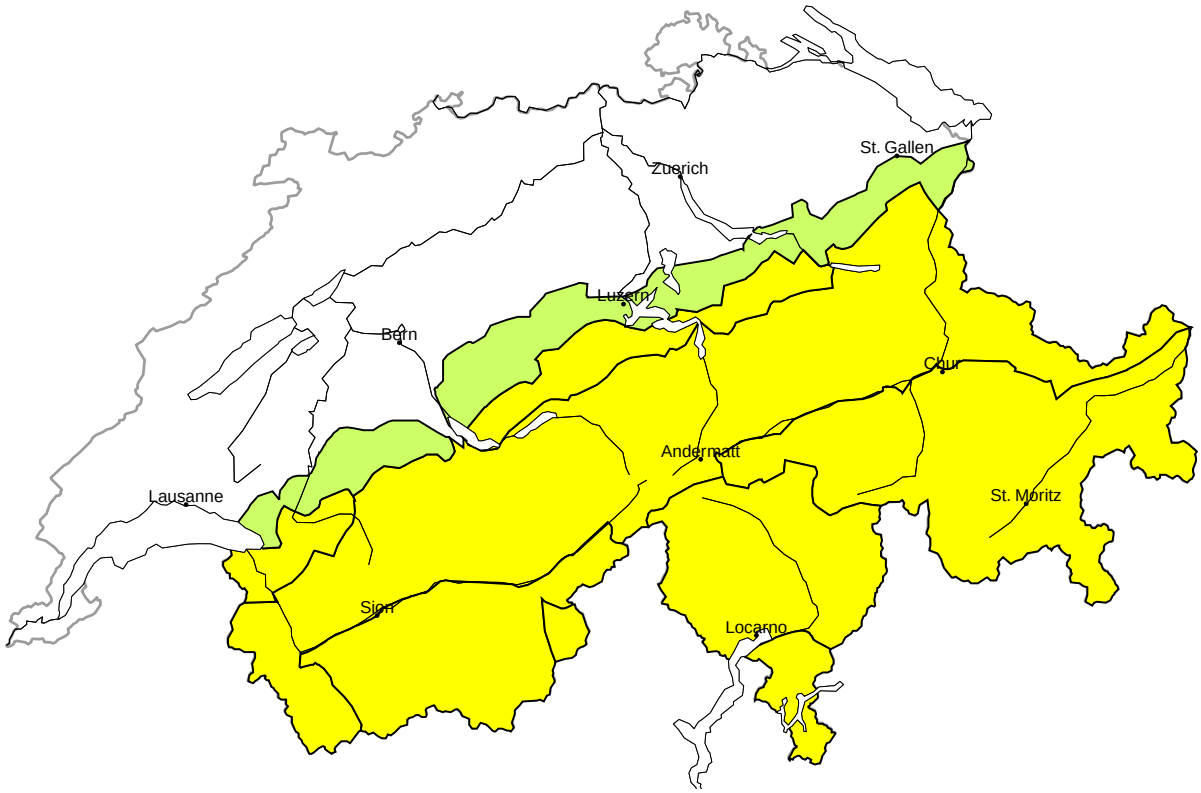
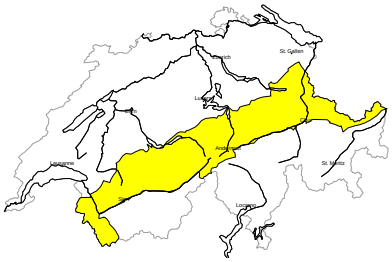
Avalanche danger

updated on 19.3.2024, 17:00



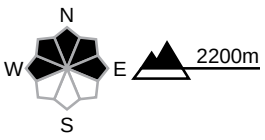
region A

Moderate (2+)



No distinct avalanche problem

Avalanche prone locations



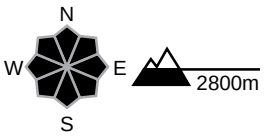
Danger description

Avalanches can be released in near-surface layers of the snowpack. They can reach quite a large size. In addition the somewhat older wind slabs in particular adjacent to ridgelines and generally at elevated altitudes are capable of being triggered in some locations. In high Alpine regions the avalanche prone locations are more prevalent. Backcountry touring calls for careful route selection.

Moderate (2)

Wet snow, Gliding snow

Avalanche prone locations



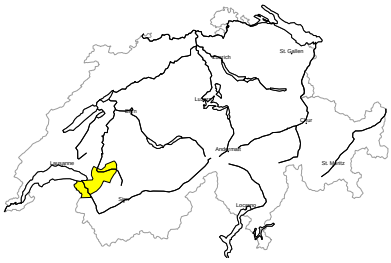
Danger description

In particular on very steep grassy slopes gliding avalanches are possible. This applies in particular on steep south facing slopes below approximately 2800 m, as well as on steep east and west facing slopes below approximately 2600 m. Avalanches can reach large size. Areas with glide cracks are to be avoided.
As a consequence of warming during the day and solar radiation small to medium-sized wet avalanches are possible as the day progresses.

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

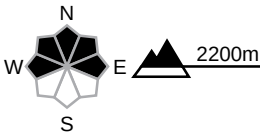
region B

Moderate (2+)



No distinct avalanche problem

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description
Avalanches can be released in near-surface layers of the snowpack. They can reach quite a large size. In addition the somewhat older wind slabs in particular adjacent to ridgelines and generally at elevated altitudes are capable of being triggered in some locations. In high Alpine regions the avalanche prone locations are more prevalent. Backcountry touring calls for careful route selection.

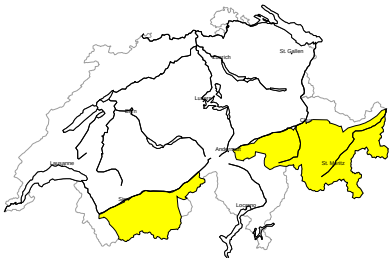
Low (1)

Gliding snow

More gliding avalanches are possible, especially on steep grassy slopes. These can reach medium size. Areas with glide cracks are to be avoided as far as possible.

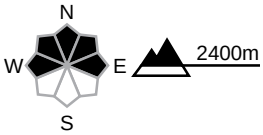
region C

Moderate (2+)



Wind slab, Persistent weak layers

Avalanche prone locations

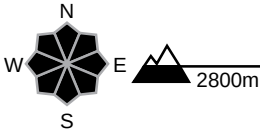


Danger description
Avalanches can in isolated cases be released in the old snowpack, mostly by large additional loads. These can reach large size. The avalanche prone locations are barely recognisable, even to the trained eye.
In addition the somewhat older wind slabs in particular adjacent to ridgelines and generally at elevated altitudes are prone to triggering in some cases still. Backcountry touring and other off-piste activities call for defensive route selection.

Moderate (2)

Wet snow, Gliding snow

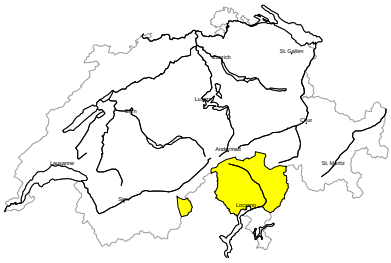
Avalanche prone locations



Danger description
In particular on very steep grassy slopes gliding avalanches are possible. This applies in particular on steep south facing slopes below approximately 2800 m, as well as on steep east and west facing slopes below approximately 2600 m. Avalanches can reach large size. Areas with glide cracks are to be avoided.
As a consequence of warming during the day and solar radiation small to medium-sized wet avalanches are possible as the day progresses.

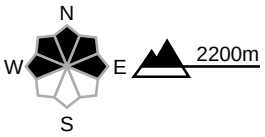
region D

Moderate (2-)



No distinct avalanche problem

Avalanche prone locations

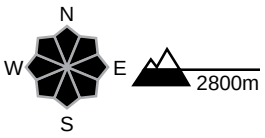


Danger description
The somewhat older wind slabs are in some cases still prone to triggering at elevated altitudes. Avalanches can additionally in some places be released in near-surface layers. This applies in particular on very steep slopes, as well as at transitions from a shallow to a deep snowpack, when entering gullies and bowls for example. Careful route selection is recommended.

Moderate (2)

Wet snow, Gliding snow

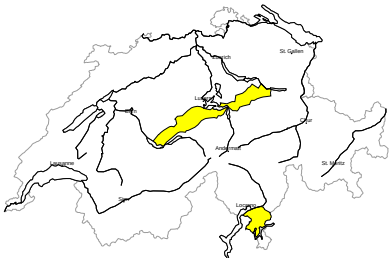
Avalanche prone locations



Danger description
In particular on very steep grassy slopes gliding avalanches are possible. This applies in particular on steep south facing slopes below approximately 2800 m, as well as on steep east and west facing slopes below approximately 2600 m. Avalanches can reach large size. Areas with glide cracks are to be avoided.
As a consequence of warming during the day and solar radiation small to medium-sized wet avalanches are possible as the day progresses.

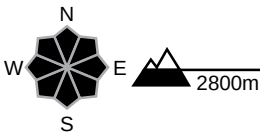
region E

Moderate (2)



Wet snow, Gliding snow

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description
In particular on very steep grassy slopes gliding avalanches are possible. This applies in particular on steep south facing slopes below approximately 2800 m, as well as on steep east and west facing slopes below approximately 2600 m. Avalanches can reach large size. Areas with glide cracks are to be avoided.
As a consequence of warming during the day and solar radiation small to medium-sized wet avalanches are possible as the day progresses.

Low (1)

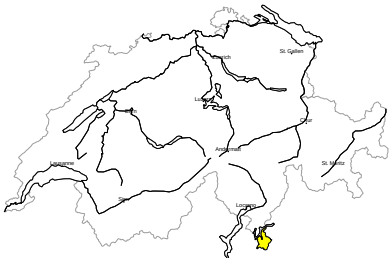
No distinct avalanche problem

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.

Avalanche bulletin through Wednesday, 20. March 2024

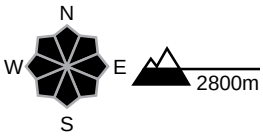
region F

Moderate (2)



Wet snow, Gliding snow

Avalanche prone locations

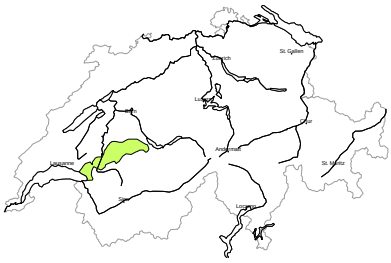


Danger description

In particular on very steep grassy slopes gliding avalanches are possible. This applies in particular on steep south facing slopes below approximately 2800 m, as well as on steep east and west facing slopes below approximately 2600 m. Avalanches can reach large size. Areas with glide cracks are to be avoided.
As a consequence of warming during the day and solar radiation small to medium-sized wet avalanches are possible as the day progresses.

region G

Low (1)



No distinct avalanche problem

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.

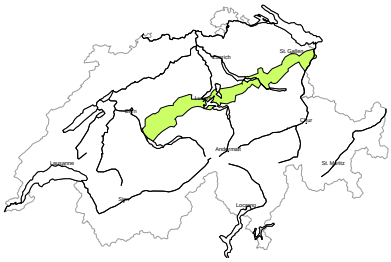
Low (1)

Gliding snow

More gliding avalanches are possible, especially on steep grassy slopes. These can reach medium size. Areas with glide cracks are to be avoided as far as possible.

region H

Low (1)



Gliding snow

More gliding avalanches are possible, especially on steep grassy slopes. These can reach medium size. Areas with glide cracks are to be avoided as far as possible.

Snowpack and weather

updated on 19.3.2024, 17:00

Snowpack

A combination of mild temperatures and sunny weather meant that new and drift snow from Monday settled and consolidated rapidly; this happened somewhat more slowly on north-facing slopes at higher altitudes. In some places there in particular, avalanches may be triggered in near-surface layers. Around the crusts in older layers in the upper part of the snowpack, weak layers with a sometimes faceted crystal structure are deposited. Avalanches may still be released in these layers, especially in southern Valais and in the inneralpine regions of Grisons. Deep layers of the snowpack are compact in many places and for the most part do not contain distinct weak layers.
The snowpack is soaked on south-facing slopes up to about 3000 m, on east- and west-facing slopes up to approximately 2000 m, and on north-facing slopes up to around 1800 m. Furthermore, gliding avalanches are to be expected primarily on east-, south- and west-facing slopes below approximately 2800 m and more rarely on north-facing slopes. These may be large.

Weather review for Tuesday, 19.03.2024

Following the last precipitation during Monday night into Tuesday, a night when the skies were clear only some of the time, it was mostly sunny as the day progressed.

New snow
From Monday afternoon until the end of the precipitation during Monday night into Tuesday, the following amounts of fresh snow were recorded above around 2000 m:

- northern Grisons: 10 to 20 cm;
- from the Gotthard region through central Grisons to Lower Engadine: 5 to 10 cm;
- less elsewhere.

This meant that from Sunday afternoon until Tuesday morning, there were the following levels of snowfall above around 2400 m:

- Northern Alpine Ridge: 20 to 40 cm;
- rest of Lower Valais, southern Goms, rest of northern and central Grisons, Lower Engadine: 10 to 20 cm;
- mostly less elsewhere.

Temperature
At midday at 2000 m, between +5 °C in the west and south and +2 °C in the east.

Wind
There were northerly winds:

- during Monday night into Tuesday along the Main Alpine Ridge and south of this as well as in Grisons, these were moderate to strong; elsewhere they were mostly light;
- the winds were mostly light during the day.

Avalanche bulletin through Wednesday, 20. March 2024

Weather forecast until Wednesday, 20.03.2024

Tuesday night into Wednesday will be clear. During the day it will be mostly sunny and mild.

New snow
-

Temperature
At midday at 2000 m, +6 °C in the north and +4 °C in the south.

Wind
There will be mostly light southwesterly winds.

Trend

Thursday
During Wednesday night into Thursday, it will increasingly become very cloudy in the north. It will remain mostly clear in the south. During the day, it will vary between cloudy with bright spells and very cloudy in the north with some precipitation. Along the Northern Alpine Ridge, 10 to 20 cm of snow may fall in some regions. The snowfall level will be around 2000 m. It will be partly sunny along the southern flank of the Alps.
The danger of dry avalanches may increase slightly in some regions. Gliding avalanches are still to be expected.

Friday
After the clouds move away during Thursday night into Friday, it will probably be mostly sunny and mild with light winds. The danger of dry avalanches will decrease, but gliding avalanches are still to be expected.