

Mont Terri Project

Underground Rock Laboratory

Report period: June 22–29, 2026

Assembled and edited by swisstopo, St-Ursanne



Spotlight of the week: Goodbye! After four months of civil service, N. Rentsch has done his duty and leaves Mont Terri to continue his studies. He was a tremendous help for Deborah, for the Core Storage, for BIM and for all the spontaneous works that have to be done in the lab (like supporting P. Cook with the injection packer shown here). Most of all, he is a great colleague that we'll miss. All the best for your future Nahel and thanks for all your support!

Important note

- As a reminder, the laboratory will be closed from July 6th to August 17th. No payments will be released during this period. Invoices received before July 3rd can still be settled before the summer holidays.

CL (CO2LPIE-CO2 Long-Term Periodic Injection) experiment

- On Wednesday, June 24, M. Ziegler (swisstopo) moved the seismic DAS from PF-A to CL to continue seismic monitoring and conduct active seismic transmission surveys.
- On Wednesday, June 24, D. Jaeggi (swisstopo) switched the Eh and pH probes to monitoring mode.
- From Thursday to Friday, June 25–26, S. Schefer (swisstopo) on behalf of C. Marion (EAWAG) closed the valve on the miniRuedi in order to measure a new blank and J. Windisch (swisstopo) opened it after the measurements.

DB-B (Deep Borehole to resolve the Mont Terri Anticline Hydrogeology) experiment

- From Monday to Thursday, June 22–25, Stump inserted the rods to bottom depth and cleaned the hole by replacing the remaining drilling fluid with fresh water. They controlled conductivity and pH. Normal values for fresh water were reached after 4 m³ on the first day, but we continued to flush another 10 m³ on Tuesday. After one night of settling, normal values were reached after the first m³. They still flushed another 13 m³ and then started pulling the rods until Thursday afternoon. Drilling work is now complete and demobilization will start.

FE-M (Long-Term Monitoring of the Full-Scale Emplacement Experiment) experiment

- On Wednesday, June 24, J. Windisch and N. Rentsch (swisstopo) performed moisture measurements in BFE-B49 and thermal conductivity measurements with the KD2 probe.

HS (Hydrogeological Survey of the Mont Terri Anticline) experiment

- From Monday to Friday, June 22–26, J. Windisch and N. Rentsch (swisstopo) closed the trench around BHS-1. The installation is now nicely sealed in a chamber, still accessible for all manipulation. (Figure 1)

MH (Long-Term Monitoring of Heaves and Displacement) experiment

- From Monday to Wednesday, June 22–24, S. Condamin and C. Theler (swisstopo) performed relative gravimetry measurements with a CH-6 gravimeter. They controlled the gravimetric reference network for the rock laboratory. (Figure 2)

PF-A (Progressive Evolution of Structurally-Controlled Overbreaks: Long-term monitoring, hydromechanical simulation and rock testing) experiment

- On Wednesday, June 24, M. Ziegler (swisstopo) moved the seismic DAS from CL to PF-A to conduct active seismic transmission surveys. The transmissions were manually started.

SW-A (Large-Scale Sandwich Seal in Opalinus Clay) experiment

- On Thursday, June 25, S. Schefer (swisstopo) observed the UPS in sandwich 1 to be faulty and replaced it temporarily and informed S. Tuñón (Amphos21) for replacement.
- On Thursday, June 25, S. Schefer (swisstopo) refilled the HPT from shaft 1.

Visits

Day	Date	Group Name	Group Size	Visitors Guide
Mon	22.6.2026	Etat-Major IFSN / ENSI	19	R. Nicol (swisstopo)
Wed	24.6.2026	Kantonsschule Musegg Luzern	15	M. Kollmann (Nagra)
Wed	24.6.2026	NNC - Group Kasachstan	6	O. Leupin (Nagra)
Thu	25.6.2026	Abteilung Raumplanung Kanton Zürich	25	M. Ziegler (swisstopo)
Fri	26.6.2026	Universität Basel	31	D. Jaeggi (swisstopo) S. Schefer (swisstopo)
Fri	26.6.2026	Groupe Daniel Desveaux	10	C. Etter (swisstopo)

Figures



Figure 1: HS: N. Rentsch pouring the last layer of concrete around BHS-1 (S. Schefer, swisstopo)



Figure 2: MH: Gravimetric measurements in Gallery 08 (J. Windisch, swisstopo)