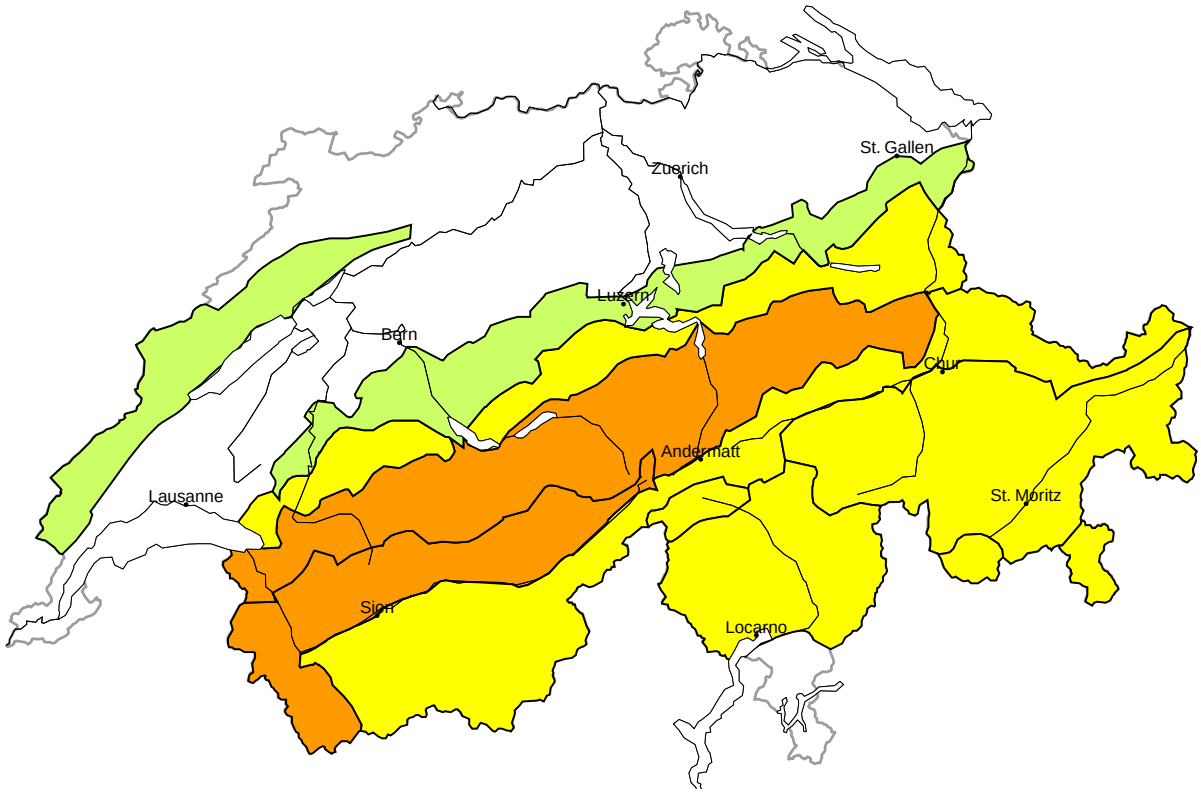
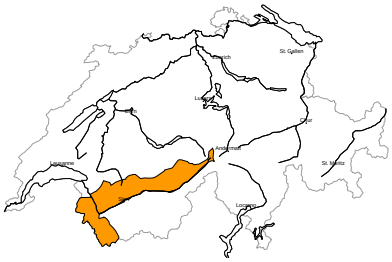
Avalanche danger

updated on 4.1.2024, 17:00



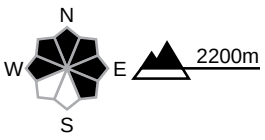
region A

Considerable (3-)



Wind slab

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

The fresh and somewhat older wind slabs are prone to triggering. Avalanches can be released, even by a single winter sport participant and reach medium size. Off-piste activities call for experience in the assessment of avalanche danger and careful route selection. Caution is to be exercised in particular in gullies and bowls, and behind abrupt changes in the terrain, as well as adjacent to ridgelines and in pass areas.

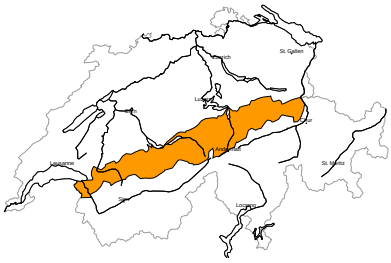
Low (1)

Gliding snow

Between approximately 2000 and 2500 m individual gliding avalanches are possible. These can in isolated cases reach large size. Areas with glide cracks are to be avoided.

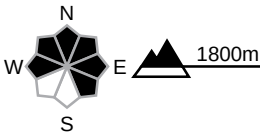
region B

Considerable (3-)



Wind slab

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

As a consequence of a moderate to strong foehn wind, avalanche prone wind slabs will form. In addition the wind slabs of the last two days are capable of being triggered in some cases still. Avalanches can be released, even by a single winter sport participant and reach medium size.
Off-piste activities call for experience in the assessment of avalanche danger and careful route selection.
Caution is to be exercised in particular in gullies and bowls, and behind abrupt changes in the terrain, as well as adjacent to ridgelines and in pass areas.

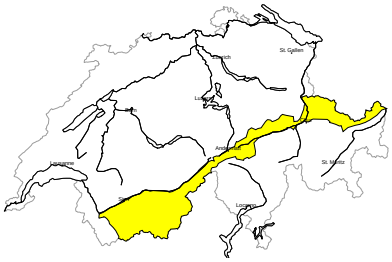
Low (1)

Gliding snow

Between approximately 2000 and 2500 m individual gliding avalanches are possible. These can in isolated cases reach large size. Areas with glide cracks are to be avoided.

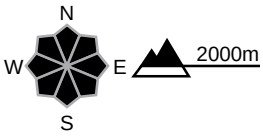
region C

Moderate (2+)



Wind slab

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

As a consequence of a moderate southwesterly wind, wind slabs will form at elevated altitudes. In addition the wind slabs of the last two days are capable of being triggered in some cases still. Avalanches can in some places be released by a single winter sport participant and reach medium size. The number and size of avalanche prone locations will increase with altitude.
Backcountry touring and other off-piste activities call for careful route selection.

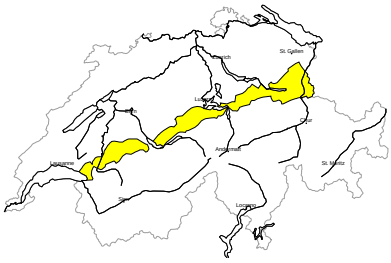
Low (1)

Gliding snow

Between approximately 2000 and 2500 m individual gliding avalanches are possible. These can in isolated cases reach large size. Areas with glide cracks are to be avoided.

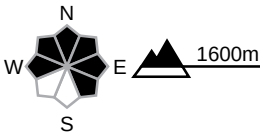
region D

Moderate (2+)



Wind slab

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

In the regions exposed to the foehn wind avalanche prone wind slabs will form. In addition the wind slabs of the last two days are capable of being triggered in some cases still. Avalanches can in some places be released by a single winter sport participant and reach medium size.
Backcountry touring and other off-piste activities call for careful route selection.

Low (1)

Gliding snow

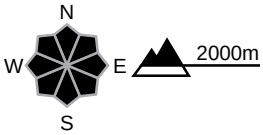
Between approximately 2000 and 2500 m individual gliding avalanches are possible. These can in isolated cases reach large size. Areas with glide cracks are to be avoided.

region E

Moderate (2+)

Wind slab

Avalanche prone locations

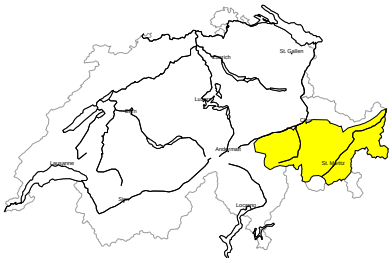


Danger description

As a consequence of a moderate southwesterly wind, wind slabs will form at elevated altitudes. In addition the wind slabs of the last two days are capable of being triggered in some cases still. Avalanches can in some places be released by a single winter sport participant and reach medium size. The number and size of avalanche prone locations will increase with altitude.
Backcountry touring and other off-piste activities call for careful route selection.

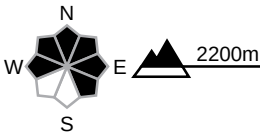
region F

Moderate (2=)



Wind slab

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

Fresh and older wind slabs represent the main danger. Avalanches can in some places be released by people, but they will be small in most cases. The number and size of avalanche prone locations will increase with altitude. 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.
Backcountry touring and other off-piste activities call for careful route selection.

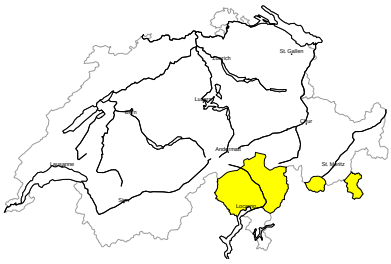
Low (1)

Gliding snow

Between approximately 2000 and 2500 m individual gliding avalanches are possible. These can in isolated cases reach large size. Areas with glide cracks are to be avoided.

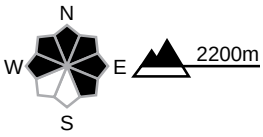
region G

Moderate (2=)



Wind slab

Avalanche prone locations

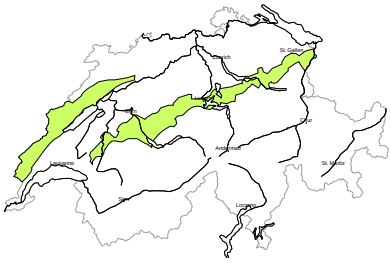


Danger description

Fresh and older wind slabs represent the main danger. Avalanches can in some places be released by people, but they will be small in most cases. The number and size of avalanche prone locations will increase with altitude. 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.
Backcountry touring and other off-piste activities call for careful route selection.

region H

Low (1)



Wind slab

On Thursday mostly small wind slabs formed in some localities. These are in some cases prone to triggering. They are to be evaluated with care and prudence in particular in extreme terrain. Restraint should be exercised because avalanches can sweep people along and give rise to falls.

Snowpack and weather

updated on 4.1.2024, 17:00

Snowpack

Over the past two days, fresh snow and strong to stormy westerly winds have led, mostly at altitude, to the formation of snowdrift accumulations that are prone to triggering, especially on the northern flank of the Alps and in Valais, Grisons and Ticino. Some of these are still prone to triggering. With the wind shifting to the south, fresh snowdrift accumulations that are prone to triggering will form on Friday. Apart from that, however, the snowpack structure is generally favourable. Hardly any fractures deeper in the snowpack are to be expected.
Furthermore, individual medium-sized and occasionally also large gliding avalanches are still possible, especially at altitudes between 2000 and 2500 m.

Weather review for Thursday, 04.01.2024

Snow fell widely in the west and north during the night. During the day, the snowfall from the west subsided and it became increasingly sunny in the mountains. The snowfall level dropped from 1500 to around 1200 m. In the south, it was mostly sunny during the day after a clear night.

New snow
Between Wednesday afternoon and Thursday afternoon, the following amounts of fresh snow were recorded above 1800 m:
- Lower Valais, north of the Rhone-Rhine, Prättigau and Gotthard region: 15 to 30 cm;
- Upper Valais, central Grisons, Lower Engadine: 5 to 15 cm;
- elsewhere: there were only a few centimetres of snow or it remained dry.

Temperature
At midday at 2000 m, -3 °C in the north and 0 °C in the south.

Wind
There was a westerly wind:
- This wind was strong to stormy on the northern flank of the Alps, in Valais and the Jura.
- It was moderate to strong at altitude in Grisons and on the southern flank of the Alps.

Weather forecast for Friday, 05.01.2024

It will be very cloudy and light snowfall will set in from the south as the morning progresses. The snowfall level will be below 1000 m on the southern flank of the Alps and between 1000 and 1200 m in the north.

New snow
From Friday morning to Friday afternoon, the following amounts of fresh snow are expected above approximately 1200 m:
- in the west and south: up to 10 cm;
- elsewhere: there will only be a few centimetres of snow or it will remain dry.

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

Wind
The wind will shift to the south:
- It will be moderate to strong at altitude, especially in the south and east.
- There will be a moderate to strong foehn wind until around the middle of the day in the regions that are exposed to the foehn wind in the north.

Avalanche bulletin through Friday, 5. January 2024

Trend until Sunday, 07.01.2024

There will be widespread snowfall down to low altitudes. From midday on Saturday, it will remain dry on the southern flank of the Alps with a strong foehn wind from the north. By Sunday evening, 20 to 40 cm of snow will have fallen in the north and east, and 10 to 20 cm in Valais and the south. The avalanche danger will increase slightly in all regions. New snow and snowdrift will pose the biggest danger here.

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