

# Utah DOT Snow Removal Performance Metrics.....2.0

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**UDOT Central -- Maintenance Planning Division**

**PNS CONFERENCE 2018**

**Spokane, WA**



# First....A Little About ME

- Grew up in Salt Lake City (Midvale) Utah
- Joined the **US NAVY** and went to boot camp **26 days** after high school graduation to get **\$\$\$** for college
- **Sonar Technician 2<sup>nd</sup> class (E-5)** on naval destroyer **USS Kinkaid (DD-965)**
- Decommissioned ship in January 2003
- USS Kinkaid was sunk during a SINKEX in July 2004
- Now an artificial reef off the coast of Hawaii





# First....A Little About ME

- Sonar Technician 2<sup>nd</sup> Class on naval destroyer **USS Fletcher (DD-992)** after participating in the **Sea Swap Program**
- Goal of **Sea Swap Program** was to extend time “in theater”
- USS Fletcher was sunk during a SINKEX in July 2008

- Now an artificial reef off coast of Hawaii

\*\*\*\*\*

- Spent 6 years in the **US NAVY** – Received

**Honorable  
Discharge**





# First....A Little About ME

- Attended **Arizona State University (ASU)** using the **GI Bill** after my 6-year enlistment in the **US Navy**
- Graduated in spring of 2009 with a **Bachelor of Science (BSE)** in Civil Engineering





# First.....A Little About ME



- Started working for **UDOT** in fall of 2009 as an **Unbenefited Intern** in the **Asphalt Mix Laboratory** at UDOT Central where we did Material testing (asphalt, binder, aggregate, concrete)
- Got accepted into **UDOT's Rotational Engineering Program** in spring of 2011 – spent 3 years as a **Rotational Engineer**
- Earned my **Professional Engineering (P.E.) License** spring of 2014



# First....A Little About ME

- During time in **Rotational Engineering Program** at **UDOT** I got the opportunity to work in these 4 Departments:

- Construction (6 mos)
- Maintenance (6 mos)
- Construction **again** (6 mos)
- Design (12 mos)
- Traffic & Safety (6 mos)



- After getting a full time job at **UDOT** in spring 2014 I have worked:
  - Design (3 yrs)
  - Traffic and Safety (1 yr)
  - Currently in MAINTENANCE PLANNING (8 mos)



Now, Down To Business.....

## Winter Road Weather Index

- ❖ UDOT rolled out what was called the **Winter Road Weather Index (WRWI)** in **October of 2013** – 1st iteration of what would eventually become.....
- ❖ The **Snow & Ice Performance Measure** followed in **October of 2015** – system has now been online for **just under 3 years** and for **3 winters**:
  - ❖ 2015/2016
  - ❖ 2016/2017
  - ❖ 2017/2018



Now, Down To Business.....

## Winter Road Weather Index

- The **WRWI** and **Snow & Ice Performance Measure** were created in conjunction with UDOT Traffic Operation Center (TOC) Weather Group's
- **Jeff Williams (Weather Program Manager)**  
and.....
- **Cody Opperman (Weather Program Specialist)**
- UDOT's Weather Website:  
<http://www.udottraffic.utah.gov/ForecastView/Default.aspx>



# Initial Hesitation With GPS Units

- Transportation Technicians were at first very hesitant to have “tracking devices” installed in their plows
- Snow & Ice Performance Measure is supplemented by a GPS system installed in the plow trucks
- GPS units allow for Automatic Vehicle Location (AVL)
- **BIG BROTHER** is watching us....

**big brother**



**is watching**



# Initial Hesitation With GPS Units

- GPS units work with **Force America controllers** inside of snow plows to document the locations of such parameters as:
  - ❖ Types of material dispensed (salt, brine, sand, etc.)
  - ❖ Rate of materials dispensed
  - ❖ Blade time up/down
  - ❖ Lane miles plowed
  - ❖ Vehicle min/max speed
  - ❖ Salt “blast” duration for emergencies and accidents
  - ❖ Pre-wetting time for anti-icing operations



## Initial Hesitation With GPS Units

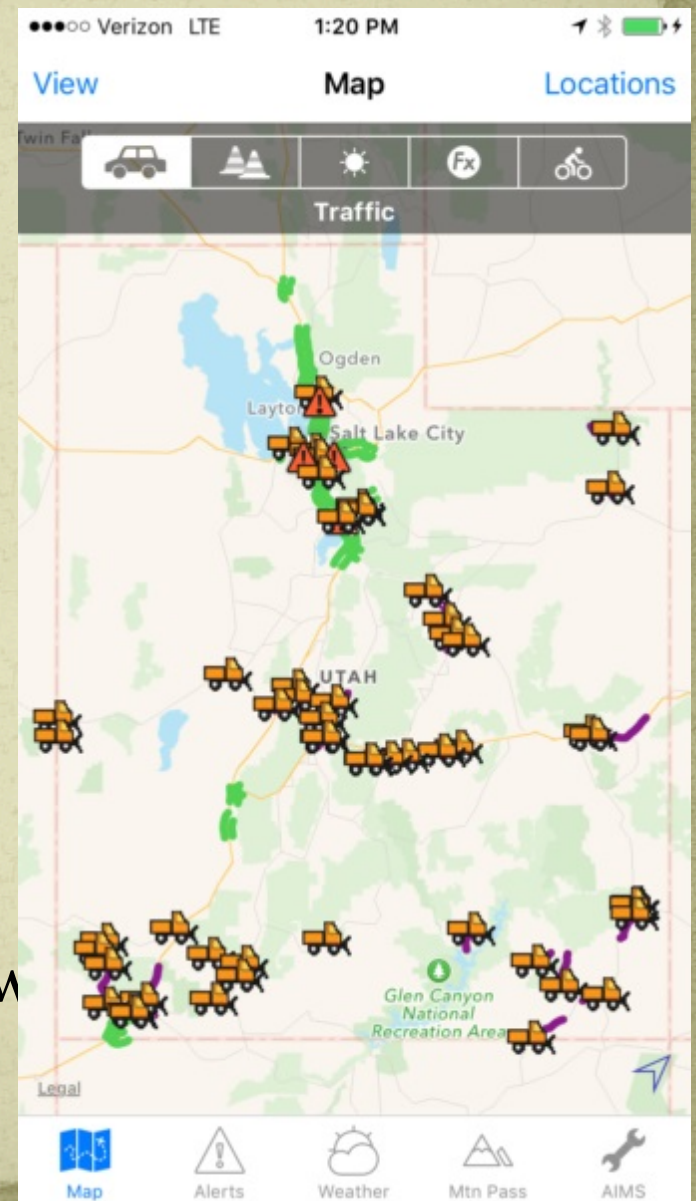
- Decision came down Maintenance Planning and upper management's desire to better optimize snow plow operations → **be good stewards of TAXPAYER \$\$\$**
- Case was made to the Transportation Techs by upper management that **MILLION+ DOLLAR MACHINES, aka Snow Plows**, are worth tracking despite the perceived **BIG BROTHER EFFECT** they were feeling
- Distrust with the new tracking system faded over time because.....

*Time Heals All Wounds*



# Automatic Vehicle Location (AVL) System

- One thing that GPS units in snow plows allowed for is development of the Automatic Vehicle Location (AVL) system
- Using UDOT's Traffic app citizens can see the approximate locations of snow plows
- We set a 10 minute lag to keep plow drivers safe from The Unruly





# Automatic Vehicle Location (AVL) System

- Beneficial for The Public:
  - Can avoid where the snowplows are currently working
  - Can see what areas have already been plowed and are clear of snow and ice
  - Can see their tax \$\$\$'s hard at work
- Beneficial for UDOT:
  - Better track plow movements to see what areas have already been plowed → **Reallocate Resources**
  - Respond to **Citizen Inquiries** to verify if plow has already been through and when they came through
  - **Plow Route Optimization** through trial and error

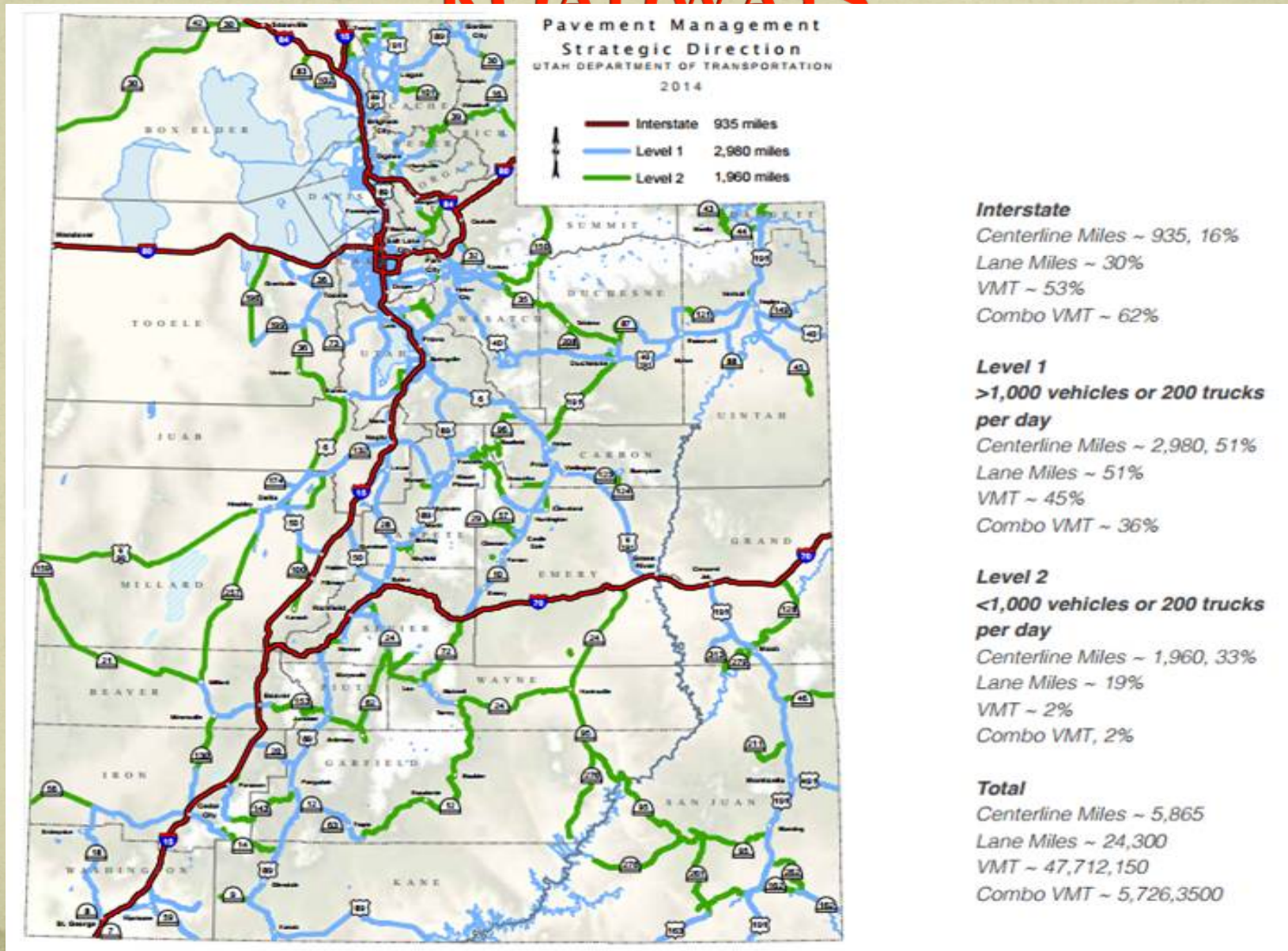


# Some FACTS About Utah's ROADWAYS

- 5,865 Centerline Miles
- 24,300 Lane Miles
- 1,867 Bridges
- 25-35 Average Storm Events per year statewide
- Remove 65 million tons of snow & ice per year
- 500 Snow Plows
  - \$5.6 million in Labor \$\$\$ per year
  - \$4.6 million in Equipment \$\$\$ per year
  - \$5.0 million in Material \$\$\$ per year



# Some FACTS About Utah's ROADWAYS





# Some FACTS About Utah's SNOWFALL

- 80% of Utah's population is living along the Wasatch Front (Ogden, Salt Lake City, Provo)
- Terrain varies from **2000 ft - 13,500 ft** above sea level
- **Lake Effect Snowfall** – Great Salt Lake never freezes (**salinity 5-27%**) and causes its own weather formations
- Varied snowfall throughout Utah
  - Alta Ski Resort – 508 inches (42.3 ft) per year, record is 910 inches (75.8 ft) back in 1983
  - Wasatch Front – 40-120 inches per year (3.3 ft - 10 ft)
  - St. George – 3 inches per year
  - Wendover – 5 inches per year



# Some FACTS About Utah's ECONOMY

- **Economic Impact of a Single 24-Hour Storm Event:**

- Wages & Salaries.....\$42.81 M
- Retail Sales.....\$18.26 M
- Federal Taxes.....\$3.32 M
- State & Local Taxes.....\$1.98 M



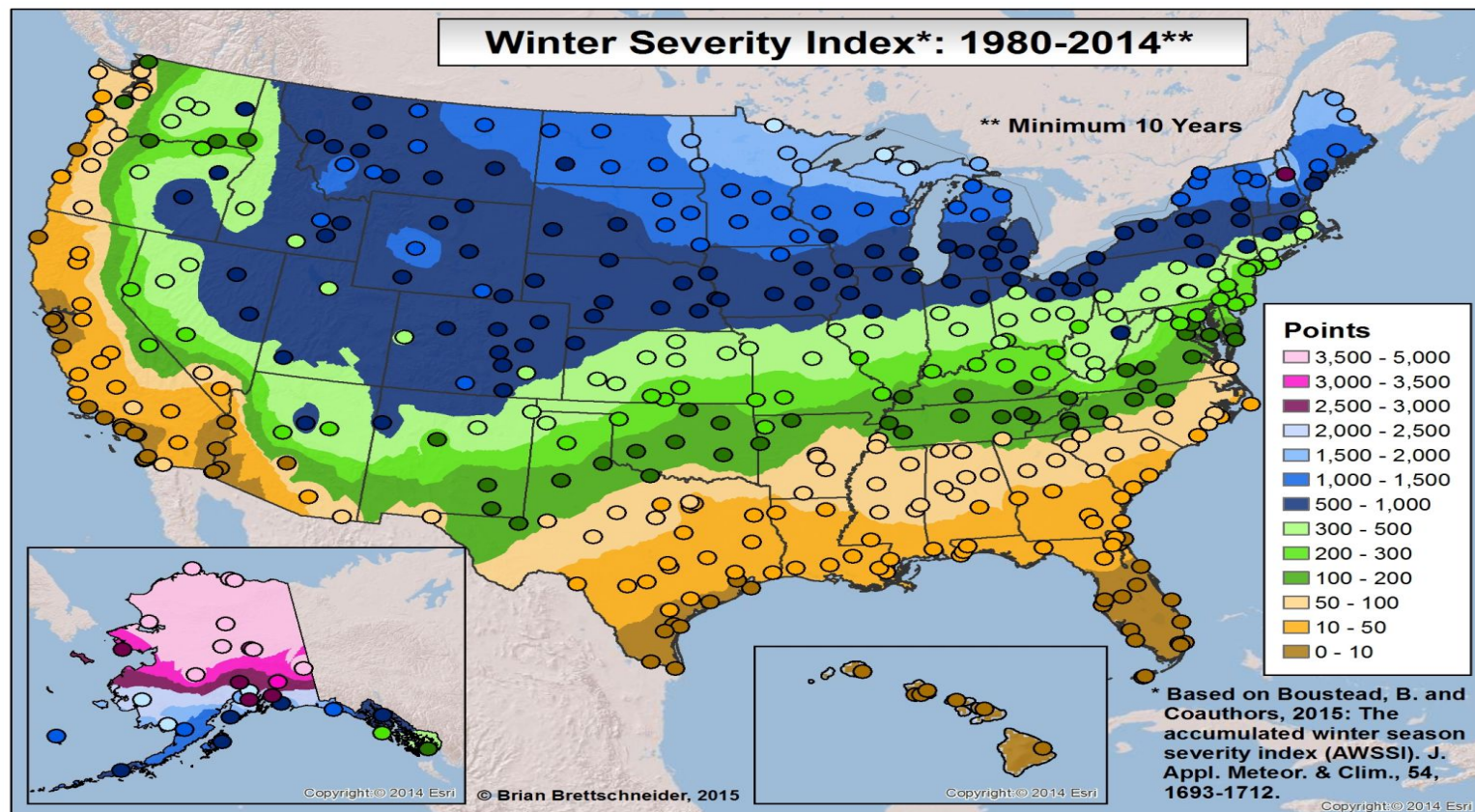
- Total Economic Impact **\$66.37 million LOST**

**Source:** American Highway Users Alliance performed by IHS Global Insight  
(2009)



# Nationwide Index or Measures?

- **The Climate Network (National Weather Service)**
  - No road weather data is used
  - Snowfall is measured on **grass** – this methodology doesn't fit our needs in the transportation industry





# Utah's Needs In A Measure/Index

- At UDOT we found that we needed a *Real-Time Index* to evaluate weather, road conditions, and the snow removal efforts performance by Maintenance Crews
- We have found that snowfall rates & road temps have the highest impacts on “roadway health”
- Our *Real-Time Index* accounts for blowing snow (snow drifts), freezing rain, & wet/dry snowfall



# Using RWIS Sites To Gather Data

- With no nationwide method we began to look at our RWIS stations for data to parse
- **RWIS**: Roadway Weather Information System
- We use RWIS data along with a sophisticated algorithm to “**GRADE**” snow removal efforts
- Algorithm was developed by the UDOT Weather Group (namely **Jeff Williams & Cody Oppermann**)
- RWIS stations are spread out far apart throughout the state = Not a complete picture of ROADWAY HEALTH







# Data That RWIS Provides UDOT

- RWIS stations provide us with the following data:
  - Air Temp
  - **Road Temp**
  - Soil Temp
  - Soil Moisture
  - **Wet-Bulb Temp**
  - **Snowfall Rate** (found through Visibility sensor)
  - **Road Grip/Condition**
    - (see the “Decision Matrix” aka.....
    - .....the **Griffin Grip Cube**) →
  - Dew Point
  - **Wind Gust**
  - Wind Speed
  - Wind Direction
  - Solar Radiance



**Mr. Kevin Griffin**



# Using RWIS Sites To Gather Data

- UDOT owns **109+** RWIS stations total
- **69** of these RWIS stations are compatible with Snow & Ice Performance Measure
- The other **40** stations are mobile trailers or are older stations not compatible
- **Goal:** minimum of **1** RWIS site per Maintenance Station
- Expand by **1** RWIS station per month on average





# RWIS Road Condition Sensors

- Road Condition Sensor is pointed at a 45° angle to maximize data accuracy (*usually* the far right lane)
- Analyzes approximately 5 ft<sup>2</sup> of pavement
- Full RWIS station with Contractor install and instrumentation:

≈ \$45,000 - \$50,000





Looking Toward the Future With.....

## Connected/Autonomous Vehicles

- ❖ It is fiscally impractical to put RWIS stations along every section of corridor
- ❖ RWIS stations do not overlap; i.e. there are “gaps” that are not covered and thus → do not provide a clear picture of roadway weather or health
- ❖ Our goal is to have a statewide network for **Snow & Ice Performance Measure**
- ❖ UDOT has put forth a research proposal at **UTRAC (Utah Research Advisory Council)** to see if using Connected/Autonomous Vehicles help fill in “gaps”



Looking Toward the Future With.....  
**Connected/Autonomous Vehicles**





# Storm Intensity Index - SII

- Quantifies *atmospheric conditions* & *road temperature* into a single value = **Storm Intensity Index (SII)**
- **Storm Intensity Index (SII)**: “The severity of the weather impacting the road. A value of **SII = 1** corresponds to **1”** of snowfall per hour with a road temp & wet bulb temp of **32° F** with light winds.”
- **Storm Intensity Index (SII)** accounts for:
  - 1 - **Snowfall Rate** (found through Visibility sensor)
  - 2 - **Wind Gust** ( $\geq 20$ mph)
  - 3 - **Wet-Bulb Temperature** (used for determination of the *Precipitation Type* and *Dry/Wet Snow*)
  - 4 - **Road Temperature**



# Storm Intensity Index - SII

\*\*\*At temps > 35° F and dry road the SII will always equal 0\*\*\*

- When road temperature < 35° F and road is not dry....

## 1 - Snowfall Rate

- Visibility is used to estimate Snowfall Rate
- Precipitation occurrence is used to differentiate **Fog** from **Snow**

## 2 - Wind Gust (≥ 20mph)

- More impact with lower wet bulb temps (drier snow blows across road)
- Tends to cause snow drifting across roadways



# Storm Intensity Index - SII

- When road temperature  $< 35^{\circ}$  F and road is not dry....

## 3 - Wet Bulb Temperature

- Used instead of Air Temperature because it tells us more
- Major factor in if it **Rains** or **Snows**
- Used to distinguish **Rain** from **Snow** in the algorithm
- Low wet bulb temp equates to drier snow = easier to haul off
- Major factor in if precipitation evaporates or ices over

## 4 - Road Temperature

- The colder the road, the more difficult to mitigate
- Major factor in if precipitation evaporates or ices over



# Snow & Ice Performance Measure

- The **Snow and Ice Performance Measure** then compares the 4 variables of the **Storm Intensity Index (SII)** to either the:
  - **Road Condition** (Dry, wet, slushy, snow, ice)
    - Different sensor than **Road Grip**

**OR.....**

- **Road Grip** (A value between 0 and 0.82)
  - Different sensor than **Road Condition**



# Snow & Ice Performance Measure

- UDOT uses the **CAUSE** vs. **EFFECT** approach
  - Atmospheric Conditions & Road Temperature (**CAUSE**)

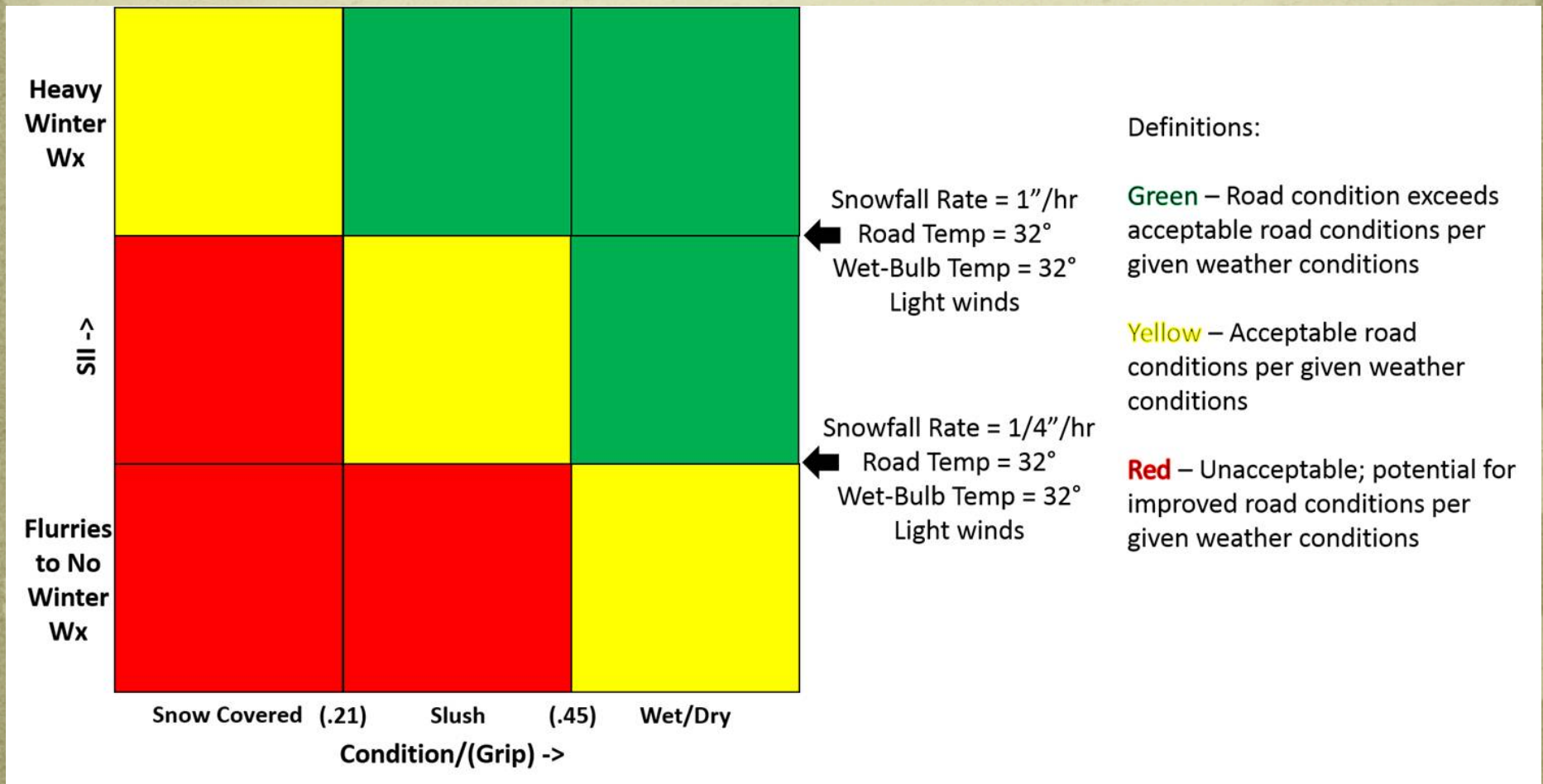
VS.....

- The resulting Road Grip or Road Conditions (**EFFECT**)
- **Road Grip/Conditions** categorized into:
  - Snow covered
  - Partially snow covered/slushy
  - Wet/dry



# Decision Matrix

- Let us take a gander at the **Decision Matrix.....** aka **Griffin Grip Cube**





# Decision Matrix Explained

Status of Snowfall	Snowfall Rate	Expected Mitigated Road Condition
Heavy	> 1" per hour	Snow Covered
Light to Moderate	0.25 to 1" per hour	Slushy/Partially Snow Covered
Flurries or No Snow	< 0.25" per hour	Wet or Dry



# UDOT's Benchmark For Snow Removal

- UDOT's benchmark target for snow removal is to handle:

**1" of snow / hour at 32° F**

- The breakdown based on temperature:
  - **1"** per hour for **32° F** road temp & wet bulb temp
  - **3/4"** per hour for **22° F** road temp & wet bulb temp
  - **1/2"** per hour for **17° F** road temp & wet bulb temp



# Storm Severity Index - SSI

- Storm Severity Index (SSI): The Average SII multiplied by the Storm Duration in **HOURS**.

**Storm Severity Index =**  
(Storm Intensity Index) x (Duration of Storm)

→

**SSI = (SII) x (Duration of Storm)**



Let's See This Thing Already.....

# RWIS/Forecast Page – Your Portal

- URL: <http://www.udottraffic.utah.gov/ForecastView/Default.aspx>



Statewide Maintenance Forecast

WEATHERNET

The screenshot displays the RWIS/Forecast Page interface. On the left, there are three main sections: **Contact** (with phone numbers and links for alerts), **Map Overlay** (with checkboxes for Maintenance Forecast, RWIS, Radar, Cameras, Snow and Ice Performance, and Snow Plow AVL), and **Links** (with a list of navigation options including Storm Management, Snow and Ice Performance Dashboard, and various reports). At the bottom left is a **Regions** section. The main area is a map of Utah with various RWIS site icons. A legend on the right lists data types like Air Temperature, Road Temperature, Soil Temperature, Snowfall rate, Visibility, Road Grip, Dew Point, Wind Gust, Wind Speed, and Wind Barb. Four callout boxes provide instructions: 1. A blue box points to the 'Snow and Ice Performance' checkbox in the Map Overlay section, stating 'Clicking on "Snow and Ice Performance" button shows the current performance and SII for each RWIS'. 2. An orange box points to a site icon on the map, stating 'Clicking on an individual RWIS site icon brings up the site's Site Specific Performance Page'. 3. An orange box points to the 'Storm Management' link in the Links section, stating 'Clicking on "Storm Management" button brings up a customizable multi-site look; APPROVED USERS ONLY'. 4. An orange box points to the 'Snow and Ice Performance Dashboard' link in the Links section, stating 'Clicking on "Snow and Ice Performance Dashboard" button brings up the current statewide performance summary'.



# Site Specific Performance Page

## (By clicking on individual RWIS site icon)

### I-80 @ Parleys Summit

Link to Mesowest (tabular data)

Select time frame by number of hours ago OR Select time frame by start and end date

Past 12 hrs Past 24 hrs Past 36 hrs Past 48 hrs Start Date 11/17/2017 6:20 AM End Date 11/17/2017 6:20 PM Go

Download RWIS Data

#### Resource Performance Statistics - Storm 4

EXCEPTIONAL	ACCEPTABLE	UNACCEPTABLE	MAINTENANCE RESOURCE GRADE
30.56%	50.0%	19.44%	B-

Click on graph to view data and images...



Graph Variables Left Axis Storm Intensity Index Right Axis Select Right Axis



Conditions at: 11/17/2017 10:00 am

Tmp/RH: 31.0 F/ 94.7% Wnd: W 7.2 mph, Gust: 9.2 mph | Rd: 30.9 F, Snow | Vis: 0.16 mi | Snow: 3.14 in/hr | Depth: n/a | Precip: Heavy | Grip: 0.33 | SI: 3.20

Current Season	2016-2017	2015-2016	2014-2015
No Storm Event			
7	12/20/2017 2:40:00 PM - 12/21/2017 1:00:00 PM	.48 (***)	22.33
6	12/16/2017 12:00:00 PM - 12/17/2017 6:20:00 AM	.13 (*)	18.33

#### Current Conditions

Sample Time: 2/28/18 9:20 AM  
 Temp/RH: 19.5° F / 90.0%  
 Wind: W 9.0 mph, Gust 14.7 mph  
 Visibility: 10.00 mi  
 Snowfall rate: 0.00 in/hr  
 Precipitation Intensity: Light  
 Snow Depth: n/a  
 Road: 28.9° F, Damp  
 Road Grip: 0.81  
 Storm Intensity Index: 0.00

#### Legend

- Green line: Road conditions exceptional given weather condition
- Yellow line: Road conditions acceptable given weather condition
- Red line: Unacceptable given weather condition
- Dashed black line: Winter maintenance baseline

#### Selected Storm Event Summary - Storm 4

Weather Statistics	Minimum	Average	Maximum
Air Temp	23.7° F	28.9° F	36.0° F
Road Temp	29.6° F	31.9° F	40.1° F
Wind Gust	7.7 mph	20.0 mph	31.1 mph
Est. Snowfall Rate	0.0"/hr	0.6"/hr	3.1"/hr
Road Grip	0.25	0.60	0.78

#### Current Winter Summary

(through 2/25/2018 10:20:00 AM)

Average Resource Performance: 90.55% (A-) High  
 Number of Storms: 14 High  
 Average Storm Duration (hrs): 28.9 Moderate  
 Total Storm Duration (hrs): 404.7 High  
 Average Storm Intensity Index: 0.50 High  
 Storm Intensity Index Sum: 6.96 High  
 Average Storm Severity Index: 17.31 High  
 Storm Severity Index Sum: 242.39 High

#### More information on the Storm Intensity Index and Snow and Ice Performance Measure

PowerPoint

UDOT Weather Desk: 801-887-3703



# Storm Management Dashboard

(By clicking on "Storm Management" button, Authorized Users only)



## Storm Management

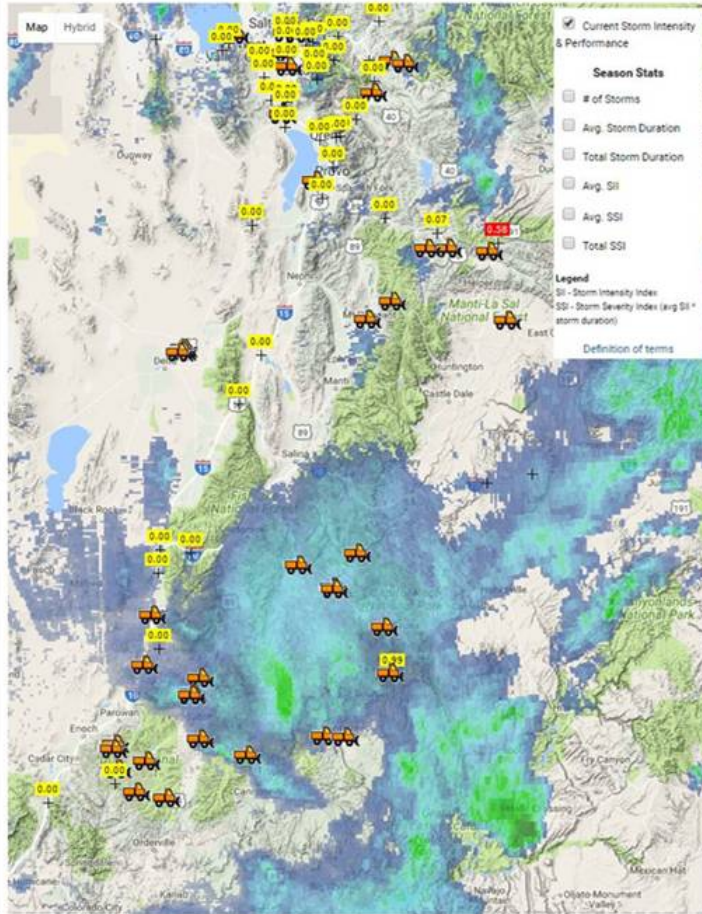


### Map Overlay

- Zoom to Area
- Shed Forecasts
  - RWIS
  - Radar - Nov 21, 2016 12:45 PM MST
  - Cameras
  - Snow and Ice Performance
  - Snow Plow AVL

### Graph Legend

- Road conditions exceptional given weather condition
- Road conditions acceptable given weather condition
- Unacceptable given weather condition
- - - Winter maintenance baseline





# Statewide Snow & Ice Performance Dashboard

(By clicking on “Snow & Ice Performance Dashboard” button)

Clicking on “Storm Performance Reports” brings up a customizable summary by Date Range, Region, and/or Route



## Statewide Snow and Ice Performance Dashboard

[Storm Performance Reports](#)


<p><b>2017-2018 Statewide Winter Storm Statistics</b></p>	<p><b>2017-2018 Average Statewide Snow and Ice Performance</b></p>	<p><b>Data for winter storm events:</b> 11/1/2017 12:00:00 AM - 3/25/2018 6:50:00 AM</p>																								
	<p>Statewide: Grade B</p> <p> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Exceptional  <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Acceptable  <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unacceptable         </p>	<p><b>Statewide Maintenance Forecast page</b></p>																								
<p><b>Average Statewide Snow and Ice Performance</b> (% of acceptable/exceptional road conditions during winter storms)</p> <table border="1"> <caption>Average Statewide Snow and Ice Performance by Month</caption> <thead> <tr> <th>Month</th> <th>FY-17 (%)</th> <th>FY-18 (%)</th> <th>FY-17 - FY-18 (%)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Nov</td> <td>~82</td> <td>~85</td> <td>~83</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Dec</td> <td>~78</td> <td>~84</td> <td>~81</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Jan</td> <td>~78</td> <td>~86</td> <td>~82</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Feb</td> <td>~85</td> <td>~89</td> <td>~87</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Mar</td> <td>~86</td> <td>~87</td> <td>~86</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>			Month	FY-17 (%)	FY-18 (%)	FY-17 - FY-18 (%)	Nov	~82	~85	~83	Dec	~78	~84	~81	Jan	~78	~86	~82	Feb	~85	~89	~87	Mar	~86	~87	~86
Month	FY-17 (%)	FY-18 (%)	FY-17 - FY-18 (%)																							
Nov	~82	~85	~83																							
Dec	~78	~84	~81																							
Jan	~78	~86	~82																							
Feb	~85	~89	~87																							
Mar	~86	~87	~86																							



# Storm Performance Reports

(By clicking on “Storm Performance Reports” button)

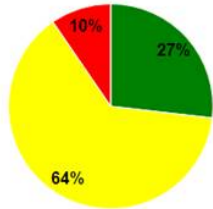
Filter box to find any storm by Date Range, Region, and/or Route and also the related snow removal performance letter grade (A-F)



## Storm Performance Reports


**Start Date**  **End Date**   
**Region**  **Routes**

**Performance: Grade A-**



- Exceptional
- Acceptable
- Unacceptable

**Average Snow and Ice Performance**  
(% of acceptable/exceptional road conditions during winter storms)



Location	Event Time		Duration	Avg. Index	Storm Index	Performance			
	Start	End				Exp. %	Acpt. %	Unacpt. %	Grade
Location: I-80 @ Coalville									
I-80 @ Coalville	2/18/2018 6:40:00 PM	2/19/2018 2:20:00 AM	7.67	0.67	5.10	0.0	0.0	0.0	*
I-80 @ Coalville	1/19/2018 8:30:00 PM	1/21/2018 3:00:00 AM	30.50	0.37	11.20	24.0	61.2	14.8	B
I-80 @ Coalville	12/24/2017 7:30:00 PM	12/25/2017 10:00:00 AM	14.50	0.57	8.25	9.1	44.3	46.6	F
I-80 @ Coalville	12/23/2017 6:50:00 AM	12/23/2017 3:50:00 PM	9.00	0.42	3.76	18.2	63.6	18.2	B-
I-80 @ Coalville	12/20/2017 5:40:00 PM	12/21/2017 9:50:00 AM	16.17	0.20	3.24	26.8	73.2	0.0	A+
I-80 @ Coalville	12/3/2017 5:20:00 PM	12/4/2017 6:00:00 AM	12.67	0.33	4.24	37.7	50.6	11.7	B+
Location: I-80 @ Lakepoint									
I-80 @ Lakepoint	2/23/2018 12:00:00 AM	2/23/2018 4:00:00 PM	16.00	0.53	8.50	28.9	50.5	20.6	C+
I-80 @ Lakepoint	2/18/2018 6:40:00 PM	2/19/2018 11:00:00 PM	28.33	0.29	8.25	22.4	73.9	3.7	A
I-80 @ Lakepoint	1/19/2018 3:50:00 PM	1/20/2018 6:50:00 PM	27.00	0.28	7.65	31.9	58.3	9.8	A-
I-80 @ Lakepoint	1/6/2018 12:30:00 PM	1/6/2018 4:40:00 PM	4.17	0.13	0.53	42.3	57.7	0.0	A+
I-80 @ Lakepoint	12/24/2017 5:40:00 PM	12/25/2017 9:00:00 AM	15.33	0.24	3.68	6.5	37.6	55.9	F
I-80 @ Lakepoint	12/20/2017 2:40:00 PM	12/20/2017 10:40:00 PM	8.00	0.29	2.30	28.6	61.2	10.2	B+
I-80 @ Lakepoint	12/16/2017 9:30:00 AM	12/17/2017 8:10:00 AM	22.67	0.15	3.32	24.1	72.3	3.6	A
I-80 @ Lakepoint	12/4/2017 7:30:00 AM	12/4/2017 12:30:00 PM	5.00	0.32	1.58	29.0	54.8	16.1	B
Location: I-80 @ mp 1									
I-80 @ mp 1	2/22/2018 4:40:00 PM	2/22/2018 9:10:00 PM	4.50	0.23	1.04	35.7	64.3	0.0	A+
I-80 @ mp 1	2/18/2018 8:00:00 PM	2/19/2018 12:40:00 AM	4.67	0.16	0.77	55.2	44.8	0.0	A+
I-80 @ mp 1	1/19/2018 10:40:00 PM	1/20/2018 2:40:00 AM	4.00	0.15	0.59	40.0	60.0	0.0	A+
Location: I-80 @ Parleys Canyon Quarry									
I-80 @ Parleys Canyon C	2/24/2018 7:20:00 PM	2/25/2018 9:00:00 AM	13.67	0.17	2.30	19.3	80.7	0.0	A+
I-80 @ Parleys Canyon C	2/22/2018 9:00:00 PM	2/23/2018 9:00:00 PM	24.00	0.38	9.17	32.4	67.6	0.0	A+
I-80 @ Parleys Canyon C	2/18/2018 6:00:00 PM	2/20/2018 1:50:00 PM	43.83	0.57	24.99	31.8	64.8	3.4	A
I-80 @ Parleys Canyon C	2/14/2018 10:40:00 PM	2/15/2018 6:00:00 PM	19.33	0.17	3.29	28.2	71.8	0.0	A+
I-80 @ Parleys Canyon C	1/25/2018 4:10:00 PM	1/26/2018 8:30:00 AM	16.33	0.07	1.15	12.1	87.9	0.0	A+
I-80 @ Parleys Canyon C	1/19/2018 5:10:00 PM	1/21/2018 12:20:00 AM	31.17	0.30	9.20	51.6	46.3	2.1	A+

Page size: 25 | 69 items in 3 pages

Grade of \* means insufficient data for calculation



# Challenges With This System

- Data Quality and Verification

- RWIS Coordinator/Meteorologist manually checks data weekly with aid of saved camera images from RWIS stations

- Common Issues

- Occasional road sensor inaccuracy
- Sensor failure
- Flurries in fog confuse sensors
- High traffic prevents sensors from seeing roadway
- Reasonable SII in extreme conditions

- Physical Challenges

- Requires intensive RWIS Station maintenance (need them working!!)
- Only samples a small area of roadway despite many lane-miles of responsibility



# Future Improvements To Be Made

- The ever-expansion of our RWIS network
- Better storm identification
- Algorithm tweaks
- Instrumentation in market improves over time
- Set performance benchmarks for different priority routes
- Using Connected/Autonomous Vehicles to fill in “RWIS gaps”





# Now....Something Near and Dear To Me

- End of discussion about **Snow & Ice Performance Measure** and on to.....

## Light Sabers!!





# Challenges UDOT Plow Drivers Face

- **Plow Driver Hours** are long and unforgiving
- **Older Fleet** is slow to be replaced by new equipment
- **Filling All Vacancies** can be a problem – high turnover rate due to the dangers of the job and pay \$\$\$
- **Bad Winter Driving Habits** of citizens can cause accidents





# Challenges UDOT Plow Drivers Face

- US-6 in Spanish Fork Canyon January 12<sup>th</sup>, 2017.....





# Challenges UDOT Plow Drivers Face

## Spanish Fork Canyon --- January 12<sup>th</sup>, 2017

- ❑ Terry Jacobson, a 23 year veteran UDOT Transportation Technician in Region 3, was plowing WB lanes of SR-6 in Spanish Fork Canyon
- ❑ An impatient semi-truck driver pushed his UDOT plow off of the road while attempting to pass him on the right - clipped his Wing Plow
- ❑ Terry's snow plow gated through the W-beam guardrail and rolled down a 300 foot embankment



# Challenges UDOT Plow Drivers Face

- Let us watch the **VIDEO** captured by the dash camera of a semi-truck driver heading in the opposite direction.....

<https://youtu.be/HHXkafQ5pAU>



# Challenges UDOT Plow Drivers Face

- Terry survived the accident, but does not plow anymore
- Passenger side of cab was crushed. Would have killed a passenger had there been one
- Lends credence to why we constantly communicate to the public.....

**STAY BEHIND THE PLOWS**





# Challenges UDOT Plow Drivers Face

- UDOT Wing Plows used to have just an **orange flashing light** on the end of the wing
- In response to Terry's accident UDOT adopted what we call "**Light Sabers**" to go on the end of Wing Plows
- Let us watch a video of the **Light Saber** in action.....

<https://youtu.be/5AxWknqruYM>



# THE END!!!

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