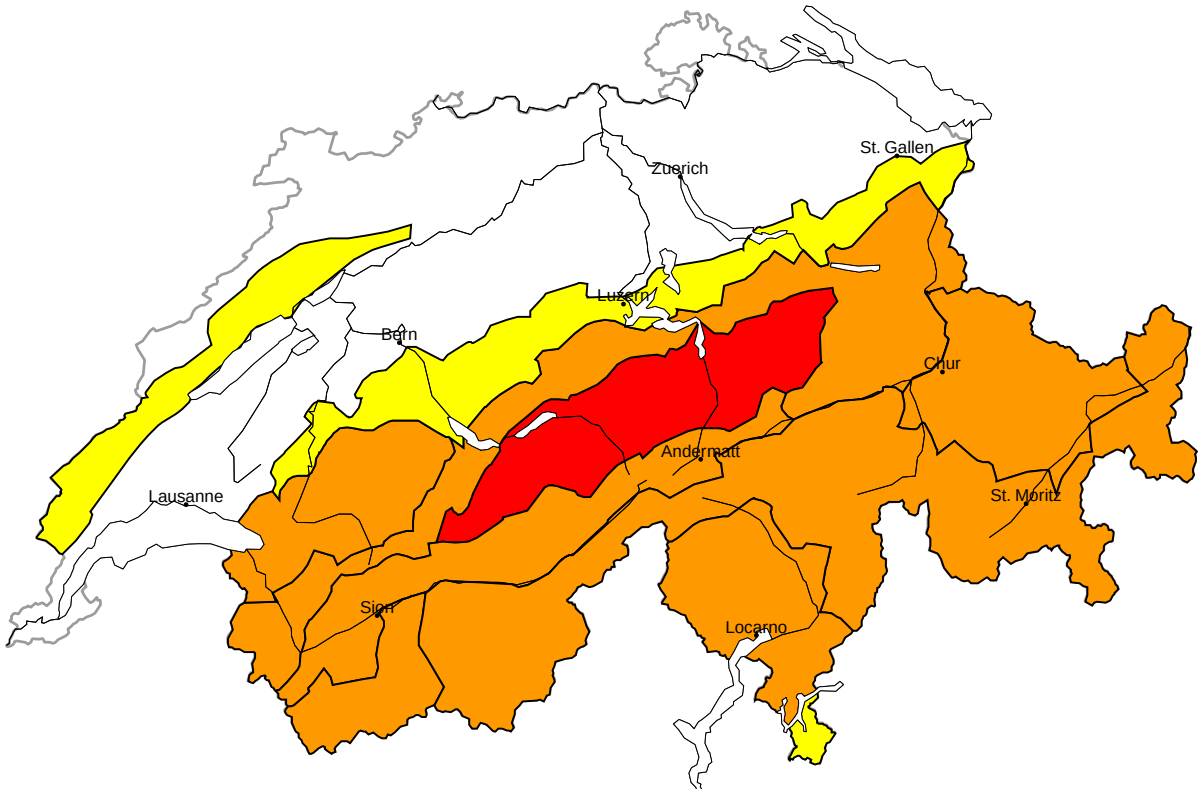
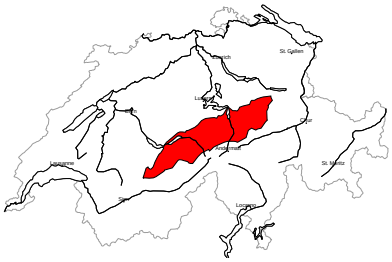
Avalanche danger

updated on 27.3.2026, 08:00



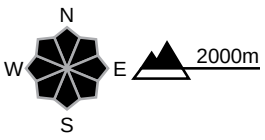
region A

High (4-)



New snow

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

The large quantity of fresh snow and the large wind slabs formed by the strong to storm force northerly wind are prone to triggering. More natural avalanches are possible. They can in isolated cases reach very large size. Exposed parts of transportation routes can be endangered occasionally.
Avalanches can in many places be released, even by a single winter sport participant. The snow sport conditions outside marked and open pistes are very critical.

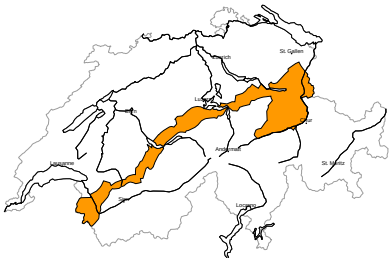
Moderate (2)

Wet snow, Gliding snow

On steep grassy slopes gliding avalanches are to be expected, especially at intermediate altitudes. These can reach medium size.
Moist loose snow avalanches are to be expected as a consequence of solar radiation.

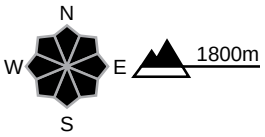
region B

Considerable (3+)



New snow

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

As a consequence of new snow and a strong to storm force northwesterly wind, extensive wind slabs formed,, also at a distance from ridgelines. Even single persons can release avalanches, including large ones. Natural avalanches are possible in isolated cases. Backcountry touring and other off-piste activities call for experience in the assessment of avalanche danger and caution.

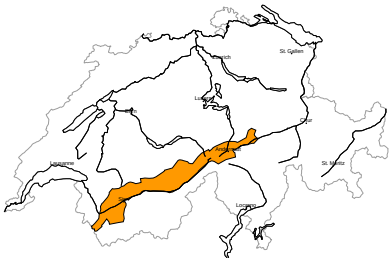
Moderate (2)

Wet snow, Gliding snow

On steep grassy slopes gliding avalanches are to be expected, especially at intermediate altitudes. These can reach medium size.
Moist loose snow avalanches are to be expected as a consequence of solar radiation.

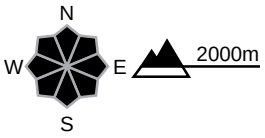
region C

Considerable (3+)



New snow, Persistent weak layers

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

As a consequence of new snow and a strong to storm force northerly wind, extensive wind slabs formed,, also at a distance from ridgelines. They are prone to triggering.
Even single persons can release avalanches, including large ones. They can be released in deeper layers also. Backcountry touring and other off-piste activities call for experience in the assessment of avalanche danger and caution.

Moderate (2)

Wet snow, Gliding snow

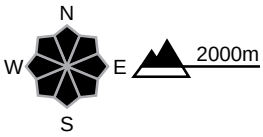
On steep grassy slopes gliding avalanches are to be expected, especially at intermediate altitudes. These can reach medium size.
Moist loose snow avalanches are to be expected as a consequence of solar radiation.

region D

Considerable (3+)

New snow, Persistent weak layers

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

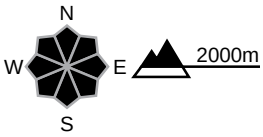
As a consequence of new snow and a strong to storm force northerly wind, extensive wind slabs formed,, also at a distance from ridgelines. They are prone to triggering.
Even single persons can release avalanches, including large ones. They can be released in deeper layers also.
Backcountry touring and other off-piste activities call for experience in the assessment of avalanche danger and caution.

region E

Considerable (3+)

New snow, Persistent weak layers

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

The large quantity of fresh snow and the sometimes large wind slabs are lying on top of a weakly bonded old snowpack in particular on shady slopes. Even single persons can release avalanches easily. These can be triggered in deep layers and reach large size. Remotely triggered avalanches are to be expected. Whumpfing sounds and the formation of shooting cracks when stepping on the snowpack serve as an alarm indicating the danger. Natural avalanches are possible in isolated cases.
Backcountry touring calls for extensive experience in the assessment of avalanche danger and restraint.

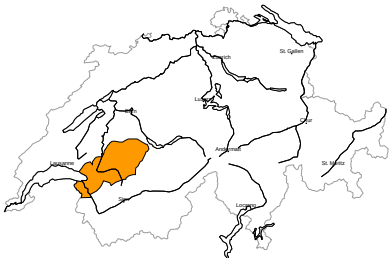
Moderate (2)

Wet snow, Gliding snow

On steep grassy slopes gliding avalanches are to be expected, especially at intermediate altitudes. These can reach medium size.
Moist loose snow avalanches are to be expected as a consequence of solar radiation.

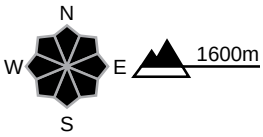
region F

Considerable (3=)



New snow, Wind slab

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

As a consequence of new snow and a strong northwesterly wind, large wind slabs formed in the last two days. As a consequence of bise wind, further wind slabs will form. Even single persons can release avalanches. Mostly these are medium-sized.
The fresh and somewhat older wind slabs are to be evaluated with care and prudence in steep terrain.
Backcountry touring and other off-piste activities call for experience in the assessment of avalanche danger and caution.

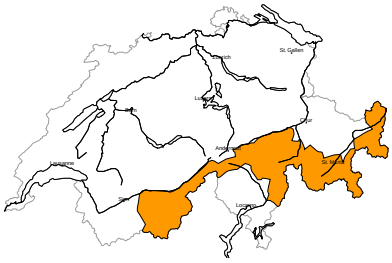
Moderate (2)

Wet snow, Gliding snow

On steep grassy slopes gliding avalanches are to be expected, especially at intermediate altitudes. These can reach medium size.
Moist loose snow avalanches are to be expected as a consequence of solar radiation.

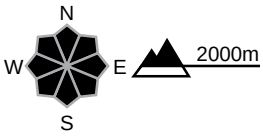
region G

Considerable (3=)



Wind slab, Persistent weak layers

Avalanche prone locations

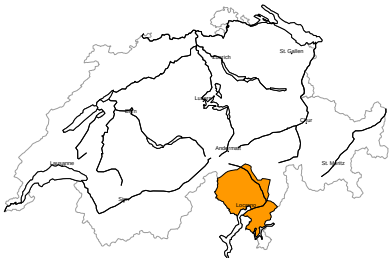


Danger description

As a consequence of new snow and a strong to storm force northerly wind, avalanche prone wind slabs formed in the last two days,, also at a distance from ridgelines. These are to be evaluated with care and prudence in steep terrain.
Additionally in some places avalanches can also be released in the old snowpack and reach large size. These avalanche prone locations are barely recognisable, even to the trained eye. Caution is to be exercised on little-used, rather lightly snow-covered shady slopes.
Backcountry touring calls for experience in the assessment of avalanche danger and careful route selection.

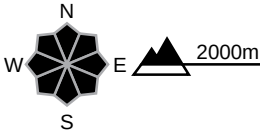
region H

Considerable (3-)



Wind slab

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

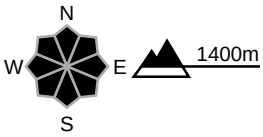
The storm force wind has transported some snow. Especially in gullies and bowls and behind abrupt changes in the terrain clearly visible wind slabs formed, also at a distance from ridgelines. The fresh wind slabs can be released by a single winter sport participant. They are to be avoided in steep terrain. Experience in the assessment of avalanche danger is required.

region I

Moderate (2+)

Wind slab

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

As a consequence of a strong to storm force northerly wind, avalanche prone wind slabs formed in the last two days in particular in gullies and bowls and behind abrupt changes in the terrain,, also at a distance from ridgelines. As a consequence of bise wind, further wind slabs will form. The fresh and somewhat older wind slabs are to be evaluated with care and prudence in steep terrain. Avalanches can in some cases reach medium size. 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.

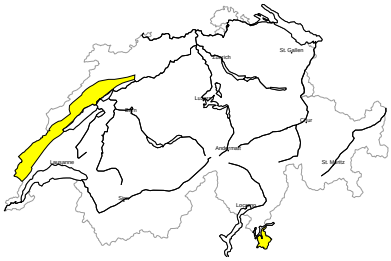
Moderate (2)

Wet snow, Gliding snow

On steep grassy slopes gliding avalanches are to be expected, especially at intermediate altitudes. These can reach medium size.
Moist loose snow avalanches are to be expected as a consequence of solar radiation.

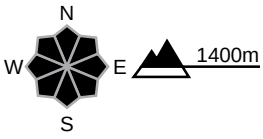
region J

Moderate (2+)



Wind slab

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

As a consequence of a strong to storm force northerly wind, avalanche prone wind slabs formed in the last two days in particular in gullies and bowls and behind abrupt changes in the terrain,, also at a distance from ridgelines. As a consequence of bise wind, further wind slabs will form. The fresh and somewhat older wind slabs are to be evaluated with care and prudence in steep terrain. Avalanches can in some cases reach medium size. 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.

Snowpack and weather

updated on 26.3.2026, 17:00

Snowpack

In the north, the sometimes storm-force northerly winds have been transporting the large volumes of fresh snow and, towards the south in particular, also the old snowpack. This has resulted in all regions in snowdrift accumulations that are prone to triggering; in the north these accumulations are large. Fresh and drifted snow has been deposited on variable snowpack surfaces: on north-facing slopes, especially in sheltered locations, onto very loose snow, whereas up to high altitudes on south-facing slopes often onto a crust. In many cases, the surface of the old snowpack has also been profiled by the wind and is irregular.
In the inneralpine regions of Valais and Grisons in particular, distinct weak layers remain in near-ground layers of the snowpack. In addition, near-surface layers in locations sheltered from the wind contain snow-covered surface hoar, in which avalanches have repeatedly been triggered over the last week. Given the fresh snowfall, avalanches are again likely to be triggered with increasing frequency in the old snowpack in these regions.

Weather review for Thursday

There was heavy precipitation in the north. The snowfall level was around 500 m. There were sunny intervals in the far south.

Fresh snow
From Wednesday afternoon to Thursday afternoon, the following amounts fell above 1000 m:
- northern Alpine ridge, central part of the northern flank of the Alps: 40 to 70 cm
- rest of the northern flank of the Alps, southern Lower Valais, rest of northern Grisons: 20 to 40 cm
- Jura, southern Goms, rest of central Grisons, Engadine north of the Inn: 10 to 20 cm
- less elsewhere, dry in the far south

Temperature
At midday at 2000 m, around -9 °C in the north and -4 °C in the south

Wind
Strong, and in the Jura and at high altitudes sometimes storm-force, north to northwesterly, easing off somewhat in the afternoon in the north

Weather forecast to Friday

In the north, there will continue to be some widespread snowfall down to low altitudes until morning. Brighter periods will move in from the west over the course of the day. Conditions will be mosty sunny in southern Valais, Ticino and southern Grisons.

Fresh snow
From Sunday afternoon until precipitation stops around midday on Friday, the following amounts are expected above 1000 m:
- northern Alpine ridge: 10 to 20 cm
- rest of the northern flank of the Alps, southern Lower Valais, northern and central Grisons: 5 to 10 cm
- elsewhere less or dry

Temperature
Cold, at midday at 2000 m around -10 °C in the north and -4 °C in the south

Wind
- Strong to storm force northerly during the night
- Over the course of the day, the wind will veer northeasterly and will mainly be moderate to strong; there will be a strong Bise wind in the Jura and the western Prealps

Outlook

Saturday
After a clear night, conditions will initially be sunny on Saturday. Clouds will gather from the northwest in the afternoon. Conditions will remain sunny all day in the south and in Grisons. There will be light to moderate winds from northerly directions. The zero-degree level will rise to around 2000 m in the south, while in the north temperatures will remain cool with a zero-degree level of around 1200 m.
The danger of dry avalanches will fall in all regions. With solar radiation, moist snow slides are to be expected in the fresh snow during the day.

Sunday
There will be heavy cloud cover in the north on Sunday and there will be a widespread 5 to 15 cm of fresh snow down to low altitudes. Conditions will be quite sunny in the south. There will be an often moderate northeasterly wind which will become strong at times at high altitudes. There will be an increasingly strong Bise wind in the Jura and the western Prealps.
There will be no significant change in avalanche danger.