



SITUATION REPORT

Incident: Winter Weather Update

March 23-24, 2023

Published: March 23; 7:30 p.m.

KEY ISSUES/CONCERNS AND UPDATES

Twice-daily escorted access through U.S. 395 avalanche area beginning March 24: Beginning Friday (03/24), Caltrans will begin escorting vehicles on U.S. 395 between SR 167 and Lee Vining during the following hours (as conditions allow): 7:00 a.m. - 8:30 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. Go to QuickMap: <https://quickmap.dot.ca.gov>

Weather: No active hazardous weather conditions issued. While temperatures are well below normal for this time of year, there are no major weather events expected over the next several days. The next storm system is expected to arrive Tuesday (03/28).

Recovery Activity: Progress is being made on snow and debris removal priorities with heavy equipment and dump trucks. Crews continue to repair erosion on roadways to limit future damage. Resource response times continue to be delayed due to road conditions. Crews are actively removing snow and debris from critical infrastructure. Significant structural damage is continuing to occur. Structural engineers and Urban Search & Rescue team assessments are ongoing. Damaged infrastructure and private property are being shored and stabilized. Limited medical transportation resources due to isolated location.

Winter Storm Damage Survey (Mono County): The Mono County Office of Emergency Management (OEM) has developed a survey to collect information from property owners and businesses who have experienced damage to their property/properties as a result of the recent series of storms.

The collected data will be used to estimate total damages countywide and determine if enough damage occurred to qualify the region for disaster assistance, such as low interest disaster loans from the Small Business Administration for those who are uninsured or underinsured. Completing the form does not guarantee the region or the property owner will be eligible to receive disaster assistance.

Survey: <https://survey123.arcgis.com/share/bc4f6e5aae13460bac89c2d9ee9bfaf1>



Extreme Snow Load Advisory - CLEAR YOUR ROOF: The Town of Mammoth Lakes issued an Evacuation Warning on March 16, 2023 for snow damaged properties that pose a potential threat to life and property. To report structural damage or to assist in determining whether your property is safe, please call (760) 965-3629 to talk to Town staff or complete the Winter Storm Damage Assessment Form that will assess your property for risk.

Survey: <https://survey123.arcgis.com/share/bc4f6e5aae13460bac89c2d9ee9bfaf1>

Snow Removal Emergency Fund: Mammoth Mountain Community Foundation and Alterra Mountain Company Community Foundation have established an emergency fund to assist Mammoth Lakes, June Lake, and Crowley Lake residents and businesses with emergency snow removal needs during our recently declared state of emergency. Their goal is to assist financially and with coordination of contractors/snow removers for instances of immediate need for impending damage or danger due to heavy snow loads.

Funds are limited and will be directed based on hardship, urgency and need. This fund will only go towards full-time resident occupied homes or full-time businesses. Residents/Business located in the Town of Mammoth Lakes, June Lake, and Crowley Lake communities are eligible to apply.

Application: <https://app.smarterselect.com/programs/88696-Mammoth-Mountain-Community-Foundation>

Avalanche Situation: Mono Lake Avalanche Area Extremely Dangerous; Public Urged to Avoid Skiing the Area. Countywide avalanche danger will once again rise with incoming forecasted winter storms.

Eastern Sierra Avalanche Center: <https://www.esavalanche.org/>

Sandbags Stationed in Each Community: Mono County and the California Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES) have staged sandbags in each community for residents to use during the storm. Details on sandbag location information and maps for the staging areas are available [here](#) and on the [READY Mono portal](#).

WARMING CENTERS AND SHELTERS

Temporary Emergency Shelter Mammoth Lakes Closes March 24: The temporary emergency shelter in the gymnasium of Mammoth Middle School (1600 Meridian Blvd.) in Mammoth Lakes will close Friday morning (03/24).



Reduced Rates for Evacuees at The Carson Valley Inn: The Carson Valley Inn will be honoring a rate of \$89 plus tax in the main hotel until March 31st for anyone displaced or without power (subject to availability). No pets. Call (800) 321-6983 for reservations.

Complimentary Lodging for Displaced Families at the Virginia Creek Settlement: The Virginia Creek Settlement will be providing complimentary lodging for anyone displaced or without power (subject to availability). Pets allowed. Call (760) 932-7780 for reservations.

EMERGENCY ALERTS

Town of Mammoth Lakes: The Town of Mammoth Lakes has issued an Evacuation Warning for snow damaged properties that pose a potential threat to life and property.

TRAFFIC/ROAD CONDITIONS

There will be two daily escorts between Lee Vining and the junction of U.S. 395 beginning Friday (03/24); one from 7:00 am – 8:30 am and one from 3:30 pm – 5:00 pm. All projected road work is weather-dependent and equipment dependent.

Mono County now has over 100 pieces of heavy equipment and operators working throughout the county. This does not include the work and equipment in Mammoth Lakes, Caltrans' work and equipment on U.S. 395 and S.R. 203, or SCE's work on their routes. Mono County maintains 600 miles of road..

Due to pavement and shoulder damage caused by recent storms, Caltrans began emergency repair work on three state highways in Inyo and Mono counties on Thursday, March 23:

- State Route 168 W between Starlight Drive and Aspendell
- U.S. Highway 6 between Chalfant and the town of Benton
- State Route 120 W between Benton Crossing Road and the junction with U.S. Highway 6

Granite Construction has been awarded the approximately \$800,000 emergency contract scheduled for 15 working days. On U.S. Highway 6 crews will perform earthwork to fill in shoulders due to floodwater damage. On SR 168W and SR 120W, crews will repair undercut and damaged pavement. Crews will clear flood debris from culverts in all three locations. Work is scheduled for Monday through Friday from 7:00 am to 6:00 pm. There will be one-way traffic control on all three roads for the duration of the repairs and drivers may experience 20-minute delays.

U.S. 395 at Topaz is limited to one-way with traffic controls.



Road closed	Direction closed	Nearest cross street or landmark	Type of closure
Twin Lakes Road	Westbound	Mono Village	Hard
Virginia Lakes Road:	Westbound	Lower parking lot (off 395)	Hard
Mill Canyon Road	Westbound	Highway 395	Hard
Saddlebag Lake Road:	northbound	Highway 120	Hard
Lundy Lake Road:	Westbound	Lundy lake road 1.25 miles W of HWY 395	Hard
Poole Power Plant Road:	Westbound	Highway 395	Hard
Upper Rock Creek Road:	Southbound	Highway 395	Hard
Lower Rock Creek Road:	Northbound	Highway 395	Residents only
Benton Crossing Road:	Eastbound	Highway 395	Hard
Hot Creek Road:	Eastbound	Highway 395	Hard
Substation Road:	Eastbound	Highway 395	Hard
Black Rock Mine Road	Westbound	Black Rock Mine Road	Residents only
Dawson Ranch Road	Westbound	Highway 6	Residents only
Joe Main Road	Westbound	Highway 6	Residents only
Rabbit Ranch Road	Westbound	Highway 6	Residents only
Yellow Jacket Road	Westbound	Highway 6	Residents only
Fish Slough Road	Westbound	Chidago Road	Residents only
Chidago Road	Westbound	Chidago Road	Residents only
Adobe Ranch Road	Westbound	Chidago Road	Residents only



RESOURCES

2-1-1

READY Mono Portal: <https://ready.mono.ca.gov/>

Mono County Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/countyofmono>

Town of Mammoth Lakes: <https://www.townofmammothlakes.ca.gov/CivicAlerts.aspx?AID=833>

National Weather Service – Reno: <https://www.weather.gov/reno>

CHP Activity – Mono/Inyo Counties: <https://cad.chp.ca.gov/Traffic.aspx>

Caltrans - Road Information: <https://roads.dot.ca.gov/roadscell.php>

Mono County – Road Information: <https://monocounty.ca.gov/roads>

NDOT – Road Information: <https://www.nvroads.com/>

Eastern Sierra Avalanche Center: <https://www.esavalanche.org/>

Mono County Webcams: <https://www.monocounty.org/plan-your-trip/weather-and-road-conditions/webcams-in-mono-county/>