Idaho 511 Citizen Reporting Program

Tony Ernest – Traveler Services Coordinator
National WRTM Workshop, September 25, 2013
Salt Lake City, Utah
Idaho’s 511 Traveler Information System
Idaho Transportation Department  Highway Info

--- Current Problems ---
- Closures/Blockages
- Danger
- Restriction
- Crash
- Weather Warning

--- Other Reports ---
- Traffic Delay
- Warning
- Lane Closure
- Roadwork
- Info

--- Road Conditions ---
- Good
- Fair
- Difficult
- No Report Available

--- Traffic Speeds ---
- State
- Google

--- Future Reports ---
- Coming Soon

511 Info  Streamlined Version  Mobile Version  Truckers' Info  Transit Info  Tourist Info  Links

Select Map  Future Info:  reopened roadway: I-84

Map  Satellite  Hybrid

Welcome back, Tony
View your reports [not Tony Ernest?]
Winter Road Condition Reporting in Idaho

- Reports radioed in by Maintenance Crews
  - Minimum scheduled daily reports
  - And as conditions change
- Hard to track reliability of “as conditions change” reporting
- Individual reports are time tagged
- 24 hour lifespan, or until overwritten
- Public complaints of out of date information

**Need:** to improve timeliness and frequency of winter road condition reporting!
Idaho Transportation Department  Highway Info

Salmon - Pocatello

US 93 in both directions: Icy patches.

Last updated today at 9:49AM MST

ID 28 in both directions: Icy patches.
between ID 29 (Leadvore) and US 93; The South Salmon City Limits (Salmon). Look out for icy patches. Look out for packed snow patches on the roadway. Cloudy skies. Look out for drifting snow on the roadway. Look out for large animals on the roadway.

Last updated today at 9:49AM MST

Winter Storm Warning
Upper Snake Highlands, South Central Highlands, Caribou Highlands,
Cache Valley/Idaho Portion and Wasatch Mountains/Idaho Portion. A Winter Storm Warning is in effect. Until today at about 3:00PM MST.

Comment: Winter Storm Warning issued January 11 at 5:15AM MST until January 11 at 5:00PM MST by NWS

A PACIFIC STORM SYSTEM IS CONTINUING TO AFFECT SOUTHWEST IDAHO TODAY... MAINLY THE SNAKE RIVER PLAIN AND THE SOUTHERN AND EASTERN HIGHLANDS. THE ASSOCIATED COLD FRONT HAS PUSHED THROUGH THE REGION BRINGING MUCH COLDER WEATHER BEHIND IT.

Full NWS alert

Last updated today at 5:17AM MST

ID 28 in both directions: Packed snow patches.
between The Lemhi - Clark County Line (36 miles north of the Mud Lake area) and ID 25 (Leadore). Look out for packed snow patches on the roadway. Cloudy skies. Look out for drifting snow on the roadway.
Tony's Account

Post updates on winter driving conditions?
You can send us driving reports for any route you save. Click Post an update in Tony's Routes.

Boise Airport (BOI) - Rigby

Send us an update | Edit | Delete

We may post some updates on our public web pages. To request that your reports be posted automatically, click the box below and save changes.
- I'd like my updates to be posted automatically to 511.

Look out for an email with more details.
There are closures or blockages on I-15, I-84.

Tony's routes:
- Boise - Pocatello
- Boise - Moscow
- Boise - Baker City
- Pocatello - Boise
- Dubois - Tremonton
- Tremonton - Dubois
- Spokane - Missoula
- Missoula - Spokane
- Island Park - Ammon
- Baker City - Boise
- Morning Commute
- Twin Falls - Idaho Falls
- Evenings Commute

Post an update | Edit | Delete
Send an update: Twin Falls - Idaho Falls

Was your drive:
- Clear
- Patchy
- Moosy

Tell us more
Strong wind? Fog? Blowing snow?

Split up my drive
Cancel
Done
Send an update: Twin Falls - Idaho Falls

1. Was your drive:
   - Clear
   - Patchy
   - Messy

Tell us more:
- Strong wind?
- Fog?
- Blowing snow?

2. Was your drive:
   - Clear
   - Patchy
   - Messy

Tell us more:
- Strong wind?
- Fog?
- Blowing snow?
Send an update: Twin Falls - Idaho Falls

1. Was your drive:
   Road is:
   Is it?
   - Clear
   - Snowy
   - Raining
   - Icy
   - Snowing
   - Messy
   - Neither

Tell us more:
The snow is falling lightly, but starting to build up.

2. Was your drive:
   Road is:
   Is it?
   - Clear
   - Snowy
   - Raining
   - Icy
   - Snowing
   - Slushy
   - Neither

Tell us more:
Very treacherous conditions. Stay home if you can!!!
Driver Update:

I-86: Ice.
between Exit 1 (28 miles west of the American Falls area) and Exit 63 (Pocatello). A driver reported ice on the roadway. It was snowing.

Posted by Mr511 at 3:40 PM MDT

Mr511: Very treacherous conditions. Stay home if you can!!!
Driver Update
I-86: Ice.
between Exit 1 (28 miles west of the American Falls area) and Exit 63 (Pocatello). A driver reported ice on the roadway, it was showing.

Posted by Mr511 at 3:40 PM MDT

Mr511: Very treacherous conditions. Stay home if you can!!!

It is actually fine to travel... if you have 4 wheel drive.
Scheduled Implementation

- System fully functional for this winter.
- Recruit a small number of reporters initially.
- Train reporters on condition reporting.
Expected Immediate Benefits

- Improved frequency of reporting
- Improved public interest in 511
- More direct feedback from the public
- Evaluate timeliness of reports from maintenance crews
Future Development Options

- Expand winter condition reporting options, if needed
- Move to online training as demand and confidence improves
- Expand to include incident reporting
- Mobile citizen reporting via smart phone?
Questions?

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