

Mount St. Helens Snow Survey - April 25, 2006

On April 25, 2006 the USDA NRCS Snow Survey Program had 7 teams on Mount St. Helens to measure the snowpack on and surrounding the mountain. This effort was in support of our ongoing program to estimate the amount of water in the snowpack on Mount St. Helens. The NRCS provides a weekly estimate of the amount of water stored as snow on Mount St. Helens to assist in disaster planning and management in the event of a volcanic eruption and subsequent flood hazard. While snow models and the measurements at the NRCS remote SNOTEL sites can give a good estimate of the snowpack, the measurements taken on April 25 provide more data in many locations to check against our estimates in places that have not been measured before. These measurements are a snapshot of the snowpack on Mount St. Helens on April 25, and can give an estimate of current conditions at that time. The snow at this time of year can melt quickly, but with the above average snowpack around the mountain, it may take some time to melt completely.

| Team | Sample # | Lat Decmin | Long DecMin | Elev (feet) | Depth (in) | Density % | Comments |
|---|----------|------------|-------------|-------------|------------|-----------|-----------------------------|
| Plains of Abraham (83 road) | | | | | | | |
| | 1 | 46 12.613 | -122 8.996 | 4668 | 100+ | | Not full sample - hard ice. |
| | 2 | 46 12.685 | -122 8.64 | 4515 | 106+ | | Not full sample - hard ice. |
| | 3 | 46 11.812 | -122 8.235 | 5220 | 115+ | | Not full sample - hard ice. |
| | 4 | 46 11.148 | -122 7.734 | 3805 | 104+ | | Not full sample - hard ice. |
| | 5 | 46 10.65 | -122 6.968 | 3412 | 80 | 49 | 5 ice layers |
| | 6 | 46 10.315 | -122 6.503 | 3215 | 44.5 | 54 | |
| | 7 | 46 9.879 | -122 6.016 | 3000 | 24.5 | 53 | |
| | 8 | 46 8.619 | -122 7.058 | 2858 | 83 | 37 | variable depths at sample. |
| | 9 | 46.08.167 | -122 9.875 | 2699 | 49 | 51 | along 83 road |
| Merrill Lake (81 road) | | | | | | | |
| | 1 | 46 8.845 | -122 16.637 | 2692 | 48.5 | 37 | |
| | 2 | 46 8.992 | -122 16.322 | 2789 | 58 | 47 | |
| | 3 | 46 9.256 | -122 16.234 | 2887 | 55 | 49 | |
| | 4 | 46 9.478 | -122 15.939 | 2973 | 48 | 46 | |
| | 5 | 46 9.862 | -122 15.777 | 3156 | 56 | 43 | |
| | 6 | 46 10.114 | -122 15.716 | 3219 | 57 | 46 | |
| Upper Mountain (SW side) | | | | | | | |
| | 1 | 46 11.257 | -122 13.112 | 5481 | 41 | | |
| | 2 | 46 11.271 | -122 13.106 | 5499 | 118+ | | Could not get full sample |
| | 3 | 46 11.291 | -122 13.154 | 5505 | 120+ | | Could not get full sample |
| | 4 | 46 11.314 | -122 13.195 | 5503 | 120+ | | Could not get full sample |
| | 5 | 46 11.326 | -122 13.231 | 5488 | 46 | | |
| | 6 | 46 11.356 | -122 13.279 | 5465 | 120+ | | Could not get full sample |
| Monitor Ridge (high elevation South side) | | | | | | | |
| | 1 | 46 11.082 | -122 10.928 | 7182 | 217 | | |
| | 2 | 46 10.908 | -122 10.793 | 6748 | 354+ | | exceeds probe depth |
| | 3 | 46 10.696 | -122 10.568 | 6168 | 65 | | |
| | 4 | 46 10.565 | -122 10.53 | 5742 | 155 | | |
| | 5 | 46 10.934 | -122 11.406 | 7127 | 39 | | |
| | 6 | 46 10.904 | -122 11.378 | 7082 | 103 | | * Ice layer(difficult) |
| | 7 | 46 10.483 | -122 11.403 | 6099 | 354+ | | Ground or Ice at 9 Meters |

Coldwater Ridge / North side MSH

| | | | | | | | | |
|----|----|--------|------|--------|------|------|----|----------------|
| 1 | 46 | 17.814 | -122 | 10.976 | 5042 | 94.5 | 48 | |
| 2 | 46 | 17.82 | -122 | 11.174 | 4800 | 78 | 48 | |
| 3 | 46 | 17.72 | -122 | 11.327 | 4586 | 46 | 45 | |
| 4 | 46 | 17.607 | -122 | 11.714 | 4330 | 58.5 | 50 | |
| 5 | 46 | 17.585 | -122 | 11.9 | 4186 | 63.5 | 48 | |
| 6 | 46 | 14.583 | -122 | 9.431 | 3722 | 27.5 | 53 | |
| 7 | 46 | 13.407 | -122 | 10.391 | 4761 | 147 | | Ice layers. |
| 8 | 46 | 13.478 | -122 | 10.432 | 4685 | 69 | 50 | |
| 9 | 46 | 13.444 | -122 | 12.548 | 4628 | 107 | | |
| 10 | 46 | 13.417 | -122 | 13.919 | 4066 | 103 | | NW side of MSH |

Clearwater (25 road)

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|----|--------|------|--------|------|------|----|----------------------|
| 1 | 46 | 10.686 | -122 | 0.347 | 3208 | 59 | 41 | |
| 2 | 46 | 11.762 | -121 | 59.649 | 3320 | 69.5 | 36 | |
| 3 | 46 | 12.601 | -121 | 59.401 | 3572 | 74 | 42 | |
| 4 | 46 | 14.487 | -121 | 58.562 | 3406 | 75.5 | 46 | |
| 5 | 46 | 15.087 | -121 | 58.791 | 3401 | 36.5 | 38 | |
| 6 | 46 | 15.796 | -121 | 57.777 | 3809 | 73 | 45 | * near edge of road. |

99 Road

| | | | | | | | | |
|----|----|--------|------|--------|------|----------|----|-------------------------------|
| 1 | 46 | 15.963 | -122 | 6.746 | 4271 | 92 | 50 | East side of Windy Ridge. |
| 2 | 46 | 16.215 | -122 | 6.575 | 4127 | 100 | 50 | |
| 3 | 46 | 16.555 | -122 | 6.031 | 4280 | 95 | 50 | |
| 4 | 46 | 17.026 | -122 | 5.703 | 4054 | 116 | 50 | |
| 5 | 46 | 16.88 | -122 | 4.861 | 3945 | 86 | 52 | |
| 6 | 46 | 17.776 | -122 | 4.556 | 3615 | 101.5 | 49 | |
| 7 | 46 | 18.61 | -122 | 3.575 | 3710 | 69.5 | 46 | |
| 8 | 46 | 18.586 | -122 | 1.85 | 4000 | 111 | 50 | GPS 100ft s (no sat. cov.) |
| 9 | 46 | 18.813 | -122 | 1.455 | 3785 | 126 | 51 | |
| 10 | 46 | 19.016 | -122 | 1.361 | 3606 | 116.5 | 52 | |
| 11 | 46 | 19.448 | -121 | 59.85 | 3165 | no meas. | | dense forest, steep cutbanks. |
| 12 | 46 | 19.481 | -121 | 58.875 | 2975 | no meas. | | dense forest, steep cutbanks. |
| 13 | 46 | 19.465 | -121 | 58.518 | | no meas. | | snowline |

Swift Ck

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|----|--------|------|--------|------|-----|--|--|
| 1 | 46 | 10.024 | -122 | 11.093 | 4625 | 198 | | |
| 2 | 46 | 9.957 | -122 | 11.082 | 4650 | 154 | | |
| 3 | 46 | 9.917 | -122 | 11.062 | 4600 | 193 | | |
| 4 | 46 | 9.824 | -122 | 11.044 | | 169 | | |