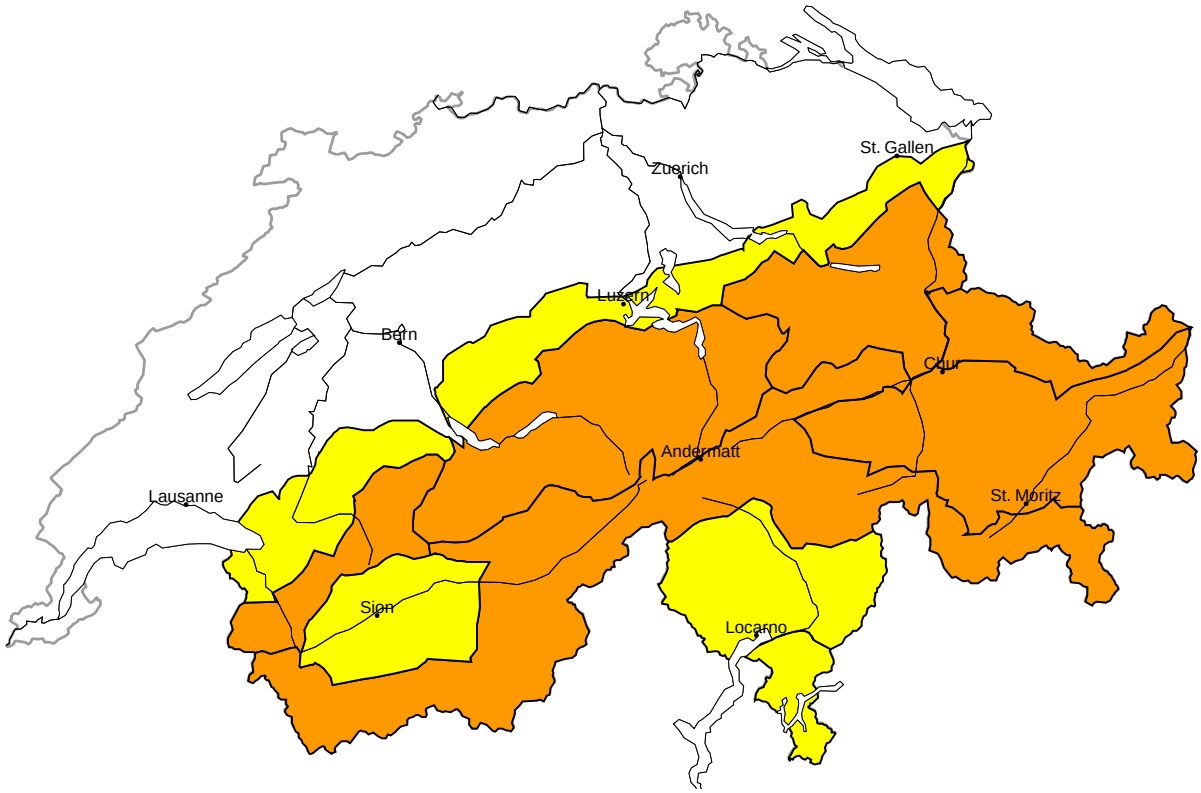
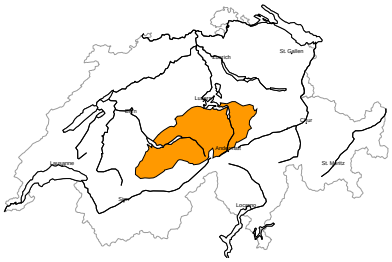
Avalanche danger

updated on 7.3.2024, 17:00



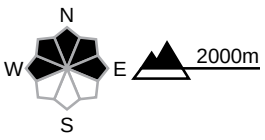
region A

Considerable (3=)



New snow

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

As a consequence of a strengthening southerly wind, avalanche prone wind slabs will form over a wide area. In the course of the day these will increase in size additionally. Single winter sport participants can release avalanches. These can reach large size in isolated cases.
Backcountry touring and other off-piste activities call for experience in the assessment of avalanche danger.

Moderate (2)

Wet snow, Gliding snow

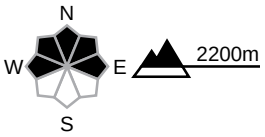
Gliding avalanches are possible. These can in isolated cases reach large size. This applies on steep south facing slopes in particular below approximately 2400 m, as well as on north facing slopes in particular below approximately 2000 m. Areas with glide cracks are to be avoided as far as possible.
In addition moist loose snow slides are possible, in particular on very steep sunny slopes.

region B

Considerable (3-)

New snow, Persistent weak layers

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

As a consequence of a strengthening southerly wind, avalanche prone wind slabs will form. In the course of the day these will increase in size additionally. Avalanches can additionally be released in deeper layers also. These avalanche prone locations are barely recognisable, even to the trained eye. Single winter sport participants can release avalanches. These can reach large size in isolated cases.
Backcountry touring and other off-piste activities call for experience in the assessment of avalanche danger.

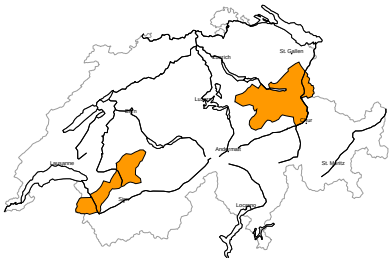
Moderate (2)

Wet snow, Gliding snow

Gliding avalanches are possible. These can in isolated cases reach large size. This applies on steep south facing slopes in particular below approximately 2400 m, as well as on north facing slopes in particular below approximately 2000 m. Areas with glide cracks are to be avoided as far as possible.
In addition moist loose snow slides are possible, in particular on very steep sunny slopes.

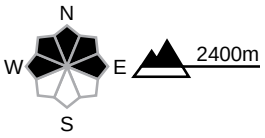
region C

Considerable (3-)



Wind slab

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

As a consequence of a strengthening southerly wind, avalanche prone wind slabs will form. In the course of the day these will increase in size additionally. The avalanche prone locations are to be found in particular adjacent to ridgelines and in gullies and bowls, and behind abrupt changes in the terrain. Single winter sport participants can release avalanches. Mostly these are medium-sized.
The fresh wind slabs are to be avoided in steep terrain.
Off-piste activities call for experience in the assessment of avalanche danger.

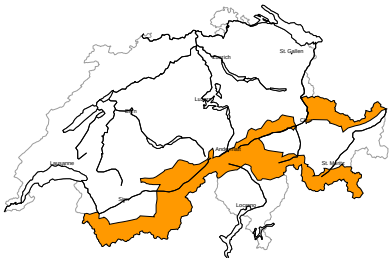
Moderate (2)

Wet snow, Gliding snow

Gliding avalanches are possible. These can in isolated cases reach large size. This applies on steep south facing slopes in particular below approximately 2400 m, as well as on north facing slopes in particular below approximately 2000 m. Areas with glide cracks are to be avoided as far as possible.
In addition moist loose snow slides are possible, in particular on very steep sunny slopes.

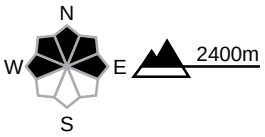
region D

Considerable (3-)



Wind slab

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

As a consequence of a strengthening southerly wind, avalanche prone wind slabs will form. In the course of the day these will increase in size additionally. The avalanche prone locations are to be found in particular adjacent to ridgelines and in gullies and bowls, and behind abrupt changes in the terrain. Single winter sport participants can release avalanches. Mostly these are medium-sized.
The fresh wind slabs are to be avoided in steep terrain. Off-piste activities call for experience in the assessment of avalanche danger.

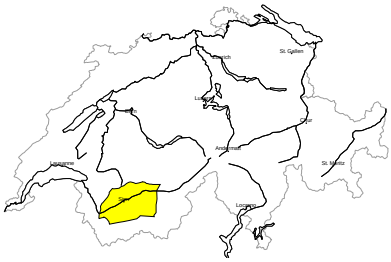
Moderate (2)

Wet snow, Gliding snow

Gliding avalanches are possible. These can in isolated cases reach large size. This applies on steep south facing slopes in particular below approximately 2400 m, as well as on north facing slopes in particular below approximately 2000 m. Areas with glide cracks are to be avoided as far as possible.
In addition moist loose snow slides are possible, in particular on very steep sunny slopes.

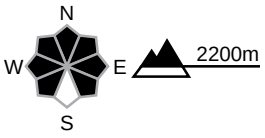
region E

Moderate (2+)



Wind slab

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

As a consequence of a strengthening southerly wind, avalanche prone wind slabs will form. These are to be bypassed as far as possible. Avalanches can reach medium size.
Backcountry touring and other off-piste activities call for careful route selection.

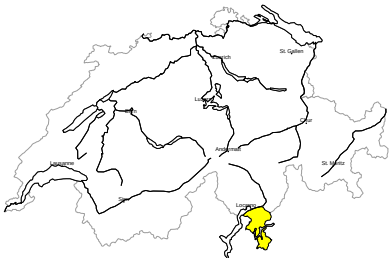
Moderate (2)

Wet snow, Gliding snow

Gliding avalanches are possible. These can in isolated cases reach large size. This applies on steep south facing slopes in particular below approximately 2400 m, as well as on north facing slopes in particular below approximately 2000 m. Areas with glide cracks are to be avoided as far as possible.
In addition moist loose snow slides are possible, in particular on very steep sunny slopes.

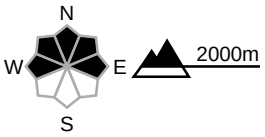
region F

Moderate (2+)



Wind slab

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description
The wind slabs of Wednesday are in some cases prone to triggering. The avalanche prone locations are covered with new snow and are therefore difficult to recognise. Persons can release avalanches in some places. Mostly these are medium-sized.
Backcountry touring and other off-piste activities call for careful route selection.

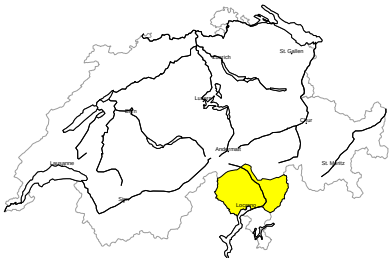
Low (1)

Wet snow, Gliding snow

In particular on very steep grassy slopes gliding avalanches and moist snow slides are to be expected. Gliding avalanches can reach medium size.
Areas with glide cracks are to be avoided as far as possible.

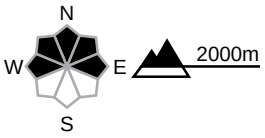
region G

Moderate (2+)



Wind slab

Avalanche prone locations

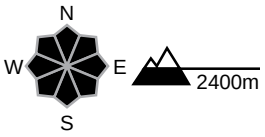


Danger description
The wind slabs of Wednesday are in some cases prone to triggering. The avalanche prone locations are covered with new snow and are therefore difficult to recognise. Persons can release avalanches in some places. Mostly these are medium-sized.
Backcountry touring and other off-piste activities call for careful route selection.

Moderate (2)

Gliding snow

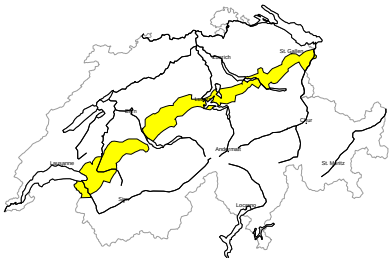
Avalanche prone locations



Danger description
In particular on very steep grassy slopes gliding avalanches are possible. They can reach medium size.
Areas with glide cracks are to be avoided as far as possible.

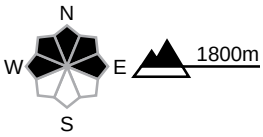
region H

Moderate (2+)



Wind slab

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

As a consequence of a strengthening foehn wind, mostly small wind slabs will form. They are prone to triggering. Persons can release avalanches in some places. Mostly these are rather small.
Backcountry touring and other off-piste activities call for careful route selection.

Low (1)

Wet snow, Gliding snow

In particular on very steep grassy slopes gliding avalanches and moist snow slides are to be expected. Gliding avalanches can reach medium size.
Areas with glide cracks are to be avoided as far as possible.

Snowpack and weather

updated on 7.3.2024, 17:00

Snowpack

The moderate to strong southerly wind is causing Wednesday's loose new snow to drift. The fresh wind slabs are prone to triggering. They are growing as the day progresses. In places, this week's thick layers of new snow are still prone to triggering. Deep layers of the snowpack are compact in many places. However, around the crusts in the upper third of the old snowpack, layers with a sometimes faceted crystal structure are deposited, in which, especially in the inneralpine regions of Grisons, avalanches have been released.
Gliding avalanches are still possible, primarily on east-, south- and west-facing slopes below approximately 2400 m and more rarely on north-facing slopes. These may be large.

Weather review for Thursday, 07.03.2024

During the first half of Wednesday night into Thursday, the snowfall also stopped in the east. The snowfall level was around 800 m. The skies then cleared from the west. During the day, it was mostly sunny in the mountains. There were residual clouds along the Prealps.

New snow
Above 1500 m from Tuesday afternoon until during Wednesday night into Thursday, the following amounts of fresh snow were recorded:
- Northern Alpine Ridge from the Gemmi Pass to the Reuss: 50 to 80 cm;
- Northern Alpine Ridge from the Dents de Morcles to the Gemmi Pass, rest of the central part of the northern flank of the Alps, Glarus Alps, Avers, Bivio, Val Bregaglia and the Bernina region: 30 to 50 cm;
- elsewhere: widely 15 to 30 cm.

Temperature
At midday at 2000 m, between -3 °C in the far east and -1 °C in the other regions.

Wind
- During the night, there will continue to be a moderate northerly to northeasterly wind along the Main Alpine Ridge and south of it as well as at higher altitudes.
- During the day, there will be a mostly weak southerly wind.

Weather forecast until Friday, 08.03.2024

In the south, some snow will fall above approximately 1100 m. In the north, it will be quite sunny after a mostly clear night. In the afternoon, clouds will gather in the west.

New snow
From Thursday evening to Friday afternoon, the following amounts of new snow are expected:
- Simplon region, southern Goms, central part of the southern flank of the Alps, Val Bregaglia: widely 5 to 10 cm; Valle Maggia: up to 20 cm;
- dry elsewhere.

Temperature
At midday at 2000 m, between 0 °C in the north and -5 °C in the south.

Wind
There will be a moderate to strong southerly wind along the Northern Alpine Ridge and the Main Alpine Ridge, and during the day a moderate to strong foehn wind in the Alpine valleys.

Trend until Sunday, 10.03.2024

Saturday
In the south, some snow will fall above approximately 1000 m. The Upper Valais part of the Main Alpine Ridge and western Ticino are expected to see the most new snow, with 20 to 30 cm of it. It will be fairly sunny north of the Main Alpine Ridge. Strong and, as the day progresses, increasingly storm-force southerly winds will blow in the mountains and in the foehn valleys.
The avalanche danger will increase slightly in the south with the arrival of new snow. The avalanche danger will hardly change north of the Main Alpine Ridge. The sometimes large wind slabs could easily be released by the southerly wind. Gliding avalanches will still be possible.

Sunday
Another 40 to 60 cm of snow will fall along the Upper Valais part of the Main Alpine Ridge and in western Ticino. The snowfall level will be around 1300 m. In the north, it will be cloudy but mostly dry. The southerly wind will reach storm force, especially during Saturday night into Sunday. The avalanche danger will increase in the south, with a significant rise in the regions exposed to heavier precipitation. Danger level 4 (high) may be reached there during Saturday night into Sunday. In the north, the avalanche situation will hardly change. Gliding avalanches will still be possible.