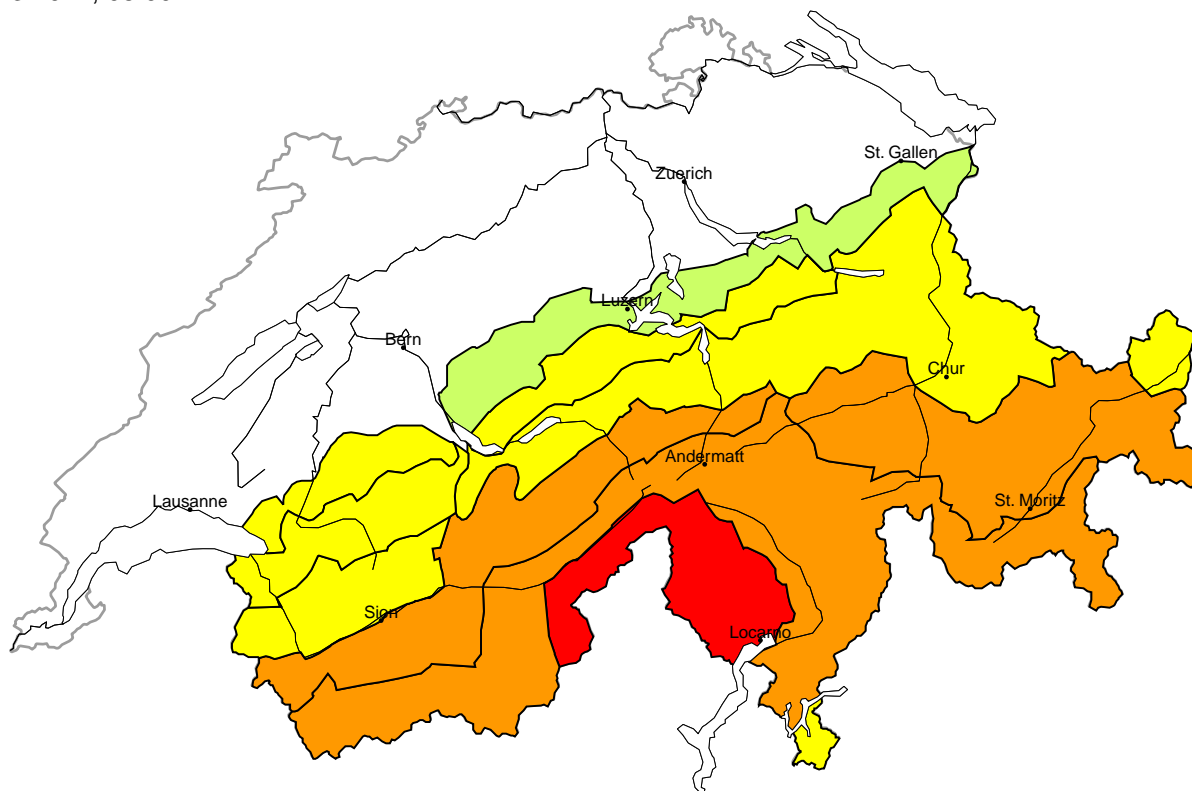


Avalanche bulletin for Wednesday, 27. March 2024

Avalanche danger

updated on 27.3.2024, 08:00



Danger levels



1 low



2 moderate



3 considerable



4 high

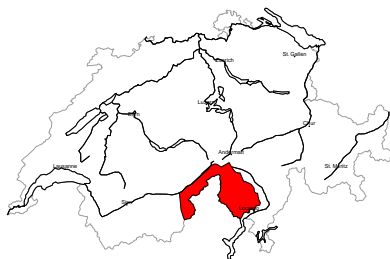


5 very high



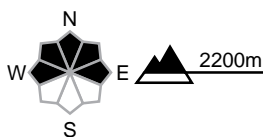
region A

High (4-)



New snow

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

The large quantity of fresh snow and the extensive wind slabs that are being formed by the strong to storm force southerly wind are prone to triggering. Danger level 4 (high) will be reached in the late morning probably. Single snow sport participants can release avalanches easily. Natural avalanches are to be expected. Avalanches can reach large size. The danger exists primarily in alpine snow sports terrain. Avalanches capable of reaching valley bottoms and endangering exposed transportation routes are unlikely to occur. The conditions are critical for snow sport activities outside marked and open pistes.

Moderate (2)

Wet snow, Gliding snow

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

In particular on steep grassy slopes occasionally large gliding avalanches are possible. Areas with glide cracks are to be avoided.



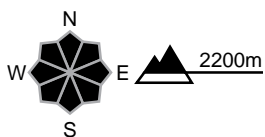
region B

Considerable (3+)



New snow

Avalanche prone locations



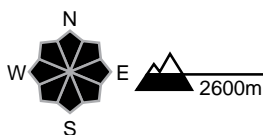
Danger description

The fresh snow and the large wind slabs that are being formed by the strong to storm force southerly wind are prone to triggering. Single snow sport participants can release avalanches easily. Natural avalanches must be expected with increasing likelihood. Avalanches can reach large size. Backcountry touring and other off-piste activities call for extensive experience in the assessment of avalanche danger and restraint.

Moderate (2)

Wet snow, Gliding snow

Avalanche prone locations

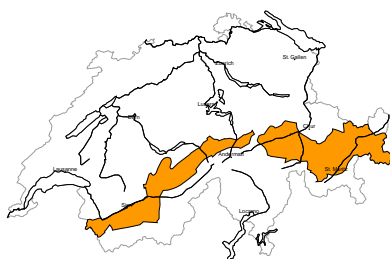


Danger description

In particular on steep grassy slopes occasionally large gliding avalanches are possible. Areas with glide cracks are to be avoided.

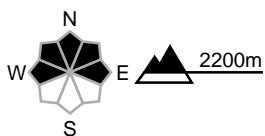
region C

Considerable (3-)



Wind slab

Avalanche prone locations



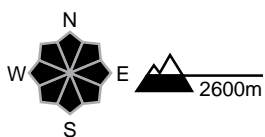
Danger description

As a consequence of new snow and a strong southerly wind, further wind slabs will form,, also at a distance from ridgelines. The fresh wind slabs can be released, even by a single winter sport participant. Mostly avalanches are medium-sized. 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



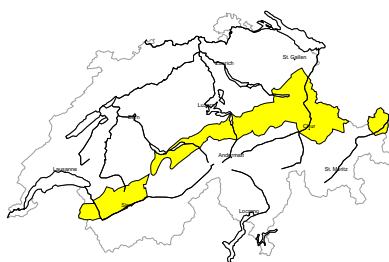
Danger description

In particular on steep grassy slopes occasionally large gliding avalanches are possible. Areas with glide cracks are to be avoided.



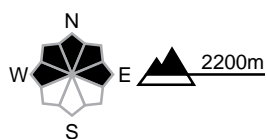
region D

Moderate (2+)



Wind slab

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

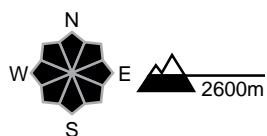
The wind slabs of the last few days are in some cases still prone to triggering. Avalanches can reach medium size.

The avalanche prone locations are to be found in particular in gullies and bowls, and behind abrupt changes in the terrain, also at a distance from ridgelines. Backcountry touring and other off-piste activities call for careful route selection.

Moderate (2)

Wet snow, Gliding snow

Avalanche prone locations

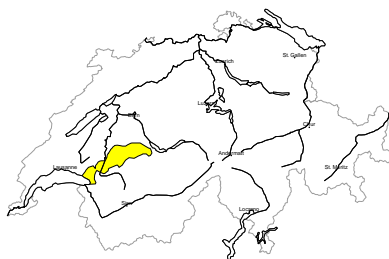


Danger description

In particular on steep grassy slopes occasionally large gliding avalanches are possible. Areas with glide cracks are to be avoided.

region E

Moderate (2=)



Wind slab

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

The wind slabs of the last few days are in some cases still prone to triggering. As a consequence of new snow and a strengthening westerly wind, further wind slabs will form in the afternoon. The avalanche prone locations are to be found in particular adjacent to ridgelines and in gullies and bowls. Avalanches are rather small. Careful route selection is important.

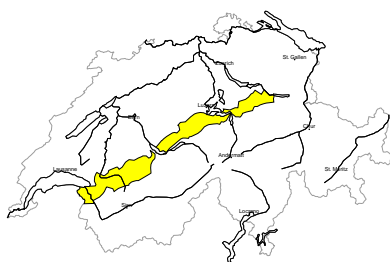
Low (1)

Gliding snow

Individual gliding avalanches are possible, especially on steep grassy slopes. These can in some cases reach medium size. Areas with glide cracks are to be avoided as far as possible.

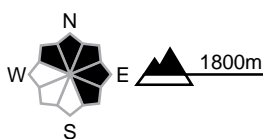
region F

Moderate (2=)



Wind slab

Avalanche prone locations



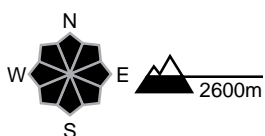
Danger description

The wind slabs of the last few days are in some cases still prone to triggering. As a consequence of new snow and a strengthening westerly wind, further wind slabs will form in the afternoon. The avalanche prone locations are to be found in particular adjacent to ridgelines and in gullies and bowls. Avalanches are rather small. Careful route selection is important.

Moderate (2)

Wet snow, Gliding snow

Avalanche prone locations

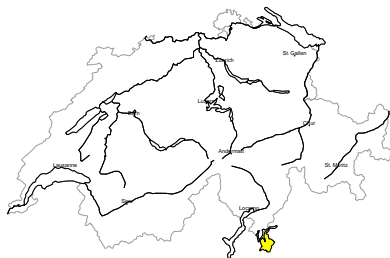


Danger description

In particular on steep grassy slopes occasionally large gliding avalanches are possible. Areas with glide cracks are to be avoided.

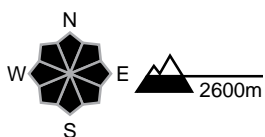
region G

Moderate (2)



Wet snow, Gliding snow

Avalanche prone locations

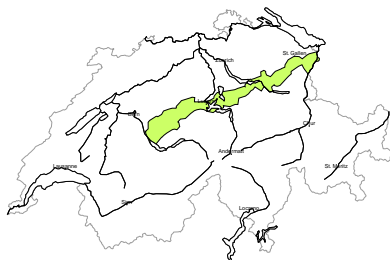


Danger description

In particular on steep grassy slopes occasionally large gliding avalanches are possible. Areas with glide cracks are to be avoided.

region H

Low (1)



Gliding snow

Individual gliding avalanches are possible, especially on steep grassy slopes. These can in some cases reach medium size. Areas with glide cracks are to be avoided as far as possible.



Snowpack and weather

updated on 26.3.2024, 17:00

Snowpack

The storm-force southerly wind and foehn wind transported the loose snow on Tuesday, so that the surface of the snowpack is now marked by the wind in many places. Some ridges and surfaces adjacent to ridgelines have been blown completely clear. The fresh wind slabs are mostly medium to large and sometimes prone to triggering. Snow will continue to drift on Tuesday night into Wednesday. A lot of new snow will fall on the Main Alpine Ridge and south of it, which will be heavily transported by the southerly wind. Large wind slabs will form here, even at a distance from ridgelines. Deep layers of the snowpack are compact in many places and for the most part do not contain distinct weak layers. Last week, the old snowpack was soaked up to approximately 3000 m on south-facing slopes, up to 2000-2500 m on east- and west-facing slopes, and up to approximately 1800-2000 m on north-facing slopes. Gliding avalanches are still possible, primarily on east-, south- and west-facing slopes below approximately 2600 m and on north-facing slopes below approximately 2000 m. These may be large.

Weather review for Tuesday, 26.03.2024

In the north, it was partly sunny with strong foehn winds. It was overcast in the south, with some snow falling above approximately 1200 m.

New snow

From Monday afternoon to Tuesday afternoon, the following amounts of fresh snow were recorded above approximately 1500 m:

- Main Alpine Ridge in Upper Valais: 5 to 10 cm;
- rest of the Main Alpine Ridge and south of this: a few centimetres;
- dry elsewhere.

Temperature

At midday at 2000 m, +3 °C in the north and -2 °C in the south.

Wind

- There were strong, at times storm-force, southerly winds on the Northern Alpine Ridge and generally at high altitudes.
- In the Alpine valleys of the north, there was a strong foehn wind, storm-force at times.

Weather forecast until Wednesday, 27.03.2024

There will be widespread snowfall, heavy in the south by the evening. The snowfall level during the night will be between 1700 m in the north and 1300 m in the south. During the day it will drop towards 1000 m. In the Alpine valleys of Ticino, it may even snow at low altitudes during periods of heavier precipitation.

New snow

From Tuesday afternoon to Wednesday afternoon, the following amounts of fresh snow are anticipated above approximately 1500 m:

- Main Alpine Ridge from the Monte Rosa area to the Bernina Pass and south of here: 40 to 60 cm, up to 80 cm on the Main Alpine Ridge in Upper Valais;
- neighbouring regions to the north and the rest of the Main Alpine Ridge: 20 to 40 cm;
- 10 to 20 cm widely towards the north.

Temperature

At midday at 2000 m, between -5 °C in the west, -3 °C in the south and +1 °C in the east.

Wind

During the night there will be:

- a strong to storm-force southerly wind;
- strong to storm-force foehn winds in the Alpine valleys of the north.

During the day:

- winds will ease, becoming moderate to strong from the south.

Trend until Friday, 29 March 2024

Thursday

It will be cloudy with bright spells. Snow will fall at times above approximately 1300 m. Some snow will fall on the central and eastern parts of the Main Alpine Ridge by the evening. There will be a moderate to strong southwesterly wind. The avalanche danger will decrease somewhat in the south. However, the situation will widely remain precarious for snow sports outside marked and open pistes. In the north, the avalanche danger will not change significantly. Gliding avalanches will still be possible.

Friday

On Friday, a southern orographic effect will set in again. Some snow will fall on the central and eastern parts of the Main Alpine Ridge and south of this. The snowfall level will rise during the day to over 2000 m.

In the Alpine valleys of the north, there will be a strong foehn wind with sunny intervals. Strong to storm-force southwesterly winds will blow in the north and strong southerly winds in the south.

The avalanche danger may increase in some regions, especially in the south. Gliding avalanches will still be possible.