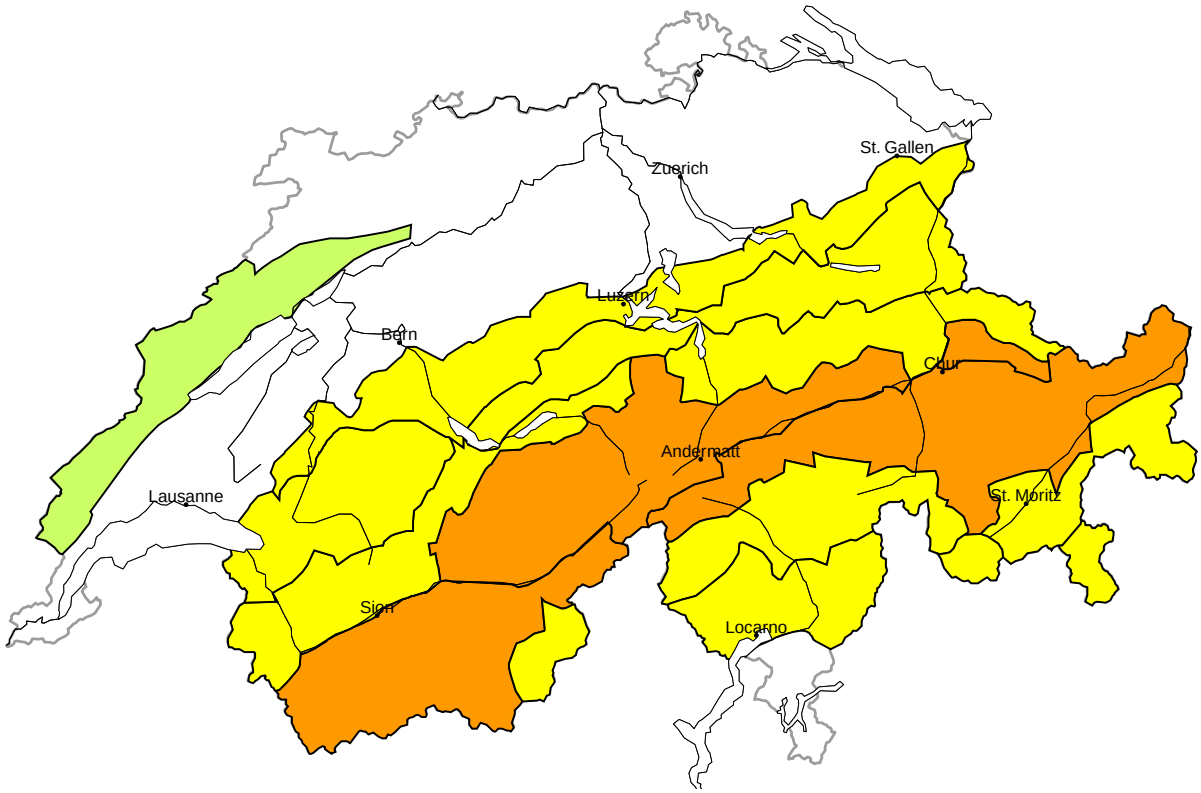
Avalanche bulletin through Saturday, 28. December 2024

Avalanche danger

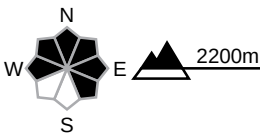
updated on 27.12.2024, 17:00



region A — Considerable (3-)

Persistent weak layers

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

Distinct weak layers exist deep in the snowpack. Avalanches can be released, even by a single winter sport participant and reach large size in isolated cases. These avalanche prone locations are to be found also on very steep south facing slopes above approximately 2700 m. Whumpfing sounds and the formation of shooting cracks when stepping on the snowpack can indicate the danger.
Backcountry touring and other off-piste activities call for experience in the assessment of avalanche danger and restraint.

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

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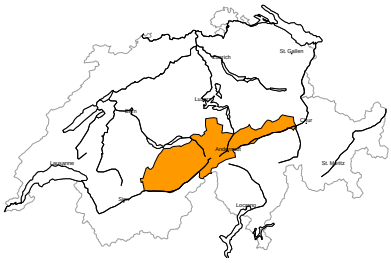
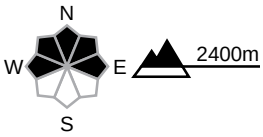
region B



Considerable (3-)

Persistent weak layers

Avalanche prone locations



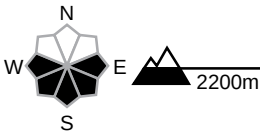
Danger description

Weak layers in the lower part of the snowpack are treacherous. In isolated cases avalanches can be released in the old snowpack and reach large size. Caution is to be exercised in particular in areas where the snow cover is rather shallow, as well as at transitions from a shallow to a deep snowpack, when entering gullies and bowls for example.
Backcountry touring and other off-piste activities call for experience in the assessment of avalanche danger.

Moderate (2)

Gliding snow

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

Small and medium-sized gliding avalanches are possible, this also applies on very steep shady slopes. Areas with glide cracks are to be avoided as far as possible.

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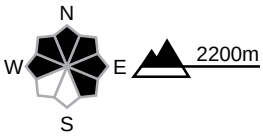
region C

Considerable (3-)

Persistent weak layers

Avalanche prone locations



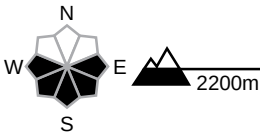
Danger description

Distinct weak layers exist deep in the snowpack. Avalanches can be released, even by a single winter sport participant and reach large size in isolated cases. These avalanche prone locations are to be found also on very steep south facing slopes above approximately 2700 m. Whumpfing sounds and the formation of shooting cracks when stepping on the snowpack can indicate the danger.
Backcountry touring and other off-piste activities call for experience in the assessment of avalanche danger and restraint.

Moderate (2)

Gliding snow

Avalanche prone locations

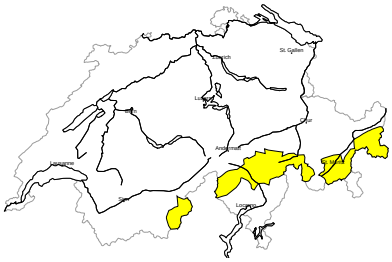


Danger description

Small and medium-sized gliding avalanches are possible, this also applies on very steep shady slopes. Areas with glide cracks are to be avoided as far as possible.

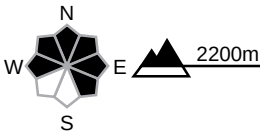
region D

Moderate (2+)



Persistent weak layers

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

The somewhat older wind slabs are lying on top of a weakly bonded old snowpack. Avalanches can in some places be released by a single winter sport participant and reach medium size. Whumpfing sounds and the formation of shooting cracks when stepping on the snowpack can indicate the danger.
Backcountry touring and other off-piste activities call for careful route selection.

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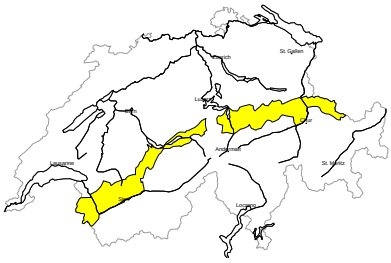
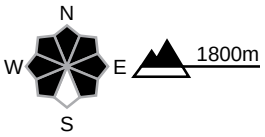
region E



Moderate (2+)

Persistent weak layers

Avalanche prone locations



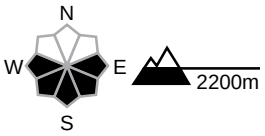
Danger description

Avalanches can in some places be released by people and reach medium size. Avalanches can additionally in isolated cases be released in near-ground layers also. Caution is to be exercised in particular at transitions from a shallow to a deep snowpack, when entering gullies and bowls for example, as well as in areas where the snow cover is rather shallow above approximately 2400 m. Backcountry touring calls for careful route selection.

Moderate (2)

Gliding snow

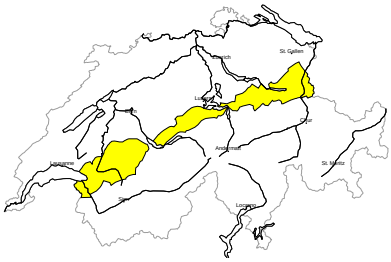
Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

Small and medium-sized gliding avalanches are possible, this also applies on very steep shady slopes. Areas with glide cracks are to be avoided as far as possible.

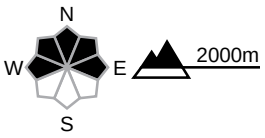
region F



Moderate (2=)

No distinct avalanche problem

Avalanche prone locations



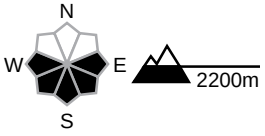
Danger description

Avalanches can in some places be released by a single winter sport participant and reach medium size. These avalanche prone locations are to be found adjacent to ridgelines and in gullies and bowls and in little used backcountry terrain.
Backcountry touring and other off-piste activities call for careful route selection.

Moderate (2)

Gliding snow

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

Small and medium-sized gliding avalanches are possible, this also applies on very steep shady slopes. Areas with glide cracks are to be avoided as far as possible.

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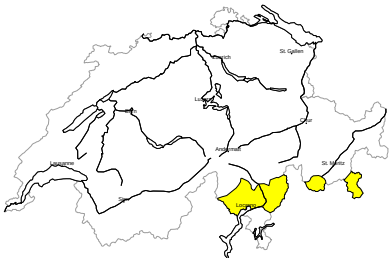
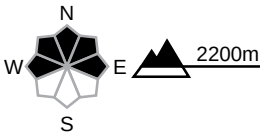
region G

Moderate (2-)



Persistent weak layers

Avalanche prone locations

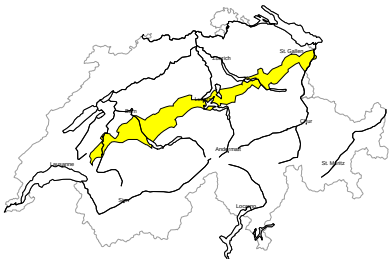


Danger description

Thus far only a little snow is lying. The clearly visible wind slabs are lying on top of a weakly bonded old snowpack. Avalanches can in isolated cases be released, but they will be small in most cases. Restraint should be exercised because avalanches can sweep people along and give rise to falls.

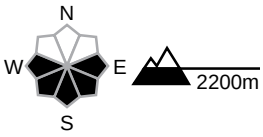
region H

Moderate (2)



Gliding snow

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

Small and medium-sized gliding avalanches are possible, this also applies on very steep shady slopes. Areas with glide cracks are to be avoided as far as possible.

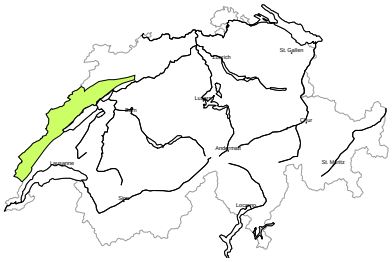
Low (1)

No distinct avalanche problem

Individual avalanche prone locations for dry avalanches are to be found especially in extremely steep terrain. Restraint should be exercised because avalanches can sweep people along and give rise to falls.

region I

Low (1)



No distinct avalanche problem

Individual avalanche prone locations for dry avalanches are to be found especially in extremely steep terrain. Restraint should be exercised because avalanches can sweep people along and give rise to falls.

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Snowpack and weather

updated on 27.12.2024, 17:00

Snowpack

The new snow and snowdrifts of the past week are covering a faceted, weak old snowpack at high altitude, especially on western, northern and eastern slopes:

- Especially north of the Rhône-Rhine line, the covering layer is often thick, . Avalanches triggered by people are only possible in isolated cases at transitions from a shallow to a deep snowpack and in places with little snow. However, avalanches can become large.
- Avalanches are still possible in weak layers near the ground, particularly in southern Valais and in a strip from northern Ticino through northern and central Grisons to the Lower Engadine. Here, medium and sometimes large avalanches have repeatedly been triggered in recent days.
- South of this, along the Main Alpine Ridge in Grisons, in the Upper Engadine and in central Ticino, there is still little snow. Here, where somewhat older snowdrift accumulations are lying on the thin, mostly completely faceted and loose snowpack, avalanches are possible in isolated cases.

Weather review for Friday

It was sunny in the mountains.

Fresh snow
-

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

Wind
Weak to moderate easterly wind.

Weather forecast to Saturday

It will be sunny in the mountains.

Fresh snow
-

Temperature
At midday at 2000 m, +6 °C.

Wind
Winds will be mostly light.

Outlook

It will be sunny and mild in the mountains on Sunday and Monday. The zero-degree level will be just under 3000 m. There will be light winds.
The danger of dry avalanches will slowly decrease. Particularly in southern Valais and in Grisons, avalanches can still be released in the weak old snowpack and become large. Small and medium-sized gliding avalanches are still possible on sunny steep slopes.