



## Highway Maintenance Manual

Bureau of Highway Maintenance

### Chapter 06 Winter Maintenance

Dec 2024

### Section 10 Storm Management Responsibilities

### Subject 01 Winter Maintenance Sections

#### 1.0 Winter Maintenance Sections

1. The department, in consultation with the service provider, shall define state highway winter maintenance sections. These sections shall be established for each highway classification as part of the winter management plan. A map shall be prepared annually by regional staff and service providers to identify the winter maintenance sections.
2. The winter maintenance sections should be designed so that operators can finish a cycle, during a storm, within a given amount of time. This cycle time does not include completely clearing all pavement surfaces or cleanup. The averages listed pertain to the average of all similarly categorized highways and are based on the assumption of one operator per patrol section and do not consider “auxiliary” or “helper” operators. **Category 5 highways** – averages 50-60 lane miles. **Category 4 highways** - averages 35-45 lane miles; **Category 3 highways** – averages 45-55 lane miles, **Category 2 highways** - averages 30-40 lane miles, and **Category 1 highways** – averages 25-35 lane miles. The roads or routes assigned to a section should be based on experience, geographical need, and capability of equipment, truck garage, salt storage, section termini and other logical factors. These sections shall be reviewed annually and critiqued during or at the end of the winter season.
3. The regions should also keep a list of those sections that fall outside the limits detailed above. These lists should be shared between the regional area supervisors and Bureau of Highway Maintenance (BHM).
4. Maps (and lists) shall be completed and available in the regional office and supplied to BHM no later than October 1<sup>st</sup> of each year