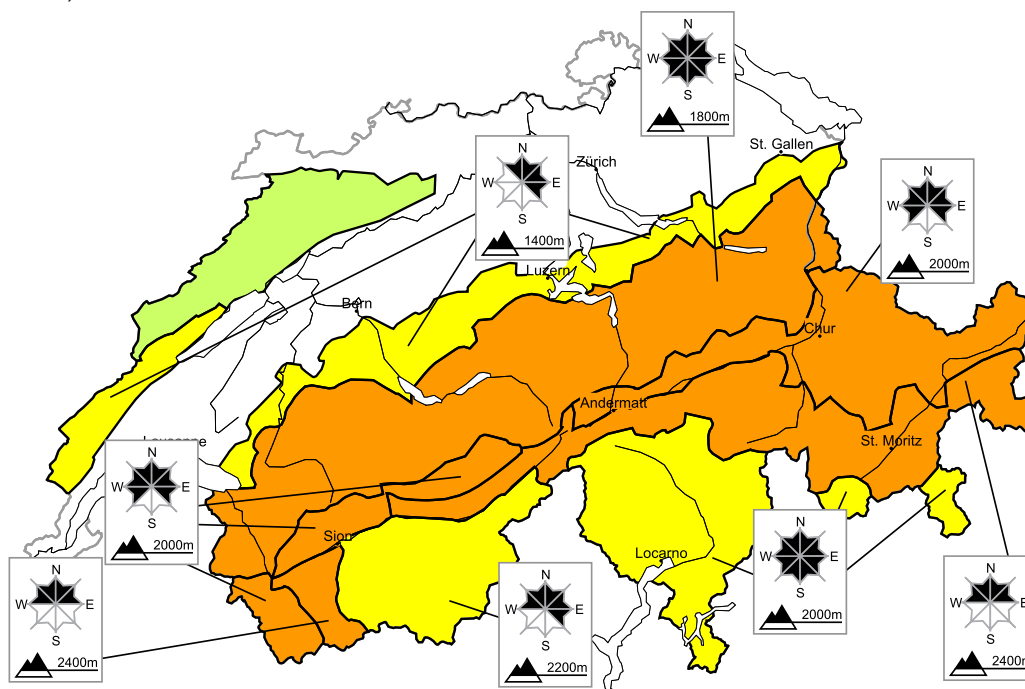


As a consequence of new snow and wind a considerable avalanche danger will be encountered over a wide area

Edition: 2.12.2021, 17:00 / Next update: 3.12.2021, 17:00

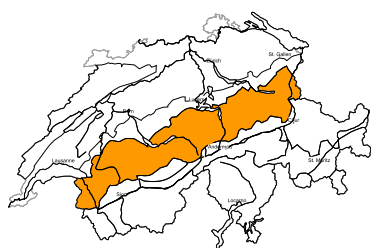
Avalanche danger

updated on 2.12.2021, 17:00



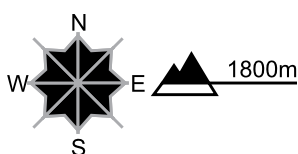
region A

Level 3, considerable



New snow

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

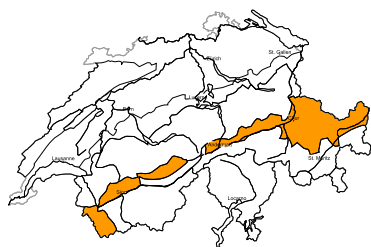
The new snow and wind slabs can be released easily. Small to medium-sized natural avalanches are possible especially during the night. Additionally in isolated cases avalanches can also be released in near-ground layers and reach large size. This applies especially on north facing slopes above approximately 2400 m. Backcountry touring and other off-piste activities call for experience in the assessment of avalanche danger and restraint.

Gliding avalanches

Below approximately 2000 m small and medium-sized gliding avalanches and moist snow slides are possible.

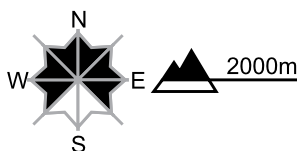
region B

Level 3, considerable



Old snow

Avalanche prone locations

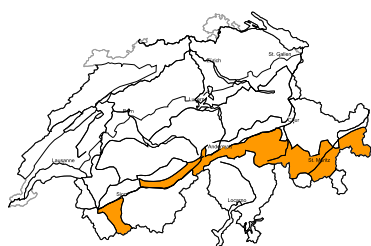


Danger description

The new snow and wind slabs of the last few days are lying on top of a weakly bonded old snowpack. Avalanches can be released, even by a single winter sport participant and reach medium size. Whumpfung sounds and the formation of shooting cracks when stepping on the snowpack serve as an alarm indicating the danger. Defensive route selection is important.

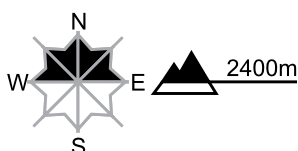
region C

Level 3, considerable



Old snow

Avalanche prone locations

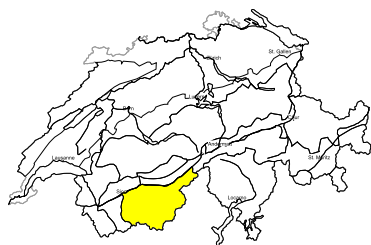


Danger description

The new snow and wind slabs of the last few days are lying on top of a weakly bonded old snowpack. Avalanches can be released, even by a single winter sport participant and reach medium size. Experience in the assessment of avalanche danger is important.

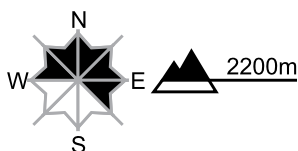
region D

Level 2, moderate



Old snow

Avalanche prone locations

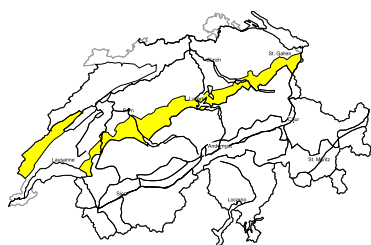


Danger description

The small quantity of fresh snow and the mostly small wind slabs are lying on top of a weakly bonded old snowpack. Avalanches can in some cases be released easily, but they will be small in most cases. 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.

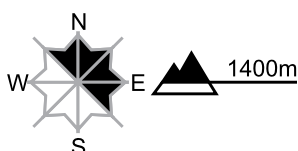
region E

Level 2, moderate



Wind slabs

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description


As a consequence of new snow and a moderate wind, sometimes easily released wind slabs will form especially adjacent to ridgelines. Mostly avalanches are small. Restraint should be exercised because avalanches can sweep people along and give rise to falls.

Gliding avalanches

On very steep grassy slopes gliding avalanches and moist snow slides are possible.

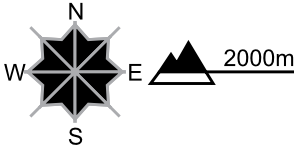
region F

Level 2, moderate



Old snow, wind slabs

Avalanche prone locations

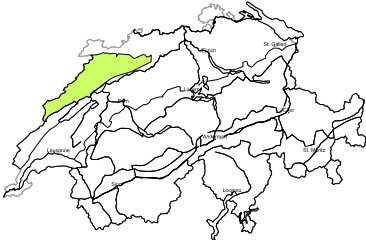


Danger description

As a consequence of a strong northerly wind, mostly small wind slabs will form. These are to be avoided in very steep terrain. Avalanches can additionally in isolated cases be released in deeper layers also. This applies especially on west, north and east facing slopes. Avalanches can reach medium size. Careful route selection is recommended.

region G

Level 1, low



Wind slabs

Thus far only a little snow is lying. Adjacent to ridgelines small wind slabs will form. These are to be evaluated with care and prudence in terrain where there is a danger of falling.

Snowpack and weather

updated on 2.12.2021, 17:00

Snowpack

Trigger-sensitive snowdrift accumulations are being generated on the northern flank of the Alps and in Lower Valais in particular as a result of fresh fallen snow and, at high altitudes, moderate-strength northwesterly winds. Bonding of the recently fallen snow and freshly generated snowdrifts from this last week with the generally thin but weak old snowpack lying beneath it is unfavourable on west-facing, north-facing and east-facing slopes above 2000 m. These avalanche prone locations are found frequently in northern and central Grisons and in the Lower Engadine. Avalanches have been triggered from this transition zone during the last few days particularly in these regions. Certain signs of alarm are indicators of the weak old snowpack. Below 2000 m on the northern flank of the Alps, gliding snow avalanches continue to be possible on grass-covered slopes. These releases can grow to medium size.

Observed weather on Thursday, 02.12.2021

Skies were heavily overcast and intermittent snowfall was registered in the northern and the western regions more than anywhere else. The snowfall level descended from 1200 m down to below 800 m during the course of the night. On the southern flank of the Alps and in the Upper Engadine it was quite sunny and dry.

Fresh snow

Between Wednesday midday and Thursday midday, the following amounts of fresh snow were registered above 1500 m:

- northern flank of the Alps, Lower Valais, western part of the Jura region: 10 to 20 cm;
- in the other regions of Switzerland, less; or else it remained dry.

Temperature

At midday at 2000 m, between -7 °C in the northern regions and -3 °C in the southern regions.

Wind

- Winds during Wednesday night were blowing at moderate strength, intermittently at strong velocity, from southwesterly directions;
- during the daytime winds were blowing at light to moderate strength from the northwest.

Weather forecast through Friday, 03.12.2021

On Thursday night, persistent snowfall is anticipated on the northern flank of the Alps which will extend down to low lying areas. In the latter part of the night the snowfall will slacken off. During the morning hours on Friday, skies in the northeastern regions will still be overcast, subsequently it will become quite sunny, as in the other regions of Switzerland.

Fresh snow

Between Thursday midday and Friday morning, the following amounts of fresh snow are anticipated above 1000 m:

- northern flank of the Alps from the Schilthorn to Liechtenstein: 20 to 30 cm;
- remaining parts of the western sector of the northern flank of the Alps, western Lower Valais, northern Grisons: 10 to 20 cm;
- in the other regions of Switzerland, less; or else it will remain dry.

Temperature

At midday at 2000 m, in the northern regions at -9 °C, and in the southern regions at -7 °C.

Wind

- Winds will be blowing at moderate to strong velocity from northwesterly to northerly directions at high altitudes and on the southern flank of the Alps; in the other regions of Switzerland blowing at moderate strength;
- in the southern regions, a foehn wind will be blowing.

Outlook through Sunday, 05.12.2021

During Friday night snowfall is expected to set in from the northwest. On Saturday and on Sunday, snowfall is anticipated over widespread areas, but in the furthestmost southern regions it will remain dry. The snowfall level in the western regions will ascend to 1800 m on Saturday morning, in the eastern regions to 1400 m. Subsequently the snowfall level will descend down to low lying areas. North of an imaginary Rhone-Rhine line and in the Lower Valais, 40 to 70 cm of fresh snow is anticipated by Sunday afternoon, even more in the furthestmost western part of Lower Valais.

Avalanche danger levels are expected to increase over widespread areas as a result of the snowfall. On the northern flank of the Alps and in the furthestmost western part of Lower Valais, danger level 4 (High) could be reached regionally at high altitudes. In central Ticino and in Sotto Ceneri, avalanche danger levels are not expected to change significantly.