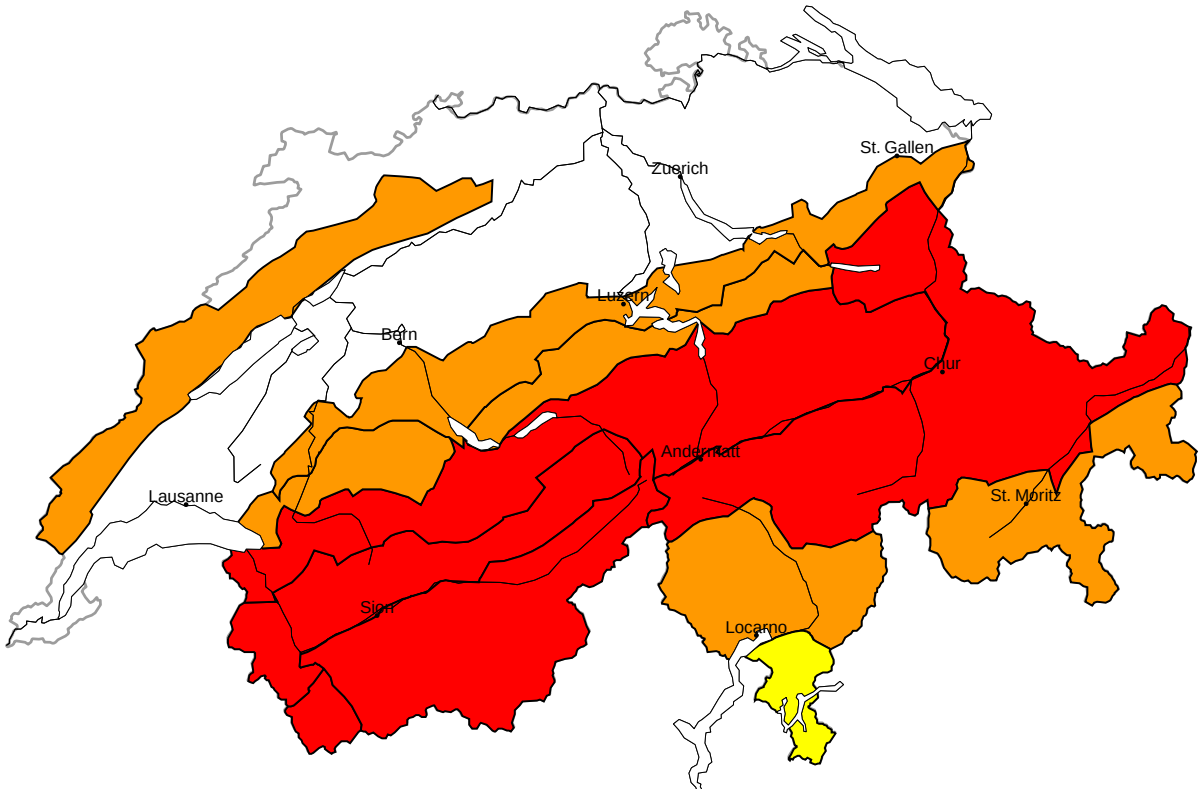
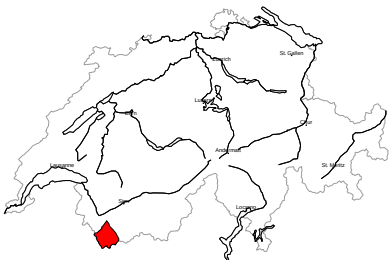
Avalanche bulletin for Monday, 16. February 2026

Avalanche danger

updated on 16.2.2026, 08:00

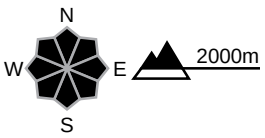


region A — High (4+)



New snow, Persistent weak layers

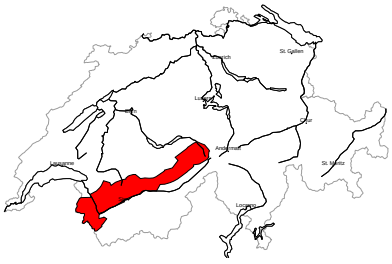
Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

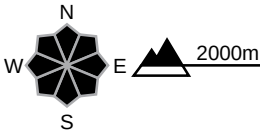
Large quantities of fresh snow and the wind-drifted snow are very prone to triggering. Avalanches can release deeper layers of the snowpack. Very large and, in isolated cases, extremely large natural avalanches are to be expected. Exposed transportation routes are endangered in the majority of cases.
Avalanches can in many places be released easily. The conditions are very dangerous for backcountry touring and other off-piste activities outside marked and open pistes.

region B — High (4=)



New snow, Persistent weak layers

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

Large quantities of fresh snow and the wind-drifted snow are very prone to triggering. Natural avalanches are to be expected. Avalanches can in many places be released easily. Avalanches can release deeper layers of the snowpack and reach very large size.
Exposed transportation routes are endangered. The conditions are dangerous for backcountry touring and other off-piste activities outside marked and open pistes.

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

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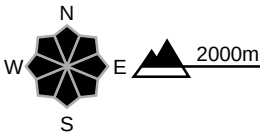
region C — High (4=)

New snow, Persistent weak layers

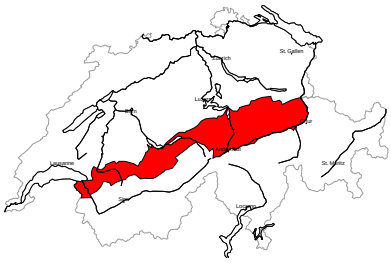
Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

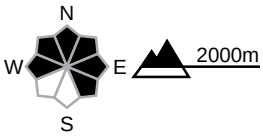
Large quantities of fresh snow and the wind-drifted snow will be deposited on a weakly bonded old snowpack. Natural avalanches are to be expected. Avalanches can in many places be released easily. They can in many places be triggered in the old snowpack reach very large size in isolated cases. Exposed transportation routes are endangered. The conditions are dangerous for backcountry touring and other off-piste activities outside marked and open pistes.

region D — High (4-)



New snow, Persistent weak layers

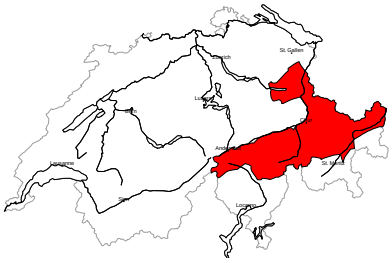
Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

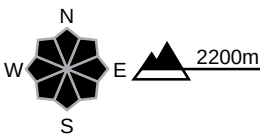
Large quantities of fresh snow and the wind-drifted snow are very prone to triggering. Avalanches can be released easily or triggered naturally. Avalanches can also release deeper layers of the snowpack. The danger exists in particular in alpine snow sports terrain. Numerous medium-sized and large natural avalanches are to be expected. In isolated cases, however, very large avalanches capable of endangering exposed parts of transportation routes are also possible. As the day progresses as a consequence of new snow and strong wind there will be only a slight increase in the avalanche danger.
The conditions are critical for backcountry touring and other off-piste activities outside marked and open pistes.

region E — High (4-)



New snow, Persistent weak layers

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

The new snow and wind slabs will be deposited on a weakly bonded old snowpack. Avalanches can occur easily or triggered naturally. They can be triggered in near-ground layers and reach large size. Remotely triggered avalanches are to be expected. The avalanche prone locations are prevalent. As the day progresses as a consequence of new snow and strong wind there will be only a slight increase in the avalanche danger.
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 backcountry touring outside marked and open pistes.

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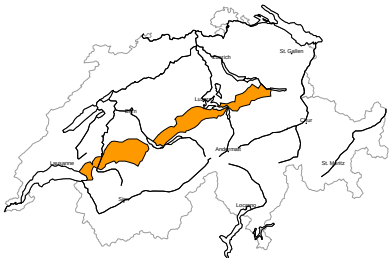
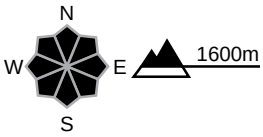
region F — Considerable (3+)



Wind slab, Persistent weak layers

Avalanche prone locations



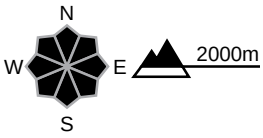
Danger description

As a consequence of new snow and a storm force westerly wind, further wind slabs will form in particular in areas not adjacent to ridgelines. The fresh and older wind slabs are prone to triggering. Avalanches can be released, even by a single winter sport participant. They can in some cases penetrate deep layers and reach large size.
Backcountry touring and other off-piste activities call for experience in the assessment of avalanche danger and caution.

region G — Considerable (3+)

Wind slab, Persistent weak layers

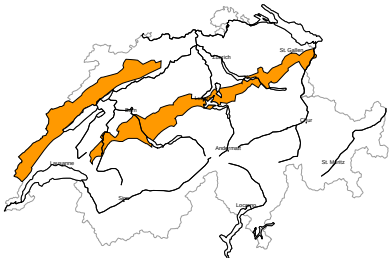
Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

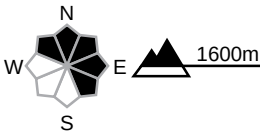
As a consequence of a moderate to strong northwesterly wind, avalanche prone wind slabs will form. The fresh and somewhat older wind slabs are lying on top of a weakly bonded old snowpack. Avalanches can be released easily. Avalanches can be triggered in deep layers and reach large size in isolated cases. The avalanche prone locations are prevalent. Remotely triggered avalanches are possible. 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 caution.

region H — Considerable (3-)



Wind slab

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

As a consequence of new snow and a storm force westerly wind, further wind slabs will form in particular in areas not adjacent to ridgelines. The fresh and older wind slabs are prone to triggering. Avalanches can be released by people and reach medium size.
Backcountry touring calls for experience in the assessment of avalanche danger.

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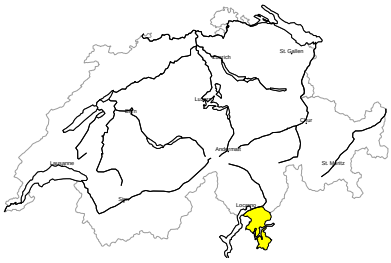
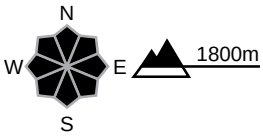
region I

Moderate (2+)



Wind slab, Persistent weak layers

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

Weak layers exist in the snowpack in particular on west, north and east facing slopes. As a consequence of northerly wind, sometimes avalanche prone wind slabs formed as well. Avalanches can in some places be released by a single winter sport participant. In particular on shady slopes these can penetrate even deep layers and reach medium size.
Backcountry touring and other off-piste activities call for careful route selection.

Snowpack and weather

updated on 15.2.2026, 17:00

Snowpack

With the fresh snow and storm force wind, extensive wind slabs form in the north and in Valais. The large amount of new and drifted snow is prone to triggering. Naturally triggered avalanches are to be expected. These can penetrate deeper layers of the snowpack and become very large, especially on the northern Alpine ridge and in Valais.
Slightly less snow falls in Ticino and Grisons. In these regions, new and drifted snow overlay an unstable old snowpack with pronounced weak layers. Naturally triggered avalanches are also to be expected here, which are likely to be mostly medium and large in size. Avalanches can very easily be triggered by human activity, even from larger distances.

Weather review for Sunday

During the night, a little snow fell in the north down to low altitudes. During the day it was quite sunny in the Alps. In the afternoon, clouds gathered from the west.

Fresh snow
From Saturday afternoon to Sunday afternoon:
- North of a line between the Rhône and the Rhine: 10 to 20 cm
- Elsewhere: a widespread 5 to 10 cm, dry in the south

Temperature
At midday at 2000 m, between -7 °C in the north and -2 °C in the south

Wind
- Moderate to strong northerly wind at high altitudes and in the south
- The wind shifted to a westerly in the afternoon and became increasingly moderate to strong in the north

Weather forecast to Monday

There will be heavy snowfall, mainly in the north and Valais. It will remain dry only in the far south. The snowfall level will rise temporarily to 1500 m in the northwest overnight to Monday and will be around 1000 m during the day. Particularly in Grisons, precipitation amounts are uncertain.

Fresh snow
From Sunday evening to Monday afternoon above approximately 1800 m and in the Jura on the highest peaks:
- Northern Alpine ridge, Valais: 50 to 70 cm, locally up to 80 cm on the northern Alpine ridge and in westernmost Lower Valais
- Western Jura, remaining northern flank of the Alps, remaining parts of northern Grisons, northern Lower Engadine: 30 to 50 cm
- Eastern Jura, northern Ticino, central Grisons, rest of Engadine, Val Müstair: 15 to 30 cm
- Elsewhere less, and mostly dry in Sotto Ceneri

Temperature
At midday at 2000 m -5 °C in the north and -3 °C in the south

Wind
There will be westerly to northwesterly winds:
- Strong to storm force in the north and in Valais
- Moderate to strong in Grisons and Ticino

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Outlook to Wednesday

On Tuesday, another 30 to 50 cm of snow will fall on the northern Alpine ridge, in Lower Valais, Prättigau, Silvretta and Samnaun, with less expected elsewhere. In the far south, it will be dry and quite sunny. The snowfall level will be at low altitude. Winds will be strong to storm force from westerly to northwesterly directions.
The forecast for Wednesday is still uncertain. Some snow is expected to fall in the north and west overnight to Wednesday. During the day it will be dry and quite sunny, especially in the south. There will continue to be strong westerly winds at high altitudes.
On Tuesday, the avalanche danger will increase further but still remain within the current danger level 4 (high). Apart from the southern valleys, danger level 4 has also been reached in the rest of Grisons. Very large naturally triggered avalanches are to be expected, especially in western and northern Valais. Very large avalanches are also possible along the rest of the northern Alpine ridge and in the rest of Valais. In the affected areas of Grisons, many medium and large avalanches are to be expected due to the weak but thin snowpack. The avalanche situation is critical.
With the end of the intense precipitation on Tuesday evening, naturally triggered avalanche activity will be appreciably reduced. The avalanche danger will decrease slightly on Wednesday, but will remain high.