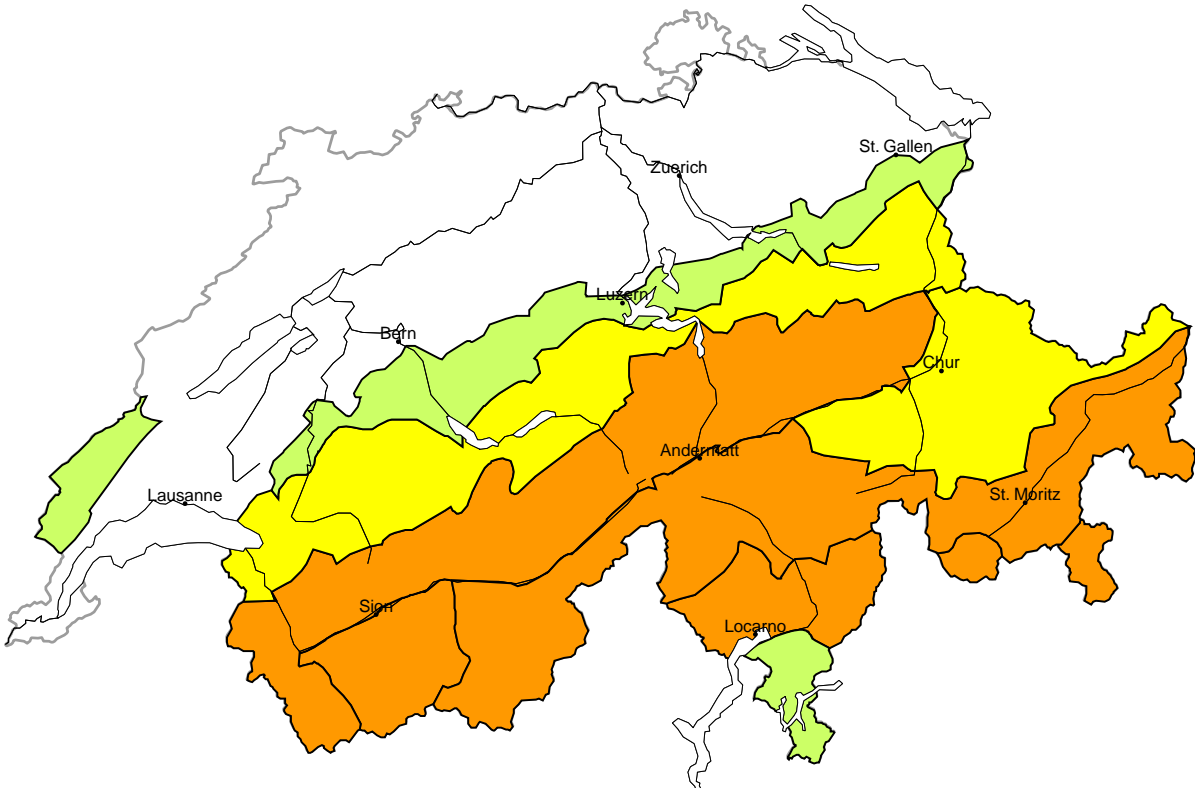


Avalanche danger
updated on 13.1.2025, 08:00



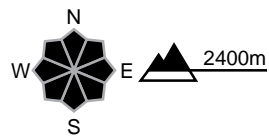
region A

Considerable (3-)



Wind slab, Persistent weak layers

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

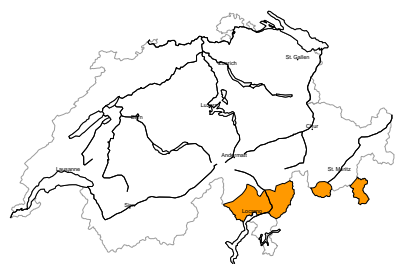
As a consequence of a sometimes strong northeasterly wind, avalanche prone wind slabs formed at elevated altitudes. Single winter sport participants can release avalanches in some places, including medium-sized ones.

Additionally in some places avalanches can also be released in the old snowpack and reach large size in isolated cases. Caution is to be exercised in particular in areas where the snow cover is rather shallow.

Backcountry touring and other off-piste activities call for experience in the assessment of avalanche danger and careful route selection.

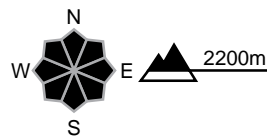
region B

Considerable (3-)



Wind slab, Persistent weak layers

Avalanche prone locations

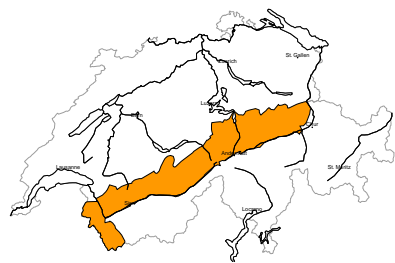


Danger description

As a consequence of a moderate to strong northeasterly wind, further wind slabs formed. They are mostly shallow but in some cases prone to triggering. Additionally in some places avalanches can be released in the old snowpack and reach medium size. These avalanche prone locations are to be found especially on very steep north facing slopes above approximately 2600 m. Backcountry touring calls for experience in the assessment of avalanche danger.

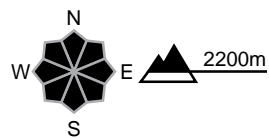
region C

Considerable (3-)



Wind slab

Avalanche prone locations

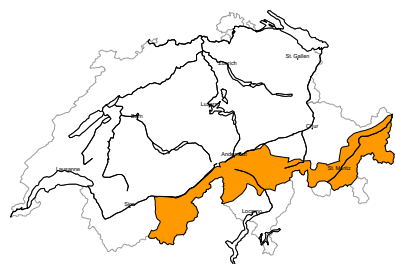


Danger description

As a consequence of a moderate to strong northeasterly wind, further wind slabs will form at elevated altitudes. The fresh and somewhat older wind slabs are in some cases prone to triggering. Avalanches can be released, even by a single winter sport participant and reach medium size. Backcountry touring and other off-piste activities call for experience in the assessment of avalanche danger.

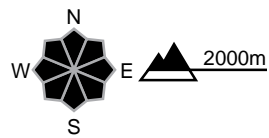
region D

Considerable (3-)



Wind slab, Persistent weak layers

Avalanche prone locations



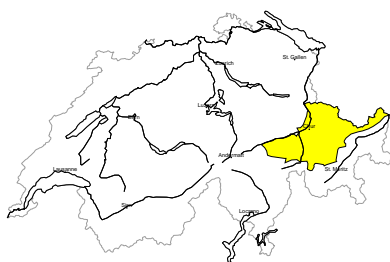
Danger description

Avalanches can be released in the old snowpack and reach large size in isolated cases. These avalanche prone locations are barely recognisable, even to the trained eye. Caution is to be exercised in particular in areas where the snow cover is rather shallow in places that are protected from the wind. As a consequence of a strong northerly wind, avalanche prone wind slabs formed. They are to be found especially in gullies and bowls and generally at elevated altitudes. Backcountry touring and other off-piste activities call for experience in the assessment of avalanche danger and careful route selection. Whumping sounds and the formation of shooting cracks when stepping on the snowpack can indicate the danger.



region E

Moderate (2+)



Wind slab, Persistent weak layers

Avalanche prone locations

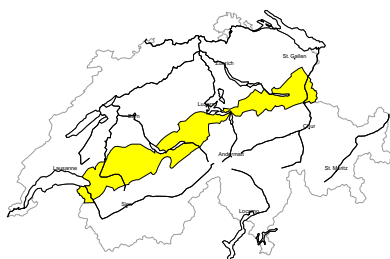


Danger description

Fresh and somewhat older wind slabs are in some cases prone to triggering. These avalanche prone locations are to be found especially adjacent to ridgelines and in gullies and bowls. Additionally in isolated cases avalanches can be released in the old snowpack and reach medium size. Backcountry touring and other off-piste activities call for defensive route selection.

region F

Moderate (2=)



Wind slab

Avalanche prone locations

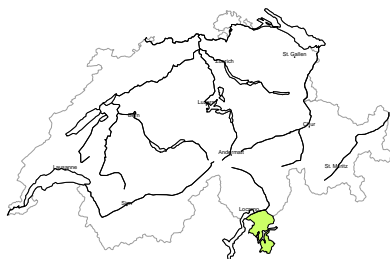


Danger description

As a consequence of a moderate to strong bise wind, sometimes avalanche prone wind slabs formed since Sunday. They are to be found in particular in gullies and bowls, and behind abrupt changes in the terrain. Avalanches can in some places be released by people, but they will be small in most cases. Backcountry touring and snowshoe hiking call for careful route selection.

region G

Low (1)

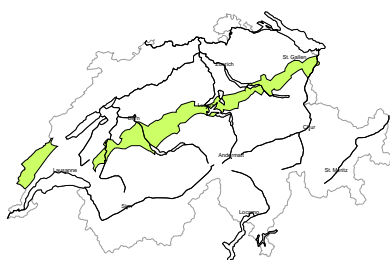


No distinct avalanche problem

Individual avalanche prone locations are to be found on extremely steep slopes above approximately 1600 m. Even a small avalanche can sweep people along and give rise to falls.

region H

Low (1)



Wind slab

As a consequence of a moderate bise wind, small wind slabs formed since Sunday. These are to be evaluated with care and prudence especially in terrain where there is a danger of falling.

Snowpack and weather

updated on 12.1.2025, 17:00

Snowpack

Widespread snowdrift accumulations have formed over the past week, initially with fresh snow and winds from the west to southwest, then from the west to northwest and at the weekend with northeasterly and Bise winds. Some of the snowdrift accumulations are prone to triggering.

The structure of the old snowpack varies greatly from region to region:

- south of a line from the Rhône to the Rhine, at high altitude the snowpack contains pronounced weak layers in which avalanches can be triggered in places, sometimes right down to ground level.
- in central and southern Ticino, as well as in Val Bregaglia and Val Poschiavo, these weak layers are present, but are very thin and therefore in the range of terrain roughness. In these southerly regions old snow therefore tends to be unproblematic, except on north-facing slopes above approximately 2600 m.
- north of a line from the Rhône to the Rhine and in the extreme west of Lower Valais, the snowpack structure is more favourable. Avalanches starting in weak layers in old snow are only possible in isolated cases. The snowpack is very strongly affected by the wind.

Weather review for Sunday

In the mountains, conditions were mostly sunny although there were a few patches of cloud.

Fresh snow

-

Temperature

At midday at 2000 m, between -6 °C in the west, -4 °C in the south and -10 °C in the east

Wind

- moderate to strong from the northeast at high altitudes, storm-force at times on the central part of the main Alpine ridge
- moderate to strong Bise wind in the Jura and along the Prealps

Weather forecast to Monday

Conditions will be mostly sunny in the mountains.

Fresh snow

-

Temperature

rising, at midday at 2000 m between -1 °C in the southwest and -5 °C in the northeast

Wind

- mostly strong at high altitudes, from the northeast during the night and from the east during the day
- moderate to strong Bise wind in the Jura and along the Prealps

Outlook

Tuesday and Wednesday will be mostly sunny, with moderate to strong northeasterly winds at high altitudes and moderate to strong Bise winds in the north. It will be milder, especially on Tuesday, with a zero-degree level of 2600 m in the west and 2200 m in the east. On Wednesday, this will drop to around 1400 m in the east.

Avalanche danger will decrease, but only slowly in areas with persistent weak layers. These higher temperatures will cause gliding avalanche activity to increase again somewhat in the north and west.