



CONFERENCIA INTERNACIONAL  
SOBRE  
**VIALIDAD INVERNAL**

Del 27 al 30 de junio de 2017

Mendoza - Argentina

## “Winter Performance Measures (Metrics)”

*Presented by:*

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State of Minnesota

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## North and South America





Minnesota: east of the Mississippi river acquired from England...  
west of the Mississippi was purchased from France





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Minnesota: North Latitude, from 43° to 49° - equal to northern Italy



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## Minnesota Vikings



May be recognized by its professional football team – Minnesota Vikings... not soccer

## State of Minnesota Overview

- North Latitude, from 43° to 49°
- Area: 225,181 km<sup>2</sup> (643 km by 402 km)
- Minnesota is the 12<sup>th</sup> largest state in the USA
- Population: 5,500,000 (2015 est.)
- Minnesota is the 21st most populous state in the USA
- “Land of 10,000 Lakes” - 11,842 lakes over 4 hectares:
- 6,564 rivers and streams totaling 148,000 km

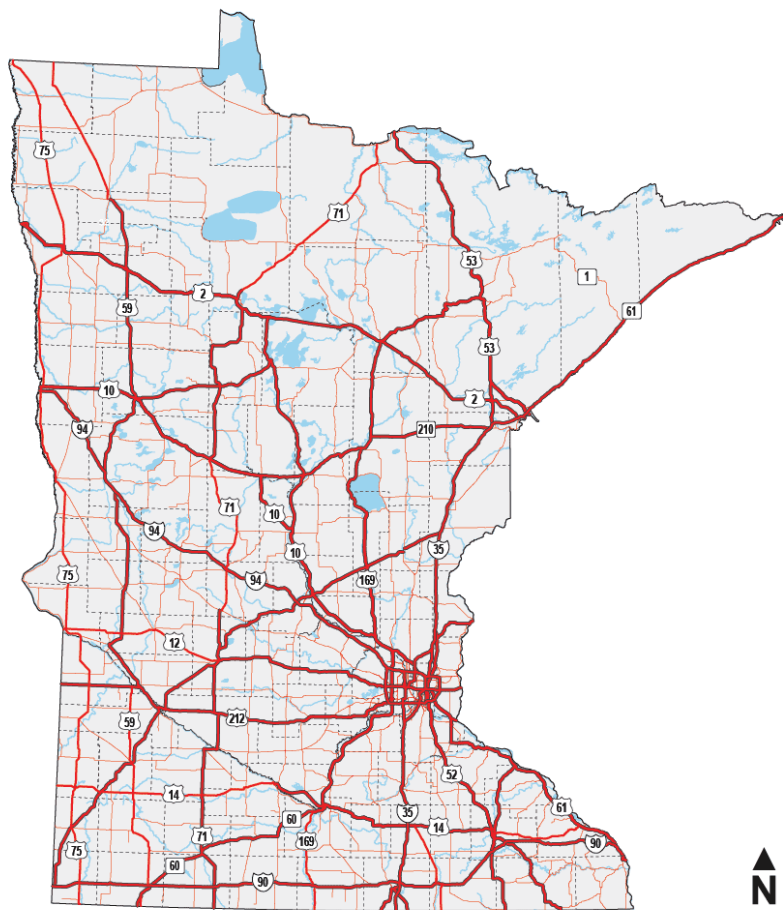
## Minnesota - some fun factoids

- Home to the Mall of America – almost 900,000 sq. meters of shopping... and general winter relief
- Boasts 145,000 km of shoreline - more than California, Florida and Hawaii combined
- Minnesota has one recreational boat per every six people, more than any other state
- Home of the Mayo Clinic – a great place to get sick
- Birth place of Judy Garland, Bob Dylan and Prince Rogers Nelson – all singers
- And responsible for Jesse Ventura – wrestler, entertainer and elected governor



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## Minnesota:



Major highway layout



## Minnesota Department of Transportation Overview

Three road agencies - State, County and City

State Roads: 19,312 centerline\*km or 46,671 lane\*km

State Bridges: over 4700 (state system)

Approximately 5000 State government employees

Overall Maintenance and Operations Spending (USD):

2012 – \$240M

2013 – \$327M

2014 – \$309M

2015 – \$313M

2016 – \$292M

5 –year average = \$300M

## Minnesota Department of Transportation Overview Winter Weather and Spending

- January in Minneapolis : -5° C average high; -14° C average low
- Average high temperature from December through February does not get above freezing (0 ° C)
- Snowfall Minneapolis: 60 to 230 cm
- Winter Spending (USD):
  - 2011/12 – \$62M
  - 2012/13 – \$112M
  - 2013/14 – \$136M
  - 2014/15 – \$88M
  - 2015/16 – \$94M5 year average = \$98M



Winter spending is about 33 percent of overall maintenance spending

# Minnesota Department of Transportation Overview Labor, Equipment and Materials (Winter Resources)

1747 Snowfighters with a Certified Drivers License

800 Snow Plows – Singles and Tandems (50/50)

5 year average material usage:

|             |                     |
|-------------|---------------------|
| Salt:       | 191,000 metric tons |
| Sand:       | 41,000 metric tons  |
| Salt Brine: | 10 million liters   |



Winter maintenance completely provided with internal staff – state government employee

# Performance Reporting Maintenance Performance Measures and Targets

Driven by Customer Survey Efforts:

1. Omnibus (annual department performance reporting)
2. Business Planning (overall maintenance performance)
3. Winter Service – (bare lane snow and performance)



Three distinct areas of market research/customer focus  
Winter Service customer survey effort used to develop winter performance measure

## Winter Performance Measure

Two key market research efforts developed our snow and ice performance measures and targets; and verified our direction:

1999 - established our measure and set targets levels

2007 - verified what we learned previously





## Winter Performance Measure Bare Pavement Survey – 1999

- Initiated in 1999 with market research
- 1100 participants – our customers
- Utilized videos depicting scenarios
- Measured how various levels of winter service impact the customer's willingness to drive.
- Identified perceived acceptability for various levels of service.



This market research effort led to changing our goal from “bare pavement” to “bare lane”

## Winter Performance Measure Bare Lane Survey – 2007

Customers recruited at 12 locations across that state

Videos were again shown and customers were asked to complete a questionnaire – 780 total interviews

In addition, some people pre-selected to stay for a follow up focus group discussion



Verified previous market research/decisions – targets did not change

# Bare Lane Customer Survey (snow and ice focus)

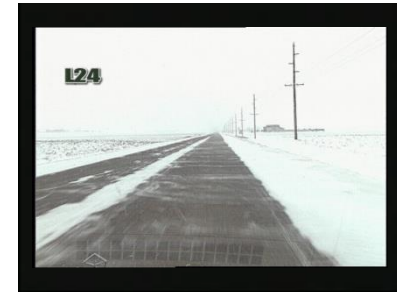
How the Customer was involved - authentic views



Interstate  
super commuter



4-Lane  
urban/rural



2-lane non-town  
rural, primary or  
secondary



2-lane town  
rural/primary



2-lane non-town  
Snow covered &  
compacted



4-Lane  
1-2 Intermittent  
wheel paths

## Winter Maintenance Performance Measures and Targets

### **Measure:** Regain Time

All driving lanes are 95% free of snow and ice between the outer edges of the wheel paths and have less than 1 inch of accumulation on the center of the roadway.

### **Target:** A set time in hours

Measured from the end of the event to when the bare lane condition is gained

Five targets based traffic volumes (average daily traffic)

Recorded (performance) by the plow operators

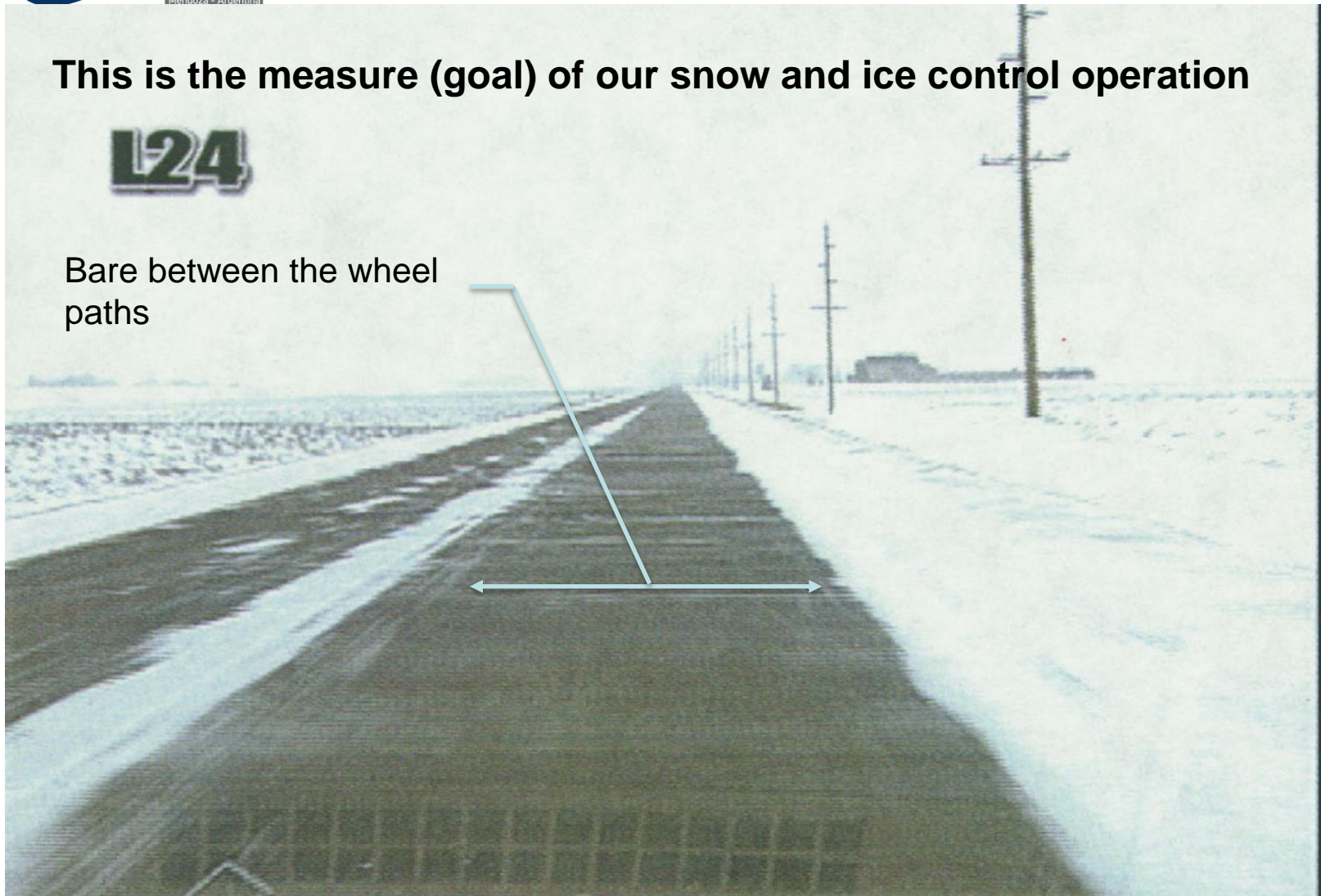
Event: A winter weather occurrence, that consumes resources necessary to prevent, minimize or regain the loss of bare lanes



**This is the measure (goal) of our snow and ice control operation**

**L24**

Bare between the wheel  
paths





These are the targets for our measure

| Average Daily Traffic | Regain Time (in hours) |
|-----------------------|------------------------|
| 30,000 < ADT          | 0 – 3                  |
| 10,000 – 30,000       | 2 – 5                  |
| 2,000 – 10,000        | 4 - 9                  |
| 800 – 2,000           | 6 - 12                 |
| ADT < 800             | 9 - 36                 |

Five classes/categories based on average daily traffic (ADT)

<http://www.dot.state.mn.us/maintenance/pdf/manual/Ch2.pdf>

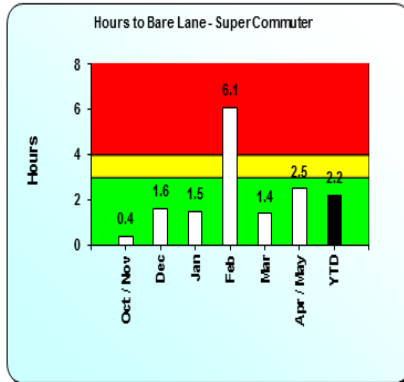


### Maintenance: Snow & Ice Hours to Bare Lane -Statewide

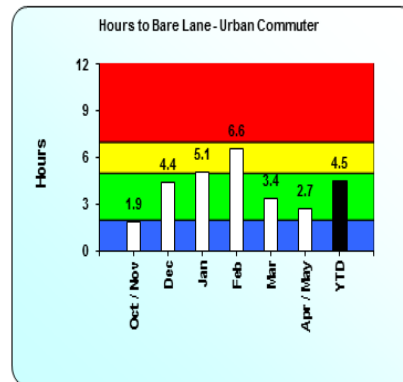
Winter 2013 - 2014

July 1, 2013 to Apr 30, 2014

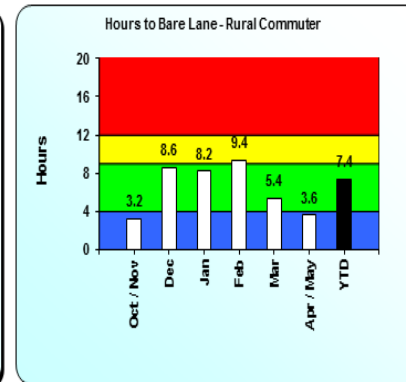
- Significantly Under Expectation
- Under Expectation
- Meets Expectation
- Over Expectation



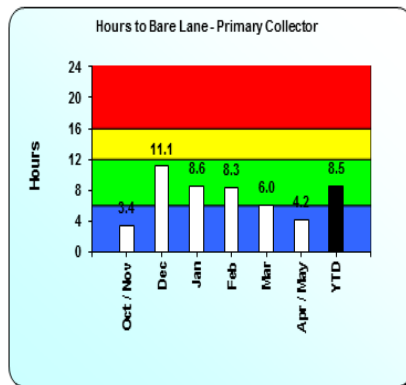
(4,743 Lane Miles)



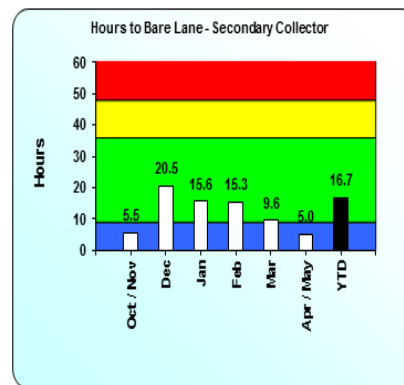
(5,621 Lane Miles)



(11,135 Lane Miles)



(6,756 Lane Miles)



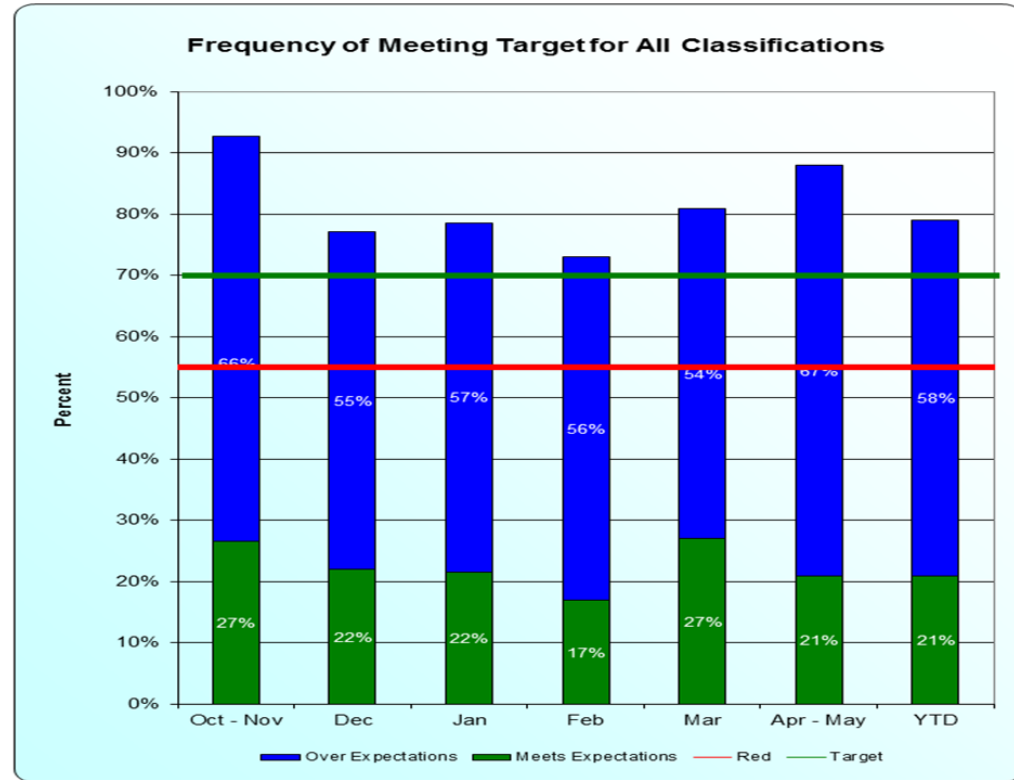
(2,342 Lane Miles)



**Maintenance: Snow & Ice Removal  
Statewide**

**Winter 2013 - 2014**

July 1, 2013 to Apr 30, 2014



Roll up Performance Measure – for Governor Scorecard

Our performance goal will be achieved if we meet or exceed the target of 70%

## Lessons learned in developing the measure

Combination of art and science

“Get professional help” – set the context (“can not get enough safety”)

Look at what others are doing

Subject matter experts (us) - sets the measure

Customer (them) - sets the target (within context - safety)

How are you going to use the measure:

Managing... Lead Measure

Reporting... Lag Measure

Measuring takes effort... needs to be sustainable

“If you are not measuring, you are not managing”

## Lessons learned in using the measure

Senior Staff reporting

Legislative reporting

Public interest/reporting

Lean against our Target in difficult times - “customer developed”

Difficult to manage if it is a Lag Measure - ultimately it is more informational

Governor’s Scorecard



## Lead Measures versus Lag Measures

What's on the scale (lag) vs What's in your mouth (lead)

Outcomes = tend to be lag measures

Inputs/Outputs = tend to be lead measures

Examples:

Input = number of plows on the road - lead

Output = miles of road plowed

Outcome = "bare lanes" - lag

Lag Measure - gets attention

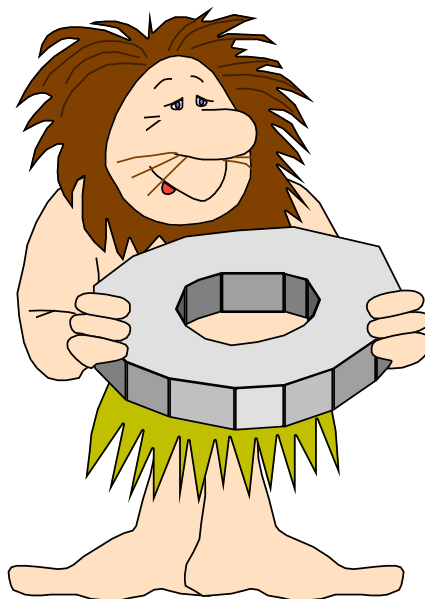
Lead Measure - gets action

While outcome is the purpose or goal, it is too late to manage at that point



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So what is next?



## Snow Fighter Simulator Training



One mobile training simulator (trailer) and one fixed training simulator (office)



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## Tow Plow





## Road Weather information System (RWIS)



## Road Weather information System (RWIS)

- RWIS is an automated information system that collects, processes and distributes current and forecasted weather and road surface information.
- This system allows field and office maintenance staff to use weather information for timely and cost-effective operations.
- RWIS data is used throughout the year in support of traveler information system, herbicide applications, pavement marking, incident management, and timing of maintenance and construction activities.
- But it is about the winter... RWIS data is utilized by maintenance staff to support and make winter service decisions such as weather forecasting and winter chemical application recommendations.

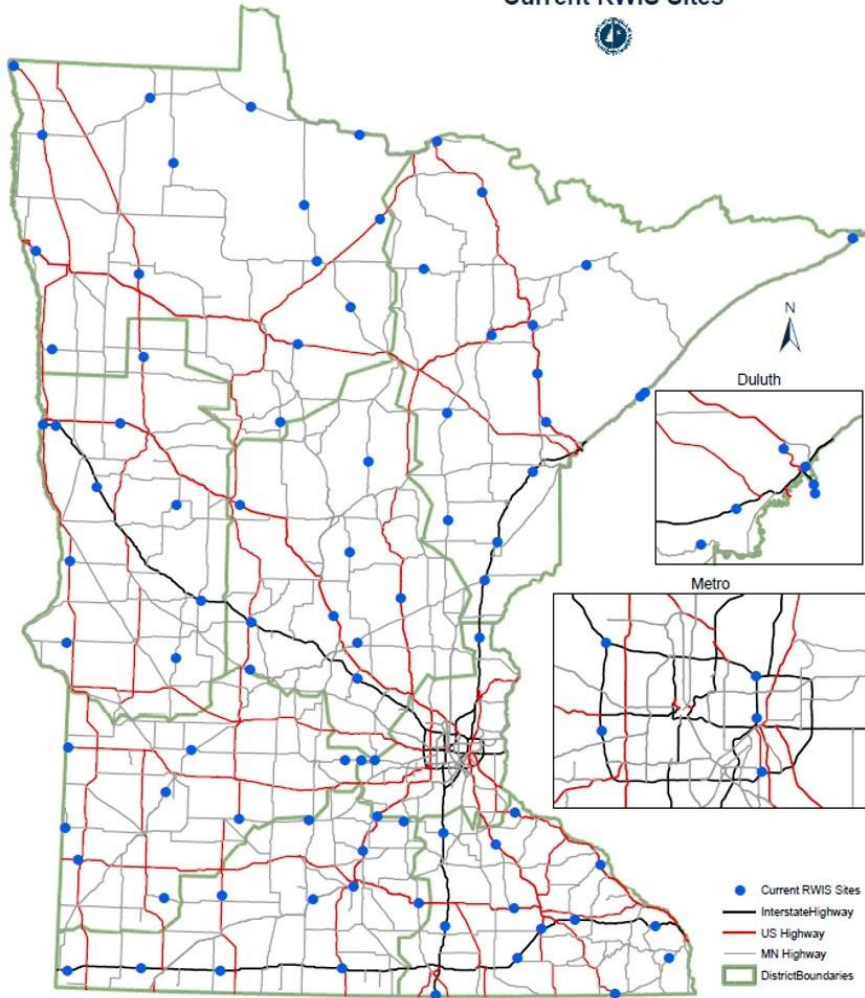




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# Current Road Weather information System Sites

Minnesota Department of Transportation  
Current RWIS Sites



## Maintenance Decision Support System (MDSS)

MDSS brings in data on current road and weather conditions obtained using RWIS and other weather collection sources



Data is ingested into various road weather forecasting models



The models then supply data to a Road Condition and Treatment Module:

- Road Temperature prediction Model

- Chemical Concentration algorithms

- Rules of Practice for anti-icing and Deicing, operation practices



This results in road weather predictions and ultimately plow route specific treatment recommendations

## MDSS – on the snow plow truck dashboard



In-cab display screen of Mobile Data Computer – MDSS/AVL





## MDSS – a closer look at the screen



Main screen on Mobile Data Computer – MDSS/AVL



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Thank you,  
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