

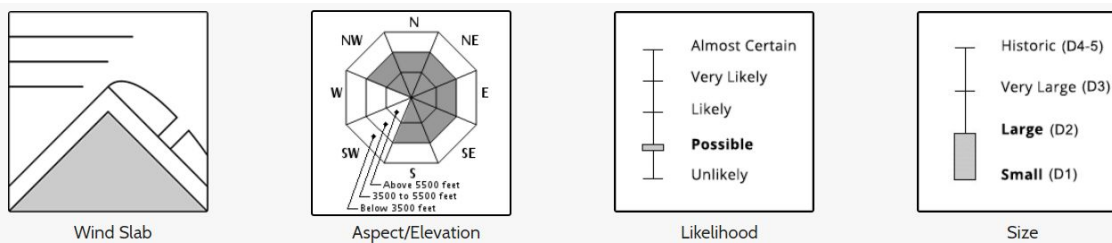
The Bottom Line

Cold snow that warms today is driving an decrease of stability. Slopes that see the most direct sun today (SE-SW) will see that amplified in comparison to other aspects. Aspects that have wet snow developing today will increase to MODERATE avalanche danger. Areas of snow that stay cold and dry today will offer generally safe avalanche conditions and provide safer travel for those looking to recreate. Please remember that you should always carry avalanche rescue gear and discuss travel techniques with your group to determine how you will manage the slope you plan to travel on.

Mountain Weather

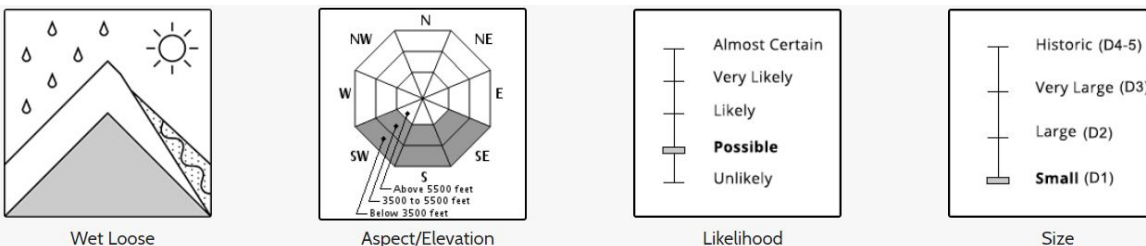
Yesterday was dominated by sunshine and warming temperatures. Wind was from the west and hovered around 30mph for daylight hours. Highs from around the Presidential Range are as follows: Mt Washington summit (6288'): 24F | Hermit Lake (E aspect below Tuckerman 3800'): 24F | Gray Knob (W aspect on shoulder of Mt Adams 4370'): 34F | Sluice Bowl (SW aspect 4800' in Tuckerman): 35F. **Today's** temperatures should be a repeat of yesterday with highs on the summit forecast in the upper 20sF. More moisture in the air early in the day and in the afternoon may create clouds or even periods of higher summits fog. Wind will again be from the west, though stronger, with speeds closer to 50mph in the morning before decreasing later in the afternoon. No precipitation is forecast.

Avalanche Problem



Rapid warming is a Red Flag in the avalanche world that indicates increasing instability. Wind slabs that exist currently in avalanche terrain will go through their second day of warming today. These slabs were firm and have proven unreactive as cold wind slabs. However, warming will destabilize the slab itself, perhaps moving the sensitivity of these slabs from away from unreactive. The greatest concern for these warming wind slabs today will be on the south half of the compass and places where the wind slab is thin. As you move around terrain today, track the thickness of the slab with your ski pole and the degree of warming by tracking how wet the snow is getting and how deep. If you start sinking in with your skis or boots to wet snow, recognize the slab has lost a lot of strength and increasing instability.

Secondary Avalanche Problem



Wet Loose avalanches are possible today as the sun and air temp increases the water content of snow due to melting. These will likely be small in size and are manageable by timing what aspect you travel on during the course of the day. These are more likely in steeper terrain and are most harmful if this snow that acts like uncured cement pulls you over a cliff or into a terrain trap.

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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.