



Siskiyou County Sheriff's Office

NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release:

SISKIYOU COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

February 9, 2017

Sheriff Issues Winter Weather Driving Advisory to Motorists

On Thursday, February 9, 2017, the Siskiyou County Sheriff's Office (SCSO) received numerous reports of roadway impediments and hazards associated with a series of winter storms hitting the county. Flooding and a number of mud slides have been reported on SR 96 at various points from I-5 to the Humboldt-Siskiyou County Line. Single lane travel may be encountered at some location due to roadway obstructions, including the Cade Mountain area. Although the road is passable and California Highway Patrol (CHP) and CALTRANS workers are diligently working to keep the roadway open, delays should be expected and falling rocks and debris should be anticipated. SR 89 has also been impacted by intermittent flood waters, mudslides, and debris on various points from I-5 to the Siskiyou-Shasta County Line. Virtually all public roads in Siskiyou County have been impacted by the adverse weather and citizens and motorists should avoid unnecessary travel and use extreme caution on all public roadways in the county. Drivers are advised to be alert for state and county road crews working on various public highways throughout the county. All motorists should slow-down and use extreme caution while passing road workers. High winds have also been prevalent in many areas and motorists operating high-profile vehicles should avoid high-wind areas if possible.

According to Sheriff Jon Lopey, "All citizens and motorists should use extreme caution when driving, especially as we experience extraordinarily adverse weather driving conditions occasioned by the most-recent series of winter storms. If possible, avoid areas prone to flooding, heavy snow or rain and review updated weather and roadway condition reports prior to traveling. Be prepared for traffic delays in all areas of the county. Ensure your vehicle is in good running condition, has plenty of fuel, carry chains, and allow plenty of extra time to reach your destination. Drive at a speed safe for prevailing traffic and roadway conditions and drive at a reduced speed on roadways plagued with snow, ice, water run-off, mud, and always anticipate falling rocks, trees, and other debris. When traveling carry emergency supplies such as roadway flares, flashlight, blanket, extra food, water, winter clothing, and ensure your windshield wipers, tires, spare tire, and other equipment have been inspected and are "road safe." It is a good idea to carry a charged cellular phone, travel with others if possible, and advise a reliable person of your destination, route, and time of arrival. Needless to say, don't drive while impaired or while fatigued. We want everyone to arrive at their destinations safely and it is always a good idea to plan your trip and remember that safety is everyone's responsibility."