Winter driving condition tips

(KLZA)--- Much of the listening area looks to be facing blizzard conditions through Thursday, with dangerous travel conditions, including extreme cold, impacting travelers. Temperatures in some parts of the state will get no higher than -30 degrees along with potential wind chills of -70 degrees.

Nebraska Department of Transportation (NDOT) crews are prepared for another major snow event.

While amounts of snow could fluctuate from several inches to 6 inches or more, concerns are for winds gusting up to 50 miles per hour, along with the dangerously cold wind chills.

Travelers are advised to be alert, be aware and check the most up to date travel conditions available through 511, Nebraska- Advanced Traveler Information System. The system is available at all times via phone by, online at www.511.nebraska.gov, Nebraska 511- smartphone app or by dialing 511.

Travelers are also encouraged to utilize NDOT- Plow Tracker at <u>plows.nebraska.gov</u> where the public will be able to observe road conditions in real time from the cabs of NDOT snowplows.

Please note that weather conditions are often worse than they appear on camera.

Should travel be absolutely necessary, NDOT reminds motorists to be prepared with warm clothing, water and food. Be sure to travel on well-established routes and notify someone when you are leaving for your destination. If traveling a distance, a winter weather survival kit is advised with additional basic items.

If you must travel, do not drive faster than conditions allow. Surfaces will be slick under the snow and visibility may be poor. Allow plenty of time to arrive at your destination.

With snowplows out on the roads, travelers are urged to be cautious and courteous to those operating them, making sure to:

- \cdot Slow down as you approach plows. They travel slowly, usually 25-30 miles per hour or less.
- · Stay well behind plows to give you and them plenty of room. When traveling outside of a business or

residential district, it is unlawful to follow a highway maintenance vehicle more closely than 100 feet when it is plowing snow, spreading salt or sand, or displaying a flashing amber or blue light.

- · Never pass a plow on the right snowplows are equipped with "wing plows" which extend beyond the truck itself.
- · Know where plows are and actions they may be taking while they plow snow.

Motorists are reminded to make sure everyone in their vehicle wears a seat belt and children are in a car safety seat. Do not use cruise control in wet or snowy weather and keep a full gas tank.

Many Signals Communications