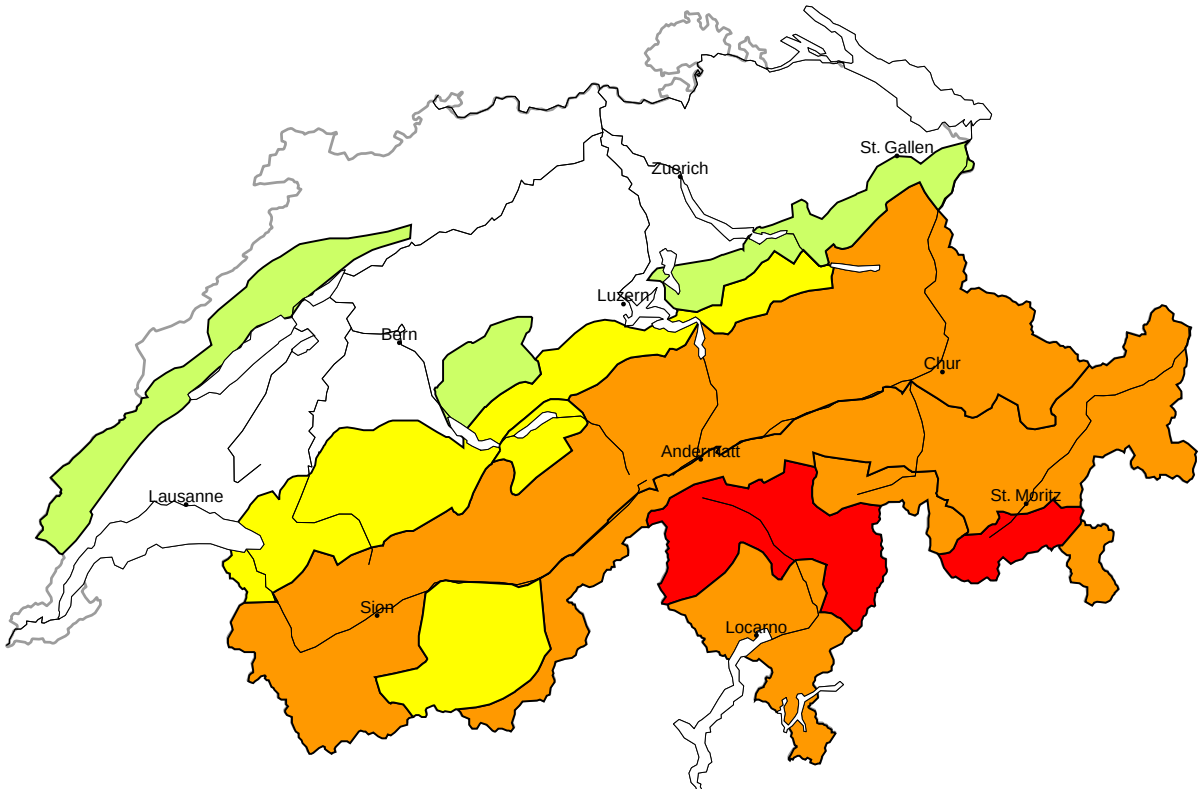
Avalanche bulletin for Tuesday, 27. February 2024

Avalanche danger

updated on 27.2.2024, 08:00

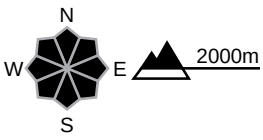


region A

High (4-)

New snow

Avalanche prone locations



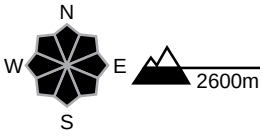
Danger description

Large quantities of fresh snow and the wind-drifted snow represent the main danger. Avalanches can be released easily. As the snowfall becomes more intense natural avalanches are to be expected from the late morning. Avalanches can to an increasing extent reach large size.
The danger exists primarily in alpine snow sports terrain. Avalanches capable of reaching valley bottoms and endangering exposed transportation routes are unlikely to occur. Backcountry touring and other off-piste activities call for great caution and restraint.

Moderate (2)

Gliding snow

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

More gliding avalanches are possible. 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

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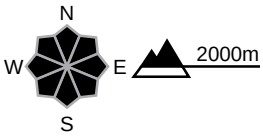
region B

Considerable (3+)

New snow

Avalanche prone locations



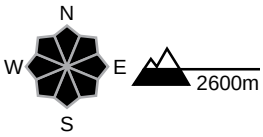
Danger description

Large quantities of fresh snow and the wind-drifted snow represent the main danger. As a consequence of new snow and a strong southerly wind, avalanche prone wind slabs formed on Monday. Avalanches can be released easily. As the snowfall becomes more intense natural avalanches are possible from the late morning, even large ones.
Backcountry touring and other off-piste activities call for extensive experience in the assessment of avalanche danger and restraint.

Moderate (2)

Gliding snow

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

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

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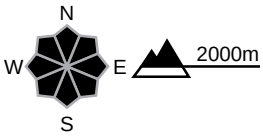
region C

Considerable (3+)

New snow

Avalanche prone locations



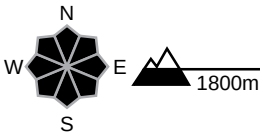
Danger description

Large quantities of fresh snow and the wind-drifted snow represent the main danger. As a consequence of new snow and a strong southerly wind, avalanche prone wind slabs formed on Monday. Avalanches can be released easily. As the snowfall becomes more intense natural avalanches are possible from the late morning, even large ones.
Backcountry touring and other off-piste activities call for extensive experience in the assessment of avalanche danger and restraint.

Moderate (2)

Wet snow

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

As a consequence of the rain moist snow slides and avalanches are to be expected as the day progresses, even medium-sized ones.
In addition individual gliding avalanches are possible. Caution is to be exercised in areas with glide cracks.

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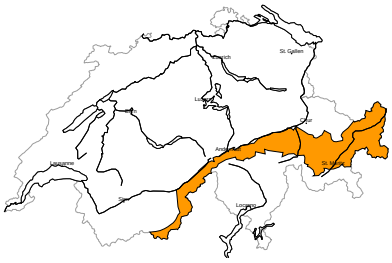
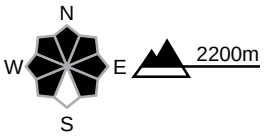
region D

Considerable (3=)



New snow, Wind slab

Avalanche prone locations



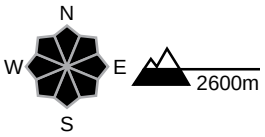
Danger description

The new snow and wind slabs are in some cases prone to triggering. As a consequence of a moderate to strong southeasterly wind, further wind slabs will form in the course of the day. Avalanches can be released, even by a single winter sport participant and reach large size in isolated cases. Shooting cracks when stepping on the snowpack and whumpfing sounds can indicate the danger.
Backcountry touring and other off-piste activities call for experience in the assessment of avalanche danger.

Moderate (2)

Gliding snow

Avalanche prone locations

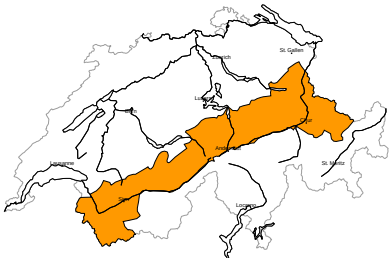


Danger description

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

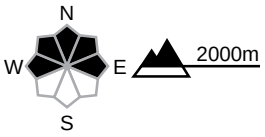
region E

Considerable (3-)



Wind slab

Avalanche prone locations



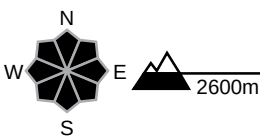
Danger description

As a consequence of a strong to storm force southerly wind, avalanche prone wind slabs formed on Monday. Avalanches can be released 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.

Moderate (2)

Gliding snow

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

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

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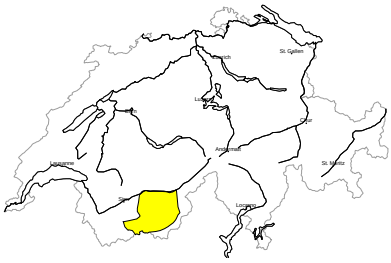
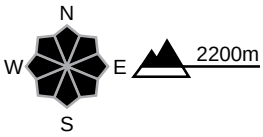
region F



Moderate (2+)

Wind slab

Avalanche prone locations



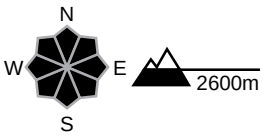
Danger description

As a consequence of a sometimes strong southerly wind, avalanche prone wind slabs formed. They can be released by a single winter sport participant in some cases. Avalanches can reach medium size.
Careful route selection is recommended.

Moderate (2)

Gliding snow

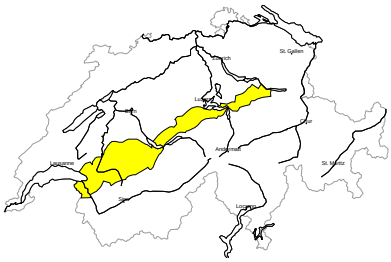
Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

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

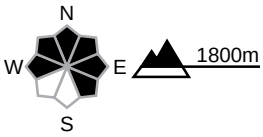
region G



Moderate (2=)

Wind slab

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

As a consequence of foehn wind, avalanche prone wind slabs formed on Monday in some localities. As a consequence of bise wind, further wind slabs will form on Tuesday. 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. They can reach medium size in isolated cases.
Careful route selection is recommended. The wind slabs are to be assessed with care and prudence.

Low (1)

Gliding snow

Gliding avalanches are possible. These can reach medium size. Areas with glide cracks are to be avoided as far as possible.

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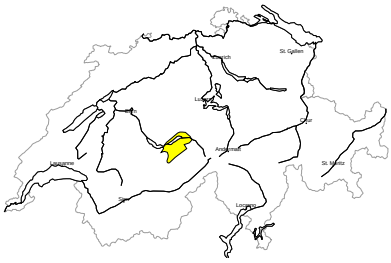
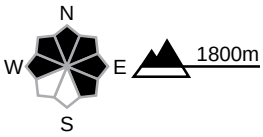
region H



Moderate (2=)

Wind slab

Avalanche prone locations



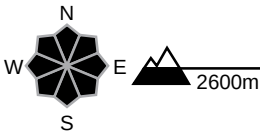
Danger description

As a consequence of foehn wind, avalanche prone wind slabs formed on Monday in some localities. As a consequence of bise wind, further wind slabs will form on Tuesday. 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. They can reach medium size in isolated cases. Careful route selection is recommended. The wind slabs are to be assessed with care and prudence.

Moderate (2)

Gliding snow

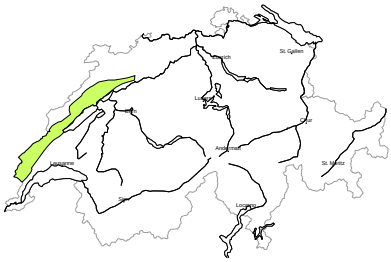
Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

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

region I

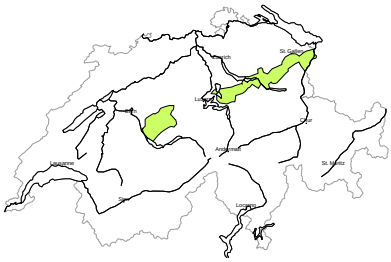


Low (1)

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 J



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.

Low (1)

Gliding snow

Gliding avalanches are possible. These can reach medium size. Areas with glide cracks are to be avoided as far as possible.

Snowpack and weather

updated on 26.2.2024, 17:00

Snowpack

The large amount of new snow in the south is increasingly settling and consolidating. Here, the near-surface layers in particular are still prone to triggering. Strong southerly winds caused widespread prone-to-triggering wind slabs on Monday. With new fallen snow and southeasterly winds, these will grow a little more on Tuesday, especially in the south.
New snow and wind slabs are overlaying a mostly compact old snowpack, and fractures deep in the snowpack are not generally expected in the north. In the south, however, there were naturally triggered avalanches on north-facing slopes at the weekend, sometimes also in deeper layers of the snowpack.
Individual gliding avalanches are still possible, primarily on east-, south- and west-facing slopes below approximately 2600 m and more rarely on north-facing slopes below approximately 2200 m. These may be large.

Weather review for Monday, 26.02.2024

It was very cloudy in the south with persistent precipitation. The snowfall level was between 800 and 1000 m. In the north, it was mostly cloudy with a little precipitation locally and occasional clear spells due to the foehn wind.

New snow
From Sunday evening to Monday afternoon, the following amounts of fresh snow were recorded above approximately 1200 m:

- southern flank of the Alps excluding Val Müstair: 10 to 20 cm; south and extreme west of Ticino: up to 25 cm;
- extreme west of Lower Valais, rest of the Main Alpine Ridge from Zermatt to Val Bregaglia: 10 to 15 cm; elsewhere: a few centimetres or it remained dry;
- other regions: a few centimetres or it remained dry.

Snowfall totals for the last three days:

- northern Ticino, Main Alpine Ridge from the Lukmanier Pass to the Bernina region: 40 to 70 cm; at the San Bernardino Pass: 90 cm;
- extreme west of Lower Valais, Simplon region, central and southern Ticino, rest of the central and eastern parts of the Main Alpine Ridge, rest of Upper Engadine: 20 to 40 cm;
- western Jura and other regions of northern Lower Valais, the western part of the Main Alpine Ridge, the Gotthard region, central Grisons and Lower Engadine: 10 to 20 cm;
- elsewhere: a few centimetres, or it remained dry.

Temperature
At midday at 2000 m, between 0 °C in the regions exposed to the foehn wind in the north and -4 °C in the south.

Wind

- In the north: a strong to storm-force southerly wind during the night, with a strong foehn wind from the south in the Alpine valleys in the north, moderate to strong during the day.
- In the inneralpine regions and the south: a moderate to strong southerly wind during the night, weak to moderate during the day.

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Weather forecast until Tuesday, 27.02.2024

It will be mostly very cloudy, with bright spells in the inneralpine regions. Precipitation will be persistent in the south and intermittent in the north. The snowfall level will be between 1000 and 1400 m, rising towards 1600 m in the Sottoceneri.

New snow
From Monday evening to Tuesday afternoon, the following amounts of fresh snow are expected above approximately 1800 m:

- central part of the southern flank of the Alps, Main Alpine Ridge from Monte Rosa to the Ofen Pass: 20 to 30 cm; in Valle Maggia and from Val Moesa to the Bernina region: up to 40 cm;
- areas north of the Main Alpine Ridge: 5 to 15 cm.

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

Wind

- During Monday night into Tuesday, there will be a weak to moderate northeasterly to easterly wind.
- During the day, the wind will be weak to moderate from the southeast, moderate to strong at times in the south and Engadine.
- There will be a moderate Bise wind in the Jura and the western Prealps.

Trend

Wednesday, 28.02.2024
It will be mostly very cloudy with further precipitation in the south. The snowfall level will be around 1600 m. The largest amount of snow, 15 to 25 cm, will fall on the Main Alpine Ridge in Upper Valais. In the north, there will be a little precipitation in some localities, falling as snow above 1000 to 1400 m. The wind will be moderate, strong at times on the Main Alpine Ridge, blowing from the southeast.
The danger of dry avalanches may increase slightly on the Main Alpine Ridge in Upper Valais. It will decrease in the north. Gliding avalanches will still be possible.

Thursday, 29.02.2024
It will be mostly sunny in the mountains. In the south, it will be cloudy at first, becoming increasingly sunny as the day progresses. There will be a light to moderate southerly wind.
The danger of dry avalanches will decrease. In the south, moist loose snow avalanches from the new fallen snow are to be expected with the incoming radiation. Gliding avalanches will still be possible.