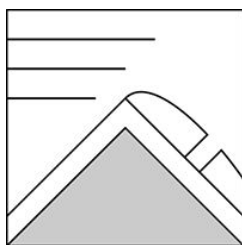


The Bottom Line

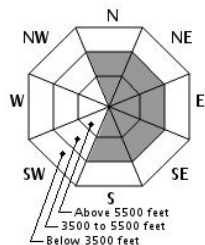
Heavy snow with growing wind speeds are the clear indicators of today's avalanche problem. Unfortunately, low visibility will make direct observation of this growing avalanche problem difficult. Lower angled terrain may provide excellent riding conditions but avoiding the runouts of avalanche paths will be key for safe travel today, especially as wind picks up this afternoon. Periods of heavy snow today, combined with snow on the ground from yesterday, will provide plenty of snow for avalanches that will be large enough to easily bury a person. The newly formed slabs will likely be touchy as well. Avalanche danger will rise to **CONSIDERABLE** today, especially where wind slabs build. Lower elevation, wind sheltered terrain will have **MODERATE** avalanche danger with smaller human-triggered avalanches still possible in steep terrain.

Mountain Weather

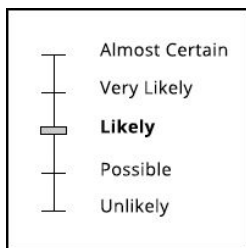
A few inches (7cm) of snow fell on Mount Washington yesterday with a couple inches more in the mountains south of the notches. Precipitation type remained snow at higher elevations with mixed precip and rain in the valleys and was accompanied by light wind from the south through west. The second low pressure system passing today will deepen offshore and create bands of snow which will bring up to 8" of snow to our forecast area by late afternoon with more falling into the evening. Temperatures will fall through the day as wind slowly ramps up and shifts to the northwest and reaches strong loading speeds in the afternoon. All the warm moist air in the region will keep conditions ripe for thick fog as well as continued upslope snow showers through the night and into tomorrow.

Primary Avalanche Problem


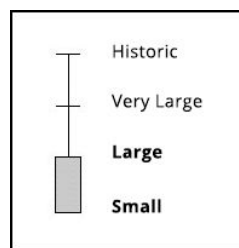
Wind Slab



Aspect/Elevation

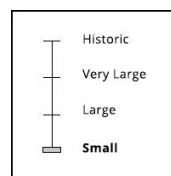
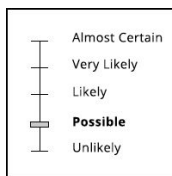
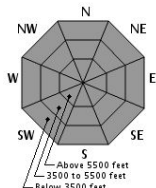
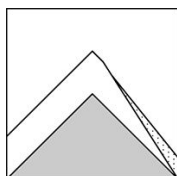


Likelihood



Size

Wind slab avalanches will grow in size as well as in likelihood of triggering today as new snow is loaded into slopes and gullies, generally on the east side of the range. Crossloading of other aspects will also be likely. Natural avalanches will become increasingly likely later in the day.

Secondary Avalanche Problem


Loose dry avalanches could be a problem in steep terrain and may help trigger a larger wind slab avalanche where these exist from previous wind loading and sluffing. Examples of this would be in the middle of Sluice and below Headwall ice in Tuckerman Ravine.

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.