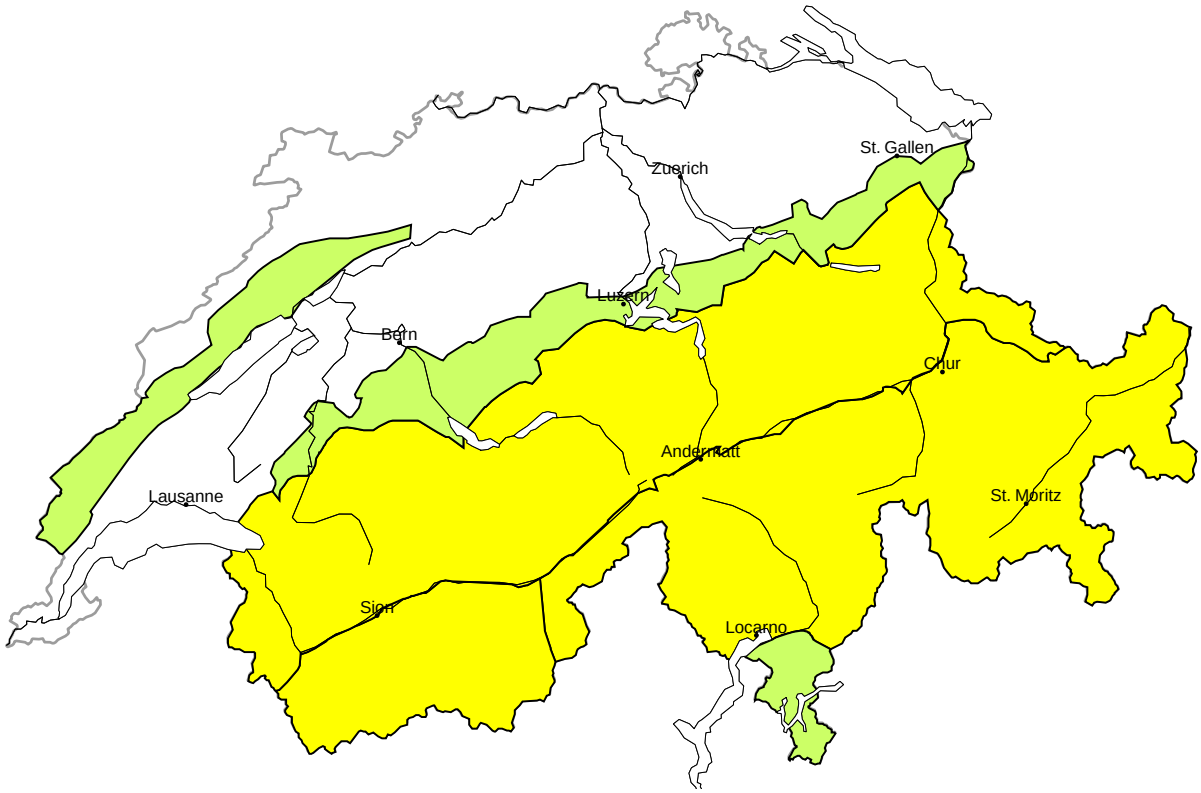
Avalanche bulletin for Thursday, 6. February 2025

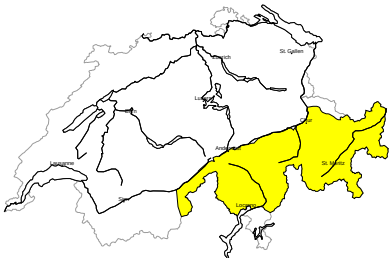
Avalanche danger

updated on 6.2.2025, 08:00



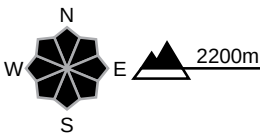
region A

Moderate (2+)



Wind slab, Persistent weak layers

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

Weakly bonded old snow represents the main danger. Avalanches can in some places be released by people and reach large size in isolated cases. Caution is to be exercised in particular in areas where the snow cover is rather shallow.

As a consequence of a moderate to strong northerly wind, sometimes avalanche prone wind slabs formed. Ski touring and other off-piste activities, including snowshoe hiking, call for defensive route selection.

Low (1)

Gliding snow

In particular on steep sunny slopes individual small to medium-sized gliding avalanches are possible below approximately 2400 m. Caution is to be exercised in areas with glide cracks.

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

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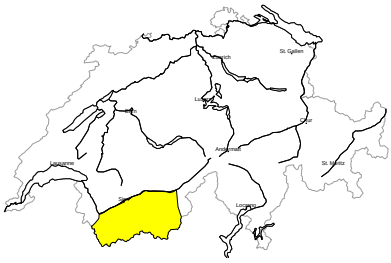
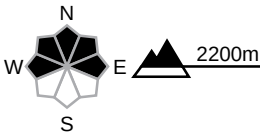
region B

Moderate (2=)



Persistent weak layers

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

Weakly bonded old snow represents the main danger. Avalanches can in isolated cases be released by people. Mostly avalanches are medium-sized. Caution is to be exercised in particular at transitions from a shallow to a deep snowpack. In addition the mostly small wind slabs at elevated altitudes are prone to triggering in some cases.
Ski touring and other off-piste activities, including snowshoe hiking, call for defensive route selection.

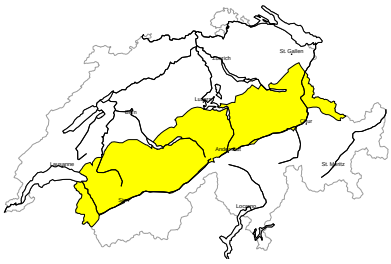
Low (1)

Gliding snow

In particular on steep sunny slopes individual small to medium-sized gliding avalanches are possible below approximately 2400 m. Caution is to be exercised in areas with glide cracks.

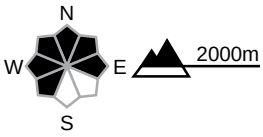
region C

Moderate (2-)



Wind slab

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

The more recent wind slabs are in some cases prone to triggering. Avalanches can in some places be released by people, but they will be small in most cases.
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.

Moderate (2)

Gliding snow

In particular on steep sunny slopes medium-sized and, in isolated cases, large gliding avalanches are possible below approximately 2400 m. Caution is to be exercised in areas with glide cracks.

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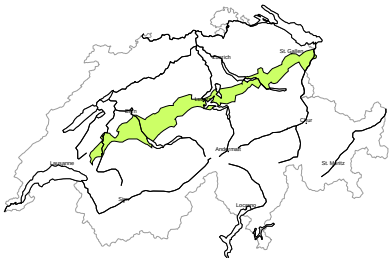
region D

Low (1)



Wind slab

As a consequence of bise wind, wind slabs will form in some localities. Individual avalanche prone locations for dry avalanches are to be found in particular in extremely steep terrain. Restraint should be exercised because avalanches can sweep people along and give rise to falls.

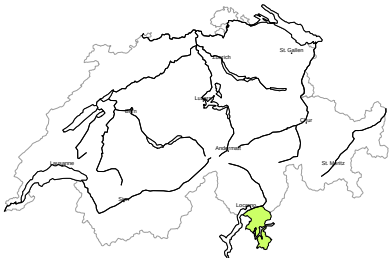
Low (1)

Gliding snow

In particular on steep sunny slopes individual small to medium-sized gliding avalanches are possible below approximately 2400 m. Caution is to be exercised in areas with glide cracks.

region E

Low (1)



No distinct avalanche problem

Individual avalanche prone locations for dry avalanches are to be found in particular on shady slopes. Mostly the avalanches are rather 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.

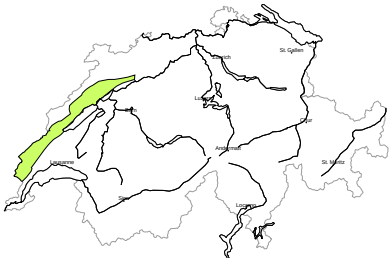
Low (1)

Gliding snow

In particular on steep sunny slopes individual small to medium-sized gliding avalanches are possible below approximately 2400 m. Caution is to be exercised in areas with glide cracks.

region F

Low (1)



Wind slab

As a consequence of bise wind, wind slabs will form in some localities. Individual avalanche prone locations for dry avalanches are to be found in particular in extremely steep terrain. Restraint should be exercised because avalanches can sweep people along and give rise to falls.

Snowpack and weather

updated on 5.2.2025, 17:00

Snowpack

In the regions south of a line from the Rhône to the Rhine, there are distinct weak layers in the lower part of the snowpack. These are particularly pronounced in Ticino, central Grisons, the Engadine and the Grisons southern valleys, especially on shady slopes protected from the wind. In these areas in particular, avalanches can sweep away the entire snowpack. As snow faceting continues, snow slab fracture propagation is becoming less and less of a problem, and the number of avalanche-prone locations is also slowly decreasing. Nevertheless, individual dangerous old snow avalanches have continued to be observed.
Avalanches may be triggered in the regions north of a line from the Rhône to the Rhine, especially in weak layers in the upper part of the snowpack. Fractures in deep layers of the old snowpack are unlikely here.
Isolated gliding avalanches, mainly moderate in size, may still occur.

Weather review for Wednesday

Conditions were sunny in the mountains.

Fresh snow
-

Temperature
At midday at 2000 m, around +5 °C in the west and south and around +3 °C in the north-east

Wind
Northerly:
- moderate to strong at times overnight and into the morning on the northern Alpine ridge, on the central main Alpine ridge and in Grisons
- otherwise generally light to moderate

Weather forecast to Thursday

Conditions will be sunny in the mountains.

Fresh snow
-

Temperature
At midday at 2000 m, between +1 °C in the west and -2 °C in the east

Wind
- Moderate Bise wind in the Prealps and the Jura over the course of the day
- Otherwise mostly light

Outlook

On Friday, conditions will be partly sunny in the north, often cloudy in the south, but mostly dry. On Saturday it will be bright and foehn-like in the north-east, otherwise mostly cloudy. In the south, some snow will fall down to low altitudes. In the north, a moderate to strong foehn wind will set in from Friday. High altitudes will see a moderate to strong southwesterly wind.
Avalanche danger will increase somewhat with fresh drifted snow. Persistent weak layers will change only slowly and remain a problem in Valais, Ticino and Grisons.