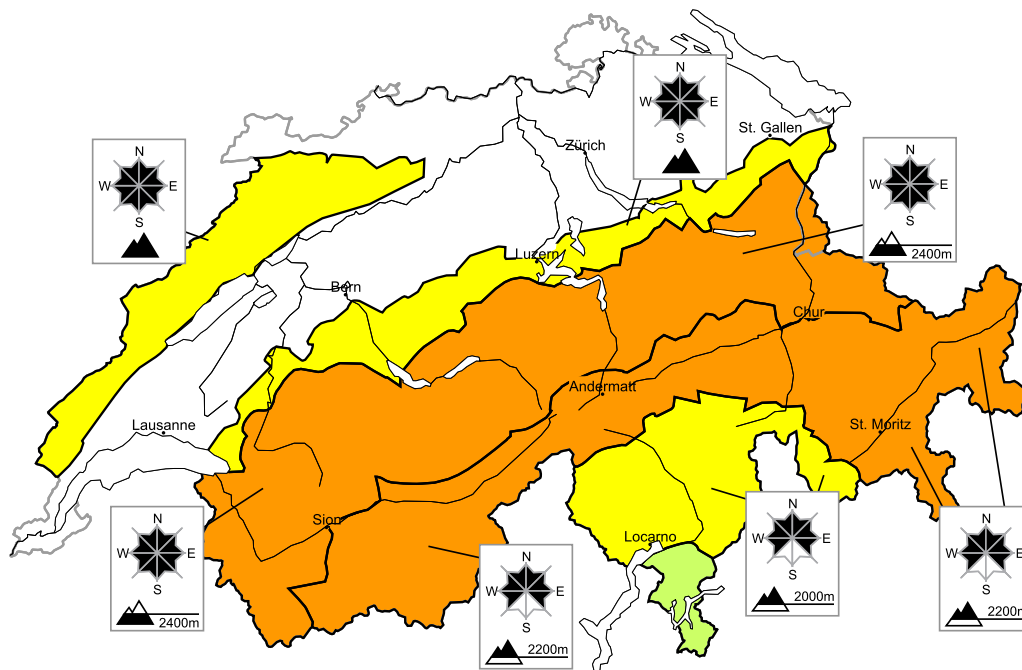
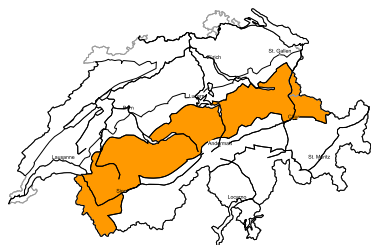
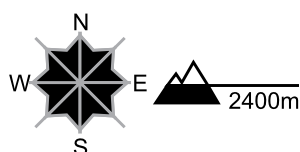


Weakly bonded old snow and gliding snow require caution

Edition: 15.12.2021, 08:00 / Next update: 15.12.2021, 17:00

Avalanche danger

updated on 15.12.2021, 08:00

**region A****Level 3, considerable****Gliding avalanches****Avalanche prone locations****Danger description**

Gliding snow represents the main danger. Medium-sized to large gliding avalanches are to be expected below approximately 2400 m. Gliding avalanches can also be released in the morning. Areas with glide cracks are to be avoided. As a consequence of warming during the day and solar radiation moist snow slides and avalanches are possible. This applies in particular on steep sunny slopes.

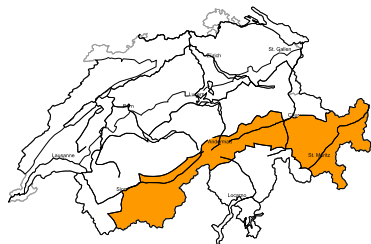
Dry avalanches: no distinct avalanche problem

Moderate danger of dry avalanches will prevail. The avalanche prone locations are to be found in particular on shady slopes above approximately 2200 m. Avalanches can in isolated cases be released in near-surface layers, especially at transitions from a shallow to a deep snowpack.

Meticulous route selection is advisable.

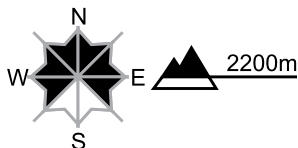
region B

Level 3, considerable



Old snow

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

Distinct weak layers exist in the bottom section of the snowpack. Avalanches can be released by a single winter sport participant and reach dangerously large size. Whumpfung sounds and the formation of shooting cracks when stepping on the snowpack can indicate the danger.

The somewhat older wind slabs are to be evaluated with care and prudence in particular in very steep terrain. Defensive route selection is advisable.

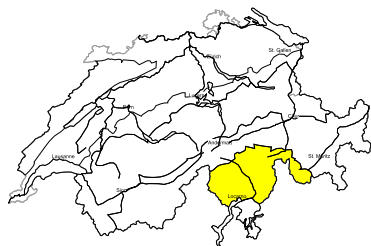
Gliding avalanches

Small to medium-sized gliding avalanches are to be expected below approximately 2400 m.

As a consequence of warming during the day and solar radiation moist snow slides and avalanches are possible. This applies in particular on steep sunny slopes.

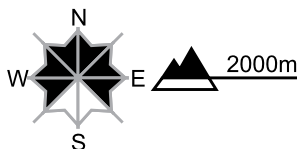
region C

Level 2, moderate



Wind slabs

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

The somewhat older wind slabs are in some cases still prone to triggering. They are to be evaluated with care and prudence.

Avalanches can in isolated cases penetrate deep layers and reach medium size.

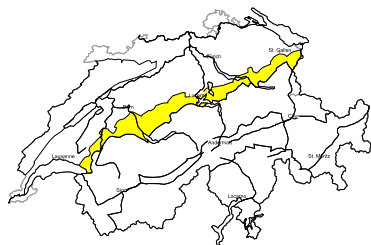
Careful route selection is recommended.

Wet avalanches as day progresses

In particular on very steep sunny slopes mostly small moist snow slides and avalanches are possible.

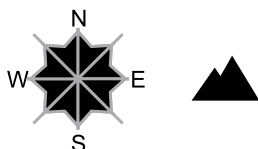
region D

Level 2, moderate



Gliding avalanches

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

More small to medium-sized gliding avalanches are to be expected. Caution is to be exercised in areas with glide cracks.

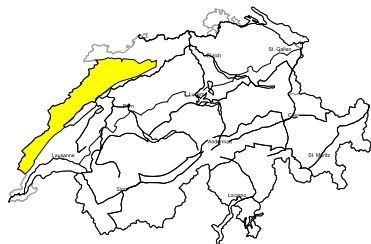
In addition as the day progresses in particular on east, south and west facing slopes, moist snow slides and avalanches are possible.

Dry avalanches: no distinct avalanche problem

Individual avalanche prone locations for dry avalanches are to be found in particular on steep shady slopes above approximately 1800 m.

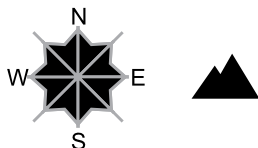
region E

Level 2, moderate



Gliding avalanches

Avalanche prone locations



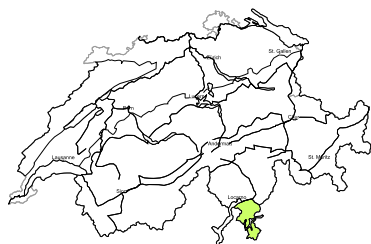
Danger description

More small to medium-sized gliding avalanches are to be expected. Caution is to be exercised in areas with glide cracks.

In addition as the day progresses in particular on east, south and west facing slopes, moist snow slides and avalanches are possible.

region F

Level 1, low



Dry avalanches: no distinct avalanche problem

Individual avalanche prone locations for dry avalanches are to be found in particular on shady slopes above approximately 2000 m. Restraint should be exercised because avalanches can sweep people along and give rise to falls.

Wet avalanches as day progresses

As the day progresses as a consequence of warming during the day and solar radiation there will be only a slight increase in the danger of moist and wet snow slides.



Snowpack and weather

updated on 14.12.2021, 17:00

Snowpack

Weak layers exist near the base of the snowpack in particular on west, north and east facing slopes above approximately 2200 m. In western Lower Valais and on the northern flank of the Alps, the weak old snow is mostly embedded so deep that the probability of avalanches being released by people is rather small. From central Valais through Ticino to Grisons and generally in places with shallow snow cover, the bonding of the snowpack is least favourable, and people can still release avalanches in the old snowpack. In addition, in particular on the main Alpine ridge, last weekend's snow drift accumulations remain prone to triggering in some places.

Gliding avalanche activity is high, and further gliding avalanches are to be expected in the coming days as well. They can be released at any time of day or night. In the western and northern regions with a lot of snow, these can reach a large size in some cases. On steep south facing slopes, the surface of the snowpack will become moist because of its exposure to warming and radiation during the day. Here, the mostly clear skies on Tuesday night will give rise to a melt-freeze crust on the surface of the snowpack.

Observed weather on Tuesday, 14.12.2021

On Tuesday in the mountains it was mostly sunny, with cloudbanks in the southeast in particular.

Fresh snow

-

Temperature

At midday at 2000 m: between +6 °C in the west and +4 °C in the east, and about +7 °C in the south; the zero degree level rose to approximately 2800 m

Wind

Light to moderate from the north to northeast

Weather forecast through Wednesday, 15.12.2021

The night will be partly clear with cloudbanks. During the day in the mountains it will be mostly sunny, and at elevated altitudes it will become a little warmer.

Fresh snow

-

Temperature

- At midday at 2000 m: between +6 °C in the west and +3 °C in the east
- In the afternoon the zero degree level will rise to altitudes between approximately 3500 m in the west and 3000 m in the southeast

Wind

During the night on Alpine ridgelines, moderate, otherwise light to moderate, from the north to northeast

Outlook through Friday, 17.12.2021

In the mountains each of the coming days will be mostly sunny and mild. The wind will be mostly moderate from the north to northeast.

The danger of dry avalanches will decrease slowly. The danger of gliding avalanches will persist. In the regions with a lot of snow, gliding avalanches can reach a large size in some instances. The danger of moist avalanches will increase during each of the coming days on very steep sunny slopes.