

## Seasonal Road Closure Study

UDOT has initiated a study to look at the costs and benefits associated with opening seasonal roads through the winter. The study began in January 2014 and is scheduled to be complete in late spring/early summer 2014. This preliminary effort is an objective feasibility study to look at equipment, material and labor costs for snow plowing, as well as additional maintenance for any necessary roadway improvements if the roads stayed open. It will also take a look at the potential economic benefits/dis-benefits for users. Seasonal routes are generally located in high elevation areas, making winter maintenance difficult and costly.

Here are the nine seasonal roads that close in the winter at various times.

- S.R. 39, Monte Cristo
- S.R. 65, East Canyon
- S.R. 224 & S.R. 190, Guardsman Pass (Two roads but studied as one road due to proximity to one another.)
- S.R. 92, Alpine Loop
- S.R. 150, Mirror Lake Highway
- S.R. 35, Wolf Creek Pass
- S.R. 153, Mt. Holly Junction Road
- S.R. 148, Cedar Breaks

UDOT is committed to a balanced approach that considers the needs of all users while keeping the roads safe for the traveling public. The study team is currently gathering information to consider the perspective of stakeholders as part of the study process. Safety is a top priority so it must be determined that a road can be safely maintained during the winter months before it can be opened. We are committed to keeping the traveling public and our UDOT crews who plow the roads safe.

This statewide review will provide information to decision-makers so they can further consider all available options regarding seasonal roads. The study report will include recommendations on the feasibility of keeping each seasonal road open through the winter.

This winter, UDOT plans to maintain our past schedule for winter closures on seasonal roads. If the study finds that it is feasible to keep a seasonal road open through the winter, there will be further analysis of that road and an opportunity for public comment.

For questions or comments about the study, please contact:

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