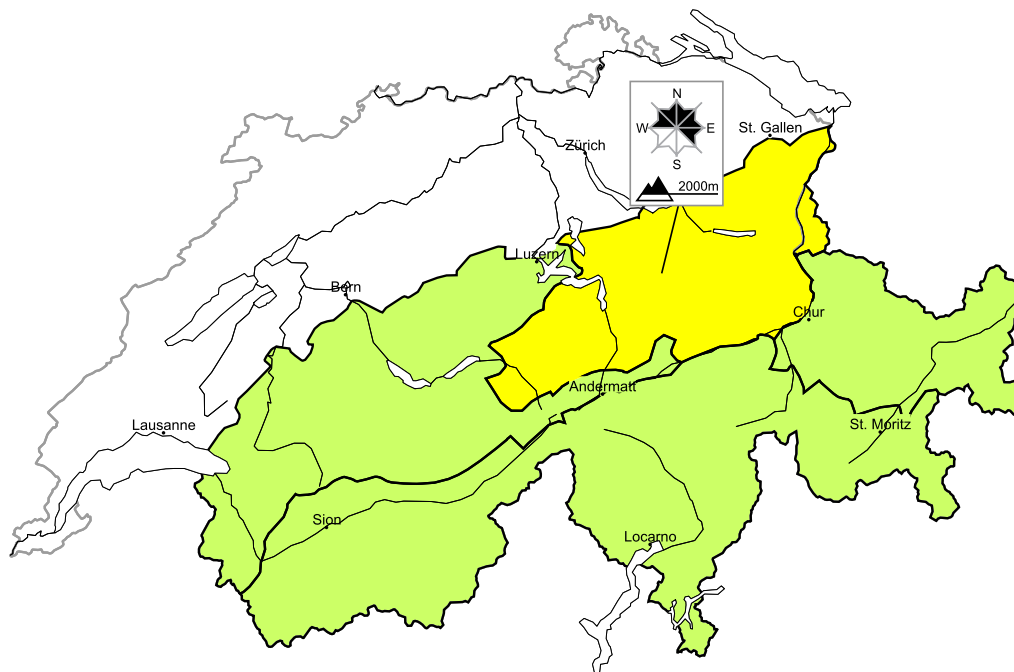


Moderate avalanche danger will be encountered in some regions

Edition: 6.3.2021, 08:00 / Next update: 6.3.2021, 17:00

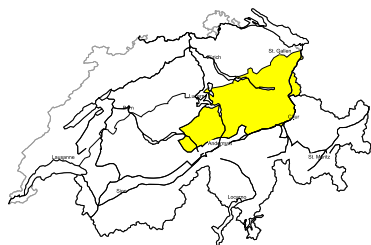
Avalanche danger

updated on 6.3.2021, 08:00



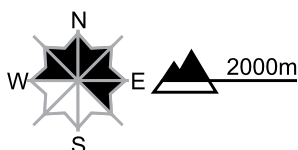
region A

Level 2, moderate



Wind slabs

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

As a consequence of new snow and a moderate westerly wind, mostly small wind slabs formed on Friday in particular adjacent to ridgelines and in pass areas as well as at elevated altitudes. These are in some cases still prone to triggering.

The wind slabs are to be evaluated with care and prudence. 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.

Wet avalanches as day progresses

On very steep sunny slopes moist snow slides are to be expected as the day progresses.

Danger levels

1 low

2 moderate

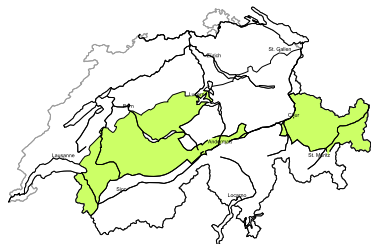
3 consider.

4 high

5 very high

region B

Level 1, low

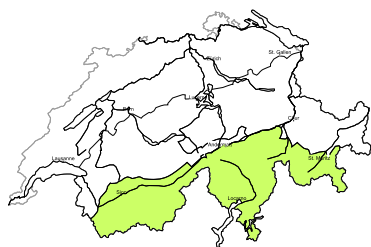


Wind slabs

Wind slabs have formed in particular adjacent to ridgelines and in pass areas and at high altitudes. They are mostly small but can be released in isolated cases. The wind slabs are to be evaluated with care and prudence especially 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 C

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 elevated altitudes. This applies in particular in areas where the snow cover is rather shallow in little used backcountry terrain. 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.

Snowpack and weather

updated on 5.3.2021, 17:00

Snowpack

On wind-protected shady slopes, fresh snow and freshly generated snowdrifts have been deposited to some extent on layers of faceted crystals but otherwise the bonding to the old snow layers is favourable.

In Grisons and in the Valais more than anywhere else, there are weak layers at ground-level in the old snow above approximately 2200 to 2400 m in all aspects. However, for more than a week there have been no dry-snow avalanches registered as having triggered in these layers. Also stability tests have demonstrated that these layers are no longer prone to fractures or fracture propagation.

The snowpack on very steep south-facing slopes up to nearly 2800 m, on east-facing and west-facing slopes up to approximately 2200 m, is thoroughly wet. On very steep sunny slopes, moist slides are possible during the course of the day. During the last few days, only very isolated gliding avalanches have been observed.

Observed weather on Friday, 05.03.2021

During the night in northern regions there was precipitation over widespread areas, during the daytime there was snowfall primarily in the central and eastern sectors of the northern flank of the Alps. The snowfall level descended from approximately 1600 down to 1000 m. In the southern regions and in the southern Valais it was predominantly sunny and dry.

Fresh snow

Between Thursday evening and Friday evening, the following amounts of fresh snow were registered:

- northern flank of the Alps from Haslital to Alpstein: 10 to 20 cm;
- remaining parts of the northern flank of the Alps, northern Grisons and Lower Engadine: 5 to 10 cm;
- in the other regions of Switzerland, less; or it remained dry.

Temperature

At midday at 2000 m, between -4 °C in the northern regions and 0 °C in the southern regions.

Wind

Winds were blowing predominantly at moderate strength from westerly directions.

Weather forecast through Saturday, 06.03.2021

In the northern regions it will be predominantly sunny in the mountains. In the afternoon, some clouds will move in from the southwest. In the southern regions skies will be predominantly overcast; and above 1000 m, a small amount of snowfall is anticipated.

Fresh snow

In central Ticino and in Sotto Ceneri, a few centimetres of fresh snow are expected.

Temperature

At midday at 2000 m, between -2 °C in the northern regions and -5 °C in the southern regions.

Wind

- Winds in the Prealps will be blowing at strong velocity during the night, during the daytime a moderate-strength breeze will prevail;
- otherwise, predominantly light to moderate-strength winds from westerly directions.

Outlook through Monday, 08.03.2021

Sunday

In the northern regions skies will frequently be overcast, accompanied by sunny intervals, particularly towards the east. In the western regions, isolated showers are possible. In the Upper Valais, in the southern regions and in Grisons, it will be quite sunny. It will be cool, with light to moderate winds from westerly directions.

Avalanche danger will incrementally decrease.

Monday

In the northern regions skies will initially be heavily overcast and some precipitation is possible along the Alps. During the course of the day it is expected to turn increasingly sunny. In the southern regions it will be rather sunny.

Avalanche danger levels are not expected to change significantly.