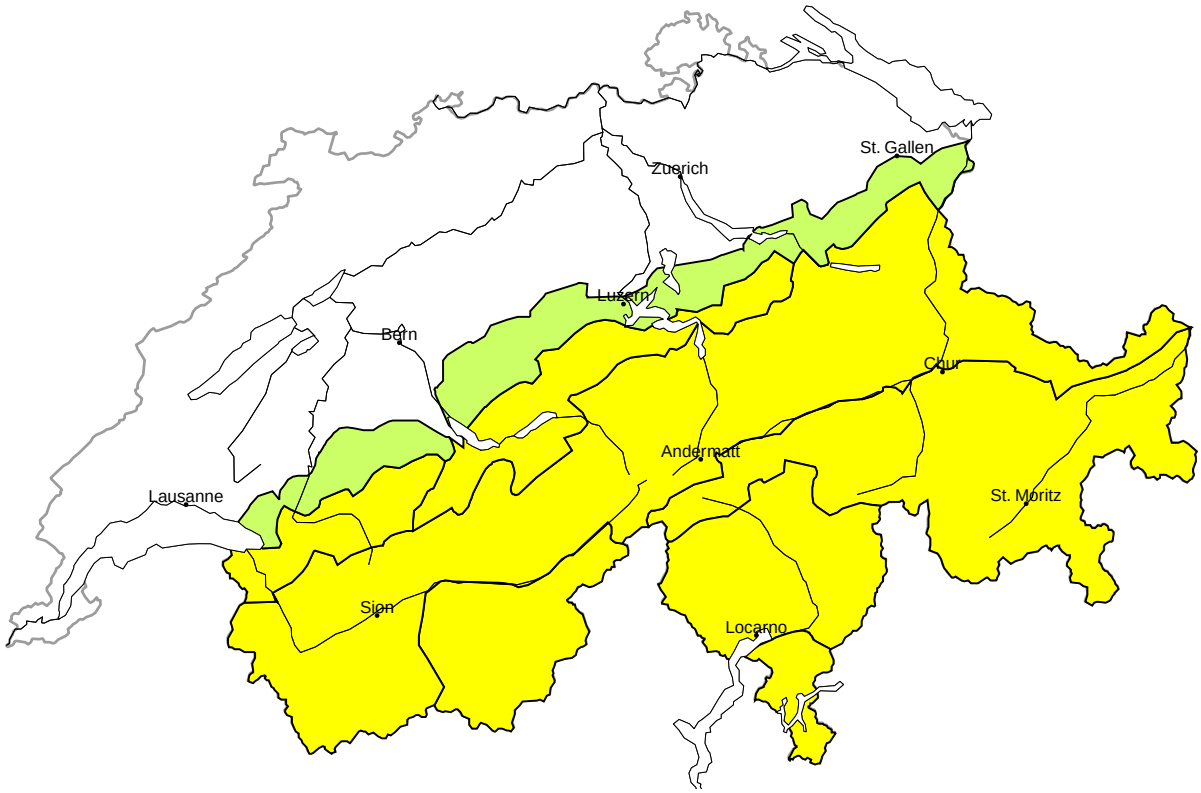
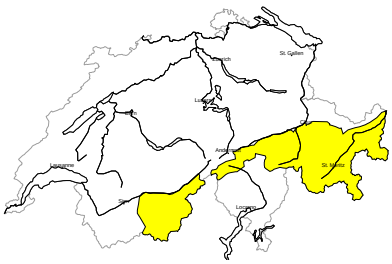
Avalanche bulletin through Saturday, 16. March 2024

Avalanche danger

updated on 15.3.2024, 17:00



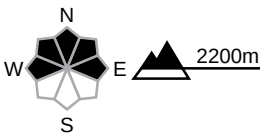
region A



Moderate (2+)

Persistent weak layers

Avalanche prone locations



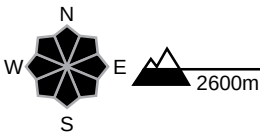
Danger description

Avalanches can in isolated cases be released in the old snowpack, mostly by large additional loads. They can reach large size. As a consequence of warming during the day, the likelihood of slab avalanches being released will increase a little. The avalanche prone locations are barely recognisable, even to the trained eye.
Backcountry touring and other off-piste activities call for defensive route selection.

Moderate (2)

Gliding snow

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

In particular on very steep grassy slopes gliding avalanches are possible. These can reach large size. Areas with glide cracks are to be avoided as far as possible.
As a consequence of warming during the day and solar radiation moist loose snow avalanches are possible, even medium-sized ones.

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

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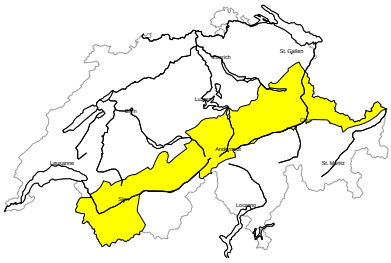
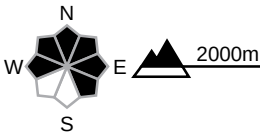
region B



Moderate (2+)

Wind slab

Avalanche prone locations



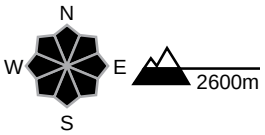
Danger description

As a consequence of new snow and a moderate to strong westerly wind, avalanche prone wind slabs will form. They are to be avoided in very steep terrain.
Avalanches can in isolated cases be released in deeper layers also, this applies in particular in case of a large load. Avalanches can reach medium size.
Backcountry touring and other off-piste activities call for careful route selection.

Moderate (2)

Gliding snow

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

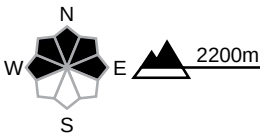
In particular on very steep grassy slopes gliding avalanches are possible. These can reach large size. Areas with glide cracks are to be avoided as far as possible.
As a consequence of warming during the day and solar radiation moist loose snow avalanches are possible, even medium-sized ones.

region C

Moderate (2-)

No distinct avalanche problem

Avalanche prone locations



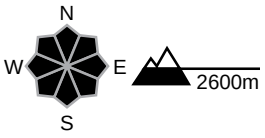
Danger description

Avalanches can in some places be released in near-surface layers. This applies in particular on very steep slopes, as well as at transitions from a shallow to a deep snowpack, when entering gullies and bowls for example.
Careful route selection is recommended.

Moderate (2)

Gliding snow

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

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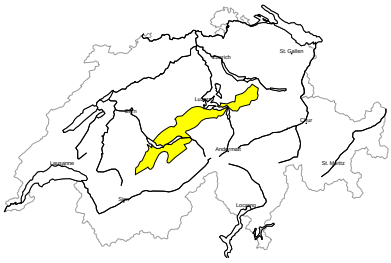
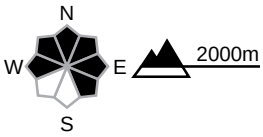
region D



Moderate (2-)

Wind slab

Avalanche prone locations



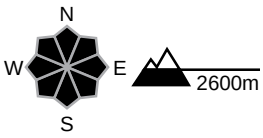
Danger description

As a consequence of new snow and westerly wind, mostly small wind slabs will form. They are to be evaluated with care and prudence in particular in very steep terrain. Mostly avalanches are small.
Careful route selection is recommended.

Moderate (2)

Gliding snow

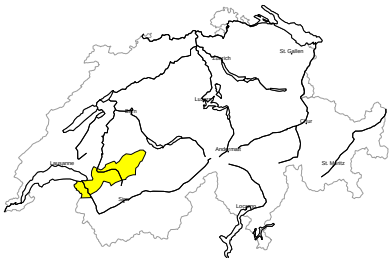
Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

In particular on very steep grassy slopes gliding avalanches are possible. These can reach large size. Areas with glide cracks are to be avoided as far as possible.
As a consequence of warming during the day and solar radiation moist loose snow avalanches are possible, even medium-sized ones.

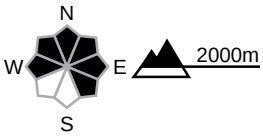
region E



Moderate (2-)

Wind slab

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

As a consequence of new snow and westerly wind, mostly small wind slabs will form. They are to be evaluated with care and prudence in particular in very steep terrain. Mostly avalanches are small.
Careful route selection is recommended.

Low (1)

Gliding snow

In particular on very steep grassy slopes 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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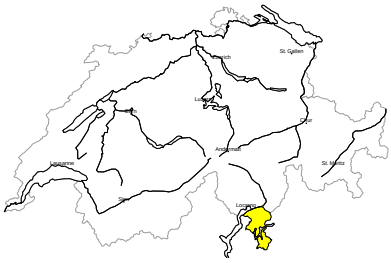
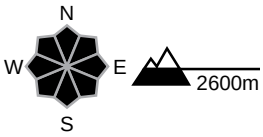
region F

Moderate (2)



Gliding snow

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

In particular on very steep grassy slopes gliding avalanches are possible. These can reach large size. Areas with glide cracks are to be avoided as far as possible.
As a consequence of warming during the day and solar radiation moist loose snow avalanches are possible, even medium-sized ones.

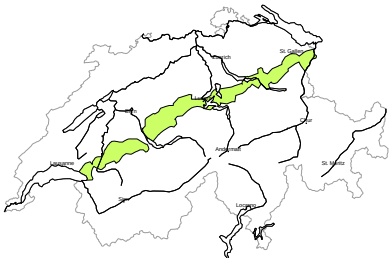
Low (1)

No distinct avalanche problem

Individual avalanche prone locations 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 G

Low (1)



No distinct avalanche problem

Only a little snow is lying. Individual avalanche prone locations 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

In particular on very steep grassy slopes 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 15.3.2024, 17:00

Snowpack

With new snow and strong westerly winds at times, mostly small wind slabs are forming in the north. Some of these are prone to triggering.
In addition, around the crusts in the top section of the snowpack, weak layers with a sometimes faceted crystal structure are deposited. These weak layers are still prone to triggering in places, especially in southern Upper Valais and in the inneralpine regions of Grisons. Deep layers of the snowpack are compact in many places and do not contain distinct weak layers.
Gliding avalanches are still possible, primarily on east-, south- and west-facing slopes below approximately 2600 m and more rarely on north-facing slopes. These may be large.

Weather review for Friday, 15.03.2024

In the north, it was often cloudy with isolated showers. Elsewhere, it was cloudy at times with prolonged bright spells in southern Valais, Ticino and eastern Grisons.

New snow
-

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

Wind
There were light to moderate westerly to northerly winds.

Weather forecast until Saturday, 16.03.2024

Some snow will fall in the north during Friday night into Saturday. The snowfall level will drop from 1800 m to 1500 m by the early morning. During the day, light snowfall will continue in the east. It will be increasingly sunny in the west and mostly sunny in the south.

New snow
From Friday afternoon to Saturday afternoon, the following amounts of fresh snow are expected above approximately 2000 m:
- Northern Alpine Ridge, extreme west of Lower Valais: 10 to 20 cm;
- rest of the northern flank of the Alps, rest of Valais, northern Grisons and Lower Engadine north of the Inn: 5 to 10 cm;
- elsewhere: less; dry on the southern flank of the Alps.

Temperature
At midday at 2000 m, around 0 °C.

Wind
- There will be moderate to strong westerly winds during the night in the north and generally at high altitudes.
- During the day, winds will ease off slightly in the west, remaining moderate to strong from the northwest elsewhere.

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Trend until Monday, 18.03.2024

Clouds will gather rapidly in the west and south on Sunday morning. In the east it will be quite sunny until the afternoon, and cloudy later on. Monday will be often cloudy with a little snow above approximately 1800 m. Some bright spells are possible, especially in the south. There will be a light to moderate westerly wind on both days. The danger of dry avalanches will decrease on Sunday and may increase again slightly on Monday with new fallen snow. Occasional gliding avalanches, some of which could be large, will still be possible.

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