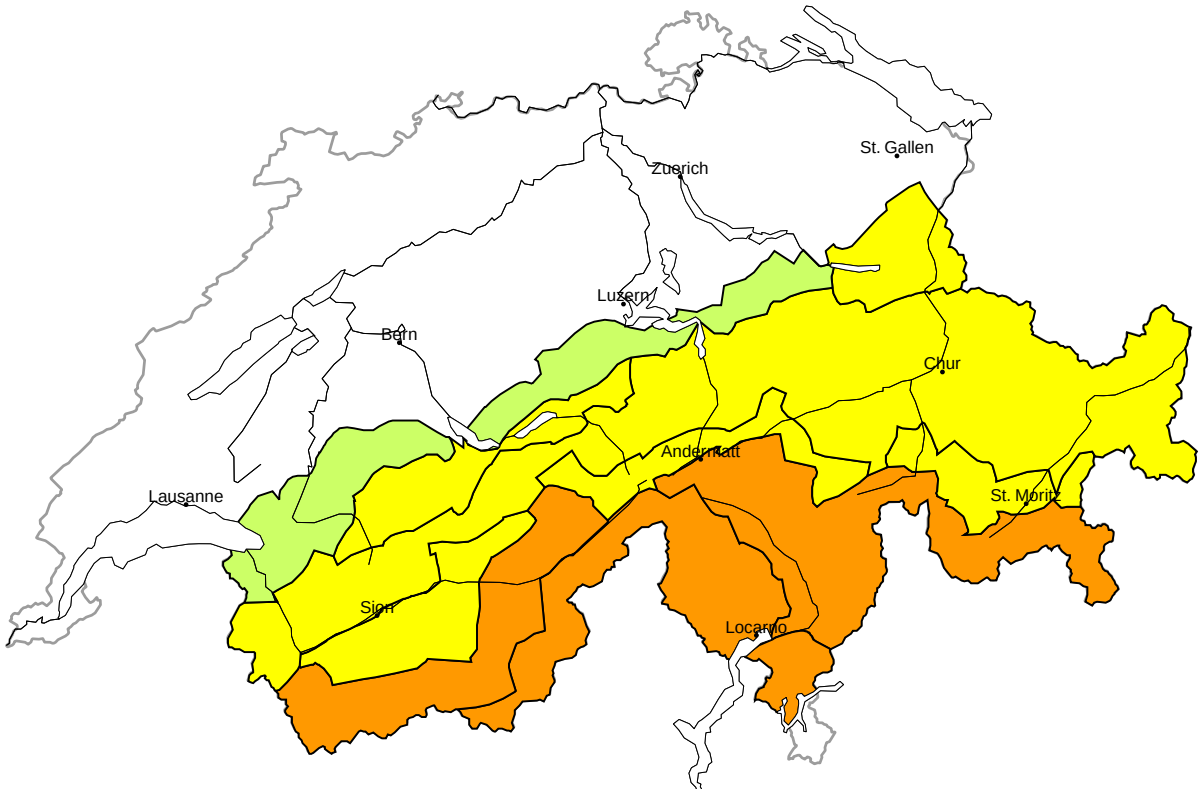
Avalanche danger

updated on 1.5.2024, 17:00

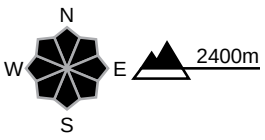


region A

Considerable (3+)

New snow

Avalanche prone locations



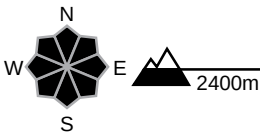
Danger description

Intensive precipitation: The fresh snow and the often large wind slabs represent the main danger. More frequent natural avalanches are possible, even large ones. Single winter sport participants can release avalanches easily.
Backcountry touring and other off-piste activities call for extensive experience in the assessment of avalanche danger and caution.

Considerable (3)

Wet snow

Avalanche prone locations



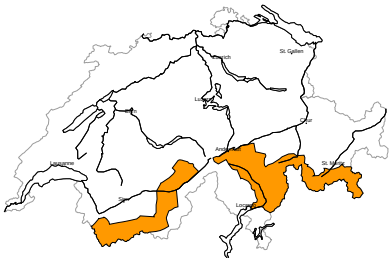
Danger description

As a consequence of the rain wet and gliding avalanches are to be expected. They can in some cases release the saturated snowpack. In the typical avalanche paths they can in isolated cases reach a long way and in some cases endanger transportation routes that are exposed.

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

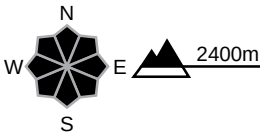
region B

Considerable (3-)



Wind slab

Avalanche prone locations

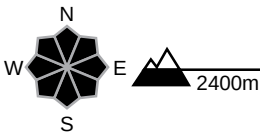


Danger description
As a consequence of new snow and a sometimes strong southerly wind, avalanche prone wind slabs will form. Single winter sport participants can release avalanches. Mostly these are medium-sized. Backcountry touring and other off-piste activities call for experience in the assessment of avalanche danger.

Considerable (3)

Wet snow

Avalanche prone locations



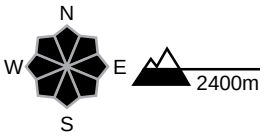
Danger description
As a consequence of the rain wet and gliding avalanches are to be expected. They can in some cases release the saturated snowpack. In the typical avalanche paths they can in isolated cases reach a long way and in some cases endanger transportation routes that are exposed.

region C

Considerable (3)

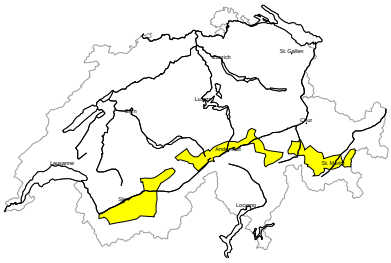
Wet snow

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description
As a consequence of the rain wet and gliding avalanches are to be expected. They can in some cases release the saturated snowpack. In the typical avalanche paths they can in isolated cases reach a long way and in some cases endanger transportation routes that are exposed.

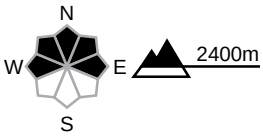
region D



Moderate (2-)

Wind slab

Avalanche prone locations

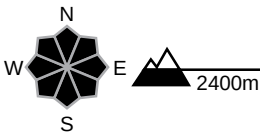


Danger description
The fresh wind slabs are mostly small but in some cases prone to triggering. Avalanches can in some places be released by a single winter sport participant. They can in isolated cases reach medium size. Backcountry touring calls for careful route selection.

Moderate (2)

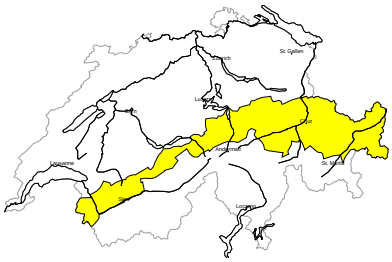
Wet snow, Gliding snow

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description
Wet avalanches are possible. They can reach medium size.
More gliding avalanches are possible, even large ones in isolated cases. Caution is to be exercised in areas with glide cracks.

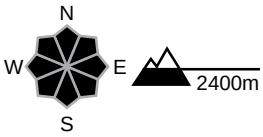
region E



Moderate (2)

Wet snow, Gliding snow

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description
Wet avalanches are possible. They can reach medium size.
More gliding avalanches are possible, even large ones in isolated cases. Caution is to be exercised in areas with glide cracks.

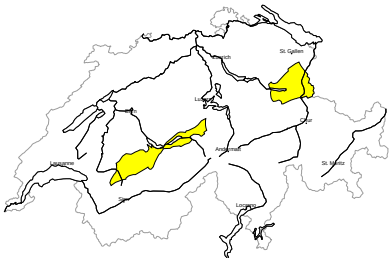
Low (1)

No distinct avalanche problem

Dry avalanches can in isolated cases be released in near-surface layers of the snowpack. This applies in particular on very steep slopes. Avalanches can in isolated cases reach medium size. The prevalence of avalanche prone locations and likelihood of triggering will increase in the high Alpine regions.
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.

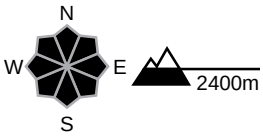
region F

Moderate (2)



Wet snow, Gliding snow

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description
Wet avalanches are possible. They can reach medium size.
More gliding avalanches are possible, even large ones in isolated cases. Caution is to be exercised in areas with glide cracks.

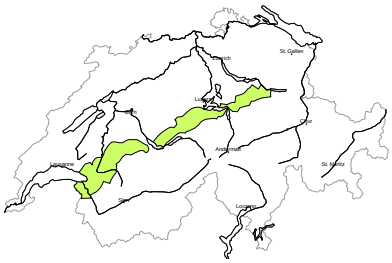
Low (1)

No distinct avalanche problem

Dry avalanches can in very isolated cases be released in near-surface layers of the snowpack. Individual avalanche prone locations are to be found in particular on extremely steep slopes. Mostly avalanches are small.
Restraint should be exercised because avalanches can sweep people along and give rise to falls.

region G

Low (1)



No distinct avalanche problem

Dry avalanches can in very isolated cases be released in near-surface layers of the snowpack. Individual avalanche prone locations are to be found in particular on extremely steep slopes. Mostly avalanches are small.
Restraint should be exercised because avalanches can sweep people along and give rise to falls.

Low (1)

Gliding snow

Small and medium-sized wet avalanches are possible.

Snowpack and weather

updated on 1.5.2024, 17:00

Snowpack

On and to the south of the Main Alpine Ridge, new snow and wind slabs are prone to triggering at high altitudes. Below approximately 2400 m, the snowpack in these regions is weakened by the sometimes heavy rain. In the other regions, the surface of the snowpack at high altitudes is hard and characterised by the mild temperatures and strong southerly winds in many places.
The old snowpack has become soaked up to over 3000 m on east-, south- and west-facing slopes and up to around 2500 m on north-facing slopes. Particularly in the inneralpine regions, wet slab avalanches, including large ones, are possible on north-facing slopes as the moistening process progresses again.
Gliding avalanches are still possible, increasingly so once again at high altitudes.

Weather review for Wednesday, 01.05.2024

It was often cloudy, with precipitation falling in the south. The snowfall level was between 2200 and 2400 m.

New snow
From Tuesday evening to Wednesday afternoon, the following amounts of fresh snow were recorded above approximately 2800 m:
- Main Alpine Ridge from the Saas Valley to the Simplon Pass: 20 to 40 cm;
- rest of the Valais Main Alpine Ridge, Bedretto, Aletsch region: 5 to 15 cm.

Temperature
At midday at 2000 m, between +8 °C in the north and +6 °C in the south.

Wind
There were moderate southerly winds, sometimes strong on the Northern Alpine Ridge.

Weather forecast until Thursday, 02.05.2024

There will be widespread precipitation, especially heavy in the south. The snowfall level will drop from 2300 m to 1800 m. In the east it will be mostly dry with some bright intervals.

New snow
From Wednesday afternoon to Thursday afternoon, the following amounts of fresh snow are expected above approximately 2600 m:
- Upper Valais Main Alpine Ridge, northern and central Ticino: 30 to 50 cm;
- rest of the Main Alpine Ridge, Aletsch region: 15 to 30 cm;
- elsewhere: a few centimetres, or it will remain dry.

Temperature
At midday at 2000 m, +4 °C in the north and +2 °C in the south.

Wind
Winds will be light to moderate, strong at times at high altitudes in the south and east, blowing from the south.

Avalanche bulletin through Thursday, 2. May 2024

Trend until Saturday, 04.05.2024

It will often be cloudy and there will be some precipitation widely until Saturday morning. The snowfall level will be between 1500 and 1800 m. In the north, 10 to 20 cm of new snow will fall widely at high altitudes, with only a little snowfall in the south. The wind will mostly be light to moderate, blowing from various directions. On Saturday, it will be partly sunny during the day.
The danger of dry avalanches will increase slightly in the north on Friday, otherwise it will decrease. Gliding avalanches will still be possible.