



# HELO Weather

**McMurdo Weather**  
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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

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

NIL