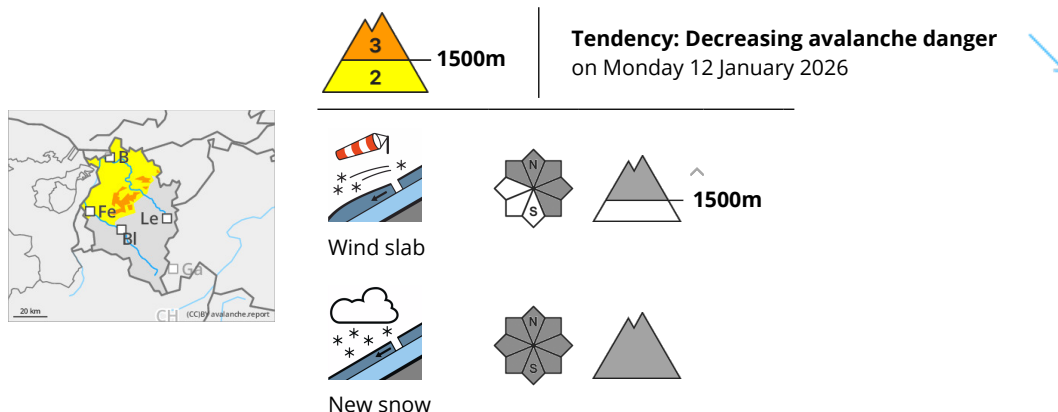


Winter sports enthusiasts, beware: delicate avalanche situation widespread backcountry



Danger Level 3 - Considerable



Considerable avalanche danger at higher altitudes

Avalanche danger is considerable above 1500m, moderate below that altitude. The main problem at all altitudes is the drifted snow. One single winter sports enthusiast can trigger small-to-medium sized slab avalanches in wind-loaded zones, particularly on steep NW-E-SE facing slopes and in gullies and bowls.

Snowpack

Widespread 20-30cm of fresh snow is anticipated. It will be transported by intermittently strong westerly-to-northwesterly winds. The fresh snow and fresh snowdrifts since Thursday often lie deposited on top of a loosely-packed, faceted, expansively metamorphosed old snowpack surface or atop surface hoar. Thus, bonding is poor. In addition, layers inside the fresh snow and freshly generated drifts are also prone to triggering.

Weather

Nocturnal hours: heavy, intense snowfall down to low altitudes. Sunday: impeded visibility due to low lying clouds and snowfall. Later on, it will become drier, clouds will disperse somewhat. Temperature at 2000m: -11 degrees; at 3000m: -17 degrees. Moderate to strong-velocity northerly winds at high altitudes.

Tendency

Slightly receding avalanche danger