

The Bottom Line

Continued warm temperatures overnight and today has decreased snow stability on all aspects. Smaller sluff avalanches are possible on steep terrain, and should be easy to predict by watching for wet sloppy snow at the surface.

A greater hazard, though less likely is the possibility for a large wet slab avalanche. Wet slab avalanches are dangerous, and difficult to predict. Minimize your exposure to this hazard by reducing your time in and under avalanche terrain today. The uncertainty for when and at what elevation mixed precipitation turns to snow this evening includes the possibility for snow totals to far exceed the forecast particularly in the evening. For climbers and skiers caught out after dark today, watch for developing new wind slabs in lee areas of the west wind. Snowfall rates could be intense, and new wind slabs would develop quickly. Avalanche danger is **MODERATE**.

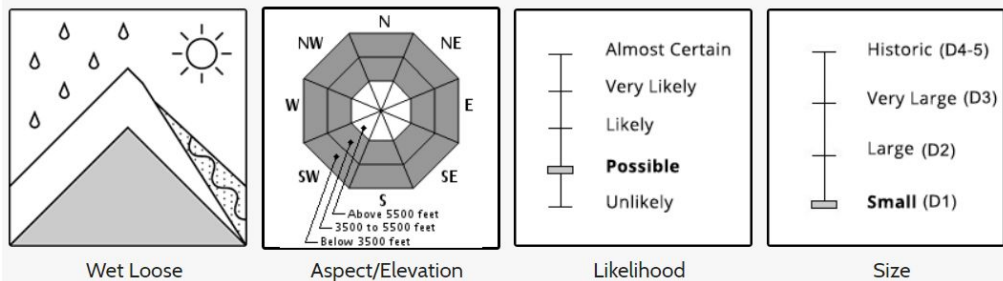
Mountain Weather

Yesterday, skies cleared mid morning allowing temperatures to rise reaching a high of 34 F on the Mt. Washington summit. Hermit Lake Snow Plot recorded 44 F for a high temperature. Wind from the W remained elevated at 55-70 mph.

Today, becoming cloudy with a chance of showers or a wintery mix in the afternoon, elevation dependent with a trace to 1" snow/ice forecast. As of 5am the summit temperature is 30F and all areas below 5000' are above freezing. Temperatures will rise today pushing the summit to the mid 30's F, before dropping this evening. Wind will be from the W at 50-70 mph. Tonight, mixed precipitation turns to snow with a trace to 2" or more possible.

Tomorrow brings colder temperatures in the lower teens, cloudy to partly sunny skies and W wind at 50-70 mph decreasing through the day.

Primary Avalanche Problem



Wet loose sluff avalanches are likely to be initiated under your skies in steep terrain today. Watch for decreased surface snow stability as warm temperatures continue. This avalanche problem today will be driven more by ambient air temperatures than solar gain resulting in more widespread distribution on all aspects. Watch for pinwheels and rollerballs in steep terrain as a sign that wet loose avalanches are becoming possible. These will be small in size, generally easy to manage, though capable of pulling you off your feet. Consider the consequence of a wet loose sluff induced fall in your travels today.

Secondary Avalanche Problem

Wet Slabs are possible today at mid elevations, and possible to produce small to large avalanches. Continued warming of the snowpack and rain or mixed precipitation adds one of the main ingredients: water. Water flowing through or beneath the snowpack is a recipe for wet slab avalanches. Respect avalanche terrain and runout zones for this low probability high consequence hazard that's difficult to predict.

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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 or at the Harvard Cabin.