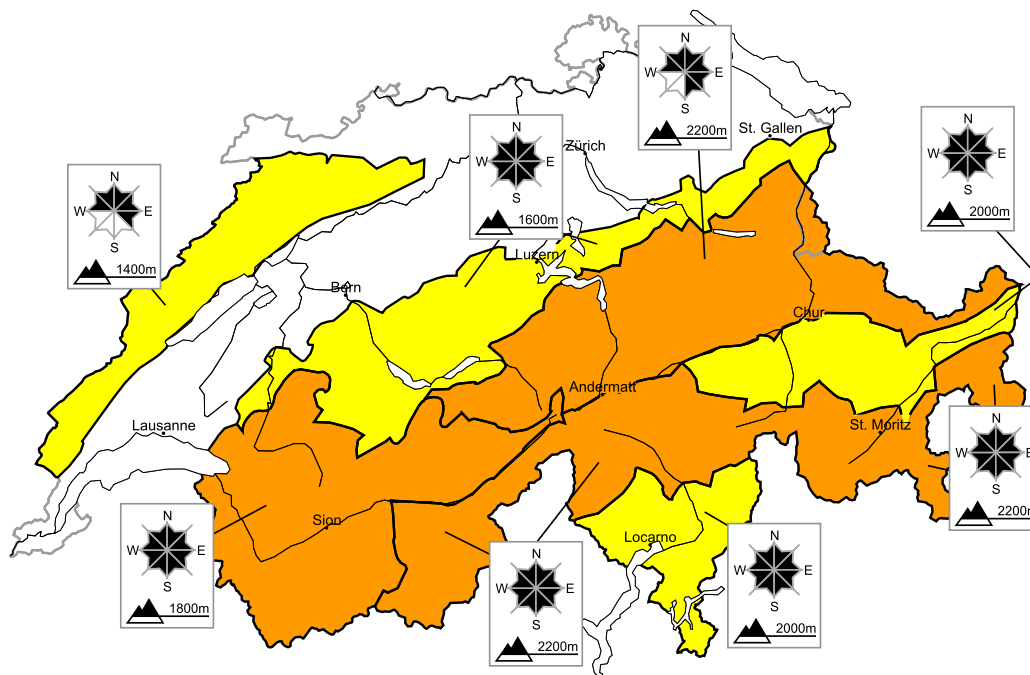


Considerable avalanche danger will be encountered in some regions

Edition: 7.3.2020, 08:00 / Next update: 7.3.2020, 17:00

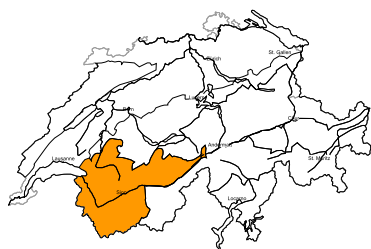
Avalanche danger

updated on 7.3.2020, 08:00



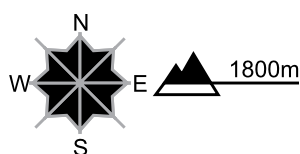
region A

Level 3, considerable



New snow

Avalanche prone locations

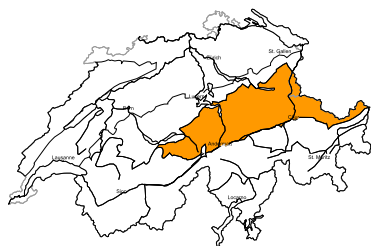


Danger description

Large quantities of fresh snow and the wind-drifted snow of the last few days are in some cases prone to triggering. Avalanches can be released by a single winter sport participant. They can reach large size. Backcountry touring and other off-piste activities call for experience in the assessment of avalanche danger.

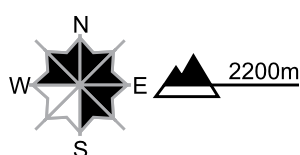
region B

Level 3, considerable



Wind slabs

Avalanche prone locations

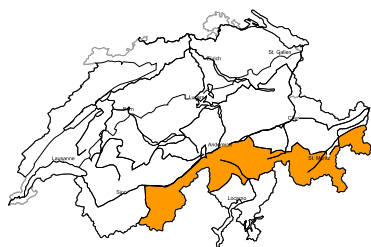


Danger description

As a consequence of new snow and wind, avalanche prone wind slabs formed. Avalanches can be released by a single winter sport participant. They can reach medium size. Backcountry touring and other off-piste activities call for experience in the assessment of avalanche danger.

region C

Level 3, considerable



Wind slabs

Avalanche prone locations

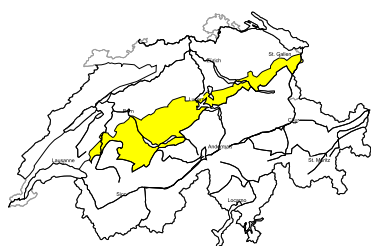


Danger description

As a consequence of northerly wind, avalanche prone wind slabs will form. They are to be bypassed in steep terrain. The avalanche prone locations are to be found in particular in gullies and bowls, and behind abrupt changes in the terrain. Backcountry touring and other off-piste activities call for experience in the assessment of avalanche danger and careful route selection.

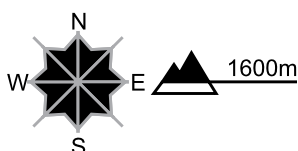
region D

Level 2, moderate



New snow and wind slabs

Avalanche prone locations

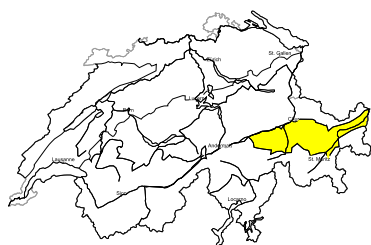


Danger description

The new snow and wind slabs of the last few days are in some cases still prone to triggering. Avalanches can in some places be released by a single winter sport participant. They can reach medium size. The avalanche prone locations are covered with new snow and are therefore difficult to recognise. Backcountry touring and other off-piste activities call for careful route selection.

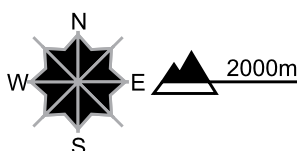
region E

Level 2, moderate



Wind slabs

Avalanche prone locations

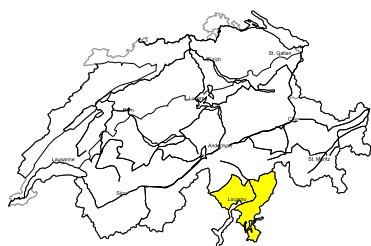


Danger description

As a consequence of wind from variable directions, rather small wind slabs formed. These can in some cases be released easily. The avalanche prone locations are to be found in particular adjacent to ridgelines and in gullies and bowls. They are covered with new snow and are therefore difficult to recognise. Backcountry touring and other off-piste activities call for careful route selection.

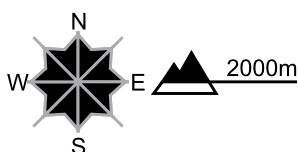
region F

Level 2, moderate



Wind slabs

Avalanche prone locations

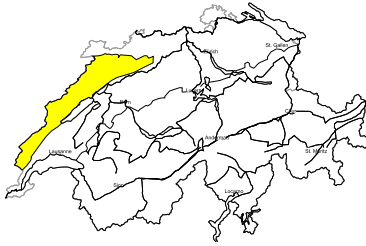


Danger description

As a consequence of a strong northerly wind, avalanche prone wind slabs will form. These are mostly small. The older wind slabs are to be found in particular in gullies and bowls, and behind abrupt changes in the terrain. These can be released, especially at their margins. Avalanches can reach medium size. Careful route selection is advisable.

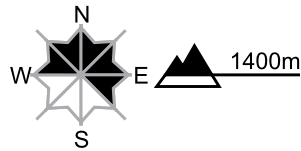
region G

Level 2, moderate



Wind slabs

Avalanche prone locations





Danger description

The more recent wind slabs are mostly small but in some cases prone to triggering. They are to be evaluated with care and prudence in particular in very steep terrain. Careful route selection is recommended.


Danger levels

 1 low

 2 moderate

 3 consider.

 4 high

 5 very high



WSL Institute for Snow and
Avalanche Research SLF
www.slf.ch

Snowpack and weather

updated on 6.3.2020, 17:00

Snowpack

In the western regions, the layers of fresh snow and snowdrifts which have formed over the last few days are still instable in places. In the eastern regions, further snowdrift accumulations will be generated as a result of fresh snow and winds. In the southern regions, relatively small-sized snowdrift accumulations are expected to form for the most part, in spite of the strong-velocity northerly winds. More deeply embedded inside the snowpack, particularly in the inneralpine regions on wind-protected slopes above approximately 2400 m, weak layers are evident from place to place. In the Valais, in Ticino and in southern Grisons, more than anywhere else, above average amounts of snow for this juncture of the season lie on the ground at high altitudes. In the other regions of Switzerland the snow depths at 2000 m are generally average. On the northern flank of the Alps snow depths are below average in places.

Observed weather on Friday, 06.03.2020

On Thursday night the intensive snowfall in the western regions slackened off. During the daytime on Friday skies were frequently overcast. In the northern regions a small amount of snowfall down to low lying areas was registered. In the Valais, in Ticino and in southern Grisons there were extended sunny intervals.

Fresh snow

Between the early morning hours of Thursday and Friday afternoon, the following amounts of fresh snow were registered above approximately 2000 m:

- northern and furthestmost western parts of Lower Valais: 50 to 70 cm;
- Vaud Alps not including the Prealps, remaining parts of Lower Valais, northern Upper Valais: 30 to 50 cm;
- remaining parts of the northern flank of the Alps not including the Prealps, remaining parts of Valais, northwestern Ticino: 15 to 30 cm;
- in the other regions of Switzerland: 5 to 15 cm widespread.

In the Jura region above approximately 1400 m: in the western parts, 15 to 30 cm, in the eastern parts 5 to 15 cm.

Temperature

At midday at 2000 m, between -6 °C in the northern regions and -2 °C in the southern regions.

Wind

- On Thursday night in the northern regions and at high altitudes in general, moderate to strong-velocity westerly winds were blowing;
- during the daytime on Friday in the Prealps and the Jura region, moderate to strong-velocity southwesterly winds were still blowing; in the other regions, light to moderate strength westerly to northwesterly winds.

Weather forecast through Saturday, 07.03.2020

On Friday night in the northern and the eastern regions, snowfall down to low lying areas is expected. During the course of the day on Saturday the snowfall is expected to slacken off. In the northern regions skies will be predominantly overcast. In the western regions and at high altitudes in general, increasingly frequent bright intervals are anticipated. In the southern regions it will be predominantly sunny as a result of the northerly winds.

Fresh snow

Between Friday evening and Saturday afternoon:

- northern flank of the Alps east of the Haslital, Prättigau, Silvretta: 15 to 30 cm;
- remaining parts of the northern flank of the Alps, northern Valais, Gotthard region, remaining parts of northern Grisons, central Grisons: 5 to 15 cm;
- further to the south: only a few centimetres; on the southern flank of the Alps it will remain dry.

Temperature

At midday at 2000 m, between -8 °C in the northern regions and -4 °C in the southern regions.

Wind

Winds will be northerly to northwesterly,

- blowing predominantly at strong velocity on the Main Alpine Ridge and southwards therefrom, as well as in the high alpine zones of the eastern regions;
- in the other regions of Switzerland, blowing at light to moderate strength.

Outlook through Monday, 09.03.2020

Sunday

It is expected to be quite sunny in spite of some cloudbanks. During the course of the day, cloud cover will move in from the west.

Avalanche danger levels will decrease.

Monday

On Sunday night in the northern regions, snowfall will set in. The snowfall level will descend from 1300 down to 800 m.

During the course of the day on Monday the snowfall will come to an end and extended bright intervals are anticipated. In the southern regions it will be rather sunny.

Avalanche danger levels are expected to increase in the northern regions. In the southern regions, danger levels are not expected to change significantly.