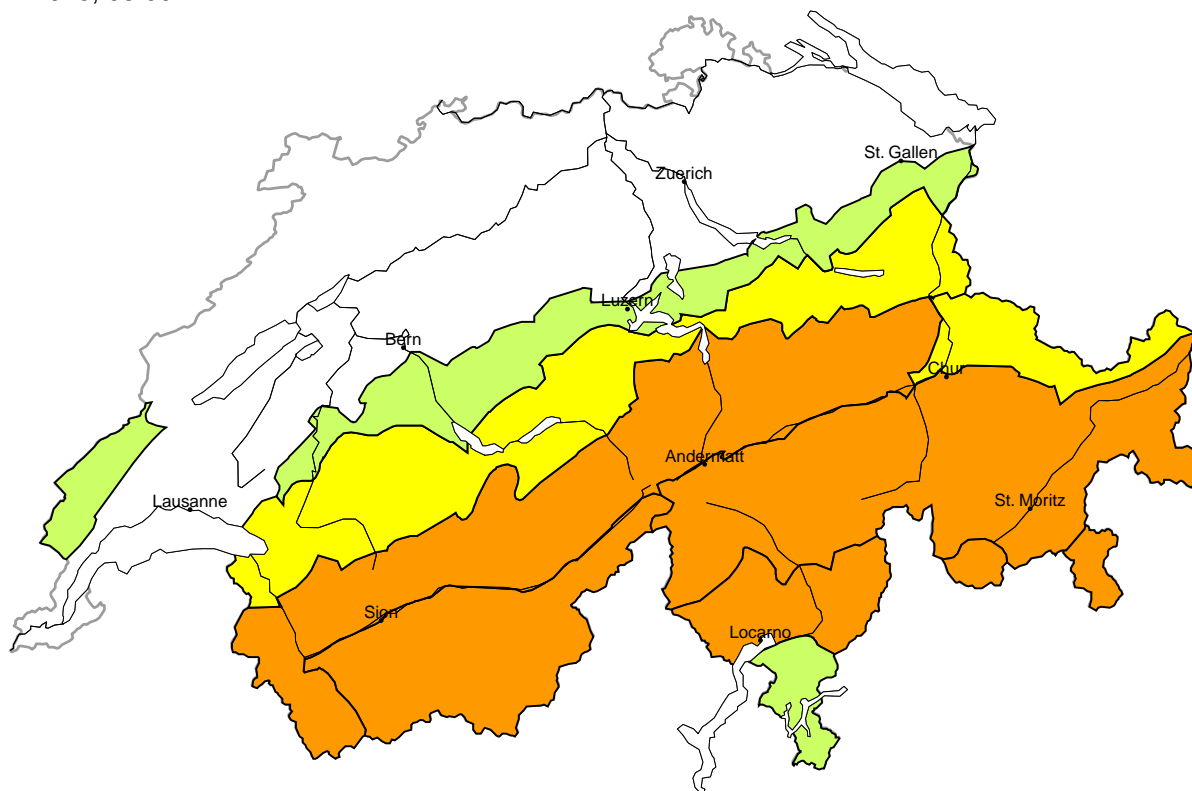


Avalanche danger

updated on 12.1.2025, 08:00



region A

Considerable (3=)



Wind slab, Persistent weak layers

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

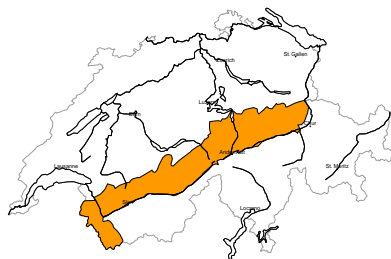
As a consequence of a sometimes strong northeasterly wind, further wind slabs will form at elevated altitudes. Fresh and older wind slabs are prone to triggering. Even single winter sport participants can release avalanches, including medium-sized ones. Additionally in some places avalanches can also be released in the old snowpack and reach large size in isolated cases. Caution is to be exercised in particular in areas where the snow cover is rather shallow. Backcountry touring and other off-piste activities call for experience in the assessment of avalanche danger and careful route selection.



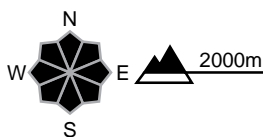
region B

Considerable (3-)

Wind slab



Avalanche prone locations



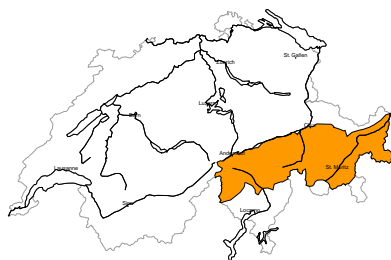
Danger description

As a consequence of a moderate to strong northeasterly wind, further wind slabs will form. The fresh and somewhat older wind slabs are in some cases prone to triggering. Avalanches can be released, even by a single winter sport participant and reach medium size. Backcountry touring and other off-piste activities call for experience in the assessment of avalanche danger.

region C

Considerable (3-)

Wind slab, Persistent weak layers



Avalanche prone locations



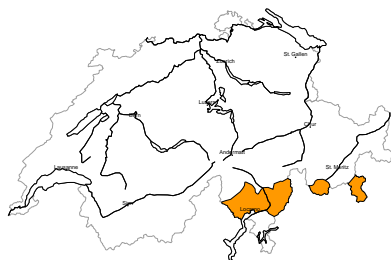
Danger description

Avalanches can be released in the old snowpack and reach medium size. These avalanche prone locations are barely recognisable, even to the trained eye. Caution is to be exercised in particular in areas where the snow cover is rather shallow in places that are protected from the wind. As a consequence of a strong northerly wind, avalanche prone wind slabs will form in particular at elevated altitudes. Whumpung sounds and the formation of shooting cracks when stepping on the snowpack can indicate the danger. Backcountry touring and other off-piste activities call for experience in the assessment of avalanche danger and careful route selection.

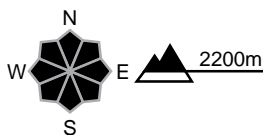
region D

Considerable (3-)

Wind slab, Persistent weak layers



Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

Fresh and somewhat older wind slabs are in some cases prone to triggering. Additionally in some places avalanches can be released in the old snowpack and reach medium size. These avalanche prone locations are to be found especially on very steep north facing slopes above approximately 2600 m. Backcountry touring calls for experience in the assessment of avalanche danger.



1 low



2 moderate



3 considerable



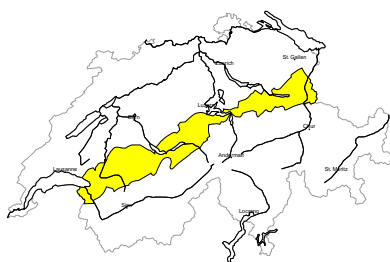
4 high



5 very high

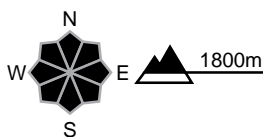
region E

Moderate (2+)



Wind slab

Avalanche prone locations

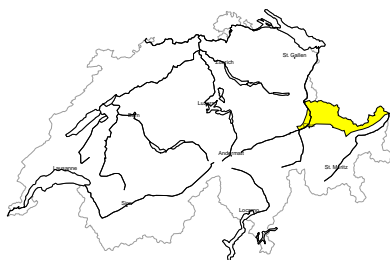


Danger description

As a consequence of a moderate to strong bise wind, sometimes avalanche prone wind slabs will form. They are to be found in particular in gullies and bowls, and behind abrupt changes in the terrain. Avalanches can in some places be released by people, but they will be small in most cases. Backcountry touring and snowshoe hiking call for careful route selection.

region F

Moderate (2+)



Wind slab, Persistent weak layers

Avalanche prone locations

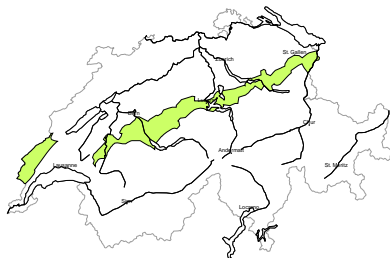


Danger description

The sometimes new snow-covered wind slabs are prone to triggering. These avalanche prone locations are to be found especially adjacent to ridgelines and in gullies and bowls. Additionally in isolated cases avalanches can be released in the old snowpack and reach medium size. Backcountry touring calls for experience in the assessment of avalanche danger.

region G

Low (1)

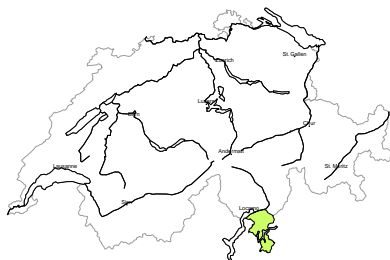


Wind slab

As a consequence of a moderate to strong bise wind, small wind slabs will form. These are to be evaluated with care and prudence especially in terrain where there is a danger of falling.

region H

Low (1)



No distinct avalanche problem

Individual avalanche prone locations are to be found on extremely steep slopes above approximately 1600 m. Even a small avalanche can sweep people along and give rise to falls.



Snowpack and weather

updated on 11.1.2025, 17:00

Snowpack

With fresh snow and lots of wind, first from the west to southwest and then from the west to northwest, the last few days have seen widespread snowdrift accumulations form. Some of these are prone to triggering, and some of them were covered with fresh snow by the time snow stopped falling on Saturday and are therefore difficult to spot.

The structure of the old snowpack varies greatly from region to region:

- south of a line from the Rhône to the Rhine, at high altitude the snowpack contains pronounced weak layers in which avalanches can be triggered in places, sometimes right down to ground level.
- these weak layers are also present on the central part of the southern flank of the Alps, as well as in Val Bregaglia and Val Poschiavo, but are very thin and thus in the terrain roughness range. In these southerly regions old snow therefore tends to be unproblematic, except on north-facing slopes above approximately 2600 m.
- north of a line from the Rhône to the Rhine and in the extreme west of Lower Valais, the snowpack structure is more favourable. Avalanches starting in weak layers in old snow are only possible in isolated cases. The snowpack is very strongly affected by the wind.

Weather review for Saturday

Some snow was still falling in the north at midday. The snowfall level rose to 1500 m in the west on Friday evening and then dropped back to below 1000 m. In Ticino and Grisons, snowfall ended during the night and it was quite sunny during the day.

Fresh snow

From Friday afternoon to midday on Saturday:

- northern flank of the Alps from the Bernese Oberland to the Glarus Alps: 10 to 20 cm
- otherwise a widespread 5 to 10 cm, with fewer centimetres or dry conditions in the southeast

The last 5 days have therefore seen the following totals:

- extreme west of Lower Valais: 60 to 80 cm
- Vaud and Fribourg Alps, Valais, northern and central Ticino as well as the Upper Engadine, Moesano, Val Bregaglia and Val Poschiavo: 40 to 60 cm
- otherwise a widespread 20 to 40 cm, with less in the Jura

Temperature

At midday at 2000 m, between -3 °C in the southwest and -9 °C in the northeast

Wind

Moderate to strong northwesterly during the night, mostly moderate during the day

Weather forecast to Sunday

It will be mostly sunny in the mountains.

Fresh snow

-

Temperature

At midday at 2000 m, between -7 °C in the west, -3 °C in the south and -11 °C in the east

Wind

- increasingly strong north-easterly at high altitudes
- storm force Bise wind in the Jura, moderate to strong Bise wind along the Prealps

Outlook

Monday and Tuesday will be mostly sunny. Moderate to strong northeasterly winds at high altitudes, Bise wind in the north until Monday evening. It will become milder again, with the zero-degree level increasing to around 2000 m on Monday and 2500 m on Tuesday.

Avalanche danger will decrease, but only slowly in the areas with persistent weak layers.