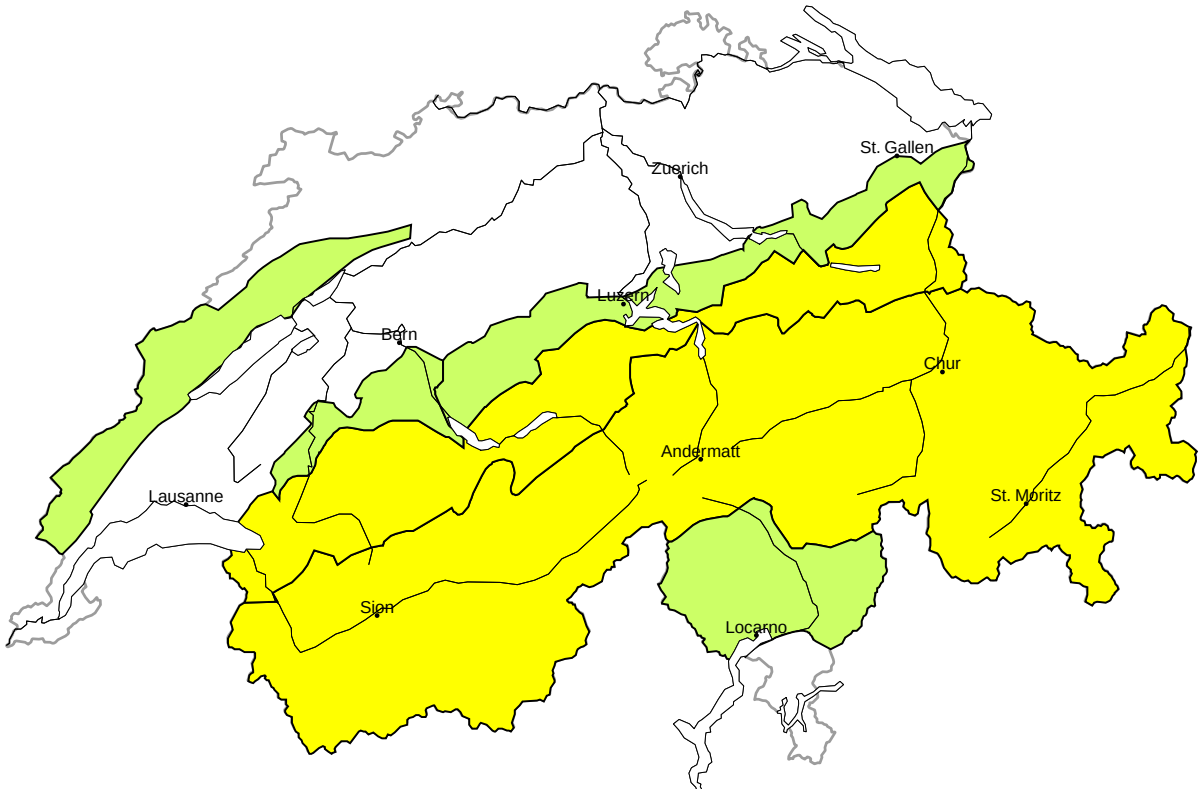
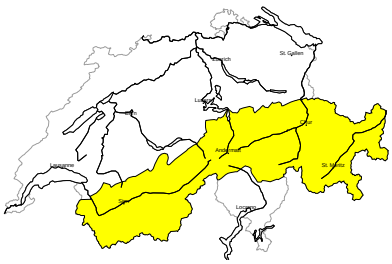
Avalanche danger

updated on 18.12.2023, 17:00



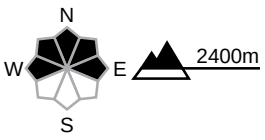
region A



Moderate (2-)

No distinct avalanche problem

Avalanche prone locations



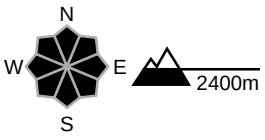
Danger description

Individual avalanche prone locations for dry avalanches are to be found on very steep slopes. In very isolated cases avalanches can be triggered in the old snowpack and reach medium size. Caution is to be exercised in areas where the snow cover is rather shallow. As a consequence of a moderate westerly wind, small wind slabs will form in the afternoon especially adjacent to ridgelines and in pass areas.
Meticulous route selection is advisable.

Moderate (2)

Gliding snow

Avalanche prone locations



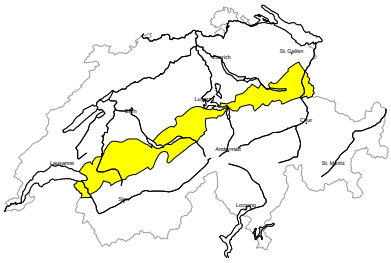
Danger description

On very steep grassy slopes more gliding avalanches are to be expected, even large ones. Areas with glide cracks are to be avoided. The avalanche prone locations are to be found on south facing slopes below approximately 2400 m and on north facing slopes below approximately 2000 m.

Avalanche bulletin through Tuesday, 19. December 2023

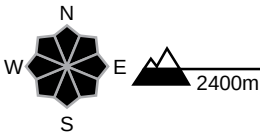
region B

Moderate (2)



Gliding snow

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

On very steep grassy slopes more gliding avalanches are to be expected, even large ones. Areas with glide cracks are to be avoided. The avalanche prone locations are to be found on south facing slopes below approximately 2400 m and on north facing slopes below approximately 2000 m.

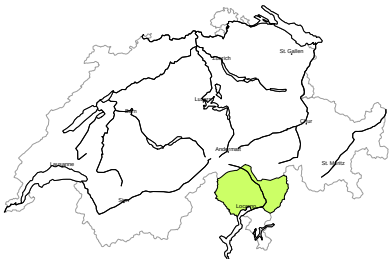
Low (1)

No distinct avalanche problem

Individual avalanche prone locations for dry avalanches are to be found on very steep slopes above approximately 1800 m. As a consequence of a moderate westerly wind, small wind slabs will form in the afternoon especially adjacent to ridgelines and in pass areas. 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. Careful route selection is recommended.

region C

Low (1)

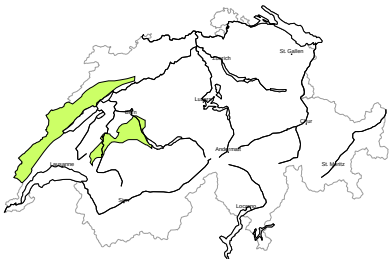


No distinct avalanche problem

Individual avalanche prone locations for dry avalanches are to be found on very steep slopes above approximately 2000 m. 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. Careful route selection is recommended.

region D

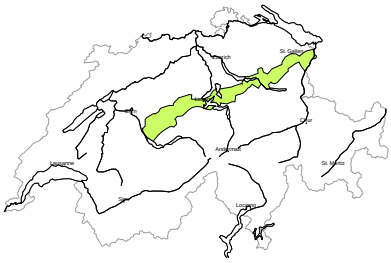
Low (1)



No distinct avalanche problem

Only a little snow is lying. Individual avalanche prone locations are to be found in extremely steep terrain. Restraint should be exercised because avalanches can sweep people along and give rise to falls.

region E



Low (1)

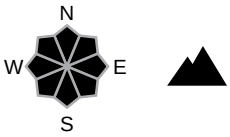
No distinct avalanche problem

Individual avalanche prone locations for dry avalanches are to be found on very steep slopes above approximately 1800 m. As a consequence of a moderate westerly wind, small wind slabs will form in the afternoon especially adjacent to ridgelines and in pass areas. 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. Careful route selection is recommended.

Low (1)

Gliding snow

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

On very steep grassy slopes individual gliding avalanches are possible, but they will be mostly small. Gliding avalanches can in isolated cases reach medium size. Caution is to be exercised in areas with glide cracks.

Snowpack and weather

updated on 18.12.2023, 17:00

Snowpack

At high altitudes, there is about twice as much snow in many areas as there normally is in mid-December. The snowpack structure is generally favourable. Weak layers in the old snowpack are sometimes present around older rain crusts but are so deep in much of the snowpack that it is unlikely they would be released by people. Avalanches triggered by people in these weak layers were last reported on Saturday on the central part of the Main Alpine Ridge. In southern Upper Valais, Ticino, Moesano, Val Bregaglia and Val Poschiavo, there are average snow depths at altitude. In these regions, older weak layers may be released by people in isolated cases.Gliding avalanches are still to be expected, especially below 2400 m. These may become particularly substantial on the northern flank of the Alps and in Lower Valais.

Weather review for Monday, 18.12.2023

It was sunny in the mountains.

New fallen snow
-

Temperature
At midday at 2000 m, around +7 °C, zero-degree level at over 3000 m.

Wind
Winds were mostly weak.

Weather forecast until Tuesday, 19.12.2023

It will be sunny in the mountains.

New fallen snow
-

Temperature
At midday at 2000 m, +8 °C, zero-degree level at over 3000 m.

Wind
Winds will be initially weak, becoming increasingly moderate from the west to southwest as the day progresses on the northern flank of the Alps and at high altitudes.

Trend until Thursday, 21.12.2023

During Tuesday night into Wednesday, precipitation will set in in the north with moderate to strong southwesterly winds. The snowfall level will drop to around 1200 m by the early morning. On Wednesday and Thursday, it will be cloudy in the north during the day with some snowfall to low altitudes, which will intensify on Thursday. A total of 20 to 30 cm of snow will fall widely on the northern flank of the Alps by Thursday afternoon. It will be fairly sunny in the south on both days.The danger of dry avalanches will increase in the north with snowfall and wind. Elsewhere there will be hardly any change. The danger of gliding avalanches will decrease slowly as a consequence of falling temperatures.