Penobscot County Traffic Incident Management Group Agenda September 28, 2021 State Police Barracks - 198 Maine Ave, Bangor And Via Zoom

Welcome

Introductions In Attendance:

Steve Hunnewell, Assistant State Traffic Engineer, Maine DOT Steve Thebarge, Region Manager in Region 4, Maine DOT Joe Lacerda, Supervisor of Operations in Region 4, Maine DOT Alan Farrington, Region Traffic Engineer in Region 4, Maine DOT Eric Pelletier, Deputy Chief, Bangor Fire Department Ryan Davis, Fire Chief in Holden and Eddington Rob McGraw, Fire Chief, East Millinocket Fire Oriana Flemming, Northern Light Medical Transport Andrew Emery, Assistant Chief, Bangor Fire Department Andrew Allen, Assistant Traffic Engineer, Maine DOT Angela Helms, Northern Light Transport Medical Transport Steve Landry, State Traffic Engineer, Maine DOT Dianne Rice-Hansen, Transportation Project Manager, BACTS

Guest Speaker

Steve Hunnewell, Assistant State Traffic Engineer- Maine DOT Presentation on the Maine Traffic Management Center- Slides from Steve's presentation are attached and referenced in the minutes.

Steve shared the phone number¹ for the TMC with the group, and asked them to write it down and use it when they needed to. He wanted to also give an overview of what the TMC is and what they do.

The TMC is open and manned 24/7, 365 days a year. When the TMC was first started it was in a very small room they referred to as the closet². It was very cramped and they did not have the tools they have to use today. In the new TMC there are a minimum of 1 and up to 3 people who work in the TMC at any given time. They cover from Kittery to Fort Kent. Each of the desks has multiple monitors to allow for every possible piece of

¹ Slide #1 and 29

² Slide #2

information there is to be in front of the operators who work at the TMC This is so they can monitor what is going on out on the roads right from their desks. There is now also a wall of monitors referred to as the Management Information Screens. This wall of screens shows the same information that the operators are seeing at their desks. If upper level management comes to the TMC, they can see exactly what is going on at any given time without interrupting the operators. There is also a second room which is the command center where upper management, government and such would meet in the event of an emergency, or extreme weather event this room also has a wall of Management Information screens³

The mission⁴ of the TMC is three fold (1-3 Operators)

- 1. Serving as a centralized communications hub, for the public, other Agencies and MaineDOT field personnel in order to both send and receive transportation network information.
- 2. Detecting all unplanned incidents and being aware of all planned incidents on our transportation network.
- Communicating that information accurately to other public agencies and Maine DOT field personnel for incident management; and to motorists using 511 and ITS devices (like message boards) so they can make better safety and mobility decisions.

Information⁵ comes in from many different sources such as: traffic/ITS, general public, contractors, MaineDOT crews, municipalities and the State Police. The TMC averages about 100 calls a day. During weather/storm or other events the number of calls can be much higher. Operators are responsible for knowing and keeping track of many things. The current weather conditions /RWTs, all the current construction projects and maintenance lane closures so they can be entered into the 511 database. They may have to call contractors or dispatch plow crews. They also field calls and manage traffic incidents (crashes etc.) and monitor traffic so they can alert the traveling public.

When they moved into the new TMC they wanted to use more technology to better manage traffic. This allows them to be more proactive instead of waiting for someone to call to tell them about a crash or poor road conditions. Some of the technology they are using is TMC alerts via probe data, which gives them real time information. They can monitor the speed of traffic on the roads. They have weather stations and are trying to automate the message boards so that pop up messages alert the traveling public. They are integrating the State Police dispatch into their system so if the State Police enter into CAD that there is a traffic incident it would come up on the TMC screens. The

⁵ Slide #6

³ Slides # 3 and 4

⁴ Slide #5

state is going to be responsible for a lot more signal maintenance so they will want to be able to monitor them to ensure they are working properly. In the last year they were able to put up cameras along I-295 which allows for streaming video with pan, tilt and zoom features.⁶ This provides a real eye for what is happening. It is important to note these cameras do not record video but if an incident is reported or speeds are slowing the operators can go to these cameras and see what is going on in real time. The software program the TMC uses is called Compass which is map based. What started it all was the new message boards⁷, all of which have a camera and a radar detector attached to them. They have these situated pretty much after every on ramp on the interstate system as well as some off the interstate system. This allows them to get real time information about the current average speed of the traffic. If traffic slows down this will send an alert to the operator's screen⁸. They can then look at the cameras⁹ to see what may be causing the slow down. If traffic slows below a certain speed that area will come up in yellow to alert the operator.

They also have a way to see what message ¹⁰ is on the message boards at any given time. This allows them to be able to remove messages that may no longer need to be there. This is also part of the compass software.

They also have other hybrid signs in southern Maine. These signs¹¹ are auto filled by probe data and help to alert the traveling public of any delays due to high traffic volumes. The probe data vendor they use is TomTom¹². They have probe data for the entire state. Most of this information comes from cell phone data which helps monitor the traveling public's locations and the speeds they are traveling.

MaineDOT developed an app¹³ for the maintenance crews, which can be downloaded to a cell phone. They have 80+ crews out on the roads and they can report back using the app their locations and the road conditions. This saves time for the operators as in the past these crews would be calling in with their reports. The operators could get backed up taking these calls and trying to get this into the system in a timely manner. With the app the information is instantly reflected in the system and on the map. Steve showed a map of what it looks like during a winter storm¹⁴. As the crews report in using the app the map will populate with their reports.

8 Slide #10

⁶ Slide #7 bottom photo.

⁷ Slide #8

[^] SHUE # 10

⁹ Slide #11

¹⁰ Slide #13

¹¹ Slide #13

¹² Slide #14 ¹³ Slide #15

¹⁴ Slide #16

In addition to the crews reporting in via the app MaineDOT also put up weather stations¹⁵ around the state. There are currently 6 of them set up in Bangor, Etna, Augusta, Richmond, Freeport and Scarborough. In the software that comes with the weather stations they can set up alerts which will send text messages to the crews phones to let them know to go check the road conditions in those locations. Along with these weather stations, last year MaineDOT hired road meteorologists. These meteorologists¹⁶ can predict based on the current dew points and other conditions if there may be some travel issues like icing.

There are now safety patrols¹⁷ that patrol I-295 from Freeport to Scarborough. These folks are there to help motorists who have broken down, run out of gas, someone who is lost or possibly just debris on the road. They run primarily on the weekdays but in the summer they do go into the weekends. They are looking at potentially expanding this service into the Bangor area. Steve Landry would like to have any feedback on areas or boundaries where this service would be useful -(see more about this under "Other Business").

All of the information that Steve shared in his presentation can be seen on the New England 511.org website¹⁸. Anyone can go to this website and see what is going on. Within that site you can also sign up for what is called My Trips. You put in information about your location and you can get a text alert or email if there is an incident, construction, delays or bad weather etc.

Maine DOT is in the process of using GIS to build dashboards¹⁹ that show information that is received at the TMC. These dashboards can be prepared upon request for any location if any entity would find the information useful.

Lastly, MaineDOT is always looking for areas where they can add additional message boards or cameras which can then be integrated into the TMC. In 2024 they plan to add some pan, tilt zoom cameras in the Bangor area. They could also provide dashboards to view the cameras to entities who may find them useful. If anyone has any thoughts on locations please share these with Steve Landry (stephen.landry@maine.gov)

Area Incidents / After Action Reviews

Ryan Davis shared the incident that happened on Route 1A in Holden at the start of Labor Day weekend. There was a rollover near the KOA campground. 1A was

¹⁷ Slides #22, 23 and 24

¹⁵ Slides 17, 18 and 19 and 20

¹⁶ Slide #21

¹⁸ Slides # 25, 26 and 27

¹⁹ Slide # 28

completely shut down for a short time but managed to get alternating traffic flowing in one lane. MaineDOT did show up to assist but at that time we did not set up any detours because they had the one lane open. It was slow going due to the amount of traffic. Message boards were turned on to alert people of the incident so those who knew the area could seek alternate routes. The Penobscot County Sheriff's office did the reconstruction. Ryan noted that was the first time they have worked with PCSO in a potentially fatal reconstruction. They did not have a drone so they were doing it old school so it did keep one lane shut down for a couple hours, longer than it typically would have with the drone, They did however, do a great job.

Steve Landry asked if the PCSO has anyone who can fly a drone or if there is another entity that could have one and get certified to use it in that area. Ryan was asked to reach out to the PCSO to see where they are on drones and training. Ryan said the fire department has thought about using them on fires and we could get someone to get the certification on his staff but wasn't sure if they may also need to be certified as a reconstructionist. - Update post meeting: Ryan reached out to Lt. Jim Ellis to enquire if the PCSO had a drone. Lt Ellis said the PCSO is very interested in getting drones and personnel certified to use them. He said they have submitted an application for a grant through Penobscot County Emergency Management to buy two drones and fund training for personnel to get certified to use them. They have not received notice that they are approved but have been asked to submit additional information.

There were other incidents in the area that Holden has responded to and all went fairly well. He did want to give a shout out to MaineDOT's crew as they are showing up to most every incident to see if we need any help.

Ryan also wanted to share that fire departments across the state are all short staffed. At this time if there is a scene where there is extrication the fire departments cannot help with flagging and traffic. There is just not enough man power. Police a lot of the time want them to direct traffic but they just do not have the staff and they need to take care of the patients and deal with the extrication and recovery efforts. This is just something to think about as we move forward.

Steve Thebarge and Joe Lacerda shared that there have been some minor incidents around the bridge projects on the interstate but as far as major incidents there has not been a lot. There has been night paving on the interstate with some lane and ramp closures but other than that nothing to report.

Statewide TIM update

Maine DOT and an advisory committee have been working with IBI Group to develop a Statewide TIM Strategic Plan. The consultant has provided us with a draft Recommendations report. We are going to be having a Statewide TIM group meeting in October. Dianne asked any of those in this group that participate in the Statewide group to please mark your calendars for October 18, 2021 at 1 PM. (Note: An email and Evites to those who are on the Statewide TIM Group list went out on September 29.

Training Updates

We have held several TIM Responder training classes in the state. Dianne is looking to set up an in person training in Southern Maine as well as a virtual class with anticipation of those classes happening in late Oct, early November. Dianne also mentioned that we will be looking at the training piece as part of the recommendations and that piece will be forthcoming. Dianne had a booth at the 5 county EMA preparedness conference and got a lot of contacts from that. The goal is to hold at least 1 training per month for anyone, and then target the smaller stations for in person training at their stations.

Other Business

Steve Thebarge mentioned that there are issues with staffing moving into the winter. If the OSHA rule for public employees happens it could cause a real staffing issue. Currently they are down 5 plow truck drivers in Hancock and they received 3 applications. All other areas are okay, staffing is tight but he said they can make it work.

Interstate paving should be wrapping up in the next few weeks. There were some issues in other areas of the state with the recent rain.

Steve Landry mentioned that they are looking at potentially expanding the safety patrol into the Bangor area. Ryan mentioned that the State Police field calls all the time for broken down vehicles and that Aaron Turcotte may be able to share that information. Steve mentioned that they are looking at WAZE data as well to see where the problem areas are. Steve would like to have any feedback on areas or boundaries where this service would be useful.

Andrew Allen said they made some minor tweaks to the signal system at Route 1A and Rt 46 in Holden. These were to adjust the gaps to allow more traffic flow from Rt 46. Although the new signal was working to clear 1A it was causing clogging on both sides of Route 46. These changes were done on 9/27 so hopefully folks will be seeing positive results moving forward.

Next Meeting Dates - It was decided to keep the current date for the December meeting but change the time to 10:30 AM. We hope to have it in person with a virtual option available

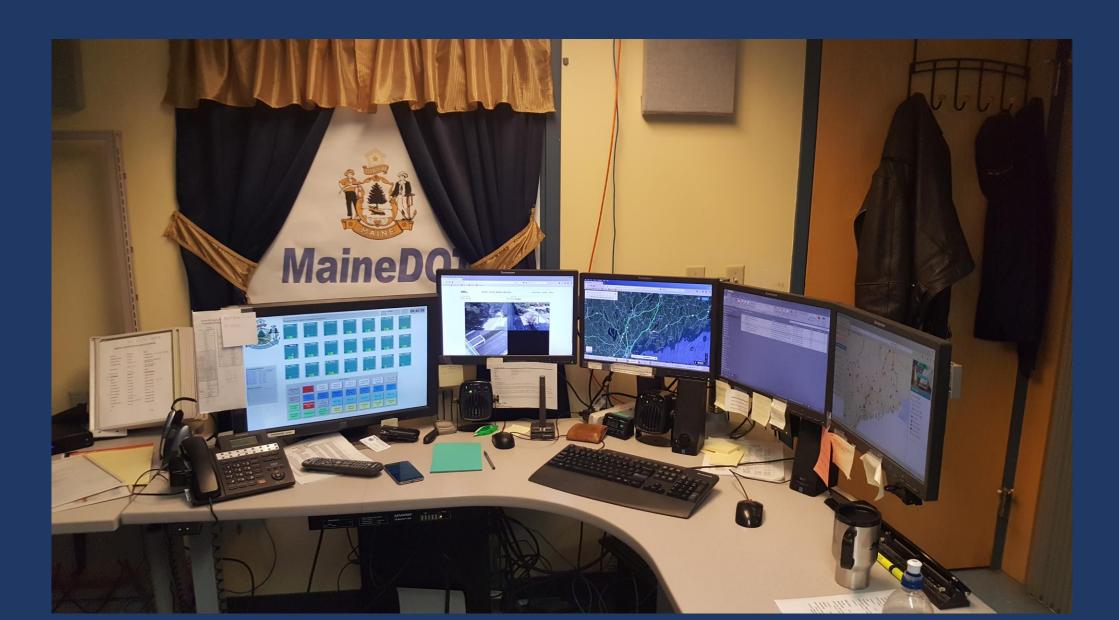
Setting Dates for 2022 - March June, September and December
It was decided to look at the 2nd Tuesday of the month as a potential date.
Here are dates I have come up with, please let me know if anyone sees any date that will not work.

March 8, 2022 - 10:30 AM June 14, 2022 - 10:30 AM September 13, 2022 10:30 AM December 13, 2022 - 10:30 AM

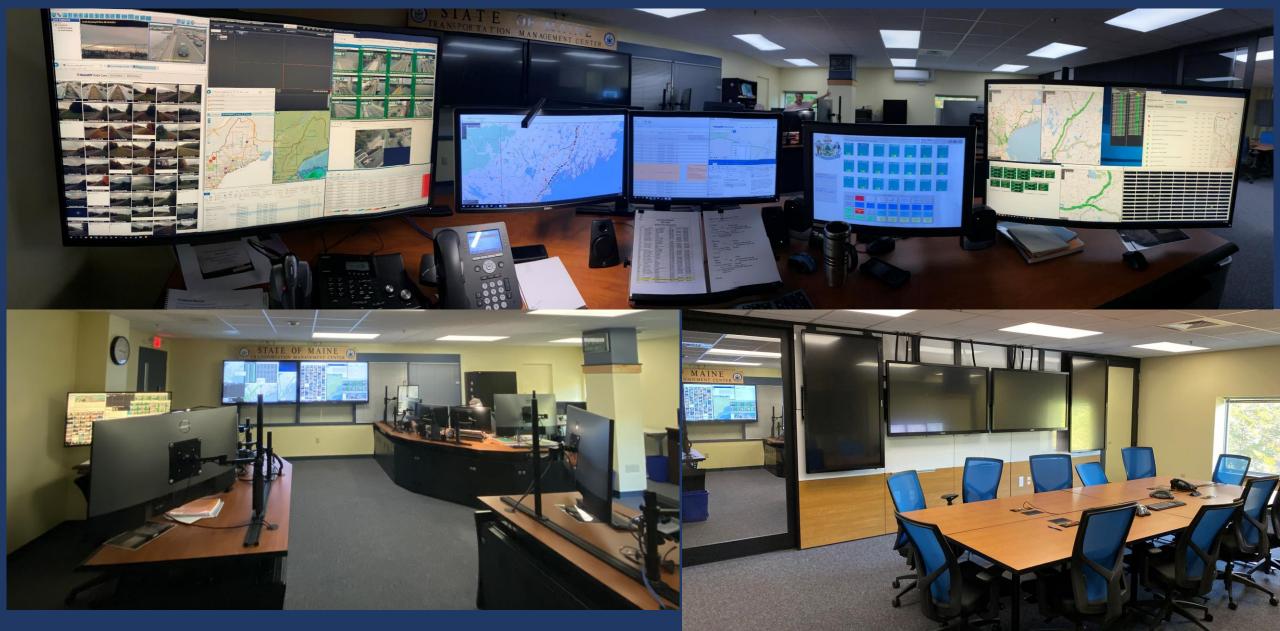
Adjourn

Transportation
Management
Center
207-624-3339

The Old TMC



The New Location



Management Information Screens



The mission of the Maine TMC is three-fold (1-3 Operators):

- 1) **Serving as a centralized communications hub** for the Public, other Agencies, and MaineDOT field personnel in order to both send and receive transportation network information.
- 2) **Detecting** all Unplanned Incidents, and being aware of all Planned Incidents, on our Transportation Network.
- 3) **Communicating** that information accurately to other Public Agencies and MaineDOT field personnel for Incident Management; and to Motorists using 511 and ITS Devices (like Message Boards) so they can make better Safety and Mobility decisions.

Traffic/ITS General Public Contractors Crews Municipalities State Police



TMC

- Ave 100+
- Hundreds for storm events



Crews State Police **General Public**

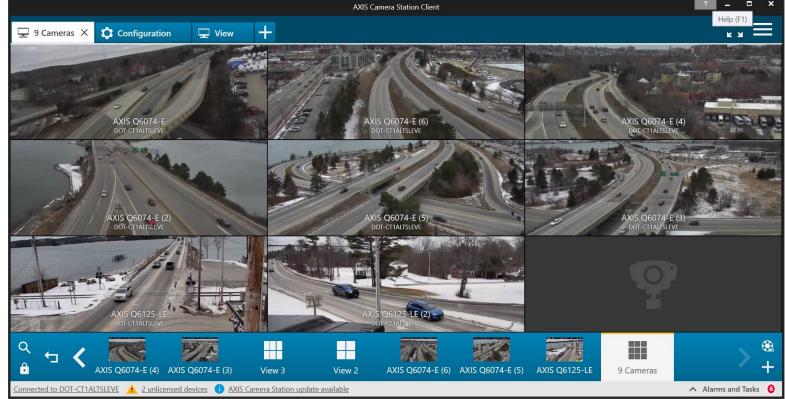
- Keep Track of Weather / RWTs
- Enter ALL State Construction into 511
- **Call Contractors**
- **Dispatch Plow Crews**
- Enter Maintenance Lane Closures into 511
- Manage Traffic Incidents (Crashes, etc)
- Field Calls
- Monitor Traffic and Alert the Traveling Public
 - Speeds (TOM TOM and Radar)
 - Road Conditions (RWIS, RWT's)
 - Crashes
 - Message Boards (Cameras and Radar)
 - Safety Patrol
 - Ferry Cancellations
- Enter 10-7/10-8, and Look Out for Safety of Crews

Apply technology to better manage traffic:

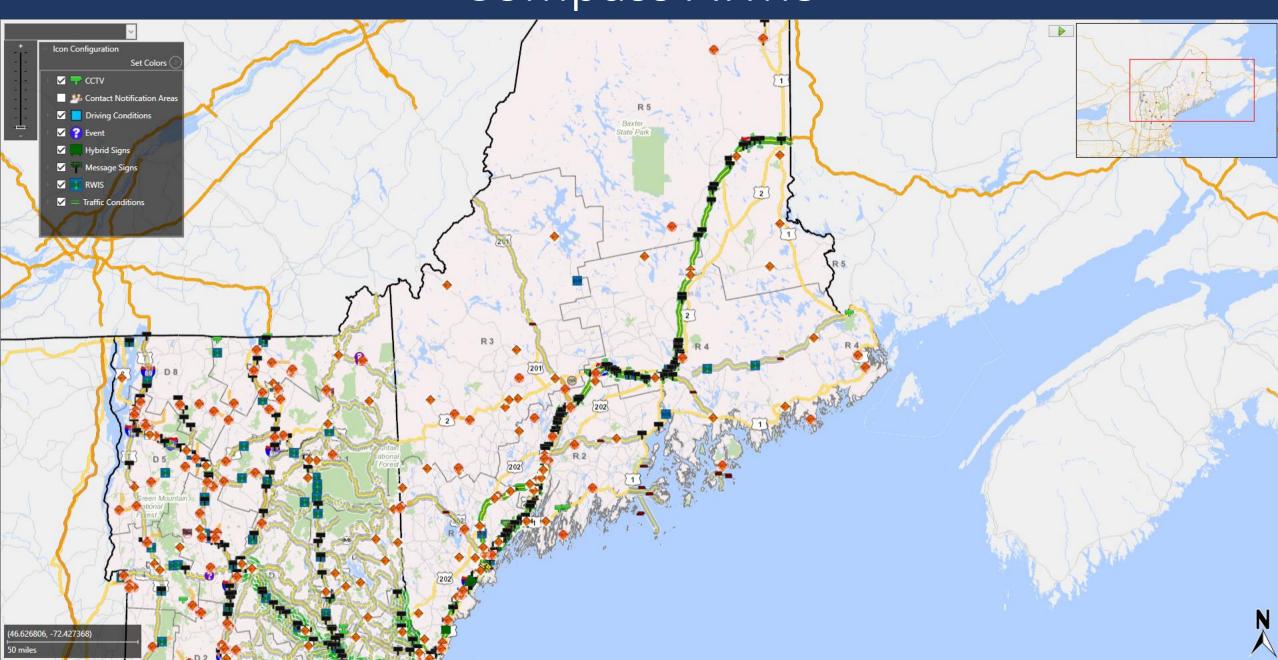
Be proactive rather than reactive to more quickly detect and communicate issues on the road network

- TMC Alerts via Probe Data, RWIS,
- ITS Device Automation using Probe Data/RWIS
- State Police CAD Integration
- Traffic Signal alerts
- RWIS alerts and Road Forecasts
- Streaming Video 295 Portland
- RWT App
- Move software
- DataCapable Partnership

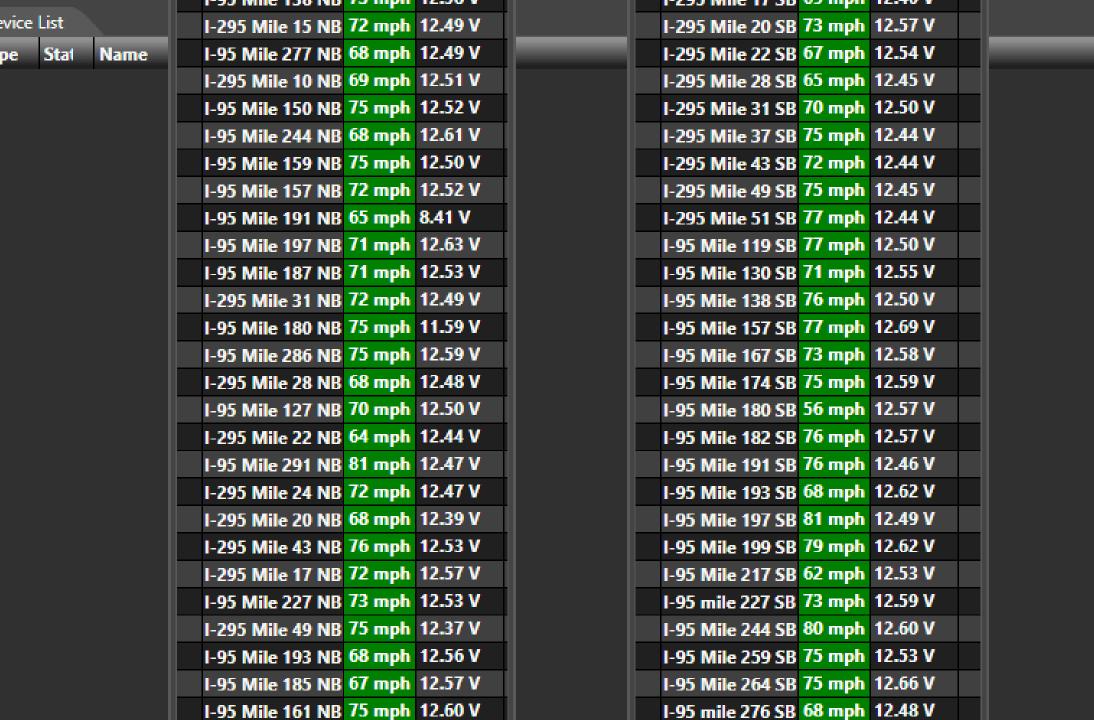


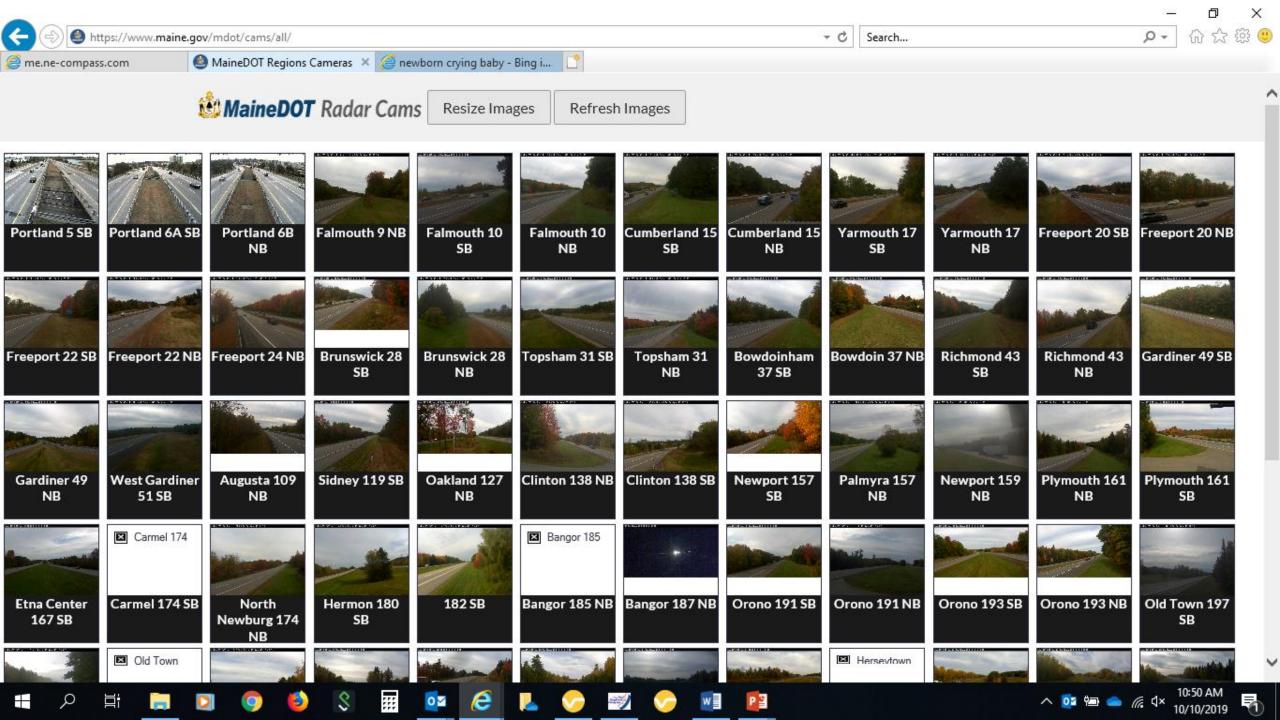


Compass ATMS









All DMS View

File

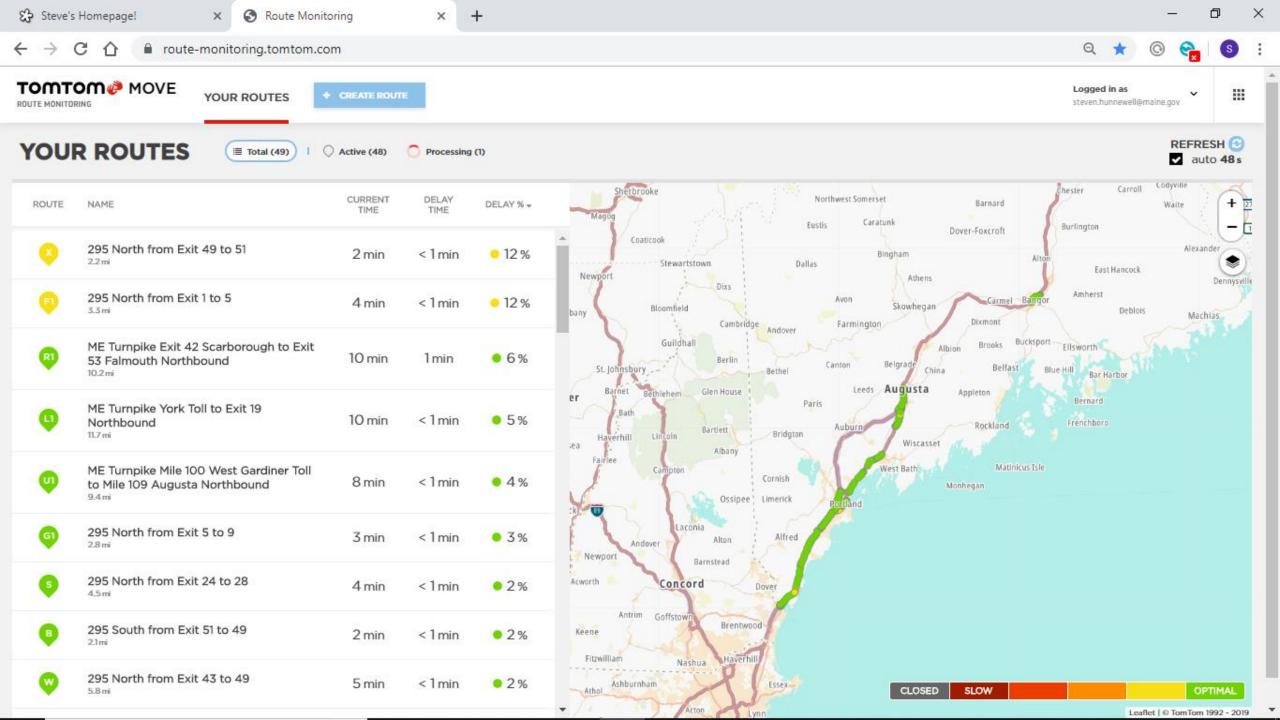
Standard Signs Hybrid Signs



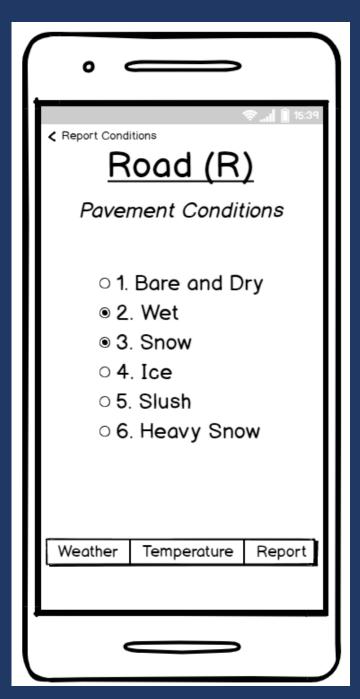
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+ 1366 × 768px

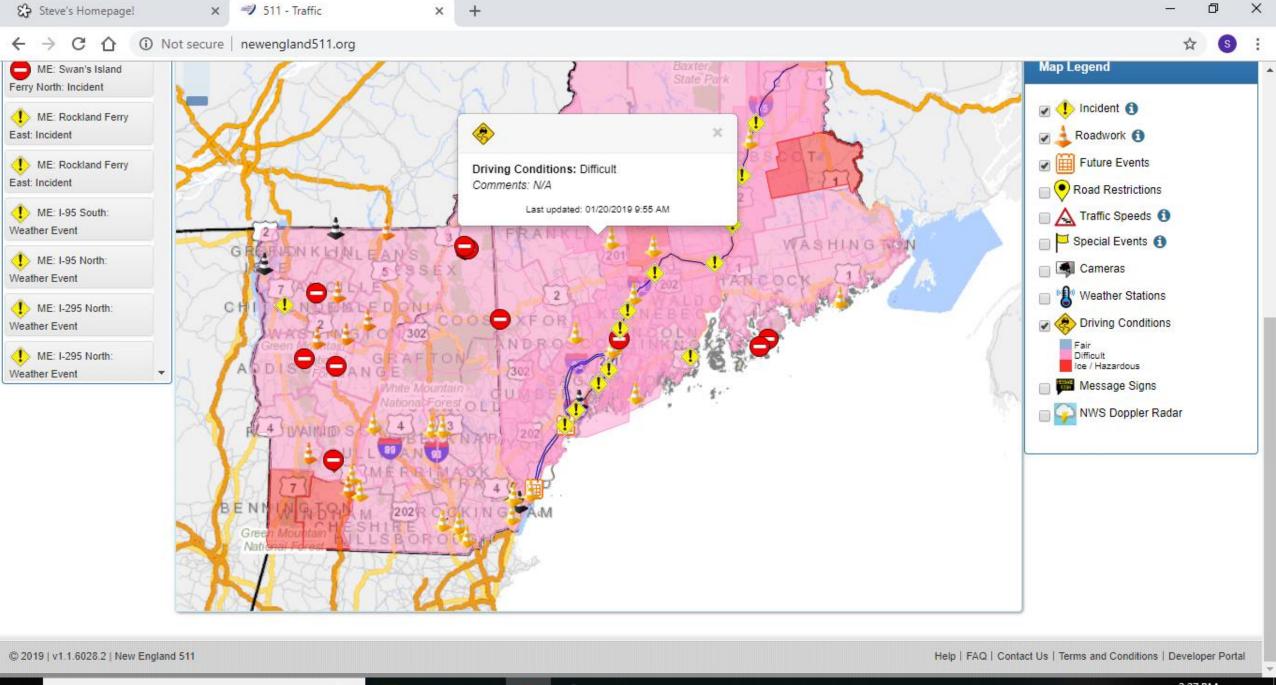
100% (=)



Road Weather Temperature







Type here to search











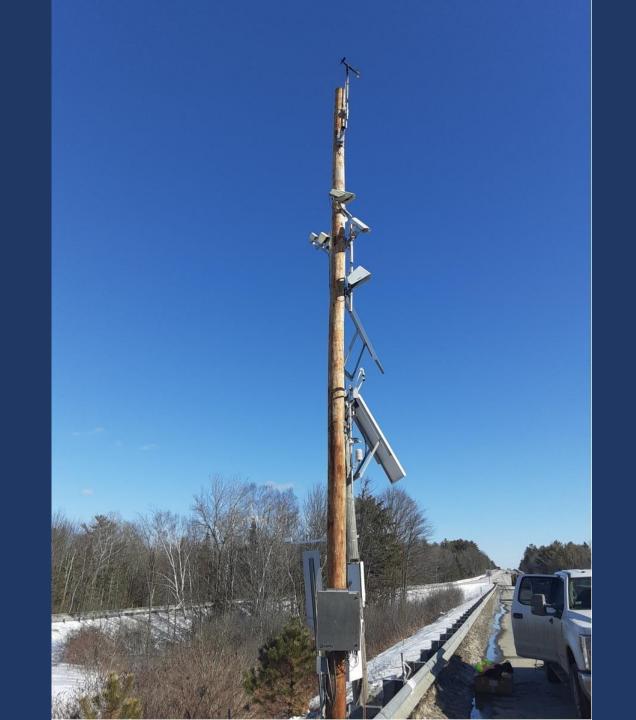




Traveler Safety

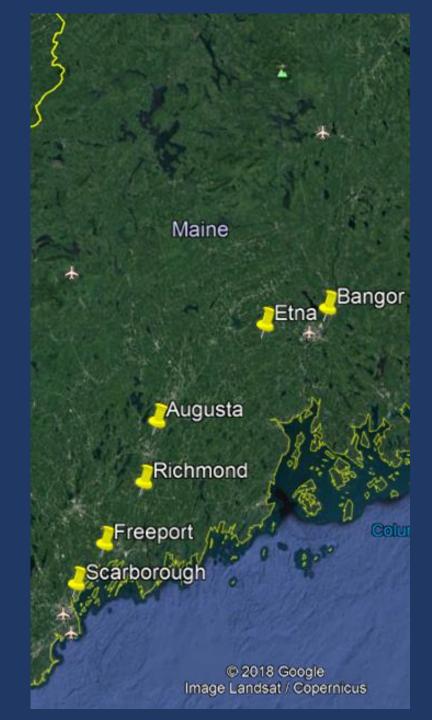
Proactive Planning

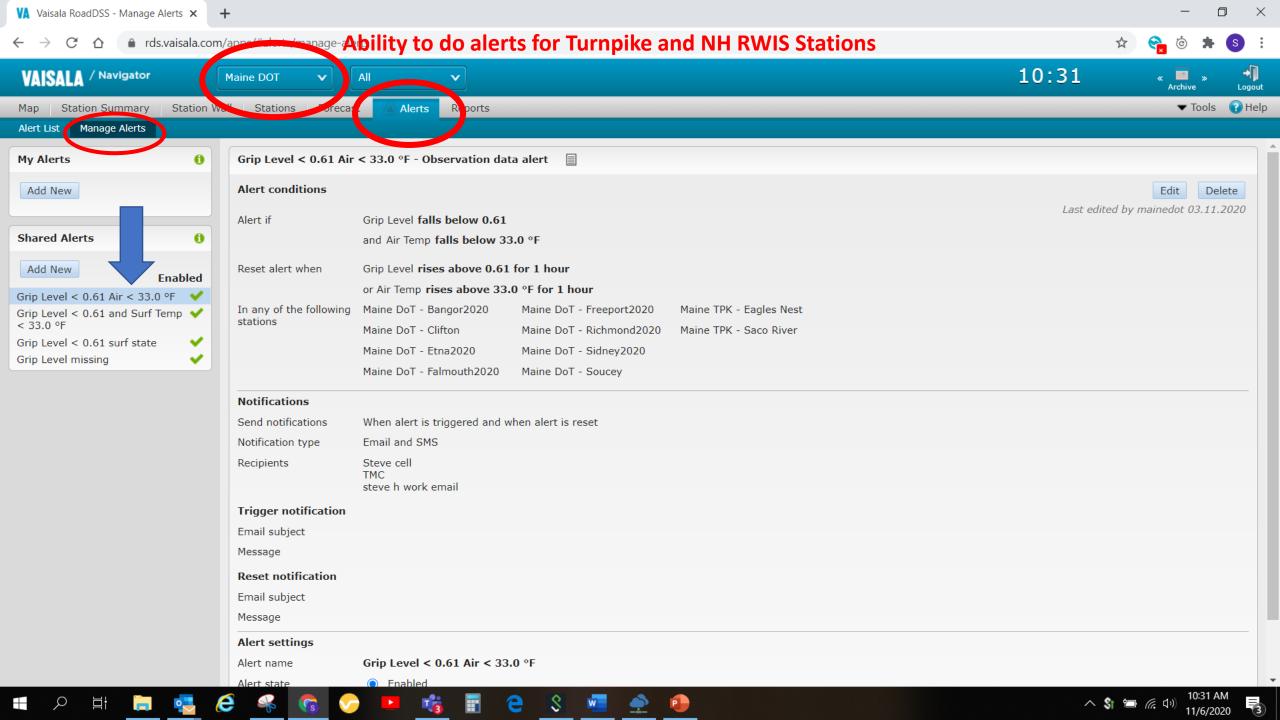
Economic and Environmental Savings

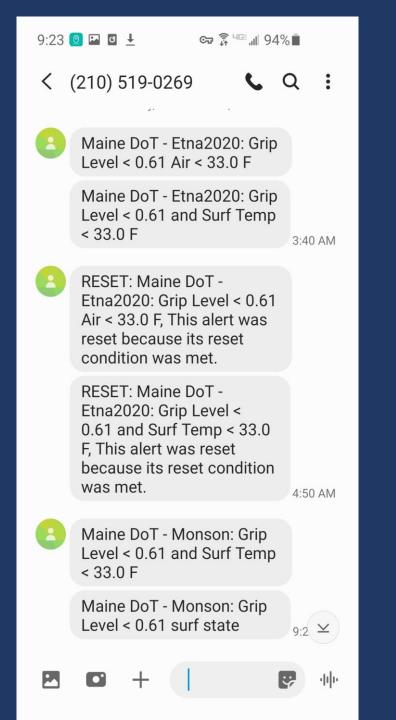


New Stations









RWIS Forecast for Sidney (SCBRYZM8V7)

Issued At: Wednesday 4 November 2020 2100 EST

Valid Until: Thursday 5 November 2020 2300 EST



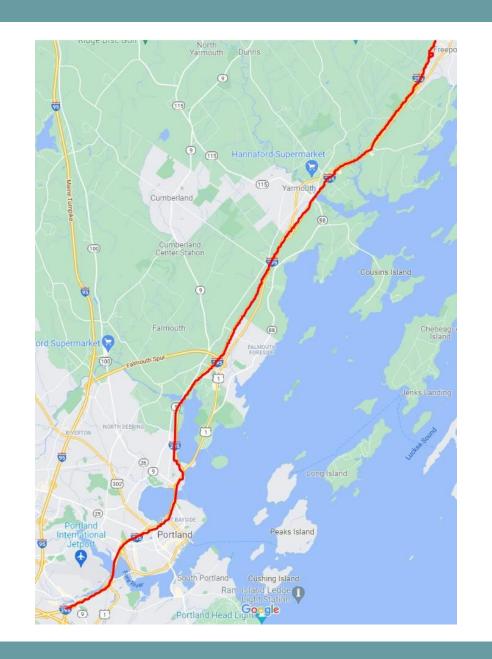
Maine Discussion

Mainly cloudy today, except with isolated snow showers in the north. Partly cloudy Thursday morning, then mainly sunny Thursday afternoon and evening. Partly cloudy Friday.

Forecast

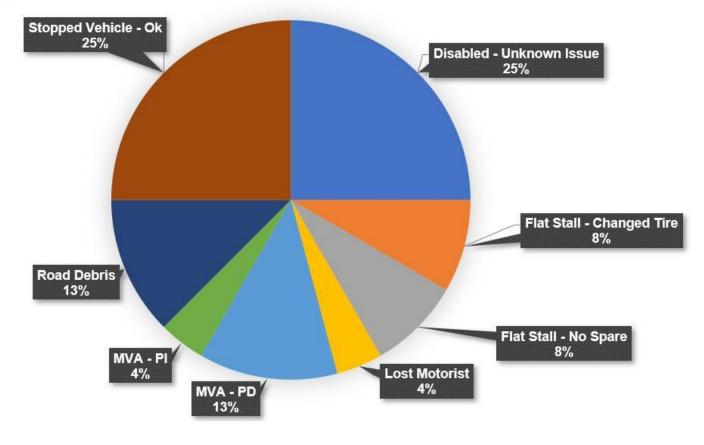
T stands for Trace

| Date | 04 Tim November 5 2020 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--|------------------------|----------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| Period | | | | Overnight | | | | | Morning | | | | | | Afternoon | | | | | | | | | | |
| Hour (EST) | - | 22 | 23 | 00 | 01 | 02 | 03 | 04 | 05 | 06 | 07 | 08 | 09 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 |
| Snow Snow Showers | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Liquid Rate (in/h) Freez. Rate (in/h) Snow Rate (in/h) | 0 0 0 | 000 | 0 0 | 0 0 0 | 0 0 | 0 0 0 | 0 0 0 | 0 0 0 | 000 | 000 | 0 0 0 | 000 | 0 0 | 000 | 0 0 0 | 000 | 0 0 0 | 000 | 0 0 0 | 0 0 0 | 000 | 0 0 | 0 0 0 | 0 0 0 | 0 0 |
| Liquid Accum. (in) Freez. Accum. (in) Snow Accum. (in) | 0 0 0 | 0 0 0 | 0 0 0 | 0 0 0 | 0 0 | 0 | 0 0 | 0 0 | 0 0 | 0 0 | 0 0 | 0 0 | 0 | 0 0 0 | 0 0 0 | 0 0 | 0 0 0 | 0 0 | 0 0 0 | 0 0 | 0 0 | 0 0 | 0 0 | 0 0 | 0 0 |
| Pressure (mb) Road Conditions | 1030 | 1030 | 1030 | 1029 | 1029 | 1029 | 1028 | 1028 | 1028 | 1028 | 1028 | 1028 | 1027 | 1027 | 1026 | 1026 | 1025 | 1025 | 1024 | 1024 | 1024 | 1024 | 1024 | 1024 | 1024 |
| Dry Dew Frost Snow & Ice Wet | (| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Pavement Temp (°F) Temperature (°F) Dew Point Temp (°F) Humidity (%) | 35 37 34 89 | 38 36 92 | 32 33 37 94 | 32 40 38 95 | 32 41 33 95 | 32 41 40 95 | 32 40 39 95 | 31 40 39 95 | 31 40 39 96 | 31 40 38 96 | 31 40 30 94 | 35 43 40 88 | 48 47 41 79 | 59 51 42 71 | 55 43 64 | 72 58 43 58 | 73 60 44 56 | 71 59 45 59 | 63 58 45 64 | 55 55 45 69 | 50 54 45 71 | 48 53 44 71 | 46 51 43 72 | 44 51 42 73 | 43 50 43 74 |

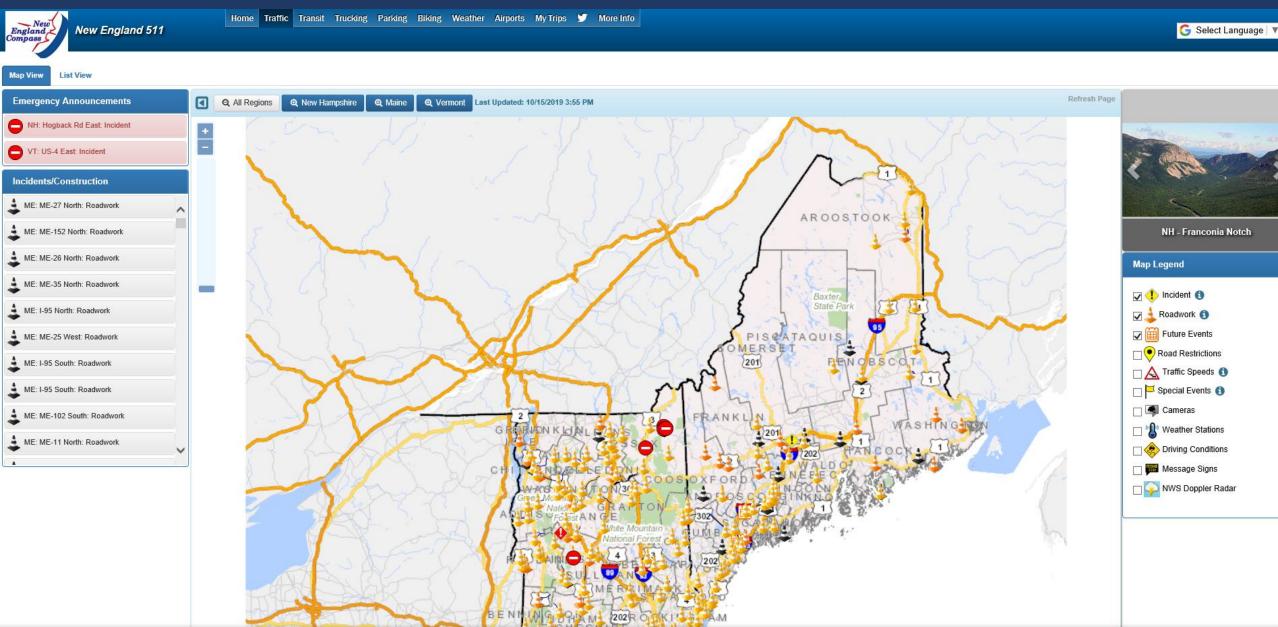


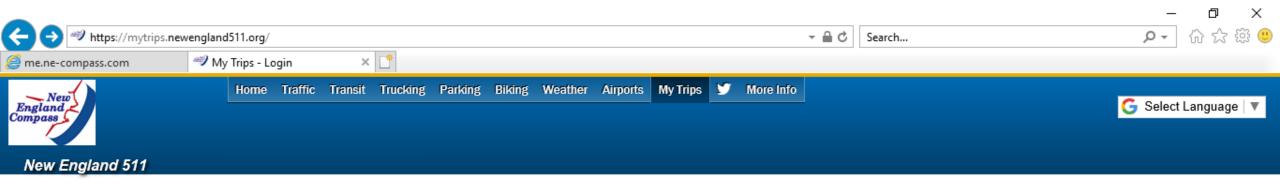
September 4 - September 10, 2021 24 Total Stops

| Row Labels | Count of Stop Type | | | | | |
|-------------------------|--------------------|---|--|--|--|--|
| Disabled - Unknown Is: | 6 | | | | | |
| Flat Stall - Changed Ti | 2 | | | | | |
| Flat Stall - No Spare | | 2 | | | | |
| Lost Motorist | 1 | | | | | |
| MVA - PD | 3 | | | | | |
| MVA - PI | 1 | | | | | |
| Road Debris | 3 | | | | | |
| Stopped Vehicle - Ok | 6 | | | | | |
| Grand Total | 24 | | | | | |



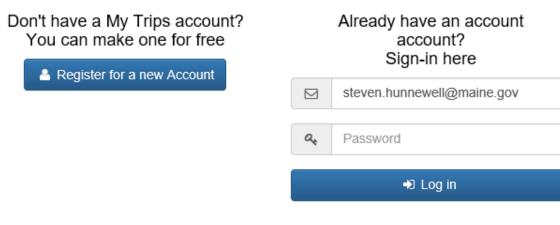
New England 511

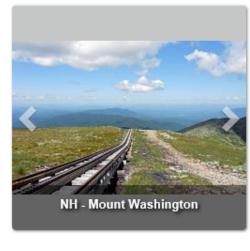




Welcome to My Trips

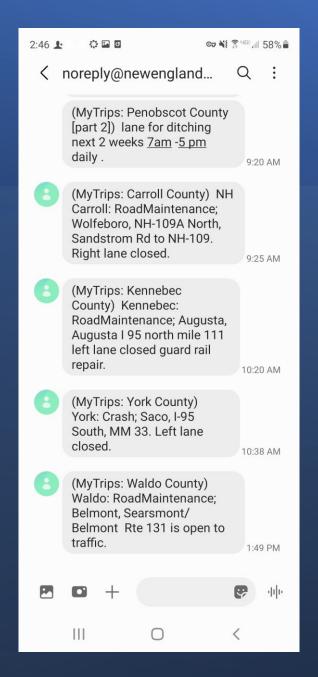
This service allows users to sign up for automatic email and text trip alerts.





Forgot password?

Yes



MaineDOT Region Selectable Interstate DMS & speeds Region Selection None Interstate Speeds SB Interstate Speeds NB I-295 Mile 09 NB I-295 Mile 31 NB I-295 Mile 17 NB I-295 Mile 31 I-95 Mile 109 I-95 Mile 180 I-95 Mile 217 I-295 Mile 10 NB I-295 Mile 31 SB I-95 Mile 124 NB I-95 Mile 277 NB No Data I-95 Mile 157 I-95 Mile 112 I-295 Mile 10 SB I-95 Mile 285 SB I-95 Mile 217 SB (Augusta) I-295 Mile 15 NB I-295 Mile 20 NB I-95 Mile 182 I-95 Mile 227 I-95 Mile 127 SB I-95 Mile 291 NB (Freeport) I-295 Mile 37 I-295 Exit 17 NB (Lincoln) I-295 Mile 43 NB I-95 Mile 130 NB I-95 Mile 291 SB I-95 Mile 119 I-295 Mile 43 SB I-95 Mile 182 I-95 Mile 286 SB (Sidney) I-295 Mile 17 NB I-295 Mile 15 SB NB (Oakfield) I-95 Mile 301 SB I-95 Mile 130 SB I-295 Mile 49 NB I-295 Mile 20 SB I-295 Mile 17 SB I-95 Mile 132 NB I-95 Mile 161 I-95 Mile 120 I-295 Mile 28 SB I-295 Mile 49 SB I-95 Mile 244 NB (Sidney) NB (Plymouth) I-295 Mile 22 NB NB (Medway) I-295 Mile 37 SB I-295 Mile 20 NB I-295 Mile 51 SB I-295 Mile 43 I-295 Mile 49 SB I-95 Mile 138 NB I-95 Mile 124 I-95 Mile 291 Quebec I-95 Mile 244 I-95 Mile 113 SB I-95 Mile 138 SB Ottawa Montreal I-95 Mile 124 SB I-295 Mile 22 NB Cam 1 - Franklin I-95 Mile 124 I-95 Mile 301 Halifax I-95 Mile 150 NB I-95 Mile 113 NB I-95 Mile 130 SB I-95 Mile 259 SB (Waterville) I-295 Mile 22 SB I-95 Mile 138 SB I-95 Mile 113 SB I-295 Exit 8 PTZ Boston I-95 Mile 167 SB I-295 Mile 49 I-295 Mile 24 NB Providence I-95 Mile 127 I-295 Mile 28 NB NB (Oakland) I-95 Mile 180 SB I-95 Mile 264 New York NB (Sherman) I-295 Mile 28 NB I-95 Mile 186 SB VC1263 @ Freeport Philadelphia I-295 Exit 8 PTZ I-95 Mile 127 I-295 Mile 28 SB I-95 Mile 193 SB 1-295 Mile 28 SB FREEPORTS MIS I-95 Mile 199 SB 1-295 Mile 09 NB I-95 mile 227 SB I-95 SB at MM I-95 Mile 130 I-95 Mile 259 SB I-95 mile 276 SB I-95 Mile 130 I-95 Mile 291 SB

Province of New Brun..

Transportation Management Center 207-624-3339

DMS and Camera Locations, Corridors to Monitor??