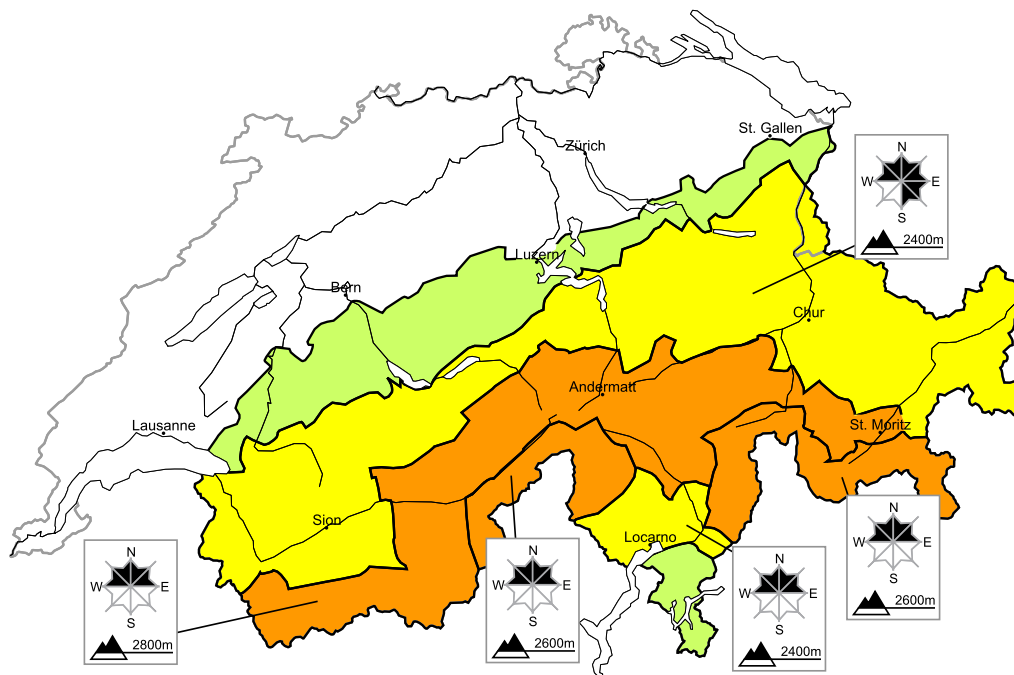


Considerable avalanche danger will be encountered in some regions

Edition: 13.5.2021, 17:00 / Next update: 14.5.2021, 17:00

Avalanche danger

updated on 13.5.2021, 17:00



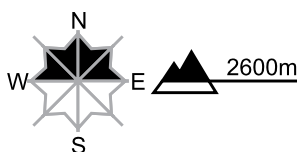
region A

Level 3, considerable



New snow

Avalanche prone locations



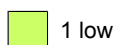
Danger description

The new snow and wind slabs of the last few days represent the main danger. Backcountry tourers can release avalanches in some places, including dangerously large ones. Ski touring calls for experience in the assessment of avalanche danger.

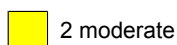
Wet avalanches as day progresses

In all aspects wet avalanches are to be expected as a consequence of solar radiation. They can in very isolated cases reach very large size. Caution is to be exercised in particular on steep north facing slopes below approximately 2500 m. Backcountry tours should be concluded timely.

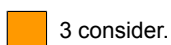
Danger levels



1 low



2 moderate



3 consider.



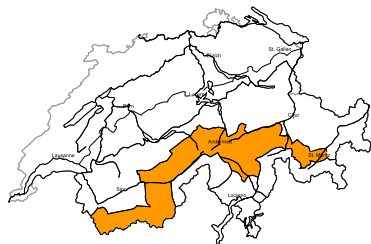
4 high



5 very high

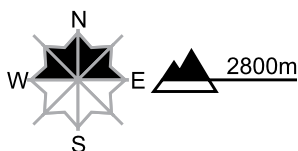
region B

Level 3, considerable



Wind slabs

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

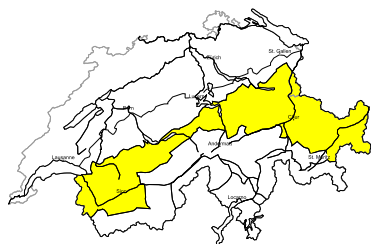
The wind slabs of the last few days are in some cases prone to triggering. Mostly avalanches are medium-sized. In isolated cases dry avalanches can also release deeper layers of the snowpack and reach large size. Ski touring calls for experience in the assessment of avalanche danger.

Wet avalanches as day progresses

As a consequence of solar radiation wet avalanches are to be expected, even large ones in isolated cases. This applies especially on steep north facing slopes below approximately 2500 m, as well as on steep east, south and west facing slopes below approximately 2800 m. Backcountry tours should be concluded timely.

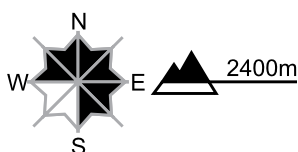
region C

Level 2, moderate



Wind slabs

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

The wind slabs of the last few days are in some cases still prone to triggering at elevated altitudes. They are clearly recognisable to the trained eye. Avalanches can reach medium size. In very isolated cases avalanches can also release deeper layers of the snowpack and reach large size. Careful route selection is recommended.

Wet avalanches as day progresses

As a consequence of solar radiation wet avalanches are possible, even large ones in isolated cases. This applies especially on steep north facing slopes below approximately 2500 m, as well as on steep east, south and west facing slopes below approximately 2800 m. Backcountry tours should be concluded timely.

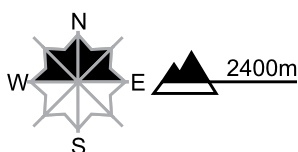
region D

Level 2, moderate



Wind slabs

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

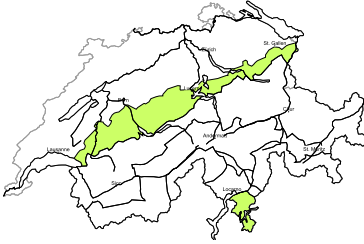
The wind slabs of the last few days are in some cases still prone to triggering at elevated altitudes. They are clearly recognisable to the trained eye. The wind slabs are to be evaluated with care and prudence in steep terrain. Avalanches can reach medium size.

Wet avalanches as day progresses

In starting zones where no previous releases have taken place individual wet and gliding avalanches are possible. They can reach medium size.

region E

Level 1, low





Wet avalanches

Only a little snow is lying. On north facing slopes individual gliding avalanches and moist snow slides are possible.


Danger levels

 1 low

 2 moderate

 3 consider.

 4 high

 5 very high

Snowpack and weather

updated on 13.5.2021, 17:00

Snowpack

On the Main Alpine Ridge from the Great St. Bernard as far as the Bernina Pass and southwards therefrom, the fresh snow and freshly generated snowdrift accumulations of this week are still prone to triggering in some places. Below 2500 m, the snowpack was weakened during the week as a result of intensive rainfall. In particular on steep north-facing slopes below 2400 m, several large-sized and, in isolated cases, some very-large sized avalanches were observed. As of the end of the period of intensive precipitation on Wednesday and also due to descending temperatures, the activity of wet-snow avalanches decreased significantly.

With reduced nocturnal outgoing longwave radiation, the snow cover will generate only a thin crust on the uppermost surface during the nighttime hours. Beneath that crust, the snowpack at intermediate and higher altitudes remains moist. Isolated wet-snow and gliding avalanches continue to be possible.

In general, the Avalanche Warning Services have little information from the outlying regions available. For that reason, the avalanche risks need to be examined with particular care on-site.

Observed weather on Thursday, 13.05.2021

Weather conditions have been variable: skies were variably cloudy to heavily overcast, intermittent showers were reported. The snowfall level lay at 1600 m. In the southern regions skies were sunny during the early morning, during the afternoon clouds moved in, but it remained predominately dry until evening.

Fresh snow

Between Wednesday afternoon and Thursday afternoon, the following amounts of fresh snow were registered above approximately 2000 m:

- northern flank of the Alps, Valais, and Grisons: 5 to 10 cm from place to place;
- in the remaining regions of Switzerland, only a few centimetres, or else it remained dry.

Temperature

At midday at 2000 m, between -2 °C in the western regions, +1 °C in the eastern regions, and +3 °C in the southern regions.

Wind

- Winds in the northern regions were light, blowing intermittently at moderate strength, from westerly directions;
- in the southern regions blowing at moderate strength during the nocturnal hours, during the daytime blowing at light strength, from northerly regions.

Weather forecast through Friday, 14.05.2021

On Thursday night, skies will be partly clear. In Grisons a small amount of precipitation is anticipated. In early morning, there will be sunny intervals from region to region. Already during the course of the morning hours, clouds will move in from the west and subsequently some showers are expected, including thunderstorms from place to place. The snowfall level will lie at 1600 m.

Fresh snow

Between Thursday afternoon and Friday afternoon the following amounts of fresh snow are anticipated above approximately 2000 m:

- northern flank of the Alps, Valais and Grisons: 5 to 10 cm; in the Bernina region as much as 15 cm;
- in the other regions of Switzerland, only a few centimetres, or else it will remain dry.

Temperature

At midday at 2000 m, between 0 °C in the western regions and +3 °C in the eastern regions.

Wind

- Winds in the northern regions will be light, intermittently blowing at moderate strength, from westerly directions;
- in the southern regions blowing at light-to-moderate strength on Thursday night from northerly directions, at light strength during the daytime on Friday.

Outlook through Sunday, 16.05.2021

On both days, skies will be variably cloudy accompanied by short sunny intervals and, from region to region, showers. On Sunday afternoon in the northern regions, thunderstorms are also possible; in the southern regions it will be intermittently sunny. The snowfall level will lie at 1600 to 1800 m. A moderate-strength westerly wind will be blowing, intermittently at strong velocity in high alpine regions. Avalanche danger levels are expected to incrementally decrease.