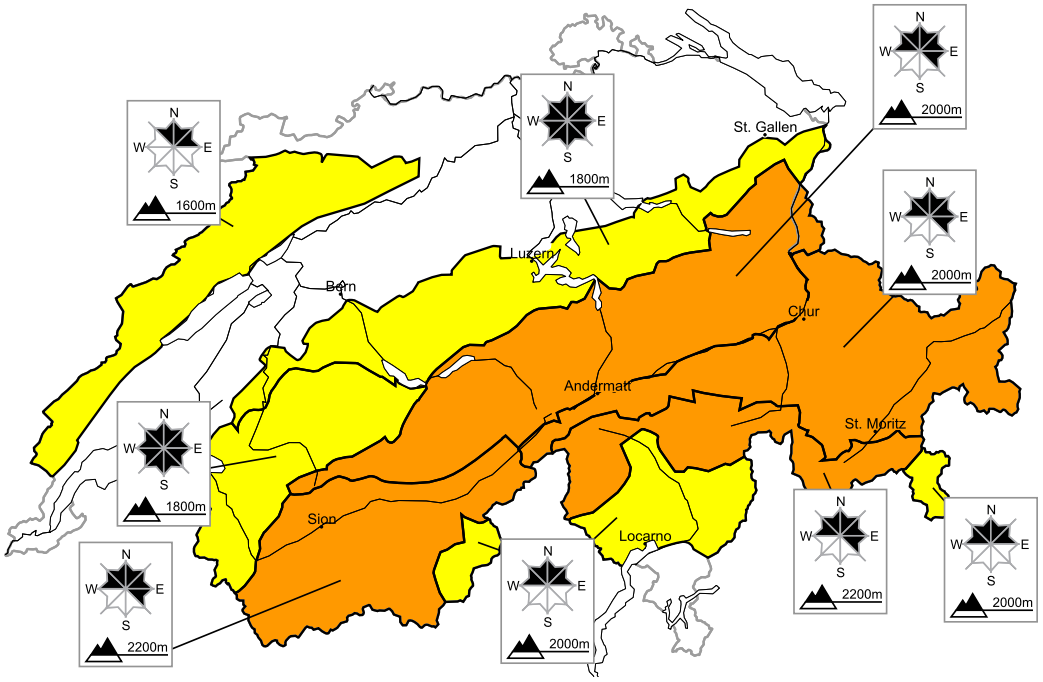
Considerable avalanche danger will be encountered over a wide area

Edition: 11.2.2022, 08:00 / Next update: 11.2.2022, 17:00

Avalanche danger

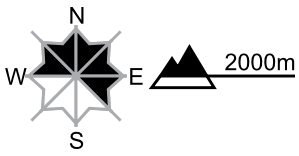
updated on 11.2.2022, 08:00



region A | **Level 3, considerable**

Old snow

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

Distinct weak layers in the old snowpack can be released even by individual winter sport participants. This applies in particular at transitions from a shallow to a deep snowpack. Large and, in isolated cases, very large avalanches are possible. Remotely triggered avalanches are possible.
The conditions are precarious for backcountry touring and other off-piste activities. Caution and restraint are recommended.

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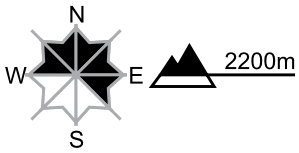
region B — Level 3, considerable

Old snow

Avalanche prone locations



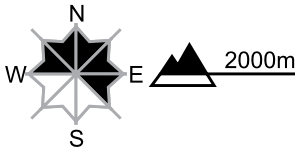
Danger description

Weak layers in the old snowpack can be released in some places by individual winter sport participants. This applies in particular at transitions from a shallow to a deep snowpack. Large avalanches are possible. Remotely triggered avalanches are possible in isolated cases. In addition the sometimes avalanche-prone wind slabs should be taken into account.
Backcountry touring and other off-piste activities call for experience in the assessment of avalanche danger and careful route selection.

region C — Level 3, considerable

Wind slabs

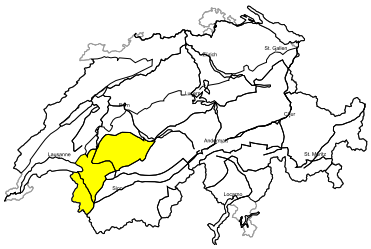
Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

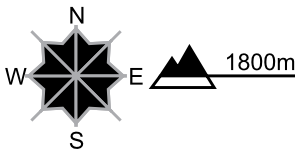
The fresh wind slabs are in some cases prone to triggering. Avalanches can be released by people and reach medium size. Avalanches can additionally be released in deeper layers in very isolated cases. Backcountry touring and other off-piste activities call for experience in the assessment of avalanche danger and careful route selection.

region D — Level 2, moderate



Old snow, wind slabs

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

In some places avalanches can be triggered in the weakly bonded old snow and reach medium size. These avalanche prone locations are to be found in particular on very steep west, north and east facing slopes. In addition sometimes avalanche prone wind slabs will form. These are to be evaluated with care and prudence in steep terrain. Backcountry touring calls for careful route selection.

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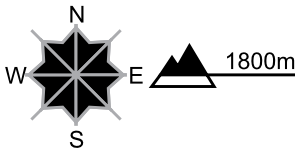
region E — Level 2, moderate

Wind slabs

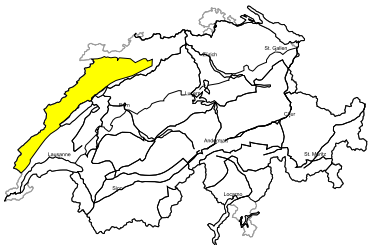
Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

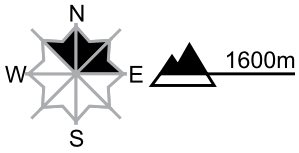
The fresh wind slabs are in some cases prone to triggering. Avalanches can in some places be released by people, but they will be small in most cases. The wind slabs are to be evaluated with care and prudence in steep terrain.
Careful route selection is recommended.

region F — Level 2, moderate



Wind slabs

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

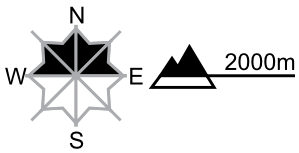
The fresh wind slabs are mostly small but in some cases prone to triggering. The avalanche prone locations are to be found in particular in gullies and bowls, and behind abrupt changes in the terrain.
The wind slabs are to be evaluated with care and prudence in very steep terrain.

Wet avalanches as day progresses

region G — Level 2, moderate

Wind slabs

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

The somewhat older wind slabs are in some cases prone to triggering. The avalanche prone locations are to be found in particular in gullies and bowls, and behind abrupt changes in the terrain. Avalanches can in some cases reach medium size.
The wind slabs are to be evaluated with care and prudence in very steep terrain.

Snowpack and weather

updated on 10.2.2022, 17:00

Snowpack

The fresh fallen snow is being deposited atop a snowpack surface which is strikingly impacted by wind and sun.
From place to place the surface-near layers of snow are prone to triggering. Deeper down inside the snowpack there are weak layers evident. On the northern flank of the Alps these layers are generally blanketed by thick layers of fresher snow and are prone to triggering in isolated cases. From the southern Valais over the northern Ticino as far as Grisons, weak layers in the old snowpack are particularly pronounced and the covering layers are less thick. There, especially on shady slopes, avalanches can be triggered in the weakened old snow by persons. In places where the snow is shallow and in transitions zones from shallow to deep snow, avalanche prone locations occur more frequently.

Observed weather on Thursday, 10.02.2022

Following a night of clear skies it was predominantly sunny during the daytime.

Fresh snow

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Temperature

At midday at 2000 m, +3 °C.

Wind

Winds were blowing at light to moderate strength, at strong velocity from place to place, from westerly directions.

Weather forecast through Friday, 11.02.2022

On Thursday night, snowfall is expected to set in from the northwest. This precipitation will persist until midday on Friday. The snowfall level will lie at approximately 1000 m. Subsequently, cloud cover will disperse. In the southern regions it will remain dry and be quite sunny.

Fresh snow

Between Thursday evening and Friday afternoon:

- northern Alpine Ridge: 10 to 20 cm;
- remaining parts of the northern flank of the Alps, remaining parts of the Valais: 5 to 15 cm;
- in the other regions of Switzerland, less; or else, it will remain dry.

Temperature

At midday at 2000 m: -6 °C in the northern regions and -2 °C in the southern regions.

Wind

- Winds during the nocturnal hours will be blowing at moderate to strong velocity from westerly directions;
- during the daytime in the southern regions and in general at high altitudes, blowing at moderate to strong velocity from northerly directions.

Outlook through Sunday, 13.02.2022

In the northern regions it will be quite sunny on both days, in the southern regions only partly sunny. The wind will be blowing at light to moderate strength from southerly directions; in the Alpine valleys of the north, a foehn wind will be blowing intermittently at moderate strength.
Avalanche danger levels are expected to incrementally decrease.