

January 16, 2014
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I-94 from Bismarck to Jamestown now open; Travel Alert in effect

The North Dakota Department of Transportation (NDDOT) and the North Dakota Highway Patrol have opened both the eastbound and westbound lanes of I-94 from Bismarck to Jamestown. A **Travel Alert** is in effect for the area. Motorists should be advised that conditions between Sterling and Jamestown consist of areas of scattered ice and blowing snow creating reduced visibility. Motorists may come upon these areas unexpectedly and are advised to reduce speeds. A **Travel Alert** means motorists can still travel but may encounter areas of challenging driving conditions on roadways.

Motorists are reminded of the following travel warnings in effect:

- A **No Travel Advisory** is in effect for the northeastern region of North Dakota due to snow and blowing snow creating areas of near zero visibility. Cities included in the **No Travel Advisory** are Devils Lake, Grand Forks, and areas north of I-94 north of Jamestown, Valley City and Fargo. Conditions are such that motorists in these areas **should not travel**. Plows have been temporarily pulled in the Grand Forks and surrounding area due to zero visibility and will resume operations when it is safe to do so.
- A **Travel Alert** is in effect for areas east of Bismarck and south of I-94 south of Jamestown, Valley City, Fargo, including Wahpeton and surrounding areas due to snow and blowing snow creating areas of scattered ice and reduced visibility.

All travelers are encouraged to monitor road conditions as weather conditions occur and use caution while traveling. For road information, call 511 from any type of phone or go to the website: www.dot.nd.gov. NDDOT releases information to inform the public about travel conditions throughout the state. The three categories are as follows:

1. **TRAVEL ALERT** – Motorists can still travel but may encounter areas of challenging winter weather driving conditions on roadways. Motorists should allow extra time to reach their destination and be alert to conditions that may make travel difficult, change rapidly, or cause travel delays. A TRAVEL ALERT has the potential to change to a NO TRAVEL ADVISED if conditions deteriorate.
2. **NO TRAVEL ADVISED** – Motorists should not travel due to hazardous conditions which may make it unsafe to travel. Snowplows may be pulled from the roads during severe conditions. Motorists should take NO TRAVEL ADVISED seriously as those motorists who choose to travel at their own risk may become stranded and emergency responders may not be able to reach them safely. A NO TRAVEL ADVISED has the potential to change to a ROAD CLOSED OR BLOCKED if conditions deteriorate.
3. **ROAD CLOSED OR BLOCKED** – Motorists are not allowed to travel on a closed road due to life threatening conditions. The road may be impassible or blocked. Motorists who drive past a road closure device may be fined up to \$250.

Please be advised that road condition information on 511 and the travel map is updated daily from 5 a.m. until 9 p.m. CDT. The road report is based upon the information available to the NDDOT at the time of preparation and is provided solely as a public service. Conditions may vary from those reported.

If you become stranded, motorists should stay with their vehicle and call 911 for emergency assistance.