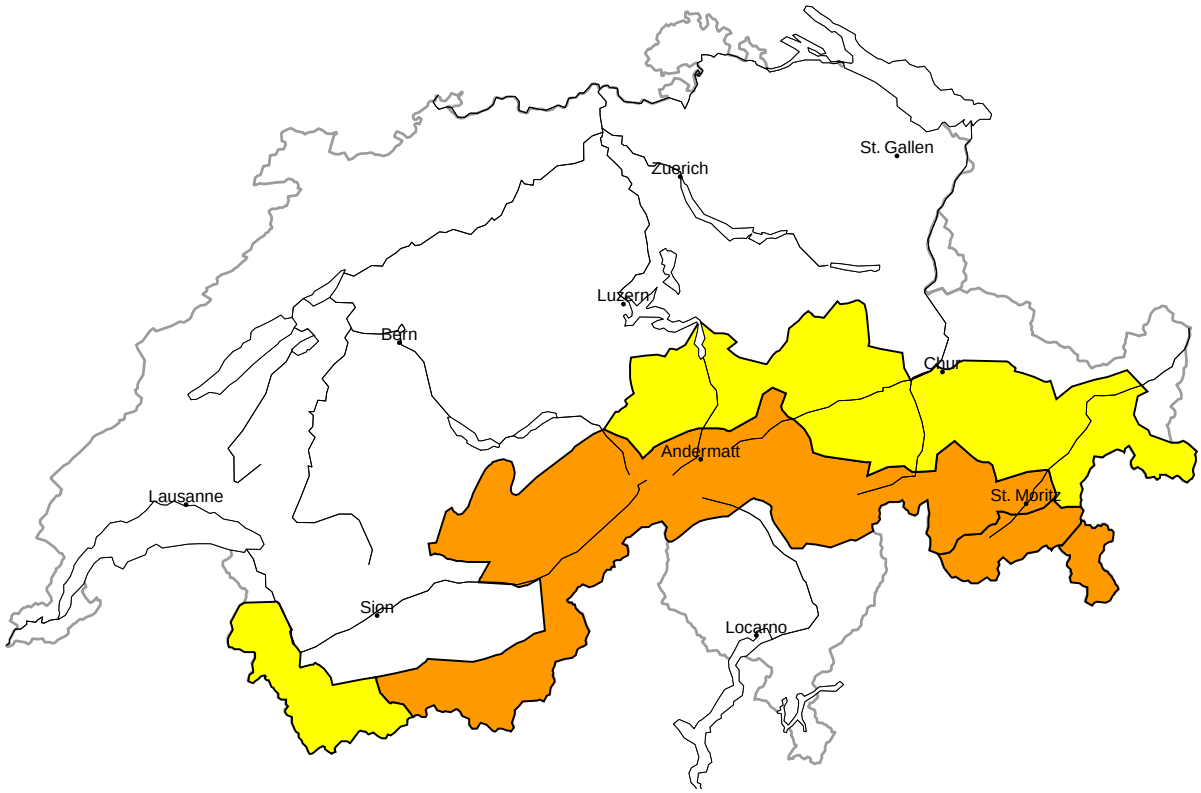
Avalanche bulletin through Wednesday, 9. October 2024

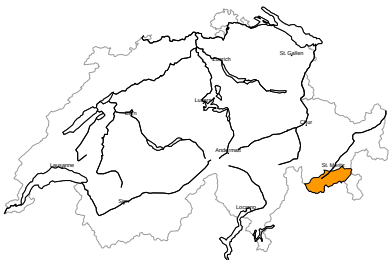
Avalanche danger

updated on 8.10.2024, 17:00



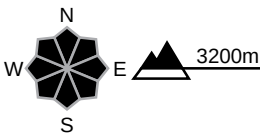
region A

Considerable (3=)



New snow

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

70 to 100 cm of snow fell on Tuesday above approximately 3500 m. The large quantity of fresh snow and the extensive wind slabs formed by the strong southerly wind are prone to triggering in high Alpine regions. Single persons can release avalanches, including large ones.
The backcountry touring conditions in high Alpine regions are precarious. Experience in the assessment of avalanche danger is required.

Danger levels 1 low 2 moderate 3 considerable 4 high 5 very high

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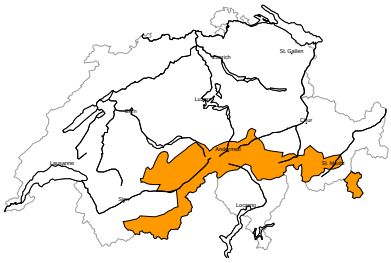
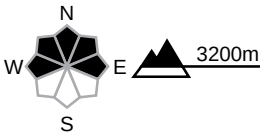
region B — Considerable (3-)



New snow

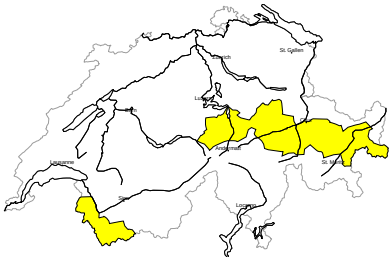
Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

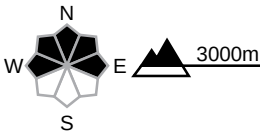
Over a wide area 30 to 40 cm of snow, and up to 50 cm in some localities, fell on Tuesday above approximately 3200 m. The fresh snow and the wind slabs formed by the strong southerly wind are in some cases still prone to triggering in high Alpine regions. Single persons can release avalanches in some places, including medium-sized ones. Experience in the assessment of avalanche danger is required. Apart from the danger of being buried, restraint should be exercised as well in view of the danger of avalanches sweeping people along and giving rise to falls.
The Avalanche Warning Service currently has only a small amount of information that has been collected in the field, so that the avalanche danger should be investigated especially thoroughly in the relevant locality.

region C — Moderate (2=)



Wind slab

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

Over a wide area 10 to 30 cm of snow fell on Tuesday above approximately 3200 m. As a consequence of a strong southerly wind, avalanche prone wind slabs formed. These are to be evaluated with care and prudence in steep terrain. The avalanche prone locations are to be found in particular in gullies and bowls, and behind abrupt changes in the terrain in high Alpine regions. Mostly the avalanches are small. Restraint should be exercised because avalanches can sweep people along and give rise to falls.
The Avalanche Warning Service currently has only a small amount of information that has been collected in the field, so that the avalanche danger should be investigated especially thoroughly in the relevant locality.

Snowpack and weather

updated on 8.10.2024, 17:00

Snowpack

Before the current precipitation, there was a large area of cohesive old snowpack, primarily in bowls on shady slopes and at the base of rock walls above approximately 2500 to 3000 m, as well as generally in the glaciated high Alpine regions. Widespread precipitation fell on Tuesday, this precipitation being heavy on the Main Alpine Ridge and in the south. Below 3000 m, and in the Bernina region below 3200 m, most of the precipitation fell as rain. Above those levels, new snow fell on a wintry, cohesive snowpack. The strong southerly wind has created large snowdrift accumulations.

Trend

Thursday
With strong to stormy southerly winds, some intense precipitation will fall during the night. During the day, the wind will blow from the west and it will remain overcast with some precipitation. The snowfall level will be around 3000 m for a considerable period, dropping at the end to around 2200 m. In the Bernina region, 50 to 80 cm of new snow is expected in the high Alpine regions, and 30 to 50 cm in the far west and on the remaining eastern part of the Main Alpine Ridge.
The avalanche danger will increase widely in the high Alpine regions and significantly in the Bernina region.

Friday
Some snow will fall above the tree line in the north, primarily during the night. During the day it will be quite sunny in the west and south, while in the north-east it will remain cloudy.
The avalanche danger will decrease. Naturally triggered avalanches will no longer be expected. In the high Alpine regions, however, it will still be possible for individual people to trigger avalanches.