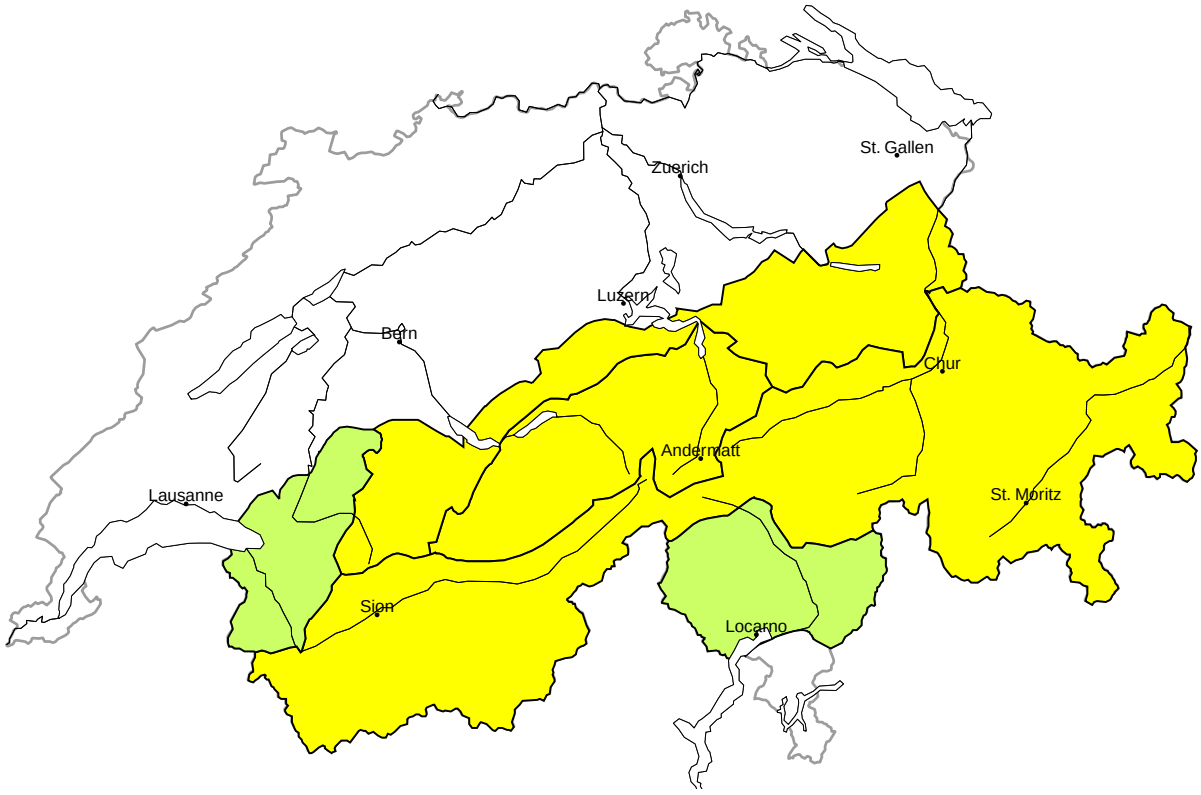
Avalanche bulletin through Friday, 24. November 2023

Moderate avalanche danger will be encountered over a wide area

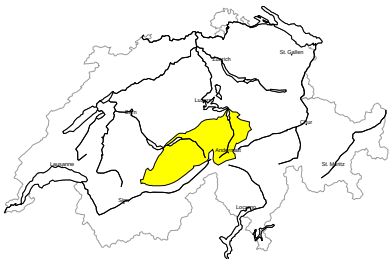
Edition: 23.11.2023, 17:00 / Next update: 24.11.2023, 17:00

Avalanche danger

updated on 23.11.2023, 17:00

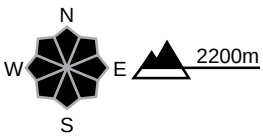


region A | **Moderate, Level 2=**



Snow drift

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

Avalanches can be released in near-surface layers. The sometimes storm force wind will transport the loosely bonded old snow. Fresh and somewhat older wind slabs are to be evaluated with care and prudence in steep terrain. The avalanche prone locations are to be found in particular in gullies and bowls and generally in high Alpine regions. Avalanches can reach medium size. Careful route selection is required.
The Avalanche Warning Service currently has only a small amount of information that has been collected in the field, so that the avalanche danger should be investigated especially thoroughly in the relevant locality.

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

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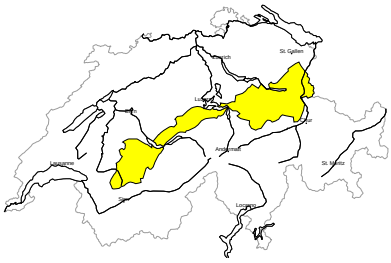
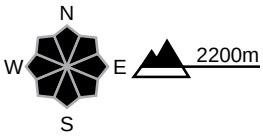
region B — Moderate, Level 2-



Snow drift

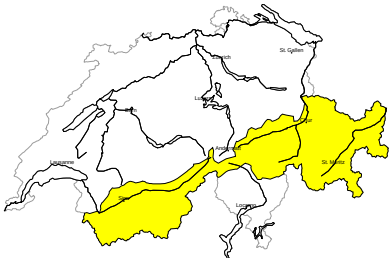
Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

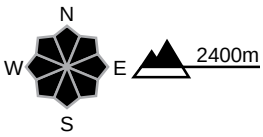
In the afternoon as a consequence of the strong northwesterly wind there will be an increase in the danger within the current danger level. Fresh and somewhat older wind slabs are to be evaluated with care and prudence in steep terrain. The avalanche prone locations are to be found in particular in gullies and bowls, and behind abrupt changes in the terrain. Avalanches are rather small.
The fresh and older wind slabs are to be evaluated with care and prudence in steep terrain. 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.
The Avalanche Warning Service currently has only a small amount of information that has been collected in the field, so that the avalanche danger should be investigated especially thoroughly in the relevant locality.

region C — Moderate, Level 2-



No distinct avalanche problem

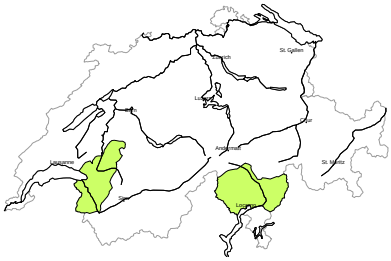
Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

Avalanches can in isolated cases be released in near-surface layers. They are rather small. The number and size of avalanche prone locations will increase with altitude.
As a consequence of a strong to storm force northwesterly wind, mostly small wind slabs will form in the course of the day. The fresh and somewhat older wind slabs are to be evaluated with care and prudence in steep terrain.
The Avalanche Warning Service currently has only a small amount of information that has been collected in the field, so that the avalanche danger should be investigated especially thoroughly in the relevant locality.

region D — Low, Level 1



No distinct avalanche problem

Fresh wind slabs are small but in some cases prone to triggering. Individual avalanche prone locations are to be found in particular in gullies and bowls, and behind abrupt changes in the terrain and in extremely steep terrain. 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.
The Avalanche Warning Service currently has only a small amount of information that has been collected in the field, so that the avalanche danger should be investigated especially thoroughly in the relevant locality.

Snowpack and weather

updated on 23.11.2023, 17:00

Snowpack

There was rainfall up to high altitudes in all regions of Switzerland on Sunday, with the exception of the south. Subsequently, as a consequence of the lower temperatures, an icy crust was formed at altitudes of approximately 2200 to 3000 m. In the vicinity of these crusts there are now weak layers evident from place to place. Apart from this the snowpack layering is quite favourable.
As a result of the frequently strong velocity winds blowing from northerly directions, snowdrift accumulations have been generated from place to place over the last few days. On Friday afternoon, some old snow and a small amount of new fallen snow will again be transported from region to region.

Observed weather review Thursday, 23.11.2023

It was sunny and mild in the mountains.

Fresh snow
-

Temperature
During the course of the day it turned extremely mild above 2000 m. The zero-degree level ascended to over 3500 m from region to region.

Wind
Winds were blowing at moderate strength, at strong velocity in some high-altitude zones, from northeasterly directions.

Weather forecast through Friday, 24.11.2023

In the northern regions skies will be overcast and precipitation is expected to set in during the course of the day in the northeastern regions. The snowfall level will descend from 1200 m down to low lying areas. In the Valais it will still be quite sunny.

Fresh snow
By Friday afternoon in the Alpstein region, 5 to 10 cm of fresh snow is anticipated; in the other regions of Switzerland less, or else it will remain dry.

Temperature
At midday at 2000 m, between -4 °C in the northern regions and +1 °C in the southern regions.

Wind
The northwesterly winds are expected to intensify noticeably. During the afternoon hours the winds will be blowing at strong velocity, and at storm strength at elevated altitudes.

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Outlook through Sunday, 26.11.2023

Winds will be blowing at storm velocity to start with, thereafter still at moderate to strong velocity on Sunday, from northerly to northwesterly directions. Snowfall down to low lying areas is anticipated over widespread regions. By Sunday afternoon on the northern Alpine Ridge from the Wildstrubel as far as Liechtenstein and in the Silvretta region, 50 to 80 cm of fresh snow is expected; in the other regions of Switzerland, 20 to 40 cm over widespread areas. On Sunday in the western regions and, in particular, in the Valais it will be partly sunny. In the furthermost southern regions it is expected to be sunny on both days as a consequence of the northerly winds.
Avalanche danger levels are expected to increase over widespread areas, significantly so in the major regions of precipitation. In those regions, increasingly frequent naturally triggered avalanches can be expected, including triggerings of large magnitude. The conditions for winter sports enthusiasts are highly critical in those regions. Since at intermediate altitudes there is only a small amount of snow on the ground, avalanche triggerings are not expected to reach low lying areas.
Only in the furthermost southern regions will avalanche danger not change significantly; however, in those regions there is insufficient snow on the ground for winter sports.