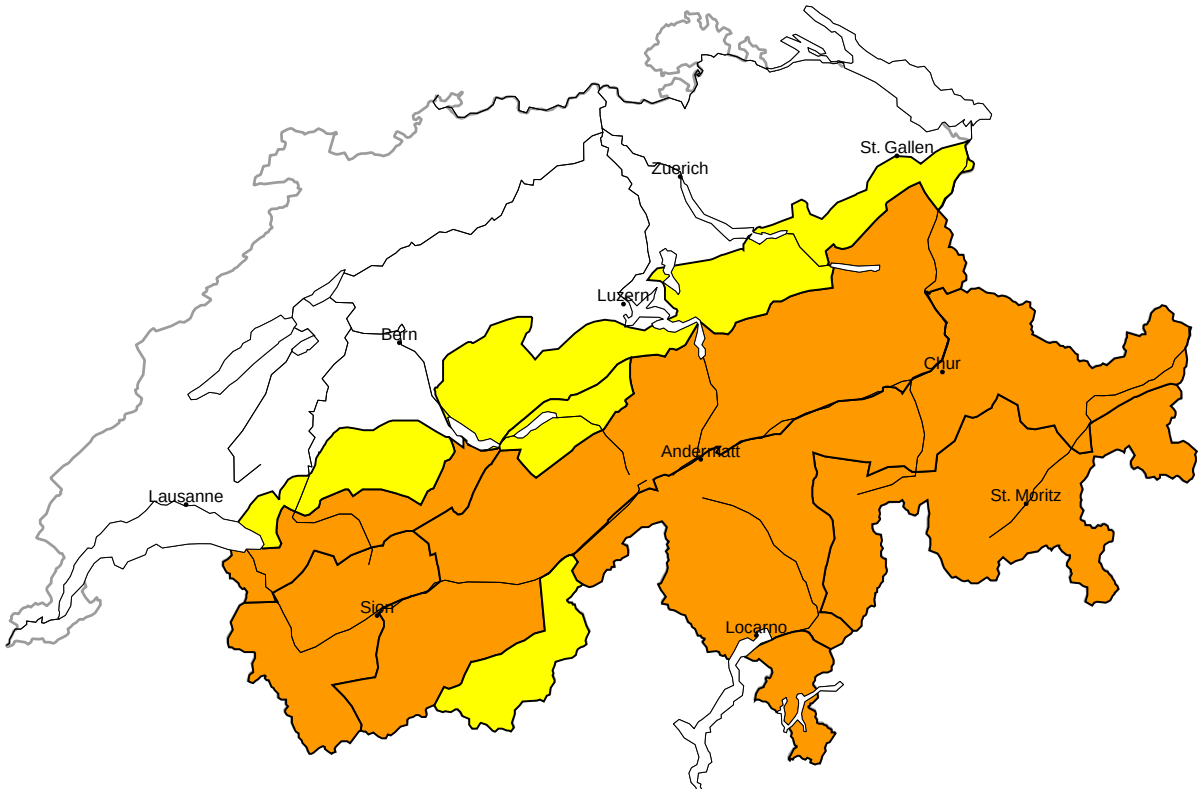
Avalanche bulletin through Saturday, 24. February 2024

Avalanche danger

updated on 23.2.2024, 17:00

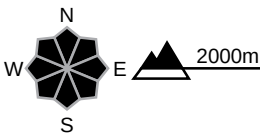


region A

Considerable (3+)

New snow

Avalanche prone locations



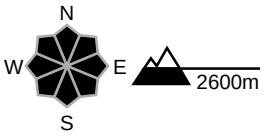
Danger description

The large quantity of fresh snow and the sometimes large wind slabs represent the main danger. Avalanches can be released very easily and reach large size. Individual natural avalanches are possible.
Backcountry touring and other off-piste activities call for extensive experience in the assessment of avalanche danger and restraint.

Moderate (2)

Wet snow, Gliding snow

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

More gliding avalanches are possible. These can reach large size. Areas with glide cracks are to be avoided as far as possible.
As a consequence of solar radiation small and medium-sized loose snow avalanches are possible. This applies in particular on steep south and west facing slopes.

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

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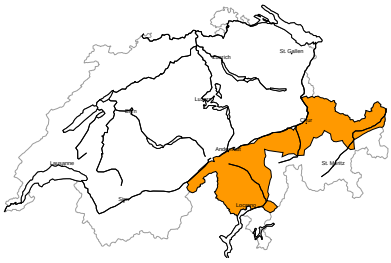
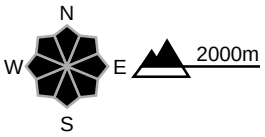
region B

Considerable (3=)



New snow

Avalanche prone locations



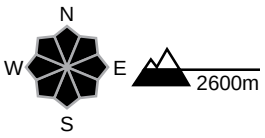
Danger description

The large quantity of fresh snow and the sometimes large wind slabs represent the main danger. Avalanches can be released, even by a single winter sport participant and reach large size.
Backcountry touring and other off-piste activities call for experience in the assessment of avalanche danger and caution.

Moderate (2)

Wet snow, Gliding snow

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

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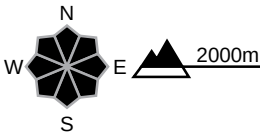
As a consequence of solar radiation small and medium-sized loose snow avalanches are possible. This applies in particular on steep south and west facing slopes.

region C

Considerable (3=)

New snow

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

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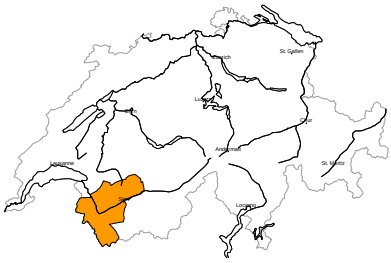
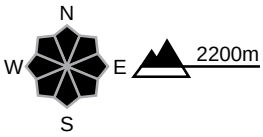
region D

Considerable (3=)



New snow

Avalanche prone locations



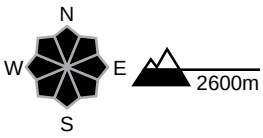
Danger description

The large quantity of fresh snow and the large wind slabs represent the main danger. Avalanches can be released, even by a single winter sport participant and reach large size.
Backcountry touring and other off-piste activities call for experience in the assessment of avalanche danger and caution.

Moderate (2)

Wet snow, Gliding snow

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

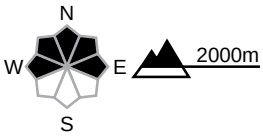
More gliding avalanches are possible. These can reach large size. Areas with glide cracks are to be avoided as far as possible.
As a consequence of solar radiation small and medium-sized loose snow avalanches are possible. This applies in particular on steep south and west facing slopes.

region E

Considerable (3-)

Wind slab

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

The fresh and somewhat older wind slabs are in some cases prone to triggering. Avalanches can be released, even by a single winter sport participant and reach medium size.
Backcountry touring calls for experience in the assessment of avalanche danger.

Low (1)

Gliding snow

Gliding avalanches are possible. These can in isolated cases reach large size. Areas with glide cracks are to be avoided as far as possible.

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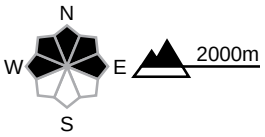
region F

Considerable (3-)

Wind slab

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

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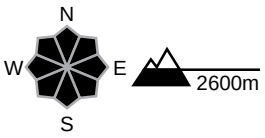
Backcountry touring calls for experience in the assessment of avalanche danger.

Moderate (2)

Wet snow, Gliding snow

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

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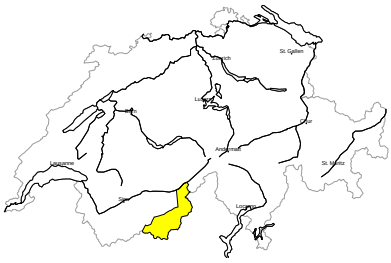
As a consequence of solar radiation small and medium-sized loose snow avalanches are possible. This applies in particular on steep south and west facing slopes.

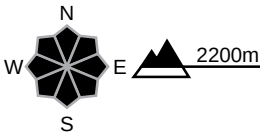
region G

Moderate (2+)



Wind slab

Avalanche prone locations



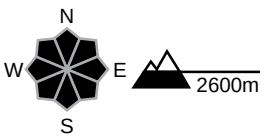
Danger description

The somewhat older wind slabs are in some cases still prone to triggering. Avalanches can in some places be released easily. They can reach medium size.
Careful route selection is recommended.

Moderate (2)

Wet snow, Gliding snow

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

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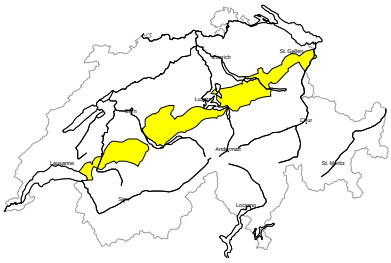
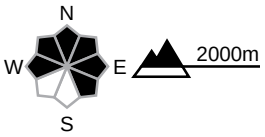
region H



Moderate (2=)

Wind slab

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

The fresh and older wind slabs are in some cases prone to triggering. They are to be found in particular in gullies and bowls, and behind abrupt changes in the terrain. Avalanches can in some places be released by people. They can reach medium size in isolated cases. Careful route selection is recommended.

Low (1)

Gliding snow

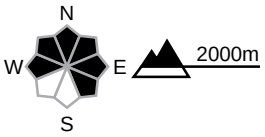
Gliding avalanches are possible. These can in isolated cases reach large size. Areas with glide cracks are to be avoided as far as possible.

region I

Moderate (2=)

Wind slab

Avalanche prone locations



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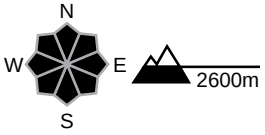
Moderate (2)

Wet snow, Gliding snow

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

More gliding avalanches are possible. These can reach large size. Areas with glide cracks are to be avoided as far as possible.
As a consequence of solar radiation small and medium-sized loose snow avalanches are possible. This applies in particular on steep south and west facing slopes.

Snowpack and weather

updated on 23.2.2024, 17:00

Snowpack

The abundant new snow and wind slabs in the west and south are prone to triggering. In the north, a strong to storm-force southwesterly wind has led to large-scale drifting of the loose snow of the last few days. Some wind slabs were covered with new snow on Friday, making them difficult to recognise. New snow and wind slabs are overlaying a mostly compact old snowpack, and fractures deep in the snowpack are not generally expected.
Small and medium-sized loose snow avalanches are to be anticipated in the northeast as a result of solar radiation and milder temperatures during the day.
Gliding avalanches are still possible, primarily on east-, south- and west-facing slopes below approximately 2600 m and more rarely on north-facing slopes below approximately 2200 m. These may be large.

Weather review for Friday, 23.02.2024

There was widespread precipitation during the night, with the most falling in the west and south. The snowfall level dropped from around 1800 m to low altitudes overnight. During the day, the snow only continued in the east; it was fairly sunny in the west.

New snow
From Wednesday evening to Friday afternoon, the following amounts of fresh snow were recorded above 2000 m:
- Main Alpine Ridge from the Rheinwaldhorn to Val Poschiavo and to the south of this, as well as the extreme west of Lower Valais: 40 to 60 cm;
- Vaud Alps, rest of Lower Valais, northern Valais, Ticino and Grisons: 25 to 40 cm;
- rest of the Northern Alpine Ridge, Fribourg Alps: 10 to 25 cm;
- elsewhere: a few centimetres.

Temperature
At midday at 2000 m, between -6 °C in the north and -3 °C in the south.

Wind
There was a southwesterly wind:
- strong to storm force during the night;
- mostly weak to moderate during the day.

Weather forecast until Saturday, 24.02.2024

Some snow will fall in the west during Friday night into Saturday, then in the south on Saturday afternoon, down to low altitudes. During the day it will be quite sunny in the north and cloudy in the south.

New snow
From Friday evening to Saturday afternoon, the following amounts of fresh snow are expected above 2000 m:
- western part of the northern flank of the Alps, western Lower Valais, central and eastern parts of the Main Alpine Ridge, northern Ticino: 5 to 15 cm;
- elsewhere: only a few centimetres, or it will remain dry.

Temperature
At midday at 2000 m, around -6 °C.

Wind
There will be a moderate to strong southwesterly wind.

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Trend

Sunday, 25.02.2024

In the north, it will be quite sunny at first, with clouds gathering from the west as the day progresses. In the south, it will be cloudy and 10 to 20 cm of snow will fall to low altitudes. There will be an increasingly strong southwesterly wind. In the Alpine valleys of the north, there will be a moderate foehn wind, sometimes strong towards the evening.
The danger of dry avalanches will increase somewhat in the south as a result of new fallen snow. In the north, the avalanche danger will not change significantly.

Monday, 26.02.2024

It is likely to be cloudy, with around 15 to 30 cm of snow falling on the Main Alpine Ridge and to the south of this, as well as in the Jura. The amount of precipitation is still uncertain. The snowfall level will rise to 1000 to 1400 m in the north and remain at low altitudes in the south. There will be a strong southerly wind, storm force at times.
The danger of dry avalanches will increase on the Main Alpine Ridge and south of it due to new snow. Otherwise, the avalanche danger will not change significantly.