

Susana Martinez Governor

Tom ChurchCabinet Secretary

January 21, 2015

Press Release

New Mexico Department of Transportation Keeping Roads Safe & Clear

Santa Fe - A new winter storm is moving slowly across New Mexico and impacts are expected to be felt in almost every region. The New Mexico Department of Transportation is monitoring the forecast and road conditions throughout the state and our crews are out working in areas that are already experiencing snow and slick road conditions.

The NMDOT has approximately 300 road maintainers in the state as well as 150 snowplows and dozens of other vehicles that are used to spread salt and cinder. These employees and their support staff are ready to go when they get the call.

Motorists should watch for snowplows operating on the roads. They are advised to stay at back at least 50 feet to avoid being hit by sand or blowing snow. Snowplows may also need to stop or take evasive action to avoid stranded vehicles or unmarked obstacles. If you find yourself behind a snowplow, stay a safe distance behind it and use caution when passing. Remember, the road behind a snowplow will be safer to drive on.

New Mexico Department of Transportation staff updates road conditions and other travel information on the department's road condition website: www.nmroads.com. The site also has real time views from cameras posted on roads across the state to give users a look at the conditions a particular area is experiencing. The road condition information can also be accessed by calling the NMDOT's 511 road hotline.

###

Melissa Dosher, NMDOT Public Information Officer, 827-5526 (office), 469-5698 (cell) melissa.dosher@state.nm.us