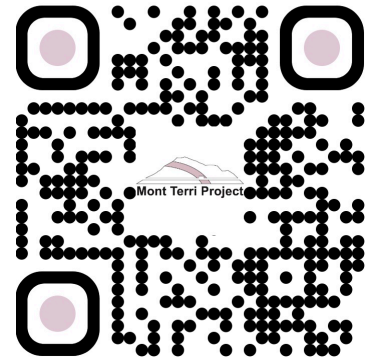


Mont Terri Project

Underground Rock Laboratory

Report period: March 30, 2026 – April 5, 2026

Assembled and edited by swisstopo, St-Ursanne



Spotlight of the week: Here is our Easter present! After four weeks of drilling, we have reached the Opalinus Clay, at a depth of over 400 metres. The image clearly shows the transition between the Passwang Formation (left) and the Opalinus Clay (right). In between there is the well known hardground with limonitic intraclasts, iron ooides and the typical borings. This is already a great achievement, as drilling has never gone this deep in Mont Terri before, but we're only halfway there! Once we've passed through the Opalinus Clay, we should reach the Staffelegg, Klettgau, Bänkerjoch and Schinznach formations. Well done to all the teams involved in the DEBORAH project and happy Easter! (Photo by J. Windisch, swisstopo).

CD-A (Influence of Humidity on Cyclic and Long-Term Deformations) experiment

- On Wednesday, April 1, J. Gisiger (Solexperts) did maintenance work on the radial extensometers B09 and B10.

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

- On Monday, March 30, D. Jaeggi (swisstopo) switched all Eh and pH sensors back to monitoring mode.
- On Thursday, April 2, D. Jaeggi (swisstopo) set the Eh and pH sondes back to bypass.

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

- From Monday to Thursday, March 30 to April 2, Stump BTE prepared the drill rig for HQ drilling (96 mm outer diameter and 63.5 mm cores). On Thursday morning coring at a depth of 407 m was resumed and was ongoing until 422 m. A team consisting of F. Kästner (GFZ), D. Rufer (UNIBE) and swisstopo was doing the mudlogging and core sampling. At around 421 m the transition from Passwang Formation to Opalinus Clay was reached and drilling was stopped. The OPA section will be drilled after easter with full personal resources.

DR-C (Diffusion in a Thermal Gradient) experiment

- On Tuesday, March 31, Y. Lettry and S. Jiggling (Solexperts) did a maintenance of the BDR-C1 heating module. (Figure 1)

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

- On Wednesday, April 1, J. Gisiger (Solexperts) conducted a manual measurement of three TDR cables with a TDR100 unit.

GT (Gas Transport Models and the Behavior of OPA to Gas Pressure) experiment

- On Wednesday, April 1, J. Gisiger (Solexperts) started the resaturation of the injection interval GT_B02_INT02 with Pearson water type A1 with a constant rate injection of 1 ml/h.

HT (Hydrogen Transfer in Opalinus Clay) experiment

- On Monday, March 30, J. Windisch (swisstopo) emptied the Tedlar bag attached to the BHT-1 system.

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

- On Wednesday, April 1, J. Gisiger (Solexperts) did maintenance work on the data acquisition.
- On Thursday, April 2, J. Windisch (swisstopo) refilled the HPT from shaft 1.

Visits

Day	Date	Group Name	Group Size	Visitors Guide
Mon	30.3.2026	Collège Thurmann, Porrentruy	35	C. Etter (swisstopo) R. Nicol (swisstopo)
Tue	31.3.2026	ZDF Nano	3	P. Senn (Nagra) P. Studer (Nagra)
Tue	31.3.2026	SOGIN, Italy	3	H. Sager (Nagra) O. Leupin (Nagra)
Tue	31.3.2026	Gymnase De La Cité, Lausanne	23	C. Etter (swisstopo) R. Nicol (swisstopo)
Wed	1.4.2026	Gymnase De Bussigny	21	R. Nicol (swisstopo)
Thu	2.4.2026	Gymnase De La Cité, Lausanne	23	R. Nicol (swisstopo)

Figures



Figure 1: DR-C: Refill of the heating circuit. (J. Windisch, swisstopo)