

## State Planning and Research Program Quarterly Report

**PROJECT TITLE:** *Developing a Snow and Ice Control Environmental Best Management Practices Manual*

**OBJECTIVES:** • Assess and communicate the impacts of different snow and ice control products as well as the current environmental best practices for using chlorides in a responsible and affordable snow and ice control program.

**PERIOD COVERED:**

April 1, 2014 – Jun. 30, 2014

**PARTICIPATING AGENCIES:**

Western Transportation Institute, Montana State University

**PROJECT MANAGER:** Tom Peters

**SP&R PROJECT NO:**

**PROJECT IS:**

**LEAD AGENCY:** Mn/DOT

Planning

Research & Development

**PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR:**

Laura Fay

**ANNUAL BUDGET:**

\$180,107

**PROJECT EXPENDITURES TO DATE:**

\$54,919.18

**WORK COMPLETED:**

*Project Management*

Project management activities during the quarter were focused on budget and timeline maintenance. To date, the project is on budget and about a month behind schedule. We do not see this being an issue and plan on delivering Tasks 4-6 on time.

Task 1. Literature Search (100% completed)

The researchers completed and submitted the literature search to the Technical Panel for review. The Literature Search focuses on the impacts of chloride based and non-chloride based snow and ice control products and sand, and environmental best practices for snow and ice control. Comments on the Literature Search from the Technical Panel were just received and all requested edits will be completed and incorporated in the Manual (Task 4) and Final Report (Task 5).

Task 2. Survey (50% completed)

The researchers have developed a survey and sent it out to Clear Roads to disseminate. The survey will target Clear Roads member states, as well as U.S. and international winter maintenance professionals to address the identified informational gaps from existing research. The survey will remain open for at least two weeks or until sufficient responses are received. Follow-up interviews will be on conducted as necessary. The survey will be written up and incorporated in the Manual and Final Report.

Task 3. Analysis of Tasks 1 & 2 (20% completed)

The researchers will analyze the information gathered in Tasks 1 and 2 to organize the identified impacts and environmental best practices presented in each document and from the survey. This information will further be organized into a table that presents the specific impacts, performance characteristics, and environmental best practices for each snow and ice control product.

Task 4. Development of a Best Management Practices Manual (10% completed)

The researchers are developing an outline for the manual based on information gained in Task 1 and will prepare and submit the developed manual based on information gained and developed in the previous tasks.

Task 5. Final Report and Presentation (0% completed)

The researchers will prepare and submit a final report of the work completed, include an executive summary, introduction, methodology, results for each task, the BMP manual, and conclusions, as well as a power point presentation of the contents of the BMP manual.

Task 6. Final Report to Web Document (0% completed)

The researchers will convert the approved final report into a pdf based web document.

**SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES EXPECTED TO BE PERFORMED NEXT QUARTER:**

Work in the coming quarter will consist of Task 2, 3, 4: Results from the Task 2 survey will be processed and follow-up interviews will be conducted. The Task 2 survey will be written up for use in the Manual (Task 4) and Final Report (Task 5). Task 3 analysis of information will be completed and further development of the Task 4 manual will be conducted in the upcoming quarter.

**STATUS AND COMPLETION DATE:**

The project is about one month off schedule, but we do not foresee this being an issue in meeting later project deliverable dates or the project end date. Completion date – December 31, 2014