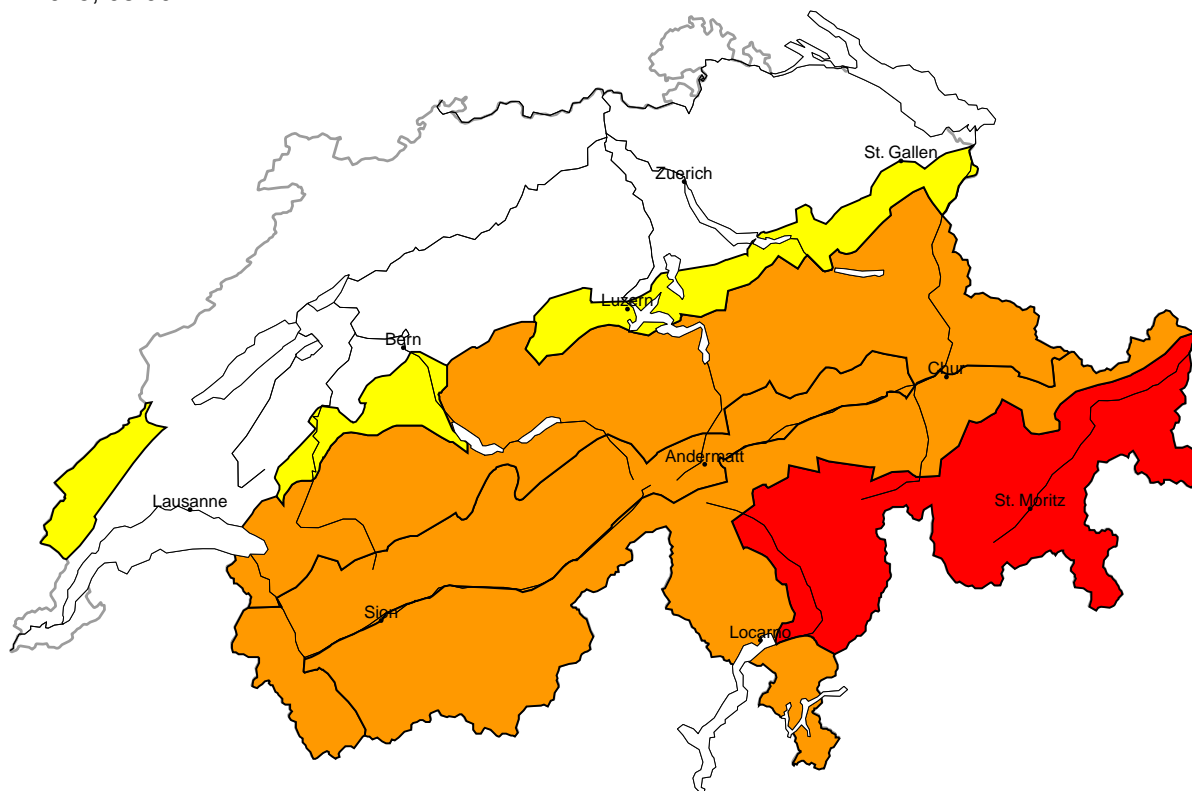
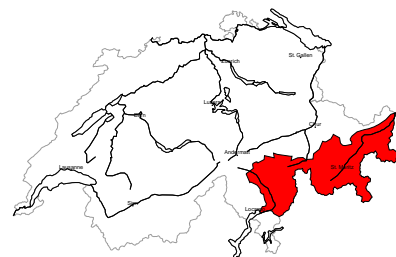


Avalanche danger

updated on 29.1.2025, 08:00

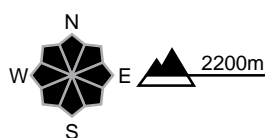


region A High (4-)



New snow, Persistent weak layers

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

The danger exists in particular in alpine snow sports terrain. The large quantity of fresh snow and the wind slabs are lying on top of a weakly bonded old snowpack especially on shady slopes. Avalanches can in many cases be triggered in deep layers and reach large size. Even single winter sport participants can release avalanches very easily. Remotely triggered avalanches are to be expected. Natural avalanches are possible in isolated cases. Whumpfung sounds and the formation of shooting cracks when stepping on the snowpack serve as an alarm indicating the danger. The snow sport conditions outside marked and open pistes are dangerous. Restraint is advisable on this first sunny day.

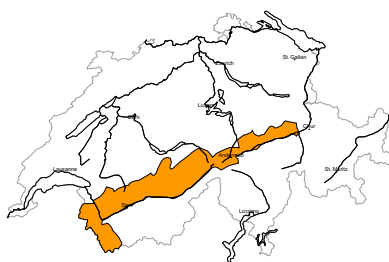
Moderate (2)

Wet snow

As a consequence of solar radiation moist loose snow avalanches are to be expected. Individual gliding avalanches can also occur. These can reach large size. Caution is to be exercised in areas with glide cracks.

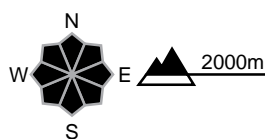
region B

Considerable (3+)



New snow, Wind slab

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

The large quantity of fresh snow and the extensive wind slabs are lying on the unfavourable surface of an old snowpack in particular on shady slopes. Avalanches can in many places be released by a single winter sport participant and reach large size. Remotely triggered and natural avalanches are possible. Backcountry touring calls for extensive experience in the assessment of avalanche danger and caution. Restraint is advisable on this first sunny day.

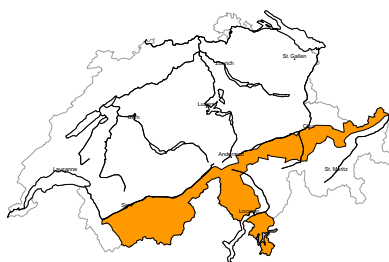
Moderate (2)

Wet snow

As a consequence of solar radiation moist loose snow avalanches are to be expected. Individual gliding avalanches can also occur. These can reach large size. Caution is to be exercised in areas with glide cracks.

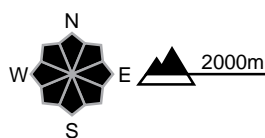
region C

Considerable (3+)



New snow, Persistent weak layers

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

The fresh snow and the wind slabs are lying on top of a weakly bonded old snowpack. Avalanches can in many places be released by a single winter sport participant. Remotely triggered avalanches are to be expected. Whumpung sounds and the formation of shooting cracks when stepping on the snowpack serve as an alarm indicating the danger. Avalanches can penetrate deep layers and reach large size. Ski touring and other off-piste activities, including snowshoe hiking, call for extensive experience in the assessment of avalanche danger and restraint. Restraint is advisable on this first sunny day.

Moderate (2)

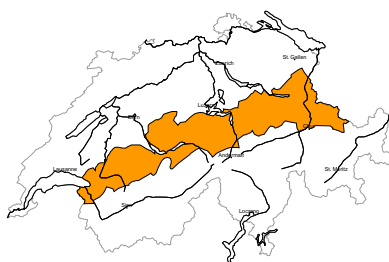
Wet snow

As a consequence of solar radiation moist loose snow avalanches are to be expected. Individual gliding avalanches can also occur. These can reach large size. Caution is to be exercised in areas with glide cracks.



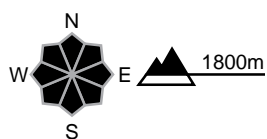
region D

Considerable (3=)



New snow, Wind slab

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

The new snow and wind slabs of the last few days are lying on the unfavourable surface of an old snowpack. Even single persons can release avalanches in some places. These can in isolated cases reach large size. Ski touring and other off-piste activities, including snowshoe hiking, call for experience in the assessment of avalanche danger and careful route selection.

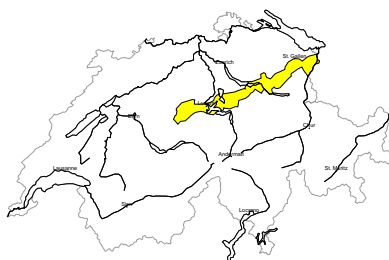
Moderate (2)

Wet snow

As a consequence of solar radiation moist loose snow avalanches are to be expected. Individual gliding avalanches can also occur. These can reach large size. Caution is to be exercised in areas with glide cracks.

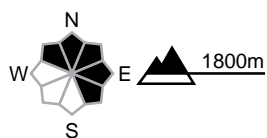
region E

Moderate (2+)



Wind slab

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

As a consequence of new snow and a sometimes strong westerly wind, avalanche prone wind slabs formed in the last few days. They are to be found in particular in gullies and bowls, and behind abrupt changes in the terrain. Single persons can release avalanches in some places. These can reach medium size in isolated cases. The wind slabs are to be bypassed as far as possible.

Moderate (2)

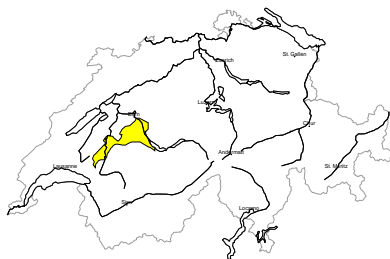
Wet snow

As a consequence of solar radiation moist loose snow avalanches are to be expected. Individual gliding avalanches can also occur. These can reach large size. Caution is to be exercised in areas with glide cracks.



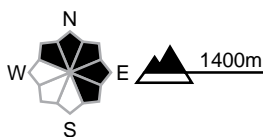
region F

Moderate (2-)



Wind slab

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

Only a little snow is lying. As a consequence of new snow and a strong southwesterly wind, sometimes avalanche prone wind slabs formed. These are to be evaluated with care and prudence in particular in terrain where there is a danger of falling.

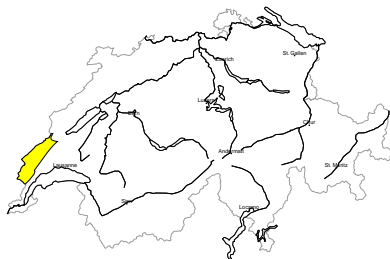
Moderate (2)

Wet snow

As a consequence of solar radiation moist loose snow avalanches are to be expected. Individual gliding avalanches can also occur. These can reach large size. Caution is to be exercised in areas with glide cracks.

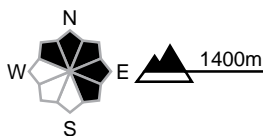
region G

Moderate (2-)



Wind slab

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

Only a little snow is lying. As a consequence of new snow and a strong southwesterly wind, sometimes avalanche prone wind slabs formed. These are to be evaluated with care and prudence in particular in terrain where there is a danger of falling.



Snowpack and weather

updated on 28.1.2025, 17:00

Snowpack

The large amount of fresh snow that has fallen has been deposited on layers of new and drifted snow from the previous days. The underlying surface of the old snowpack was often faceted and weak, especially on shady slopes. In the south, on the eastern part of the main Alpine ridge, in the inneralpine regions of central Grisons and in the Engadine, often the entire old snowpack is faceted and loose, especially on shady slopes protected from the wind. In such places, avalanches can entrain the entire snowpack. Due to the highly unfavourable snowpack structure, the avalanche situation in these regions will ease very slowly.

North of a line from the Rhône to the Rhine and in the extreme west of Lower Valais, the middle part of the snowpack is often well consolidated, and in these regions avalanches are to be expected mainly within the new and drifted snow layers and at the point of transition to the old snowpack.

Weather review for Tuesday

Snow fell, sometimes persistently. The snowfall level dropped from 2000 m to around 800 m in the north. In the south, it temporarily rose to 2000 m before dropping to 1400 m at the very end of the day. In the west, the afternoon saw only little continued precipitation.

Fresh snow

From Monday morning to Tuesday afternoon above approximately 2200 m:

- westernmost and northern Lower Valais as well as the main Alpine ridge from the Lukmanier Pass to the Bernina Pass and south from there: 50 to 80 cm
- elsewhere widespread 30 to 50 cm; somewhat less in the southern Upper Valais with 15 to 30 cm and in the Jura with 10 to 20 cm

Following amounts have fallen since precipitation began on Saturday:

- main Alpine Ridge from the Lukmanier Pass to the Bernina Pass and south from there: 80 to 110 cm
- neighbouring regions as well as westernmost and northern Lower Valais: 60 to 80 cm
- elsewhere a widespread 40 to 60 cm, with just 10 to 20 cm in the Jura

Temperature

At midday at 2000 m around -4 °C.

Wind

- In the north and in Valais moderate, locally strong southwesterly to westerly
- Overnight in Ticino and Grisons occasionally still strong from the south; weak to moderate from the northwest during the day

Weather forecast to Wednesday

Precipitation will fall overnight in the north and west, as snow above approximately 1000 m. During the day it will be mostly sunny, with high clouds gathering from the west in the afternoon.

Fresh snow

From Tuesday afternoon until precipitation ends on Wednesday morning:

- westernmost Lower Valais, Vaud Alps: 15 to 30 cm
- other regions of the northern flank of the Alps and Valais, Jura: 5 to 15 cm
- elsewhere less or dry

Temperature

At midday at 2000 m around -4 °C

Wind

- Strong westerly winds overnight on the northern flank of the Alps and at high altitudes
- Otherwise often moderate westerly to southwesterly

Outlook

On Thursday conditions will be cloudy. In the north a tendency towards a foehn wind will result in longer clear spells, while in the south a little snow will fall above approximately 1000 m. On Friday, it will be very cloudy in the north and a few snowflakes will fall in the Prealps. In the south and in central Valais conditions are likely to be quite sunny.

The danger of dry avalanches will decrease, but only slowly in the south and in Grisons due to the weak snowpack structure. In these regions conditions for off-piste snow sports remain critical.