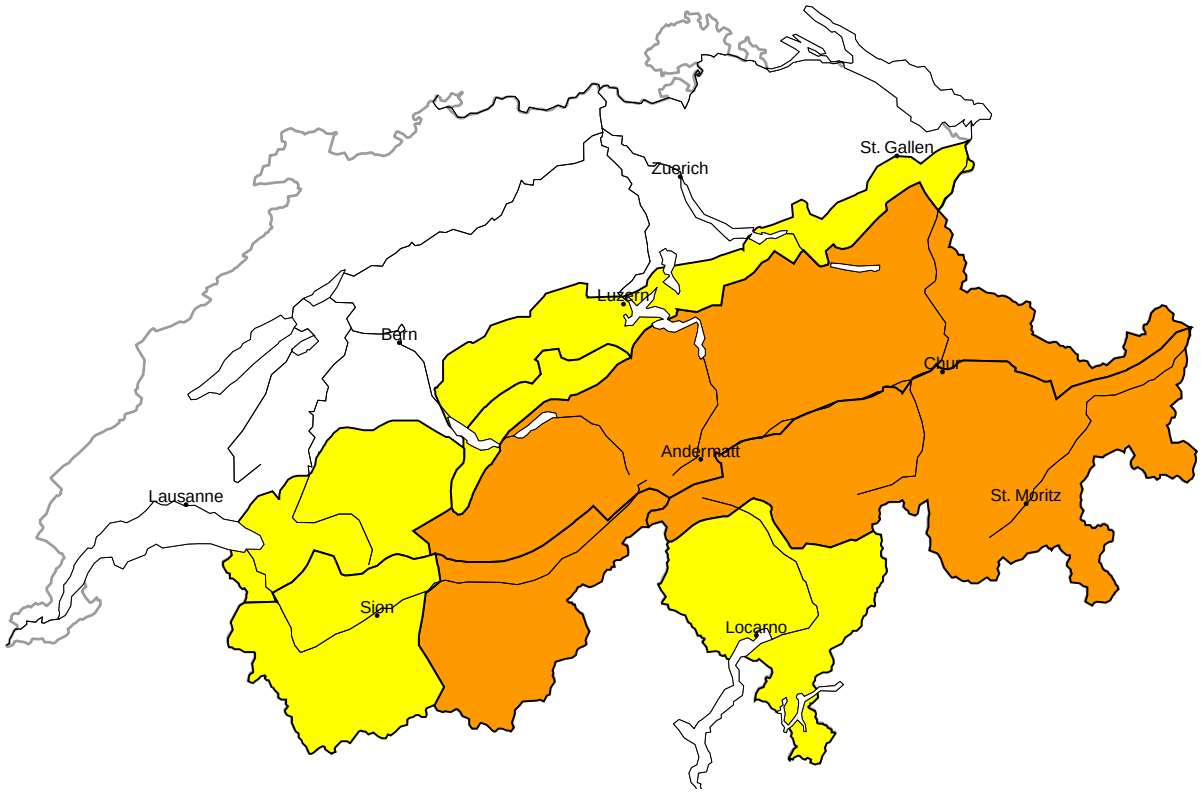
Avalanche bulletin for Thursday, 14. March 2024

Avalanche danger

updated on 14.3.2024, 08:00

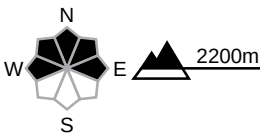


region A

Considerable (3-)

Wind slab, Persistent weak layers

Avalanche prone locations



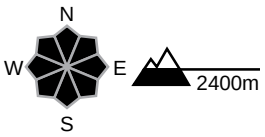
Danger description

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 released 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)

Wet snow, 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.
As a consequence of solar radiation moist loose snow avalanches are to be expected, even medium-sized ones.

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

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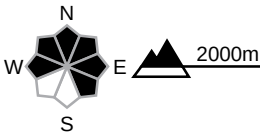
region B

Considerable (3-)

New snow

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

As a consequence of new snow and westerly wind, wind slabs formed on Wednesday. Single snow sport participants can release avalanches. Mostly these are medium-sized.
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.

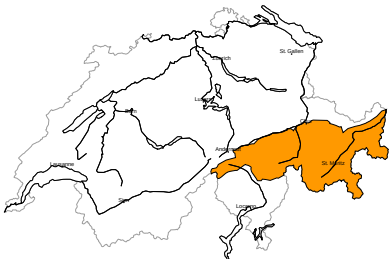
Moderate (2)

Wet snow, Gliding snow

On steep sunny slopes a large number of moist loose snow avalanches are to be expected, in particular medium-sized ones.
In addition gliding avalanches are possible. These can in isolated cases reach large size. This applies on steep south facing slopes below approximately 2400 m, as well as on north facing slopes below approximately 2000 m. Areas with glide cracks are to be avoided as far as possible.

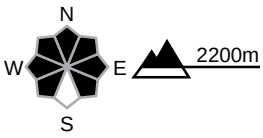
region C

Considerable (3-)



Wind slab, Persistent weak layers

Avalanche prone locations



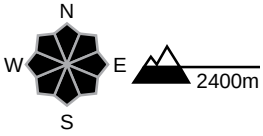
Danger description

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 released 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)

Wet snow, 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.
As a consequence of solar radiation moist loose snow avalanches are to be expected, even medium-sized ones.

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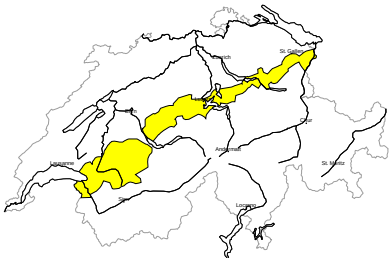
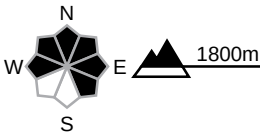
region D

Moderate (2+)



Wind slab

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

The more recent wind slabs are rather small but in some cases prone to triggering. 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. Avalanches can reach medium size.
Backcountry touring calls for careful route selection.

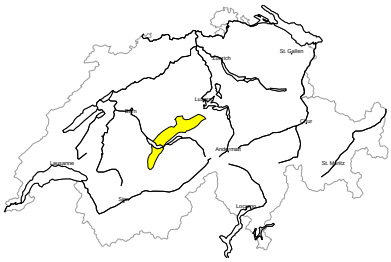
Low (1)

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.

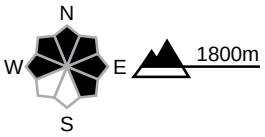
region E

Moderate (2+)



Wind slab

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

The more recent wind slabs are rather small but in some cases prone to triggering. 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. Avalanches can reach medium size.
Backcountry touring calls for careful route selection.

Moderate (2)

Wet snow, Gliding snow

On steep sunny slopes a large number of moist loose snow avalanches are to be expected, in particular medium-sized ones.
In addition gliding avalanches are possible. These can in isolated cases reach large size. This applies on steep south facing slopes below approximately 2400 m, as well as on north facing slopes below approximately 2000 m. Areas with glide cracks are to be avoided as far as possible.

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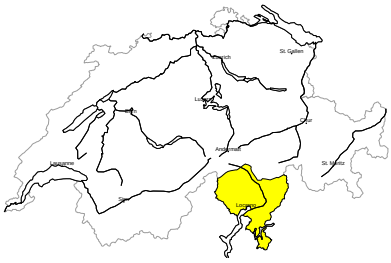
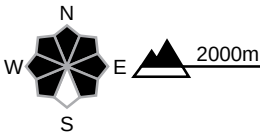
region F



Moderate (2+)

Wind slab, Persistent weak layers

Avalanche prone locations



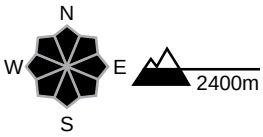
Danger description

The new snow of the weekend can be released in isolated cases, but mostly only by large additional loads. 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 mostly small wind slabs of Wednesday are in some cases still prone to triggering. They are to be evaluated with care and prudence in very steep terrain.
Backcountry touring and other off-piste activities call for experience in the assessment of avalanche danger.

Moderate (2)

Wet snow, Gliding snow

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

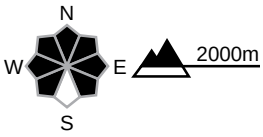
In particular on very steep grassy slopes gliding avalanches are possible. These can reach large size. Areas with glide cracks are to be avoided as far as possible.
As a consequence of solar radiation moist loose snow avalanches are to be expected, even medium-sized ones.

region G

Moderate (2+)

Wind slab

Avalanche prone locations



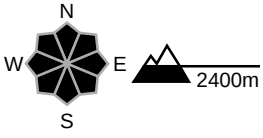
Danger description

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. At elevated altitudes the avalanche prone locations are more prevalent and larger. Avalanches can reach medium size.
Backcountry touring calls for careful route selection.

Moderate (2)

Wet snow, 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.
As a consequence of solar radiation moist loose snow avalanches are to be expected, even medium-sized ones.

Snowpack and weather

updated on 13.3.2024, 17:00

Snowpack

In the north, snowfall and northwesterly winds caused wind slabs to form on Wednesday. Several avalanches were reported in and directly below the drift snow. With the warming temperatures, many loose snow avalanches also formed from the new fallen snow as the day progressed. 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 (hoar frost), are deposited.
The large amount of new snow that fell in the south at the weekend has increasingly stabilised.
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 Wednesday, 13.03.2024

In the west, the snowfall ended in the early morning and it became partly sunny, while in the east it snowed until the afternoon. The snowfall level rose from 1300 m to 1800 m by the time the precipitation ended. It was fairly sunny in the south.

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

Temperature
At midday at 2000 m, between +2 °C in the southwest and 0 °C in the northeast.

Wind
There was a moderate northerly wind, strong at times on the northern flank of the Alps.

Weather forecast until Thursday, 14.03.2024

Apart from some high cloud, it will be mostly sunny and mild.

New snow
-

Temperature
At midday at 2000 m, between +5 °C in the north and +2 °C in the south.

Wind
Winds will be light, moderate at times, from the west.

Trend until Saturday, 16.03.2024

Both days will be changeable with longer sunny spells and a few showers. The snowfall level will drop from around 1800 m on Friday to 1400 m on Saturday. Around 10 to 20 cm of new snow will fall on the Northern Alpine Ridge by Saturday afternoon. It will be dry in the south on both days and mostly sunny on Saturday. Winds will be light to moderate, becoming increasingly strong on Saturday, from the west.
The danger of dry avalanches will slowly decrease. Occasional gliding avalanches, some of which could be large, will still be possible.