



HELO Weather

McMurdo Weather
Email: mcm.weather.forecaster@usap.gov
Iridium: 00 8816 7632 0030
Duty Forecaster: x42524
Briefing Counter: x43353

Date (L): Saturday, 17 December 2022

Brief Time (L): 0615

Briefing Number: 12-15

FCSTR: Jeff Fournier

REGIONAL SUMMARY

The Ross Island region will be in between low pressure systems today, with the one that moved through yesterday on its way into the Ross Sea this morning, and another approaching from southeast later today. Any bad weather from this approaching system will not arrive in our area until late tonight, so the weather for today's helicopter operations should generally be good. The main exceptions to this will be along the west coast of McMurdo Sound, where a weak, small low pressure system will combine with local moisture to produce areas of fog and low ceilings at times. Also, as has been the case for most of the past several days, the higher elevations of Mt Erebus will be in and out of the clouds today.

HAZARDS

LOCALIZED IFR CONDITIONS AND TRACE ICING IN MIST/FOG, MAINLY ALONG THE WEST COAST OF MCMURDO SOUND AND HOOPER'S SHOULDER.

LATEST MCMURDO OBSERVATION

METAR ZCMA 161640Z AUTO 35008KT 280V010 9999 FEW070 M01/M06 A2886 RMK AO2 SLP775 GRID16008KT 090V180=

RUNWAY TAFS

TAF NZFX 161500Z 1615/1715 (1704/1804NZDT) 30010KT 9999 FEW020 BKN100 QNH2887INS GRID11010KT
BECMG 1701/1703 (1714/1716) VRB06KT 9999 FEW020 BKN100 QNH2893INS
BECMG 1710/1712 (1723/1801) 15010KT 9999 -SN SCT020 BKN030 620307 QNH2902INS GRID32010KT

TAF NZWD 161500Z 1615/1715 (1704/1804NZDT) 30010KT 9999 FEW020 BKN100 QNH2887INS GRID11010KT
BECMG 1701/1703 (1714/1716) VRB06KT 9999 FEW020 BKN100 QNH2893INS
BECMG 1710/1712 (1723/1801) 15008KT 9999 -SN SCT020 BKN030 620307 QNH2902INS GRID32008KT

MCMURDO HELIPAD FORECAST (VALID TIME: 17/0600L – 17/1800L)

SFC WIND (TRUE): 33008KT
SFC VISIBILITY (SM): UNR
SKY CONDITION (AGL): SCT050 SCT-BKN100
MIN ALSTG: 2885INS
HAZARDS: NIL

SITE & AREA FORECASTS (VALID TIME: 17/0600L – 17/1800L)

SCOTT BASE

SFC WIND (TRUE): 33008KT
SFC VISIBILITY (SM): UNR
SKY CONDITION (AGL): SCT050 SCT-BKN100
MIN ALSTG: 2886INS

HAZARDS: NIL

MARBLE POINT

SFC WIND (TRUE): VRB06KT

SFC VISIBILITY (SM): UNR

SKY CONDITION (AGL): FEW015 SCT-BKN100

MIN ALSTG: 2886INS

HAZARDS: NIL

LAKE HOARE

SFC WIND (TRUE): VRB06KT

SFC VISIBILITY (SM): UNR

SKY CONDITION (AGL): SCT100

MIN ALSTG: 2883INS

HAZARDS: NIL

LAKE FRYXELL

SFC WIND (TRUE): VRB06KT

SFC VISIBILITY (SM): UNR

SKY CONDITION (AGL): FEW010 SCT100

MIN ALSTG: 2888INS

HAZARDS: NIL

LAKE BONNEY

SFC WIND (TRUE): VRB06KT

SFC VISIBILITY (SM): UNR

SKY CONDITION (AGL): SCT100

MIN ALSTG: 2884INS

HAZARDS: NIL

F6

SFC WIND (TRUE): 05008KT

SFC VISIBILITY (SM): UNR

SKY CONDITION (AGL): FEW050 SCT100

MIN ALSTG: 2887INS

HAZARDS: NIL

HOOPERS SHOULDER

SFC WIND (TRUE): 15015KT, BECMG VRB06KT AFT 08L

SFC VISIBILITY (SM): UNR; TEMPO 1 –SN BR 06-18L

SKY CONDITION (AGL): SCT-BKN100

MIN ALSTG: 2849INS

HAZARDS: TRACE RIME ICG IN –SN AND BR

MESERVE GLACIER

SFC WIND (TRUE): VRB06KT

SFC VISIBILITY (SM): UNR

SKY CONDITION (AGL): SCT100

MIN ALSTG: 2875INS

HAZARDS: NIL

WOLCOTT GLACIER

SFC WIND (TRUE): 36006KT
SFC VISIBILITY (SM): UNR
SKY CONDITION (AGL): FEW050 SCT100
MIN ALSTG: 2881INS
HAZARDS: NIL

MT NEWALL

SFC WIND (TRUE): 22006KT, BECMG 35006KT AFT 14L
SFC VISIBILITY (SM): UNR, TEMPO 1-2 BR AFT 12L
SKY CONDITION (AGL): SCT100
MIN ALSTG: 2860INS
HAZARDS: TRACE RIME ICG IN BR AFT 12L

HOWARD GLACIER

SFC WIND (TRUE): VRB04KT
SFC VISIBILITY (SM): 3-5SM BR, TEMPO ½ FG 06-12L
SKY CONDITION (AGL): SCT002 SCT100, TEMPO VV001 06-12L
MIN ALSTG: 2883INS
HAZARDS: TRACE RIME ICG IN FG

COMMONWEALTH GLACIER

SFC WIND (TRUE): VRB04KT, BECMG 13004KT
SFC VISIBILITY (SM): 3-5SM BR, TEMPO ½ FG 06-12L
SKY CONDITION (AGL): SCT002 SCT100, TEMPO VV001 06-12L
MIN ALSTG: 2883INS
HAZARDS: TRACE RIME ICG IN FG

TAYLOR VALLEY HOVER SITES

SFC WIND (TRUE): 04008KT
SFC VISIBILITY (SM): UNR
SKY CONDITION (AGL): SCT100
MIN ALSTG: 2881INS
HAZARDS: NIL

LAURIE II

SFC WIND (TRUE): 26010KT, BECMG 24007KT AFT 09L
SFC VISIBILITY (SM): UNR
SKY CONDITION (AGL): FEW025 SCT050 SCT-BKN070
MIN ALSTG: 2882INS
HAZARDS: NIL

WINDLESS BIGHT (BACKUP MISSION)

SFC WIND (TRUE): VRB04KT
SFC VISIBILITY (SM): UNR
SKY CONDITION (AGL): SCT050 SCT-BKN100
MIN ALSTG: 2883INS
HAZARDS: NIL

MACZ (BACKUP MISSION)

SFC WIND (TRUE): 16005KT

SFC VISIBILITY (SM): UNR; TEMPO 2-3 BR 12-18L

SKY CONDITION (AGL): SCT-BKN100

MIN ALSTG: 2884INS

HAZARDS: TRACE RIME ICG IN BR

NIGHT AREA OUTLOOKS (VALID TIME: 17/1800L – 18/0600L)

NIL