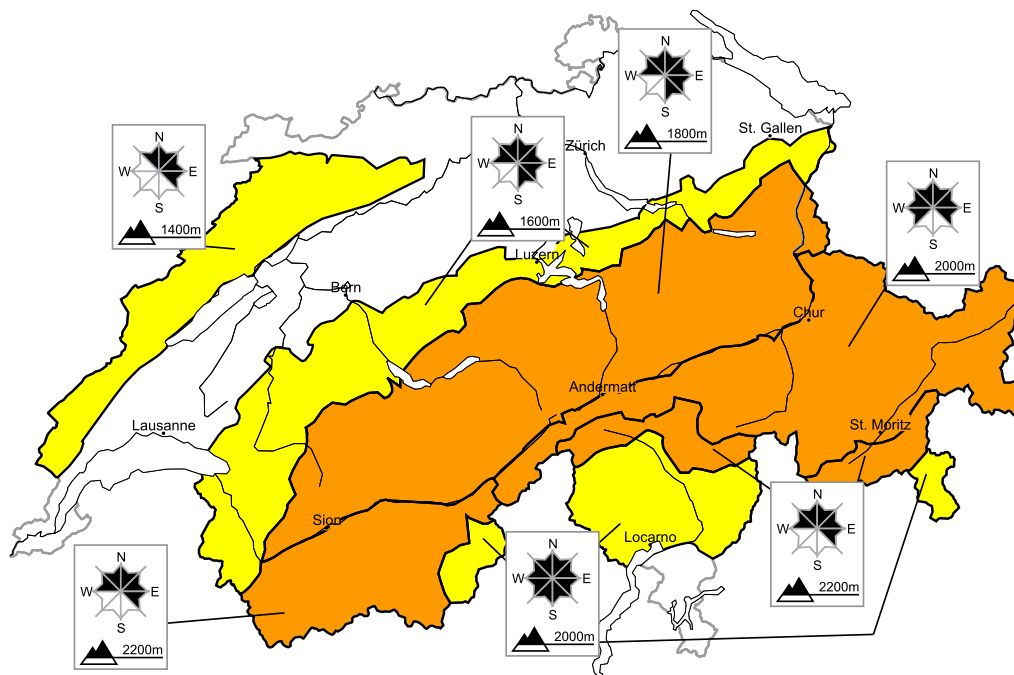


Considerable avalanche danger will be encountered over a wide area

Edition: 6.2.2022, 08:00 / Next update: 6.2.2022, 17:00

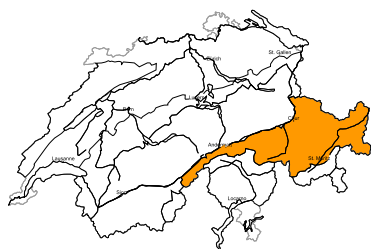
Avalanche danger

updated on 6.2.2022, 08:00



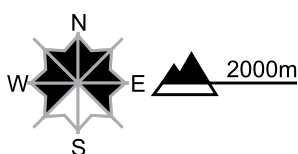
region A

Level 3, considerable



Old snow

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

The new snow and wind slabs of last week are lying on top of a weakly bonded old snowpack. Even single winter sport participants can release avalanches easily. Avalanches can be triggered in the old snowpack and reach large size. Remotely triggered avalanches are possible. Whumpfung sounds and the formation of shooting cracks when stepping on the snowpack serve as an alarm indicating the danger. Transitions from a shallow to a deep snowpack are especially precarious.

Backcountry touring and other off-piste activities call for extensive experience and restraint.

Danger levels

1 low

2 moderate

3 consider.

4 high

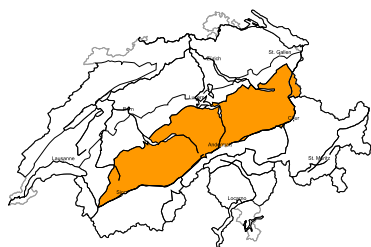
5 very high



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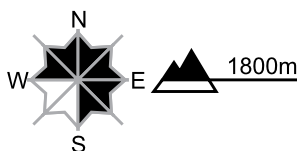
region B

Level 3, considerable



Old snow, wind slabs

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

The new snow and wind slabs of last week are lying on the unfavourable surface of an old snowpack on west to north to east facing aspects. Avalanches can be released by a single winter sport participant and reach large size. Transitions from a shallow to a deep snowpack are especially precarious.

As a consequence of a gathering strong westerly wind, wind slabs will form. They are to be evaluated with care and prudence.

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

Gliding avalanches

On very steep grassy slopes gliding avalanches are possible at intermediate altitudes.

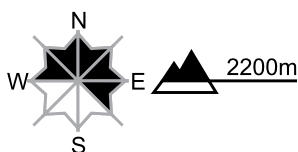
region C

Level 3, considerable



Old snow, wind slabs

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

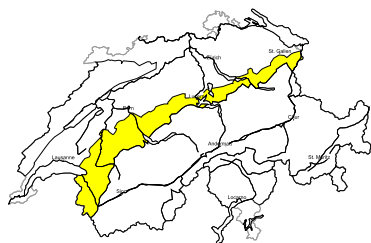
The new snow and wind slabs of last week are lying on top of a weakly bonded old snowpack. Single winter sport participants can release avalanches, including dangerously large ones. Whumpfung sounds and the formation of shooting cracks when stepping on the snowpack can indicate the danger.

As a consequence of a gathering strong westerly wind, mostly small wind slabs will form. They are to be evaluated with care and prudence.

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

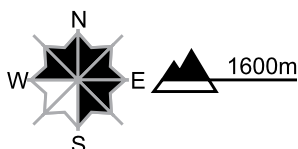
region D

Level 2, moderate



Wind slabs

Avalanche prone locations




Danger description

As a consequence of a strong westerly wind, wind slabs will form. The fresh and older wind slabs represent the main danger. In the course of the day they will increase in size. At elevated altitudes the prevalence and size of the avalanche prone locations will increase.

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.

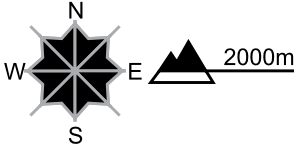
region E

Level 2, moderate



Wind slabs

Avalanche prone locations



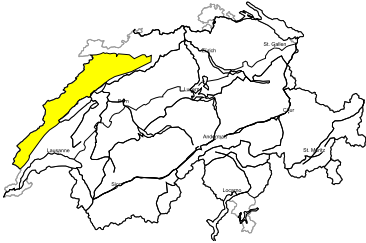
Danger description

The fresh and older wind slabs can be released in some cases. The avalanche prone locations are to be found in particular in gullies and bowls, and behind abrupt changes in the 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.

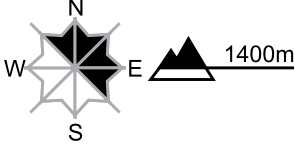
region F

Level 2, moderate



Wind slabs

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

As a consequence of a strong to storm force southwesterly wind, sometimes avalanche prone wind slabs will form. The mostly small wind slabs are to be evaluated with care and prudence in particular in very steep 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.

Snowpack and weather

updated on 5.2.2022, 17:00

Snowpack

The frequently deep layers of fresh fallen snow and freshly generated snowdrift accumulations from this week lie deposited atop a pronounced weak layer on west-facing, north-facing and east-facing slopes. From the southern Valais over the northern Ticino as far as Grisons, furthermore, the entire old snowpack is expansively metamorphosed in numerous places. Avalanche triggerings by persons are still easily possible in all regions with the exception of the southern flank of the Alps. This applies in particular to the inneralpine regions.

As a result of the small amount of fresh snowfall and westerly winds, predominantly small-sized snowdrift accumulations were generated in the western and the northern regions. These will continue to expand during the course of the day on Sunday as a consequence of increasingly intense winds.

Observed weather on Saturday, 05.02.2022

On Friday night in the northern and the eastern regions there was a small amount of fresh snow registered. The snowfall level descended from 1300 down to 600 m. Following dispersal of residual clouds on Saturday it became increasingly sunny during the daytime. In the Jura region, in the Valais and in the southern regions it was generally sunny.

Fresh snow

Between Friday evening and Saturday morning the following amounts of fresh snow were registered above approximately 1400 m:

- Prealps, northern flank of the Alps from the eastern Bernese Alps as far as Liechtenstein, northern Grisons: 5 to 10 cm, in the eastern sector of the northern flank of the Alps as much as 15 cm;
- in the other regions of Switzerland, only a few centimetres; further to the south it remained dry.

Temperature

At midday at 2000 m: between -6 °C in the northern regions and -1 °C in the southern regions.

Wind

Winds on Friday night were blowing predominantly at moderate strength, at strong velocity in the Jura region and in general at high altitudes, at light to moderate strength during the daytime, from westerly to northwesterly directions.

Weather forecast through Sunday, 06.02.2022

In the Jura region skies will be predominantly overcast. In the Alps it will be quite sunny to start with, cloud cover will move in increasingly from the northwest during the course of the daytime. In the southern regions it will be quite sunny, accompanied by cloudbanks. The westerly winds will intensify noticeably during the course of the day.

Fresh snow

-

Temperature

At midday at 2000 m: -3 °C in the northern regions and 0 °C in the southern regions.

Wind

Winds will be westerly to southwesterly,

- blowing at light to moderate strength on Saturday night and in general south of the Main Alpine Ridge;
- blowing at moderate to strong velocity during the course of the day, intensifying to strong-to-storm velocity in the northern and the western regions during the course of the afternoon.

Outlook through Tuesday, 08.02.2022

Monday

On Sunday night, intensive precipitation will set in, accompanied by storm-strength westerly to northwesterly winds. The snowfall level will lie at 1000 to 1200 m to begin with. During the daytime on Monday the snowfall level will descend down to low lying zones over widespread areas. Only in the furthestmost southern regions is it expected to remain dry and partly sunny. On the northern Alpine Ridge, 30 to 50 cm of fresh snow is anticipated. As a consequence of the storm-strength winds the snowfall will extend over into the inneralpine regions; in the Valais, northern Ticino, northern and central Grisons and the Lower Engadine, 20 to 30 cm of new snow is possible. Both fresh fallen snow and old snow will be intensively transported, then distributed and deposited irregularly. The avalanche danger levels are expected to increase significantly over widespread areas.

Tuesday

The precipitation will come to an end on Monday evening, the winds will slacken off. On Tuesday it will be generally sunny and significantly milder. The danger of naturally triggered avalanches will decrease. For winter sports enthusiasts in outlying terrain away from secured public ski pistes the situation continues to be critical. During the course of the day on steep sunny slopes, the danger of moist slides from the fresh snow and of gliding avalanches will increase somewhat.