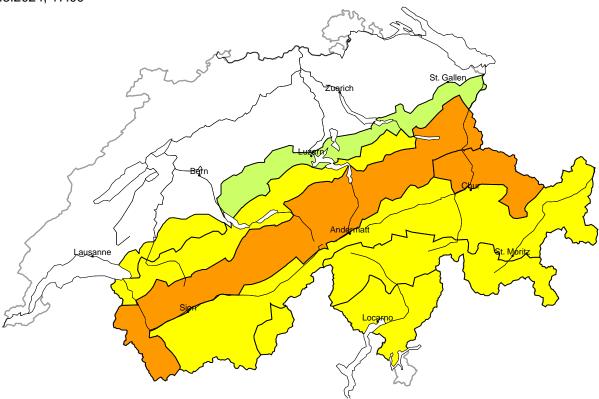
# Avalanche danger

updated on 23.3.2024, 17:00



# region A

# Considerable (3=)



# **New snow**

# Avalanche prone locations



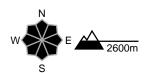
# **Danger description**

The fresh snow and the wind slabs that are being formed by the strong westerly wind are 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 and careful route selection.

# **Moderate (2)**

## **Gliding snow**

#### **Avalanche prone locations**



#### **Danger description**

In particular on steep grassy slopes occasionally large gliding avalanches are possible. Areas with glide cracks are to be avoided.

**Danger levels** 

3 considerable

4 high

#### region B

#### Considerable (3-)



# Wind slab

#### **Avalanche prone locations**



#### **Danger description**

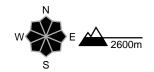
As a consequence of new snow and strong wind the wind slabs will increase in size additionally on Sunday. They are in some cases prone to triggering. Avalanches can in some places be released by people and reach medium size.

Backcountry touring calls for experience in the assessment of avalanche danger and careful route selection.

# **Moderate (2)**

# Gliding snow

#### **Avalanche prone locations**



#### **Danger description**

In particular on steep grassy slopes occasionally large gliding avalanches are possible. Areas with glide cracks are to be avoided.

# region C

# Moderate (2+)



#### Wind slab

#### **Avalanche prone locations**



### **Danger description**

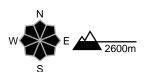
The fresh wind slabs are in some cases prone to triggering. Additionally in some places avalanches can also be released in near-surface layers of the snowpack. Avalanches can reach medium size. The number and size of avalanche prone locations will increase with altitude.

Backcountry touring and other off-piste activities call for careful route selection.

### **Moderate (2)**

#### Gliding snow

#### **Avalanche prone locations**



#### Danger description

In particular on steep grassy slopes occasionally large gliding avalanches are possible. Areas with glide cracks are to be avoided.

Danger levels

1 low

2 moderate

3 considerable

4 high

igh

5 very high

#### region D

### Moderate (2=)



#### Wind slab

#### **Avalanche prone locations**



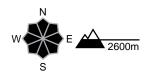
#### **Danger description**

As a consequence of new snow and a strong westerly wind, sometimes avalanche prone wind slabs will form. The avalanche prone locations are to be found in particular adjacent to ridgelines and in gullies and bowls. Avalanches are rather small. The fresh wind slabs are to be evaluated with care and prudence in very steep terrain.

# **Moderate (2)**

### Gliding snow

#### **Avalanche prone locations**



#### **Danger description**

In particular on steep grassy slopes occasionally large gliding avalanches are possible. Areas with glide cracks are to be avoided.

# region E

# Moderate (2=)



#### Wind slab

### **Avalanche prone locations**



#### **Danger description**

As a consequence of new snow and a strong westerly wind, sometimes avalanche prone wind slabs will form. The avalanche prone locations are to be found in particular adjacent to ridgelines and in gullies and bowls. Avalanches are rather small. The fresh wind slabs are to be evaluated with care and prudence in very steep terrain.

### Low (1)

#### Gliding snow

Gliding avalanches are possible, especially on steep grassy slopes. These can in some cases reach medium size. Areas with glide cracks are to be avoided as far as possible.

Danger levels

1 low

3 considerable

5 very high

#### region F

#### Moderate (2-)



#### Wind slab

#### **Avalanche prone locations**



#### **Danger description**

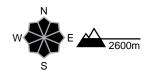
As a consequence of a strong northwesterly wind, mostly small wind slabs will form. They are in some cases prone to triggering. Avalanches can in isolated cases be released in near-surface layers of the snowpack and reach medium size.

Careful route selection is recommended.

# **Moderate (2)**

### Gliding snow

#### **Avalanche prone locations**



#### **Danger description**

In particular on steep grassy slopes occasionally large gliding avalanches are possible. Areas with glide cracks are to be avoided.

### region G

# **Moderate (2)**

### **Gliding snow**

#### **Avalanche prone locations**



#### **Danger description**

In particular on steep grassy slopes occasionally large gliding avalanches are possible. Areas with glide cracks are to be avoided.

### Low (1)

#### No distinct avalanche problem

Individual avalanche prone locations for dry avalanches are to be found in particular 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.

水水

Danger levels





2 moderate



3 considerable



5 very high

# region H

# Low (1)



# **Gliding snow**

Gliding avalanches are possible, especially on steep grassy slopes. These can in some cases reach medium size. Areas with glide cracks are to be avoided as far as possible.



# Snowpack and weather

updated on 23.3.2024, 17:00

### Snowpack

The wind slabs from Saturday will continue to grow with new fallen snow in the north on Sunday. In addition, in older layers in the upper part of the snowpack, weak layers with a sometimes faceted crystal structure are deposited, especially on shady slopes at high altitudes. Deep layers of the snowpack are compact in many places and for the most part do not contain distinct weak lavers.

Last week, the snowpack got thoroughly moist up to around 3000 m on south-facing slopes, 2000 to 2500 m on east- and west-facing slopes and around 1800 to 2000 m on north-facing slopes.

With the significant drop in temperatures, gliding avalanche activity will decrease. However, gliding avalanches are still possible, especially on east-, south- and west-facing slopes below approximately 2600 m and on north-facing slopes below approximately 2000 m. These may be large.

#### Weather review for Saturday, 23.03.2024

After a mostly clear night, a band of precipitation moved across Switzerland from the west in the early morning. In the early morning, it was still sunny in Grisons. From the middle of the day, there were increasing bright spells from the west, but with frequent showers in between. The snowfall level dropped from 2200 m to between 1200 and 1400 m.

#### New snow

From Saturday morning to Saturday afternoon, the following amounts of fresh snow were recorded:

- Lower Valais, northern flank of the Alps, northern and central Grisons: 5 to 15 cm, with up to 25 cm locally towards the east:
- less elsewhere.

#### **Temperature**

Temperatures fell, reaching between -3 °C in the north and +3 °C in the south at midday at 2000 m.

#### Wind

- Winds were moderate during the night in the north, and increasingly strong to storm force as the day progressed, blowing from the west to northwest.
- There was a light to moderate southerly wind in the south.

#### Weather forecast until Sunday, 24.03.2024

In the north, snow will fall to low altitudes. In the south, it will be mostly dry and partly sunny.

#### New snow

From Saturday afternoon to Sunday afternoon, the following amounts of fresh snow are expected above 1200 m:

- extreme west of Lower Valais, Northern Alpine Ridge: 20 to 30 cm;
- Jura, rest of the northern flank of the Alps, rest of Valais, northern Grisons: 10 to 20 cm;
- elsewhere: less, or it will remain dry.

#### **Temperature**

At midday at 2000 m, -7 °C in the north and -4 °C in the south.

#### Wind

There will be a westerly wind, northwesterly in Ticino:

- strong during the night, sometimes storm force at high altitudes;
- decreasing and mostly moderate during the day.



#### Trend until Tuesday, 26.03.2024

During Sunday night into Monday, some more snow will fall in the north to low altitudes. During the day, it will be sunny in all regions. In the afternoon, a moderate foehn wind from the south will develop in the north. This will intensify during Monday night into Tuesday, becoming strong to storm force in the Alpine valleys of the north. With the foehn wind, the zero-degree level in the north will rise to around 2400 m. Light precipitation will set in in the south. During the day, there will be increased bright spells in the north, while in the south it will be cloudy with some precipitation.

The danger of dry avalanches will decrease somewhat on Monday. Moist avalanches are to be expected from the new fallen snow in the north. On Tuesday, the danger of dry avalanches will increase somewhat in the north with the foehn wind and in the south with the new fallen snow. Gliding avalanches will still be possible on both days.

