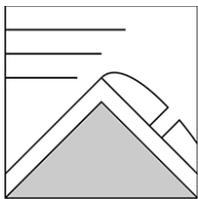


The Bottom Line

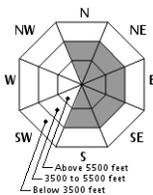
New wind slab development on our soon to be refrozen snow surface could increase in size and likelihood quickly this afternoon. The current wet slab avalanche problem has decreased in likelihood since yesterday but remains worthy of respect. Falling temperatures will ultimately eliminate our concerns for wet slab avalanches as the day progresses, but as weather conditions shift to snow and increasing wind should shift your attention to wind slabs. The Headwall area of Tuckerman Ravine has **CONSIDERABLE** avalanche danger and may be worth avoiding today for potential large wind slab development as well as continued threat of a wet slab this morning. All other forecast areas have **MODERATE** avalanche danger, where steep and easterly terrain has the greatest chance to collect reactive wind slabs by late today. Realize that as the snow surface refreezes today it will create ideal conditions for a long sliding fall if you brave today's weather. Crampons, ice axe, and your ability to use them will be necessary tools.

Mountain Weather

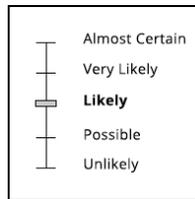
Nearly 3" of rain has been recorded in the past 30 hours on the summit of Mount Washington. 2.4" was measured at our Hermit Lake snow plot since yesterday morning. Yes, those are rain totals. Today brings a transition back to winter. Air temperatures should return to below freezing around midday as precipitation shifts to snow. 1-3" of snow accumulation is forecast, which will fall on wind shifting from the current S through W to NW and possibly gust over 100 mph after dark tonight. A trace of snow early tomorrow should give way to partial clearing as wind decreases.



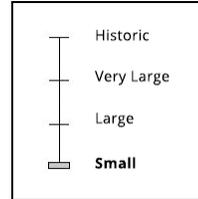
Wet Slab



Aspect/Elevation



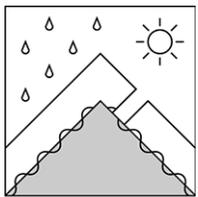
Likelihood



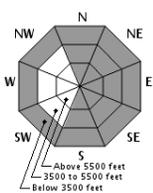
Size

Primary Avalanche Problem

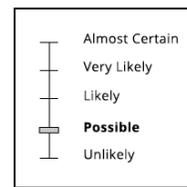
Snowfall later today will combine with increasing NW wind to quickly build reactive wind slabs on easterly terrain. The amount of snow we receive will dictate potential size of new wind slabs, which could become large if we receive the upper end of or greater than the 1-3" forecast. Realize that a matter of hours may be all it takes for sizeable wind slabs to form where there currently are none.



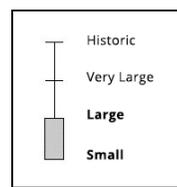
Wet Slab



Aspect/Elevation



Likelihood



Size

Secondary Avalanche Problem

Wet slab avalanches remain a concern this morning and are widespread across much of our terrain. Decreasing in likelihood, this problem will ultimately become a non-issue as our snowpack refreezes. Remember that wet slabs are notoriously difficult to predict.

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.