

Caltrans, District 3 Winter Operation Preparations for FY 12/13

Annual Preparedness Meetings

- Meetings October/November with stakeholders to discuss the upcoming Caltrans snow removal operations. Attendees include CHP, NDOT, NHP, TMA, local law enforcement, ski industry, California Trucking Association (CTA), trucking industry and local businesses.

Staffing

- Projected staffing for the FY 12/13 is approximately 600 employees including 250 temporary employees to provide 24 hour continuous operations.
- New employees to be trained and qualified at Maintenance Equipment Training Academy prior to operating any Caltrans equipment.
- 134 encroachment permits issued to individuals desiring to install or remove tire chains for a fee on vehicles along the district's snow routes.
- Enhanced maintenance operations by hiring two (2) Region Maintenance Safety Officers (MSOs)

Local Preparations

- Each maintenance station is preparing for the upcoming winter by roadway paving, repairing damaged shoulders, installing snow guidance poles, cleaning drains and culverts, replacing damaged rock fencing and identifying potential hazards such as bridge approaches, etc. for repairs.
- Extreme Maintenance I-80 WB closure near Colfax.

Equipment & Shop Operations

- Snow equipment, rotary snow blowers, motor graders and chain control campers are typically the first to be prepared during the summer months for the upcoming snow season. Truck dump beds are changed out for sander units in the fall to fully utilize truck cabs and chassis for seasonal needs. Wear parts; replacement cutting edges and chains for plows and graders are ordered.
- Two Big Rig Push Trucks will continue to be provided by the CTA. They are operated by Caltrans employees to reduce winter traffic congestion.

Facilities and Materials

- Donner Safety Roadside Rest Areas reopened Nov/Dec 2011.
- District 3 Warehouse ordering snow related gear and personnel protective equipment.
- Contracts executed for sand, salt, fuel, snow haul, motels, kitchen and dorm supplies.
- Two mission critical sand house facilities were reconstructed in November 2011.
- Salt Brine operations at Kingvale and Nevada City Maintenance Yards.

Communications

- District 3 Kingvale Snow Communications Center (KSCC) to be open by November 2012. KSCC coordinates all snow operations in Sutter/Sierra Region including the I-80 corridor with 6 Dispatchers and 2 Dispatch Supervisors.
- Highway 50 winter operations and South Lake Tahoe are coordinated with the Regional Traffic Management Center in Rancho Cordova.
- I-80 Winter Operations Coalition has been formed with five states (California, Nevada, Utah, Wyoming & Nebraska) to help coordinate winter operations including movement of commercial truck traffic and commerce on the I-80 corridor. (www.i80coalition.com)
- Caltrans Highway Internet Reporting Program (CHIRP) will continue. This is an internet based program that allows the public and government agencies to receive continuously updated winter road conditions and chain control locations. (www.dot.ca.gov/dist3/projects/chainmap/chain_control_map.pdf)
- 36 changeable message signs (including three in the State of Nevada and one in District 10) and 21 highway advisory radios will be available to guide and warn the traveling public of changing conditions, chain controls and speed limits.

Public Affairs

- <http://quickmap.dot.ca.gov>, online service that provides real time traffic and travel information. Launched July 31, 2012.
- American Trucker Episode, 6/9/11, titled "White Out" featured I-80 45-vehicle pileup and pusher trucks. (<http://www.speedtv.com/programs/american-trucker/>)

Challenges

- Funding
- Succession Planning/Attrition
- Storm Water Compliance
- Copper Theft

DISTRICT 3 WINTER OVERVIEW

(11/1/2011 thru 6/1/2012)

INTERSTATE 80 (Auburn, Whitmore, Kingvale and Truckee East)

- ❖ **10** Storms (24 Hrs of Chain Control or **1"** of snow = storm)
- ❖ **335** inches of snow recorded at Donner Summit (Elev. **7239'**)
- ❖ Average Snowfall per year is **429** inches
- ❖ *Previous snowfall record in 2010-11 of **818** inches
- ❖ **296** inches of snow recorded at Kingvale Maintenance Station
- ❖ **47** inches of snow recorded at Kingvale from 3/11 to 3/21

HIGHWAY 50 (South Lake Tahoe, Kyburz and Placerville)

- ❖ **9** Storms (24 Hrs of Chain Control or **1"** of snow = storm)
- ❖ **247** inches of snow recorded at Echo Summit (Elev. **7381'**)
- ❖ Average Snowfall per year is **412** inches
- ❖ **52.5** inches of snow recorded from 3/14 thru 3/21

HIGHWAY 20 (Nevada City)

- ❖ **9** Storms (24 Hrs of Chain Control or **1"** of snow = storm)
- ❖ **104** inches of snow recorded at Danas (Elev. **4400'**)
- ❖ **20** inches of snow recorded from 2/27 thru 3/3

TEMPORARY HELP (PI=Permanent Intermittent, RA=Retired Annuitant And TAU=Temporary Authority)

- ❖ Sutter / Sierra Region **189** Total (PI-173, RA-11 and TAU-5)
- ❖ Sunrise Region **56** Total (PI-31, RA-4 and TAU-21)
- ❖ **245** Total Temporary Employees
- ❖ Issued **134** Encroachment Permits for Chain Installers

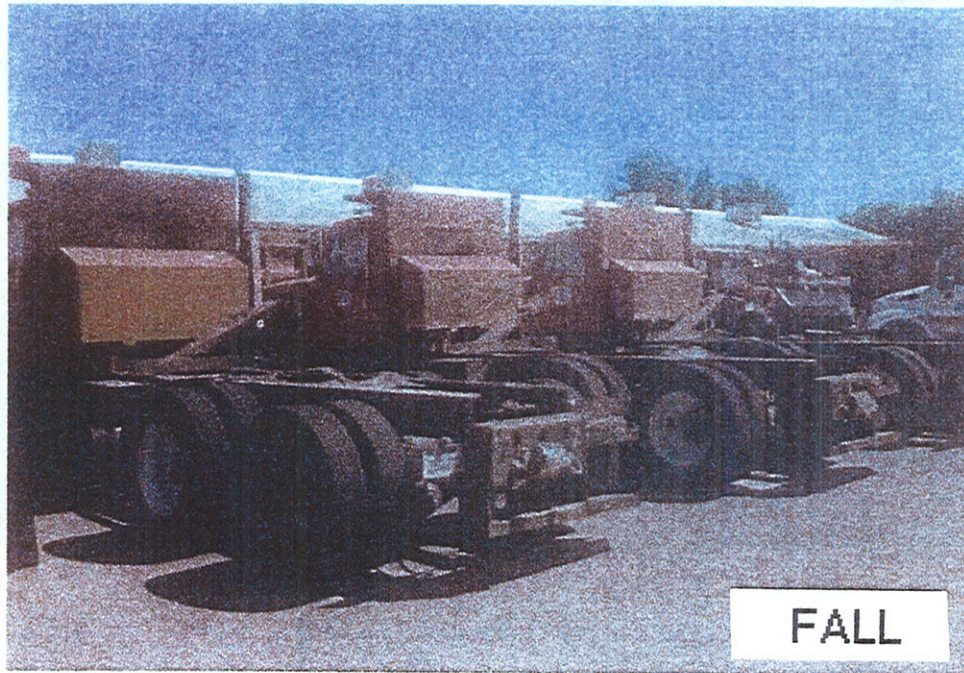




SPRING



WEAR PARTS



FALL



WINTER