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| **8th Grade Science**  **Alternative Avalanche Assignment** | Name\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  Date \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Pr. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ |

Go to the Northwest Avalanche Center webpage: <http://www.nwac.us/>

Click on Forecasts, then on Mountain Weather.

1. Briefly describe, in your own words, the weather forecast for today in the western North Cascades.
2. What is the wind speed (Free Wind at 5000’)? (Miles per hour)
3. What is the Snow/Freezing Level? (How high, in feet?)

Go back to the home page and locate the avalanche forecast for the west slopes of the North Cascades.

1. What is the avalanche danger today and tomorrow at different elevations?

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|  | **Today** | **Tomorrow** |
| **Above treeline** |  |  |
| **Near treeline** |  |  |
| **Below treeline** |  |  |

1. Describe briefly and in your own words the meaning of each rating you gave above. For example, what does “moderate” mean? What does “considerable” mean?

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| **Rating** | **Description** |
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1. Sketch or describe briefly and in your own words the avalanche problems for today. Be sure to state the problem, aspect/elevation, likelihood and size. Describe each problem type given on the webpage.

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| **Problem** | **Aspect/Elevation** | **Likelihood** | **Size** |
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1. Based on what you found out about today’s weather and avalanche conditions, what advice would you give to someone who was considering heading into the backcountry today? Explain your advice based on the specific supporting data you saw.

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| **Advice** |  |
| **Supporting data** |  |