

### The Bottom Line

Wet avalanches and springtime hazards will present equal danger to those traveling in avalanche terrain today. Wet loose avalanches, commonly known as sluffs to skiers and riders, will be possible to initiate in steep terrain, but can easily be managed by moving to the side and letting debris pass. The outside threat of a wet slab, while unlikely, makes lingering under avalanche paths a poor choice. All forecast areas have **LOW** avalanche danger. Holes where the snowpack is undermined by flowing water, both obvious ones and others that may open today, horizontal glide cracks near cliffs, and falling ice and rock will further complicate travel. Many of these spring hazards can be avoided by travel management, particularly if you can see where the hazards will present themselves.

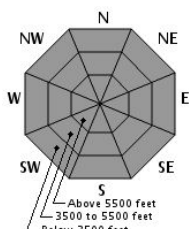
### Mountain Weather

After a wet weekend, today looks like we'll get a break, though the April showers weather pattern will likely continue this week. High temperatures yesterday were 45F on the Summit and 50F at Hermit Lake. Rain in the morning produced 0.21". Today, light wind from the SE may increase to 20mph from the NE this evening. Fog interspersed with sunshine to start the day will give way to increasing clouds. Rain should hold off until the evening hours, with up to ¼" arriving tonight.

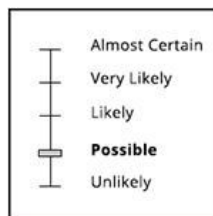
### Primary Avalanche Problem



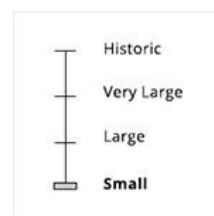
Wet Loose



Aspect/Elevation



Likelihood



Size

**Wet loose** avalanches will be small and slow moving. These are likely to be caused by skier induced sluff and can be managed by waiting off to the side and letting this sluff move downhill first. Such sluffs are often small enough that they won't bury you, but could easily carry a person towards other hazards like an opening glide crack or over an ice bulge if they catch you unaware.

### Secondary Avalanche Problem

The **wet slabs** that remain a relevant avalanche problem are largely driven by our concerns of significant water running under the snowpack. A thorough soaking of the snowpack this past weekend penetrated deep into the snow and likely stabilized most deep layers of concern. Today's weather will continue to drive warmth into the snow, but we are likely close to a fully isothermal snowpack, making deeply buried weak layers less likely to drive a wet slab.

### Snowpack and Avalanche Discussion

Springtime hazards are appearing and the following should be discussed equally with avalanche hazards today: **Opening creeks and streams; Holes near trees, rocks, and cliffs; Undermined snow that could easily collapse; Glide cracks on wide open snow slopes; Falling ice.** We believe the time of rapid change has passed and the snowpack is becoming more stable. That being said, the weather pattern we are currently experiencing (above freezing temperatures since Thursday evening) could be described as a little weird. Weird weather has the potential to create weird avalanches.

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**Please Remember:** Safe travel in avalanche terrain requires training and experience. This forecast is just one of many decision making tools. You control your own risk by choosing where, when, and how you travel. Understand that the avalanche danger may change when actual weather differs from the weather forecast. For more information contact the Forest Service Snow Rangers, the AMC at the Pinkham Notch Visitor Center, or the caretakers at Hermit Lake Shelters.