



Decision Support Briefing for SnowEx (NASA) – 16 February, 2017

Overview

High pressure will break down tonight and allow high clouds to start streaming into the area. A warm front will approach from the southwest during the day Friday and bring some light snowshowers to both areas from mid-to-late afternoon onwards. Clouds will also thicken and drop during the day especially from noon onwards. The strongest activity looks to occur overnight Friday into Saturday morning where 2 to 4 inches of new snow looks likely over the Grand Mesa while 2 to 3 inches looks possible for the Senator Beck area. By daybreak Saturday, precipitation will have ended and a lull will occur until noon. From noon onwards, another round of precipitation looks to occur for both sites through Sunday morning. Another lull looks possible with a last push of precipitation late Sunday afternoon through Monday morning. It's very important to mention that the lulls that do occur may be quite prolonged and in the longer lulls, ceilings will likely lift before dropping back down again.

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

[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:** Partly cloudy, with a low around 22. West southwest wind 5 to 10 mph.
- Friday:** Scattered snow showers, mainly after 2pm. Increasing clouds, with a high near 35. South wind 5 to 10 mph. Chance of precipitation is 40%.
- Friday Night:** Snow showers, mainly before 11pm. Low around 26. South wind around 10 mph. Chance of precipitation is 80%. New snow accumulation of 3 to 5 inches possible.
- Saturday:** A 30 percent chance of snow showers. Cloudy, with a high near 36. South wind 5 to 10 mph.
- Saturday Night:** A 20 percent chance of snow showers before 11pm. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 28. South southeast wind 5 to 10 mph.
- Sunday:** Snow showers likely, mainly after 11am. Cloudy, with a high near 35. Chance of precipitation is 70%.
- Sunday Night:** Snow showers likely, mainly before 11pm. Cloudy, with a low around 23. Chance of precipitation is 70%.
- Washington's Birthday:** A chance of snow showers before 11am. Partly sunny, with a high near 37.
- Monday Night:** Partly cloudy, with a low around 27.
- Tuesday:** Mostly sunny, with a high near 40.
- Tuesday Night:** Partly cloudy, with a low around 29.
- Wednesday:** A chance of showers. Partly sunny, with a high near 42.
- Wednesday Night:** A chance of rain and snow showers. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 23.
- Thursday:** A chance of snow showers. Cloudy, with a high near 29.

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

[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:** Partly cloudy, with a low around 18. West wind 10 to 15 mph.
- Friday:** Scattered snow showers, mainly after 3pm. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 30. West wind around 15 mph becoming south southwest in the afternoon. Winds could gust as high as 25 mph. Chance of precipitation is 40%.
- Friday Night:** Snow showers likely, mainly before 11pm. Cloudy, with a low around 20. South southwest wind around 15 mph.

Chance of precipitation is 70%. New snow accumulation of 2 to 4 inches possible.

Saturday: A 40 percent chance of snow showers. Areas of blowing snow after 11am. Cloudy, with a high near 28. South wind around 15 mph, with gusts as high as 25 mph.

Saturday Night: A 40 percent chance of snow showers. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 21. Breezy, with a south wind 15 to 20 mph.

Sunday: Snow showers. The snow could be heavy at times. Areas of blowing snow after 11am. High near 28. Chance of precipitation is 80%.

Sunday Night: Snow showers likely. Patchy blowing snow. Cloudy, with a low around 15. Chance of precipitation is 70%.

Washington's Birthday: A chance of snow showers, mainly before 11am. Mostly sunny, with a high near 30.

Monday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 21.

Tuesday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 34.

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

Wednesday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 32.

Wednesday Night: A chance of snow showers. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 18. Breezy.

Thursday: Snow showers likely. Cloudy, with a high near 21. Breezy.

Aviation Forecast for Grand Junction Regional Airport

KGJT 162323

TAFGJT

TAF

KGJT 162323Z 1700/1724 32008KT P6SM FEW250

FM170200 02004KT P6SM FEW250

FM170400 09004KT P6SM SCT200

FM171800 15005KT P6SM BKN200

FM172000 22005KT P6SM BKN100=

Aviation Forecast for Colorado Springs Airport

KCOS 162320Z 1700/1724 16012G22KT P6SM SKC

FM170200 36006KT P6SM SKC

FM171800 16010KT P6SM FEW120=

Aviation Forecast for Centennial Airport

KAPA 161730Z 1618/1718 VRB05KT P6SM SKC

FM161900 16006KT P6SM SKC

FM170200 20007KT P6SM SKC

FM171500 VRB05KT P6SM SCT250=

Discussion

Grand Mesa forecast cloud levels:

Friday: SCT to BKN skies at 18K feet becoming BKN to OVC at 10 to 15K feet by noon. Remaining BKN to OVC at 4 to 8K feet by the evening.

Saturday: SCT to BKN skies 10K feet becoming BKN to OVC after 12PM with ceilings from 4 to 8K feet.

Senator Beck forecast cloud levels:

Friday: SCT skies becoming BKN to OVC at 12 to 15K feet by noon. Remaining BKN to OVC at 6 to 8K feet by the evening.

Saturday: BKN skies 12K feet becoming BKN to OVC after 12PM with ceilings from 4 to 8K feet.

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

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

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>

Hourly weather graphics for the Grand Mesa:

<http://forecast.weather.gov/MapClick.php?lat=39.0326&lon=-108.0245&unit=0&lg=english&FcstType=graphical>

Hourly weather graphics for Senator Beck:

<http://forecast.weather.gov/MapClick.php?lat=37.9247&lon=-107.7179&unit=0&lg=english&FcstType=graphical>

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>

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