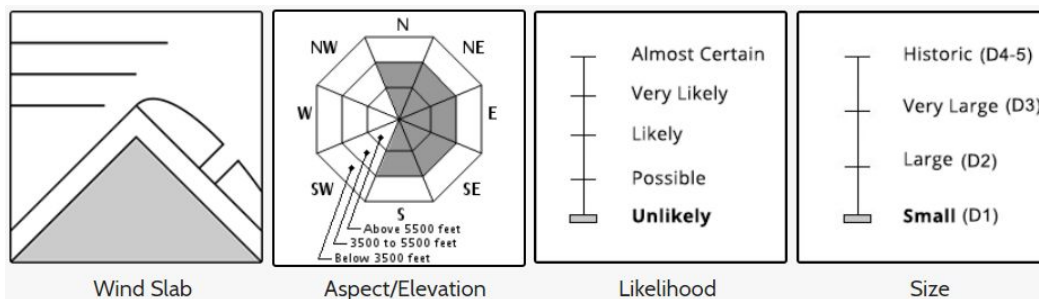


### The Bottom Line

Generally safe avalanche conditions exist in the Presidential Range. The greater mountain hazard today is the potential for a long sliding fall. If venturing into steep terrain today, match your climbing equipment to your comfort level. For some, this is crampons and an ice axe, while for others, this may include harnesses, a rope, and protection to mitigate the fall hazard. Match your objective to your skill and comfort level on icy terrain today. Avalanche danger is **LOW**; avalanches are unlikely.

### Avalanche Problem



You may find wind slabs that are shallow and isolated to terrain features that can collect drifting snow. Extreme wind speeds Friday and Saturday scoured many slopes to the melt/freeze crust, eliminating the avalanche problem in many areas. If you can find wind slab, it's likely wind hammered and quite firm.

### Mountain Weather

**Yesterday**, light snow showers on the summit all morning produced 0.7" of snow. This arrived while wind was blowing from the west between 80-100mph.

**Today**, as high pressure moves into the region, skies will clear, temperatures will decrease, and wind will slow down. Current wind is from the NW around 40mph and should linger there for the day.

**Tomorrow** should be clear with temperatures slightly warmer than today. Wind from the NW will shift to the SW, starting the day 15-20mph and increasing late in the day toward 50mph. The next forecast precipitation is 2" of snow on Tuesday.

### Forecast Discussion

Snow quality on Mount Washington right now is less than optimal for skiing thanks to the mid-week warm-up leaving a widespread melt/freeze crust that in some places resembles concrete and in others, a nasty breakable crust. For those who are more excited about the climb up than the ride down, the climbing conditions are quite nice. Ice got a refresh and snow slopes offer fast cramponing. With great climbing and poor skiing comes the long, sliding fall talk. Take time to read an observation on our website (*Bulletproof conditions in Tucks*) submitted Saturday night about how difficult it is to arrest a fall in these kinds of conditions. The big takeaway for me from this story is the recognition of the hazard and the chosen line of descent based on the fall hazard. Glad to hear it all turned out and thanks for sharing the lesson.

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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.