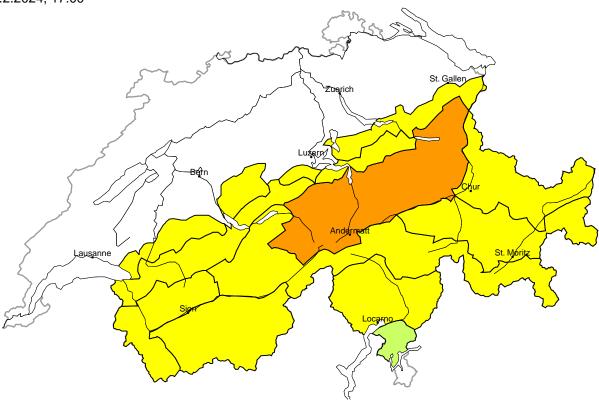
Avalanche danger

updated on 21.2.2024, 17:00



region A

Considerable (3-)



Wind slab

Avalanche prone locations



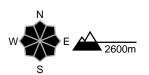
Danger description

The sometimes storm force wind will transport the snow. The fresh wind slabs are prone to triggering. Avalanches can be released, even by a single winter sport participant and reach medium size. The wind slabs must be evaluated with care and prudence. Off-piste activities call for experience in the assessment of avalanche danger.

Moderate (2)

Gliding snow

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

More frequent gliding avalanches are to be expected. These can reach large size. Areas with glide cracks are to be avoided as far as possible.

Danger levels

1 low

2 moderate

3 considerable

4 high

5 very high

region B

Moderate (2+)



Wind slab

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

As a consequence of new snow and a sometimes strong southwesterly wind, avalanche prone wind slabs will form. Avalanches can in some places be released by people and reach medium size. The number and size of avalanche prone locations will increase as the day progresses. In the afternoon probably danger level 3 (considerable) will be reached.

Backcountry touring calls for experience in the assessment of avalanche danger and careful route selection.

Moderate (2)

Gliding snow

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

More frequent gliding avalanches are to be expected. These can reach large size. Areas with glide cracks are to be avoided as far as possible.



Danger levels

1 low

2 moderate

3 considerable

4 high

5 very high

region C

Moderate (2+)



Wind slab

Avalanche prone locations



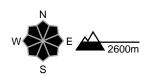
Danger description

As a consequence of new snow and a sometimes strong southwesterly wind, avalanche prone wind slabs will form. Avalanches can in some places be released by people and reach medium size. The avalanche prone locations are to be found in particular in gullies and bowls, and behind abrupt changes in the terrain. The number and size of avalanche prone locations will increase as the day progresses. Backcountry touring calls for careful route selection.

Moderate (2)

Gliding snow

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

More frequent gliding avalanches are to be expected. These can reach large size. Areas with glide cracks are to be avoided as far as possible.

region D

Moderate (2=)



Wind slab

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

The fresh and older wind slabs are in some cases prone to triggering. 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 easily. They can reach medium size in isolated cases. Careful route selection is recommended.

Moderate (2)

Gliding snow

As a consequence of the rain gliding avalanches are to be expected. These can in isolated cases reach large size. Areas with glide cracks are to be avoided as far as possible.

Danger levels

1 low

2 moderate

3 considerable

4 high

region E

Moderate (2=)



Wind slab

Avalanche prone locations



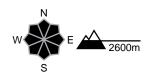
Danger description

The fresh and older wind slabs are in some cases prone to triggering. 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 easily. They can reach medium size in isolated cases. Careful route selection is recommended.

Moderate (2)

Gliding snow

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

More frequent gliding avalanches are to be expected. These can reach large size. Areas with glide cracks are to be avoided as far as possible.

region F

Moderate (2-)



No distinct avalanche problem

Avalanche prone locations



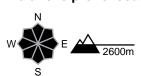
Danger description

Individual avalanche prone locations for dry avalanches are to be found in particular in extremely steep terrain. As a consequence of southwesterly wind, mostly small wind slabs will form. 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.

Moderate (2)

Gliding snow

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

More frequent gliding avalanches are to be expected. These can reach large size. Areas with glide cracks are to be avoided as far as possible.

region G

Moderate (2)



Gliding snow

As a consequence of the rain gliding avalanches are to be expected. These can in isolated cases reach large size. Areas with glide cracks are to be avoided as far as possible.

Low (1)

No distinct avalanche problem

Only a little snow is lying. Individual avalanche prone locations for dry avalanches are to be found in particular in extremely steep terrain. 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 H

Low (1)



No distinct avalanche problem

Only a little snow is lying. Individual avalanche prone locations for dry avalanches are to be found in particular in extremely steep terrain. 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.

Danger levels

1 low

2 moderate

3 considerable

4 high

5 very high

Snowpack and weather

updated on 21.2.2024, 17:00

Snowpack

The wind slabs formed by new fallen snow and strong southwesterly winds are prone to triggering. In addition, fractures are possible in places in the top section of the snowpack above 2400 m, but hardly any fractures are expected deeper in the snowpack.

With the rain, more gliding avalanches are to be expected. These are mainly possible on east-, south- and west-facing slopes below approximately 2600 m and more rarely on north-facing slopes below approximately 2200 m. Some of them may be large.

Weather review for Wednesday, 21.02.2024

After a clear night, it was partly sunny in the morning despite some high cloud. As the day progressed, thicker clouds moved in from the west.

New snow

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Temperature

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

Wind

- There was a weak to moderate northwesterly wind during the night.
- In the afternoon, a moderate southwesterly wind increasingly blew in the north. Otherwise winds were mostly light.

Weather forecast until Thursday, 22.02.2024

It will be very cloudy with widespread precipitation. The foehn valleys of the north will often remain dry. The snowfall level in the south will be between 1200 and 1500 m. In the north, it will be around 1600 m overnight, rising rapidly in the early morning to around 2200 m.

New snow

From Wednesday afternoon to Thursday afternoon, the following amounts of fresh snow are expected in the north above approximately 2400 m, and in the south above 1800 m:

- extreme west of Lower Valais, northern Lower Valais: 15 to 30 cm;
- rest of northern Valais, Main Alpine Ridge from Bedretto to Val Bregaglia: 10 to 20 cm; less in the other regions.

Temperature

At midday at 2000 m, between +4 °C in the north and -2 °C in the south.

Wind

There will be a southwesterly wind:

- increasingly strong to storm force in the north and generally at higher altitudes;
- weak to moderate elsewhere;
- strong foehn wind in the foehn valleys of the north.



Trend

Friday, 23.02.2024

There will be widespread snowfall during Thursday night into Friday; this will be particularly heavy on the Main Alpine Ridge from the Rheinwaldhorn to the Bernina region and to the south of this, as well as in the extreme west of Lower Valais. Between 30 and 50 cm of new snow is expected. At night, the snowfall level will drop rapidly to low altitudes. There will be some more snow during the day, but only towards the east. Elsewhere it will be quite sunny.

The avalanche danger will increase across the board, especially in the regions exposed to heavier precipitation. In the south, danger level 4 (high) may be reached during Thursday night into Friday. Gliding avalanches are still possible.

Saturday, 24.02.2024

A little snow will fall during Friday night and on Saturday afternoon, down to low altitudes. In between, it will be partly sunny in the north. There will be a sometimes strong southwesterly wind.

The danger of dry avalanches will decrease only slightly. The danger of gliding avalanches will not change significantly.

