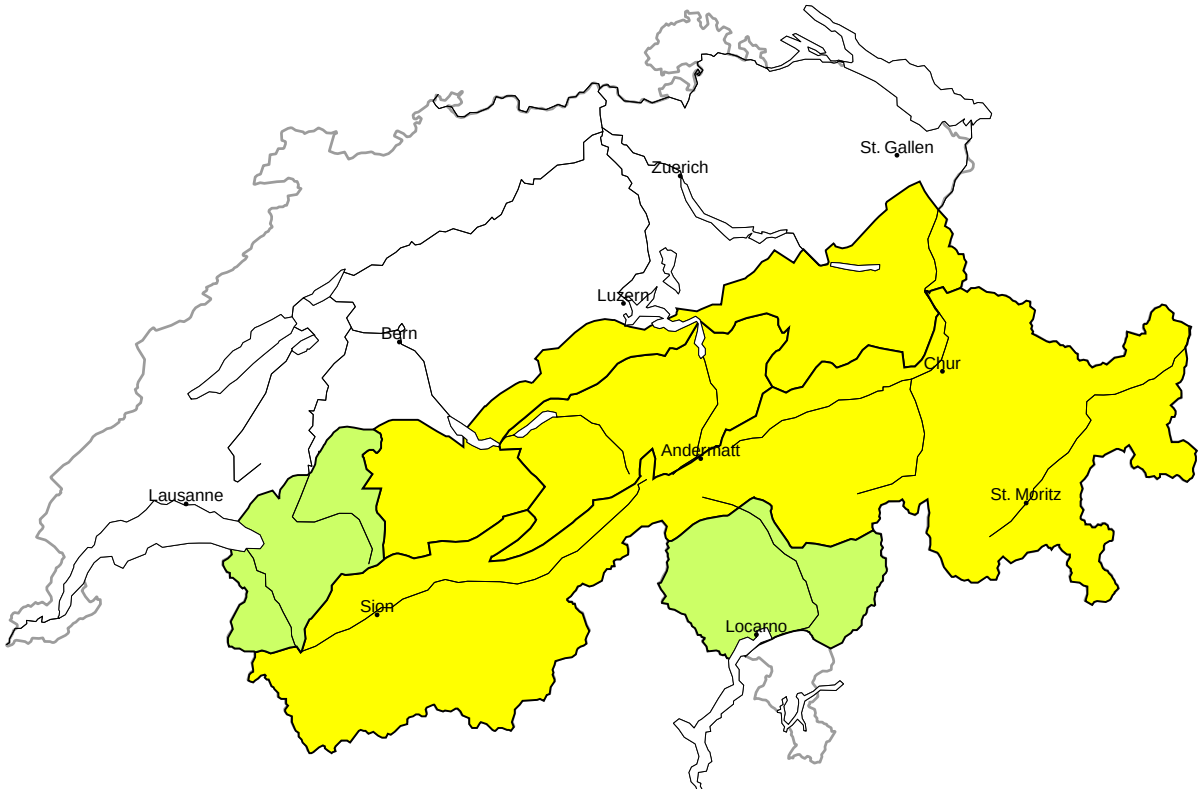
Avalanche bulletin through Thursday, 23. November 2023

Moderate avalanche danger will be encountered over a wide area

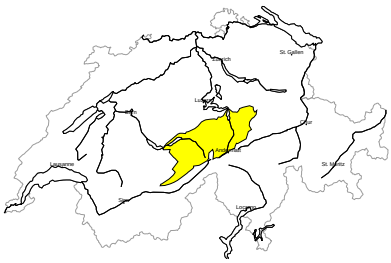
Edition: 22.11.2023, 17:00 / Next update: 23.11.2023, 17:00

Avalanche danger

updated on 22.11.2023, 17:00

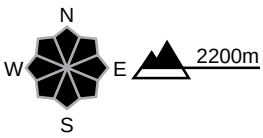


region A | **Moderate, Level 2=**



Snow drift

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

As a consequence of new snow and northerly wind, wind slabs formed. These are to be evaluated with care and prudence in steep terrain. The avalanche prone locations are to be found in particular in gullies and bowls and generally in high Alpine regions. Avalanches can reach medium size.
Careful route selection is required.
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.

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

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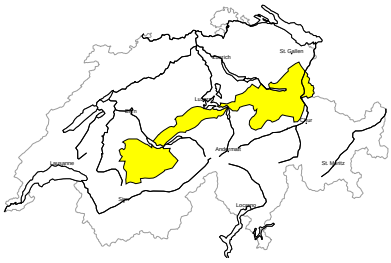
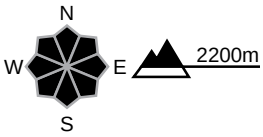
region B — Moderate, Level 2-



Snow drift

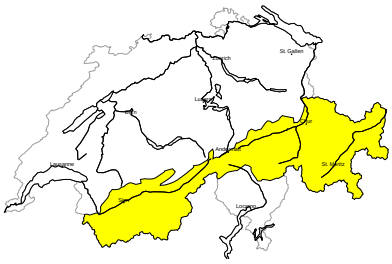
Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

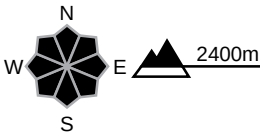
As a consequence of new snow and northerly wind, wind slabs formed. These can be released in some cases. The avalanche prone locations are to be found in particular in gullies and bowls, and behind abrupt changes in the terrain. Mostly avalanches are small.
The fresh wind slabs are to be evaluated with care and prudence in steep terrain. 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.
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.

region C — Moderate, Level 2-



No distinct avalanche problem

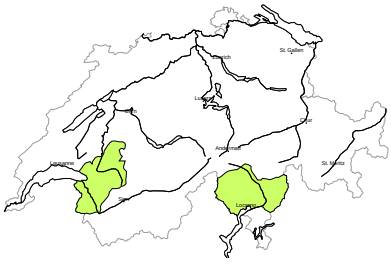
Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

Avalanches can in some cases be released in near-surface layers and reach medium size. The number and size of avalanche prone locations will increase with altitude. Meticulous route selection is recommended.
As a consequence of a sometimes strong northerly wind, clearly visible wind slabs formed as well. These are mostly small. The fresh wind slabs are to be avoided in very steep terrain.
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.

region D — Low, Level 1



No distinct avalanche problem

Individual avalanche prone locations are to be found in particular in gullies and bowls, and behind abrupt changes in the terrain and 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.
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 22.11.2023, 17:00

Snowpack

The fresh fallen snow of the last few days has been transported by the northerly winds. The snowdrift accumulations which were generated below approximately 2800 m lie deposited atop a rain crust which is frequently quite smooth in many areas. Beneath these snowdrift accumulations the old snowpack is quite favourably layered, following the recently descending temperatures. Marked weak layers more deeply embedded inside the snow cover have not been discovered to date.

Observed weather review Wednesday, 22.11.2023

During the nocturnal hours in the northern regions there was precipitation registered, falling as snow above approximately 1200 m. During the morning hours the precipitation came to an end and it turned quite sunny in the southern regions, in the western regions and in high alpine regions.

Fresh snow
Between Monday night and Wednesday morning the following amounts of fresh snow were registered above 1700 m:

- northern flank of the Alps: 10 to 20 cm, as much as 30 cm from place to place in the central sector of the northern flank of the Alps;
- in the other regions of Switzerland less, in the southern regions it remained dry.

Temperature
At midday at 2000 m, between -3 °C in the northern regions and 0 °C in the southern regions.

Wind
Winds were blowing at moderate strength, intermittently also at strong velocity on the Main Alpine Ridge and in the southern regions in particular, from northerly directions.

Weather forecast through Thursday, 23.11.2023

It is expected to be sunny and become increasingly mild during the course of the day. The zero-degree level will ascend to 3800 m.

Fresh snow
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Temperature
At midday at 2000 m, between +5 °C in the southwestern regions and +1 °C in the northeastern regions.

Wind
Winds will be blowing at light to moderate strength from northeasterly directions.

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Outlook through Saturday, 25.11.2023

As a consequence of strong to storm-strength northwesterly winds, skies are expected to be heavily overcast. On Friday morning precipitation will set in from the northeast which will spread out starting on Friday evening and subsequently intensify in the northern and the eastern regions. The snowfall level is expected to swiftly descend from 1200 m down to the lowlands on Friday evening. By Saturday afternoon, on the northern Alpine Ridge from the Wildstrubel as far as Liechtenstein and in northern Grisons, 30 to 50 cm of fresh snowfall is anticipated, more from place to place. In the remaining regions of Switzerland, 10 to 20 cm of fresh snow is anticipated over widespread areas. In the furthermost southern regions it is expected to be sunny and dry on both days as a consequence of northerly foehn winds.
Avalanche danger levels in the northeastern regions are expected to increase slightly as soon as Friday during the course of the day. On Saturday, avalanche danger will increase in all regions of Switzerland except in the south. Significant increases in the danger levels are expected in the major areas of precipitation.