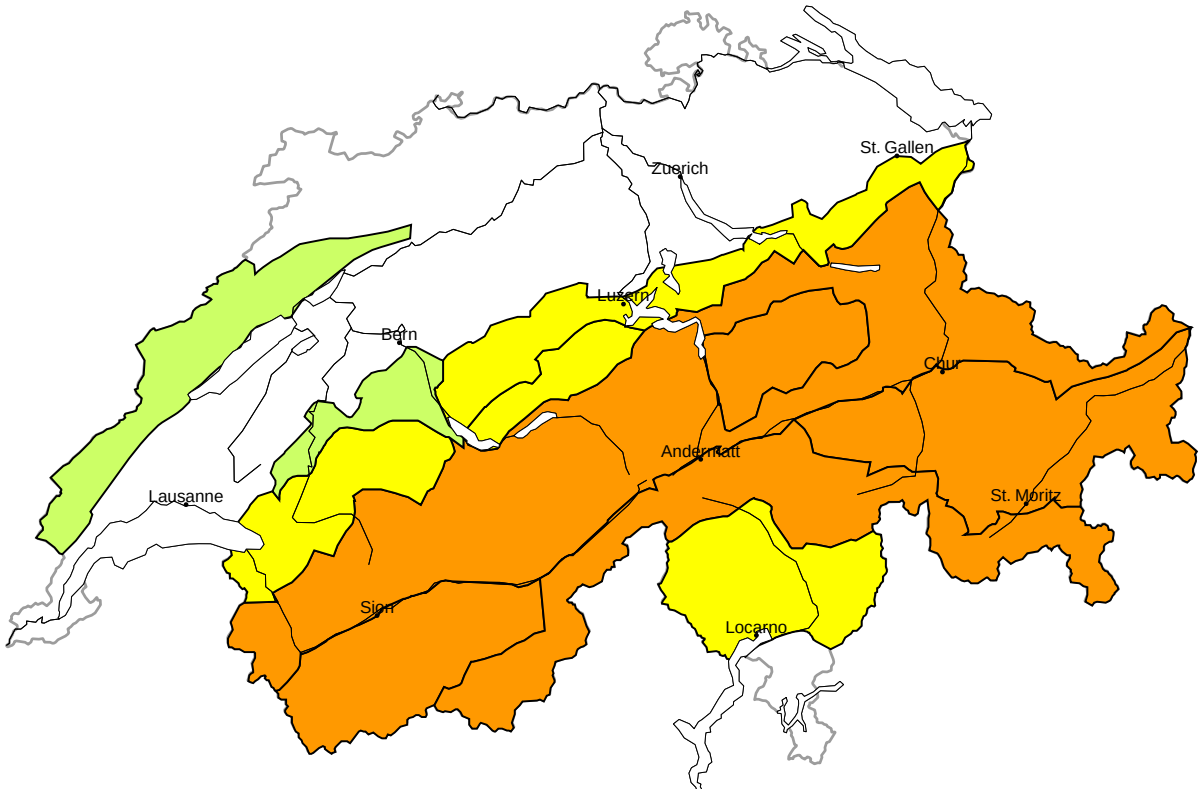
Avalanche danger

updated on 14.12.2023, 17:00

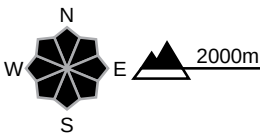


region A

Considerable (3=)

New snow

Avalanche prone locations



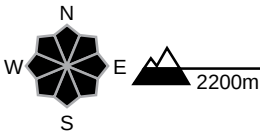
Danger description

The fresh snow and the wind slabs formed by the northwesterly wind are in some cases prone to triggering. Natural avalanches are possible, even large ones in isolated cases.
Even single winter sport participants can release avalanches easily. Off-piste activities call for caution and restraint.

Moderate (2)

Gliding snow

Avalanche prone locations



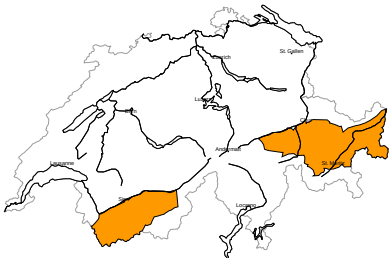
Danger description

On steep grassy slopes more gliding avalanches are to be expected, even large ones in isolated cases. Areas with glide cracks are to be avoided. Exposed parts of transportation routes can be endangered.

Avalanche bulletin through Friday, 15. December 2023

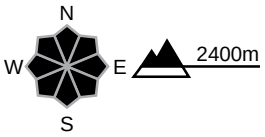
region B

Considerable (3-)



New snow

Avalanche prone locations



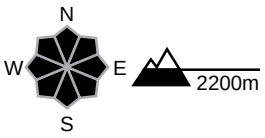
Danger description

The fresh snow and in particular the wind slabs can be released by a single winter sport participant. The avalanches can reach dangerously large size.
Experience in the assessment of avalanche danger is required.

Moderate (2)

Gliding snow

Avalanche prone locations

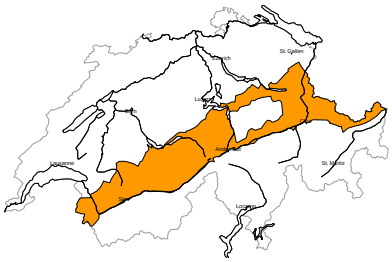


Danger description

On steep grassy slopes more gliding avalanches are to be expected, even large ones in isolated cases. Areas with glide cracks are to be avoided. Exposed parts of transportation routes can be endangered.

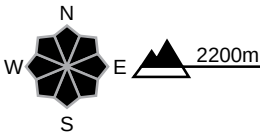
region C

Considerable (3-)



New snow

Avalanche prone locations



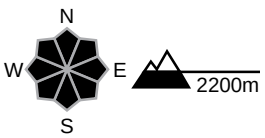
Danger description

The fresh snow and in particular the wind slabs can be released by a single winter sport participant. The avalanches can reach large size.
Experience in the assessment of avalanche danger is recommended.

Moderate (2)

Gliding snow

Avalanche prone locations

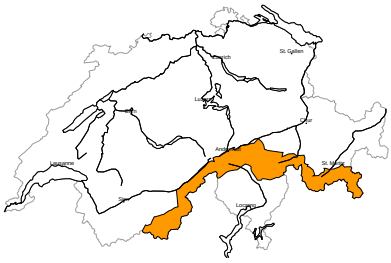


Danger description

On steep grassy slopes more gliding avalanches are to be expected, even large ones in isolated cases. Areas with glide cracks are to be avoided. Exposed parts of transportation routes can be endangered.

Avalanche bulletin through Friday, 15. December 2023

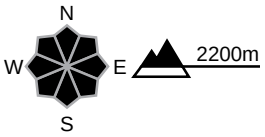
region D



Considerable (3-)

Wind slab, Persistent weak layers

Avalanche prone locations



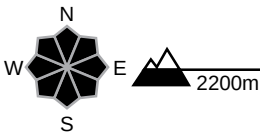
Danger description

As a consequence of a moderate to strong northerly wind, wind slabs will form. These represent the main danger. Single winter sport participants can release avalanches. These can also be triggered in the old snowpack and reach medium size.
Ski touring calls for experience in the assessment of avalanche danger.

Moderate (2)

Gliding snow

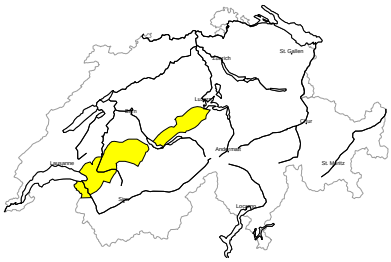
Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

On steep grassy slopes more gliding avalanches are to be expected, even large ones in isolated cases. Areas with glide cracks are to be avoided.

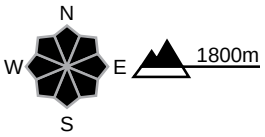
region E



Moderate (2=)

New snow

Avalanche prone locations



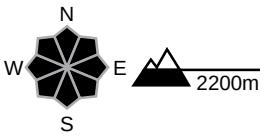
Danger description

The fresh snow and the mostly small wind slabs can be released in isolated cases at elevated altitudes.
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.

Moderate (2)

Gliding snow

Avalanche prone locations



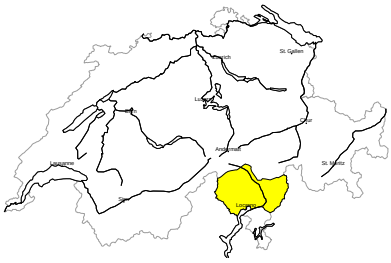
Danger description

On steep grassy slopes more gliding avalanches are to be expected, even large ones in isolated cases. Areas with glide cracks are to be avoided. Exposed parts of transportation routes can be endangered.

Avalanche bulletin through Friday, 15. December 2023

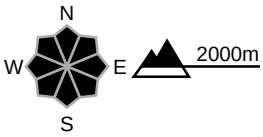
region F

Moderate (2=)



Wind slab

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

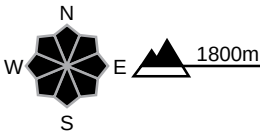
As a consequence of a moderate northerly wind, small wind slabs will form in some places. Avalanches can in isolated cases release deeper layers of the snowpack and reach medium size. The avalanche prone locations are to be found in particular in gullies and bowls, and behind abrupt changes in the terrain.
Careful route selection is recommended.

region G

Moderate (2=)

New snow

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

The fresh snow and the mostly small wind slabs can be released in isolated cases at elevated altitudes.
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.

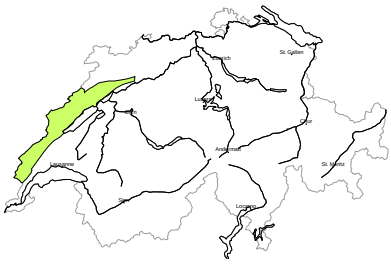
Low (1)

Gliding snow

On very steep grassy slopes individual gliding avalanches are possible.

region H

Low (1)



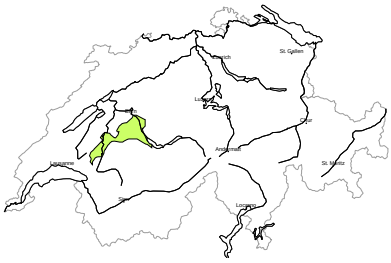
No distinct avalanche problem

Only a little snow is lying. Individual avalanche prone locations are to be found in extremely steep terrain. Restraint should be exercised because avalanches can sweep people along and give rise to falls.

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

Avalanche bulletin through Friday, 15. December 2023

region I



Low (1)

No distinct avalanche problem

Only a little snow is lying. Individual avalanche prone locations are to be found in extremely steep terrain. Restraint should be exercised because avalanches can sweep people along and give rise to falls.

Low (1)

Gliding snow

On very steep grassy slopes individual gliding avalanches are possible.

Snowpack and weather

updated on 14.12.2023, 17:00

Snowpack

The avalanche situation is easing as a consequence of falling temperatures and the heavy precipitation subsiding. At high altitudes, there is about twice as much snow in many areas as there normally is at the beginning of December. The snowpack structure there is generally favourable. In southern Upper Valais, Ticino, Moesano, Val Bregaglia and Val Poschiavo, there are average snow depths at altitude. In these regions, older weak layers may occasionally be released by people.At intermediate altitudes, the rain has moistened or soaked the snowpack. The snowpack is increasingly stabilising as a consequence of falling temperatures, but gliding avalanches are still to be expected on slippery ground below 2000 m.

Weather review for Thursday, 14.12.2023

In the north, it was partly cloudy and snow fell at times down to low altitudes. It was fairly sunny in the south.

New fallen snow
From Wednesday afternoon to Thursday afternoon, the following amounts of snow fell above approximately 1500 m:
- north of the Rhone-Rhine: 20 to 40 cm;
- south of the Rhone-Rhine: 10 to 20 cm; in southern Upper Valais and on the southern flank of the Alps, less or dry.

Temperature
At midday at 2000 m, between -4 °C in the north and -1 °C in the south.

Wind
Winds were mostly moderate from the west.

Weather forecast until Friday, 15.12.2023

The snowfall will end at first in the west during the night, and in the morning also in the east. During the day, it will be mostly sunny in the west and south, but still very cloudy in the northeast.

New fallen snow
From Thursday afternoon to Friday morning above approximately 1500 m, the following amounts of snow will fall:
- central and eastern parts of the northern flank of the Alps and northern Grisons: 15 to 30 cm;
- rest of the northern flank of the Alps, central Grisons and Engadine: 5 to 15 cm; otherwise mostly dry.

Temperature
At midday at 2000 m, between -5 °C in the north and -3 °C in the south.

Wind
- Moderate northerly winds will blow at altitude in the west, and strong northerly winds in the east.
- In the south, there will be strong northerly winds down to the valleys.

Trend until Sunday, 17.12.2023

Saturday and Sunday
It will be sunny and mild. The zero-degree level will rise in many areas to over 3000 m on Sunday. The danger of dry avalanches is expected to decrease. As a result of the mild temperatures and solar radiation, an increase in gliding avalanche activity is expected. Wet avalanches are also possible, especially on steep sunny slopes.