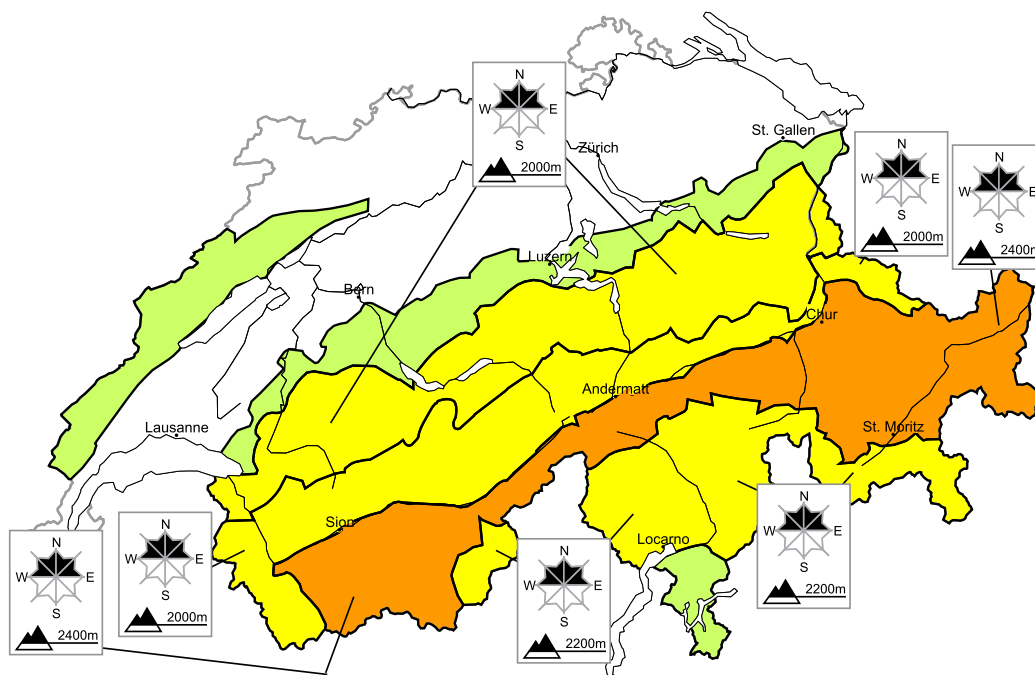


At elevated altitudes a considerable avalanche danger will be encountered in some regions

Edition: 25.3.2021, 08:00 / Next update: 25.3.2021, 17:00

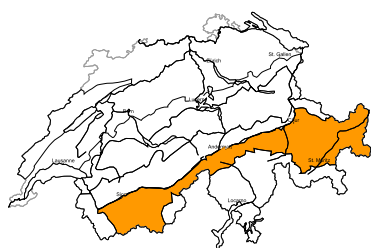
Avalanche danger

updated on 25.3.2021, 08:00



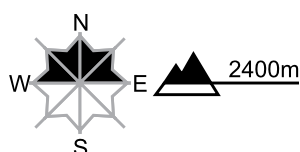
region A

Level 3, considerable



Old snow

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

Weak layers in the upper part of the snowpack can still be released in some places especially on very steep north facing slopes. Even single winter sport participants can release avalanches, including dangerously large ones. Very steep north facing slopes are to be evaluated with care and prudence. In addition the somewhat older wind slabs are capable of being triggered in some cases still.

Backcountry touring and other off-piste activities call for experience in the assessment of avalanche danger.

Wet avalanches as day progresses

On very steep east, south and west facing slopes small and medium-sized gliding avalanches are possible below approximately 2400 m. In addition as the day progresses on south facing slopes, moist snow slides and avalanches are possible. This applies especially below approximately 2800 m.

Danger levels

1 low

2 moderate

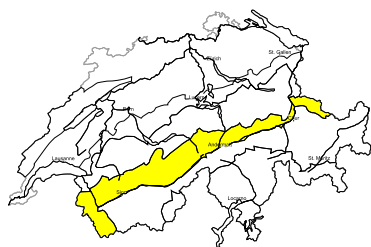
3 consider.

4 high

5 very high

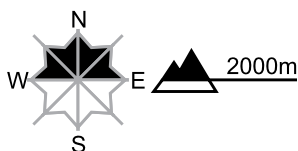
region B

Level 2, moderate



Wind slabs

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

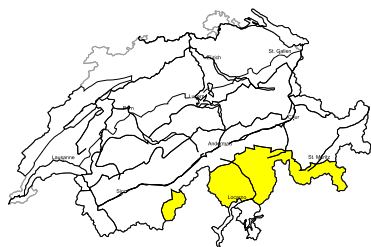
The somewhat older wind slabs are in some cases still prone to triggering. The number and size of avalanche prone locations will increase with altitude. In high Alpine regions these avalanche prone locations are to be found in all aspects. Avalanches can reach medium size. Backcountry touring calls for careful route selection.

Wet avalanches as day progresses

On very steep east, south and west facing slopes small and medium-sized gliding avalanches are possible below approximately 2400 m. In addition as the day progresses on south facing slopes, moist snow slides and avalanches are possible. This applies especially below approximately 2800 m.

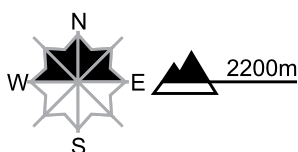
region C

Level 2, moderate



Wind slabs

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

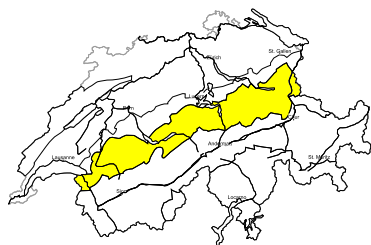
Somewhat older wind slabs represent the main danger. The avalanche prone locations are to be found in particular in gullies and bowls, and behind abrupt changes in the terrain. Careful route selection is important. Apart from the danger of being buried, restraint should be exercised as well in view of the danger of avalanches sweeping people along and giving rise to falls.

Wet avalanches as day progresses

On very steep east, south and west facing slopes small and medium-sized gliding avalanches are possible below approximately 2400 m. In addition as the day progresses on south facing slopes, moist snow slides and avalanches are possible. This applies especially below approximately 2800 m.

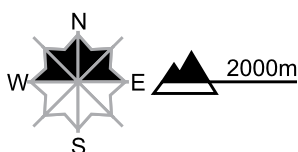
region D

Level 2, moderate



Wind slabs

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

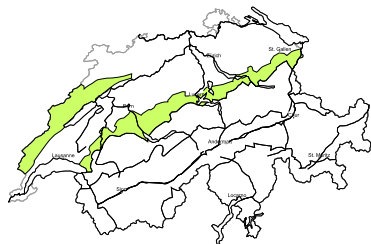
Somewhat older wind slabs represent the main danger. They are to be found in particular in gullies and bowls, and behind abrupt changes in the terrain. Avalanches can in isolated cases be released by people and reach medium size. Careful route selection is required.

Wet avalanches as day progresses

On very steep east, south and west facing slopes small and, in isolated cases, medium-sized wet and gliding avalanches are possible.

region E

Level 1, low



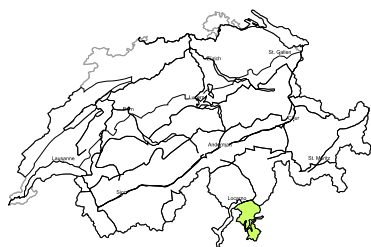
Wind slabs

Individual avalanche prone locations for dry avalanches are to be found especially on extremely steep slopes. Even a snow slide can sweep snow sport participants along and give rise to falls.

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

region F

Level 1, low



No distinct avalanche problem

Individual avalanche prone locations are to be found in particular in extremely steep terrain. Even a small avalanche can sweep snow sport participants along and give rise to falls.



Snowpack and weather

updated on 24.3.2021, 17:00

Snowpack

Particularly south of an imaginary Rhine-Rhone line, a markedly weak layer is evident in the uppermost layers of the snowpack in the Valais and in Grisons, as well as in the Gotthard region. In this weak layer there have been repeated avalanches triggered by persons over the last few days, often of dangerously-large size. In places where the snow is shallow more than anywhere else, isolated avalanches have fractured down to ground-level layers of the old snowpack. Also in the other regions of Switzerland, this weak layer is evident in some places on shady slopes. However, avalanche triggerings have been registered only in isolated cases in this layer.

In addition, snowdrift accumulations which in the interim are somewhat older are also prone to triggering in some places at high altitudes, particularly on shady slopes.

As a result of the increasing degree of snowpack wetness, the danger of wet-snow and gliding avalanches on sun-drenched slopes will increase during the course of the day.

Observed weather on Wednesday, 24.03.2021

Following a night of clear skies it was sunny during the daytime.

Fresh snow

-

Temperature

At midday at 2000 m, between +2 °C in the western and the southern regions and 0 °C in the eastern regions.

Wind

Winds on the Main Alpine Ridge will be blowing intermittently at moderate strength from northerly directions, otherwise predominantly at light strength.

Weather forecast through Thursday, 25.03.2021

Nocturnal skies will be clear. During the daytime it will be quite sunny for short periods, accompanied by high-altitude cloudbanks. During the afternoon, convective cloud build-up is anticipated. Local showers cannot be ruled out from place to place.

Fresh snow

-

Temperature

At midday at 2000 m: 0 °C in the northern regions and +2 °C in the southern regions.

Wind

Winds during the nighttime hours will shift from northerly to westerly-to-southwesterly, on the southern flank of the Alps and in the high-alpine regions blowing intermittently at moderate strength, otherwise predominantly at light strength.

Outlook through Saturday, 27.03.2021

Friday

During the course of the day, clouds will move in from the southwest. However it will remain dry. The southwesterly winds will intensify during the course of the day.

The danger of dry-snow avalanches is expected to decrease still further. The danger of wet-snow and gliding avalanches will be subject to daytime fluctuations, i.e. a daytime cycle.

Saturday

On Friday night and during the daytime on Saturday, a small amount of precipitation is anticipated over widespread areas. The snowfall level will descend from 1700 m down to nearly 1000 m. However, the amounts of precipitation are still uncertain.

Avalanche danger could increase somewhat at high altitudes as a result of fresh fallen snow.