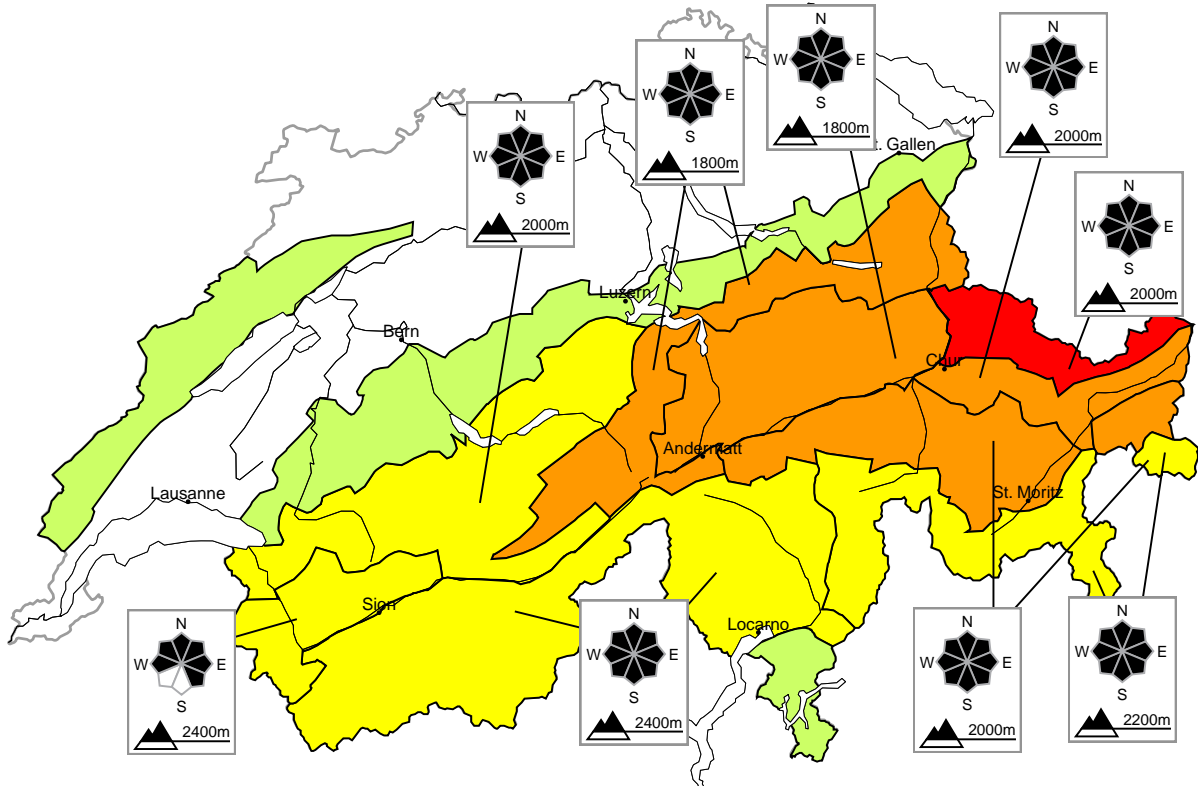


In Grisons a high avalanche danger will be encountered in some regions

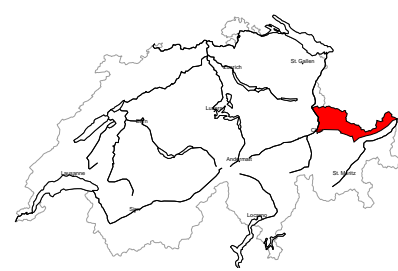
Edition: 4.2.2023, 08:00 / Next update: 4.2.2023, 17:00

Avalanche danger

updated on 4.2.2023, 08:00

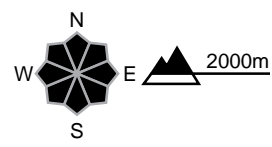


region A High, Level 4-



New snow, Old snow

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

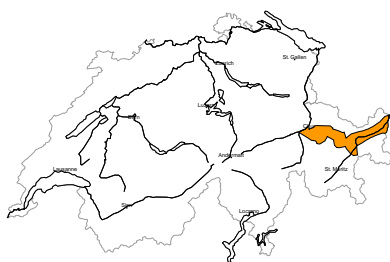
Large quantities of fresh snow and the wind-drifted snow are lying on top of a weakly bonded old snowpack in all aspects. Single winter sport participants can release avalanches very easily. Remotely triggered and natural avalanches are to be expected. Avalanches can penetrate near-ground layers of the snowpack and reach large size.

The danger exists primarily in alpine snow sports terrain. Avalanches capable of reaching valley bottoms and endangering exposed transportation routes are unlikely to occur. Whumpung sounds and the formation of shooting cracks when stepping on the snowpack can indicate the danger. The conditions are critical for snow sport activities outside marked and open pistes.



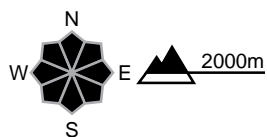
region B

Considerable, Level 3+



New snow, Old snow

Avalanche prone locations

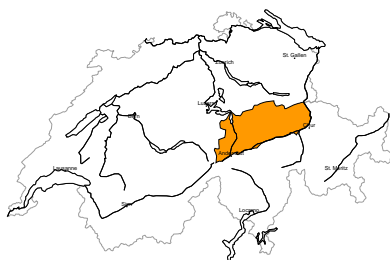


Danger description

The new snow and wind slabs are lying on the unfavourable surface of an old snowpack. Additionally in some places avalanches can also penetrate deep layers and reach large size. Single winter sport participants can release avalanches easily. Individual natural avalanches are to be expected. Backcountry touring and other off-piste activities call for caution and restraint.

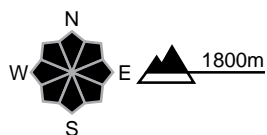
region C

Considerable, Level 3+



New snow, Old snow

Avalanche prone locations

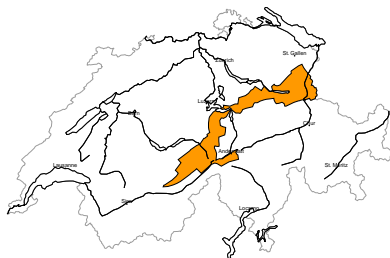


Danger description

Large quantities of fresh snow and the wind-drifted snow are lying on the unfavourable surface of an old snowpack. Additionally in some places avalanches can also penetrate deep layers and reach dangerously large size. Single winter sport participants can release avalanches easily. Individual natural avalanches are possible. Backcountry touring and other off-piste activities call for caution and restraint.

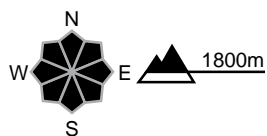
region D

Considerable, Level 3=



New snow, Old snow

Avalanche prone locations

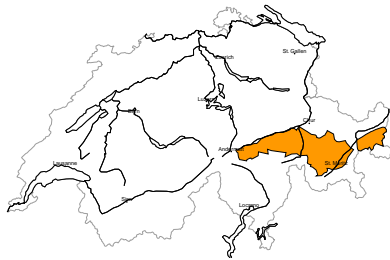


Danger description

The new snow and wind slabs are lying on the unfavourable surface of an old snowpack. Additionally in some places avalanches can also penetrate deep layers and reach dangerously large size. Single winter sport participants can release avalanches easily. Backcountry touring and other off-piste activities call for experience in the assessment of avalanche danger.

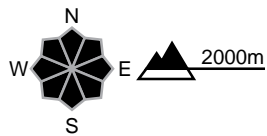
region E

Considerable, Level 3=



Old snow, Snow drift

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

The fresh wind slabs are lying on top of a weakly bonded old snowpack. They are to be found in particular in gullies and bowls, and behind abrupt changes in the terrain. Single winter sport participants can release avalanches easily. These can penetrate near-ground layers of the snowpack and reach dangerously large size. Backcountry touring and other off-piste activities call for experience in the assessment of avalanche danger.



1 low



2 moderate



3 considerable



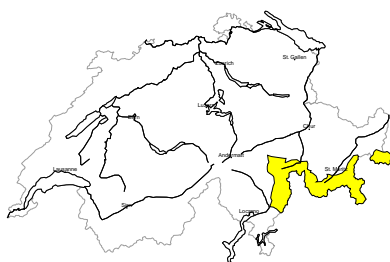
4 high



5 very high

region F

Moderate, Level 2+



Old snow, Snow drift

Avalanche prone locations

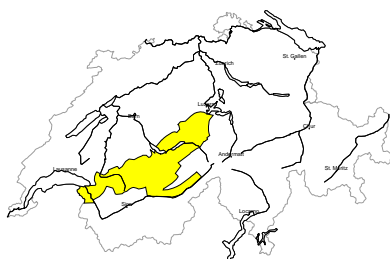


Danger description

In some places avalanches can be released in the old snowpack and reach medium size. Such avalanche prone locations are to be found in particular at transitions from a shallow to a deep snowpack. In addition avalanche prone wind slabs will form in particular in gullies and bowls, and behind abrupt changes in the terrain. They are to be evaluated with care and prudence in steep terrain. Backcountry touring and other off-piste activities call for careful route selection.

region G

Moderate, Level 2=



Snow drift, Old snow

Avalanche prone locations

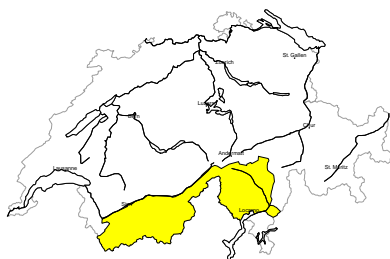


Danger description

As a consequence of new snow and a moderate to strong wind from northerly directions, avalanche prone wind slabs will form in particular in gullies and bowls and behind abrupt changes in the terrain. They are to be evaluated with care and prudence in steep terrain. Avalanches can additionally in isolated cases be released in deeper layers also. Such avalanche prone locations are to be found in particular at transitions from a shallow to a deep snowpack. Backcountry touring and other off-piste activities call for careful route selection.

region H

Moderate, Level 2=



Old snow, Snow drift

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

To some extent avalanches can be released in the old snowpack and reach medium size. These avalanche prone locations are to be found in particular at transitions from a shallow to a deep snowpack. In addition the fresh and older wind slabs are prone to triggering in some cases. They 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. Careful route selection is recommended.



1 low



2 moderate



3 considerable



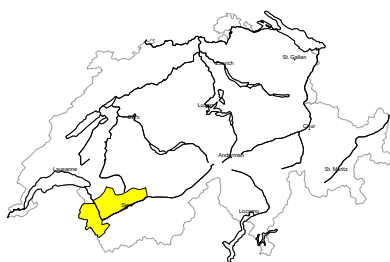
4 high



5 very high

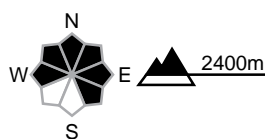
region I

Moderate, Level 2-



Snow drift

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

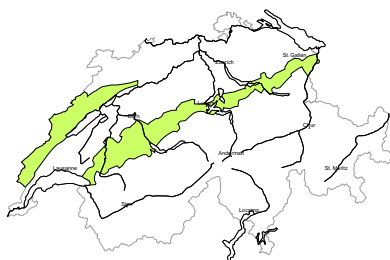
Avalanches can in some places be released in near-surface layers. They are mostly small. Apart from the danger of being buried, restraint should be exercised as well in view of the danger of avalanches sweeping people along and giving rise to falls. Careful route selection is recommended.

Gliding avalanches

On steep sunny slopes small to medium-sized gliding avalanches are possible.

region J

Low, Level 1

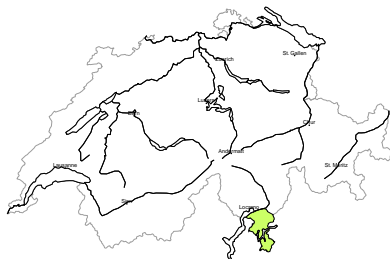


No distinct avalanche problem

Individual avalanche prone locations are to be found in particular in extremely steep terrain. Even a small avalanche can sweep people along and give rise to falls. In addition mostly small gliding avalanches and moist snow slides are possible.

region K

Low, Level 1



No distinct avalanche problem

Individual avalanche prone locations are to be found in particular in extremely steep terrain. Even a small avalanche can sweep snow sport participants along and give rise to falls.

Snowpack and weather

updated on 3.2.2023, 17:00

Snowpack

The anticipated fresh snowfall is being deposited in wind-protected terrain distant from ridgelines on top of an unfavourable, expansively metamorphosed (faceted) and loosely-packed old snow cover over widespread areas. At elevated altitudes the snowpack surface shows pronounced influences of northwesterly wind impact during the last few days and is more favourable.

More deeply embedded inside the snow cover in the region extending from the southern Valais over the Gotthard region as far as Grisons there are numerous softened, expansively metamorphosed (faceted) layers evident between consolidated layers of snow and crusts. The faceted layers are especially pronounced in places where the snowpack is shallow and where one sinks down to the ground on skis. On the northern flank of the Alps, the lowermost part of the snowpack is frequently well consolidated; nevertheless, above that section there are several expansively metamorphosed (faceted) layers embedded in the snowpack. In the northern and the furthestmost western part of Lower Valais, the snowpack layering is most favourable and there are hardly any pronounced weak layers evident.

Observed weather review Friday, 03.02.2023

On Thursday night in the eastern regions, there was a small amount of fresh snow registered. During the daytime hours on Friday it was predominantly sunny.

Fresh snow

-

Temperature

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

Wind

Winds were northwesterly,

- in the western regions blowing predominantly at light to moderate strength;
- in the remaining regions of Switzerland, blowing at moderate to strong velocity at elevated altitudes; in ridgeline terrain and in pass areas, blowing intermittently at storm strength.

Weather forecast through Saturday, 04.02.2023

On the Main Alpine Ridge and northwards therefrom, skies will be heavily overcast accompanied by precipitation, particularly in the central and eastern sectors of the northern flank of the Alps and in northern Grisons. Bright intervals are possible in the Valais and in the Engadine more than anywhere else.

Fresh snow

The snowfall level will lie between 1000 and 1300 m, in the Alpine valleys also lower down in some places. The following amounts of fresh fallen snow are anticipated:

- from the eastern Bernese Oberland into the Alpstein region, Prättigau, Silvretta, Samnaun: 20 to 40 cm;
- from the Aletsch region into the Haslital, in the remaining parts of the central and eastern sectors of the northern flank of the Alps and in central Grisons: generally 10 to 20 cm;
- in the other regions of Switzerland, less; on the southern flank of the Alps it is expected to remain dry.

Temperature

At midday at 2000 m, between -2 °C in the western and the southern regions and -6 °C in the eastern regions.

Wind

Winds will be blowing from northerly directions,

- in the western regions at moderate strength, at strong velocity at elevated altitudes;
- in the eastern and the southern regions blowing at strong to storm strength.

Outlook through Monday, 06.02.2023

On Sunday in the Valais, on the southern flank of the Alps and in the Engadine, it is expected to be quite sunny. In the northern regions, skies will be bright only in the morning hours, later in the day heavily overcast as precipitation in the eastern regions sets in. During Sunday night, snowfall is expected over widespread areas on the northern flank of the Alps and in Grisons, extending down to low lying areas. However, only a small amount of fresh snow is anticipated. During the daytime on Monday, it will be predominantly sunny over far-reaching areas. Winds on Sunday will still be blowing at strong velocity from northerly directions in many places, subsequently on Monday the winds will slacken off further. The avalanche situation will remain critical for winter sports enthusiasts, particularly in the areas where snowfall is heaviest.