



Decision Support Briefing for SnowEx (NASA) – 10 February, 2017

Overview

Light rain showers have begun over higher terrain including the north end of the Grand Mesa and the northern San Juans, with no sign of snow on weather stations and webcams thus far. Record high temperatures today are keeping the snow level extremely high this evening (nearly 12000 ft!), but snow levels will begin to drop overnight. Warm temperatures will not allow the Grand Mesa to see all snow until early Saturday morning. The cold front is projected to move through the region from NW to SE Saturday, bringing very heavy and wet snow to the Grand Mesa. The cold front is expected to push through the Senator Beck Saturday night through Sunday morning but will be a fairly weak cold front by the it reaches the San Juans. Forecast models now indicating snow showers continuing both at Grand Mesa and Senator Beck on Sunday with no real break in precipitation or clouds involved. Precipitation looks to finally end sometime overnight Sunday into Monday morning though would expect lingering stratus with cooler air in place. Senator Beck may continue to see wrap around moisture on Monday but the Grand Mesa (esp the west end) should see some clearing on Monday. High pressure moves into the region on Tuesday - with some lingering high and mid clouds over the higher terrain through Friday. Temperatures will also rebound mid week to more normal temperatures for this time of year.

Local Weather Hazards for 10 Miles NNW Cedaredge CO (Grand Mesa at Mesa/Delta Co Line)

[Winter Weather Advisory](#)
[Hazardous Weather Outlook](#)

National Weather Service Forecast for 10 Miles NNW Cedaredge CO (Grand Mesa at Mesa/Delta Co Line)

For the latest forecast, go to:

<http://forecast.weather.gov/MapClick.php?lat=39.027&lon=-108.02>

Tonight: Rain and snow showers, mainly after 8pm. Low around 32. Breezy, with a southwest wind 30 to 35 mph. Chance of precipitation is 90%. New snow accumulation of 3 to 5 inches possible.

Saturday: Snow showers. The snow could be heavy at times. High near 32. Southwest wind 10 to 15 mph becoming north in the afternoon. Winds could gust as high as 25 mph. Chance of precipitation is 90%. New snow accumulation of 6 to 10 inches possible.

Saturday Night: Snow showers likely, mainly before 10pm. Cloudy, with a low around 18. North northeast wind 5 to 10 mph becoming east southeast after midnight. Chance of precipitation is 60%. New snow accumulation of 1 to 3 inches possible.

Sunday: A 50 percent chance of snow showers. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 33. East southeast wind 5 to 10 mph.

Sunday Night: A 30 percent chance of snow showers, mainly before 11pm. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 24.

Monday: A slight chance of rain and snow showers between 11am and 3pm, then a slight chance of snow showers after 3pm. Partly sunny, with a high near 36. Chance of precipitation is 20%.

Monday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 22.

Tuesday: Sunny, with a high near 36.

Tuesday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 20.

Wednesday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 39.

Wednesday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 24.

Thursday: Sunny, with a high near 41.

Thursday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 26.

Friday: A chance of rain and snow showers. Mostly sunny, with a high near 41.

Local Weather Hazards for 7 Miles ENE Ophir CO (Senator Beck)

[Winter Weather Advisory](#)
[Hazardous Weather Outlook](#)

National Weather Service Forecast for 7 Miles ENE Ophir CO (Senator Beck)

For the latest forecast, go to:

<http://forecast.weather.gov/MapClick.php?lat=37.905&lon=-107.72>

Tonight: Snow showers likely, mainly after 4am. Cloudy, with a low around 27. Windy, with a southwest wind 30 to 35 mph, with gusts as high as 50 mph. Chance of

precipitation is 60%. New snow accumulation of around an inch possible.

Saturday: Snow showers. The snow could be heavy at times. High near 27. Windy, with a southwest wind 30 to 35 mph decreasing to 20 to 25 mph in the afternoon. Winds could gust as high as 50 mph. Chance of precipitation is 90%. New snow accumulation of 5 to 9 inches possible.

Saturday Night: Snow showers. The snow could be heavy at times. Low around 16. South wind around 15 mph. Chance of precipitation is 90%. New snow accumulation of 5 to 9 inches possible.

Sunday: Snow showers. The snow could be heavy at times. Some thunder is also possible. High near 26. South wind 10 to 15 mph, with gusts as high as 25 mph. Chance of precipitation is 90%.

Sunday Night: A 50 percent chance of snow showers. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 17.

Monday: A 50 percent chance of snow showers. Some thunder is also possible. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 28.

Monday Night: A chance of snow showers before 11pm. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 14.

Tuesday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 29.

Tuesday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 15.

Wednesday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 32.

Wednesday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 18.

Thursday: Sunny, with a high near 36.

Thursday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 20.

Friday: A chance of snow showers. Mostly sunny, with a high near 35.

Aviation Forecast for Grand Junction Regional Airport

KGJT 102325

TAFGJT

TAF

KGJT 102325Z 1100/1124 21011G20KT P6SM OVC080

FM110300 22009KT P6SM VCSH OVC050 WS020/23025KT

FM111000 22006KT P6SM -SHRA OVC050

FM111400 17006KT 5SM -SHRA OVC035

FM111600 11006KT 3SM -SHRA OVC020

FM111900 07007KT 1 1/2SM -SHRA OVC015=

Aviation Forecast for Colorado Springs Airport

KCOS 102244Z 1023/1118 25022G38KT P6SM SCT120 BKN200

FM110200 23013KT P6SM FEW200

FM110800 19008KT P6SM SCT250=

Aviation Forecast for Centennial Airport

KAPA 102325Z 1100/1124 26015G25KT P6SM FEW120 BKN200
FM110100 24012G21KT P6SM FEW100 BKN140
FM110200 22012KT P6SM FEW120 BKN200
FM110600 19009KT P6SM SCT120 BKN200
FM111200 29007KT P6SM FEW080 SCT120 BKN180
FM111500 34012KT P6SM SCT080 BKN120
FM112000 02014KT P6SM VCSH SCT060 BKN100=

Discussion

Grand Mesa forecast cloud levels:

Saturday: OVC 1000 to 1500ft AGL all day, if not lower.

Senator Beck forecast cloud levels:

Saturday: OVC 3000ft AGL lowering to 1000 ft AGL by 1000 MST due to snow coverage increasing.

Current PIREPs: <https://www.aviationweather.gov/airep/plot?type=turb@ion=SW>

Current SITREPs: <https://www.aviationweather.gov/sigmet>

Current radar:

<http://radar.weather.gov/radar.php?rid=GJX&product=NCR&overlay=11101111&loop=yes>

Current satellite: <http://www.weather.gov/satellite?image=ir#ir>

For official pilot briefings, call 1-800-WX-BRIEF

For Further Information

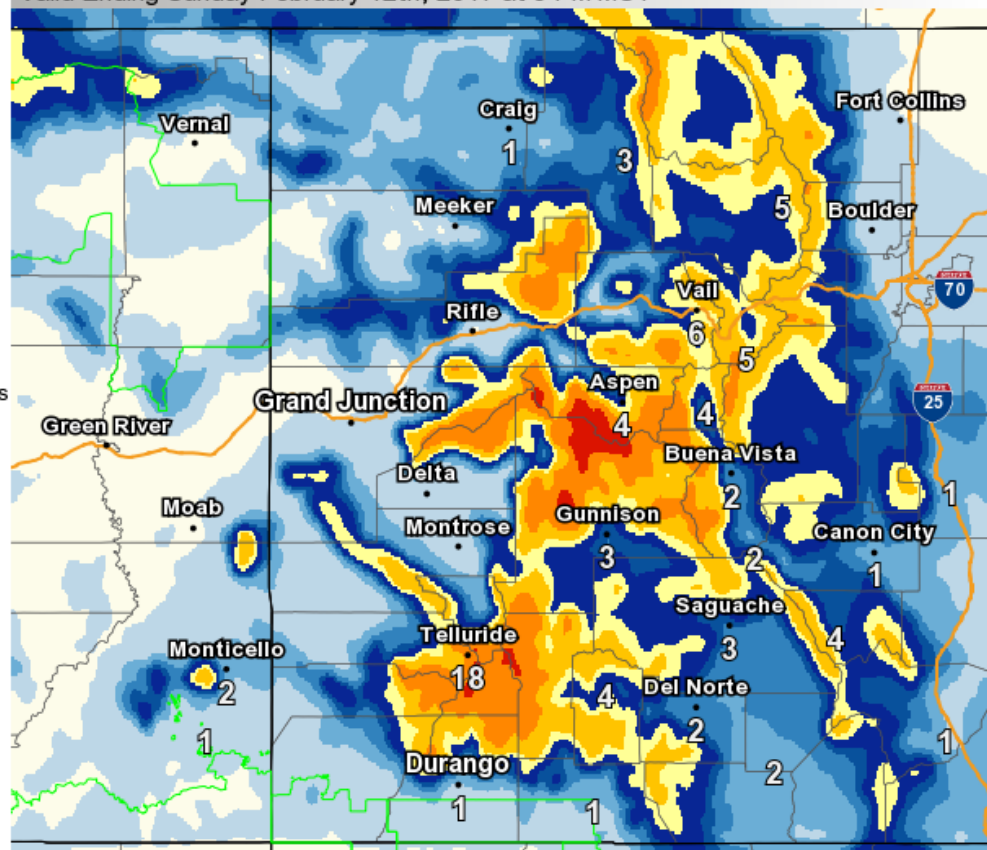
- Contact National Weather Service operations 24 hours a day at 970-256-9463 (unlisted)
- For specific support of emergency response incidents, request a spot forecast by contacting the NWS forecast office by phone or online.
- Online spot forecast request available at:
<http://www.weather.gov/spot/monitor/?lat=39.0293452169889&lon=-109.20392753906285&z=7>

Forecaster: Julie Malingowski

Forecast Snowfall

National Weather Service

Valid Ending Sunday February 12th, 2017 at 5 PM MST



Graphic Created
February 10th, 2017
4:45 PM MST