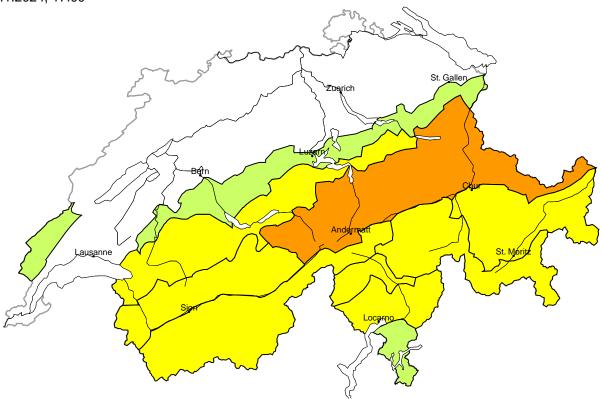
# Avalanche danger

updated on 24.1.2024, 17:00



# region A

# Considerable (3=)

Wind slab



# **Avalanche prone locations**



#### **Danger description**

As a consequence of new snow and a strong wind from westerly directions, avalanche prone wind slabs will form in particular at elevated altitudes. The fresh wind slabs represent the main danger. Single winter sport participants can release avalanches. As a consequence of the heavy snowfall natural avalanches are possible during the night. Avalanches can in isolated cases reach large size.

Backcountry touring and other off-piste activities call for experience in the assessment of avalanche danger.

# Considerable (3)

#### Wet snow, Gliding snow

As a consequence of the rain numerous medium-sized and, in isolated cases, large wet and gliding avalanches are to be expected below approximately 2200 m.

**Danger levels** 

1 low

2 moderate

3 considerable

4 high

# region B

# Moderate (2+)



#### Wind slab

#### Avalanche prone locations



#### **Danger description**

The clearly visible wind slabs of the last few days represent the main danger. Avalanches can in some places be released by people and reach medium size. In high Alpine regions the avalanche prone locations are more prevalent and the danger is level 3 (considerable).

Backcountry touring calls for careful route selection.

# Moderate (2)

# Wet snow, Gliding snow

As a consequence of the rain more frequent medium-sized and, in isolated cases, large wet and gliding avalanches are to be expected below approximately 2200 m.

# region C

# Moderate (2+)



# Wind slab, Persistent weak layers

#### Avalanche prone locations

#### **Danger description**

The wind slabs of the last few days are lying on weak layers at elevated altitudes. They represent the main danger. In some places avalanches can also release deeper layers of the snowpack and reach large size in isolated cases. In high Alpine regions the avalanche prone locations are more prevalent and the danger is level 3 (considerable).

Backcountry touring calls for careful route selection.

#### **Moderate (2)**

# Wet snow, Gliding snow

As a consequence of the rain more frequent medium-sized and, in isolated cases, large wet and gliding avalanches are to be expected below approximately 2200 m.

Danger levels

3 considerable

# region D

# Moderate (2=)



# Wind slab

#### Avalanche prone locations



#### **Danger description**

The wind slabs of the last few days represent the main danger. They are to be evaluated with care and prudence in particular in very steep terrain. Avalanches can in some places be released by people and reach medium size.

Careful route selection is recommended.

# Moderate (2)

# Wet snow, Gliding snow

As a consequence of the rain more frequent medium-sized and, in isolated cases, large wet and gliding avalanches are to be expected below approximately 2200 m.

# region E

# Moderate (2=)



#### Wind slab

#### Avalanche prone locations



#### **Danger description**

As a consequence of a sometimes strong northwesterly wind, further wind slabs will form. In addition the wind slabs of the last few days are prone to triggering in some cases still. Single winter sport participants can release avalanches in some places, including medium-sized ones. The number and size of avalanche prone locations will increase with altitude. Careful route selection is advisable.

# region F

# Moderate (2=)

Wind slab



Avalanche prone locations

# W E 2200m

#### **Danger description**

As a consequence of a sometimes strong northwesterly wind, further wind slabs will form. In addition the wind slabs of the last few days are prone to triggering in some cases still. Single winter sport participants can release avalanches in some places, including mediumsized ones. The number and size of avalanche prone locations will increase with altitude. Careful route selection is advisable.

# **Moderate (2)**

# Wet snow, Gliding snow

As a consequence of the rain more frequent medium-sized and, in isolated cases, large wet and gliding avalanches are to be expected below approximately 2200 m.

水水

Danger levels

1 low

2 moderate

3 considerable



# region G

# **Moderate (2-)**



# Wind slab

#### **Avalanche prone locations**



#### **Danger description**

The mostly small wind slabs are to be evaluated with care and prudence especially in very steep terrain. They are to be found in particular in gullies and bowls, and behind abrupt changes in the terrain. Mostly avalanches are only small.

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.

# region H

# Low (1)



# No distinct avalanche problem

Individual avalanche prone locations are to be found in particular in extremely steep terrain. Restraint should be exercised because avalanches can sweep people along and give rise to falls.

# region I

# Low (1)



#### Wet snow, Gliding snow

On steep grassy slopes individual small to medium-sized gliding avalanches and wet snow slides are possible as a consequence of the rain. Caution is to be exercised in areas with glide cracks.

水水

Danger levels

1 low

2 moderate

3 considerable

4 high

# Snowpack and weather

updated on 24.1.2024, 17:00

# **Snowpack**

At high altitudes and in the high Alpine regions, fresh and somewhat older wind slabs are lying on top of partly angular weak layers. There may be human-triggered avalanches in these upper layers of the snowpack, especially at high altitude and in the high Alpine regions. Otherwise, the snowpack structure is mostly favourable, and fractures deeper in the snowpack are not expected.

Below approximately 2200 m, the snowpack is weakened by rain and heat, especially in the north. Moist avalanches are to be expected. In addition, medium-sized and in some cases large gliding avalanches are still possible, except on the southern flank of the Alps.

# Weather review for Wednesday, 24.01.2024

A little snow fell in the north during the night. The snowfall level rose towards 2700 m for a time. During the day, it was mostly cloudy in the north and quite sunny in the south.

#### New snow

From Tuesday afternoon to Wednesday afternoon, the following amounts of fresh snow were recorded above approximately 2700 m:

- Northern Alpine Ridge from the Wildstrubel to the St. Galler Oberland, northern Grisons: 5 to 10 cm;
- elsewhere: a few centimetres.

#### **Temperature**

At midday at 2000 m, between +3 °C in the north and +9 °C in the south.

#### Wind

Winds were mostly strong from the west.



# Weather forecast until Thursday, 25.01.2024

Some precipitation will fall in the north during Wednesday night into Thursday. During the day, it will dry up from the west. The snowfall level will be situated between 1800 and 2000 m. During the day, it will be brighter in the west and quite sunny in Valais and Ticino. It will remain very cloudy in the east.

#### New snow

From Wednesday afternoon to Thursday afternoon, the following amounts of fresh snow are expected above approximately 2200 m:

- Northern Alpine Ridge from the Wildstrubel to the St. Galler Oberland, northern Grisons: 15 to 30 cm;
- elsewhere: a few centimetres widely, mostly dry on the southern flank of the Alps. Below approximately 2000 m, 5 to 15 mm of rain will fall widely in the north and 15 to 30 mm in the regions exposed to heavier precipitation.

#### **Temperature**

At midday at 2000 m, between +1 °C in the north and +4 °C in the south.

#### Wind

- At 2000 m there will be a moderate westerly wind in the north, with a strong northerly wind in the south.
- A strong to storm force northwesterly wind will blow in the high Alpine regions.

#### **Trend**

#### Friday and Saturday

There will be brighter skies in the north on Friday morning. Snowfall will set in from the northwest in the afternoon, ending during Friday night into Saturday. The snowfall level will drop from around 2000 m to 1500 m. In the central and eastern parts of the northern flank of the Alps, 10 to 20 cm of snow will fall, with less elsewhere. On Saturday, some last remaining cloud will persist in the east, otherwise it will be mostly sunny. It will be fairly sunny in the south on both days. The wind will still be blowing moderately to strongly from the northwest on Friday. There will still be some weak winds on Saturday. The avalanche danger will hardly change on Friday and will decrease slowly on Saturday. Snowdrift accumulations represent the main danger. Gliding avalanches are still possible.

