



WINTER OPERATIONS COALITION

I-80 Coalition Webinar

May 24, 2011





Administrative Items

- Conference call information for audio accessibility:
 - Number: 866-726-6516
 - Passcode: 6029061359#
- This webinar is a live conference call – please mute your line when you are not planning to talk to minimize background noise
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 - This information will show at the bottom of each slide as a reminder



Webinar Agenda

- **Welcome and Roll Call**
- Recap of Winter 2011 – Around the Coalition
- Program and Partner Staffing Changes
- Task Force Updates
- IMO/NCAR Winter Data Demonstration Update
- Fall Workshop
- Other Topics



Welcome and Roll Call

I-80 Coalition Partners:

- Caltrans
- Nevada DOT
- Utah DOT
- Wyoming DOT
- Nebraska DOR

Facilitators:

- Lisa Burgess – Kimley-Horn
- Deanna Haase – Kimley-Horn
- Ralph Patterson – Narwhal Met



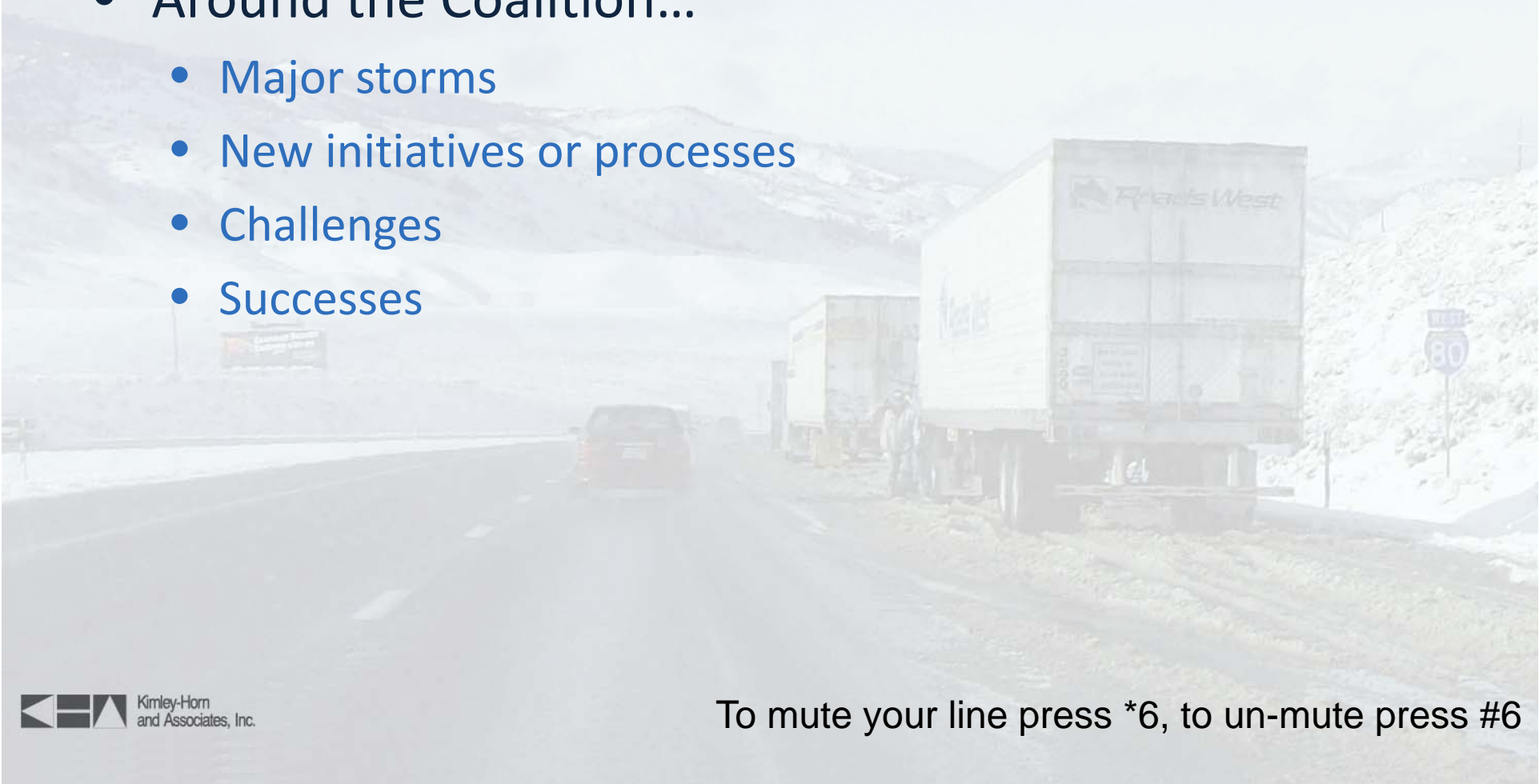
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Winter 2010/2011 Recap

- Around the Coalition...
 - Major storms
 - New initiatives or processes
 - Challenges
 - Successes





Coalition Happenings

- TMC Contacts along the corridor
 - Map of contacts, infrastructure, resources distributed
- Task Force Ramp Up
 - TMC Communications
 - Road Weather Management
 - Freight
- IMO Demonstration underway in Nevada



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Program and Partner Staffing Changes

- Nevada
 - Bill Hoffman – promoted to Assistant Director, Engineering
 - Denise Inda – promoted to Traffic Operations Chief
 - Welcome Rod Schilling – I-80 Project Manager
 - John Domina – former I-80 Project Manager
- Utah
 - Welcome Rob Clayton
 - Welcome Leigh Jones (weather) and Lisa Miller (traveler info)
- Wyoming
 - Ken Shultz – promoted to Ops Manager



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Task Force Updates

TMC/Communications

- Improve coordination and communication among TMCs
- Proactive and pre-weather event planning
- Consistent traveler info for major weather events

Road Weather Management

- Weather influences on Maintenance, TMC Ops, Freight
- Better integrate and apply weather data sources and forecasts

Freight

- Share information about freight activities, studies
- Engage private sector for input to issues and strategies
- Advisory-level function



TMC Communications

- Coordination call held on March 24 (a Thursday) and a follow up call on March 29 (a Tuesday)
- Potential initial topics for discussion:
 - Other coordination that occurred this past winter between TMCs or Maintenance Offices?
 - Would regular touch-base calls set up for daytime personnel as well as for midnight personnel be beneficial?
 - Is everyone using/have the contact map we sent out? Are there any gaps that can be updated?
 - DOT use of social media this winter?
 - Is there info available that can be shared that can be posted on the secure Coalition site



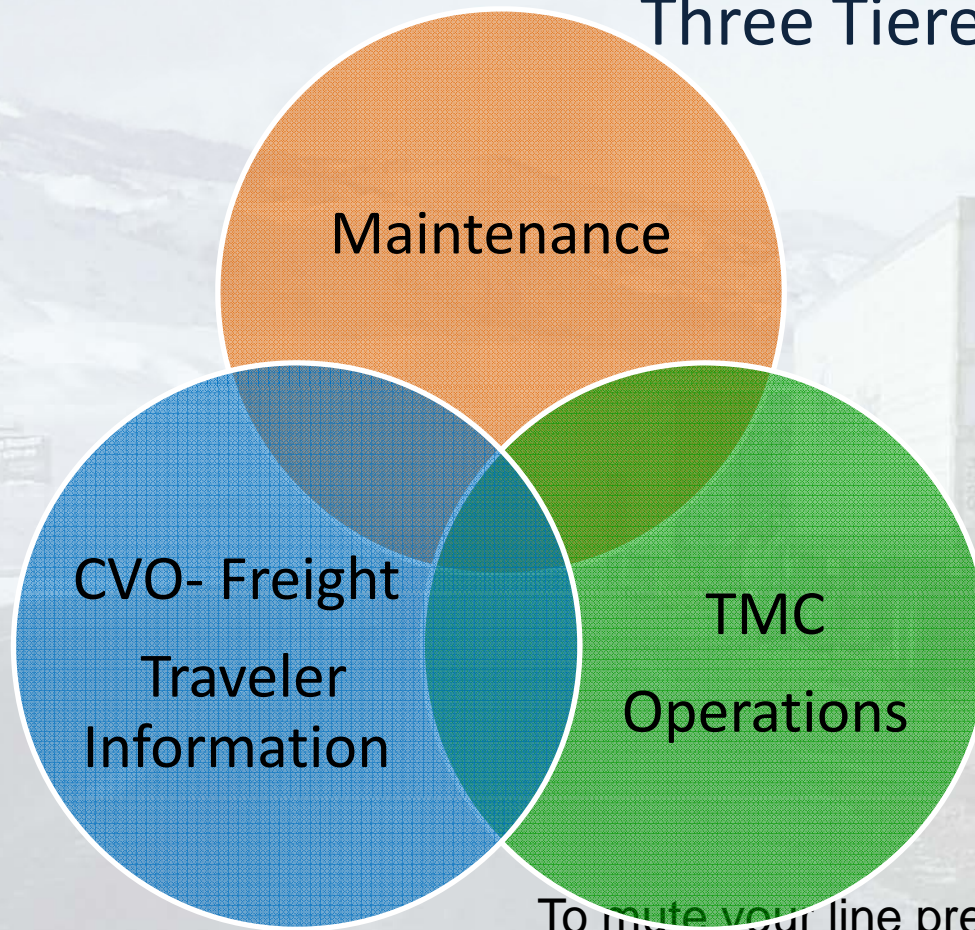
Road Weather Management

- Ralph Patterson – Task Force Lead
- Representatives from each state
- Planning and process implementation
- Liaise/coordinate with other task forces
- Coordination with weather data providers



I-80 Weather Operations Focus

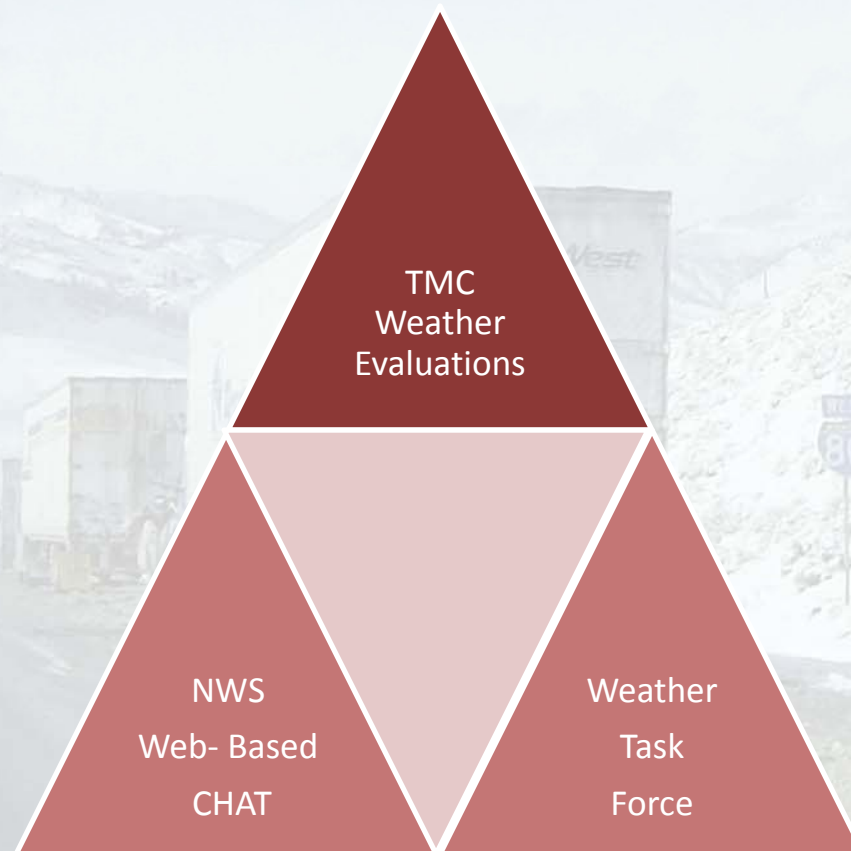
Three Tiered Approach





Current Activities

- Visiting TMCs along the corridor
- Web-based NWS CHAT
- Develop Wx Task Force





Wx Operations Task Force Goals

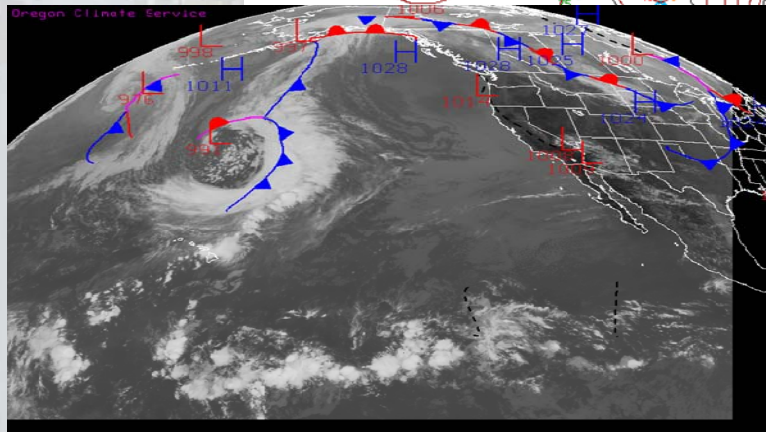
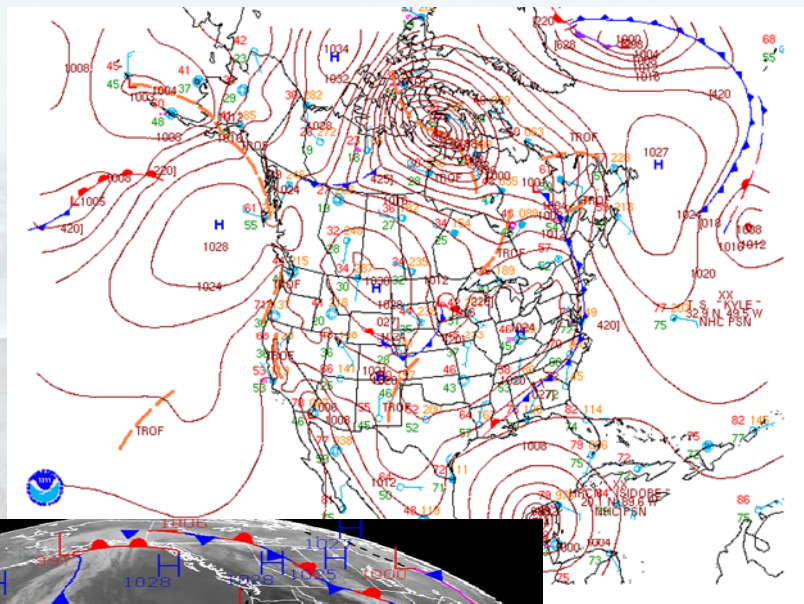
Stan Richins Maintenance Manager	Cal Trans
Kevin Lee District 3 Engineer	NDOT
Thor Dyson District 2 Engineer	NDOT
Glenn Blackwelder TOC Operations Engineer	UDOT
Leigh Jones Wx /RWIS Operations Manager	UDOT
Vince Garcia ITS Program Manager	WyDOT

- Assess Current Road Wx Operations Programs
- Develop Wx Related Operational Guidelines
- Standardize Messages Across the Corridor
- Identify Research Needs of the Coalition States



Weather Providers: Government and Private Sector

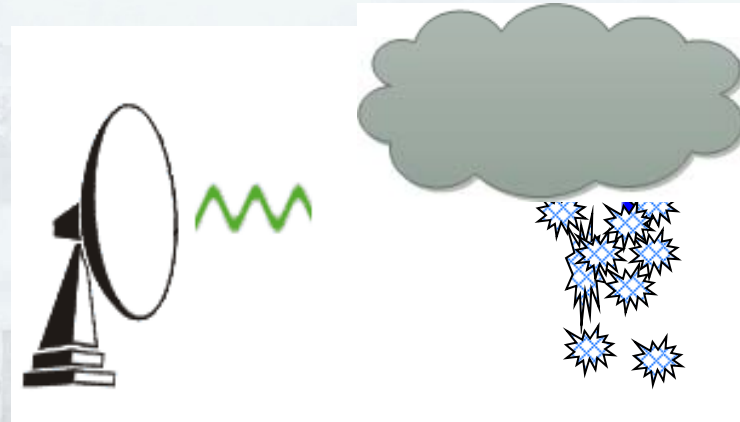
- Assess Current Wx Operations
- Optimize Weather Services
- Handling Disparate Forecasts





Training/Research

- Needs
- Schedules
- In-situ vs. Web Based
- Upcoming Conferences





WINTER OPERATIONS COALITION

RWIS-ESS /ITS



Open Forum
to share
experiences
and
strategies

Identify
Expertise
along the
corridor
states

Data sharing

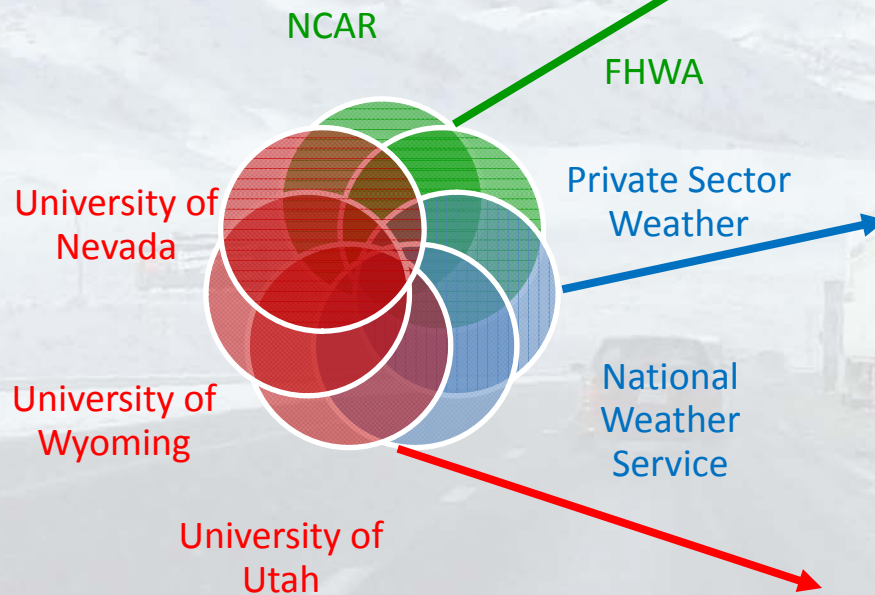
Expert
Systems

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Mapping Out Partnerships



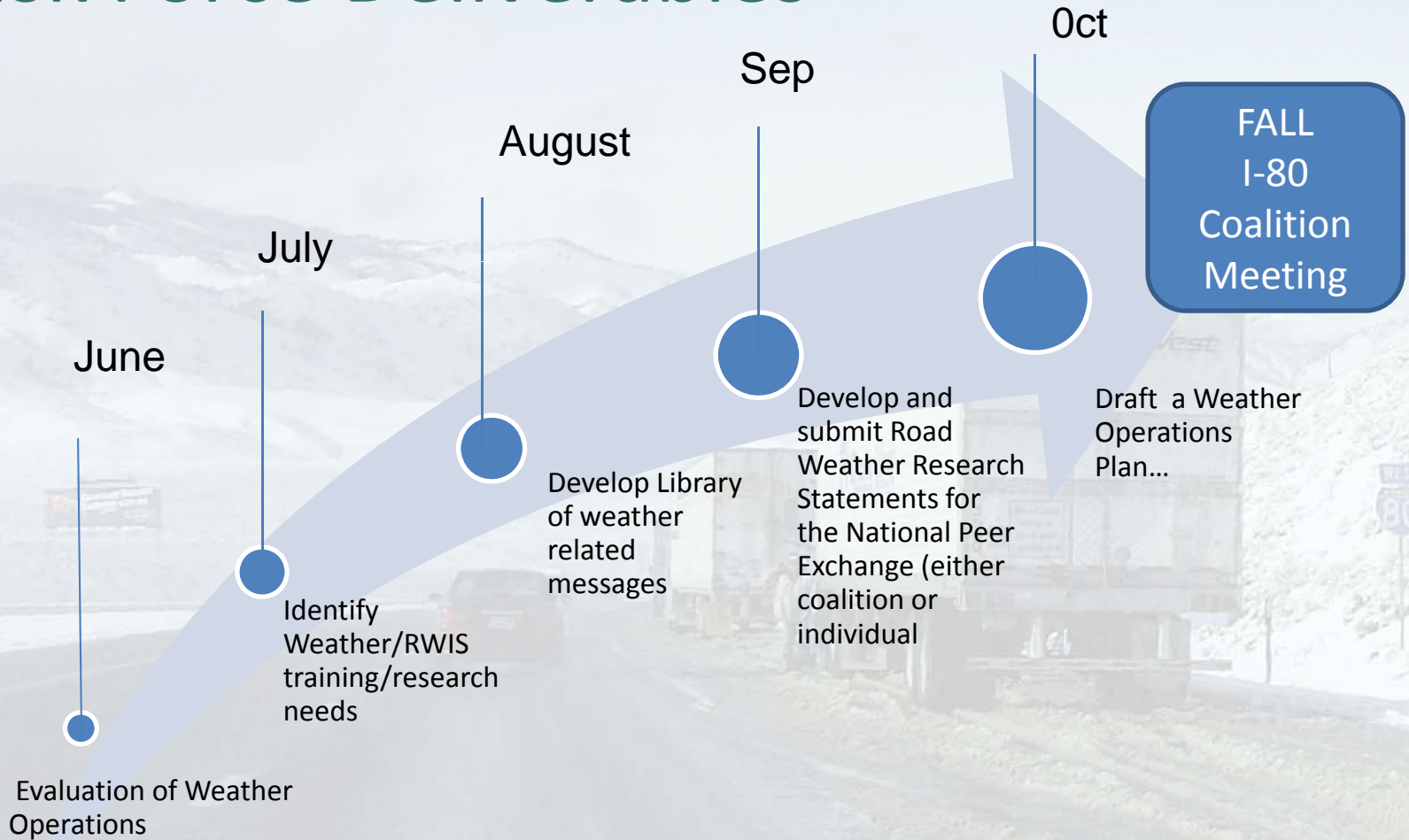
Help Drive Road Weather Technology

Define/Develop Operational Weather Needs

Conduct Specific Coalition Research



Task Force Deliverables





WINTER OPERATIONS COALITION

Weather Operations Task Force Lead

Ralph Patterson

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Freight

- Freight considerations for Traveler Information and Mobility
- Leverage freight activities in partner states
 - I-5 truck parking
 - I-15 Truck Parking Study
- Advisory role/input
 - Road Weather Operations Task Force
 - Unique traveler information needs
- Maintain connections with private sector freight



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ITS Mobile Application/Data Collection and Application Demonstration

- IMO: Multimodal initiative to enable wireless communications among vehicles, the infrastructure, and passengers personal communication devices.
- Application submitted to FHWA by NDOT and the National Center for Atmospheric Research (NCAR) Oct 2010
- Minnesota and Nevada accepted for demonstration project



Objectives

- Promote safety, mobility and productivity on the nation's surface transportation system by advancing road weather research.
 - To reduce the environmental impact of surface transportation
- Demonstrate how weather, road condition and vehicle data can be integrated and used as a decision support tool for the IMO program.
- Integrate with FHWA's CLARUS system
- Test data quality, usability with Maintenance Decision Support System (MDSS) and the Maintenance Management System (MMS)



IMO Details and Status

- NDOT supplying 19 vehicles along the I-80 corridor in a joint venture with University of Nevada Reno (UNR)
 - Snowplows 2004 and newer and light duty fleet vehicles
 - Aiming for a 1kb transmission every 10 min for each vehicle so an IMO vehicle reporting in every 30 seconds.
- Proof of Concept UNR snowplow CAN-bus data completed 4/8/2011
 - CAN-bus is a vehicle bus standard designed to allow microcontrollers and devices to communicate with each other within a vehicle without a host computer. It is the onboard diagnostics.



IMO Details and Status (cont)

- Equipment being installed in phases
 - Two NDOT – one snowplow and one light duty work begun last week
 - All 19 to be completed by 7/31/2011 with project date through to 3/30/2012
- Challenges:
 - Cell coverage on I-80 not always reliable
 - Using state radio system (limited channel capacity)
 - 800 Mhz Enhanced Digital Access Communications System (EDACS), RWIS currently uses EDACS
 - IMO applications is secondary to public safety applications



IMO Details and Status (cont)

- Partners
 - NDOT
 - NCAR
 - FHWA Road Weather Management Program
 - FHWA CLARUS
- Research Outcomes
 - Integration with MDSS
 - Data collection in ASCII code and forwarded in comma – delimited to NCAR



IMO Details and Status (cont)

- Allow real-time mobile data information to be exchanged with DOT staff, as well as, traveler information systems.
- Measure efficiency gains (labor and material savings – easy to do through snow/ice mgmt)
- Use Mobile Data
 - measure savings by calculating delay costs, tracking weather-related crashes, freight feedback
 - Plan on targeting WalMart, UPS, Federal Express, Malto Meal and C.R. England



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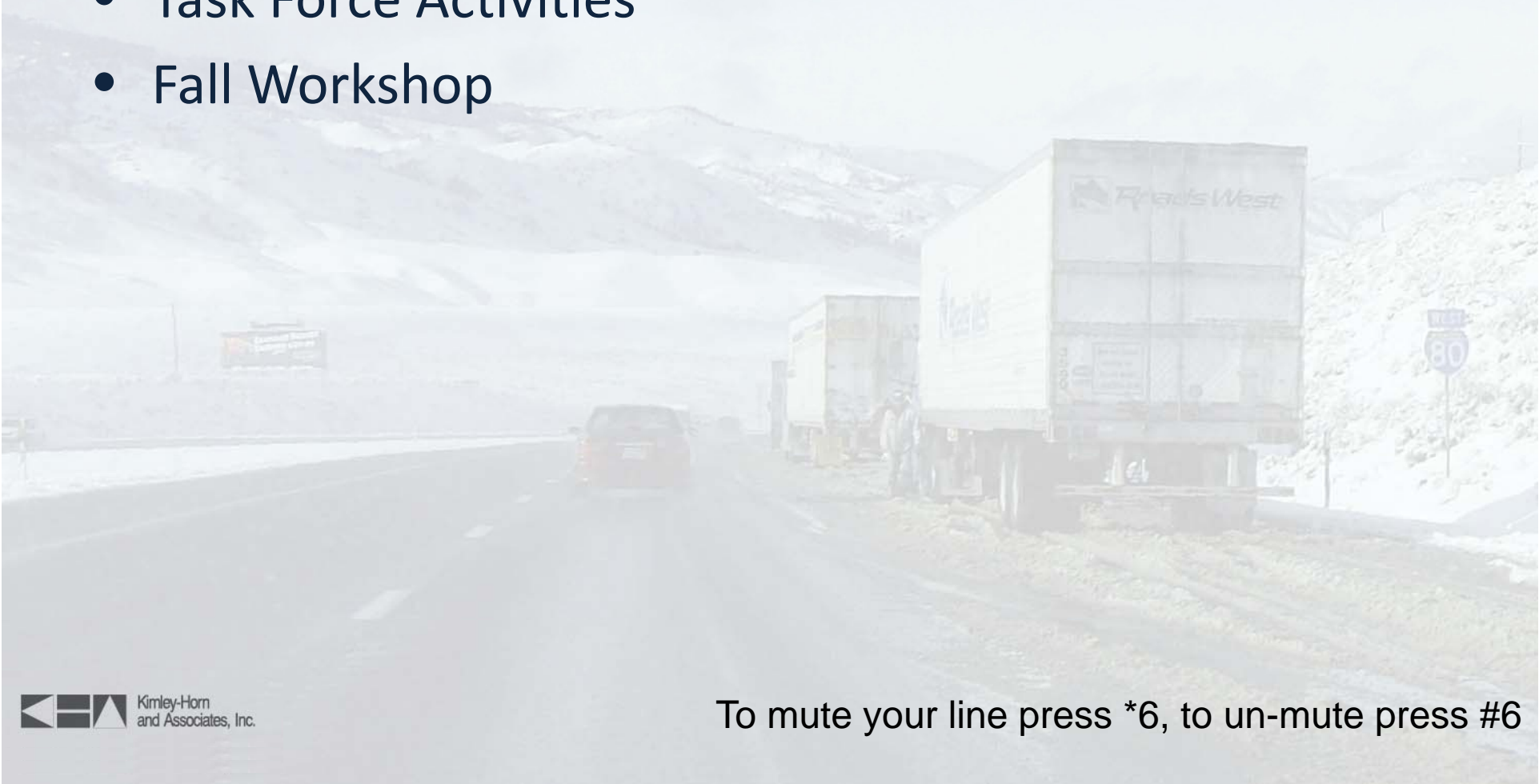
Fall Workshop

- Reno, NV
- Target Dates
 - Sept 27-28, Oct 4-5
- Schedule (tentative, depending on flights)
 - Tuesday – 9:30 - 5
 - Wednesday – 8 – 3
- Coalition will fund attendance for up to 3 state reps
 - Operations, Maintenance Freight



Wrap Up and Next Steps

- Task Force Activities
- Fall Workshop





WINTER OPERATIONS COALITION

THANK YOU FOR YOUR PARTICIPATION!

