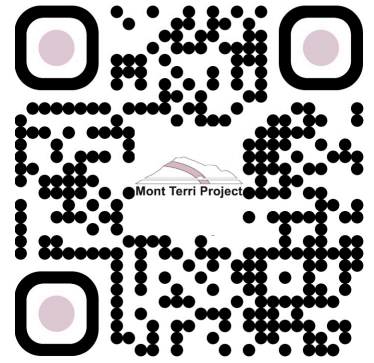


Mont Terri Project

Underground Rock Laboratory



Report period: July 6, 2026 – August 24, 2026

Assembled and edited by swisstopo, St-Ursanne



Spotlight of the week: Solar eclipse! No totality in Switzerland, except for the rock lab. 🌑 Welcome back after the summer break! (S. Schefer, swisstopo)

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

- On Tuesday, August 11, S. Schefer (swisstopo) restarted the DAS on CD-A.

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

- On Monday, July 6, D. Jaeggi (swisstopo) set all pH and Eh sondes to monitoring mode.
- On Wednesday, July 8, D. Jaeggi (swisstopo) set back all pH and Eh to bypass mode.
- On Thursday, July 9, J. Gisiger (Solexperts) installed a new automatic safety valve in the injection cabinet to prevent depressurization during power cuts.
- On Wednesday, August 12, J. Gisiger (Solexperts) increased the injection pressure in BCL-11_I2 by 0.2 MPa to 2.0 MPa.
- On Wednesday, August 19, J. Windisch (swisstopo) took three water samples from BCL-11.

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

- On Thursday, July 16, F. Kästner and B. Loske (GFZ) disassembled the online gas monitoring system and transported it back to the GFZ along with the final samples. **(Figure 1)**
- From Thursday to Friday, August 20–21, O. Zuber and D. Zuber (Zuber sàrl) installed a hook above BDB-B1 for the upcoming loggings.

DR-C (Diffusion in a Thermal Gradient) experiment

- On Tuesday, August 11, S. Schefer (swisstopo) took sample #11 from sampler #2 from BDR-C1 and BDR-C6 and measured the pH. Contamination tests showed no activities above background.

DR-D (Heterogeneity of Sandy Facies by Geophysical Characterization and Diffusion Studies) experiment

- On Tuesday, August 11, S. Schefer (swisstopo) took sample #11 from BDR-D3 (sampler #2) and measured the pH. Contamination tests showed no activities above background.

DR-E (Long-Term Diffusion Experiment in the Main Fault-Zone) experiment

- On Monday, August 17, S. Schefer (swisstopo) took samples #20 from the injection fluid on both boreholes BDR-E1 and BDR-E2.

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

- On Friday, August 21, J. Windisch (swisstopo) refilled the calibration bath with 50 L of water.

FS-B (Imaging the Long-Term Loss of Faulted Host Rock Integrity) experiment

- On Thursday, August 13, S. Schefer (swisstopo) and P. Cook (LBNL, remote) installed new nitrogen bottles for the upcoming injection tests.
- On Monday, August 17, S. Schefer (swisstopo) and P. Cook (LBNL, remote) injected into BFS-B15 until set pressure and shut in. Gradually it will be raised to the pressure of BFS-B2 after shut in.
- On Tuesday, August 18, S. Schefer (swisstopo) and P. Cook (LBNL, remote) performed another injection into BFS-B15 until set pressure and shut in.
- On Wednesday, August 19, J. Windisch (swisstopo) and P. Cook (LBNL, remote) performed another injection into BFS-B15 until set pressure and shut in.
- On Thursday, August 20, J. Windisch (swisstopo) and P. Cook (LBNL, remote) performed another injection into BFS-B15 until set pressure and shut in.
- On Friday, August 21, J. Windisch (swisstopo) and P. Cook (LBNL, remote) performed another injection into BFS-B15.

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

- On Thursday, July 9, J. Gisiger (Solexperts) reinstalled the repaired BUS interface for the extensometer BGT4 and to perform a pulse injection test in the injection interval to assess the compressibility of the interval.
- On Wednesday, August 12, S. Schefer (swisstopo) restarted the miniRuedi computer.

HE-E (In-Situ Heater Test in VE-Micro-Tunnel) experiment

- On Thursday, July 9, D. Farsky and M. Siegrist (Solexperts) were onsite for maintenance on the data acquisition system.

HT (Hydrogen Transfer in Opalinus Clay) experiment

- On Tuesday, August 18, S. Schefer (swisstopo) emptied the Tedlar bag attached to the BHT-1 system.

MA-A (Modular Platform for Microbial Studies) experiment

- On Tuesday, August 18, M. Abdelouhabi and E. Maillard (EPFL) sampled pore water from BMA-A1 and BMA-A2. **(Figure 2)**

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

- On Tuesday, July 14, M. Ziegler (swisstopo) read out the RHT Hydry data loggers.
- On Tuesday, August 18, M. Ziegler (swisstopo) performed a photogrammetric survey of BPF-7. Approximately 25 kg of rock fell from the borehole since the last survey in January 2026.
- On Wednesday, August 19, J. Windisch and S. Schefer (swisstopo) performed geodetic measurements inside BOF-7.

SI-C (Seismic Imaging of the Mont Terri Anticline) experiment

- On Thursday, August 20, J. Windisch and S. Schefer (swisstopo) measured the position and orientation of the newly drilled boreholes for the geophones along the safety gallery.

SM-C (Permanent Nanoseismic Monitoring) experiment

- On Thursday, July 9, E. Maier (EMP) was on site to retrieve the Quanterra for repair.

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

- On Friday, July 17, R. Nicol (swisstopo) refilled the HPT from shaft 1.
- On Friday, July 24, R. Nicol (swisstopo) refilled the HPT from shaft 1.
- On Friday, July 31, C. Nussbaum (swisstopo) refilled the HPT from shaft 1.
- On Friday, August 7, C. Nussbaum (swisstopo) refilled the HPT from shaft 1.
- On Thursday, August 13, S. Schefer (swisstopo) refilled the HPT from shaft 1.
- On Thursday, August 20, J. Windisch (swisstopo) refilled the HPT from shaft 1.

Varia

- On Monday, August 24, Ten cyclists from the BASE Race Team visited the Mont Terri Rock Laboratory and then rode via Lucerne and Guttannen to the Grimsel Pass, where they also visited the Grimsel Rock Laboratory. (**Figure 3**).

Visits

Day	Date	Group Name	Group Size	Visitors Guide
Mon	6.7.2026	Académie Suisse Des Sciences Naturelles (SCNAT)	19	R. Nicol (swisstopo)
Tue	7.7.2026	Generische Mont Terri Führung Neue Guides, Nagra	4	H. Sager (Nagra) R. Nicol (swisstopo)
Thu	9.7.2026	Filmaufnahmen Für Stapferhaus Lenzburg	4	P. Studer (Nagra)
Tue	14.7.2026	King Fahd University Of Petroleum And Minerals	14	R. Nicol (swisstopo)
Fri	7.8.2026	Visite Parlementaires Fédéraux / Commission Des Finances	12	C. Nussbaum (swisstopo)
Mon	10.8.2026	Bundesamt Für Die Sicherheit Der Nuklearen Entsorgung (BASE)	10	D. Jaeggi (swisstopo)
Tue	11.8.2026	Institut Für Geowissenschaften Johannes Gutenberg-Universität Mainz	24	M. Ziegler (swisstopo)
Fri	14.8.2026	Syngenta Crop Protection AG	10	C. Etter (swisstopo)
Mon	17.8.2026	UK Experts	5	M. Braun (Nagra) O. Leupin (Nagra)
Thu	20.8.2026	Amt Für Wasser Und Abfall (Wassernutzung), Kanton Bern	16	R. Nicol (swisstopo)
Fri	21.8.2026	Gruppe Rolf Tünneman	10	R. Nicol (swisstopo)
Sat	22.8.2026	Domus Antica	10	J.-P. Meusy (freelance)

Figures

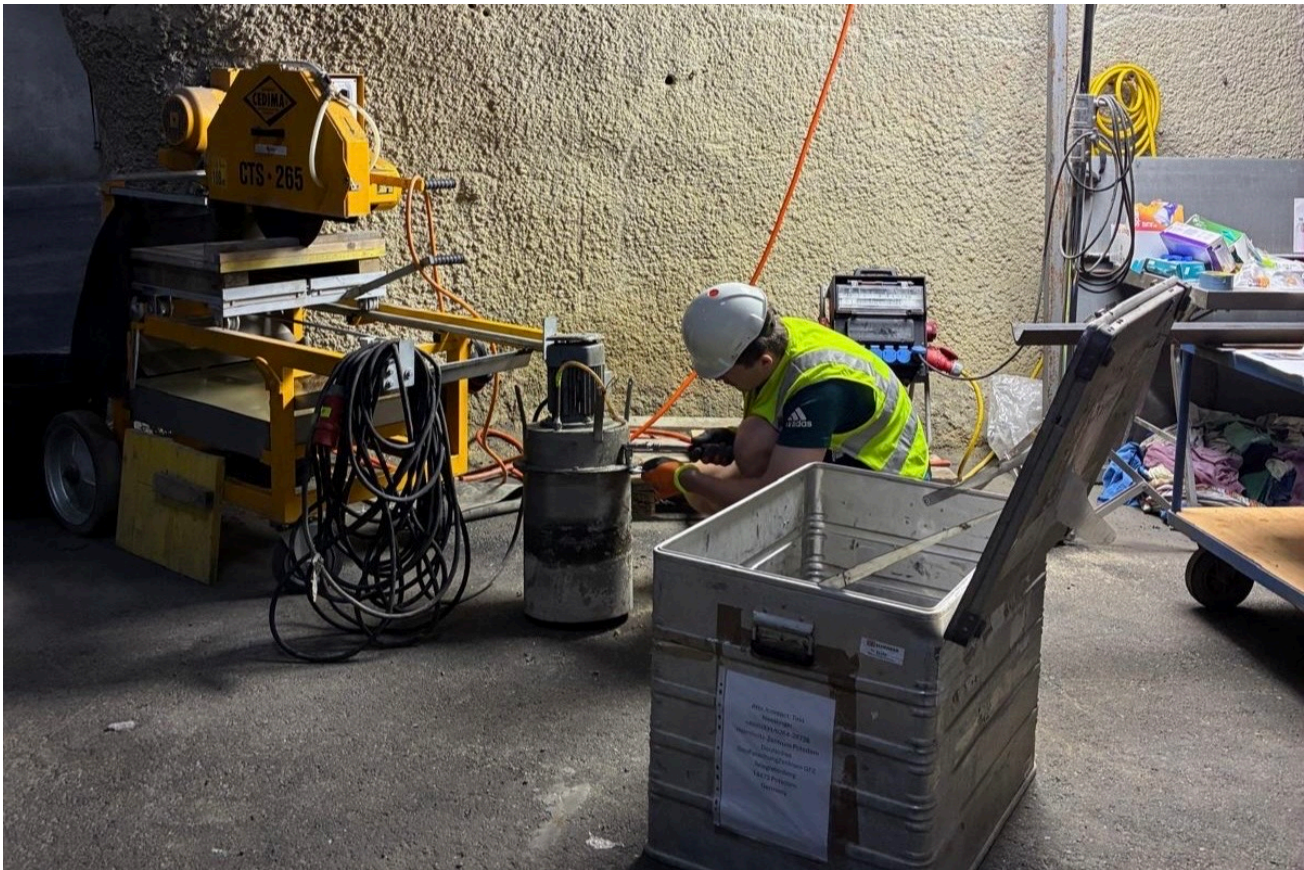


Figure 1: DB-B: B. Loske (GFZ) working on the Online Gas Monitoring System (OLGA) (F. Kästner (GFZ))



Figure 2: MA-A: Working with the glove box (J. Windisch, swisstopo)



Figure 3: Varia: Ready to roll in front of the Demi-Lune in St-Ursanne (D. Jaeggi, swisstopo)