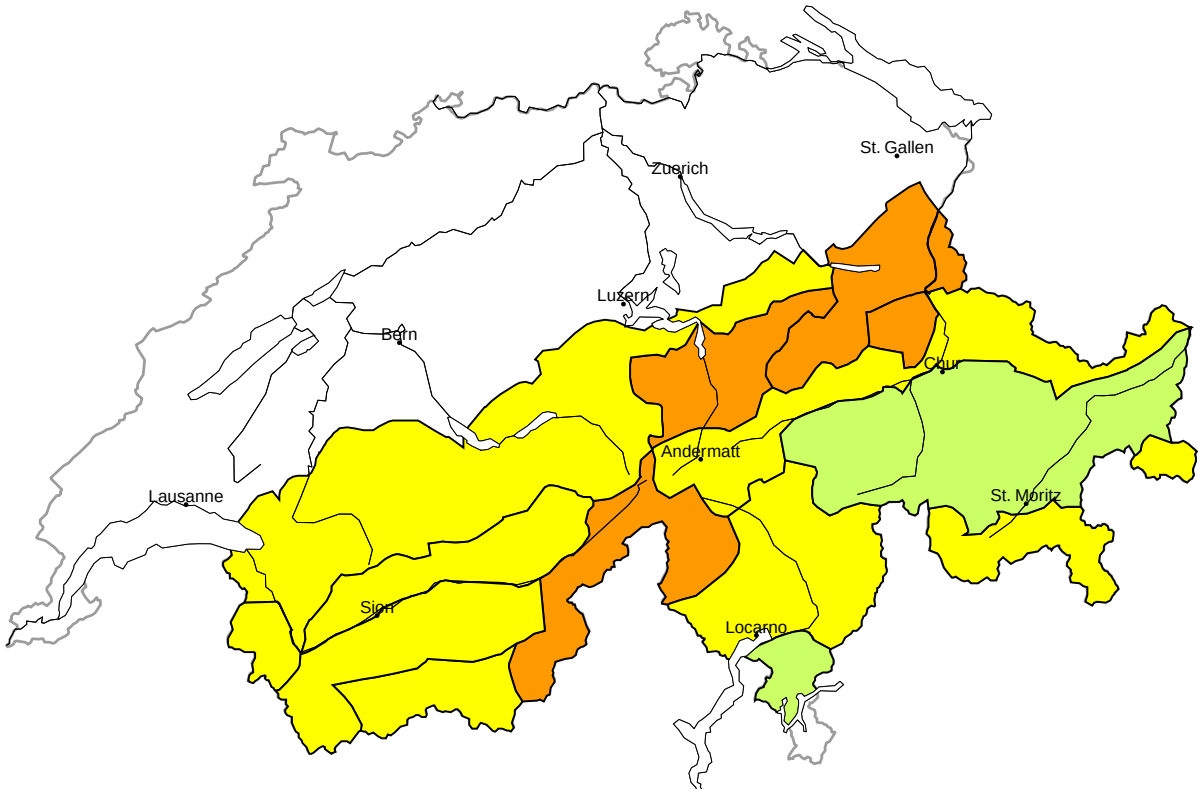
Avalanche danger

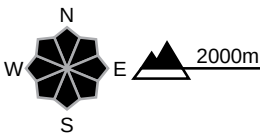
updated on 4.1.2026, 08:00



region A — Considerable (3=)

New snow, Persistent weak layers

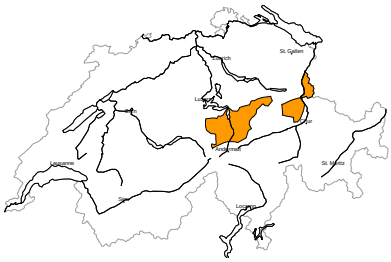
Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

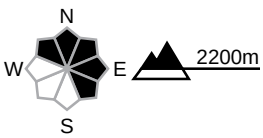
As a consequence of a strong westerly wind, wind slabs formed in the last two days. The fresh snow and the wind slabs are lying on the unfavourable surface of an old snowpack in particular on wind-protected shady slopes. Winter sport participants can release avalanches easily. These can reach medium size. Backcountry touring and other off-piste activities call for experience in the assessment of avalanche danger.

region B — Considerable (3-)



Wind slab, Persistent weak layers

Avalanche prone locations

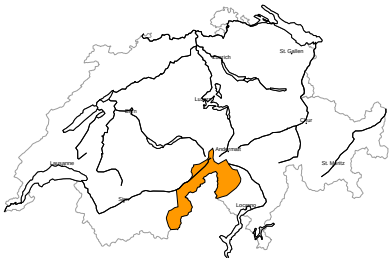


Danger description

The strong wind has transported the new snow and, in some cases, old snow as well. The new snow and wind slabs are lying on the unfavourable surface of an old snowpack in particular on steep shady slopes. The wind slabs can be released easily. Avalanches can reach medium size.
Backcountry touring and other off-piste activities call for experience in the assessment of avalanche danger.

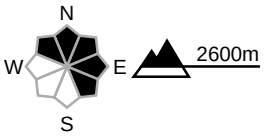
Danger levels 1 low 2 moderate 3 considerable 4 high 5 very high

region C — Considerable (3-)



Wind slab, Persistent weak layers

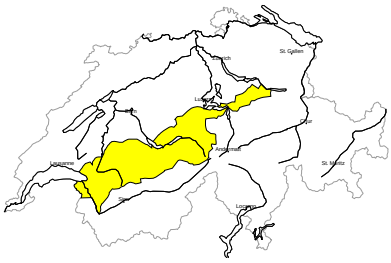
Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

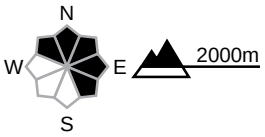
As a consequence of a strong westerly wind, avalanche prone wind slabs formed on Sunday. These are lying on top of a weakly bonded old snowpack in particular on wind-protected shady slopes. They can be released easily by a single winter sport participant. Avalanches can release deeper layers of the snowpack and reach medium size.
Backcountry touring and other off-piste activities call for experience in the assessment of avalanche danger.

region D — Moderate (2=)



Wind slab

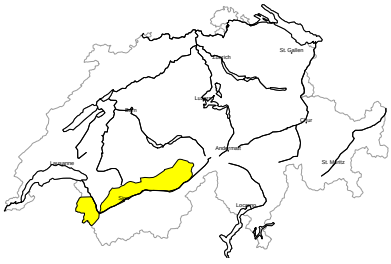
Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

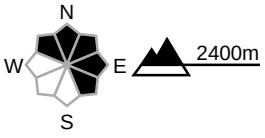
The strong wind has transported the new snow and, in some cases, old snow as well. At elevated altitudes clearly visible wind slabs formed. These are lying on top of a weakly bonded old snowpack in particular on wind-protected shady slopes. The wind slabs can be released easily. Avalanches can in isolated cases reach medium size.
The wind slabs are to be evaluated with care and prudence in steep terrain.

region E — Moderate (2=)



Wind slab

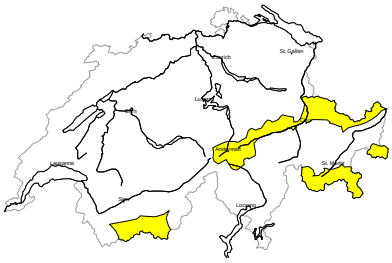
Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

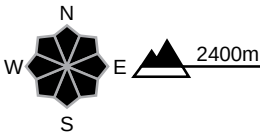
The prevalence of the avalanche prone locations will increase with altitude. The strong wind has transported the new snow and, in some cases, old snow as well. At elevated altitudes clearly visible wind slabs formed. These are lying on top of a weakly bonded old snowpack in particular on wind-protected shady slopes. The wind slabs can in some cases be released easily. Avalanches can in isolated cases reach medium size. The wind slabs are to be evaluated with care and prudence in steep terrain.

region F — Moderate (2=)



Wind slab, Persistent weak layers

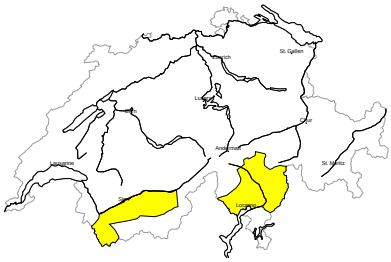
Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

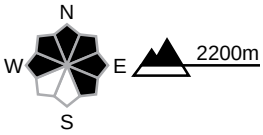
The prevalence of the avalanche prone locations will increase with altitude. Fresh and somewhat older wind slabs are lying on top of a weakly bonded old snowpack in particular on wind-protected shady slopes. They can be released easily. The wind slabs are clearly recognisable to the trained eye. They are to be evaluated with care and prudence in steep terrain. Avalanches can additionally in very isolated cases be released in the weakly bonded old snow also. Avalanches can in some cases reach medium size. Careful route selection is required.

region G — Moderate (2-)



Wind slab, Persistent weak layers

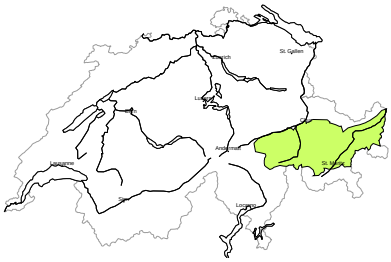
Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

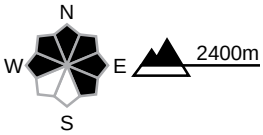
The prevalence of the avalanche prone locations will increase with altitude. Fresh and somewhat older wind slabs are rather small but can in some cases be released easily. They are clearly recognisable to the trained eye. The wind slabs are to be evaluated with care and prudence in very steep terrain. Avalanches can additionally in very isolated cases be released in the weakly bonded old snow also. These can reach medium size. Careful route selection is advisable.

region H — Low (1)



Persistent weak layers

Avalanche prone locations



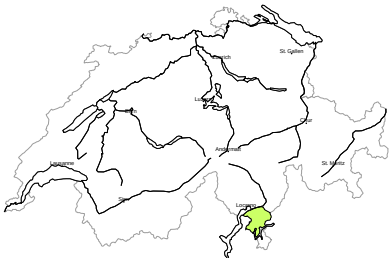
Danger description

Fresh and somewhat older wind slabs can in some cases be released easily. They are to be evaluated with care and prudence in extreme terrain. Mostly avalanches are small. 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.
In high Alpine regions the avalanche prone locations are more widespread and the danger is slightly greater.

Avalanche bulletin for Sunday, 4. January 2026

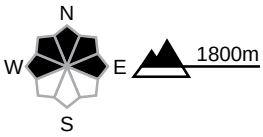
region I

Low (1)



No distinct avalanche problem

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

From a snow sport perspective, insufficient snow is lying. Individual avalanche prone locations are to be found in extremely steep terrain. Even a small avalanche can sweep people along and give rise to falls.

Snowpack and weather

updated on 3.1.2026, 17:00

Snowpack

On the northern flank of the Alps and in western and northern Lower Valais, the surface of the snowpack on wind-protected shady slopes was often faceted and loose, especially at high altitudes. Here, it was a weak base for the fresh and drifted snow. Elsewhere, the surface of the snowpack has often been shaped by the wind and was often frozen solid, especially on the northern flank of the Alps below 2400 m.
In the other regions, the thin old snowpack mostly consists of faceted crystals with embedded crusts. Where drifted snow is lying on this weak old snowpack, it can be easily triggered in places. In addition, individual avalanches may still be triggered in the old snowpack, especially on the Main Alpine Ridge in Valais and on the central part of the southern flank of the Alps.

Weather review for Saturday

During the night to Saturday, some snow fell on the northern flank of the Alps, in the Gotthard region and in northern Grisons. During the day, it was mostly sunny in Valais, on the southern flank of the Alps and in Grisons, but still mostly cloudy on the northern flank of the Alps.

Fresh snow
Snow fell down to low altitudes. Snowfall at altitude:
- Glarus Alps to Alpstein region: 20 to 40 cm
- Central and remaining eastern parts of the northern flank of the Alps: 10 to 20 cm
- Rest of the northern flank of the Alps, Gotthard region, northern Grisons: 5 to 10 cm
- Elsewhere less or dry

Temperature
At midday at 2000 m, between -10 °C in the north and -6 °C in the south

Wind
Westerly winds, during the night often strong on the northern flank of the Alps and in Valais, otherwise mostly moderate

Weather forecast to Sunday

During the night to Sunday it will be partly cloudy in the east and a little snow will fall on the eastern part of the northern flank of the Alps. During the day it will be sunny everywhere.

Fresh snow
-

Temperature
At midday at 2000 m, around -9 °C

Wind
From the northwest
- Still moderate during the night, especially in the Bernese Oberland and along the Main Alpine Ridge
- Otherwise light

Outlook until Tuesday

On Monday and Tuesday it will be mostly sunny but cold in the mountains. The northerly wind will be mostly light on Monday, and often moderate on Tuesday along the Main Alpine Ridge.
The unfavourable snowpack structure means that avalanche risk will decrease only very slowly.