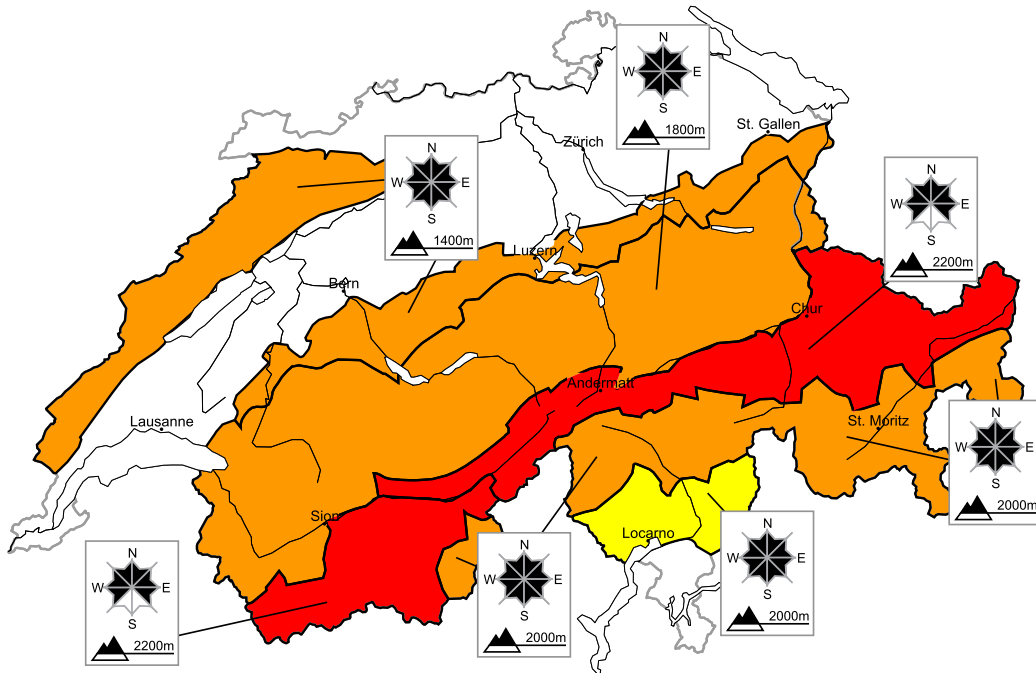


As a consequence of new snow and stormy weather a high avalanche danger will be encountered in some regions

Edition: 7.2.2022, 08:00 / Next update: 7.2.2022, 17:00

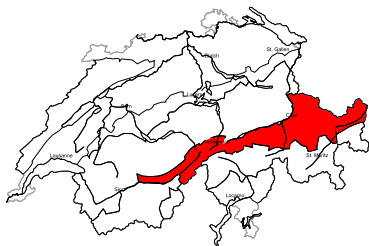
Avalanche danger

updated on 7.2.2022, 08:00



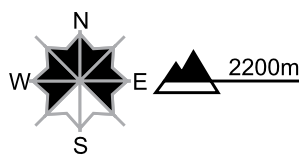
region A

Level 4, high



Old snow, new snow

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

As a consequence of new snow and a storm force northwesterly wind, sometimes large wind slabs formed. The new snow and wind slabs are lying on top of a weakly bonded old snowpack. Avalanches can be triggered in the old snowpack. Large and, in isolated cases, very large natural avalanches are to be expected. Exposed parts of transportation routes can be endangered occasionally.

The conditions are very critical for backcountry touring and other off-piste activities. This also applies in steep starting zones in areas close to the tree line.

Danger levels

1 low

2 moderate

3 consider.

4 high

5 very high



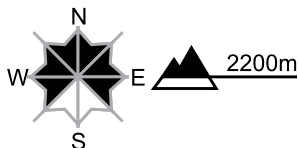
WSL Institute for Snow and
 Avalanche Research SLF
 www.slf.ch

region B Level 4, high



Old snow, new snow

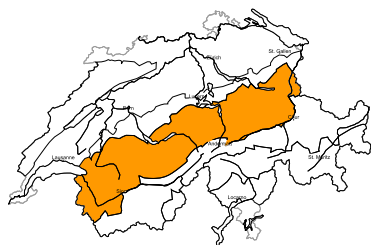
Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

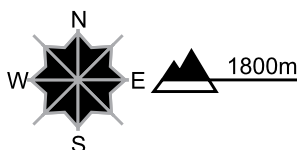
As a consequence of new snow and a storm force northwesterly wind, sometimes large wind slabs formed. The new snow and wind slabs are lying on top of a weakly bonded old snowpack. Avalanches can be triggered in the old snowpack. Large natural avalanches are to be expected. The danger exists primarily in alpine snow sports terrain. Avalanches capable of reaching valley bottoms and endangering exposed transportation routes are unlikely to occur. The conditions are very critical for backcountry touring and other off-piste activities.

region C Level 3, considerable



New snow, old snow

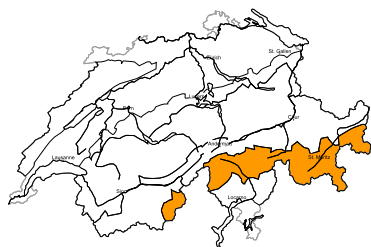
Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

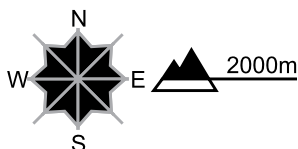
As a consequence of new snow and a storm force northwesterly wind, sometimes large wind slabs formed. The new snow and wind slabs are prone to triggering. Even single snow sport participants can release avalanches. In addition natural avalanches are possible. Avalanches can in isolated cases release deeper layers of the snowpack and reach large size. Backcountry touring and other off-piste activities call for extensive experience in the assessment of avalanche danger and restraint.

region D Level 3, considerable



Wind slabs, old snow

Avalanche prone locations

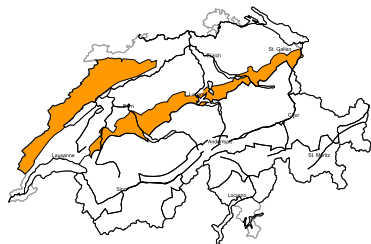


Danger description

As a consequence of a storm force northwesterly wind, avalanche prone wind slabs formed. The fresh and older wind slabs are lying on top of a weakly bonded old snowpack on west to north to east facing aspects. Single winter sport participants can release avalanches, including large ones. Isolated natural avalanches are possible. Whumpung sounds and the formation of shooting cracks when stepping on the snowpack can indicate the danger. Backcountry touring and other off-piste activities call for experience in the assessment of avalanche danger and restraint.

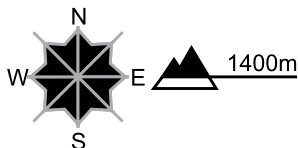
region E

Level 3, considerable



Wind slabs

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

As a consequence of new snow and a storm force westerly wind, avalanche prone wind slabs formed. Single winter sport participants can release avalanches easily, including medium-sized ones. At elevated altitudes the prevalence and size of the avalanche prone locations will increase. Backcountry touring and other off-piste activities call for experience in the assessment of avalanche danger and careful route selection.

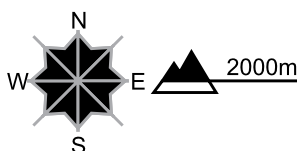
region F

Level 2, moderate



Wind slabs

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

The storm force foehn wind will transport the fresh and old snow. Avalanche prone wind slabs will form. The avalanche prone locations are to be found in particular in gullies and bowls, and behind abrupt changes in the terrain. The fresh wind slabs are to be avoided in steep terrain.

Snowpack and weather

updated on 6.2.2022, 17:00

Snowpack

On Sunday night, a wintery storm will set in, bringing heavy precipitation. The storm is expected to transport the fresh fallen snow and old snow intensively. In zones distant from ridgelines, deep snowdrift accumulations will be generated in places. More deeply embedded inside the snowpack, particularly on west-facing, north-facing and east-facing slopes, pronounced weak layers are evident. On the northern flank of the Alps, these weak layers are generally blanketed over by thick layers. From the southern Valais over the northern Ticino as far as Grisons, the entire old snowpack is expansively metamorphosed in numerous areas. The old snowpack, particularly in the inneralpine regions, is prone to triggering. On the weekend, numerous large-sized avalanches were triggered by persons in those regions, in isolated cases the releases were very-large sized.

Observed weather on Sunday, 06.02.2022

In the Jura region skies were predominantly overcast, but it remained largely dry until afternoon. In the other regions of Switzerland it was initially quite sunny, accompanied by cloudbanks, but skies become increasingly overcast from the northwest during the course of the day.

Fresh snow

-

Temperature

At midday at 2000 m, between -3 °C in the northern regions and -1 °C in the southern regions.

Wind

Winds were westerly to southwesterly,

- on Saturday night and during the daytime on Sunday, also in the Ticino and in Grisons, blowing at light to moderate strength;
- intensifying in the course of the day, as well as in the western and the northern regions blowing at moderate to strong velocity.

Weather forecast through Monday, 07.02.2022

On Sunday night, heavy precipitation is expected to set in. Accompanied by storm-strength westerly to northwesterly winds, the precipitation will extend far into the southern regions. Only in Sotto Ceneri will it remain dry. Initially the snowfall level will ascend for a brief spell from 800 m to approximately 1400 m. Subsequently during the course of the night, the snowfall level will again descend to approximately 600 m. During the daytime on Monday, skies will be heavily overcast to begin with, the snowfall will slacken off from the west. In the western and the southern regions it will be partly sunny in the afternoon.

Fresh snow

Between Sunday afternoon and Monday afternoon, the following amounts of fresh snow are anticipated above 1600 m:

- northern Alpine Ridge, Valais not including Saastal and also not including the southern Simplon region, northern Grisons, Silvretta, Samnaun: 30 to 50 cm;
- Jura region, remaining regions of the northern flank of the Alps, Saastal, southern Simplon region, and the remaining parts of the Gotthard region, central Grisons, remaining parts of Lower Engadine: 20 to 40 cm;
- further to the south: 5 to 20 cm; in the Sotto Ceneri it will remain dry.

Due to storm-strength winds the fresh fallen snow will be distributed and deposited in highly irregular fashion.

Temperature

Temperatures will drop. At midday at 2000 m: -9 °C in the northern regions and -6 °C in the southern regions.

Wind

- Winds will be blowing from westerly to southwesterly directions to start with, subsequently on Sunday night shifting to northwesterly and blowing at strong to storm-strength. Strong storm winds will be blowing in high alpine regions.
- In the southern regions, strong to storm-strength northerly winds extending down to low lying areas.

Outlook through Wednesday, 09.02.2022

Tuesday

In the early morning hours in the eastern regions, skies will initially still be overcast. In the other regions of Switzerland it will be predominantly sunny. In the mountains a strong-velocity northerly wind will still be blowing, slackening off during the course of the day. Temperatures are expected to rise significantly from the west. The danger of naturally triggered dry-snow avalanches will decrease. For winter sports enthusiasts venturing into outlying terrain away from secured ski pistes the situation is extremely critical from region to region. As a result of solar radiation and daytime warming, the danger of wet-snow and gliding avalanches will increase.

Wednesday

It will be sunny and, in the mountains, very mild. The zero-degree level will ascend to nearly 3500 m. The danger of dry-snow avalanches will decrease, however on shady slopes only incrementally. Particularly in the inneralpine regions, the avalanche situation in outlying terrain remains critical. As a consequence of solar radiation and daytime warming, the danger of wet-snow and gliding avalanches will increase.