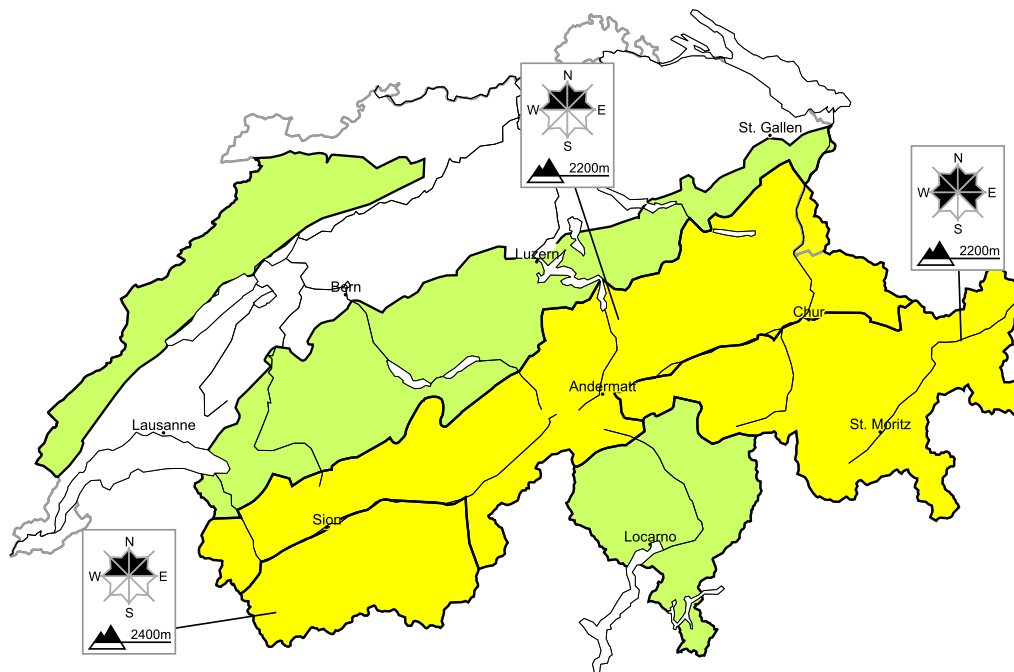


## Moderate avalanche danger will be encountered over a wide area

Edition: 22.2.2021, 08:00 / Next update: 22.2.2021, 17:00

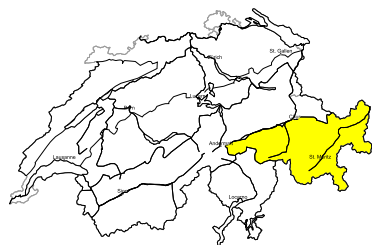
### Dry avalanches

updated on 22.2.2021, 08:00



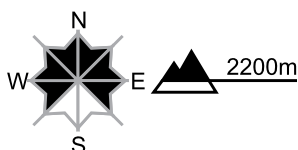
**Dry, region A**

**Level 2, moderate**



### Old snow, wind slabs

#### Avalanche prone locations



#### Danger description

In very isolated cases avalanches can be triggered in deep layers of the snowpack and reach large size. These avalanche prone locations are barely recognisable. Individual avalanche prone locations are to be found in particular in little used terrain and in areas where the snow cover is rather shallow. Defensive route selection is appropriate.

The fresh wind slabs are mostly only small but in some cases prone to triggering. They are to be found in particular in gullies and bowls, and behind abrupt changes in the terrain. At elevated altitudes the prevalence and size of the avalanche prone locations will increase. The wind slabs are to be evaluated with care and prudence in very steep terrain.

**Additional danger: Wet avalanches as day progresses (see 2nd map)**

**Danger levels**

1 low

2 moderate

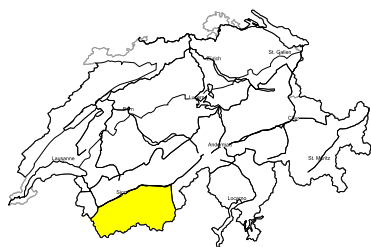
3 consider.

4 high

5 very high

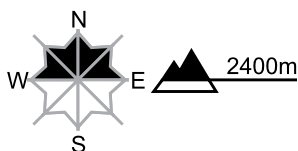
**Dry, region B**

**Level 2, moderate**



**Old snow, wind slabs**

**Avalanche prone locations**



**Danger description**

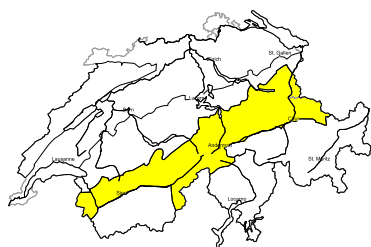
In very isolated cases avalanches can be triggered in deep layers of the snowpack and reach large size. These avalanche prone locations are barely recognisable. Individual avalanche prone locations are to be found in particular in little used terrain and in areas where the snow cover is rather shallow. Defensive route selection is appropriate.

The fresh wind slabs are mostly only small but in some cases prone to triggering. They are to be found in particular in gullies and bowls, and behind abrupt changes in the terrain. At elevated altitudes the prevalence and size of the avalanche prone locations will increase. The wind slabs are to be evaluated with care and prudence in very steep terrain.

**Additional danger: Wet avalanches as day progresses (see 2nd map)**

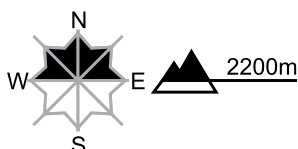
**Dry, region C**

**Level 2, moderate**



**Wind slabs**

**Avalanche prone locations**



**Danger description**

As a consequence of a sometimes strong southerly wind, mostly small wind slabs formed during the night. They are to be found in particular in gullies and bowls, and behind abrupt changes in the terrain. At elevated altitudes the prevalence and size of the avalanche prone locations will increase. The wind slabs are to be evaluated with care and prudence in very steep terrain.

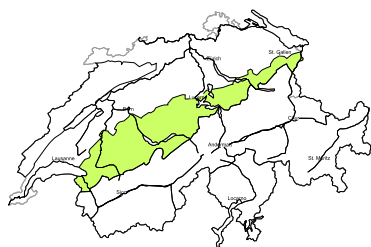
Additionally in isolated cases avalanches can also be released in near-surface layers of the snowpack and reach medium size.

Careful route selection is recommended.

**Additional danger: Wet avalanches as day progresses (see 2nd map)**

**Dry, region D**

**Level 1, low**



**No distinct avalanche problem**

Individual avalanche prone locations for dry avalanches are to be found in particular in extremely steep terrain at high altitude. As a consequence of southerly wind, small wind slabs formed in some localities. These are to be evaluated with care and prudence. 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.

**Additional danger: Wet avalanches as day progresses (see 2nd map)**

**Dry, region E**

**Level 1, low**



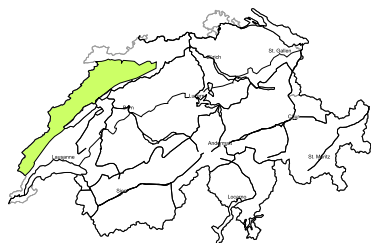
**No distinct avalanche problem**

Individual avalanche prone locations for dry avalanches are to be found in particular in extremely steep terrain at high altitude. 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.

**Additional danger: Wet avalanches as day progresses (see 2nd map)**

**Dry, region F**

**Level 1, low**



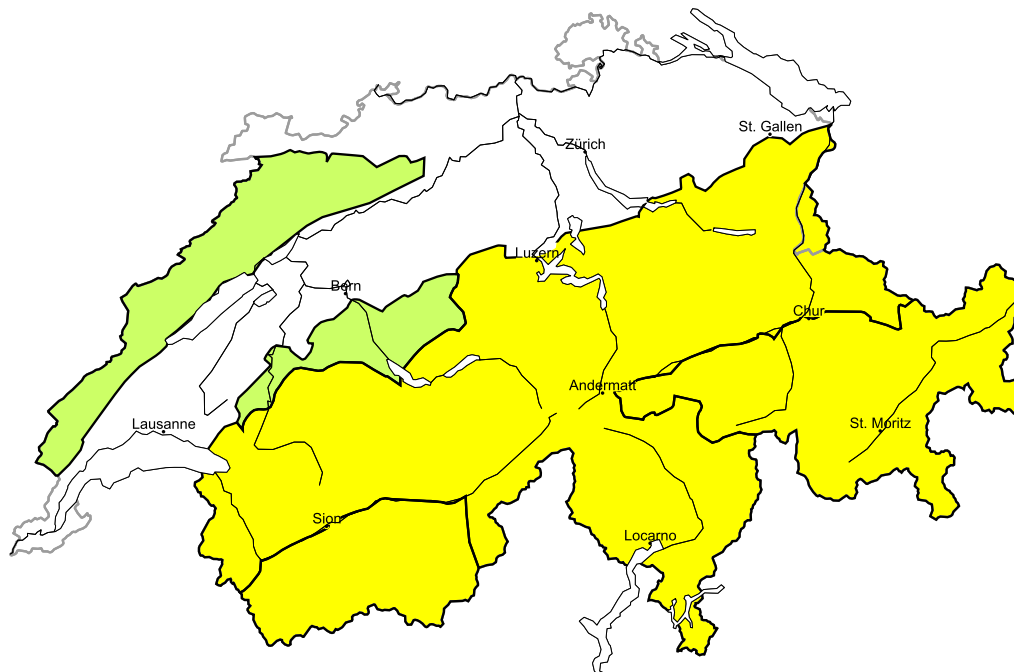
**No distinct avalanche problem**

Dry avalanches are not to be expected.

**Additional danger: Wet avalanches as day progresses (see 2nd map)**

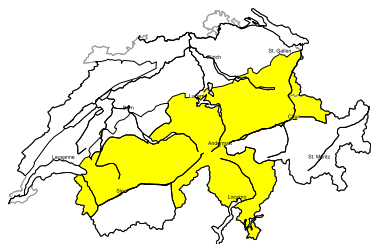
## Wet avalanches as day progresses

updated on 22.2.2021, 08:00



### Wet, region A

#### Level 2, moderate



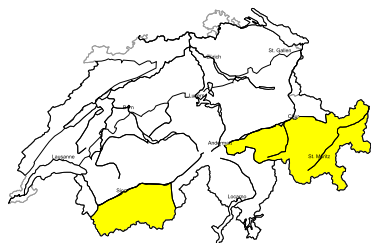
#### Wet avalanches as day progresses

As a consequence of warming during the day and solar radiation medium-sized and, in isolated cases, large wet and gliding avalanches are to be expected. The avalanche prone locations for gliding avalanches are to be found in particular on steep sunny slopes below approximately 2400 m. Especially on very steep south facing slopes more wet loose snow avalanches are possible below approximately 3000 m. Backcountry tours should be concluded timely.

**Additional danger: Dry avalanches (see 1st map)**

### Wet, region B

#### Level 2, moderate



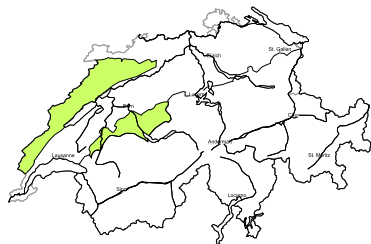
#### Wet avalanches as day progresses

As a consequence of warming during the day and solar radiation more frequent medium-sized wet and gliding avalanches are to be expected. The avalanche prone locations for gliding avalanches are to be found in particular on steep sunny slopes below approximately 2400 m. Especially on very steep south facing slopes more wet loose snow avalanches are to be expected below approximately 3000 m. These can in some cases release the entire snowpack and reach quite a large size. Backcountry tours should be concluded timely.

**Additional danger: Dry avalanches (see 1st map)**

**Wet, region C**

**Level 1, low**




### **Wet avalanches as day progresses**


As a consequence of warming during the day and solar radiation individual gliding avalanches and moist snow slides are possible.

**Additional danger: Dry avalanches (see 1st map)**


**Danger levels**

 1 low

 2 moderate

 3 consider.

 4 high

 5 very high

## Snowpack and weather

updated on 21.2.2021, 17:00

### Snowpack

As a result of strong-velocity southerly winds, additional predominantly small snowdrift accumulations will be generated at high altitudes during the night.

In the ground-level old snow, particularly in Grisons and in the southern Valais, there are still weak layers evident, particularly above approximately 2200 to 2400 m. During the last few days, only very isolated avalanches were triggered in these layers.

On steep south-facing slopes, a melt-freeze crust capable of bearing loads forms on the snowpack surface at high altitudes during the nights of clear skies. As this crust thaws, the snowpack forfeits its stability. Particularly on south-facing slopes, wet-snow avalanches can be expected during the course of the day. As a consequence of the persistent mild temperatures, the activity of gliding avalanches is expected to increase further.

### Observed weather on Sunday, 21.02.2021

Skies in the Ticino were partly overcast on Saturday night, in the other regions of Switzerland skies were clear. During the daytime on Sunday, it was sunny.

#### Fresh snow

-

#### Temperature

At midday at 2000 m, between +7 °C in the northern regions and 0 °C in the southern regions.

#### Wind

Winds were blowing at light to moderate strength from southerly directions, during the course of the day on the northern Alpine Ridge east of the Haslital blowing at increasingly strong velocity.

### Weather forecast through Monday, 22.02.2021

Skies on Sunday night will be predominanatly clear. During the daytime on Monday it will be predominantly sunny in the southern and the eastern regions, in the western regions only partly sunny as a result of the increasingly dense cloudbanks. The southerly winds will bring dust from the Sahara desert to the Alps. As a result of this, the atmosphere will become partially gray or diffuse.

#### Fresh snow

-

#### Temperature

At midday at 2000 m, between +7 °C in the northern regions and 0 °C in the southern regions.

#### Wind

- Winds during the nocturnal hours will be blowing at strong velocity, during the daytime mostly at moderate velocity, from southerly directions;
- in the Alpine valleys of the north, a moderate to strong-velocity foehn wind will prevail;
- in the southern regions, light strength southerly winds will be blowing.

### Outlook through Wednesday, 24.02.2021

Following nights of clear skies, it will be sunny during the daytimes. It is expected to remain quite mild. The zero-degree level on Tuesday will lie at approximately 2800 m, on Wednesday at 3400 m.

The avalanche situation during the morning hours will be predominantly favourable. The danger of wet-snow and gliding avalanches will increase significantly on sunny slopes during the course of the day. Skiing tours in outlying terrain should be brought to a close early in the day.