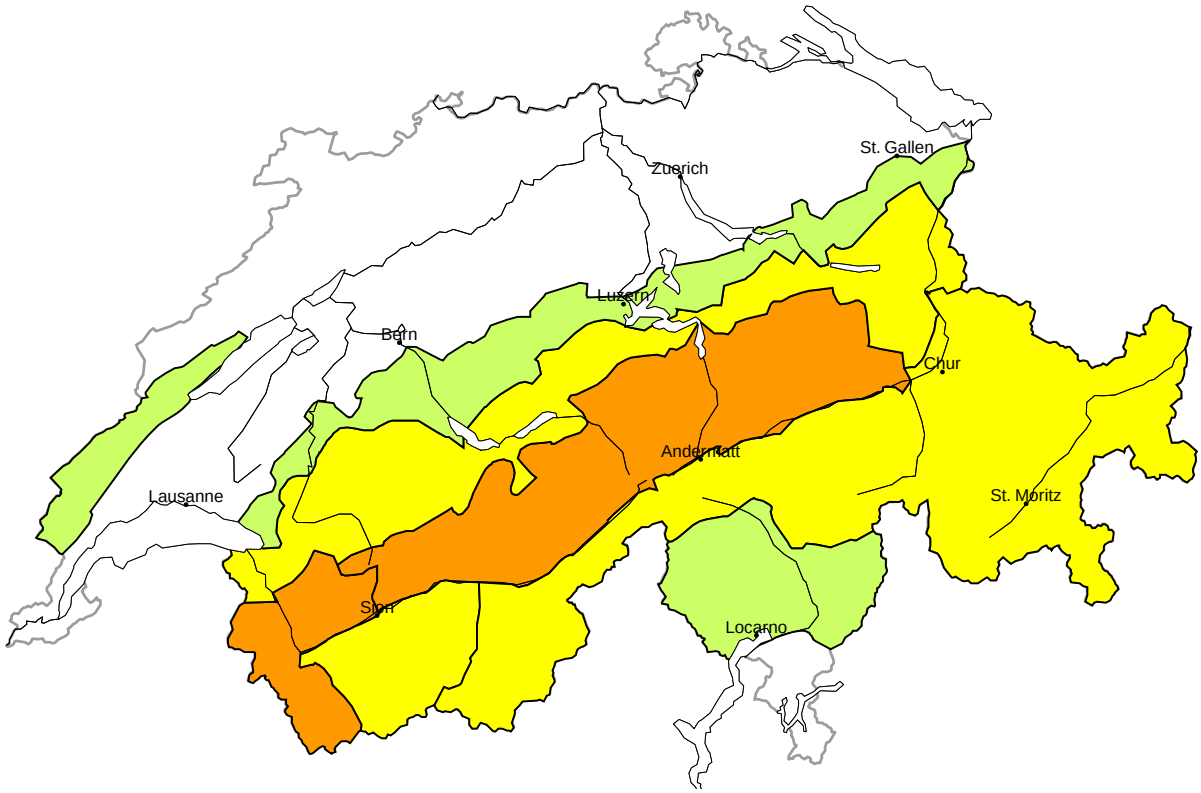
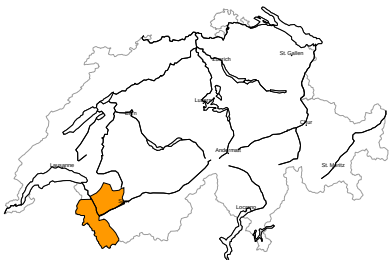
Avalanche danger

updated on 7.12.2024, 17:00



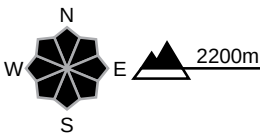
region A

Considerable (3=)



New snow

Avalanche prone locations



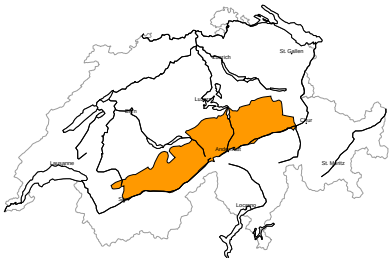
Danger description

The new snow and wind slabs are prone to triggering. Single winter sport participants can release avalanches, including dangerously large ones. Natural avalanches are possible.
Additionally in very isolated cases avalanches can penetrate deep layers and reach large size. This applies in particular above approximately 2800 m.
Backcountry touring and other off-piste activities call for extensive experience in the assessment of avalanche danger.

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

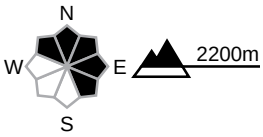
Avalanche bulletin through Sunday, 8. December 2024

region B — Considerable (3-)



Wind slab

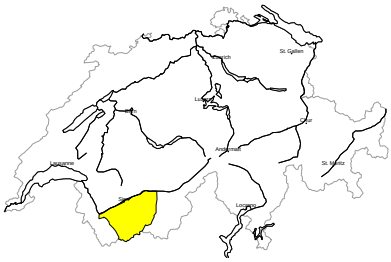
Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

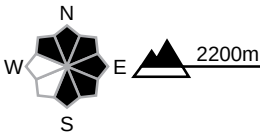
As a consequence of new snow and wind from variable directions, wind slabs will form. The fresh and older wind slabs are in some cases prone to triggering. Single winter sport participants can release avalanches. Mostly these are medium-sized. Additionally in very isolated cases avalanches can be released in near-ground layers and reach large size. This applies in particular above approximately 2800 m.
Backcountry touring and other off-piste activities call for experience in the assessment of avalanche danger.

region C — Moderate (2+)



Wind slab

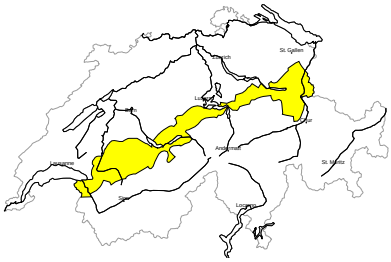
Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

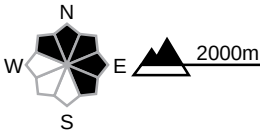
The fresh and older wind slabs are in some cases prone to triggering. Single winter sport participants can release avalanches. Mostly these are medium-sized. Additionally in very isolated cases avalanches can be released in near-ground layers. This applies in particular above approximately 2800 m.
Backcountry touring and other off-piste activities call for careful route selection.

region D — Moderate (2+)



Wind slab

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

The fresh and older wind slabs are in some cases prone to triggering. Single winter sport participants can release avalanches. Mostly these are medium-sized. Additionally in very isolated cases avalanches can be released in near-ground layers. This applies in particular above approximately 2800 m.
Backcountry touring and other off-piste activities call for careful route selection.

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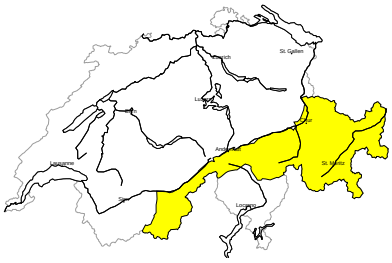
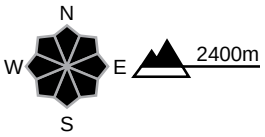
region E

Moderate (2-)



Wind slab

Avalanche prone locations

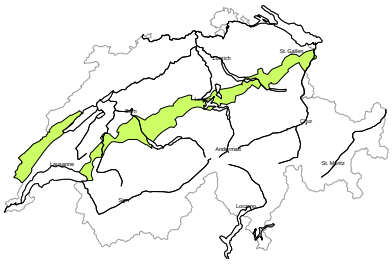


Danger description

The more recent wind slabs are in some cases prone to triggering. Single winter sport participants can release avalanches. These can in some cases release deeper layers of the snowpack and reach medium size. Backcountry touring and other off-piste activities call for meticulous route selection.

region F

Low (1)

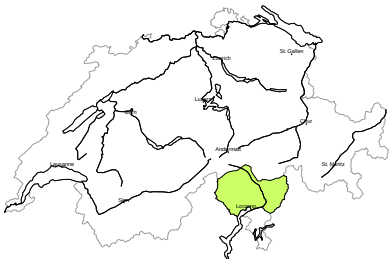


Wind slab

Thus far only a little snow is lying. As a consequence of new snow and westerly wind, mostly small wind slabs formed in particular adjacent to ridgelines and in pass areas. Even a small avalanche can sweep people along and give rise to falls.

region G

Low (1)



Wind slab

Thus far only a little snow is lying. As a consequence of a sometimes strong northerly wind, mostly small wind slabs will form in particular at elevated altitudes. 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. At elevated altitudes the avalanche prone locations are a little more prevalent.
The Avalanche Warning Service currently has only a small amount of information that has been collected in the field, so that the avalanche danger should be investigated especially thoroughly in the relevant locality.

Snowpack and weather

updated on 7.12.2024, 17:00

Snowpack

New snow and snowdrift are sometimes prone to triggering. They lie on a mostly compact old snowpack, which, however, has layers with a sometimes faceted crystal structure at high altitudes.
There is little snow for the time of year in most areas, appreciably less along the Prealps, in Ticino, in central Grisons and in Upper Engadine.
The thin old snowpack is mostly favourable in structure with only isolated weak layers, mostly in the area of melt-freeze crusts. Above 2800 m, where there was already a cohesive old snowpack before the snowfall in the second half of November, there are some weak layers of faceted crystals on northern slopes. In these, isolated avalanches may be triggered in near-ground layers.

Weather review for Saturday, 07.12.2024

It was mostly very cloudy. Precipitation set in in the late morning in the west. This covered Valais and the northern flank of the Alps in the afternoon.

Fresh snow
The snowfall level was initially around 1500 m. The following fell on Saturday afternoon:
- The extreme west of Lower Valais: 10 to 20 cm
- Western part of the northern flank of the Alps: 5 to 10 cm
- Otherwise less or it remained dry

Temperature
In the middle of the day at 2000 m, between +2 °C in the west and north and -1 °C in the south

Wind
In the mountains mostly moderate to strong

- During the night from the west
- From the southwest during the day

Weather forecast until Sunday, 08.12.2024

It will be mostly very cloudy, with isolated brighter spells possible in the west.

Fresh snow
The snowfall level will be at low altitudes. From Saturday afternoon to Sunday afternoon:
- Extreme west of Lower Valais and Vaud Alps: 20 to 30 cm
- Western Jura, rest of Northern Alpine Ridge, rest of Lower Valais, northern and central Grisons: 10 to 20 cm
- Rest of the Jura, Prealps, Upper Valais, southern flank of the Alps: 5 to 10 cm

Temperature
At midday at 2000 m, between -7 °C in the north and -3 °C in the south.

Wind
- In the north during the night, mostly moderate from westerly directions
- At high altitudes mostly moderate from northerly directions
- Otherwise weak to moderate, initially from westerly directions, Bise wind as the day progresses

Avalanche bulletin through Sunday, 8. December 2024

Outlook

Monday:
In Valais it will be fairly sunny, otherwise mostly very cloudy and in the north there will still be a little snow down to low altitudes. Moderate to strong Bise winds in the north, moderate to strong northeasterly winds at times at high altitudes. Otherwise, the wind will be weak to moderate from northerly directions. The avalanche danger will decrease only slowly.

Tuesday:
It will be mostly very cloudy in the Prealps, otherwise mostly sunny in the mountains and in the south. The Bise wind will weaken, in the mountains there will mostly be light winds. The avalanche danger will decrease further.