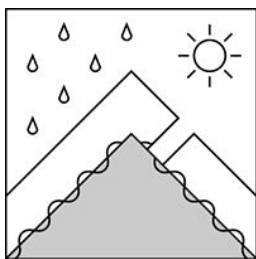


The Bottom Line

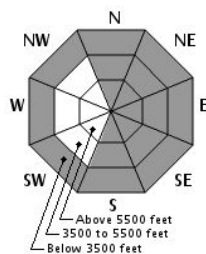
Rain falling on snow can result in wet avalanches, though these avalanche types are notoriously hard to predict. This type of avalanche can be quite destructive, though slower moving than dry slabs, due to their greater density and pushing power. Rain on snow also weakens the snowpack for foot travel and makes for miserable post-holing conditions. And then there is hypothermia. If those reasons aren't enough to choose something other than going into the Presidential Range today, then consider the possibility of a large natural avalanche caused by an erupting waterfall blowing out the snowpack in the Lip and generating a wall of slush, water and boulders. Though there is the possibility of natural avalanches in other isolated areas of steep terrain, it will be unlikely in most places. The Headwall area of Tuckerman Ravine has **CONSIDERABLE** avalanche danger due to a confluence of terrain factors, a thicker snowpack, and a stream channel under the snow. The floor of Tuckerman Ravine is threatened by a natural avalanche from this area. Human triggered avalanches are possible elsewhere in avalanche terrain throughout the range which has **MODERATE** avalanche danger today.

Mountain Weather

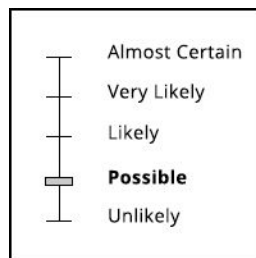
Skiers and climbers enjoyed the gift of light wind, warm temperatures and sunshine yesterday before today's lump of coal. Rain began overnight and will continue through the day with rain falling heavily at times. The most recent forecast totals indicate around an inch and half will fall, but we could get more due to banding and orographic lift. Temperature on the summit will slowly fall from a high in the lower 40's starting around midnight tonight and reach freezing levels by tomorrow morning when snow showers begin. The potential for long sliding falls on a hard icy snowpack will become a problem tomorrow.



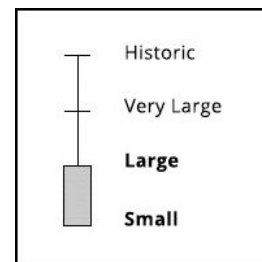
Wet Slab



Aspect/Elevation



Likelihood



Size

Primary Avalanche Problem

Wet Slab avalanches will become a concern as recent wind deposited snow becomes wet and loses strength. Softer snow will be more likely to fail though larger areas of harder old wind slab may be more consequential. This problem will increase through the day as water and heat penetrate the snowpack.

Secondary Avalanche Problem

Wet loose avalanches could be triggered in steep terrain today. These sluffs are most likely to occur in areas of softer snow. They could entrain enough snow to cause problems in bigger terrain or on slabby ice climbs.

Please Remember:

- Safe travel in avalanche terrain requires training and experience. This advisory is just one tool to help you make your own decisions in avalanche terrain. You control your own risk by choosing where, when, and how you travel.
- Anticipate a changing avalanche danger when actual weather differs from the higher summits 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.