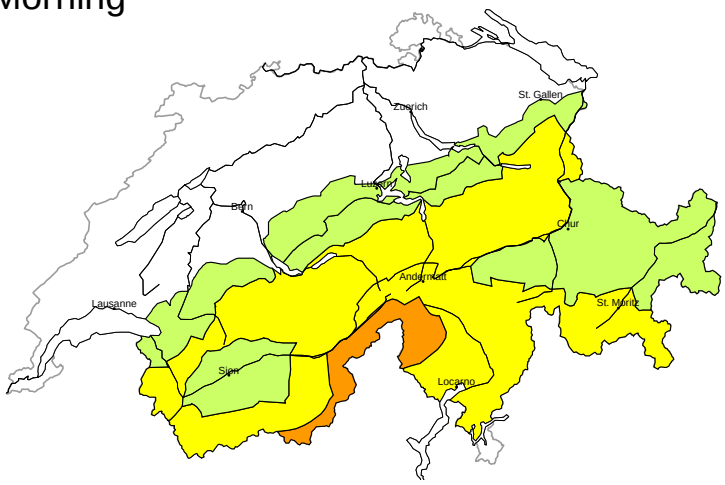
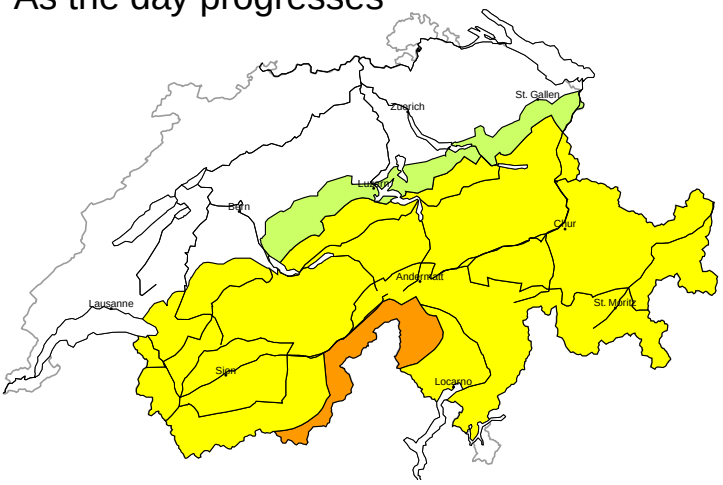
Avalanche danger

updated on 29.4.2024, 17:00

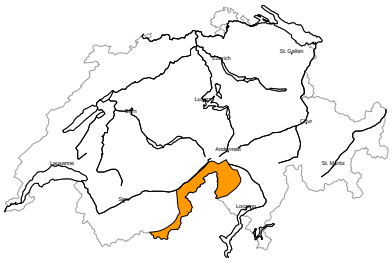
Morning



As the day progresses



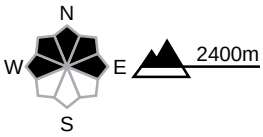
region A



Considerable (3-) Dry avalanches, whole day

Wind slab

Avalanche prone locations



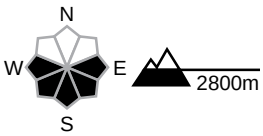
Danger description

The new snow and wind slabs of the last few days are in some cases still prone to triggering. Single winter sport participants can release avalanches. Mostly these are medium-sized.
Backcountry touring calls for careful route selection.

Moderate (2) Wet-snow avalanches, whole day

Wet snow

Avalanche prone locations

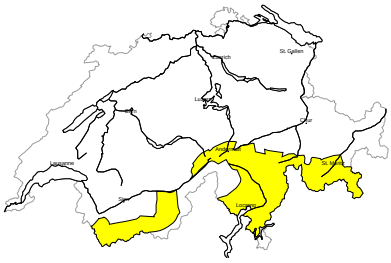


Danger description

As a consequence of solar radiation more frequent small and medium-sized moist loose snow avalanches are to be expected. In the event of prolonged bright spells this applies in particular.

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

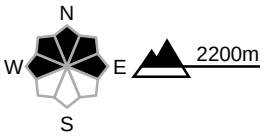
region B



Moderate (2+) Dry avalanches, whole day

Wind slab

Avalanche prone locations

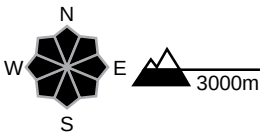


Danger description
The new snow and wind slabs of the last few days are in some cases still prone to triggering. Single winter sport participants can release avalanches in some places, including medium-sized ones. The prevalence of avalanche prone locations and likelihood of triggering will increase in the high Alpine regions.
Backcountry touring calls for meticulous route selection.

Moderate (2) Wet-snow avalanches, as the day progresses

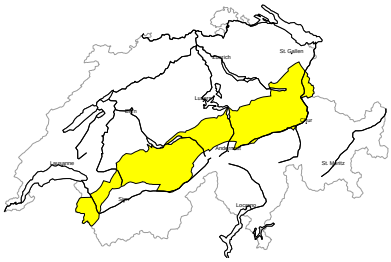
Wet snow, Gliding snow

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description
As a consequence of warming during the day and solar radiation wet avalanches are possible as the day progresses. This applies in particular on steep sunny slopes below approximately 3000 m, as well as on north facing slopes below approximately 2600 m. Avalanches can reach medium size.
More gliding avalanches are possible, even large ones in isolated cases. Caution is to be exercised in areas with glide cracks.

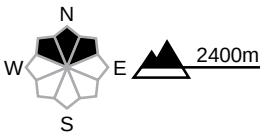
region C



Moderate (2-) Dry avalanches, whole day

Wind slab

Avalanche prone locations

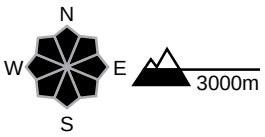


Danger description
As a consequence of a strong to storm force foehn wind, wind slabs formed in the last few days in particular at elevated altitudes. They can still be released in some cases. Avalanches can reach medium size in isolated cases.
The wind slabs are to be evaluated with care and prudence in very steep terrain.

Moderate (2) Wet-snow avalanches, as the day progresses

Wet snow, Gliding snow

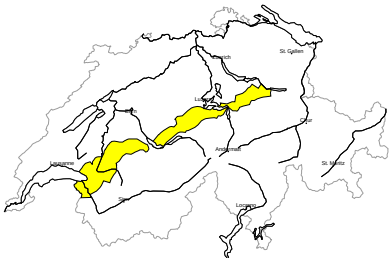
Avalanche prone locations



Danger description
As a consequence of warming during the day and solar radiation wet avalanches are possible as the day progresses. This applies in particular on steep sunny slopes below approximately 3000 m, as well as on north facing slopes below approximately 2600 m. Avalanches can reach medium size.
More gliding avalanches are possible, even large ones in isolated cases. Caution is to be exercised in areas with glide cracks.

region D

Low (1) Dry avalanches, whole day



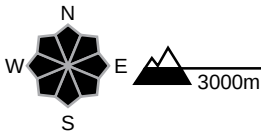
No distinct avalanche problem

Dry avalanches can in very isolated cases be released in near-surface layers of the snowpack. This applies in particular in gullies and bowls. Mostly avalanches are small. 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.

Moderate (2) Wet-snow avalanches, as the day progresses

Wet snow, Gliding snow

Avalanche prone locations

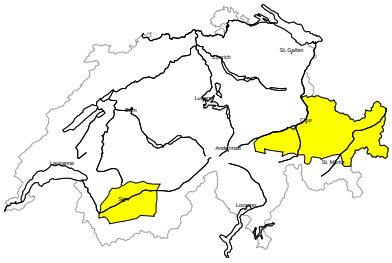


Danger description

As a consequence of warming during the day and solar radiation wet avalanches are possible as the day progresses. This applies in particular on steep sunny slopes below approximately 3000 m, as well as on north facing slopes below approximately 2600 m. Avalanches can reach medium size.
More gliding avalanches are possible, even large ones in isolated cases. Caution is to be exercised in areas with glide cracks.

region E

Low (1) Dry avalanches, whole day



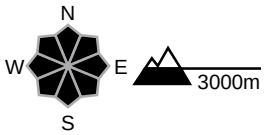
No distinct avalanche problem

Dry avalanches can in isolated cases be released in near-surface layers of the snowpack. This applies in particular on very steep slopes. Avalanches can in isolated cases reach medium size. The prevalence of avalanche prone locations and likelihood of triggering will increase in the high Alpine regions.
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) Wet-snow avalanches, as the day progresses

Wet snow, Gliding snow

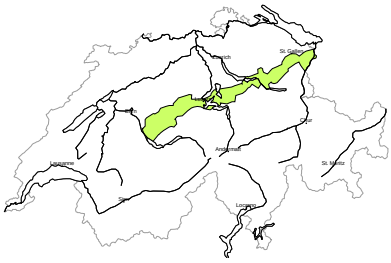
Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

As a consequence of warming during the day and solar radiation wet avalanches are possible as the day progresses. This applies in particular on steep sunny slopes below approximately 3000 m, as well as on north facing slopes below approximately 2600 m. Avalanches can reach medium size.
More gliding avalanches are possible, even large ones in isolated cases. Caution is to be exercised in areas with glide cracks.

region F | **Low (1)** Wet-snow avalanches, whole day



Gliding snow

On steep grassy slopes gliding avalanches and moist snow slides are possible, but they will be mostly small.
Caution is to be exercised in areas with glide cracks.

Snowpack and weather

updated on 29.4.2024, 17:00

Snowpack

There was heavy snowfall in some regions in the south this weekend. In the north, strong to storm-force southerly winds caused the old snow that was still loose and close to the surface to drift. There was the potential for avalanches to be triggered, especially in the various layers of new and drift snow. With Monday's incoming radiation and warmer temperatures, the near-surface layers have mostly settled well. Loose snow still lies on very steep north-facing slopes in the high Alpine regions.
Before last week's cold snap, the old snowpack on east-, south- and west-facing slopes was already soaked up to approximately 3000 m and on north-facing slopes up to approximately 2500 m. As temperatures rise, the moistening process will slowly progress again. Particularly in the inneralpine regions, wet slab avalanches are possible on north-facing slopes as the moistening progresses, some of which may be large.
Gliding avalanches are still possible, increasingly so once again at high altitudes.

Weather review for Monday, 29.04.2024

It was quite sunny. On the central part of the Main Alpine Ridge, it was partly cloudy, with light snowfall during the night.

New snow
From Sunday afternoon to Monday morning, the following amounts of fresh snow were recorded above approximately 2200 m:
- Lower Valais Main Alpine Ridge and Simplon region: locally up to 20 cm;
- rest of the Main Alpine Ridge: a few centimetres.

Temperature
At midday at 2000 m, +8 °C in the west, +7 °C in the east and +4 °C in the south.

Wind
There was a southerly wind:
- moderate to strong in the north at high altitudes;
- in the regions of the north exposed to the foehn wind, a strong foehn wind from the south during the night, easing in the course of the day.

Weather forecast until Tuesday, 30.04.2024

Monday night into Tuesday will be partly clear in the north and east. It will be overcast on the western part of the Main Alpine Ridge and in northern Ticino, with some precipitation falling by the early morning. The snowfall level will be around 2400 m. During the day, it will be quite sunny in the west and east. Saharan dust will obscure visibility.

New snow
From Monday afternoon to Tuesday morning, the following amounts of fresh snow are expected above approximately 2800 m:
- Main Alpine Ridge west of the Nufenen Pass: 5 to 10 cm;
- dry elsewhere.

Temperature
At midday at 2000 m, +9 °C in the west, +11 °C in the east and +5 °C in the south.

Wind
There will be a moderate to strong southerly wind, and a sometimes strong foehn wind from the south in the regions of the north exposed to the foehn wind.

Avalanche bulletin through Tuesday, 30. April 2024

Trend until Thursday 02.05.2024

Wednesday, 01.05.2024

On Wednesday it will still be partly sunny in the east, while in the south and west it will be mostly cloudy with precipitation. The precipitation will centre on the Main Alpine Ridge in Upper Valais. There, 40 to 70 cm of new snow is possible at high altitudes by the evening. Below 2500 m, the precipitation will fall as rain. There will be a moderate to strong southeasterly wind.
The danger of dry and wet avalanches will increase, especially in Valais and northwestern Ticino, and will be significant on the Main Alpine Ridge in Upper Valais. In the other regions, the avalanche danger will not change significantly.

Thursday, 02.05.2024

It will be mostly very cloudy with occasional precipitation. The snowfall level will drop to around 2000 m. On and to the south of the Main Alpine Ridge, 20 to 30 cm of new snow will fall at high altitudes, and up to 50 cm from the Saas Valley to the Simplon region. The southerly wind will be moderate, strong at times at high altitudes.
The danger of dry avalanches will continue to increase in the regions exposed to heavier precipitation. Level 4 may be reached on the Main Alpine Ridge in Upper Valais.