



COUNTY OF MODOC

Road Department
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POLICY AND PROCEDURE

SNOW REMOVAL

October 31, 2013

PURPOSE

The purpose of this Policy and Procedure is to provide guidance in the removal of snow and for the proper use of funding.

BACKGROUND

The Road Department operates exclusively on statutory funds with no local tax monies. The State prohibits the expenditure of Road funds for anything other than County roads, except as noted in this policy and procedure. Nothing contained in this policy is intended to compete with or take work away from the private sector engaged in snow removal work. With close to 1,000 miles of County roads, heavy snowfall cannot be removed immediately, and a priority must be established.

POLICY

The priorities for snow removal are established as follows:

1. School bus and hospital routes on County roads
2. County airports, at the expense of the responsible department
3. County roads which serve year round residents
4. County roads necessary for livestock feeding or movement of equipment and goods.
5. Drives and approaches to facilities belonging to other public entities such as fire stations, cemeteries, solid waste transfer stations, school yards, etc., at the expense of the responsible agency.

In the event that accumulating snowfall or drifting creates the need for continual attention to keep higher priorities open, plowing of lower priorities will be delayed.

A schedule indicating the days the transfer stations are open will be distributed annually. Public access to the transfer sites is required.

Snow removal on gravel roadways will occur only if snow accumulation is greater than four inches.

Snow removal on Saturdays, Sundays and holidays will be performed at the discretion of each district's Road Maintenance Supervisor with consideration for public safety, current and forecasted weather conditions, road location and priority.

Snow will not be removed from roads and portions of roads designated as "No Winter Maintenance" unless all other priorities are complete and the work is deemed necessary by Road Department management.

The priorities for snow removal at the airports are as follows:

1. Cedarville Airport - Access is required for air ambulance service
2. Tulelake Airport - Serves as a secondary airport for Klamath Falls
3. Adin Airport - may be closed for the winter
4. Fort Bidwell Airport - may be closed for the winter

PROCEDURES

Each Road Maintenance Supervisor shall establish routes for the most efficient removal of snow based on the priorities established above, and shall consider the district needs when approving leave requests.

RESPONSIBILITY

Each Road Maintenance Supervisor shall be responsible for compliance with and enforcement of the snow removal policy.

The priorities may be altered only at the Road Commissioner's discretion. In an emergency, or under other unique circumstances and if no other private equipment is available, the Road Commissioner may also authorize snow removal from private access roads, from a physician's road, for the relief of sick or elderly, for cattle feeding, etc., at the expense of the individual that benefits from the service.

Mitchell Crosby
Road Commissioner