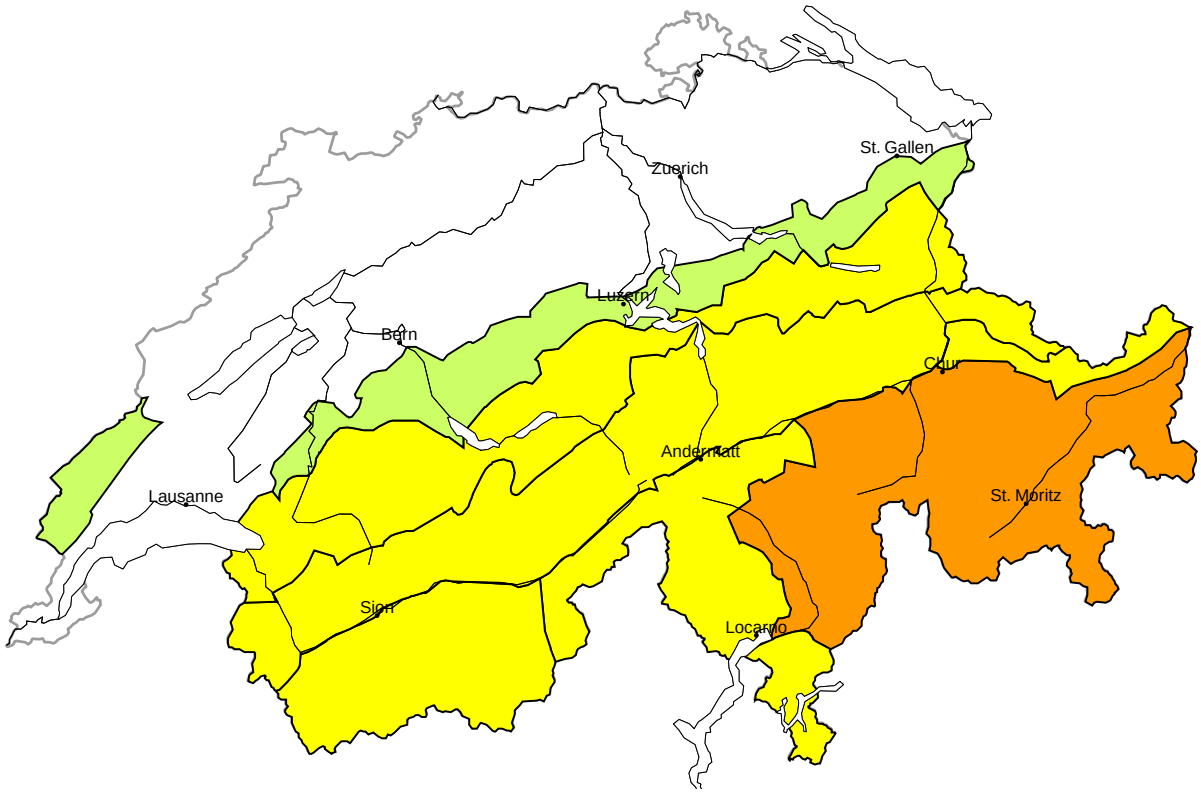
Avalanche bulletin for Wednesday, 5. February 2025

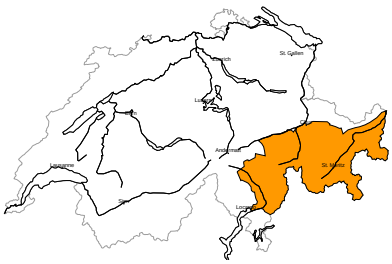
Avalanche danger

updated on 5.2.2025, 08:00



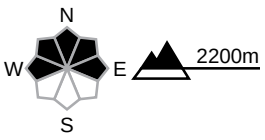
region A

Considerable (3-)



Persistent weak layers

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

Weakly bonded old snow represents the main danger. Avalanches can be released by a single winter sport participant. Caution is to be exercised in particular at transitions from a shallow to a deep snowpack. Remotely triggered avalanches are possible in isolated cases. Whumpfing sounds and the formation of shooting cracks when stepping on the snowpack can indicate the danger. Avalanches can penetrate deep layers and reach large size.
In addition the more recent wind slabs adjacent to ridgelines and in pass areas in all aspects and generally at elevated altitudes are prone to triggering in some cases. They are mostly rather small.
Ski touring and other off-piste activities, including snowshoe hiking, call for experience in the assessment of avalanche danger and caution.

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

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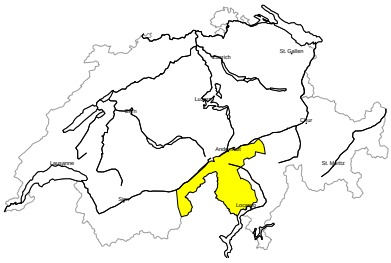
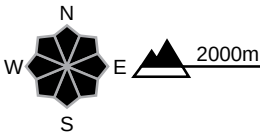
region B — Moderate (2+)



Wind slab, Persistent weak layers

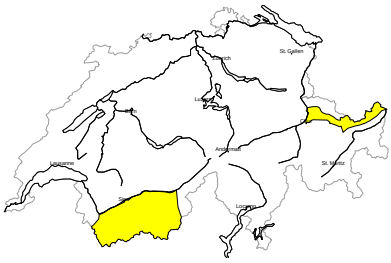
Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

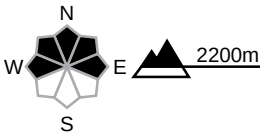
Weakly bonded old snow represents the main danger. Avalanches can in some places be released by people and reach large size in isolated cases. Caution is to be exercised in particular at transitions from a shallow to a deep snowpack.
As a consequence of a moderate to strong northerly wind, sometimes avalanche prone wind slabs formed.
Ski touring and other off-piste activities, including snowshoe hiking, call for defensive route selection.

region C — Moderate (2+)



Persistent weak layers

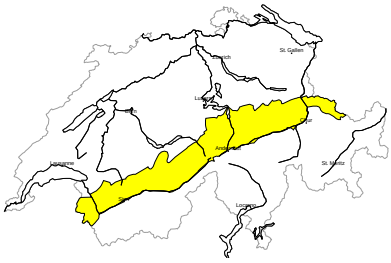
Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

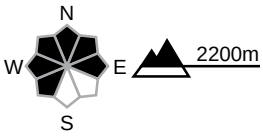
Weakly bonded old snow represents the main danger. Avalanches can in some places be released by people and reach large size in isolated cases. Caution is to be exercised in particular at transitions from a shallow to a deep snowpack. Ski touring and other off-piste activities, including snowshoe hiking, call for defensive route selection.

region D — Moderate (2=)



No distinct avalanche problem

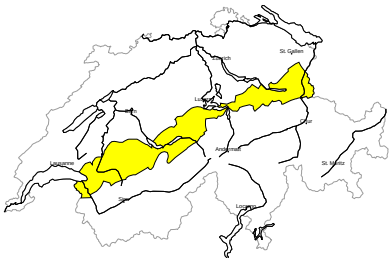
Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

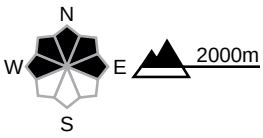
Avalanches can in some cases be released in near-surface layers of the snowpack and reach medium size.
As a consequence of northerly wind, small wind slabs will form in some localities. This applies in particular at elevated altitudes.
Ski touring and other off-piste activities, including snowshoe hiking, call for careful route selection.

region E — Moderate (2-)



No distinct avalanche problem

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

The near-surface layers of the snowpack can still be released in some places. Mostly avalanches are small.
Ski touring and other off-piste activities, including snowshoe hiking, call for careful route selection.

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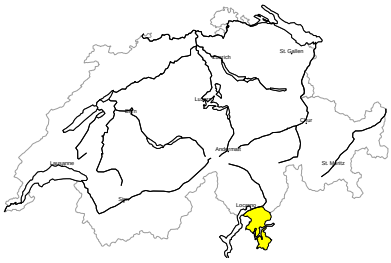
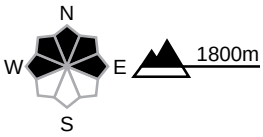
region F — Moderate (2-)



Persistent weak layers

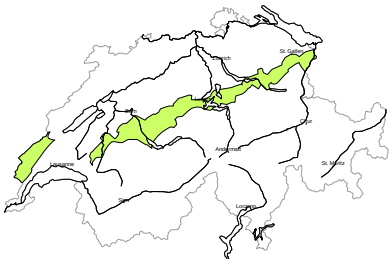
Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

In some places avalanches can be triggered in the old snow and reach medium size in some cases. Backcountry touring and other off-piste activities call for careful route selection.

region G — Low (1)



No distinct avalanche problem

Only a little snow is lying. 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.

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Snowpack and weather

updated on 4.2.2025, 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, where avalanches can sweep away the entire snowpack. Isolated avalanches may still be remotely triggered. The number of avalanche prone locations is slowly decreasing. The number of reported avalanches triggered has also decreased in recent days.
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 Tuesday

Conditions were sunny in the mountains.

Fresh snow
-

Temperature
At midday at 2000 m, around +5 °C in the west and south, around +2 °C in the east

Wind
Light to moderate from north to northeast

Weather forecast to Wednesday

Conditions will be sunny in the mountains.

Fresh snow
-

Temperature
At midday at 2000 m, between +2 °C in the north and +5 °C in the south

Wind
- Mostly light, at times moderate from north to northeast at high altitudes
- Moderate Bise wind in the Prealps and the Jura as the day progresses

Outlook

Thursday will be mostly sunny, with low stratus cloud as the day progresses, especially in the Prealps. There will be mostly light winds from the northeast, shifting to the west as the day progresses. There will be a moderate Bise wind in the Prealps. On Friday, it will be partly sunny in the north with a foehn wind from the south. In the south, it will be very cloudy and a little snow may fall down into the valleys as the day progresses. Moderate to strong southwesterly winds will blow at high altitudes and there will be a moderate foehn wind from the south in the regions exposed to the foehn wind in the north. The avalanche danger will continue to decrease on Thursday, but only very slowly in southern Valais, Ticino and Grisons due to the weak snow layering. The avalanche danger may increase somewhat on Friday with fresh drift snow.