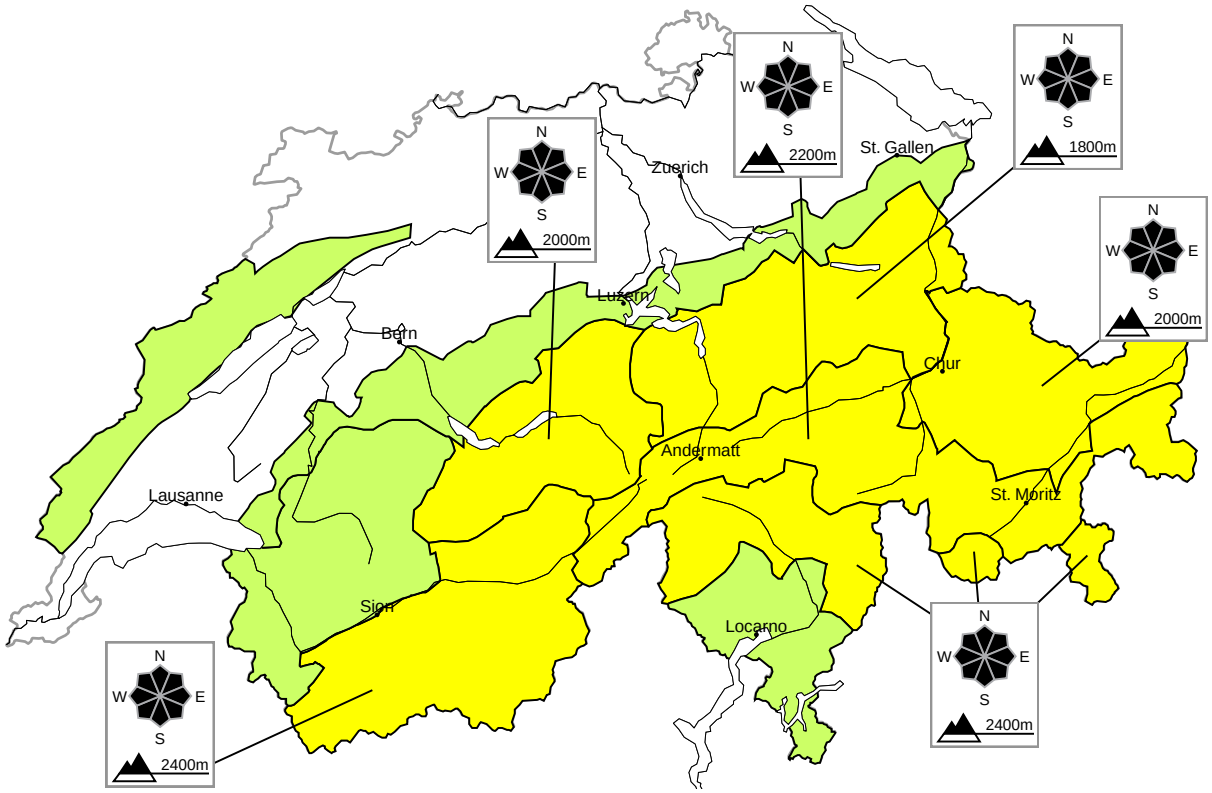
Avalanche bulletin through Sunday, 12. February 2023

Weakly bonded old snow requires caution

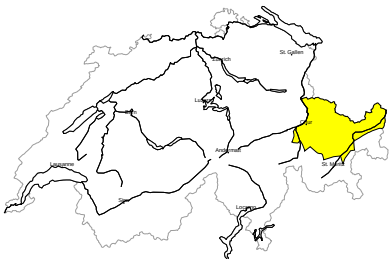
Edition: 11.2.2023, 17:00 / Next update: 12.2.2023, 17:00

Avalanche danger

updated on 11.2.2023, 17:00

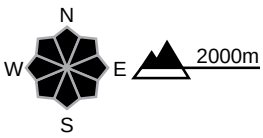


region A — **Moderate, Level 2+**



Old snow

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

Distinct weak layers exist in the snowpack. Single winter sport participants can release avalanches in some places. These can release the weakly bonded old snow as well and reach medium size. Whumpfing sounds and the formation of shooting cracks when stepping on the snowpack can indicate the danger. As a consequence of warming during the day and the solar radiation, the likelihood of dry avalanches being released will increase a little on steep south facing slopes. Backcountry touring and other off-piste activities call for defensive route selection.

Wet avalanches as day progresses

In particular on very steep sunny slopes moist avalanches are possible as a consequence of warming during the day.

Danger levels 1 low 2 moderate 3 considerable 4 high 5 very high

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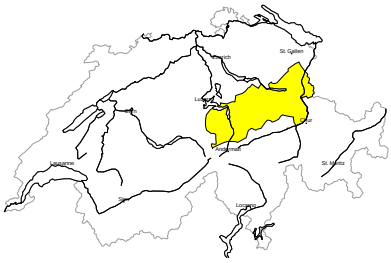
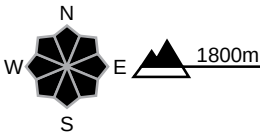
region B

Moderate, Level 2+



Old snow

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

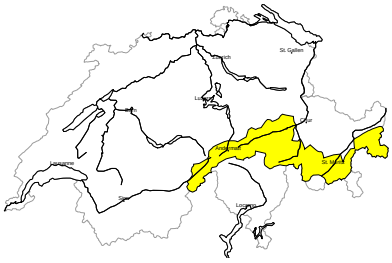
Faceted weak layers exist in the centre of the snowpack. Single winter sport participants can release avalanches in some places. These can reach medium size. As a consequence of warming during the day and the solar radiation, the likelihood of dry avalanches being released will increase a little on steep south facing slopes.
Careful route selection is important.

Wet avalanches as day progresses

In particular on very steep sunny slopes moist avalanches are possible as a consequence of warming during the day.

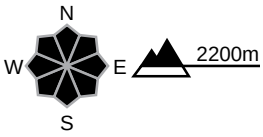
region C

Moderate, Level 2+



Old snow

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

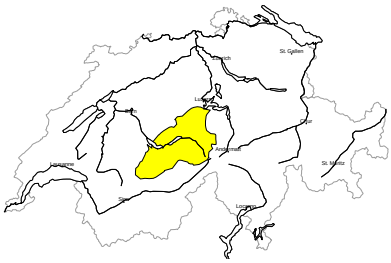
The older wind slabs are lying on top of a weakly bonded old snowpack. They are to be evaluated with care and prudence in particular in very steep terrain. Avalanches can in some places be released easily and reach medium size. As a consequence of warming during the day and the solar radiation, the likelihood of dry avalanches being released will increase a little on steep south facing slopes.
Backcountry touring and other off-piste activities call for careful route selection.

Wet avalanches as day progresses

In particular on very steep sunny slopes moist avalanches are possible as a consequence of warming during the day.

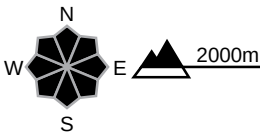
region D

Moderate, Level 2=



Old snow

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

Weak layers in the upper part of the snowpack can still be released in some place by people. Avalanches can in some cases reach medium size. The avalanche prone locations are to be found especially in gullies and bowls, and behind abrupt changes in the terrain. As a consequence of warming during the day and the solar radiation, the likelihood of dry avalanches being released will increase a little on steep south facing slopes.
Backcountry touring and other off-piste activities call for careful route selection.

Wet avalanches as day progresses

In particular on very steep sunny slopes moist avalanches are possible as a consequence of warming during the day.

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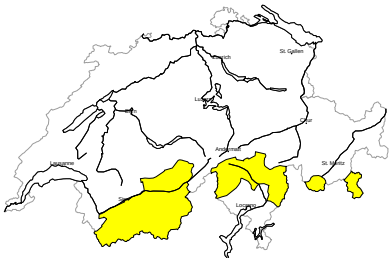
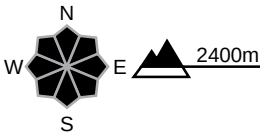
region E — Moderate, Level 2-



Old snow

Avalanche prone locations



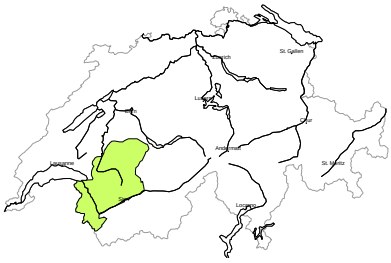
Danger description

The older wind slabs are lying on top of a weakly bonded old snowpack. They are to be evaluated with care and prudence in particular in very steep terrain. Avalanches can in isolated cases be released by people. As a consequence of warming during the day and the solar radiation, the likelihood of dry avalanches being released will increase also on steep south facing slopes. Avalanches can in some cases reach medium size.
Backcountry touring and other off-piste activities call for careful route selection.

Wet avalanches as day progresses

In particular on very steep sunny slopes moist avalanches are possible as a consequence of warming during the day.

region F — Low, Level 1



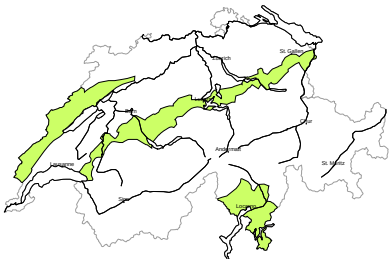
Dry avalanches: no distinct avalanche problem

Individual avalanche prone locations for dry avalanches are to be found in particular in extremely steep terrain. The somewhat older wind slabs are to be evaluated with care and prudence especially in terrain where there is a danger of falling. 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. As a consequence of warming during the day and the solar radiation, the likelihood of dry avalanches being released will increase a little also on steep south facing slopes.

Wet avalanches as day progresses

On very steep sunny slopes moist snow slides and avalanches are possible as a consequence of warming during the day.

region G — Low, Level 1



No distinct avalanche problem

Only a little snow is lying.
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.

Snowpack and weather

updated on 11.2.2023, 17:00

Snowpack

Inside the snow cover over widespread areas there are expansively metamorphosed (faceted) and loosely-packed layers evident. In the southern Valais and Grisons more than anywhere else, the entire snow cover is expansively metamorphosed (faceted) in places, and loose. Further east, the faceted layers are blanketed over by fresh snowfall and freshly generated snowdrift accumulations from last weekend. In the remaining regions of Switzerland, older snowdrift accumulations are deposited on top of weak, faceted snow layers in some places and are still prone to triggering.
In the northern and the furthermost western part of the Lower Valais the snowpack structure is most favourable and there are hardly any pronounced weak layers evident inside the snowpack.
As a consequence of solar radiation and daytime warming, wet-snow avalanches can be expected on very steep south-facing slopes during the course of the day.

Observed weather review Saturday, 11.02.2023

Following a night of clear skies it was predominantly sunny. In the eastern and the southern regions more than anywhere else, high-altitude cloudbanks passed through for a brief period.

Fresh snow
-

Temperature
At midday at 2000 m, +2 °C.

Wind
Winds at high altitudes were blowing predominantly at moderate strength from northeasterly directions.

Weather forecast through Sunday, 12.02.2023

Following a night of clear skies it is expected to be sunny during the daytime hours.

Fresh snow
-

Temperature
At midday at 2000 m, between +5 °C in the western regions and +3 °C in the eastern regions.

Wind
Winds will be blowing at light to moderate strength from northeasterly directions.

Outlook through Tuesday, 14.02.2023

Following nights of clear skies it is expected to be sunny and mild during the daytime hours. The zero-degree level will lie at approximately 3000 m.
The danger of dry-snow avalanches will continue to diminish incrementally. On very steep sunny slopes, wet-snow and gliding avalanches can be expected.