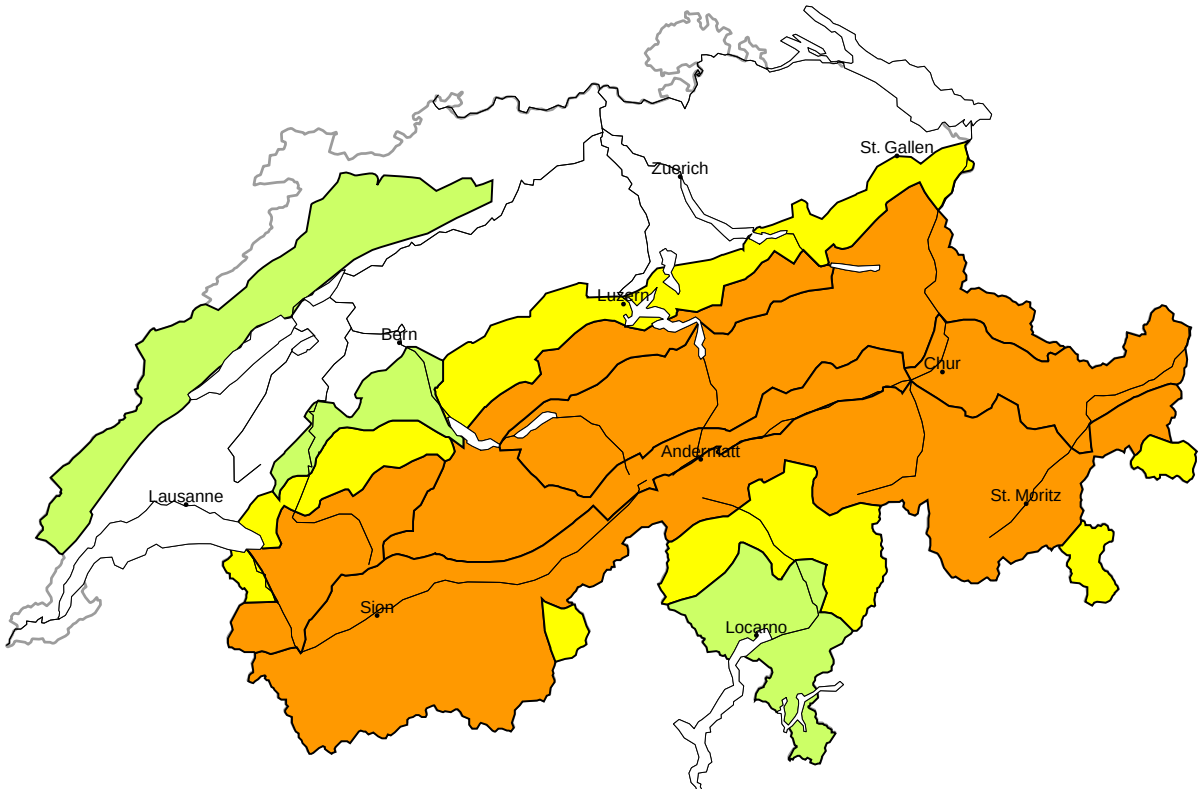
Avalanche danger

updated on 21.4.2024, 17:00

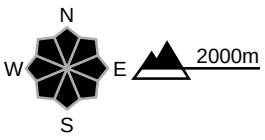


region A

Considerable (3+)

New snow

Avalanche prone locations



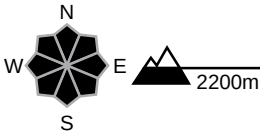
Danger description

Large quantities of fresh snow and the wind-drifted snow are prone to triggering. Single winter sport participants can release avalanches. The number and size of avalanche prone locations will increase in the high Alpine regions. Natural avalanches are possible, even large ones. Exposed parts of transportation routes can be endangered occasionally.
Backcountry touring and other off-piste activities call for extensive experience in the assessment of avalanche danger and caution.

Moderate (2)

Gliding snow

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

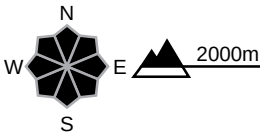
On steep grassy slopes more gliding avalanches are to be expected, but they will be mostly small. Caution is to be exercised in areas with glide cracks.

region B

Considerable (3=)

New snow

Avalanche prone locations

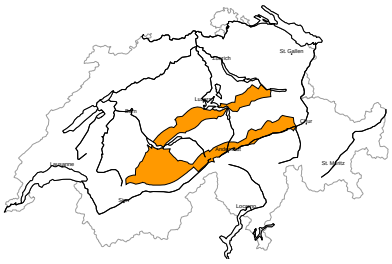


Danger description

The new snow and wind slabs are prone to triggering. Single winter sport participants can release avalanches, including large ones. The number and size of avalanche prone locations will increase in the high Alpine regions. Backcountry touring and other off-piste activities call for experience in the assessment of avalanche danger.

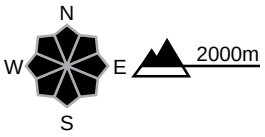
region C

Considerable (3=)



New snow

Avalanche prone locations



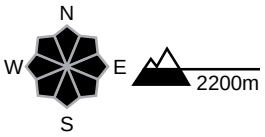
Danger description

The new snow and wind slabs are prone to triggering. Single winter sport participants can release avalanches, including large ones. The number and size of avalanche prone locations will increase in the high Alpine regions. Backcountry touring and other off-piste activities call for experience in the assessment of avalanche danger.

Moderate (2)

Gliding snow

Avalanche prone locations

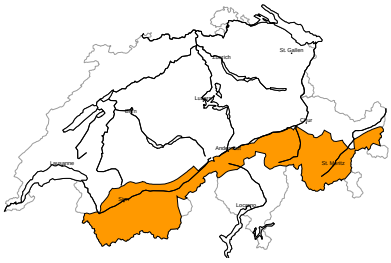


Danger description

On steep grassy slopes more gliding avalanches are to be expected, but they will be mostly small. Caution is to be exercised in areas with glide cracks.

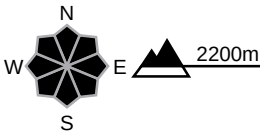
region D

Considerable (3-)



New snow

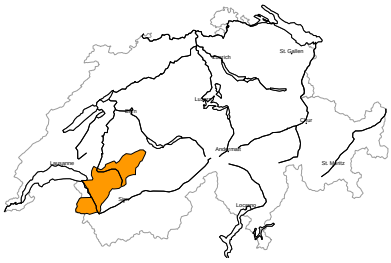
Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

The new snow and wind slabs of the last few days are prone to triggering. Single winter sport participants can release avalanches. Mostly these are medium-sized. At elevated altitudes the prevalence and size of the avalanche prone locations will increase.
Backcountry touring and other off-piste activities call for experience in the assessment of avalanche danger.

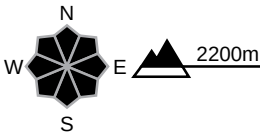
region E



Considerable (3-)

New snow

Avalanche prone locations

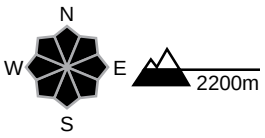


Danger description
The new snow and wind slabs of the last few days are prone to triggering. Single winter sport participants can release avalanches. Mostly these are medium-sized. At elevated altitudes the prevalence and size of the avalanche prone locations will increase.
Backcountry touring and other off-piste activities call for experience in the assessment of avalanche danger.

Moderate (2)

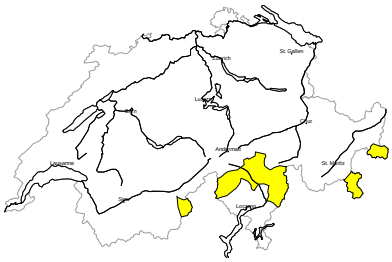
Gliding snow

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description
On steep grassy slopes more gliding avalanches are to be expected, but they will be mostly small. Caution is to be exercised in areas with glide cracks.

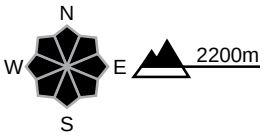
region F



Moderate (2+)

Wind slab

Avalanche prone locations

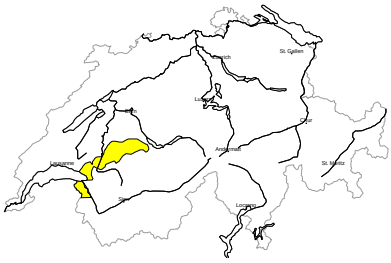


Danger description
The fresh and older wind slabs are in some cases prone to triggering. Avalanches can in some places be released, even by a single winter sport participant. They can in isolated cases reach medium size. As a consequence of new snow and wind the avalanche prone locations will become more prevalent as the day progresses.
The wind slabs are to be evaluated with care and prudence in steep terrain.

Avalanche bulletin through Monday, 22. April 2024

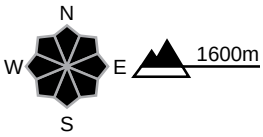
region G

Moderate (2+)



Wind slab

Avalanche prone locations



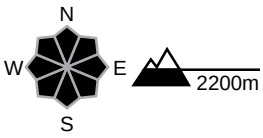
Danger description

As a consequence of a moderate bise wind, sometimes avalanche prone wind slabs will form. The avalanche prone locations are to be found in particular in gullies and bowls, and behind abrupt changes in the terrain. Avalanches can be released by a single winter sport participant. They can reach medium size.
Backcountry touring calls for defensive route selection.

Moderate (2)

Gliding snow

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

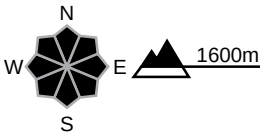
On steep grassy slopes more gliding avalanches are to be expected, but they will be mostly small. Caution is to be exercised in areas with glide cracks.

region H

Moderate (2+)

Wind slab

Avalanche prone locations

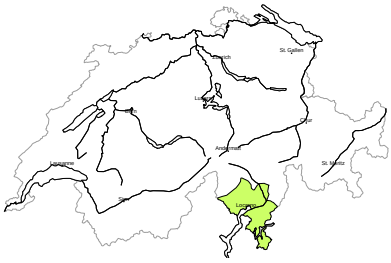


Danger description

As a consequence of a moderate bise wind, sometimes avalanche prone wind slabs will form. The avalanche prone locations are to be found in particular in gullies and bowls, and behind abrupt changes in the terrain. Avalanches can be released by a single winter sport participant. They can reach medium size.
Backcountry touring calls for defensive route selection.

region I

Low (1)

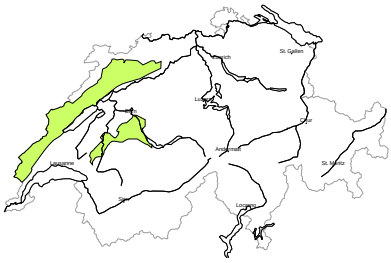


Wind slab

Individual avalanche prone locations are to be found in particular in extremely steep terrain. As a consequence of new snow and wind the avalanche prone locations will become more prevalent as the day progresses. 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

Low (1)



Wind slab

The fresh wind slabs are small but in some cases prone to triggering. As a consequence of the moderate to strong Bise wind the avalanche prone locations will become more prevalent by the evening. In particular adjacent to ridgelines and in gullies and bowls avalanches can be triggered in the various wind slab layers. Restraint should be exercised because avalanches can sweep people along and give rise to falls.

Snowpack and weather

updated on 21.4.2024, 17:00

Snowpack

Avalanches may occur in the various layers of new snow and wind slabs of the past week in particular. In the north, 80 to 150 cm of snow has fallen widely since last Tuesday, which means that large avalanches are possible. Towards the south, the amount of new snow is decreasing appreciably. This also means that fresh wind slabs are smaller and avalanche-prone locations are less prevalent. In general, the amount of new snow will increase significantly with altitude and may significantly exceed the amounts described in the avalanche bulletin in the high Alpine regions.
Before the onset of the wintry weather, the old snowpack on east-, south- and west-facing slopes was soaked up to above 3000 m and on north-facing slopes up to approximately 2500 m. Falling temperatures have caused the old snowpack to stabilise. Wet and gliding avalanche activity is currently low. Mostly small gliding avalanches are expected, especially on slopes that had been free of snow prior to these snowfalls.

Weather review for Sunday, 21.04.2024

It was cloudy in the north and there was some widespread snowfall above approximately 700 m. In the south, it was cloudy at times with some bright spells and was mostly dry.

New snow
From Saturday afternoon to Sunday afternoon, the following amounts of fresh snow fell above approximately 1400 m:
- central and eastern parts of the northern flank of the Alps: 20 to 30 cm, locally more;
- rest of the northern flank of the Alps and northern Grisons: 10 to 20 cm;
- less to the south, with the southern flank of the Alps remaining mostly dry.

Since Friday afternoon, the following amounts of snow have fallen above around 1600 m:
- northern flank of the Alps east of the Reuss: 60 to 100 cm, locally more;
- rest of the northern flank of the Alps excluding the Vaud and Fribourg Alps, Surselva, northern Prättigau: 40 to 60 cm;
- Jura, Vaud and Fribourg Alps, Valais, Bedretto, Upper Valle Maggia, rest of northern Grisons and Lower Engadine: 20 to 40 cm;
- a few centimetres or dry further south.

Temperature
At midday at 2000 m, between -7 °C in the north and -3 °C in the south.

Wind
- There were moderate, sometimes strong northerly winds in the evening and during the first half of the night, especially on the Main Alpine Ridge.
- During the day, there was a mostly weak and occasionally moderate northwesterly wind.

Avalanche bulletin through Monday, 22. April 2024

Weather forecast until Monday, 22.04.2024

It will remain cloudy. During the night, precipitation will temporarily ease somewhat in the north. Snowfall will set in again during the day, now also in the south. It will still be cold, and the snowfall level will be between 400 and 700 m.

New snow
From Sunday afternoon to Monday afternoon, the following amounts of fresh snow are expected above approximately 1400 m:

- Northern Alpine Ridge from Les Diablerets to Liechtenstein, Main Alpine Ridge from the Lukmanier Pass to the Bernina region and northern Prättigau: 20 to 30 cm;
- elsewhere: widely 10 to 20 cm.

Temperature
At midday at 2000 m, between -7 °C in the north and -5 °C in the south.

Wind

- There will be a mostly weak to moderate northeasterly wind.
- There will be an increasingly strong Bise wind in the west.
- The high Alpine regions will see increasingly strong southeasterly winds towards the southeast.

Trend until Wednesday, 24.04.2024

Tuesday
It will be mostly cloudy and there will still be some precipitation from time to time. It will remain cold, with the snowfall level lying between 700 m in the north and 1000 m in the south. Another 20 to 30 cm of new snow is expected on the central and eastern parts of the northern flank of the Alps. There will be a light to moderate northeasterly wind.
The avalanche danger will not change significantly.

Wednesday
In the north, it will be cloudy with bright spells and some snow will fall at times. It will be quite sunny in the south. It will remain cold. There will be an increasingly strong northwesterly wind on the Main Alpine Ridge. The avalanche danger will fall slightly.