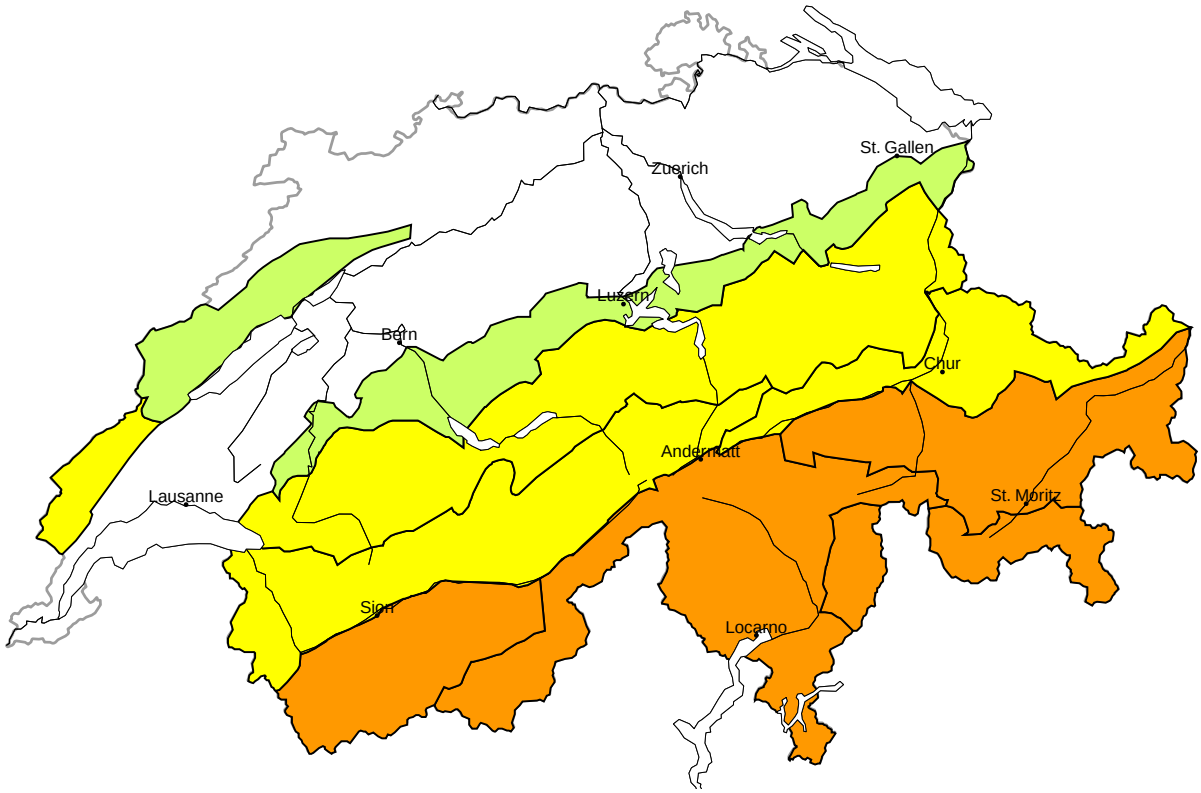
Avalanche bulletin for Wednesday, 28. January 2026

Avalanche danger

updated on 28.1.2026, 08:00

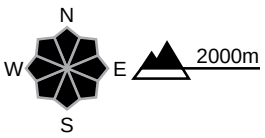


region A

Considerable (3+)

New snow, Persistent weak layers

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

The new snow and wind slabs are lying on top of a weakly bonded old snowpack in particular on steep west, north and east facing slopes. Avalanches can be released in near-ground layers and reach large size. Remotely triggered avalanches are to be expected. Natural avalanches are possible. Whumpfing 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 extensive experience in the assessment of avalanche danger and caution.

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

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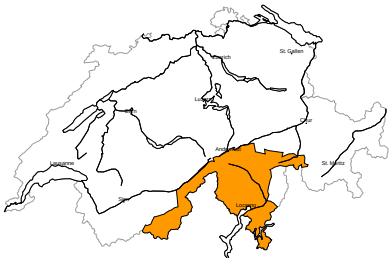
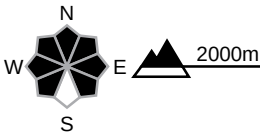
region B — Considerable (3=)



Wind slab, Persistent weak layers

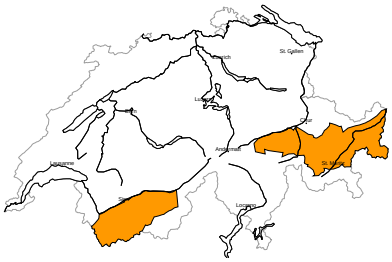
Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

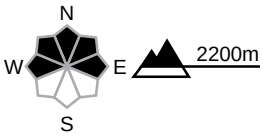
The new snow and wind slabs are lying on top of a weakly bonded old snowpack in particular on steep west, north and east facing slopes. Avalanches can be released in near-ground layers and reach large size in isolated cases. Remotely triggered avalanches are possible. Whumpfing sounds and the formation 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.

region C — Considerable (3-)



Wind slab, Persistent weak layers

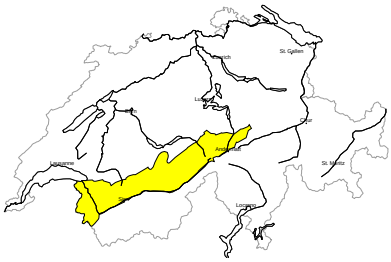
Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

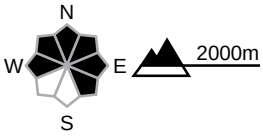
Fresh and somewhat older wind slabs are lying on top of a weakly bonded old snowpack. Even single snow sport participants can release avalanches. These can also be triggered in deep layers and reach dangerously large size. Remotely triggered avalanches are possible in isolated cases. Whumpfing sounds 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.

region D — Moderate (2+)



Wind slab, Persistent weak layers

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

Fresh and somewhat older wind slabs are in some cases prone to triggering. Additionally avalanches can also be released in the old snowpack and reach dangerously large size. These avalanche prone locations are rather rare and are difficult to recognise. Caution is to be exercised in particular on little-used, rather lightly snow-covered north and east facing slopes, as well as at transitions from a shallow to a deep snowpack.
Backcountry touring and other off-piste activities call for careful route selection.

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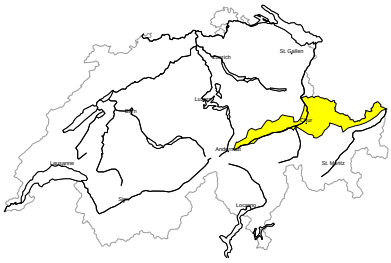
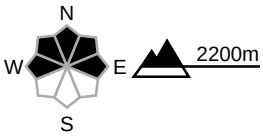
region E — Moderate (2+)



Wind slab, Persistent weak layers

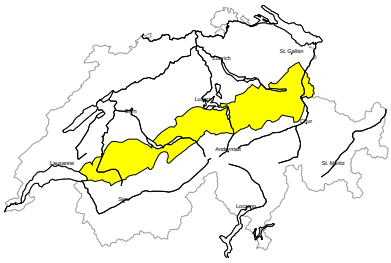
Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

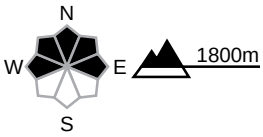
Fresh and older wind slabs are lying on top of a weakly bonded old snowpack. Avalanches can be triggered in the weakly bonded old snow. Mostly they are medium-sized. Whumpfing sounds and the formation of shooting cracks when stepping on the snowpack can indicate the danger. Remotely triggered avalanches are possible in isolated cases.
Backcountry touring and other off-piste activities call for meticulous route selection.

region F — Moderate (2=)



Wind slab, Persistent weak layers

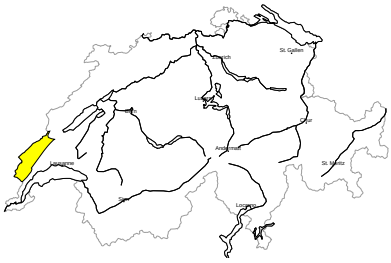
Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

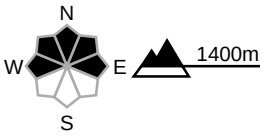
Weak layers in the old snowpack can be released in some places by people. The avalanche prone locations are sometimes covered with new snow and are difficult to recognise. Avalanches can reach medium size. As a consequence of a moderate to strong southerly wind, avalanche prone wind slabs formed as well.
Careful route selection is recommended.

region G — Moderate (2=)



Wind slab

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

Fresh wind slabs are in some cases prone to triggering. They are to be found in particular in gullies and bowls, and behind abrupt changes in the terrain. The avalanche prone locations are sometimes covered with new snow and are therefore difficult to recognise. Apart from the danger of being buried, restraint should be exercised as well in view of the danger of avalanches sweeping people along and giving rise to falls.

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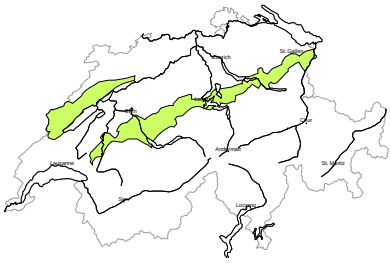
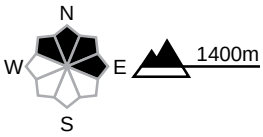
region H

Low (1)



Wind slab

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

From a snow sport perspective, in most cases insufficient snow is lying. Individual avalanche prone locations are to be found in extremely steep terrain. Avalanches are only small. Restraint should be exercised because avalanches can sweep people along and give rise to falls.

Snowpack and weather

updated on 27.1.2026, 17:00

Snowpack

In the south, the fresh and drifted snow is being deposited on an unfavourable snowpack. Avalanches can be triggered not only in the fresh snow, but also in deeper layers of the snowpack. Avalanches can also still be triggered deeper in the snowpack in many areas in the inneralpine regions of Valais and Grisons.
North of a line from the Rhone to the Rhine, strong southerly winds are causing snowdrift accumulations, some of which are prone to triggering. In the west, these are growing larger with the fresh snowfall. Weak layers deeper in the old snowpack are somewhat rarer and less prone to triggering in these regions.

Weather review for Tuesday

After a mostly clear night, clouds rapidly gathered in the west. In the east and south, conditions remained very sunny into the afternoon.

Fresh snow
-

Temperature
At midday at 2000 m, between +4°C in the north and -3°C in the south

Wind
- Moderate to strong southwesterly in the north overnight, elsewhere light to moderate
- During the day, widespread moderate to strong southerly at high altitudes; moderate foehn winds at times in the valleys of the north

Weather forecast to Wednesday

Snow will fall on the Main Alpine Ridge and south of there. The snowfall level will drop briefly to 500 m and will be at between 800 and 1000 m during the day. The north will see intermittent light precipitation, which will be more persistent in western Jura. Regions exposed to the foehn wind in central and eastern Switzerland will remain mostly dry. In the north the snowfall level will rise briefly to 1500 m in the Jura and will be around 800 m in all regions during the day.

Fresh snow
From Tuesday evening to Wednesday afternoon, above approximately 1400 m:
- Main Alpine ridge from Val Bregaglia to the Bernina Pass, Sotto Ceneri: 15 to 30 cm
- western Jura, rest of the Main Alpine Ridge from the Great St Bernard Pass to Upper Engadine, rest of Ticino: 10 to 20 cm
- otherwise a widespread 5 to 10 cm, and mostly dry from the Bernese Oberland to Liechtenstein and in Prättigau

Temperature
At midday at 2000 m, between -3°C in the west and south and 0°C in the east

Wind
- Strong southerly at night, with a strong foehn wind in the Alpine valleys in the north
- Dying down during the day, becoming mostly light to moderate southerly

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Outlook

Thursday

Overnight to Thursday, 5 to 15 cm of snow will fall down to low altitudes in the north and in Grisons. During the day conditions will quickly brighten in the west and south, but will remain cloudy for longer in the east with light snowfall. The wind will be a light to moderate westerly to northerly. Avalanche risk will increase somewhat in the north.

Friday

Around 10 cm of snow will fall in the west. In the east conditions will become increasingly cloudy and there will be light snowfall at times. The snowfall level will be around 1000 m. In Grisons and Ticino, conditions will remain sunny for longer and dry into the evening. The wind will be a light to moderate westerly to northwesterly. There will be hardly any change in avalanche risk.