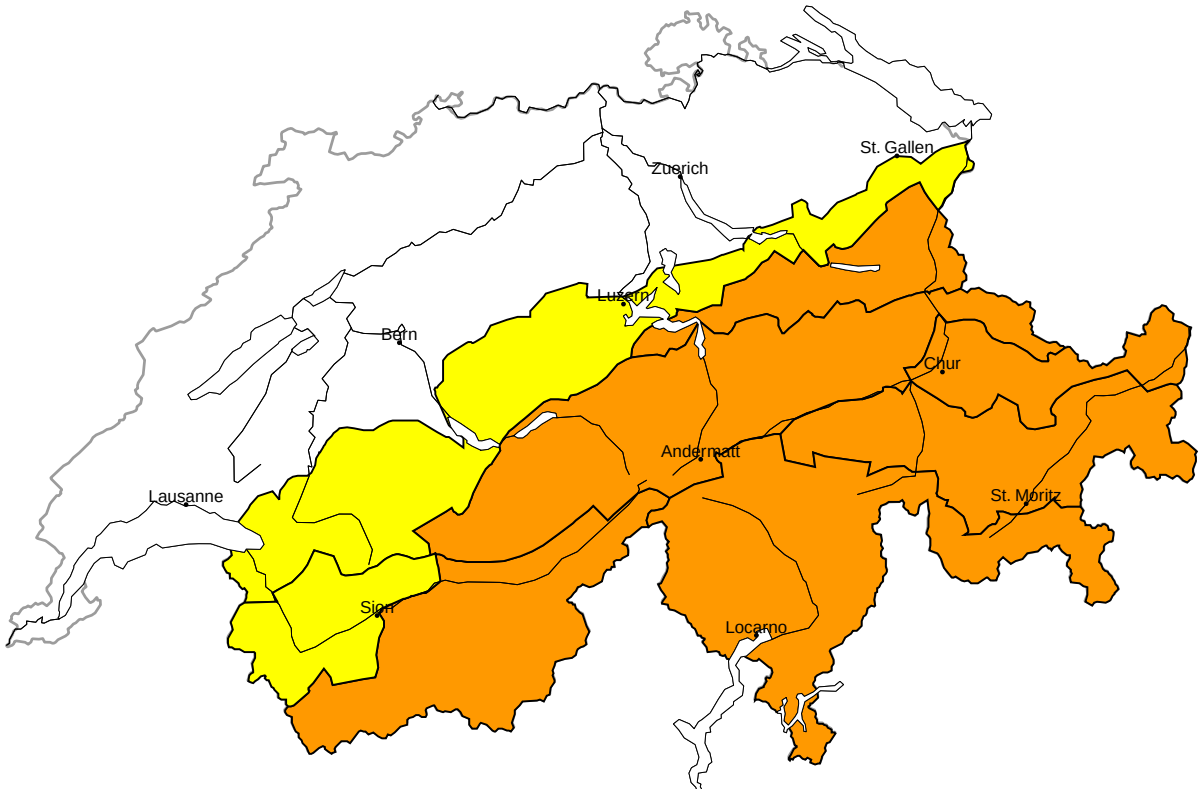
Avalanche bulletin for Wednesday, 13. March 2024

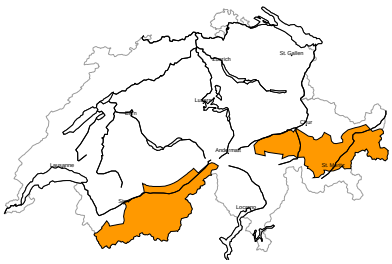
Avalanche danger

updated on 13.3.2024, 08:00



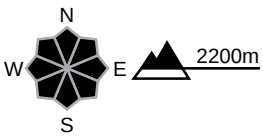
region A

Considerable (3=)



Wind slab, Persistent weak layers

Avalanche prone locations



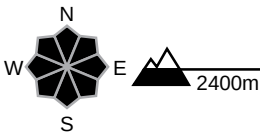
Danger description

The fresh and somewhat older wind slabs are in some cases prone to triggering. Single winter sport participants can release avalanches in some places. Additionally in isolated cases avalanches can also be triggered in the old snowpack. These can reach large size.
Backcountry touring and other off-piste activities call for experience in the assessment of avalanche danger.

Moderate (2)

Gliding snow

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

In particular on very steep grassy slopes gliding avalanches are possible. These can reach large size. Areas with glide cracks are to be avoided as far as possible.

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

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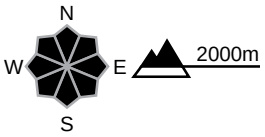
region B

Considerable (3=)

New snow

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

The fresh snow and the wind slabs that are being formed by the northwesterly wind are prone to triggering. Single snow sport participants can release avalanches. These can reach medium size.
The wind slabs are to be avoided in steep terrain. Backcountry touring and other off-piste activities call for experience in the assessment of avalanche danger.

Low (1)

Gliding snow

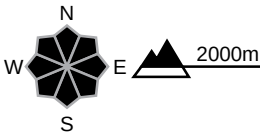
In particular on very steep grassy slopes gliding avalanches are possible. These can reach medium size. Areas with glide cracks are to be avoided as far as possible.

region C

Considerable (3=)

New snow

Avalanche prone locations



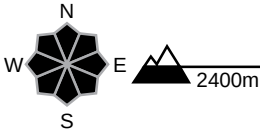
Danger description

The fresh snow and the wind slabs that are being formed by the northwesterly wind are prone to triggering. Single snow sport participants can release avalanches. These can reach medium size.
The wind slabs are to be avoided in steep terrain. Backcountry touring and other off-piste activities call for experience in the assessment of avalanche danger.

Moderate (2)

Gliding snow

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

In particular on very steep grassy slopes gliding avalanches are possible. These can reach large size. Areas with glide cracks are to be avoided as far as possible.

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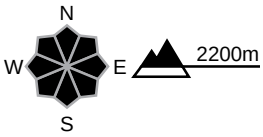
region D

Considerable (3-)

Wind slab

Avalanche prone locations



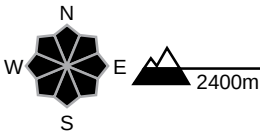
Danger description

As a consequence of new snow and a moderate northerly wind, avalanche prone wind slabs will form in particular at elevated altitudes. These are to be avoided in steep terrain. The avalanches can in many cases reach medium size. Avalanches can in very isolated cases be released in deeper layers also.
Experience in the assessment of avalanche danger is required.

Moderate (2)

Gliding snow

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

In particular on very steep grassy slopes gliding avalanches are possible. These can reach large size. Areas with glide cracks are to be avoided as far as possible.

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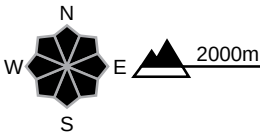
region E

Considerable (3-)

Wind slab, Persistent weak layers

Avalanche prone locations



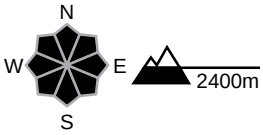
Danger description

The new snow of the weekend is in individual cases still prone to triggering. Single snow sport participants can release avalanches in some places. Caution is to be exercised in particular in areas where the snow cover is rather shallow, and at transitions from a shallow to a deep snowpack. The avalanches can in isolated cases reach large size.
As a consequence of a moderate northerly wind, wind slabs will form. These are mostly small but can be released easily. They are to be evaluated with care and prudence in steep terrain.
Backcountry touring and other off-piste activities call for experience in the assessment of avalanche danger.

Moderate (2)

Gliding snow

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

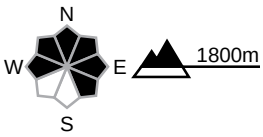
In particular on very steep grassy slopes gliding avalanches are possible. These can reach large size. Areas with glide cracks are to be avoided as far as possible.

region F

Moderate (2+)

Wind slab

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

As a consequence of new snow and a moderate westerly wind, avalanche prone wind slabs will form in particular at elevated altitudes. These are rather small but can be released easily. They are to be evaluated with care and prudence in steep terrain. The avalanche prone locations are to be found in particular in gullies and bowls, and behind abrupt changes in the terrain.
Backcountry touring calls for careful route selection.

Low (1)

Gliding snow

In particular on very steep grassy slopes gliding avalanches are possible. These can reach medium size. Areas with glide cracks are to be avoided as far as possible.

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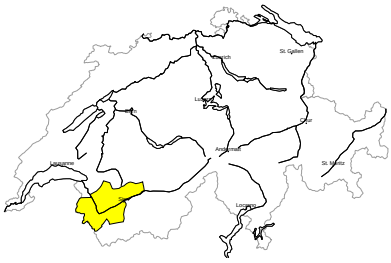
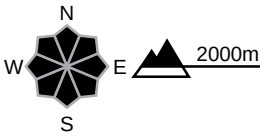
region G



Moderate (2+)

Wind slab

Avalanche prone locations



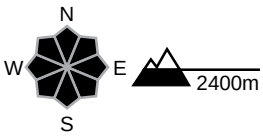
Danger description

The fresh and older wind slabs are 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. The avalanches are rather small. At elevated altitudes the avalanche prone locations are more prevalent and larger. Backcountry touring calls for careful route selection.

Moderate (2)

Gliding snow

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

In particular on very steep grassy slopes gliding avalanches are possible. These can reach large size. Areas with glide cracks are to be avoided as far as possible.

Snowpack and weather

updated on 12.3.2024, 17:00

Snowpack

In the north, snowfall and a moderate northwesterly wind are seeing the formation of wind slabs that are prone to triggering. Deep layers of the snowpack are compact in many places. However, around the crusts in the upper third of the old snowpack, weak layers with a sometimes faceted crystal structure, and in some cases also snow-covered surface hoar, are deposited.
A lot of fresh snow fell on and to the south of the Main Alpine Ridge at the weekend. The southerly winds led to the formation of extensive wind slabs at high altitudes. These are increasingly settling and stabilising.
Gliding avalanches are still possible, primarily on east-, south- and west-facing slopes below approximately 2400 m and more rarely on north-facing slopes. These may be large.

Weather review for Tuesday, 12.03.2024

It was fairly sunny in the south. Elsewhere it was very cloudy, and some snow fell above approximately 1300 m.

New snow
From Monday afternoon to Tuesday afternoon, the following amounts of fresh snow fell:
- north of a line between the Rhone and the Rhine and in northern Grisons: 5 to 10 cm;
- less elsewhere; dry in the south.

Temperature
At midday at 2000 m, between -3 °C in the north and +1 °C in the south.

Wind
- There were moderate westerly winds along the northern flank of the Alps.
- Moderate northerly winds blew in the south.

Weather forecast until Wednesday, 13.03.2024

In the north, precipitation will set in on Tuesday evening. Initially in the west and as the day progresses also in the east, the snowfall level will rise from 1300 m to 1800 m. During the day there will still be some precipitation in the east, with increasingly clear spells arriving from the west. It will be fairly sunny in the south, with winds tending to be from the north.

New snow
From Tuesday evening to Wednesday afternoon:
- Northern Alpine Ridge from the Gemmi Pass to Liechtenstein: 30 to 40 cm and locally up to 50 cm;
- northern Grisons: 20 to 30 cm;
- rest of the northern flank of the Alps and rest of northern Valais, Goms, central Grisons, Lower Engadine: 10 to 20 cm;
- less elsewhere; dry in the south.

Temperature
Temperatures will rise, reaching around 0 °C at midday at 2000 m.

Wind
- Mostly moderate northwesterly winds will blow along the northern flank of the Alps.
- Moderate northerly winds will blow in the south.
- There will be sometimes strong northerly winds at high altitudes.

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Trend until Friday, 15 March 2024

Thursday
It will be mostly sunny and as the day progresses increasingly mild. There will be light winds, increasingly becoming moderate as the day progresses, blowing from the west.
The danger of dry avalanches will decrease. Occasional gliding avalanches, some of which could be large, will still be possible.

Friday
In the north, it will probably be cloudy with bright intervals and there will be some precipitation in some regions, falling as snow above 1800 m. In the south, it will be dry and at times sunny.
The danger of dry avalanches will continue to decrease.