



Oregon Department of Transportation

# NEWS RELEASE

**Region 1** *Columbia, Washington, Multnomah, Clackamas and Hood River Counties*

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Dec. 14, 2006

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Regional Projects Website: [www.oregon.gov/ODOT/HWY/REGION1](http://www.oregon.gov/ODOT/HWY/REGION1)

## **EXPECT EXTREME WINTER CONDITIONS**

*National Weather Service issues blizzard warning  
for northern and central Oregon Cascades*

The Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) and Oregon State Police (OSP) advise motorists to expect severe weather conditions throughout the region tonight and early tomorrow, Friday, Dec. 15. The National Weather Service has issued a flood watch and high wind warning for most of western Oregon. A high wind warning means a hazardous high wind event is expected or occurring. Sustained wind speeds of at least 40 mph or gusts of 58 mph or more can lead to property damage. A blizzard warning for the Central and Northern Oregon Cascades are also in effect through 8:00 a.m. Friday, Dec. 15.

According to the National Weather Service Forecast Office, "South winds will increase today reaching 20 to 30 mph this afternoon. Peak winds are expected to arrive this evening increasing to 30 to 40 mph with gusts to 65 mph. Winds will subside Friday morning." To learn more about this weather forecast please visit: <http://www.wrh.noaa.gov/pqr/>

ODOT maintenance crews are operating on their winter schedule, which means 24 hour coverage in all districts. Crews will be out patrolling highways looking for high water, mudslides and downed trees. Blowing snow and whiteout conditions in the mountains, along with power outages throughout the state, may force roads that normally would stay open to close temporarily.

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**For current road conditions, including road cameras and weather information, visit [www.TripCheck.com](http://www.TripCheck.com) or call 511. TripCheck also contains information on chain and traction tire requirements and other travel information.**

For more tips about driving in all types of weather conditions, visit <http://www.oregon.gov/ODOT/COMM/winter.shtml>

**Editors:**

To view the ODOT cameras on Mt. Hood, please click on this link:

<http://www.tripcheck.com/Pages/CCview.asp?Num=2&cam1=624&cam2=742>

**I-84/Portland to Arlington:**

<http://www.tripcheck.com/Pages/CCview.asp?Num=6&cam1=577&cam2=620&cam3=619&cam4=655&cam5=632&cam6=600>

**##ODOT##**