

# Basejump Rescue Lauterbrunnen

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**Soldeu / Andorra 2017**

Jaun Michael, Base Manager Lauterbrunnen / Pilot

Fauchère Patrick OCVS / Samuel Summermatter KWRO,



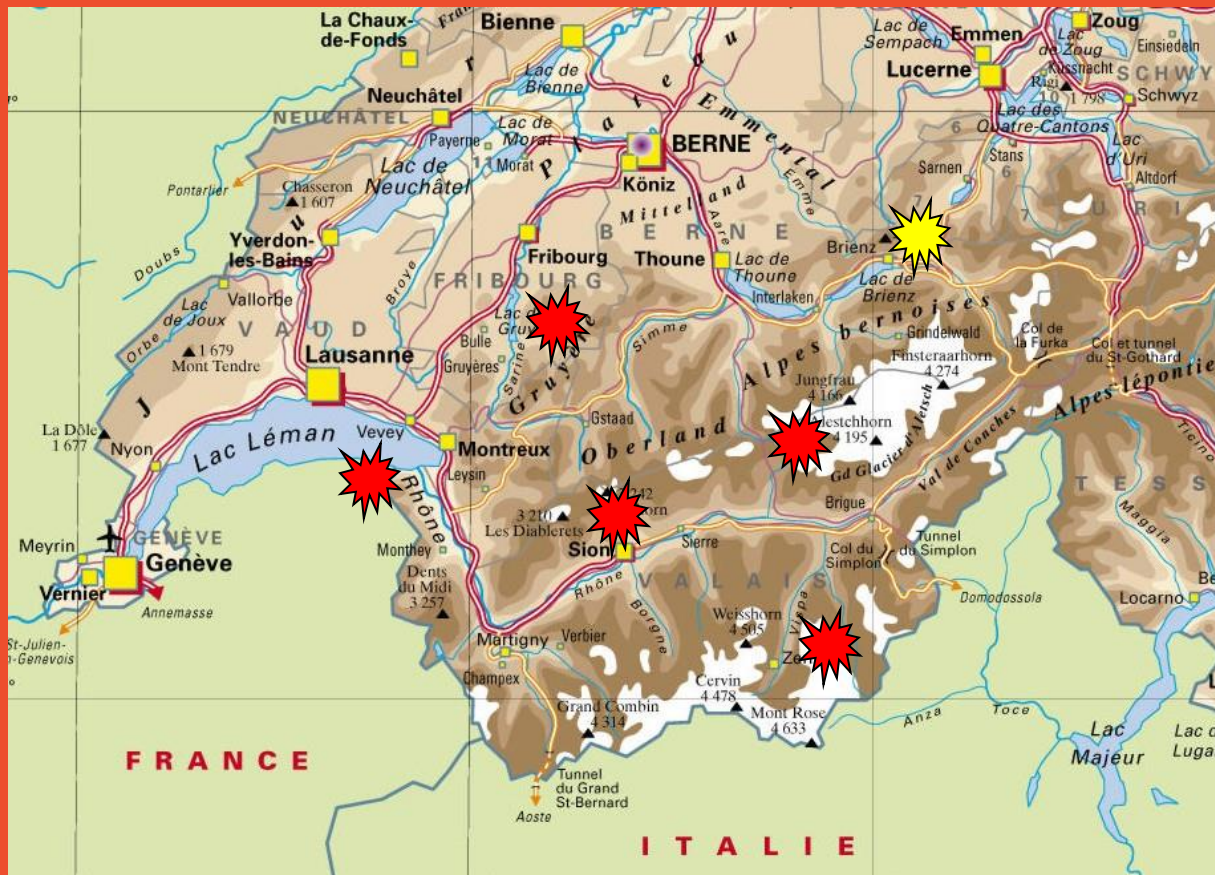
# Agenda

- **The situation,**
- **The routes,**
- **Case one,**
- **Case two,**
- **Conclusions,**



# The situation

- 4 bases in Wallis / 2 bases in Berner Oberland
- Altitude from 472 to 4633m



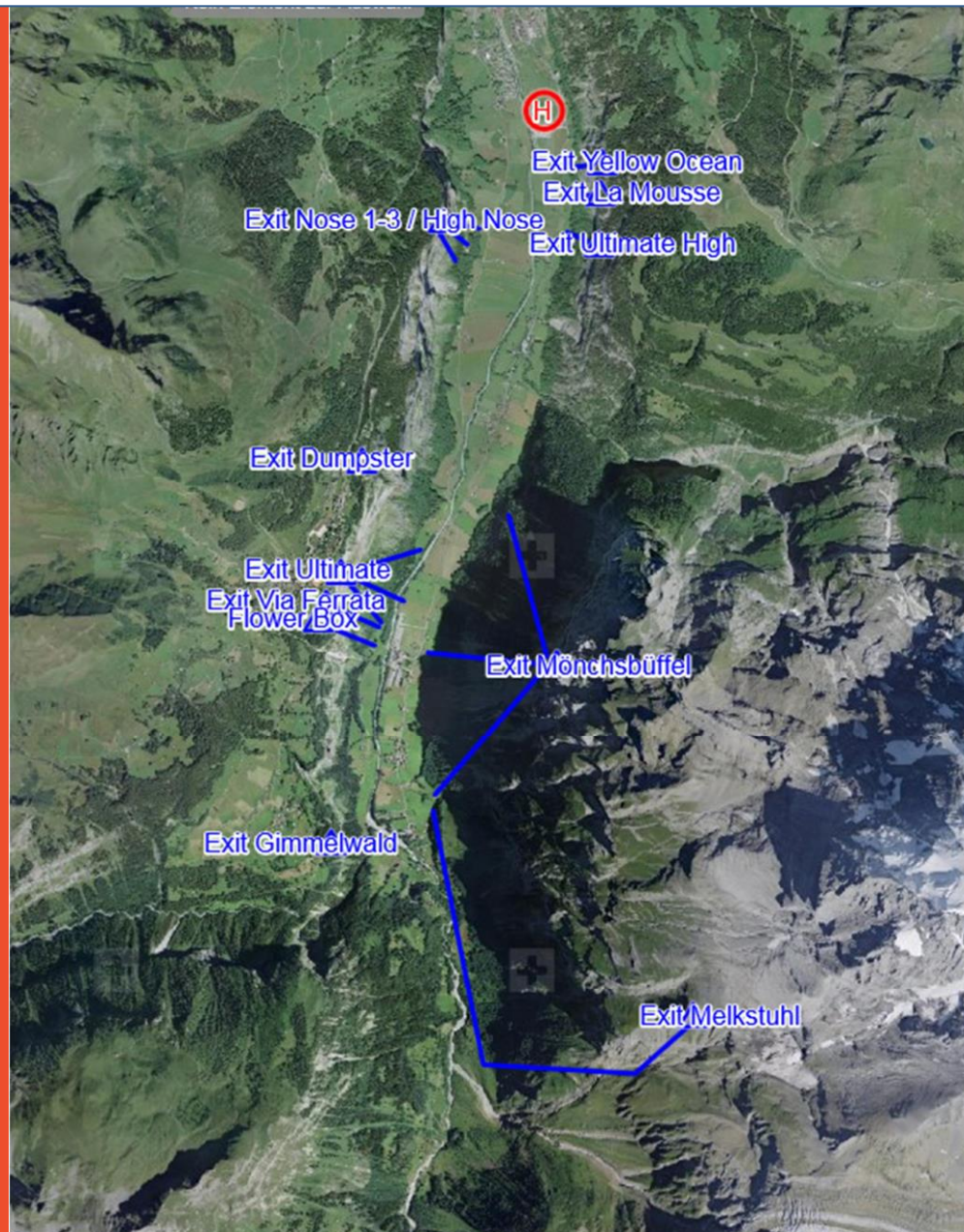
- Lauterbrunnen Valley, Ground floor 800m,
- Cliff heights from 300m,
- Longest jump, 1200m height difference,
- Approximate valley width ca. 900 meters,

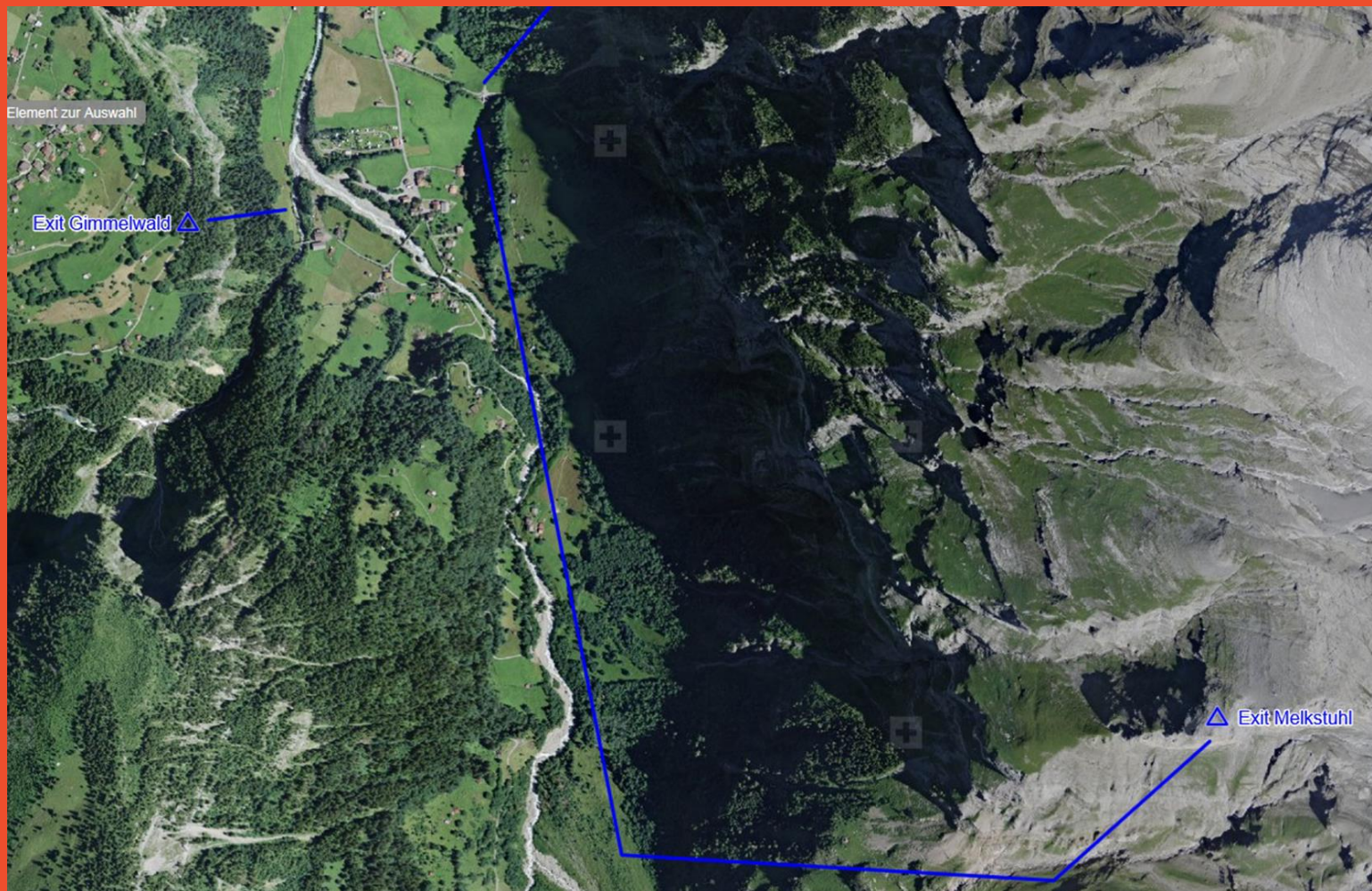


- Lauterbrunnen valley by night
- Urbane source of illumination

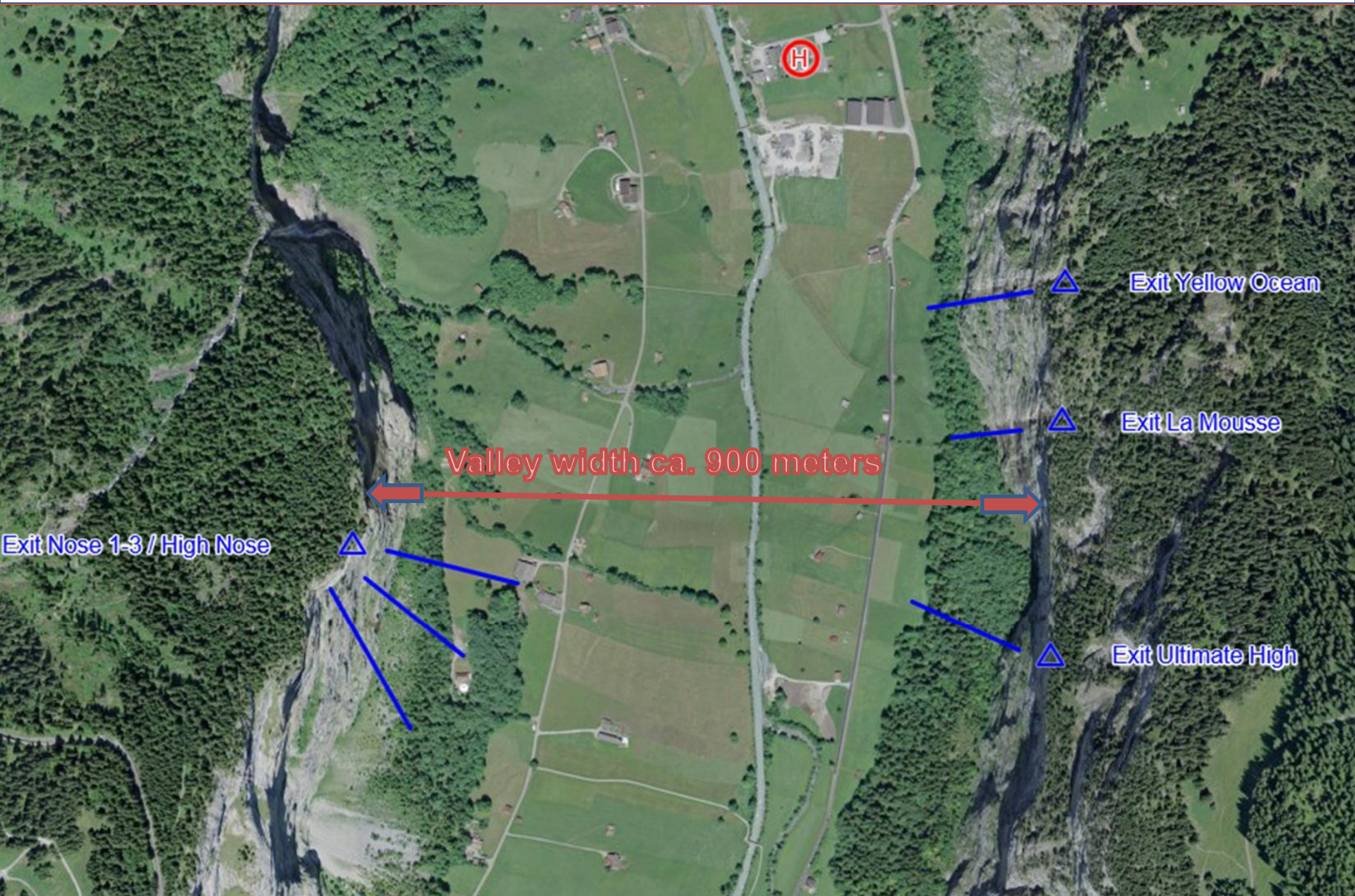


# The routes / Case one «Night»





# The routes / Case one «Night»





- Basejumper started at : Exit High Nose
- Time : 20h00
- Accident occurred at: 06.04.2017
- Situation , place of accident: middle of High Nose
- Alarm at : 20h04
- Decision after briefing with Rescue organization: After a “Reccee” flight, and a briefing with SAC Lauterbrunnen it was clear, that a Longline rescue during the night is necessary, if the team would rescue the casualty alive.

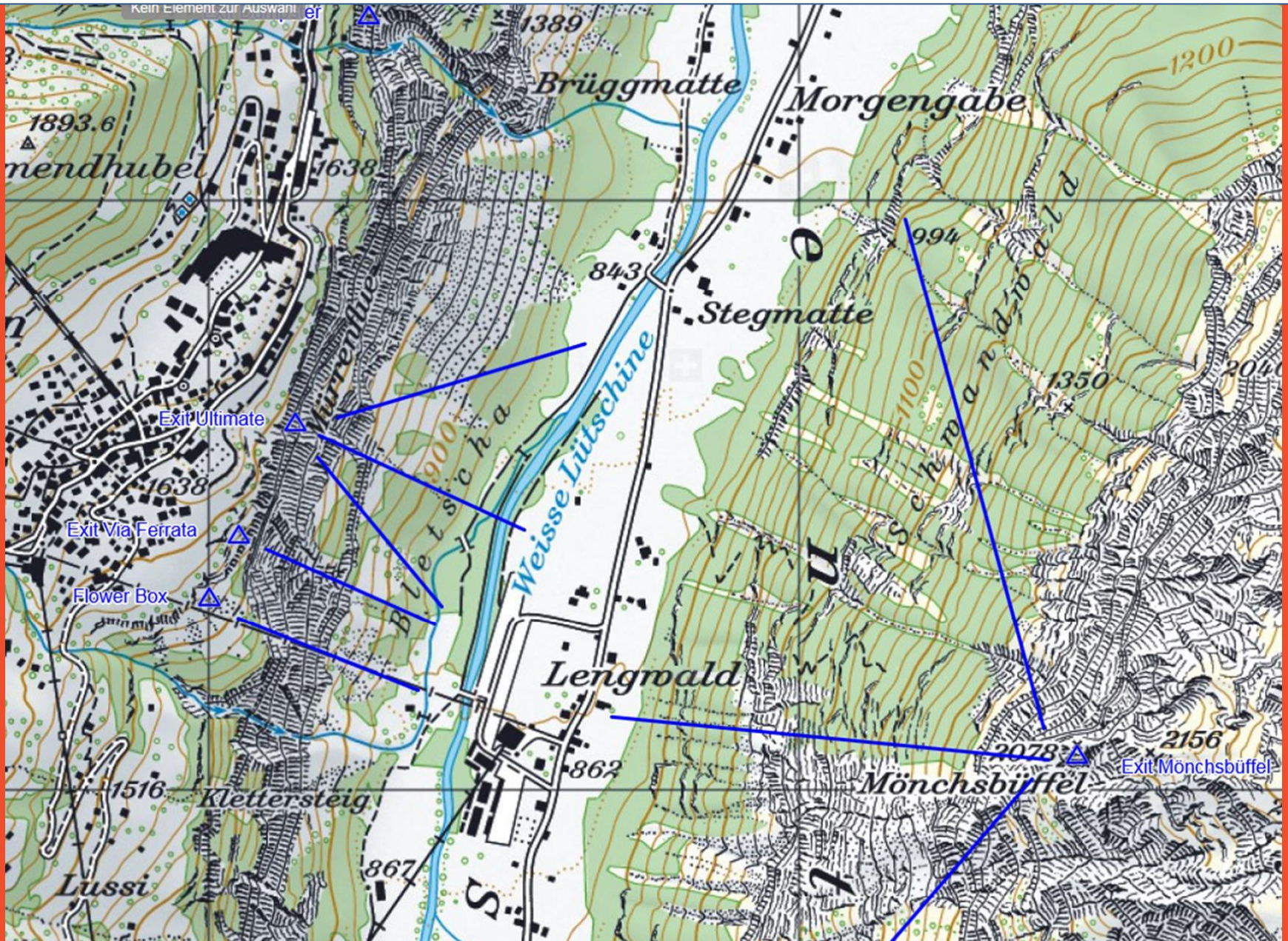
- Start at :21:35 with : EC 135 HB-ZRK
- Length of rope, :150m Heli: Ecureuil B3 HB-ZHY
- Rescuer: Pilot, Jakob Toni, Jaun Michael /  
Rettungssanitäter: Rothenbühler André / Doctor:  
Nester Nora / RSH: Jaun Fritz, von Allmen Toni
- Process: Because of the night and the weather situation,  
the rescue team decided to illuminate the accident location  
with a second helicopter and a searchlight. At 23:15 the  
crew finished the rescue.

- Result: Successfully rescue in the night with one rescue helicopter and one supporting helicopter with searchlight. On the medical site the casualty was rescued alive.
- When the rescuers arrived at around 10 meters from the victim, the rock where the parachute was caught let go and the victim was precipitated in the wild, down to the valley floor. Fortunately for him he sustain no further injuries.

# The routes / Case two « Very LL 360m »



# The routes / Case two « Very LL 360m »



- Basejumper started at : Exit Ultimate just below the village of Mürren
- Time : 16h10. Accident occurred at: 27.07.2017
- Situation , place of accident:overhanging cliff /
- Alarm at : 16h14
- Decision after briefing with Rescue organization: After a “Reccee” flight, and a briefing with SAC Lauterbrunnen it was clear, that a very long rope was necessary for the rescue. At 16.48 the crew started the Longline rescue.
- Start at : 16:14 with : Reccee flight EC 135 HB-ZRK /  
16:24 Reccee flight HB-ZUT / 16:48 Longline

- Length of rope :360m Heli: AS350B3
- Crew : One pilot and one Crew member onboard,
- Rescuers : Pilot: Jaun Michael, Barthes Laurent / Rettungssanitäter: Rothenbühler André / Doctor: Sinsel Markus / RSH: Jaun Fritz, von Allmen Toni, Dietler Daniel
- Process: The length of the rope was decided to allow the helicopter to be above the cliff in order to avoid rockfall or else. Another rescue was done a few years back at almost the same spot but using an 180m line. The helicopter was at that time below the cliff in the overhang.

- Result: The crew arrived well next to the basejumper. The longline rescue was successful but on the medical side, the rescuer found the casualty lifeless.
- Particularities : The crew had to pull back almost 40 meters before the rescuers were slowly flown back from the wall. With such a length, the line reaction is probably the most challenging effect to cope with.
- The communication is absolutely paramount.



# Case two « Very LL 360m »



# Case two « Very LL 360m »





## Case two « Very LL 360m »



- Decision to fly such high demanding mission is done according a briefing with all involved rescuers,
- The routes and situations are very well knowned by all crews,
- The distances, time on HEC is minimized as much as possible,
- The VLL is used mostly to avoid falling objects, rocks, etc from the overhanging cliffs and to avoid to «blow away» the paratrooper
- The cliffs are very difficult and dangerous (humidity, overhang, etc.) for terrestrial rescue,
- The crew is trained accordingly (daily ops, reccurent training with at least 150m, mostly same crew flying the demanding missions),
- The geographical alignmentf of the valley has to be proper,
  - Close visual reference points for the Pilot,
  - Settled valley and on spot Illiumintation for a night rescue,

- Difficult to assess the patient situation and condition,
- Limited to small numbers of rescuers,
- No pressure from the company, no go = ok for the postholders,
- All crew trained together (rescuer, pilots, paramedics, doctors, etc.),
- Communication (two way : crew – pilot) is paramount,
- All crew performed a break and briefing with all involved rescuers after the recce flight, to decide together the way forward (done every mission),
- Potential to use maybe once drone to assess first the situation,



**THANK YOU / QUESTIONS ??**