

November 29, 2016
5:00 p.m.

Travel Alert issued for portions of Northeast North Dakota

I-94 to close between Mandan and Dickinson at 5:30 p.m. No Travel Advisory in effect for Bismarck, Mandan, Minot areas Travel Alerts remain for Dickinson, Williston and Valley City areas

The North Dakota Department of Transportation (NDDOT) and the North Dakota Highway Patrol have issued a **Travel Alert** for portions of northeast North Dakota due to wet roads becoming icy in the evening hours. The **Travel Alert** includes Grand Forks, Cooperstown, Drayton, Pembina and surrounding areas. A **Travel Alert** means conditions are such that **motorists can still travel** in these areas, but should be advised of rapidly changing conditions. Motorists are encouraged to reduce speeds and drive according to the conditions.

Both eastbound and westbound lanes of I-94 from Mandan to Dickinson will be close at 5:30 p.m. (Central Time) due to the roadway becoming blocked with heavy snow drifts at overhead structures. In addition conditions include extreme ice, compacted snow and blowing and drifting snow causing long stretches of icy roads and near zero visibility at times creating hazardous driving conditions.

A **No Travel Advisory** is in effect for Bismarck, Mandan, Minot and surrounding areas.

A **Travel Alert** is in effect for Williston, Dickinson, Valley City and surrounding areas.

Motorists should be advised that snow plow operators have been working since early morning hours and throughout the day. NDDOT snow plows in the Bismarck / Mandan metro area will continue to operate throughout the evening and plows in rural areas will resume operation early tomorrow morning.

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: <http://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.