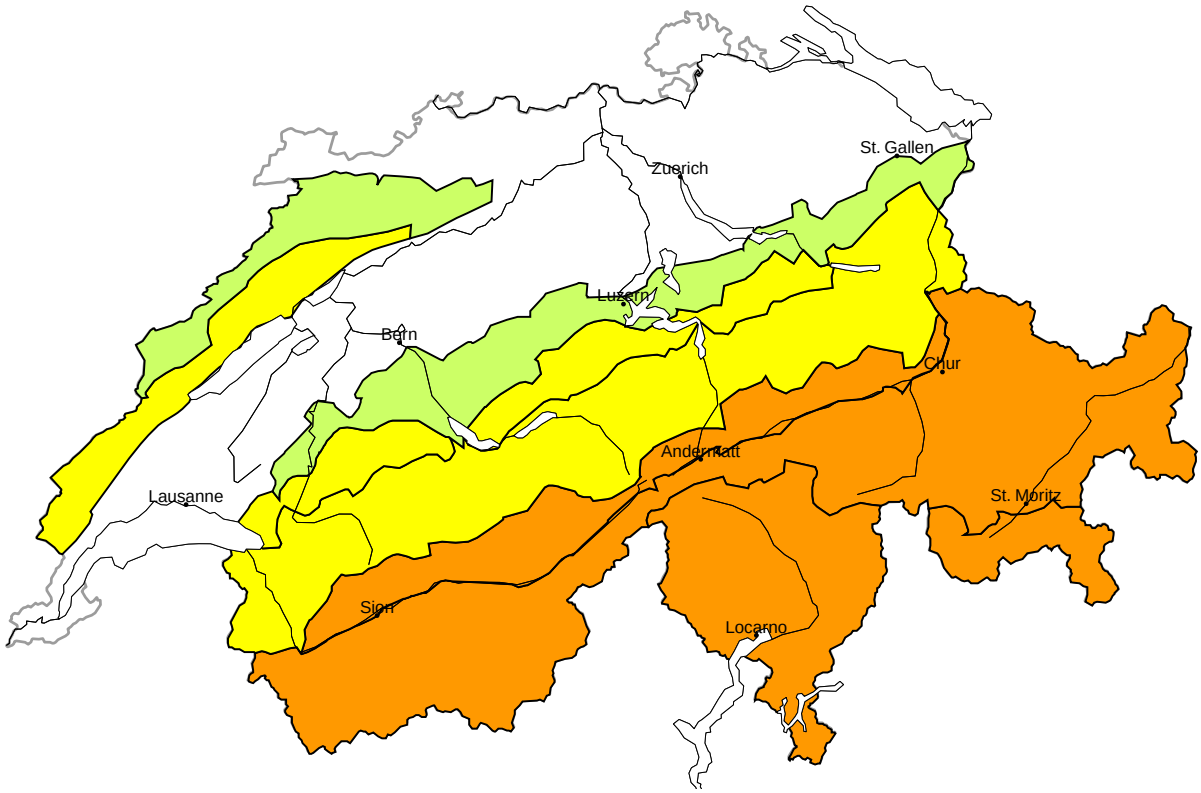
Avalanche bulletin for Wednesday, 4. February 2026

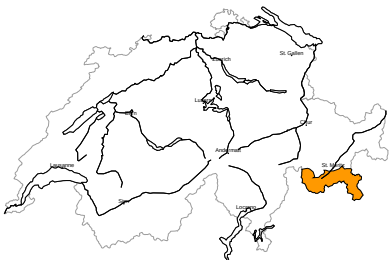
Avalanche danger

updated on 4.2.2026, 08:00



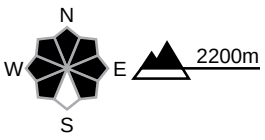
region A

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. Avalanches can be released in near-ground layers and reach large size. The avalanche prone locations are prevalent. Remotely triggered avalanches are to be expected. Whumpfing sounds and the formation of shooting cracks when stepping on the snowpack and fresh avalanches indicate the danger.
Backcountry touring and other off-piste activities call for extensive experience in the assessment of avalanche danger and restraint.

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

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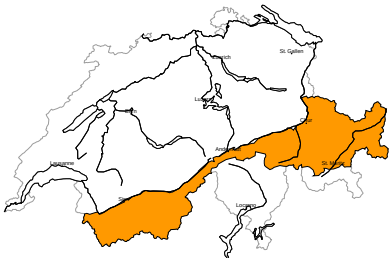
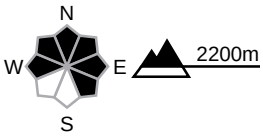
region B — Considerable (3=)



Wind slab, Persistent weak layers

Avalanche prone locations



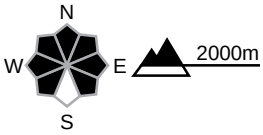
Danger description

The fresh wind slabs are lying on top of a weakly bonded old snowpack. Even single snow sport participants can release avalanches. These can be triggered in deep 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 and fresh avalanches can indicate the danger.
Backcountry touring and other off-piste activities call for experience in the assessment of avalanche danger and caution.

region C — Considerable (3=)

New snow, Persistent weak layers

Avalanche prone locations



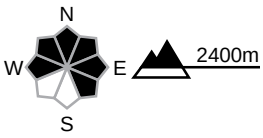
Danger description

The new snow and wind slabs are lying on top of a weakly bonded old snowpack. Even single snow sport participants can release avalanches. These can be triggered in deep 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 and fresh avalanches can indicate the danger.
Backcountry touring and other off-piste activities call for experience in the assessment of avalanche danger and caution.

region D — Considerable (3-)

Wind slab, Persistent weak layers

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

The fresh and older wind slabs are in some cases prone to triggering. Avalanches can additionally in some places be released in the old snowpack also. These avalanche prone locations are to be found in particular at transitions from a shallow to a deep snowpack. Slopes that have been little used this winter thus far are especially unfavourable. Avalanches can reach medium size.
Experience in the assessment of avalanche danger is important.

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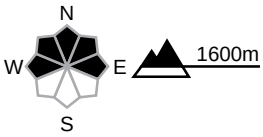
region E

Considerable (3-)

New snow, Persistent weak layers

Avalanche prone locations

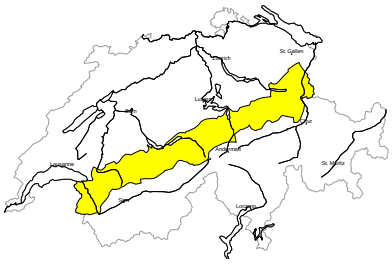


Danger description

Avalanches can in some places be released by people and reach medium size. This applies especially on very steep slopes. Backcountry touring calls for careful route selection.

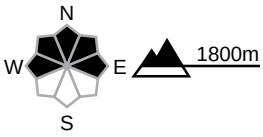
region F

Moderate (2+)



Wind slab, Persistent weak layers

Avalanche prone locations

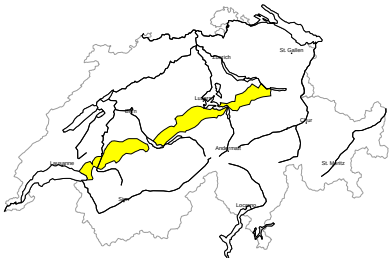


Danger description

The fresh and older wind slabs are in some cases prone to triggering. Avalanches can additionally in some places be released in the old snowpack also. These avalanche prone locations are to be found in particular at transitions from a shallow to a deep snowpack. Slopes that have been little used this winter thus far are especially unfavourable. Avalanches can reach medium size.
Backcountry touring calls for careful route selection.

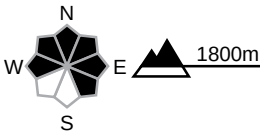
region G

Moderate (2=)



Wind slab, Persistent weak layers

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

The fresh and older wind slabs are in some cases prone to triggering. They are to be evaluated with care and prudence especially in very steep terrain. Small and, in isolated cases, medium-sized avalanches are possible.
Careful route selection is recommended.

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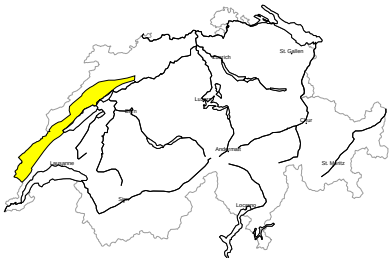
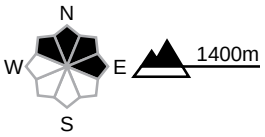
region H

Moderate (2-)



Wind slab

Avalanche prone locations

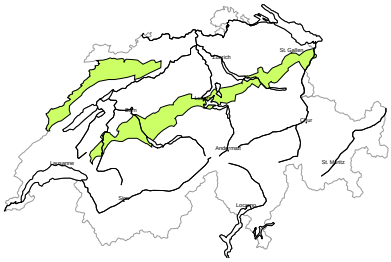


Danger description

As a consequence of a strong southwesterly wind, mostly small wind slabs formed in gullies and bowls and behind abrupt changes in the terrain. They are to be evaluated with care and prudence in particular in terrain where there is a danger of falling. 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.

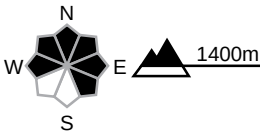
region I

Low (1)



No distinct avalanche problem

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

Individual avalanche prone locations are to be found in extremely steep terrain. Mostly avalanches are only small. Restraint should be exercised because avalanches can sweep people along and give rise to falls.

Snowpack and weather

updated on 3.2.2026, 17:00

Snowpack

Tuesday's strong to storm-force southerly winds have formed widespread snowdrift accumulations. Ridgelines have often been blown away. In the south, the fresh snow was additionally deposited on top of a weak snowpack. Fresh snow and snowdrift accumulations are often lying on an unfavourable old snow surface of faceted crystals or snow-covered surface hoar and are easily triggered in many places.
There are pronounced weak layers in the snowpack in southern Valais, Ticino and Grisons. At the weekend, human activity triggered lots of medium and sometimes large avalanches in the weak old snowpack in these regions, often from a distance. Snowpack structure is somewhat more favourable on the northern flank of the Alps and in northern Valais, but there are weak layers deeper in the snowpack in these regions too. These may still be triggered, especially where there is little snow and at transitions from a deep to shallow snowpack.

Weather review for Tuesday

Snow fell down to low altitudes on the Main Alpine Ridge and south of there. There were sunny intervals in the west and north.

Fresh snow
From Monday evening to Tuesday afternoon:
- from Val Bregaglia to the Bernina Pass: 15 to 25 cm
- central part of the southern flank of the Alps: 10 to 20 cm
- rest of the Main Alpine Ridge: 5 to 10 cm; elsewhere: less or dry.

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

Wind
- Strong to storm-force southerly; strong foehn wind in the Alpine valleys of the north
- Dropping somewhat in the afternoon

Weather forecast to Wednesday

Conditions will often be cloudy on Wednesday and a little snow will fall in the south. The snowfall level will be around 1000 m. There will be brighter intervals in the afternoon in the west.

Fresh snow
Main Alpine Ridge and south of there: a few centimetres;

Temperature
At midday at 2000 m, between -1°C in the north and -5°C in the south

Wind
Light in the south, otherwise moderate from southerly directions

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Outlook

Thursday
Thursday will be very sunny. Winds will be light to moderate, strengthening from the south in the evening.
Avalanche risk will decrease somewhat in all regions. In southern Valais, Ticino and Grisons, however, it will decrease only very slowly due to the distinct and persistent weak layers.

Friday
Precipitation will set in from the west overnight to Friday. During the day, conditions will be very cloudy and there will be occasional precipitation, falling as snow above approximately 1200 m. Around 20 to 30 cm will fall in the extreme west of Lower Valais. The wind will increasingly become a moderate southwesterly.
Avalanche risk will increase in the west with the fresh snow, but will otherwise not change significantly.