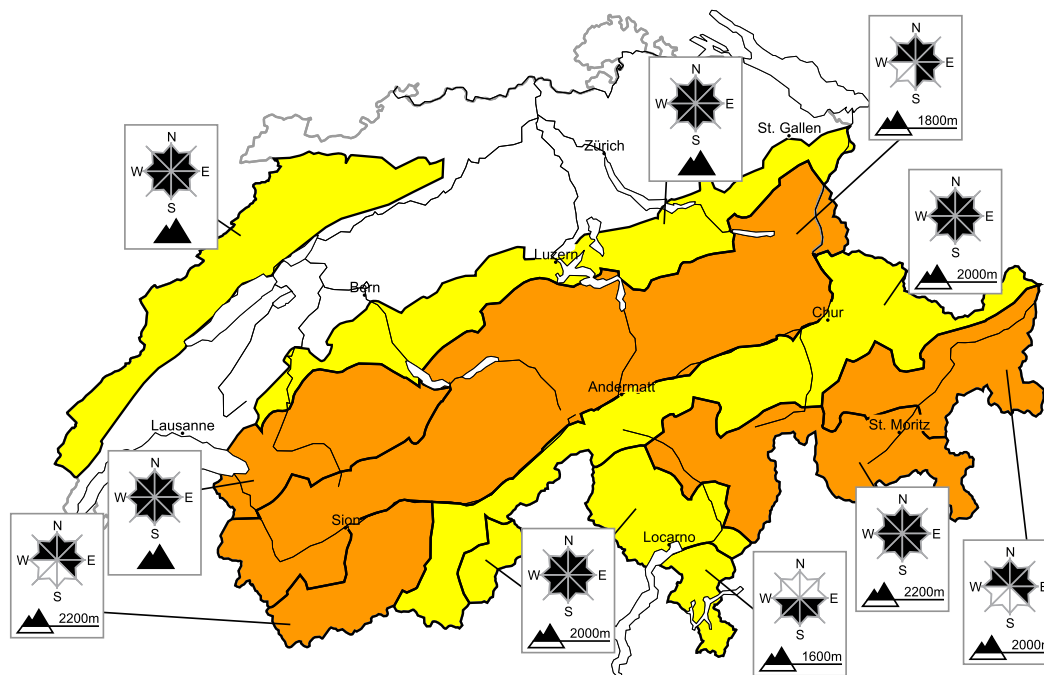


Considerable avalanche danger will be encountered over a wide area

Edition: 16.2.2022, 08:00 / Next update: 16.2.2022, 17:00

Avalanche danger

updated on 16.2.2022, 08:00



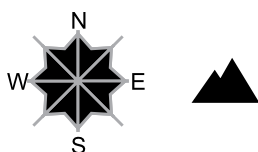
region A

Level 3, considerable



Old snow, new snow, wet avalanches

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

The new snow and wind slabs are prone to triggering at elevated altitudes. The avalanche prone locations for dry avalanches are to be found above approximately 2000 m. Single winter sport participants can release avalanches.

As a consequence of the rain natural avalanches are to be expected as the day progresses. In particular on steep west, north and east facing slopes these can be released in the weakly bonded old snow and reach large size in some cases.

Backcountry touring calls for experience in the assessment of avalanche danger and restraint.

Danger levels

1 low

2 moderate

3 consider.

4 high

5 very high



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Avalanche Research SLF
www.slf.ch

region B

Level 3, considerable



Old snow, wind slabs

Avalanche prone locations

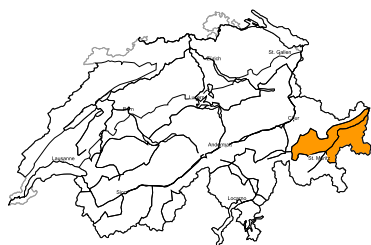


Danger description

The new snow and wind slabs are lying on top of a weakly bonded old snowpack on shady slopes. Even single snow sport participants can release avalanches. In particular on steep, little used west, north and east facing slopes these can be released in deep layers of the snowpack and reach a dangerous size. Backcountry touring and other off-piste activities call for experience in the assessment of avalanche danger and caution.

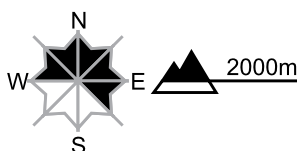
region C

Level 3, considerable



Old snow, wind slabs

Avalanche prone locations

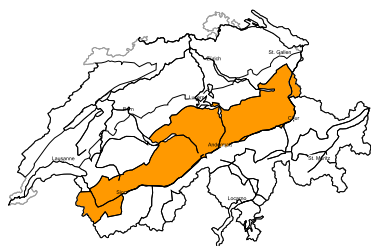


Danger description

Distinct weak layers in the old snowpack can be released in some places even by individual winter sport participants. This applies in particular at transitions from a shallow to a deep snowpack. Avalanches can reach large size. In highly frequented off-piste terrain and on popular backcountry touring routes the situation is a little more favourable. In addition the fresh wind slabs are prone to triggering in some cases. These are to be found in all aspects. The current avalanche situation calls for experience in the assessment of avalanche danger and restraint.

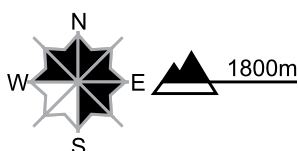
region D

Level 3, considerable



New snow

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

As a consequence of new snow and a sometimes strong westerly wind, further wind slabs will form. These are to be found in particular in gullies and bowls, and behind abrupt changes in the terrain. Single winter sport participants can release avalanches in some places, including medium-sized ones. The number and size of avalanche prone locations will increase as the day progresses. As the snowfall level rises natural avalanches are possible below approximately 2000 m. This applies in particular in the afternoon. These avalanche prone locations are to be found in all aspects. Backcountry touring and other off-piste activities call for experience in the assessment of avalanche danger and careful route selection.

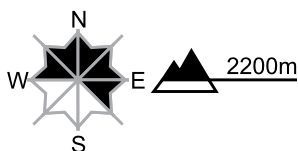
region E

Level 3, considerable



Old snow, wind slabs

Avalanche prone locations

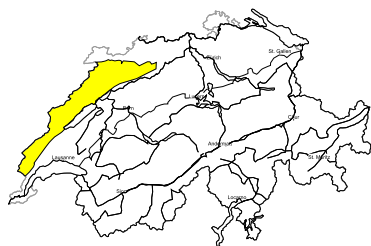


Danger description

Weak layers in the old snowpack can be released by people in particular on steep, little used west, north and east facing slopes. This applies in particular at transitions from a shallow to a deep snowpack. Avalanches can reach dangerously large size. In highly frequented off-piste terrain and on popular backcountry touring routes the situation is a little more favourable. In addition the fresh wind slabs are prone to triggering. In the course of the day these will increase in size moderately. They are to be found in all aspects. Backcountry touring calls for experience in the assessment of avalanche danger.

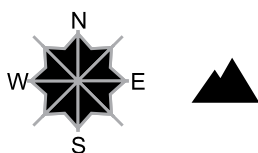
region F

Level 2, moderate



Wet avalanches

Avalanche prone locations

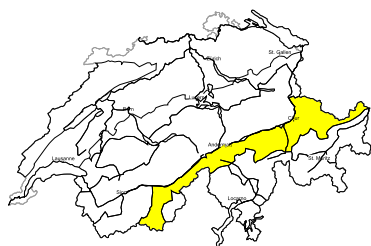


Danger description

The fresh wind slabs are in some cases prone to triggering at elevated altitudes, this applies in particular in the late morning. As a consequence of the rain wet small and medium sized avalanches are possible in all altitude zones. 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.

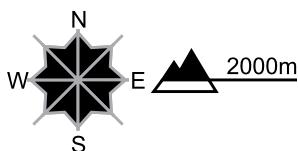
region G

Level 2, moderate



Old snow, wind slabs

Avalanche prone locations

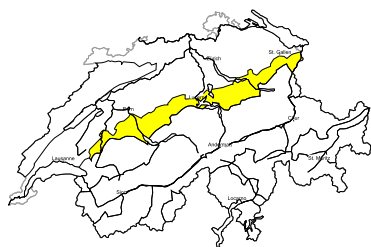


Danger description

Weak layers in the old snowpack can be released in some places by people in particular on steep, little used west, north and east facing slopes. This applies in particular at transitions from a shallow to a deep snowpack. Avalanches can reach dangerously large size. In addition the fresh wind slabs are prone to triggering in some cases. These are to be found in all aspects. Backcountry touring and other off-piste activities call for defensive route selection.

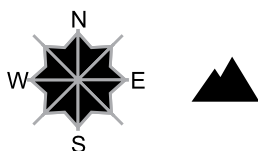
region H

Level 2, moderate



Wind slabs, wet avalanches

Avalanche prone locations



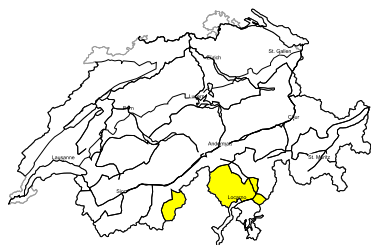
Danger description

As a consequence of new snow and a moderate to strong westerly wind, sometimes avalanche prone wind slabs will form in particular in the vicinity of peaks. Avalanches can in some places be released, even by a single winter sport participant, but they will be small in most cases. Caution is to be exercised in particular in gullies and bowls, and behind abrupt changes in the terrain.

As a consequence of the rain more frequent wet and gliding avalanches are to be expected as the day progresses.

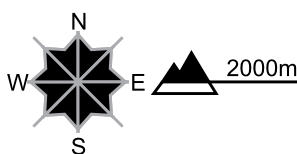
region I

Level 2, moderate



Wind slabs, old snow

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

Fresh wind slabs are mostly small but prone to triggering. Additionally in isolated cases avalanches can be triggered in the old snowpack and reach medium size, in particular on steep north facing slopes. Careful route selection is recommended.

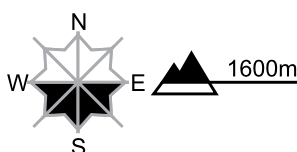
region ????

Level 2, moderate



Wind slabs

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

As a consequence of a moderate to strong northerly wind, sometimes avalanche prone wind slabs formed. They 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.

Snowpack and weather

updated on 15.2.2022, 17:00

Snowpack

Fresh snow and wind will give rise to further snow drift accumulations, in particular in the west and north. In addition, the fresh snow and snow drift accumulations of recent days remain prone to triggering in some places. As a consequence of rain, natural avalanches are to be expected below approximately 2000 m, in particular on the northern flank of the Alps. In view of the unfavourable bonding of the snowpack these can be triggered, in the western part of the northern flank of the Alps in particular, in the weak layers that exist deep in the snowpack, especially on shady slopes.

Distinct weak layers also exist from southern Valais through northern Ticino to Grisons. In particular on little-used west, north and east facing slopes, avalanches can be triggered in these deep layers, including large ones in isolated cases.

Observed weather on Tuesday, 15.02.2022

On Monday night, snow fell in the southeast and in the western Jura in particular. During the day, snow fell in the other regions. On the southern flank of the Alps there were isolated bright spells in the afternoon. The snowfall level was approximately 1000 m in the north, and in the lowlands in the south.

Fresh snow

From Monday evening until Tuesday afternoon:

- Eastern parts of Ticino, Sotto Ceneri, main Alpine ridge from Rheinwald to the Bernina Pass and to the south: 20 to 30 cm
- Other regions: 10 to 20 cm over a wide area, but smaller amounts in the eastern Jura, Upper Valais and Lower Engadine

Temperature

At midday at 2000 m: between -7 °C in the north and -3 °C in the south

Wind

Mostly light to moderate in the western part of the northern flank of the Alps and in Lower Valais, elsewhere moderate to strong from the west to northwest

Weather forecast through Wednesday, 16.02.2022

After a break in precipitation, snowfall will commence in the morning from the west and, in the north and in Valais, persist until the evening. The snowfall level will rise quickly from 1000 to 2200 m, in the morning in the Jura, otherwise from the middle of the day. In the inneralpine regions the rise will occur a little later, in the eastern regions in particular. The central part of the southern flank of the Alps will be mostly dry, and there will be some bright spells in the south.

Fresh snow

From Wednesday morning until Wednesday afternoon above approximately 2000 m:

- Northern Alpine ridge from Chablais into the Glarus Alps, Lower Valais: 10 to 20 cm
- Rest of the northern flank of the Alps, southern Upper Valais, Prättigau, Lower Engadine north of the Inn: 5 to 10 cm
- Elsewhere: smaller amounts, none in the south

Approximately 20 mm of rain will fall in the western Jura, and around 10 mm in the Prealps.

Temperature

At midday at 2000 m: around 0 °C in the north and -3 °C in the south, rising further in the afternoon

Wind

In the north and at elevated altitudes, strong from westerly directions

Outlook through Friday, 18.02.2022**Thursday**

On the northern Alpine ridge and in northern Grisons and Valais, 30 to 50 cm of snow may fall. The amounts of precipitation remain uncertain. The snowfall level will remain approximately 2000 m during Wednesday night, before dropping to approximately 1500 m on Thursday as the day progresses. There will be bright spells in the far south. The wind will be storm force from the west to northwest.

In the north and in Valais the avalanche situation will be critical for snow sport outside marked and open pistes. Natural dry and wet snow avalanches are to be expected. These can also reach a large size. In some regions, danger level 4 (high) may be reached. In the other regions the avalanche situation will not change significantly.

Friday

It will be fairly sunny and very mild. In the north and at elevated altitudes there will be a strong to storm force westerly wind. The avalanche danger will decrease a little.