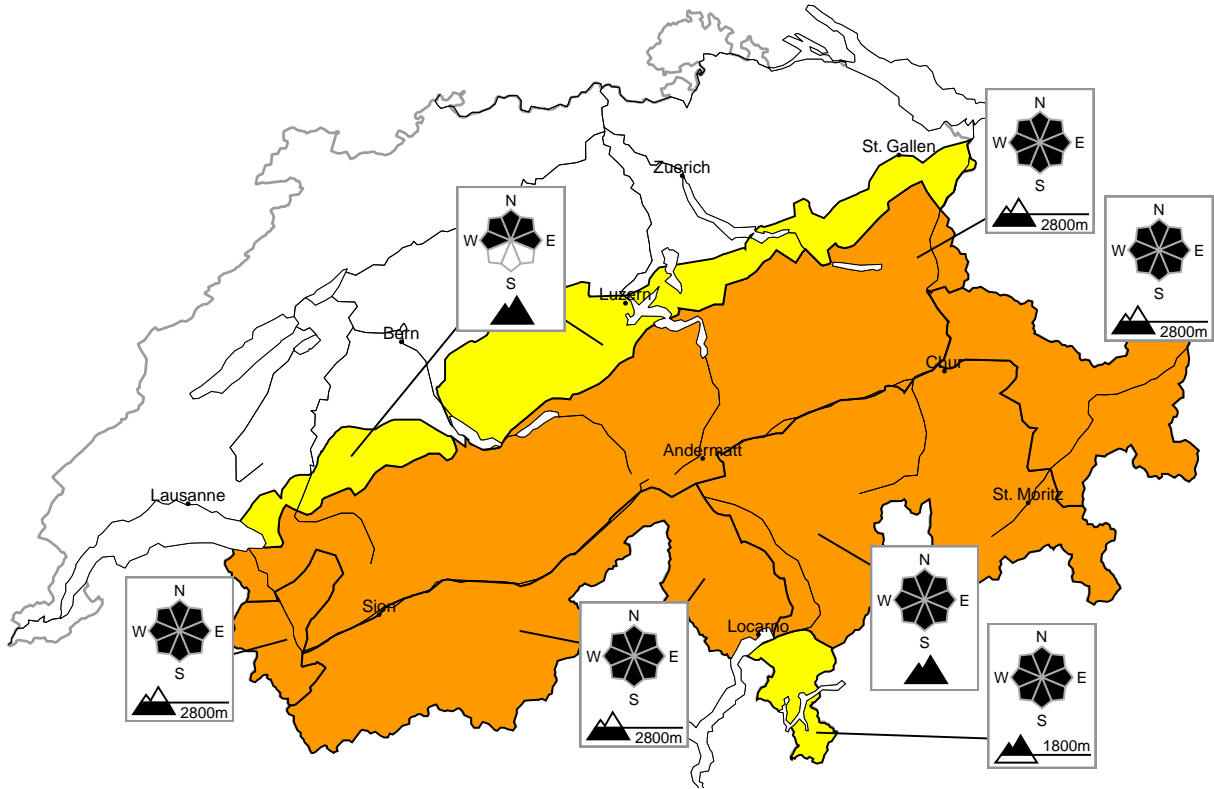


Considerable danger of wet avalanches will be encountered over a wide area

Edition: 22.4.2023, 17:00 / Next update: 23.4.2023, 17:00

Avalanche danger

updated on 22.4.2023, 17:00

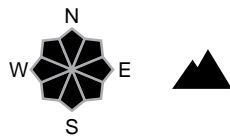


region A **Considerable, Level 3**



Old snow, Wet avalanches

Avalanche prone locations

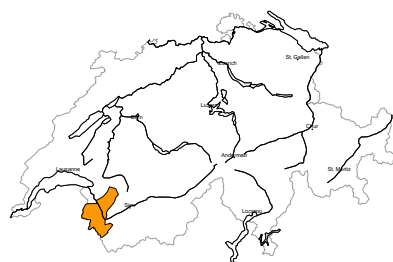


Danger description

The new snow and wind slabs of the last few days are lying on surface hoar in some places in particular on north facing slopes. Single winter sport participants can release avalanches in some places. In isolated cases avalanches can penetrate near-ground layers of the snowpack and reach large size. Caution is to be exercised in particular on north facing slopes above approximately 2500 m. Experience in the assessment of avalanche danger is important. As a consequence of the rain individual moist avalanches are possible during the night. As a consequence of warming during the day more frequent wet avalanches are to be expected below approximately 2800 m.

region B

Considerable, Level 3



Wet avalanches, Gliding avalanches

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

The surface of the snowpack will cool hardly at all during the overcast night. As a consequence of the rain at any time wet and gliding avalanches are to be expected below approximately 2400 m. These can reach large size in isolated cases in particular on north facing slopes.

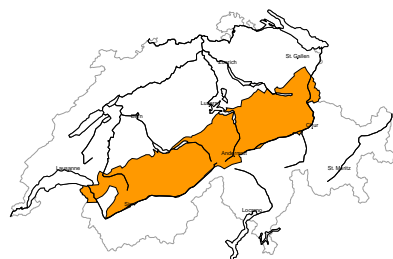
As a consequence of warming during the day and solar radiation more frequent wet avalanches are to be expected as the day progresses. This applies in all aspects below approximately 2800 m.

Snow drift

As a consequence of new snow and westerly wind, avalanche prone wind slabs will form. This applies in particular on north and east facing slopes above approximately 2400 m. The wind slabs are to be avoided in steep terrain.

region C

Considerable, Level 3



Wet avalanches, Gliding avalanches

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

The surface of the snowpack will cool hardly at all during the overcast night. As a consequence of the rain at any time wet and gliding avalanches are to be expected below approximately 2400 m. These can reach large size in isolated cases in particular on north facing slopes.

As a consequence of warming during the day and solar radiation more frequent wet avalanches are to be expected as the day progresses. This applies in all aspects below approximately 2800 m.

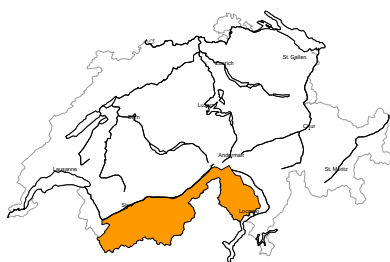
Snow drift

Fresh and older wind slabs are in some cases prone to triggering. This applies in particular on north and east facing slopes above approximately 2400 m. The wind slabs are to be evaluated with care and prudence in steep terrain.



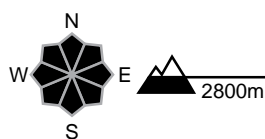
region D

Considerable, Level 3



Wet avalanches, Gliding avalanches

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

The surface of the snowpack will cool hardly at all during the overcast night. As a consequence of the rain at any time wet and gliding avalanches are to be expected below approximately 2400 m. These can reach large size in isolated cases in particular on north facing slopes.

As a consequence of warming during the day and solar radiation more frequent wet avalanches are to be expected as the day progresses. This applies in all aspects below approximately 2800 m.

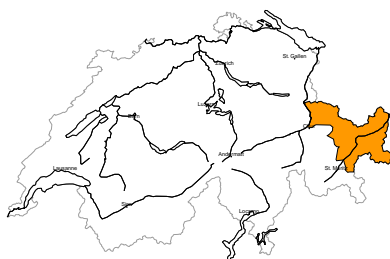
Snow drift, Old snow

Fresh and older wind slabs are in some cases prone to triggering. This applies in particular on north and east facing slopes above approximately 2400 m. The wind slabs are to be evaluated with care and prudence in steep terrain.

Additionally in isolated cases avalanches can penetrate near-ground layers of the snowpack and reach dangerously large size. This applies in particular in areas where the snow cover is rather shallow on very steep north facing slopes above approximately 2400 m.

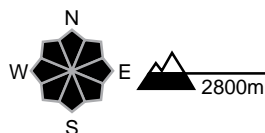
region E

Considerable, Level 3



Wet avalanches

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

Outgoing longwave radiation during the night will be severely restricted. As a consequence of warming during the day and solar radiation medium-sized wet avalanches are to be expected. On north facing slopes avalanches can be released in the weakly bonded old snow and reach large size.

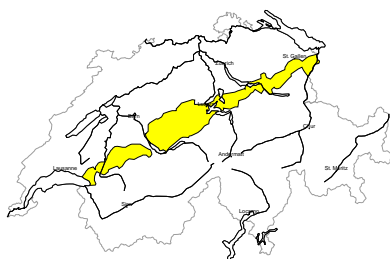
Snow drift, Old snow

The new snow and wind slabs of the last few days are lying on surface hoar in some places in particular on north facing slopes. Single winter sport participants can release avalanches in some places. In isolated cases avalanches can penetrate near-ground layers of the snowpack and reach medium size. Caution is to be exercised in particular on north facing slopes above approximately 2500 m.

Backcountry touring calls for careful route selection.

region F

Moderate, Level 2



Wet avalanches

Avalanche prone locations

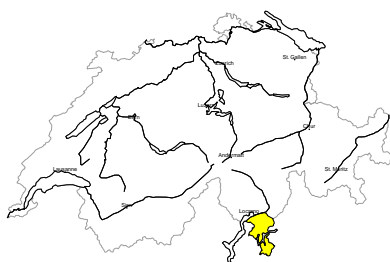


Danger description

The surface of the snowpack will cool hardly at all during the overcast night. As a consequence of the rain at any time wet and gliding avalanches are possible. These can reach medium size.

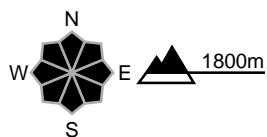
region G

Moderate, Level 2



Wet avalanches, Gliding avalanches

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

As a consequence of the rain wet avalanches are possible. These are rather small.
On steep grassy slopes at any time gliding avalanches are possible. Caution is to be exercised in areas with glide cracks.

Danger levels



1 low



2 moderate



3 considerable



4 high



5 very high

Avalanche bulletin through Sunday, 23. April 2023**Snowpack and weather**

updated on 22.4.2023, 17:00

Snowpack

Fresh fallen snow and freshly generated snowdrift accumulations from Thursday and Friday were deposited on north-facing slopes above approximately 2600 m on top of a loosely-packed old snowpack surface, in Grisons on top of surface hoar. Particularly there, but also in high alpine regions in general, these layers are still prone to triggering. Furthermore, on west-facing, north-facing and east-facing slopes above approximately 2400 m, there are layers which are deeply embedded inside the snow cover that are weak. Numerous avalanche releases on north-facing slopes on Friday, some of which were large-sized avalanches, demonstrated that fractures deep down inside the snowpack are possible, particularly in the inneralpine regions of Grisons. The same thing cannot be excluded in the southern Valais and on the southern flank of the Alps.

As a consequence of the rainfall as well as the mild, relatively moist air, wet-snow avalanches can be expected on north-facing slopes more than anywhere else, in some places even during the nocturnal hours. On the northern flank of the Alps and in the northern Valais, gliding avalanches are possible

Observed weather review Saturday, 22.04.2023

Following a night of partly clear skies, during the daytime hours skies were overcast in the western regions, in the other regions of Switzerland it remained quite sunny for longer. In the western regions there were isolated showers registered during the morning hours, not until afternoon in the other regions of Switzerland.

Fresh snow

In the western regions above 2500 m, a few centimetres of fresh snow was registered from region to region, below that altitude a small amount of rain.

Temperature

At midday at 2000 m, between +7 °C in the northern regions and +3 °C in the southern regions.

Wind

- Winds during the nighttime hours were blowing at moderate strength, from place to place on the northern Alpine Ridge at strong velocity, from southerly directions;
- during the daytime, winds were blowing at light to moderate strength from southwesterly directions.

Weather forecast through Sunday, 23.04.2023

Nocturnal skies will be overcast and a small amount of precipitation is anticipated in the northern regions more than anywhere else. During the daytime hours in the northern regions, it will temporarily become quite sunny from the west, subsequently skies will again become overcast accompanied by isolated showers. In the southern regions, skies will remain overcast also during the daytime and a small amount of precipitation is expected.

Fresh snow

The snowfall level lies at approximately 2200 m. Above 2500 m the following amounts of fresh snow are anticipated by Sunday afternoon:

- from the Trient region into the Vaud Alps: 10 to 20 cm;
- in the other regions of Switzerland, mostly less than 10 cm; in the Lower Engadine it is expected to remain dry.

Temperature

At midday at 2000 m, +5 °C in the northern regions and +2 °C in the southern regions.

Wind

Winds will be blowing at moderate strength, during the afternoon at strong velocity at elevated altitudes and also in some places in the eastern foehn-impacted regions, from southwesterly directions.

Outlook through Tuesday, 25.04.2023**Monday**

Skies will frequently be overcast and some precipitation is anticipated during the nighttime hours in particular. The snowfall level will descend down to approximately 1500 m. At heightened altitudes, approximately 10 to 20 cm of fresh snow is expected to fall over widespread areas, however the amounts of snowfall could vary greatly from place to place. Particularly at elevated altitudes, winds will be blowing at strong velocity and shift from southwesterly to westerly. In the furthestmost southern regions it will remain rather sunny during the daytime as a result of northwesterly winds.

The danger of dry-snow avalanches is expected to increase slightly over widespread areas. The danger of wet-snow avalanches will diminish.

Tuesday

On Tuesday in the northern regions, skies will be heavily overcast accompanied by precipitation which will fall as snow above approximately 1200 m. On the northern flank of the Alps, approximately 20 to 30 cm of fresh snow is expected, but these forecasted amounts are still uncertain. In the furthestmost southern regions it will be predominantly sunny as a result of strong-velocity northerly winds.

The danger of dry-snow avalanches is expected to increase significantly in the northern regions, in the southern regions avalanche danger levels are not expected to change significantly. Wet-snow avalanches can be expected only in isolated cases.