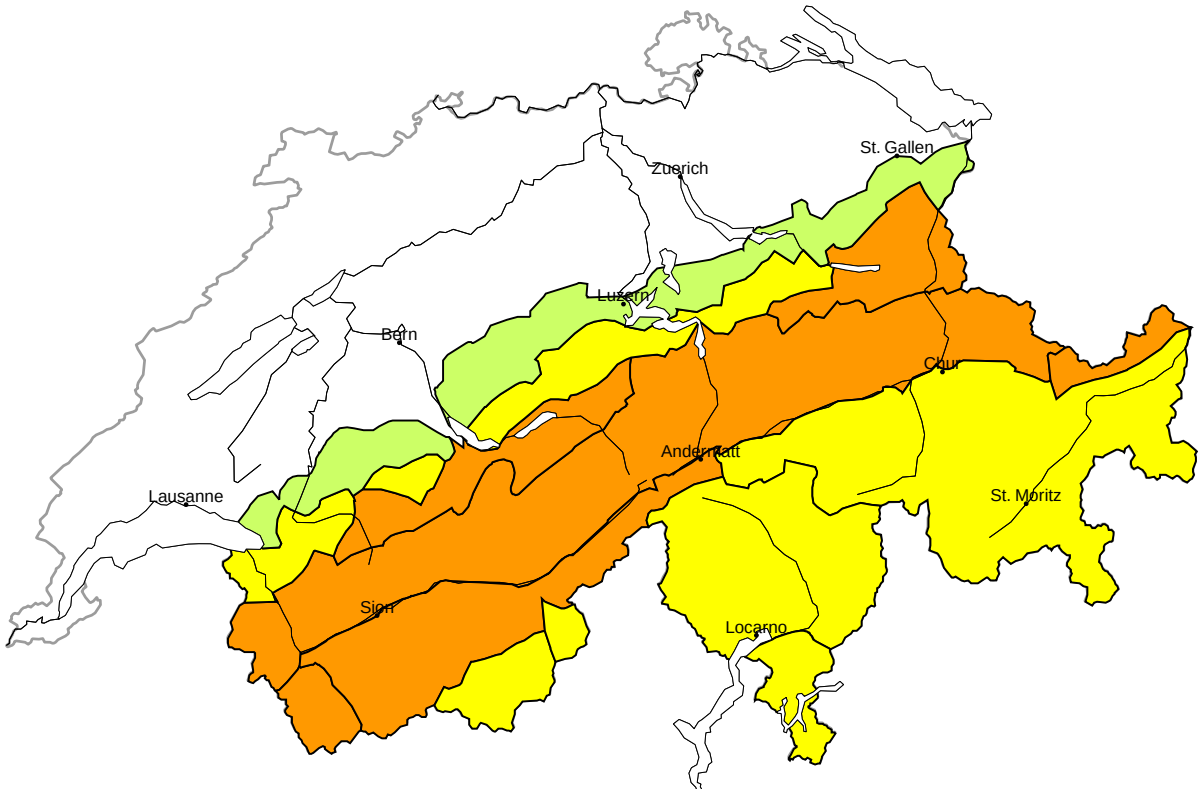
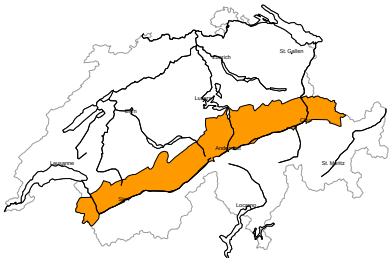
Avalanche danger

updated on 18.3.2024, 17:00



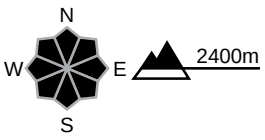
region A



Considerable (3=)

New snow, Wind slab

Avalanche prone locations



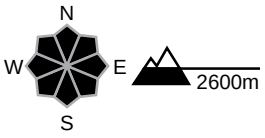
Danger description

The fresh snow and the wind slabs to be found in particular adjacent to riddgelines are in some cases prone to triggering. Single winter sport participants can release avalanches. These can in some cases reach large size. Avalanches can in isolated cases be released in deeper layers also. Experience in the assessment of avalanche danger is required.

Considerable (3)

Wet snow, Gliding snow

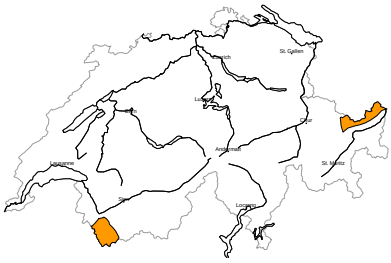
Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

In particular on very steep grassy slopes more gliding avalanches are to be expected. These can reach large size. Areas with glide cracks are to be avoided.
As a consequence of warming during the day and solar radiation medium-sized and, in isolated cases, large wet avalanches are possible as the day progresses. Caution is to be exercised in particular on steep sunny slopes.

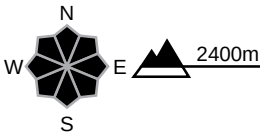
region B



Considerable (3=)

New snow, Wind slab

Avalanche prone locations



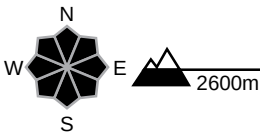
Danger description

The fresh snow and the wind slabs to be found in particular adjacent to riddgelines are in some cases prone to triggering. Single winter sport participants can release avalanches. These can in some cases reach large size. Avalanches can in isolated cases be released in deeper layers also. Experience in the assessment of avalanche danger is required.

Moderate (2)

Gliding snow

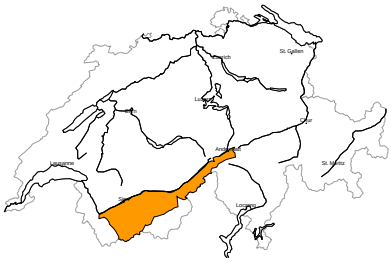
Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

In particular on very steep grassy slopes gliding avalanches are possible. These can reach large size. Areas with glide cracks are to be avoided.
As a consequence of warming during the day and solar radiation small to medium-sized wet avalanches are possible as the day progresses.

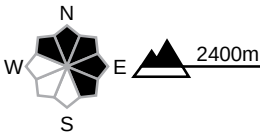
region C



Considerable (3-)

Wind slab, Persistent weak layers

Avalanche prone locations



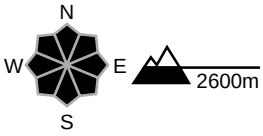
Danger description

As a consequence of new snow and a sometimes strong northwesterly wind, avalanche prone wind slabs formed on Monday in particular adjacent to ridgelines as well as at elevated altitudes. These can be released, even by a single winter sport participant. Avalanches can reach medium size.
Avalanches can additionally in isolated cases be released in the old snowpack, mostly by large additional loads. These can reach large size. The avalanche prone locations are barely recognisable, even to the trained eye.
Backcountry touring and other off-piste activities call for experience in the assessment of avalanche danger and careful route selection.

Moderate (2)

Gliding snow

Avalanche prone locations

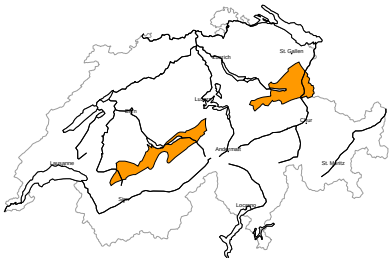


Danger description

In particular on very steep grassy slopes gliding avalanches are possible. These can reach large size. Areas with glide cracks are to be avoided.
As a consequence of warming during the day and solar radiation small to medium-sized wet avalanches are possible as the day progresses.

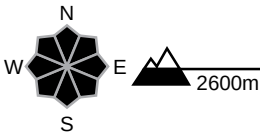
region D

Considerable (3)



Wet snow, Gliding snow

Avalanche prone locations



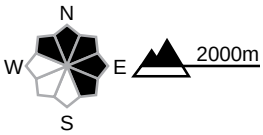
Danger description

In particular on very steep grassy slopes more gliding avalanches are to be expected. These can reach large size. Areas with glide cracks are to be avoided.
As a consequence of warming during the day and solar radiation medium-sized and, in isolated cases, large wet avalanches are possible as the day progresses. Caution is to be exercised in particular on steep sunny slopes.

Moderate (2+)

Wind slab

Avalanche prone locations

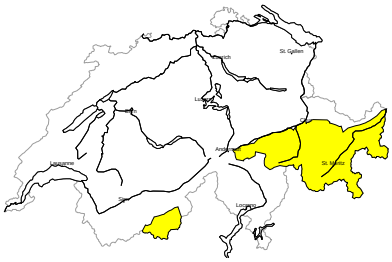


Danger description

As a consequence of new snow and a sometimes strong westerly wind, avalanche prone wind slabs formed on Monday in particular adjacent to ridgelines and in gullies and bowls. These can be released by a single winter sport participant. Avalanches can reach medium size. The wind slabs are to be evaluated with care and prudence in steep terrain.

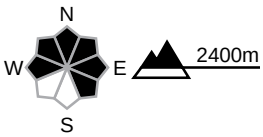
region E

Moderate (2+)



Wind slab, Persistent weak layers

Avalanche prone locations



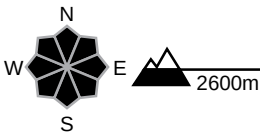
Danger description

Avalanches can in isolated cases be released in the old snowpack, mostly by large additional loads. These can reach large size. The avalanche prone locations are barely recognisable, even to the trained eye.
In addition the fresh wind slabs in particular adjacent to ridgelines and generally at elevated altitudes are prone to triggering. Backcountry touring and other off-piste activities call for defensive route selection.

Moderate (2)

Gliding snow

Avalanche prone locations

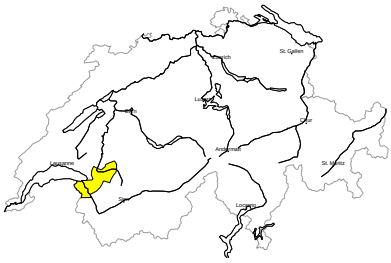


Danger description

In particular on very steep grassy slopes gliding avalanches are possible. These can reach large size. Areas with glide cracks are to be avoided.
As a consequence of warming during the day and solar radiation small to medium-sized wet avalanches are possible as the day progresses.

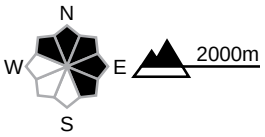
region F

Moderate (2+)



Wind slab

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description
As a consequence of new snow and a sometimes strong westerly wind, avalanche prone wind slabs formed on Monday in particular adjacent to ridgelines and in gullies and bowls. These can be released by a single winter sport participant. Avalanches can reach medium size. The wind slabs are to be evaluated with care and prudence in steep terrain.

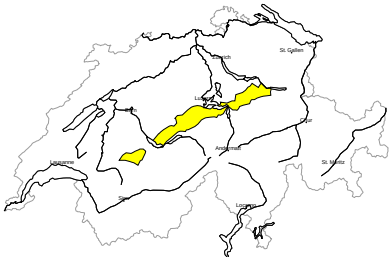
Low (1)

Gliding snow

More gliding avalanches are possible, especially on steep grassy slopes. These can reach medium size. Areas with glide cracks are to be avoided as far as possible.

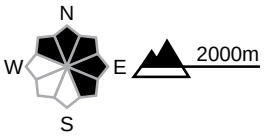
region G

Moderate (2+)



Wind slab

Avalanche prone locations

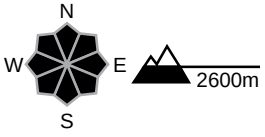


Danger description
As a consequence of new snow and a sometimes strong westerly wind, avalanche prone wind slabs formed on Monday in particular adjacent to ridgelines and in gullies and bowls. These can be released by a single winter sport participant. Avalanches can reach medium size. The wind slabs are to be evaluated with care and prudence in steep terrain.

Moderate (2)

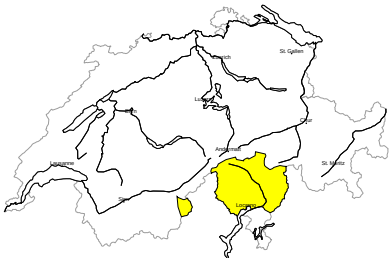
Gliding snow

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description
In particular on very steep grassy slopes gliding avalanches are possible. These can reach large size. Areas with glide cracks are to be avoided.
As a consequence of warming during the day and solar radiation small to medium-sized wet avalanches are possible as the day progresses.

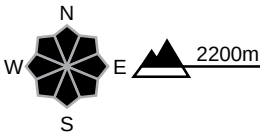
region H



Moderate (2-)

Wind slab

Avalanche prone locations



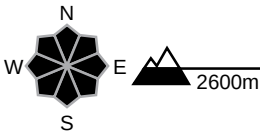
Danger description

As a consequence of a moderate northerly wind, avalanche prone wind slabs formed on Monday in particular adjacent to ridgelines. Avalanches can additionally in some places be released in near-surface layers. This applies in particular on very steep slopes, as well as at transitions from a shallow to a deep snowpack, when entering gullies and bowls for example. Careful route selection is recommended.

Moderate (2)

Gliding snow

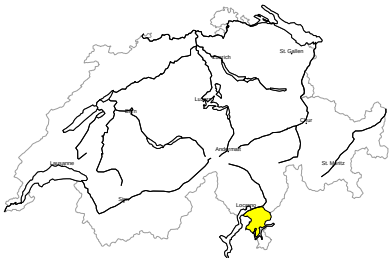
Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

In particular on very steep grassy slopes gliding avalanches are possible. These can reach large size. Areas with glide cracks are to be avoided.
As a consequence of warming during the day and solar radiation small to medium-sized wet avalanches are possible as the day progresses.

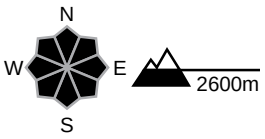
region I



Moderate (2)

Gliding snow

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

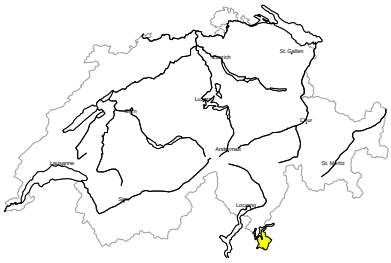
In particular on very steep grassy slopes gliding avalanches are possible. These can reach large size. Areas with glide cracks are to be avoided.
As a consequence of warming during the day and solar radiation small to medium-sized wet avalanches are possible as the day progresses.

Low (1)

No distinct avalanche problem

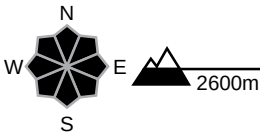
Individual avalanche prone locations are to be found in particular in extremely steep terrain. Apart from the danger of being buried, restraint should be exercised in particular in view of the danger of avalanches sweeping people along and giving rise to falls.

region J — Moderate (2)



Gliding snow

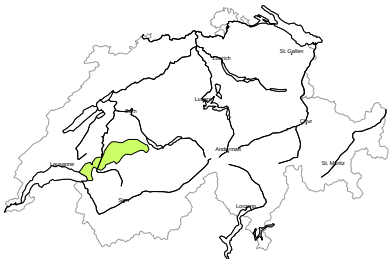
Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

In particular on very steep grassy slopes gliding avalanches are possible. These can reach large size. Areas with glide cracks are to be avoided.
As a consequence of warming during the day and solar radiation small to medium-sized wet avalanches are possible as the day progresses.

region K — Low (1)



No distinct avalanche problem

Only a little snow is lying. Individual avalanche prone locations are to be found in particular in extremely steep terrain.
Apart from the danger of being buried, restraint should be exercised in particular in view of the danger of avalanches sweeping people along and giving rise to falls.

Low (1)

Gliding snow

More gliding avalanches are possible, especially on steep grassy slopes. These can reach medium size. Areas with glide cracks are to be avoided as far as possible.

region L — Low (1)

Gliding snow

More gliding avalanches are possible, especially on steep grassy slopes. These can reach medium size. Areas with glide cracks are to be avoided as far as possible.

Snowpack and weather

updated on 18.3.2024, 17:00

Snowpack

With new fallen snow and wind, wind slabs formed on Monday, especially at high altitudes. These are prone to triggering in places.
In addition, around the crusts in the top section of the snowpack, weak layers with a sometimes faceted crystal structure have been deposited. These weak layers are sometimes prone to triggering, especially in southern Upper Valais and in the inneralpine regions of Grisons. Deep layers of the snowpack are compact in many places and most do not contain distinct weak layers.
With warmer temperatures and solar radiation, the new snow will become moist up to high altitudes, and many loose snow slides are expected, especially on east-, south- and west-facing slopes. Furthermore, gliding avalanches are to be expected, primarily on east-, south- and west-facing slopes below approximately 2600 m and more rarely on north-facing slopes. These may be large.

Weather review for Monday, 18.03.2024

It was very cloudy and precipitation fell into the afternoon.

New snow
The snowfall level was 2200 m in the west and 1800 m in the east. The following amounts of fresh snow fell:

- extreme west of Lower Valais, Northern Alpine Ridge: 15 to 30 cm, and locally more;
- rest of Lower Valais, southern Goms, northern Grisons: 10 to 20 cm;
- less elsewhere.

Temperature
At midday at 2000 m, between +2 °C in the west and south and 0° C in the east.

Wind
There was a westerly to northwesterly wind:

- moderate to strong in the morning in the west, otherwise still mostly light;
- moderate to strong in the afternoon on the Northern Alpine Ridge, otherwise light to moderate.

Weather forecast until Tuesday, 19.03.2024

During Monday night into Tuesday, the precipitation will end in the east and skies will clear from the west. During the day, it will be generally mostly sunny.

New snow
-

Temperature
Tempatures will rise. At midday at 2000 m, it will be between +3 °C in the west and +1° C in the east.

Wind
- During Monday night into Tuesday, on and to the south of the Main Alpine Ridge, there will still be a moderate to strong northerly wind.
- During the day, winds will be mostly light, blowing from the north.

Avalanche bulletin through Tuesday, 19. March 2024

Trend

Wednesday
In the event of a clear night into Wednesday, the surface of the snowpack will cool down well. During the day, it will be mostly sunny and mild with mostly light winds.
The danger of dry avalanches will decrease. Gliding avalanches are still to be expected.

Thursday
Wednesday night into Thursday is likely to be mostly cloudy. During the day, it will be cloudy at times in the north with some precipitation, although the amounts are still uncertain. The snowfall level will be around 2000 m. It will be partly sunny in the south.
The danger of dry avalanches may increase slightly in some regions. Gliding avalanches are still to be expected.