

January 3, 2014

Issued as of 2:55 p.m.

No Travel Advisory extended to north central ND; Travel Alert issued for remainder of state excluding southwest region

The North Dakota Department of Transportation (NDDOT) and the North Dakota Highway Patrol have updated the **No Travel Advisory** in northwestern North Dakota to only include areas north of US Highway 2 including the cities of Crosby, Bowbells and surrounding areas. In addition the **No Travel Advisory** has been **extended** to north central North Dakota including the cities of Minot, Devils Lake and surrounding areas due to freezing rain causing icy road conditions and hazardous travel. Conditions are such that motorists in these areas **should not travel**.

A **Travel Alert** has been issued to include the remainder of the state, excluding the southwest region. Cities included in the **Travel Alert** are Williston, Grand Forks, Fargo, Wahpeton, Valley City, Jamestown, Ellendale, Linton, Bismarck and surrounding areas. A **Travel Alert** means conditions are such that **motorists can still travel** in these areas, but should be advised of freezing rain causing icy road conditions.

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.