

I-90 corridor e-mail update

February 4, 2008

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Motorist please be advised: Check weather conditions before you leave

Last week, snow storms temporarily closed various highways across the state. Snoqualmie Pass received 7 feet of snow in 7 days and was closed for about 89 hours. [Avalanche crews](#) worked carefully to clear 27 avalanche paths in six major areas along I-90 near Snoqualmie summit. Motorists are reminded that weather and road conditions can change rapidly and should plan accordingly. For current traveler information, please visit www.wsdot.wa.gov/traffic/passes before you leave to your destination or call 5-1-1. While on the road, tune to the highway advisory radios at AM 1610 and AM 530.

WSDOT receives international attention for communication efforts

WSDOT won top honors on Jan. 14 at the 87th annual Transportation Research Board meeting in Washington D.C. We took home three of the 11 awards in the communications competition designed to highlight creative ways to [communicate complex information to the public](#).

Calling young artists: Take part in Burl the Squirrel's art contest

[Find out](#) how Burl's furry team of experts is helping designers on the I-90 Snoqualmie Pass East project. Elementary-aged students can join in the fun too. Find out how to participate in the [Bridging Futures Art Contest](#).

Text messaging while driving is now illegal

Last May, Gov. Gregoire signed into law a measure that will make Washington roads safer by [banning text messaging while driving](#). This law took effect Jan. 1, 2008. The law covers: reading, writing and sending text messages. The fine is \$124. Traffic fines can be higher if the violation occurs in a construction zone.

Gov. Gregoire also signed into law a measure that [bans the use of cell phones while driving](#) unless the driver is using a hands-free device. That law will take effect July 1, 2008, and will also carry a \$124 fine.

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