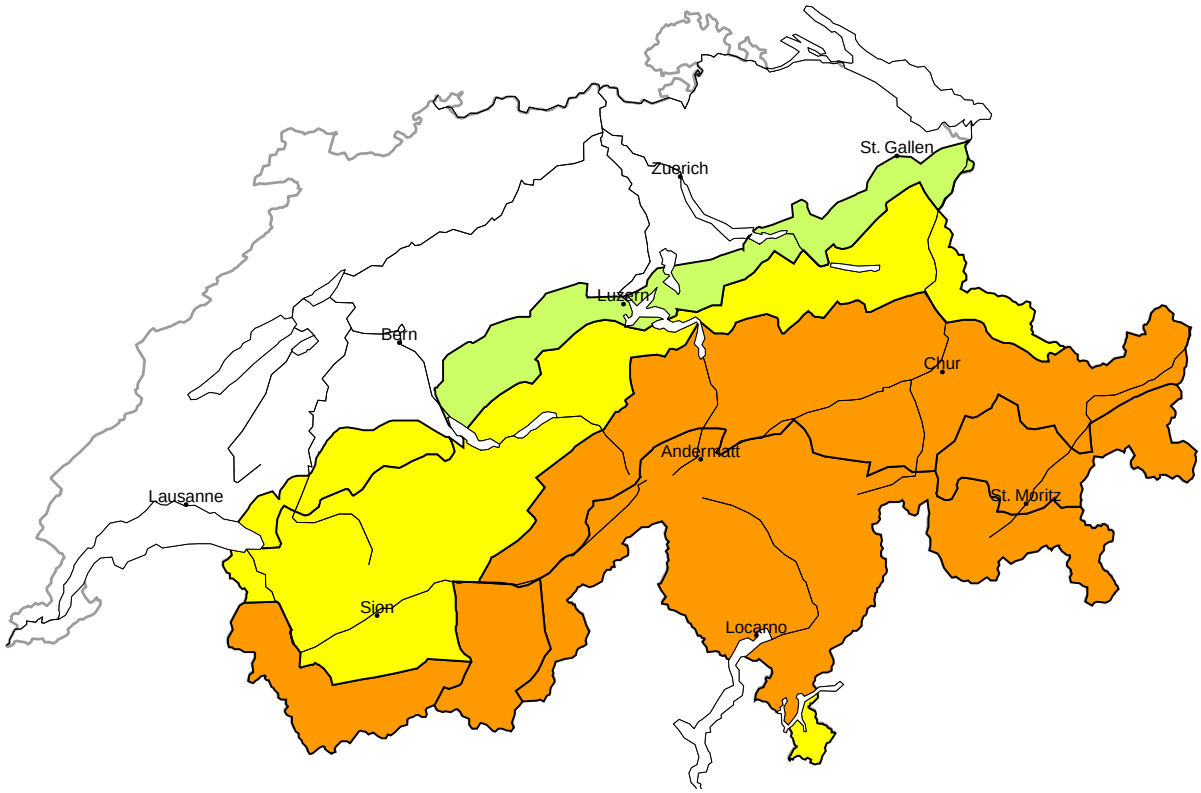
Avalanche bulletin for Wednesday, 3. April 2024

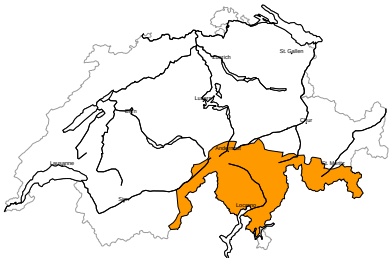
Avalanche danger

updated on 3.4.2024, 08:00



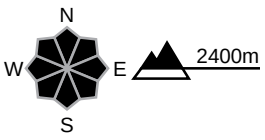
region A

Considerable (3=)



New snow

Avalanche prone locations



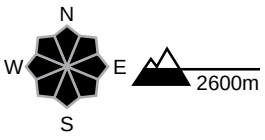
Danger description

Large quantities of fresh snow and the wind-drifted snow of Easter Sunday are in some cases still prone to triggering. Single winter sport participants can release avalanches only in isolated cases. The avalanches can in some cases reach large size. In addition avalanche prone wind slabs will form in particular at elevated altitudes.
Backcountry touring and other off-piste activities call for experience in the assessment of avalanche danger.

Moderate (2)

Gliding snow

Avalanche prone locations

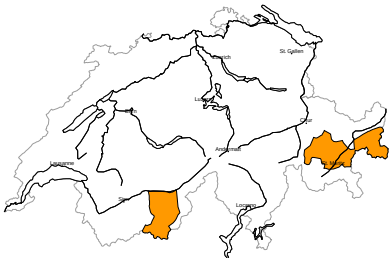


Danger description

The snowpack will be wet all the way through at intermediate altitudes. In particular on steep grassy slopes large gliding avalanches are possible. Gliding avalanches can be released at any time of day or night. Areas with glide cracks are to be avoided.

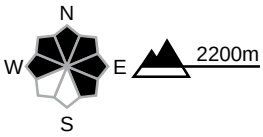
region B

Considerable (3=)



New snow, Persistent weak layers

Avalanche prone locations

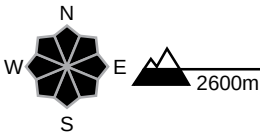


Danger description
The new snow and wind slabs of Easter Sunday are in some cases still prone to triggering. Avalanches can in very isolated cases penetrate deep layers and reach large size, especially in areas where the snow cover is rather shallow. The avalanche prone locations are barely recognisable, even to the trained eye. In addition the fresh wind slabs in particular at elevated altitudes are prone to triggering in some cases.
Backcountry touring and other off-piste activities call for caution and restraint.

Moderate (2)

Gliding snow

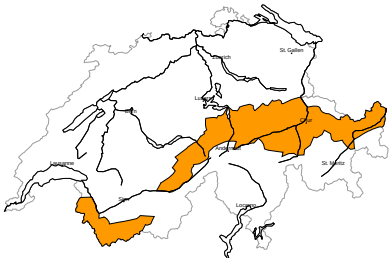
Avalanche prone locations



Danger description
The snowpack will be wet all the way through at intermediate altitudes. In particular on steep grassy slopes large gliding avalanches are possible. Gliding avalanches can be released at any time of day or night. Areas with glide cracks are to be avoided.

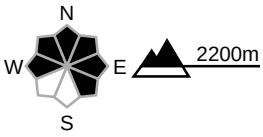
region C

Considerable (3-)



Wind slab

Avalanche prone locations

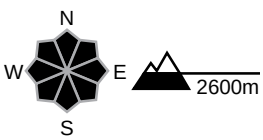


Danger description
The fresh and older wind slabs are in some cases prone to triggering. Single winter sport participants can release avalanches in some places. Mostly the avalanches are medium-sized.
Backcountry touring and other off-piste activities call for experience in the assessment of avalanche danger and careful route selection.

Moderate (2)

Gliding snow

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description
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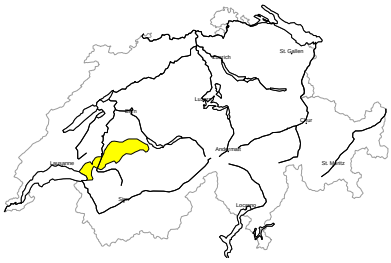
Avalanche bulletin for Wednesday, 3. April 2024

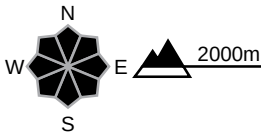
region D



Moderate (2=)

Wind slab

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

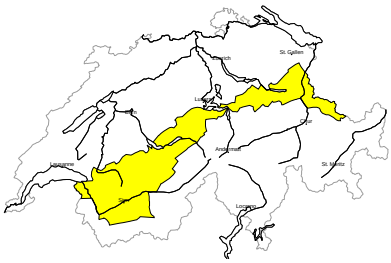
The fresh and somewhat older wind slabs are in some cases prone to triggering. The avalanche prone locations are to be found in particular in gullies and bowls, and behind abrupt changes in the terrain,, also at a distance from ridgelines. Avalanches can reach medium size. At elevated altitudes the prevalence and size of the avalanche prone locations will increase. Backcountry touring calls for careful route selection.

Low (1)

Gliding snow

In particular on steep grassy slopes individual gliding avalanches are possible. These can in some cases reach medium size.
Areas with glide cracks are to be avoided as far as possible.

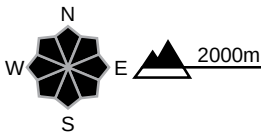
region E



Moderate (2=)

Wind slab

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

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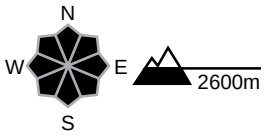
Moderate (2)

Gliding snow

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

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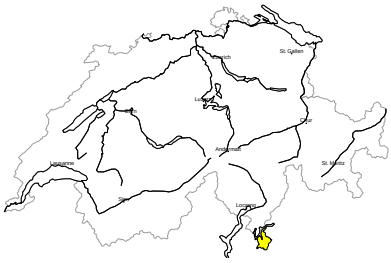
Avalanche bulletin for Wednesday, 3. April 2024

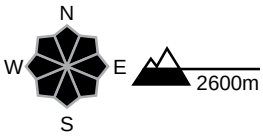
region F

Moderate (2)



Gliding snow

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

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region G

Low (1)

Wind slab

As a consequence of new snow and westerly wind, wind slabs formed in some localities. They are small but in some cases prone to triggering.
Restraint should be exercised because avalanches can sweep people along and give rise to falls.

Low (1)

Gliding snow

In particular on steep grassy slopes individual gliding avalanches are possible. These can in some cases reach medium size.
Areas with glide cracks are to be avoided as far as possible.

Snowpack and weather

updated on 2.4.2024, 17:00

Snowpack

The large amounts of new snow in the south are stabilising. Large, naturally triggered avalanches are now unlikely. Newer wind slabs are prone to triggering in places, especially at high altitudes.
Isolated avalanche fractures in deeper layers of the snowpack have been observed in recent days in southern Valais, central Grisons and Engadine. On both the northern and the southern flanks of the Alps, there are hardly any weak layers deeper in the snowpack.
Below approximately 2200 m, the snowpack is wet due to the rain.
In the south, gliding avalanches are possible. These can become large and occasionally very large due to the high volumes of snow. Gliding avalanches are more rare in the north but they can also be large here in isolated cases.

Weather review for Tuesday, 02.04.2024

In the north, it was partly cloudy with snow showers in the morning and mostly sunny in the afternoon. The snowfall level was around 1200 m. It was mostly sunny in the south.

New snow
From Monday afternoon to Tuesday afternoon, the following amounts of fresh snow fell above approximately 1800 m:
- Lower Valais, northern flank of the Alps, Grisons: 5 to 10 cm, locally up to 20 cm in the extreme west of Lower Valais and in central Grisons;
- elsewhere: a few centimetres, or it remained dry.

Temperature
At midday at 2000 m, between -3 °C in the north and +1 °C in the south.

Wind
- In the north, there was a moderate westerly to southwesterly wind. This wind was strong in places.
- Otherwise, there was a light to moderate westerly wind.

Weather forecast until Wednesday, 03.04.2024

During Tuesday night into Wednesday, clouds will move in from the west and light precipitation will set in in the morning. During the day, it will be mostly cloudy with occasional precipitation. The snowfall level will increase a little during the day towards 1800 m in the north and 1500 m in the south.

New snow
The following amounts of fresh snow are expected above approximately 1800 m: widespread 5 to 10 cm, up to 15 cm in the extreme west of Lower Valais.

Temperature
At midday at 2000 m, between 0 °C in the north and -2 °C in the south.

Wind
- There will be a moderate to strong westerly to southwesterly wind in the north and at altitude.
- Elsewhere there will be weak to moderate southwesterly winds.

Avalanche bulletin for Wednesday, 3. April 2024

Trend until Friday, 05.04.2024

Thursday will be partly sunny in the north with some showers, especially in the second half of the day. The snowfall level will be around 2200 m and there will be little snow. It will be fairly sunny in the south. On Friday, it will be sunny and very mild in all regions.
The danger of dry avalanches will decrease. On Friday in particular, the danger of wet avalanches is expected to rise as the day progresses as a result of solar radiation and warmer daytime temperatures.
Gliding avalanches will also still be possible. These can become large, and occasionally very large in the south.