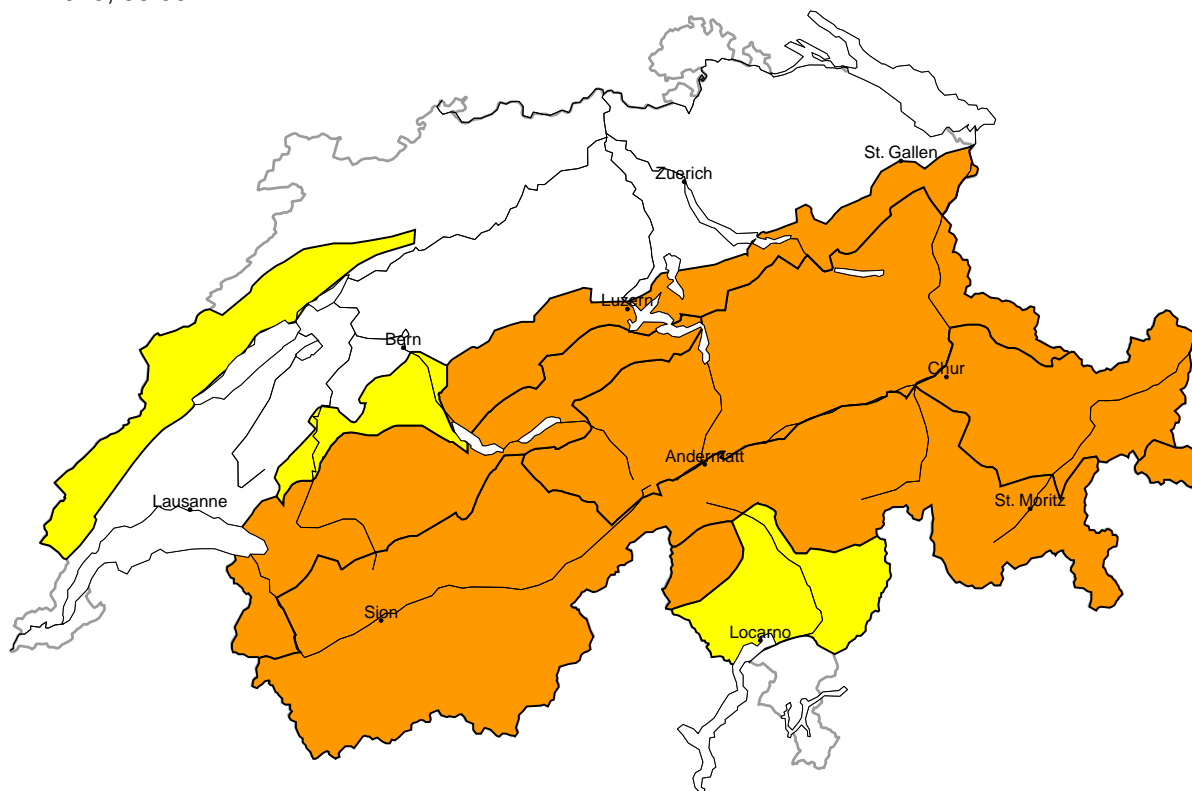


Avalanche danger

updated on 23.12.2023, 08:00

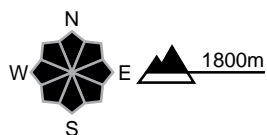


region A Considerable (3+)



New snow, Wind slab

Avalanche prone locations



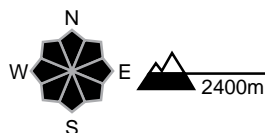
Danger description

The new snow and wind slabs are prone to triggering. Avalanches can be released by a single winter sport participant and reach large size. Only isolated natural avalanches are possible. The snow sport conditions outside marked and open pistes are critical.

Moderate (2)

Gliding snow

Avalanche prone locations



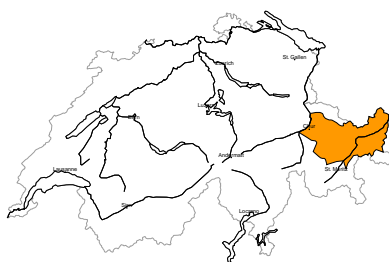
Danger description

On very steep grassy slopes gliding avalanches are possible, even large ones. Areas with glide cracks are to be avoided. The avalanche prone locations are to be found on south facing slopes below approximately 2400 m and on north facing slopes below approximately 2000 m.



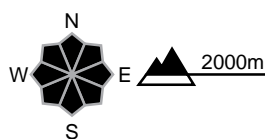
region B

Considerable (3+)



New snow, Wind slab

Avalanche prone locations



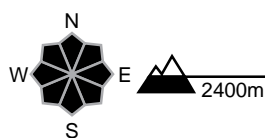
Danger description

Large quantities of fresh snow and the wind-drifted snow are prone to triggering. Avalanches can be released, even by a single winter sport participant and reach large size. Individual natural avalanches are possible. The snow sport conditions outside marked and open pistes are critical.

Moderate (2)

Gliding snow

Avalanche prone locations

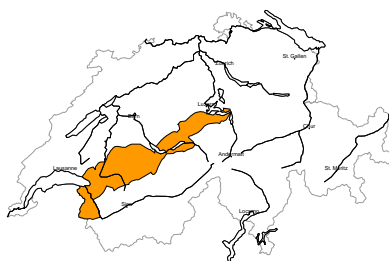


Danger description

On very steep grassy slopes gliding avalanches are possible, even large ones. Areas with glide cracks are to be avoided. The avalanche prone locations are to be found on south facing slopes below approximately 2400 m and on north facing slopes below approximately 2000 m.

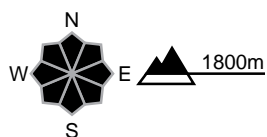
region C

Considerable (3=)



Wind slab

Avalanche prone locations



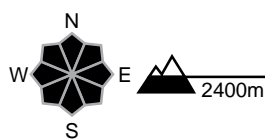
Danger description

The sometimes large wind slabs are prone to triggering. Single winter sport participants can release avalanches. These can in some cases reach large size. Backcountry touring calls for experience in the assessment of avalanche danger.

Moderate (2)

Gliding snow

Avalanche prone locations



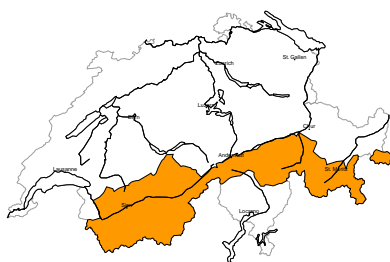
Danger description

On very steep grassy slopes gliding avalanches are possible, even large ones. Areas with glide cracks are to be avoided. The avalanche prone locations are to be found on south facing slopes below approximately 2400 m and on north facing slopes below approximately 2000 m.



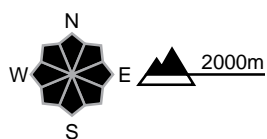
region D

Considerable (3=)



Wind slab

Avalanche prone locations



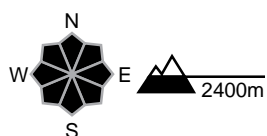
Danger description

As a consequence of new snow and a storm force northwesterly wind, avalanche prone wind slabs formed. Avalanches can be released by a single winter sport participant and reach large size in isolated cases. Backcountry touring calls for experience in the assessment of avalanche danger.

Moderate (2)

Gliding snow

Avalanche prone locations

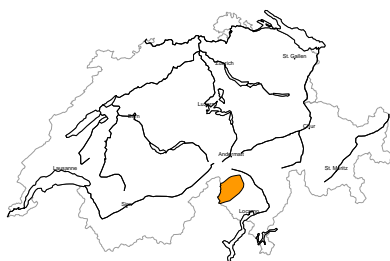


Danger description

On very steep grassy slopes gliding avalanches are possible, even large ones. Areas with glide cracks are to be avoided. The avalanche prone locations are to be found on south facing slopes below approximately 2400 m and on north facing slopes below approximately 2000 m.

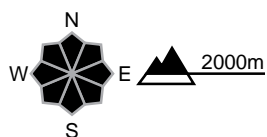
region E

Considerable (3=)



Wind slab

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

As a consequence of new snow and a storm force northwesterly wind, avalanche prone wind slabs formed. Avalanches can be released by a single winter sport participant and reach large size in isolated cases. Backcountry touring calls for experience in the assessment of avalanche danger.



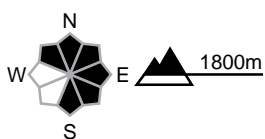
region F

Considerable (3-)



Wind slab

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

The wind slabs are prone to triggering. Single winter sport participants can release avalanches. Mostly these are medium-sized. Backcountry touring calls for experience in the assessment of avalanche danger.

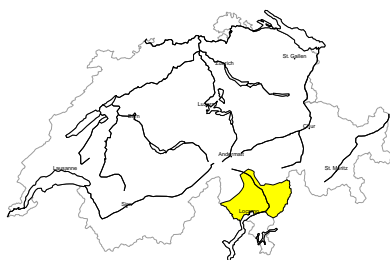
Low (1)

Gliding snow

On very steep grassy slopes individual gliding avalanches are possible, but they will be mostly small. Caution is to be exercised in areas with glide cracks.

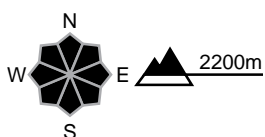
region G

Moderate (2=)



Wind slab

Avalanche prone locations

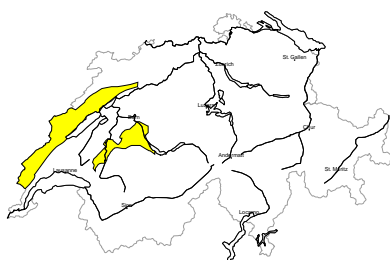


Danger description

As a consequence of a strong to storm force northerly wind, wind slabs formed. They 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. In very isolated cases avalanches can be triggered in the old snowpack and reach medium size. Careful route selection is advisable.

region H

Moderate (2-)



Wind slab

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

As a consequence of new snow and a strong to storm force wind, mostly small wind slabs formed in particular in the vicinity of peaks. 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 avoided in particular in very steep terrain.

Low (1)

Gliding snow

On very steep grassy slopes individual gliding avalanches are possible, but they will be mostly small. Caution is to be exercised in areas with glide cracks.



Snowpack and weather

updated on 22.12.2023, 17:00

Snowpack

The new fallen snow has been very heavily transported by the stormy weather. Large, fairly compact snowdrift accumulations have formed on the leeward slopes and will grow even larger during Friday night. Avalanche fractures are to be expected, mainly within the fresh snow and wind slabs. In places that are generally protected from the wind, the new fallen snow is lying on a rather unfavourable, angular old snow surface. There, avalanches may also start at the transition to the old snowpack. Occasionally, avalanches may also break out deeper in the snowpack in the area of older rain crusts due to the overload of fresh snow and wind slabs. This is particularly the case at altitudes between 2200 and 2600 m. Deeper snowpack layers are usually well compacted.

Weather review for Friday, 22.12.2023

It was very cloudy with persistent snowfall. The snowfall level was between 1600 and 1800 m during Thursday night, dropping to 1200 to 1500 m. Only in the far south was it dry and sunny.

New fallen snow

From Thursday afternoon to Friday afternoon, the following amounts of fresh snow were recorded above approximately 2000 m:

- Northern Alpine Ridge from the Jungfrau region to the Alpstein, Silvretta, Samnaun: 30 to 50 cm;
- Vaud Alps, rest of the Northern Alpine Ridge, rest of the Gotthard region, rest of Grisons excluding the southern valleys: 20 to 30 cm;
- elsewhere 10 to 20 cm, dry in the far south.

Temperature

At midday at 2000 m, between -3 °C in the north and east and 0 °C in the south.

Wind

There was a strong to storm force wind blowing from the west to northwest.

Weather forecast until Saturday, 23.12.2023

Widespread precipitation will fall during the night, heavy towards the east during the first half of the night. The snowfall level will be between 1000 and 1500 m. It will be dry in the south. During the day, the precipitation will end and it will become increasingly sunny in the west and fairly sunny in the south. It will remain mostly overcast in the east.

New fallen snow

From Friday afternoon to Saturday morning, the following amounts of fresh snow are expected above approximately 1800 m:

- Northern Alpine Ridge from the Jungfrau region to the Alpstein, Prättigau, Silvretta, Samnaun: 30 to 50 cm, locally more;
- other regions of the northern flank of the Alps, northern Lower Valais, northern Grisons and the Lower Engadine: 10 to 20 cm, less elsewhere, dry on the central part of the southern flank of the Alps.

Temperature

At midday at 2000 m, between -2 °C in the north and 0 °C in the south.

Wind

Winds will be strong to storm force from the west to northwest, easing somewhat in the afternoon.

Trend until Monday, 25.12.2023

On Sunday and Monday it will be fairly sunny and very mild. A little precipitation may fall during Sunday night into Monday. The snowfall level will be at 2600 m. A sometimes strong northwesterly wind will blow at high altitudes. The danger of dry avalanches will decrease. Gliding avalanches, some of them large, are to be expected, especially in areas with a lot of new fallen snow.