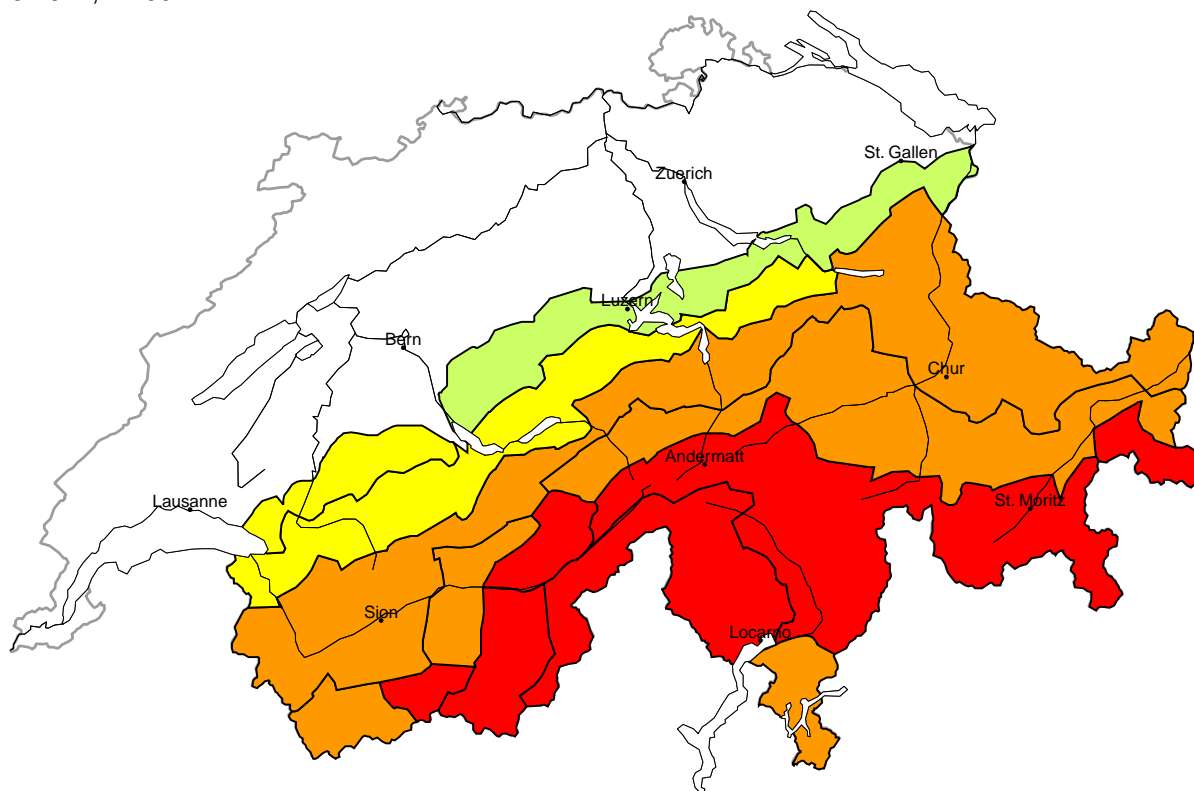


# Avalanche danger

updated on 31.3.2024, 17:00



Danger levels



1 low



2 moderate



3 considerable



4 high

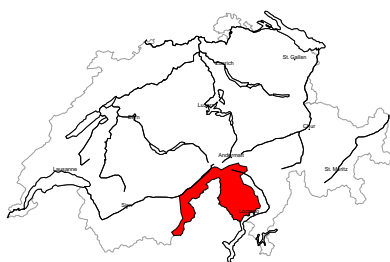


5 very high



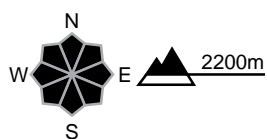
region A

High (4+)



New snow

Avalanche prone locations



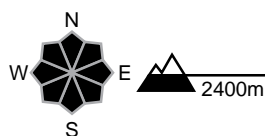
Danger description

During the night as the snowfall becomes more intense there will be an additional increase in the avalanche danger. The large quantity of fresh snow and the extensive wind slabs are prone to triggering. Very large and, in isolated cases, extremely large natural avalanches are to be expected. At intermediate altitudes these can release the wet old snow as well. In the typical avalanche paths the avalanches can reach a long way and in the majority of cases endanger transportation routes that are exposed. As a consequence of the ceasing of precipitation there will be a decrease in the danger of dry avalanches within the current danger level as the day progresses. Follow the instructions of the local public authorities and emergency services. The snow sport conditions outside marked and open pistes are very dangerous.

Considerable (3)

Wet snow, Gliding snow

Avalanche prone locations



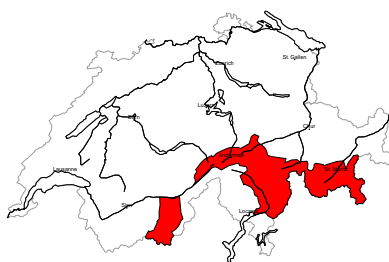
Danger description

New snow and wind slabs are lying on a wet old snowpack. This applies below approximately 2400 m. As a consequence of the heavy precipitation wet avalanches are to be expected by the early morning, even large ones. As a consequence of solar radiation moist snow slides and avalanches are to be expected in the afternoon. In addition below approximately 2600 m, occasionally large gliding avalanches are possible. Caution is to be exercised in areas with glide cracks.



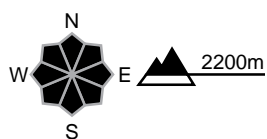
region B

High (4=)



New snow

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

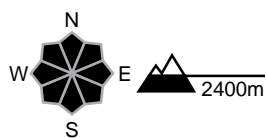
During the night as the snowfall becomes more intense there will be an additional increase in the avalanche danger. The large quantity of fresh snow and the large wind slabs are prone to triggering. Large and very large natural avalanches are to be expected. At intermediate altitudes these can release the wet old snow as well. In the typical avalanche paths the avalanches can reach as far as the valley bottom and endanger transportation routes that are exposed.

Single persons can release avalanches easily, including large ones. The snow sport conditions outside marked and open pistes are dangerous.

Considerable (3)

Wet snow, Gliding snow

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

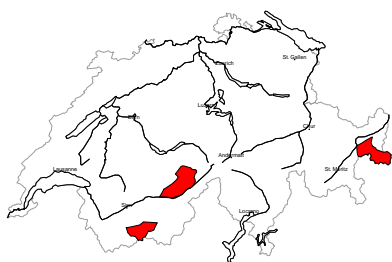
New snow and wind slabs are lying on a wet old snowpack. This applies below approximately 2400 m. As a consequence of the heavy precipitation wet avalanches are to be expected by the early morning, even large ones.

As a consequence of solar radiation moist snow slides and avalanches are to be expected in the afternoon. In addition below approximately 2600 m, occasionally large gliding avalanches are possible. Caution is to be exercised in areas with glide cracks.



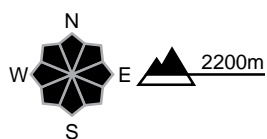
region C

High (4-)



New snow

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

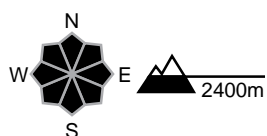
As a consequence of new snow and a storm force southerly wind, large wind slabs will form. The new snow and wind slabs are prone to triggering. At intermediate altitudes dry avalanches can release the wet old snow as well. The danger exists in particular in alpine snow sports terrain. Numerous medium-sized 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.

Even single snow sport participants can release avalanches very easily, including dangerously large ones. Backcountry touring and other off-piste activities call for great caution and restraint.

Considerable (3)

Wet snow, Gliding snow

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

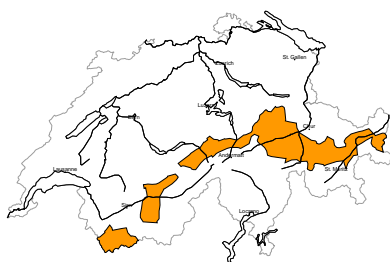
New snow and wind slabs are lying on a wet old snowpack. This applies below approximately 2400 m. As a consequence of the heavy precipitation wet avalanches are to be expected by the early morning, even large ones.

As a consequence of solar radiation moist snow slides and avalanches are to be expected in the afternoon. In addition below approximately 2600 m, occasionally large gliding avalanches are possible. Caution is to be exercised in areas with glide cracks.



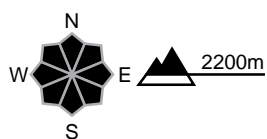
region D

Considerable (3+)



New snow

Avalanche prone locations



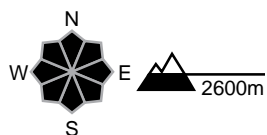
Danger description

As a consequence of new snow and a storm force southerly wind, further wind slabs will form, this applies in particular until the middle of the day. The fresh and older wind slabs are prone to triggering. Even single snow sport participants can release avalanches. Avalanches can reach quite a large size. Backcountry touring and other off-piste activities call for experience in the assessment of avalanche danger and caution.

Moderate (2)

Gliding snow

Avalanche prone locations



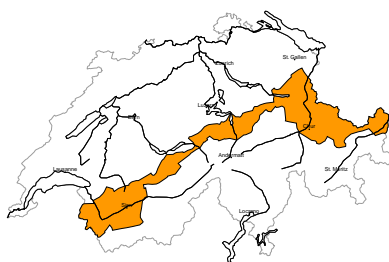
Danger description

In particular on steep grassy slopes individual occasionally large gliding avalanches are possible. Areas with glide cracks are to be avoided. In addition wet snow slides and avalanches are possible, in the event of rain in particular.



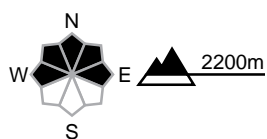
region E

Considerable (3-)



Wind slab

Avalanche prone locations



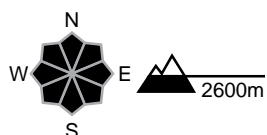
Danger description

As a consequence of new snow and a strong to storm force wind, further wind slabs will form by the middle of the day. The fresh and somewhat older wind slabs are prone to triggering. They can in some cases be released by a single winter sport participant. Mostly avalanches are medium-sized. The wind slabs are to be avoided in steep terrain. Backcountry touring and other off-piste activities call for experience in the assessment of avalanche danger and careful route selection.

Moderate (2)

Gliding snow

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

In particular on steep grassy slopes individual occasionally large gliding avalanches are possible. Areas with glide cracks are to be avoided. In addition wet snow slides and avalanches are possible, in the event of rain in particular.

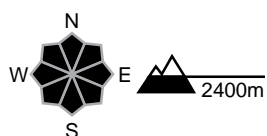
region F

Considerable (3)



Wet snow, Gliding snow

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

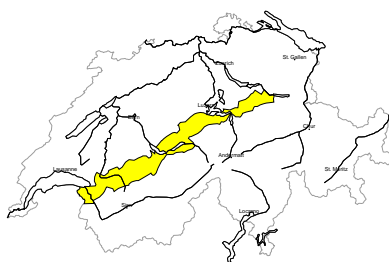
New snow and wind slabs are lying on a wet old snowpack. This applies below approximately 2400 m. As a consequence of the heavy precipitation wet avalanches are to be expected by the early morning, even large ones.

As a consequence of solar radiation moist snow slides and avalanches are to be expected in the afternoon. In addition below approximately 2600 m, occasionally large gliding avalanches are possible. Caution is to be exercised in areas with glide cracks.



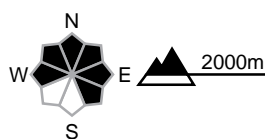
region G

Moderate (2+)



Wind slab

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

As a consequence of a sometimes storm force wind, further wind slabs will form by the middle of the day. These are mostly small. The fresh and somewhat older wind slabs are in some cases prone to triggering. They are clearly recognisable to the trained eye. The avalanche prone locations are to be found in particular in gullies and bowls, and behind abrupt changes in the terrain, also at a distance from ridgelines. Avalanches can reach medium size.

Backcountry touring and other off-piste activities call for careful route selection.

Moderate (2)

Gliding snow

Avalanche prone locations

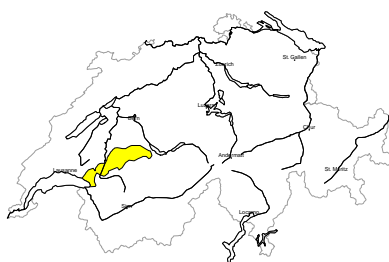


Danger description

In particular on steep grassy slopes individual occasionally large gliding avalanches are possible. Areas with glide cracks are to be avoided. In addition wet snow slides and avalanches are possible, in the event of rain in particular.

region H

Moderate (2+)



Wind slab

Avalanche prone locations



Danger description

As a consequence of a sometimes storm force wind, further wind slabs will form by the middle of the day. These are mostly small. The fresh and somewhat older wind slabs are in some cases prone to triggering. They are clearly recognisable to the trained eye. The avalanche prone locations are to be found in particular in gullies and bowls, and behind abrupt changes in the terrain, also at a distance from ridgelines. Avalanches can reach medium size.

Backcountry touring and other off-piste activities call for careful route selection.

Low (1)

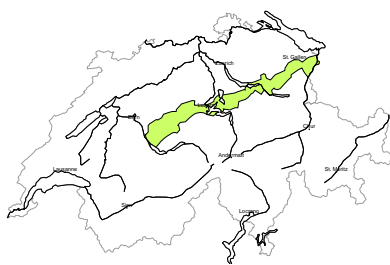
Gliding snow

In particular on steep grassy slopes individual gliding avalanches are possible. These can in some cases reach medium size. Areas with glide cracks are to be avoided as far as possible.



region I

Low (1)



### Gliding snow

In particular on steep grassy slopes individual gliding avalanches are possible. These can in some cases reach medium size. Areas with glide cracks are to be avoided as far as possible.





## Snowpack and weather

updated on 31.3.2024, 17:00

### Snowpack

Following days of storm-force foehn winds, there is hardly any loose snow left in the north. However, the new snow is being intensively displaced. Beneath the new snow, the near-surface layers of the snowpack are moist up to around 3000 m and contain Saharan dust.

A lot of snow has fallen in the south over the last five days, with very heavy snowfall in places during Saturday night into Easter Sunday. Very heavy precipitation will fall again during Sunday night into Monday. Deeper layers in the snowpack contain hardly any distinct weak layers. As such, most avalanches will be triggered in the new and drift snow and in some cases will carry along the snow that has fallen over the past few days. Owing to the large amount of new snow, however, isolated fractures in deeper layers are still possible, and are likely to occur in the Visp valleys due to the poorer snowpack structure there. Below approximately 2000 m, the snowpack is wet due to the rain.

In the south, gliding avalanches are expected. These can occasionally become very large due to the high volumes of snow. Gliding avalanches are more rare in the north but they can also be large here in isolated cases.

### Weather review for Easter Sunday, 31.03.2024

With partly stormy southerly winds, there were foehn-like clear spells in the north. Otherwise it was very cloudy. There was widespread precipitation, with very intense precipitation during the night in the south and especially from southern Upper Valais to the Valle Maggia. The snowfall level was between 1600 and 2000 m.

#### New snow

From Saturday afternoon to Sunday afternoon, the following amounts of fresh snow fell above approximately 2200 m:

- Main Alpine Ridge from Saas Almagell to the Nufenen Pass, Bedretto, Valle Maggia: 50 to 80 cm, 100 cm in the Simplon region;
- other Visp valleys, Aletsch region, other areas of the Gotthard region and Ticino, Moesano, Val Bregaglia and Bernina region: 30 to 50 cm;
- directly neighbouring regions to the north, the rest of the Main Alpine Ridge, Engadine and Val Müstair: 15 to 30 cm;
- further north: less.

This means that in two days, 40 to 80 cm of snow fell on the Main Alpine Ridge from Saas Almagell to San Bernardino Pass and south of it, and as much as 80 to 130 cm of snow from the Simplon region via southern Goms and Bedretto to the Valle Maggia.

#### Temperature

At midday at 2000 m, between +4 °C in the north and -1 °C in the south.

#### Wind

There was a strong to stormy southerly wind, with a foehn wind in the valleys of the north.

**Avalanche bulletin through Monday, 1. April 2024****Weather forecast until Easter Monday, 01.04.2024**

During the night, there will be widespread precipitation with stormy southerly winds. Once again, this precipitation will be very intense in the south. In the east, the precipitation will continue during the day but will be less intense. There will be bright spells in the west. The snowfall level will be between 1500 and 1800 m. During the second half of the night, it will temporarily rise to around 2100 m in the south and in Grisons.

**New snow**

From Sunday afternoon until the end of the precipitation on Monday, the following amounts of fresh snow are expected above approximately 2200 m:

- Main Alpine Ridge from the Matterhorn to the Bernina Pass and south of it: 50 to 80 cm;
- neighbouring regions to the north of the central part of the Main Alpine Ridge, central Grisons, Upper Engadine, Val Müstair: 30 to 50 cm;
- extreme west of Lower Valais, Lower Valais Main Alpine Ridge, rest of Upper Valais, eastern part of the northern flank of the Alps, rest of Grisons: 15 to 30 cm;
- elsewhere: 5 to 15 cm.

**Temperature**

At midday at 2000 m, between -2 °C in the north and 0 °C in the south.

**Wind**

- There will be stormy southerly winds during the night, then briefly a strong westerly wind on the northern flank of the Alps.
- The storm-force foehn wind will end during the night, first in the west, later also in the east.
- There will be a moderate westerly to southwesterly wind during the day.

**Trend until Wednesday, 03.04.2024**

During the night, up to 10 cm of snow will fall above approximately 1200 m. On Tuesday, it will become increasingly sunny from the west as the day progresses. It will be mostly sunny in the south. On Wednesday, it will be mostly cloudy with a little snow.

In the north, the danger of dry avalanches will not change significantly. It will fall considerably in the south. Although avalanches are no longer as easy to trigger, large ones are still possible. The situation is still precarious for off-piste winter sports.

Individual gliding avalanches are expected in the north, with more such avalanches anticipated in the south. These may be large.