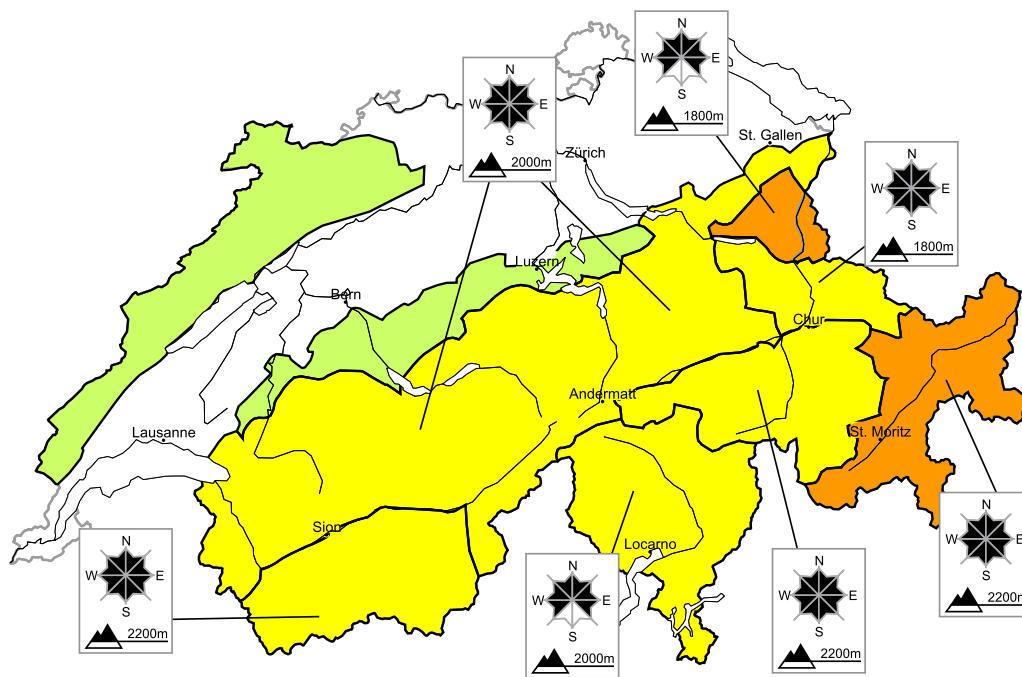


In the east a considerable avalanche danger will be encountered in some regions

Edition: 15.2.2021, 08:00 / Next update: 15.2.2021, 17:00

Avalanche danger

updated on 15.2.2021, 08:00



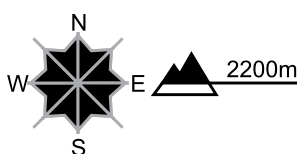
region A

Level 3, considerable



Old snow, wind slabs

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

Avalanches can be triggered in deep layers of the snowpack and reach large size. Remotely triggered avalanches are possible in isolated cases. The avalanche prone locations are rather rare but are barely recognisable, even to the trained eye. Caution is to be exercised in particular at transitions from a shallow to a deep snowpack, as well as in areas where the snow cover is rather shallow.

In addition the somewhat older wind slabs are prone to triggering in some cases.

Defensive route selection is required.

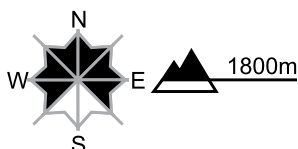
region B

Level 3, considerable



Wind slabs

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

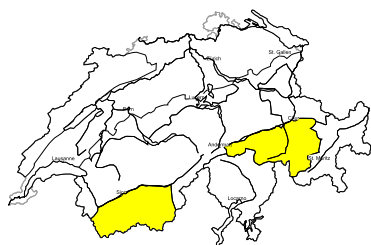
As a consequence of foehn wind, mostly shallow wind slabs formed on Sunday. These can be released easily. They are to be found in particular in gullies and bowls, and behind abrupt changes in the terrain.

Avalanches can additionally in very isolated cases be released in the weakly bonded old snow. This applies in particular in areas where the snow cover is rather shallow.

Ski touring and other off-piste activities, including snowshoe hiking, call for careful route selection.

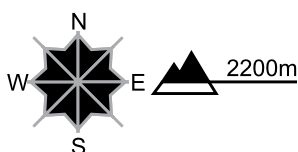
region C

Level 2, moderate



Old snow, wind slabs

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

In isolated cases avalanches can be triggered in deep layers of the snowpack and reach large size. These avalanche prone locations are barely recognisable. Caution is to be exercised in particular at transitions from a shallow to a deep snowpack, as well as in areas where the snow cover is rather shallow.

In addition the somewhat older wind slabs are prone to triggering in some cases.

Defensive route selection is advisable.

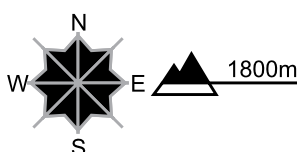
region D

Level 2, moderate



Wind slabs

Avalanche prone locations



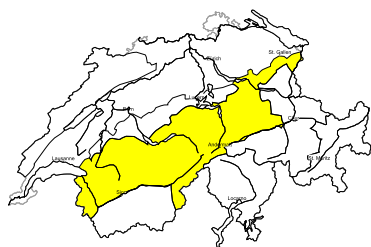
Danger description

As a consequence of foehn wind, rather small wind slabs formed on Sunday. These can be released easily in some places. They are to be found in particular in gullies and bowls, and behind abrupt changes in the terrain. Avalanches can additionally in very isolated cases be released in the weakly bonded old snow. This applies in particular in areas where the snow cover is rather shallow.

Ski touring and other off-piste activities, including snowshoe hiking, call for careful route selection.

region E

Level 2, moderate



Wind slabs

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

The somewhat older wind slabs are in some cases still prone to triggering. They are to be found in particular in gullies and bowls, and behind abrupt changes in the terrain. They are mostly small. In high Alpine regions the avalanche prone locations are more prevalent and larger.

Avalanches can additionally in very isolated cases be released in the weakly bonded old snow. This applies in particular in areas where the snow cover is rather shallow.

Ski touring and other off-piste activities, including snowshoe hiking, call for careful route selection.

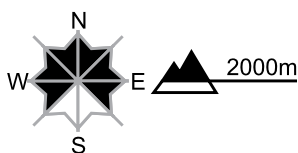
region F

Level 2, moderate



No distinct avalanche problem

Avalanche prone locations

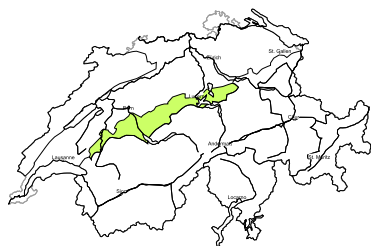


Danger description

Avalanches can in some cases be released in near-surface layers of the snowpack. This applies in particular in areas where the snow cover is rather shallow, especially on steep north facing slopes. Backcountry touring and other off-piste activities call for careful route selection.

region G

Level 1, low

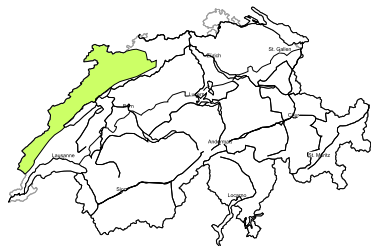


Wind slabs

Somewhat older wind slabs are to be found in particular adjacent to ridgelines and in gullies and bowls. They are only small but can be released in isolated cases. The wind slabs are to be evaluated with care and prudence in extreme 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.

region H

Level 1, low



No distinct avalanche problem

A little snow is lying. Individual avalanche prone locations are to be found 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.

Snowpack and weather

updated on 14.2.2021, 17:00

Snowpack

On Saturday night and during the morning hours of Sunday, relatively small-sized but easily triggerable snowdrift accumulations have been generated by moderate-to-strong velocity southeasterly winds plus foehn-wind at intermediate and high altitudes in the eastern sector of the northern flank of the Alps and in Grisons. These drifted masses will also be triggerable to some extent on Monday.

In the southern Valais and in Grisons in all aspects, there are marked weak layers deeply embedded inside the snowpack, above 2200 m on north-facing slopes, somewhat higher up on south-facing slopes. Particularly in places where the snow is shallow, avalanches can fracture down to these layers and sweep away the entire snow cover with them, thereby growing to large size. The frequency of avalanche prone locations, however, is incrementally decreasing. On the northern flank of the Alps, such weak layers occur less frequently and are currently blanketed-over with deep snow. In the Ticino, the snowpack layering is also more favourable and fractures in deeply embedded layers of the snowpack are no longer likely.

Observed weather on Sunday, 14.02.2021

It was predominantly sunny.

Fresh snow

-

Temperature

At midday at 2000 m, between -6 °C in the western regions and -11 °C in the eastern and the southern regions.

Wind

- In Grisons, a moderate-strength southeasterly wind was blowing, occasionally at strong velocity; in the Rheintal and the foehn-exposed regions of the eastern sector of the northern flank of the Alps, moderate-strength foehn was blowing; in the Jura region, a moderate-to-strong bise wind prevailed;
- during the course of the day, winds slackened off in all regions of Switzerland.

Weather forecast through Monday, 15.02.2021

In the northern regions it will still be predominantly sunny during the morning hours, subsequently it will become increasingly overcast from the northwest. In the southern regions, rather sunny weather is anticipated.

Fresh snow

-

Temperature

Temperatures are expected to increase significantly during the course of the day, at midday at 2000 m to between -1 °C in the western regions and -3 °C in the eastern and the southern regions.

Wind

Winds will be blowing from westerly directions, moderately strengthening in velocity in the Jura region and in general at high altitudes during the course of the day.

Outlook through Wednesday, 17.02.2021

On Monday night and on Tuesday night, a small amount of precipitation is anticipated in the northern regions. During each respective daytime, skies will be heavily overcast to begin with, subsequently it will become increasingly sunny. The snowfall level will lie between 1400 and 1700 m. In the southern regions it will probably be dry and rather sunny on both days. On Tuesday, mild temperatures are expected during the daytime.

The avalanche danger levels are not expected to change significantly. However, during the course of the day on Tuesday, increasingly frequent wet-snow slides can be expected.