

December 6, 2016

4:30 p.m.

US 2 closed from Devils Lake to Grand Forks Airport; Travel Alert issued for southwest North Dakota

The North Dakota Department of Transportation (NDDOT) and the North Dakota Highway Patrol have now **CLOSED US Highway 2 from Devils Lake to Grand Forks Airport** due to strong winds, areas of zero visibility, blowing and drifting snow creating hazardous driving conditions. Motorists are **not allowed to travel** on a closed road due to life threatening conditions. The road may be impassible or blocked.

A **Travel Alert** has been issued for portions of **southwest North Dakota** due to strong winds, low visibility, blowing and drifting snow. Cities included in the **Travel Alert** are: Beach, Dickinson, Killdeer, Richardton, Hettinger and surrounding areas. 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.

NDDOT snow plows have been working since early morning hours and throughout the day. NDDOT snow plows are continuing to work throughout the state but will be pulled during the early evening hours, excluding the urban areas. The plows will resume operation early tomorrow morning. Motorists should be advised that they may encounter heavy snow drifts at interstate interchanges, ramps, structures, and sheltered areas and some roadways may be reduced to one lane or become blocked overnight.

Motorists should be aware the following advisories are still in effect:

- A **No Travel Advisory** remains in effect for Williston, Minot, Devils Lake, Bismarck, Valley City, Fargo, Grand Forks and surrounding areas due to strong winds, low visibility, blowing and drifting snow creating hazardous driving conditions.
- **I-94 CLOSED** from Dickinson to Fargo with the exception of the Bismarck/Mandan Metro Area due to the roadway becoming blocked with heavy snow drifts at overhead structures and vehicles blocking the roadway. 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.
- **I-29 CLOSED** between Fargo and the Canadian border due to areas of zero visibility, blowing and drifting snow, and dangerous driving conditions.
- **US Highway 2 CLOSED** from Lakota to the Grand Forks Airport due areas of zero visibility, blowing and drifting snow, and dangerous driving conditions.
- Highway **200A is BLOCKED** from Washburn to the Jct. of ND 200 due to snow drifts. Motorists need to take an alternate route.
- **ND 200 is BLOCKED** from Jct 14 to Hurdsfield due to snow drifts.

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. 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.