

# Iowa DOT Winter Maintenance Innovations

2013 Peer Exchange

# About Iowa DOT






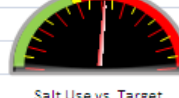
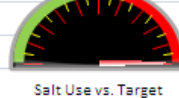
- 24,000 lane miles
- 901 plow trucks
- 1,100 operators
- 109 garages
- Approx. 140K – 220K tons salt per winter
  - Includes salt for ~16M gallons brine
- ~54 precip days per winter

# Recent Focus Areas

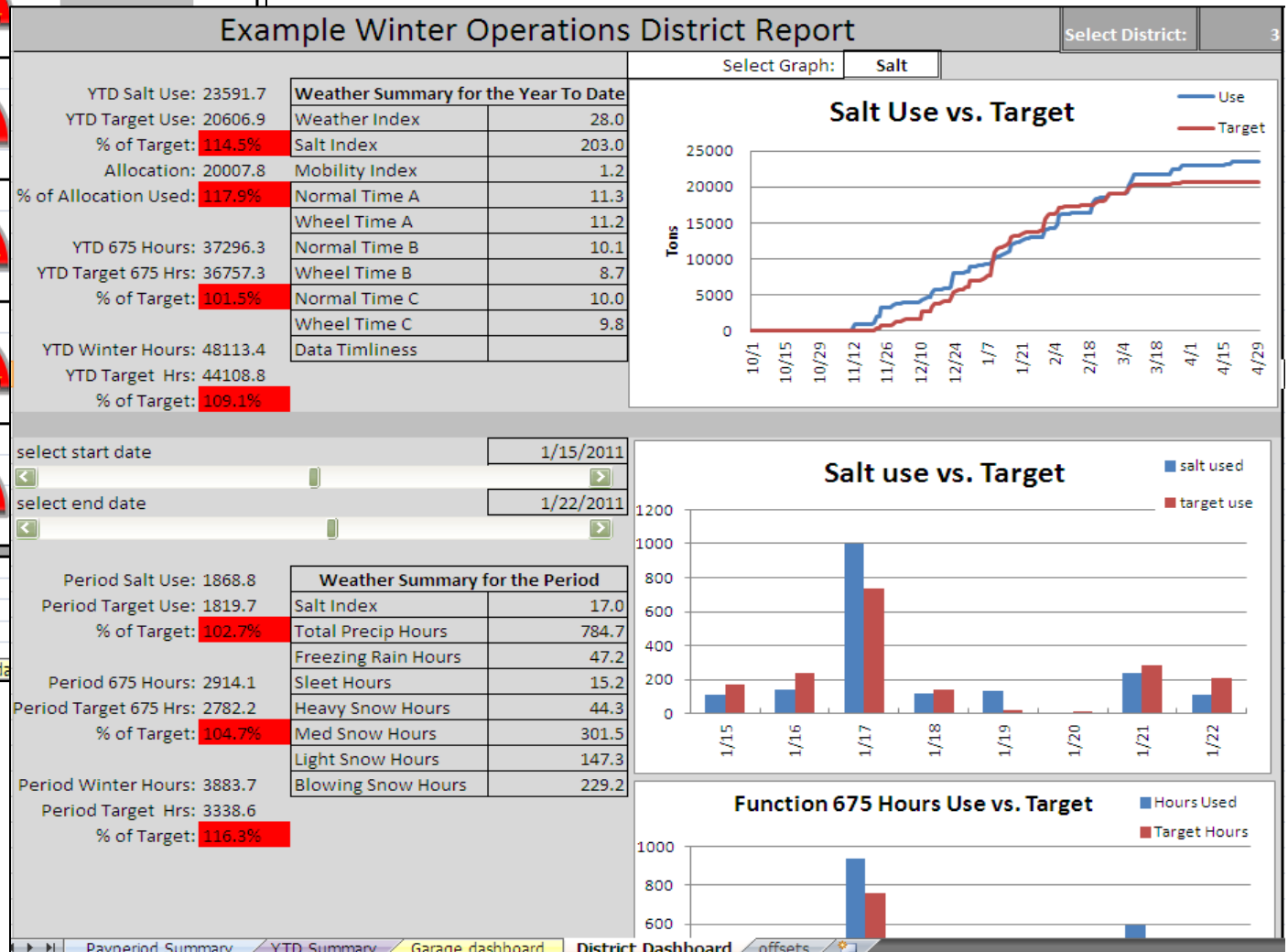
- Managing winter operations
  - Salt and Labor Use
  - Shifting to traffic-based performance analysis
  - GPS plow information
- Equipment
  - Salt spreader evaluations
  - Nontraditional RWIS

# Tracking Salt and Labor Use

- Use storm type and pavement temps to estimate expected salt use
- Compare Estimates to actual use
- Make dashboards for managers

YTD Winter Operations Statewide Summary						
Statewide	Salt Used	197726		675 Hrs Used	237599	
	Target Salt	140263		Target 675	232504	
	Allocation	131383		All Winter hours	299394	
	% Allocation Used	150%		target all hours	279004	
Statewide Salt Use vs. Target						
District 1	Salt Used	31730		675 Hrs Used	44343	
	Target Salt	27044		Target 675	46491	
	Allocation	27537		All Winter hours	55889	
	% Allocation Used	115%		target all hours	55789	
Salt Use vs. Target						
District 2	Salt Used	28646		675 Hrs Used	43936	
	Target Salt	26146		Target 675	45082	
	Allocation	21140				
	% Allocation Used	136%				
Salt Use vs. Target						
District 3	Salt Used	23592				
	Target Salt	20607				
	Allocation	20008				
	% Allocation Used	118%				
Salt Use vs. Target						
District 4	Salt Used	43150				
	Target Salt	18557				
	Allocation	15905				
	% Allocation Used	271%				
Salt Use vs. Target						
District 5	Salt Used	24370				
	Target Salt	19001				
	Allocation	19405				
	% Allocation Used	126%				
Salt Use vs. Target						
District 6	Salt Used	46239				
	Target Salt	28909				
	Allocation	27388				
	% Allocation Used	169%				
Salt Use vs. Target						
Color	<90% of Target					
Legend	90%-100% of Target					
	Over Target					
Ex						
YTD Salt Use: 23591.						
YTD Target Use: 20606.						
% of Target: 114.5%						
Allocation: 20007.						
% of Allocation Used: 117.9%						
YTD 675 Hours: 37296.						
YTD Target 675 Hrs: 36757.						
% of Target: 101.5%						
YTD Winter Hours: 48113.						
YTD Target Hrs: 44108.						
% of Target: 109.1%						
select start date						
select end date						
Period Salt Use: 1868.8						
Period Target Use: 1819.7						
% of Target: 102.7%						
Payperiod Summary YTD Summary Garage da						

Last Peer Exchange you saw  
the first version made with  
Excel spreadsheets


Payperiod Summary | YTD Summary | Garage dashboard | **District Dashboard** | offsets

# Statewide Detail

10/1/2011

15

End of today

15

Update

Salt

675 Hours

All Hours

Tons Used: 62,326

Target Salt

92,135

Target - Use

29,809

Allocation

169,133

Allocation - Use

106,807

% Of Target Used



67.6 %

% Allocation Used

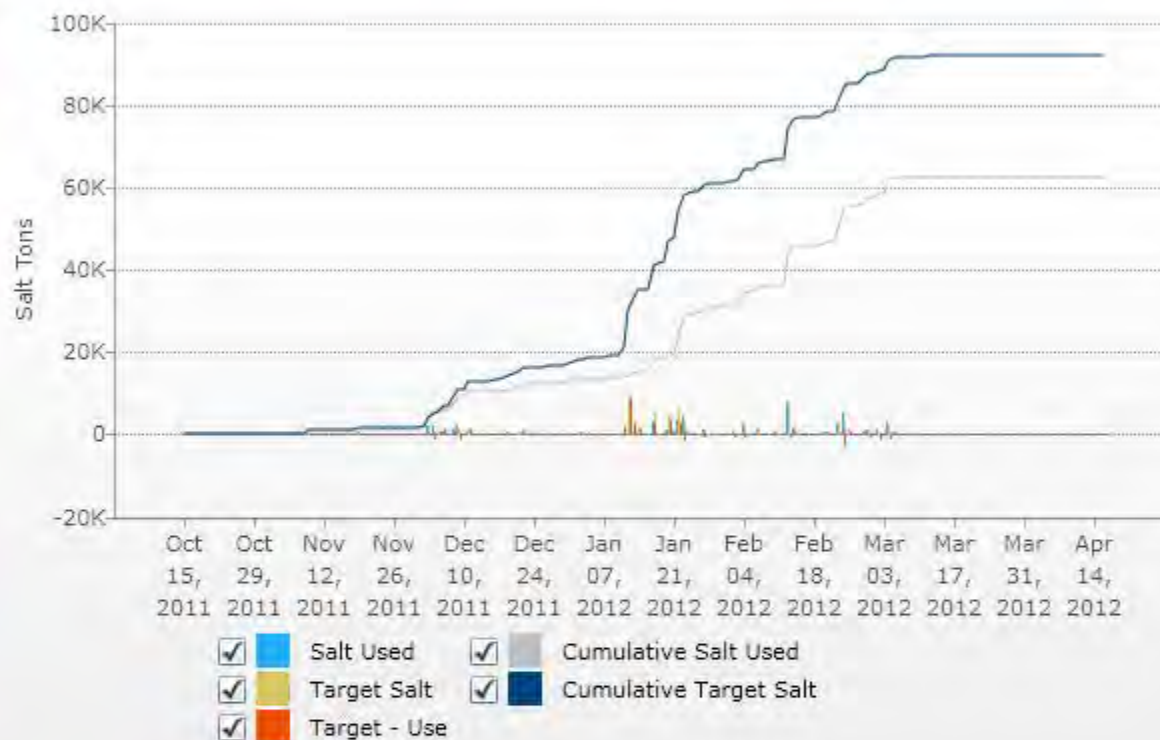


36.9 %

A, BC Details

## Weather Summary

Freezing Rain Hours	2,151.3
Heavy Snow Hours	1,976.5
Medium Snow Hours	7,782.2
Light Snow Hours	5,608.5
Blowing Snow Hours	4,022.8
Other Precip Hours	21,792.7



## District Summary



# Statewide Detail

10/1/2011

15

End of today

15

Update

Salt

675 Hours

All Hours

Tons Used: 62,326

Target Salt

92,135

Target - Use

29,809

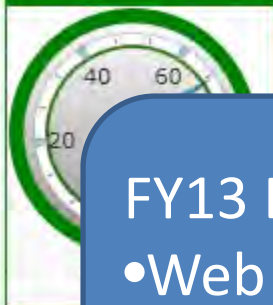
Allocation

169,133

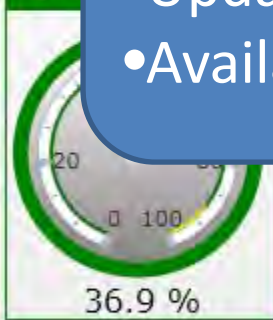
Allocation - Use

106,807

% Of Target Used



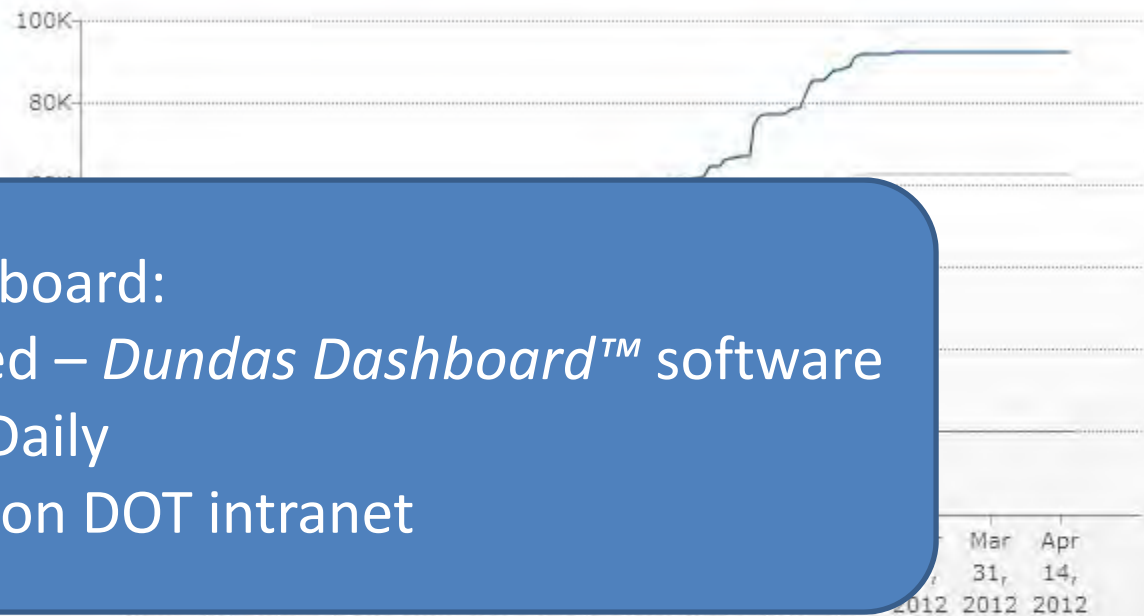
% A



A, BC Details

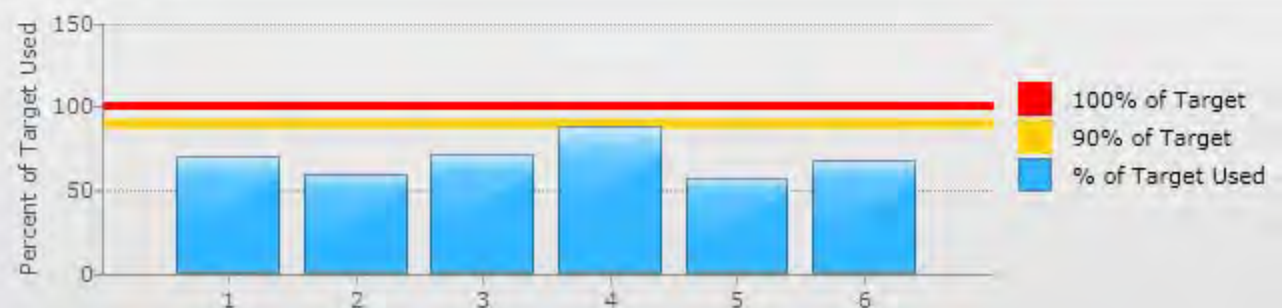
## Weather Summary

Freezing Rain Hours	2,151.3
Heavy Snow Hours	1,976.5
Medium Snow Hours	7,782.2
Light Snow Hours	5,608.5
Blowing Snow Hours	4,022.8
Other Precip Hours	21,792.7



- ☒ Salt Used
- ☒ Target Salt
- ☒ Target - Use
- ☒ Cumulative Salt Used
- ☒ Cumulative Target Salt

## District Summary





# Circle Detail

Boone

Back to District

12/1/2011

15

12/11/2011

15

Update

Tons Used: 250

Target Salt

182

Target - Use

-68

Allocation

2,529

Allocation - Use

2,279

% Of Target

137.3

9.9 %

9.9 %

9.9 %

9.9 %

9.9 %

9.9 %

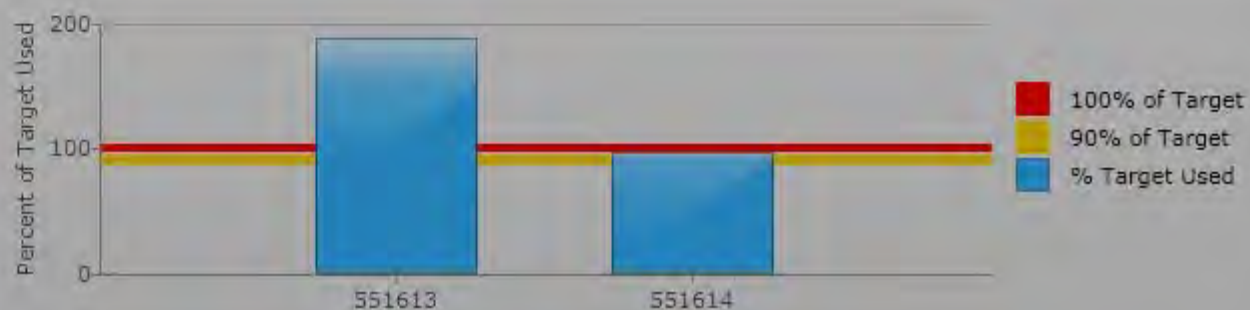
9.9 %

A, BC Details

## Weather Summary

Freezing Rain Hours	0.0
Heavy Snow Hours	1.2
Medium Snow Hours	26.7
Light Snow Hours	3.3
Blowing Snow Hours	6.2
Other Precip Hours	35.8

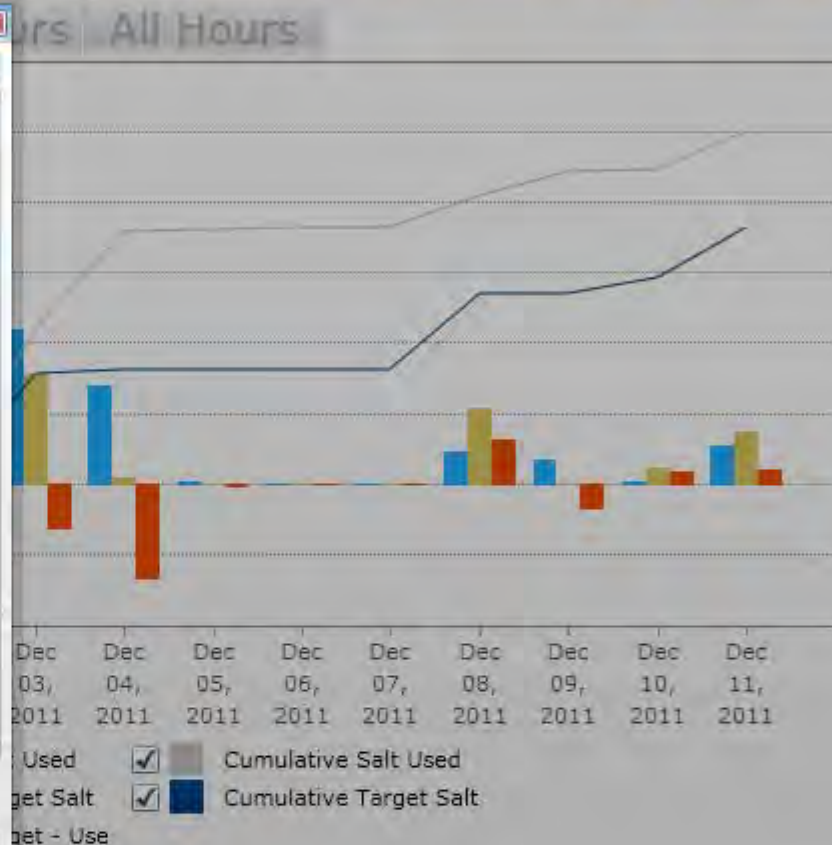
## Garage Summary



Select a value: LocationTWINOP

- IOWA
  - 1
    - Altoona
    - Ames
    - Boone
    - Carlisle
    - Des Moines North
    - Fort Dodge
    - Grimes
    - Grinnell
    - Marshalltown
    - Newton
    - Williams
  - 2
  - 3
  - 4
- (All)

OK Cancel





# District Detail

1

Back to State

12/1/2011

15

12/11/2011

15

Update

Salt

675 Hours All Hours

Tons Used: 1,342

Target Salt

1,990

Target - Use

648

Allocation

34,181

Allocation - Use

32,839

% Of Target



% Allocation



A, BC Details

ABC Details

A Routes

Target Salt 530

Salt Used 377

Target - Use 152

% of Target Used 71.2 %

BC Routes

Target Salt 1,460

Salt Used 965

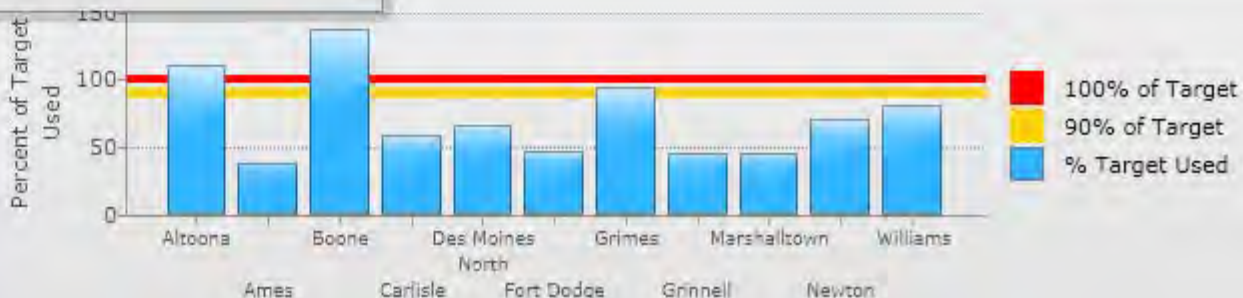
Target - Use 495

% of Target Used 66.1 %



## Weather Summary

Freezing Rain Hours	0.2
Heavy Snow Hours	5.0
Medium Snow Hours	136.0
Light Snow Hours	125.7
Blowing Snow Hours	21.0
Other Precip Hours	409.2



# District Detail

1

Back to State

12/1/2011

15

12/11/2011

15

Update

Salt

675 Hours

All Hours

Winter\* Hours Used: 2,381

Target Hours

3,066

Target - Use

685

% Of Target Used



\*Includes hours for 675, 676, and 682



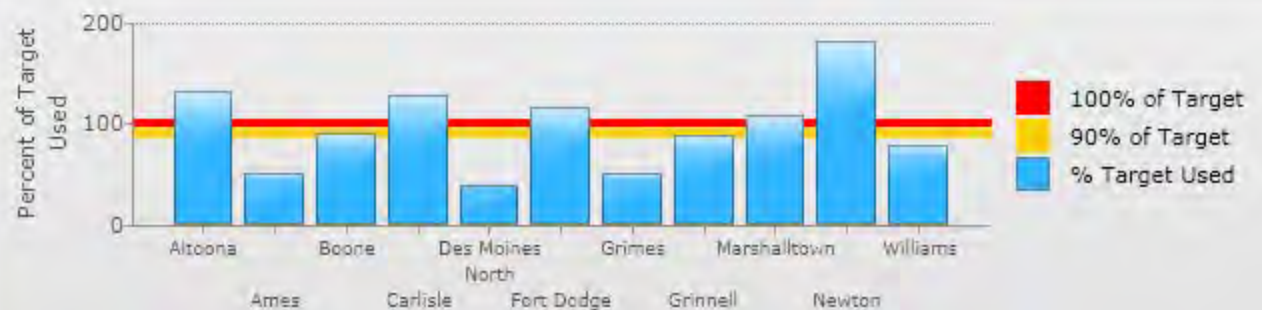
- ☒ All Hours Used
- ☒ Target Hours
- ☒ Target - Use
- ☒ Cumulative All Hours Used
- ☒ Cumulative Target Hours

A, BC Details

## Weather Summary

Freezing Rain Hours	0.2
Heavy Snow Hours	5.0
Medium Snow Hours	136.0
Light Snow Hours	125.7
Blowing Snow Hours	21.0
Other Precip Hours	409.2

## Circle Summary





# Statewide Detail

Salt

675 Hours

All Hours

Tons Used: 137,061

10/15/2012

15

End of yesterday

15

Update

Target Salt

139,066

Target Minus Use

2,005

Allocation

169,133

Allocation Remaining

32,073

% Of Target Used

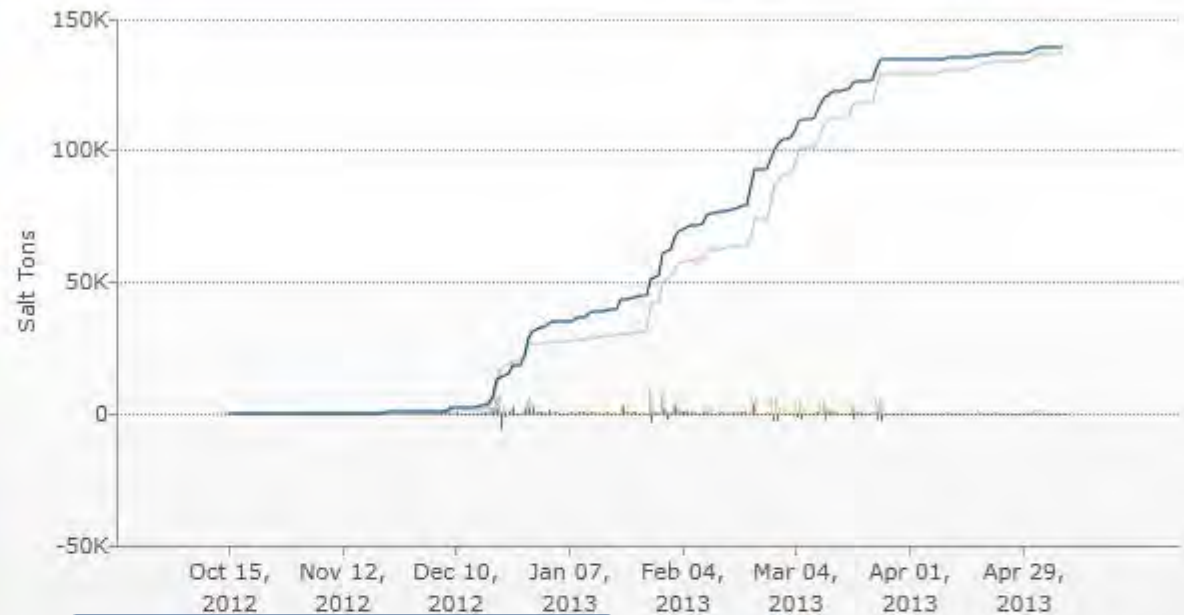


98.6 %

% Allocation Used



81.0 %



New for FY14 – Salt Purchasing Summaries

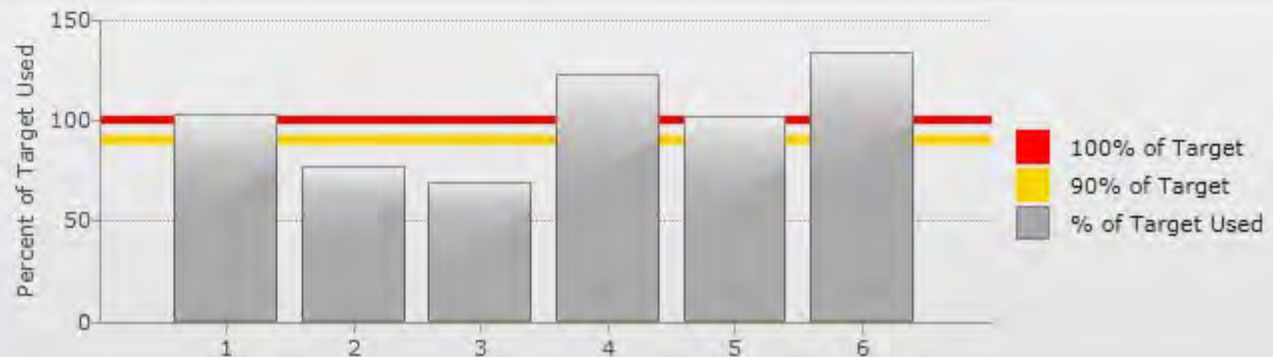
Salt Delivery Information

A, BC Details

## Weather Summary

Freezing Rain Hours	2,044.0
Heavy Snow Hours	4,062.8
Medium Snow Hours	15,564.3
Light Snow Hours	8,519.5
Blowing Snow Hours	12,445.3
Other Precip Hours	21,347.0

District Summary



# Traffic-Based Performance Analysis

- Working on using traffic as an outcome measure for winter operations
- Refining the traffic models and building a manager's dashboard

# Traffic-Based Performance Analysis

- Traffic slows when roads are bad, speed up when conditions improve
  - But how do you know if the drop was acceptable?
  - A blizzard will bring traffic to a halt but is that the fault of a maintenance supervisor??

# Traffic-Based Performance Analysis

- Traffic speeds can be an outcome measurement if:
  - You know what the baseline behavior would have been given the weather conditions
  - How ‘reality’ compared
- Baseline model adapted from IHRB Project TR-491 “Performance Measurement for Highway Maintenance Operations”
  - Estimates traffic speed during a storm based on weather data





Specify a Date Range:

2/20/2013 11:00 PM

15



2/22/2013 11:00 PM

15



Export

Back to Area

**Winter Operations  
Quality for  
Manchester (US 20) (R33)****Success Rate**

(How often speed expectations were met)

**Winter Driving  
Condition Rate**

(A measure of winter driving difficulty)

**Average Difference  
from Expected**

(Average speed difference)

Graph

Table

☒ Group data

- ☐ Pavement Temperature
- ☐ Wind Speed
- ☐ Dew Point
- ☐ Salt Usage
- ☐ All hours
- ☐ 675 hours
- ☒ Road Speed Limit
- ☒ Observed Speed
- ☐ Observed Speed at other lanes
- ☒ Target Speed
- ☐ Forecasted Target Speed
- ☐ Air Temperature
- ☐ Wind Direction
- ☐ Relative Humidity
- ☐ Visibility
- ☐ Forecasted Pavement Temperature
- ☐ Forecasted Wind Speed
- ☐ Forecasted Dew Point
- ☐ Forecasted Air Temperature
- ☐ Forecasted Wind Direction
- ☐ Forecasted Relative Humidity

Specify a Date Range:

2/20/2013 11:00 PM



15



2/22/2013 11:00 PM



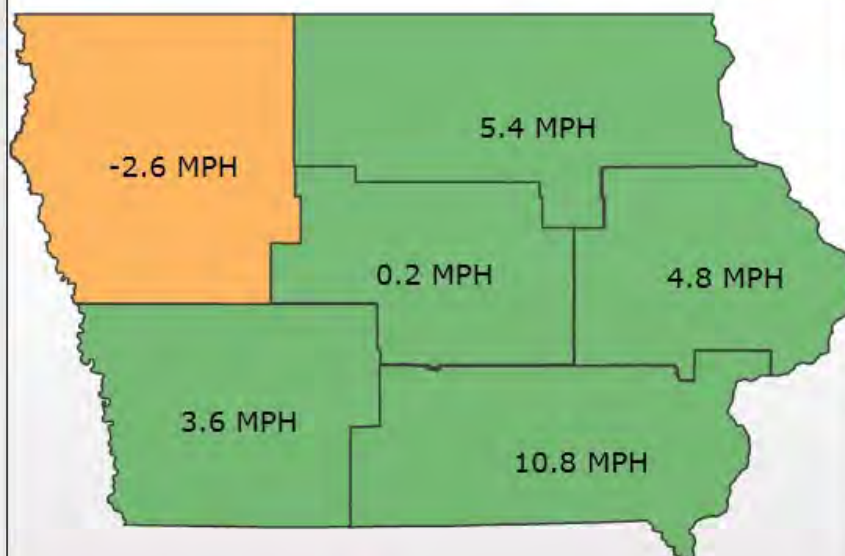
15



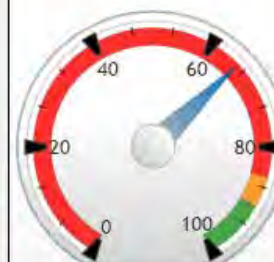
Export

## State of Iowa

Average Difference from Expected



## Winter Operations Quality for the State



**Success Rate**  
(How often speed expectations were met)



**Winter Driving Condition Rate**  
(A measure of winter driving difficulty)



**Average Difference from Expected**  
(Average speed difference)

## Winter Operations Quality by Districts

	Success Rate	Winter Driving Condition Rate	Average Difference from Expected	Snowfall Amount	# of precip days	Salt Usage	All hours	675 hours	All winter hours	Snow hours	Blowing snow hours	Other precip hours
Iowa	65.3	58.9	4.6	6.7	2.0	9,425.8	16,264.9	14,752.9	2,310.0	1,977.3	300.5	32.2
<a href="#">District_1</a>	48.9	67.8	0.2	5.5	1.9	1,439.2	52,812.2	41,181.4	352.3	288.3	58.0	6.0
<a href="#">District_2</a>	81.2	38.1	5.4	6.6	1.9	941.7	48,085.0	38,030.2	329.2	278.2	39.0	12.0
<a href="#">District_3</a>	51.7	63.3	-2.6	7.8	2.0	567.7	34,836.0	26,490.9	467.0	422.8	44.2	0.0
<a href="#">District_4</a>	47.0	75.1	3.6	7.4	2.0	2,438.6	34,379.3	26,966.9	398.3	331.3	67.0	0.0
<a href="#">District_5</a>	76.9	58.9	10.8	6.6	2.0	1,699.6	33,520.6	29,631.8	437.5	357.0	73.3	7.2
<a href="#">District_6</a>	63.7	62.3	4.8	5.9	2.0	2,338.9	53,291.6	44,887.8	325.7	299.7	19.0	7.0





Specify a Date Range:

2/20/2013 11:00 PM

15



2/22/2013 11:00 PM

15

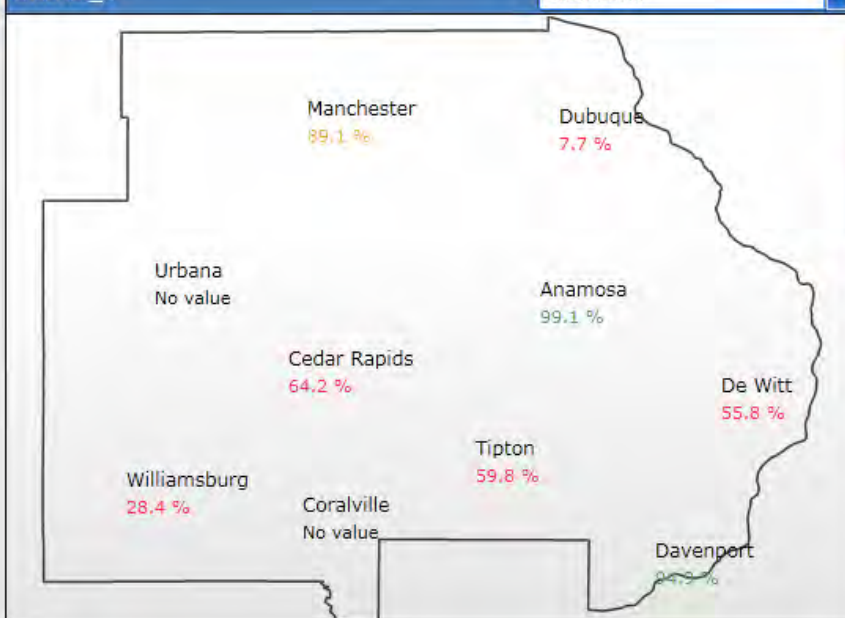


Export

Back to State

District\_6

Success Rate



Winter Operations Quality for the District\_6



**Success Rate**  
(How often speed expectations were met)



**Winter Driving Condition Rate**  
(A measure of winter driving difficulty)



**Average Difference from Expected**  
(Average speed difference)

Winter Operations Quality by Supervisory Area

	Success Rate	Winter Driving Condition Rate	Average Difference from Expected	Snowfall Amount	# of precip days	Salt Usage	All hours	675 hours	All winter hours	Snow hours	Blowing snow hours	Other precip hours
District_6	63.7	62.3	4.8	5.9	2.0	2,338.9	53,291.6	44,887.8	325.7	299.7	19.0	7.0
Anamosa	99.1	66.1	31.8	5.5	2.0	212.4	5,157.0	4,280.8	54.7	50.7	0.0	4.0
Cedar Rapids	64.2	52.9	9.1	6.5	2.0	329.3	7,309.5	5,862.6	41.7	41.7	0.0	0.0
Davenport	94.9	22.8	5.9	3.6	2.0	265.9	5,609.4	5,021.8	12.3	9.2	3.2	0.0
De Witt	55.8	82.2	1.6	4.1	2.0	142.4	4,081.3	3,421.1	40.8	37.8	3.0	0.0
Dubuque	7.7	99.8	-7.8	5.3	2.0	235.4	8,224.7	7,248.4	38.8	37.8	0.0	1.0
Manchester	89.1	33.0	2.9	6.5	2.0	195.3	5,901.9	5,177.2	37.0	36.0	0.0	1.0
Oakdale	no value	no value	no value	6.0	2.0	299.1	5,759.3	4,545.9	16.8	16.8	0.0	0.0
Tipton	59.8	40.2	-0.9	5.5	2.0	160.8	3,425.0	3,065.1	20.0	17.2	2.8	0.0
Urbana	no value	no value	no value	6.5	2.0	325.2	4,814.9	3,781.9	42.7	31.7	10.0	1.0
Williamsburg	28.4	100.0	-0.5	10.5	2.0	173.1	3,008.5	2,482.8	20.8	20.8	0.0	0.0

# Traffic-Based Performance Analysis

- Next Steps:
  - Getting INRIX traffic data for nearly continuous comparisons along major highways
  - Iowa State University continuing work on traffic model, especially variation in driver behavior

# GPS Fleet Information

- Nearly 900 trucks outfitted with GPS/AVL
  - Spreader, plow status
  - Air, pavement temperature
  - Use LTI brand LT6 controllers
- Data is polled through LTI then dumped into our database for further use

Wet



Frost



Snow



100%

Ice/Mixed



100%

Travel Not  
Advised

Closed



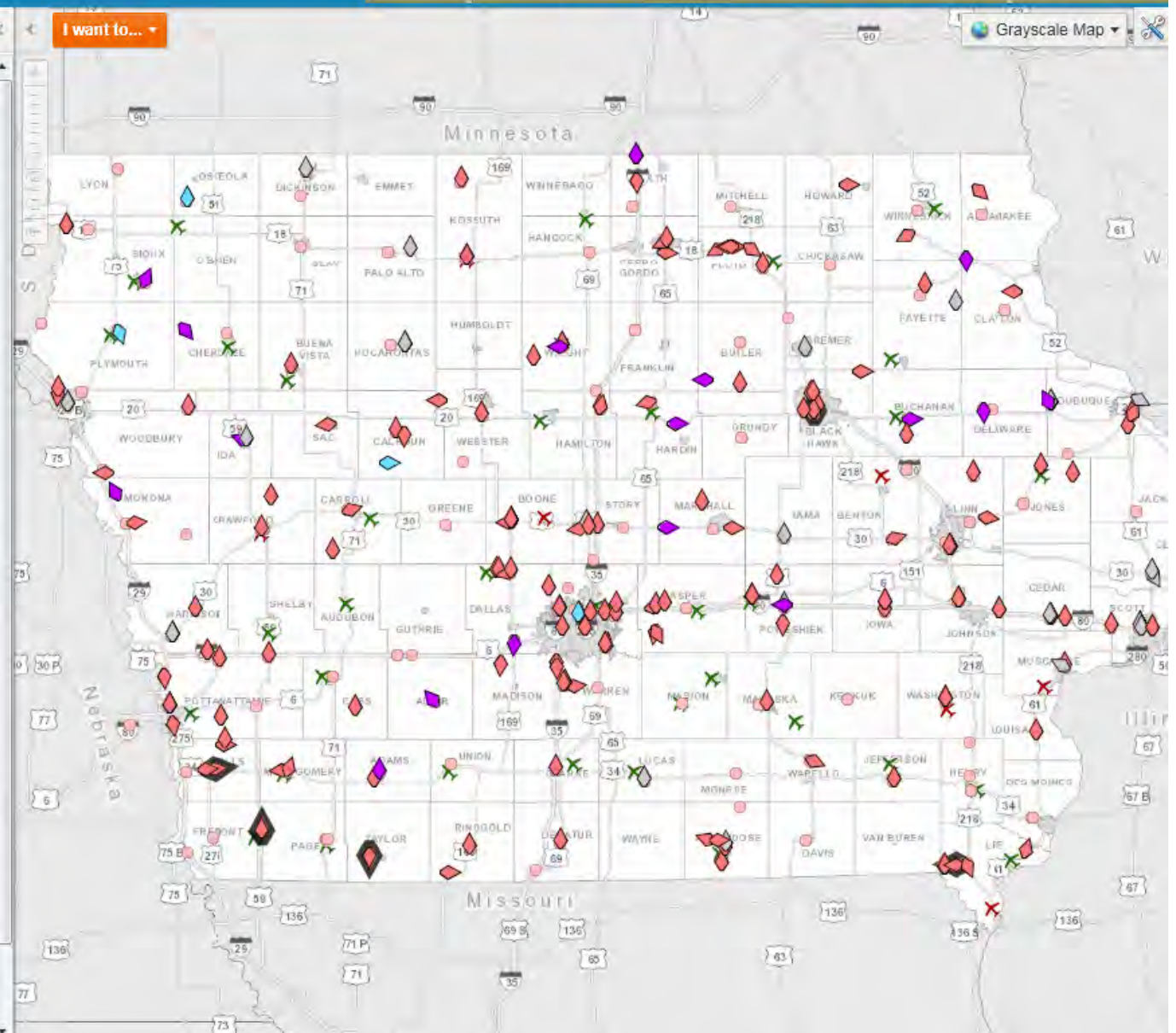
## Map Layers

## Operational Layers

☐ Winter Tweets (TEST)☒ WINTER TWEETS☐ RWIS☐ CARS 511 - IA☒ Winter Reports☒ Current Totals☒ Winter Totals 2011☐ Traffic/ATR☒ Trucks☒ Small Icons☒ Active Trucks☐ Truck Labels☐ Crumb Trail☒ Maintenance/AWOS☒ Live AWOS Stations☒ Unresponsive AWOS Stations☐ Air Temp☐ Dew Point☐ Visibility☐ Archive Data☐ Iowa Road Conditions☐ Radar☐ Stream Levels☐ Watches & Warnings☐ Maintenance Garages☐ Maintenance Cost Center☐ Base Maps

I want to...

Grayscale Map





## Map Layers

### Operational Layers

☐ Winter Tweets (TEST)

☒ WINTER TWEETS

☐ RWIS

☐ CARS 511 - IA

☒ Winter Reports

☒ Current Totals

☒ Winter Totals 2011

☐ Traffic/ATR

☒ Trucks

☒ Small Icons

☒ Active Trucks

☐ Truck Labels

☒ Crumb Trail

☒ Maintenance/AWOS

☒ Live AWOS Stations

☒ Unresponsive AWOS Stations

☐ Air Temp

☐ Dew Point

☐ Visibility

☐ Archive Data

☐ Iowa Road Conditions

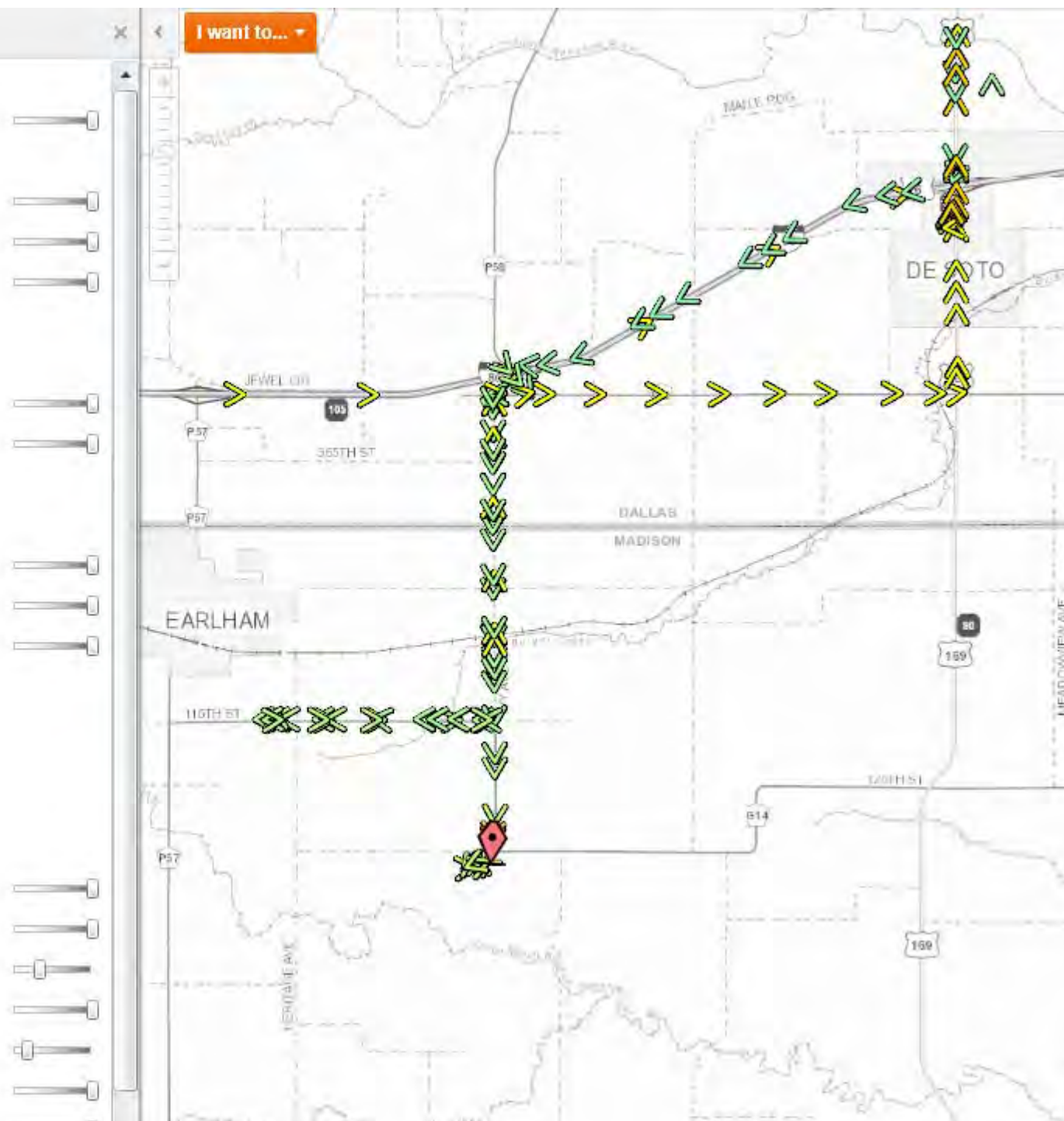
☐ Radar

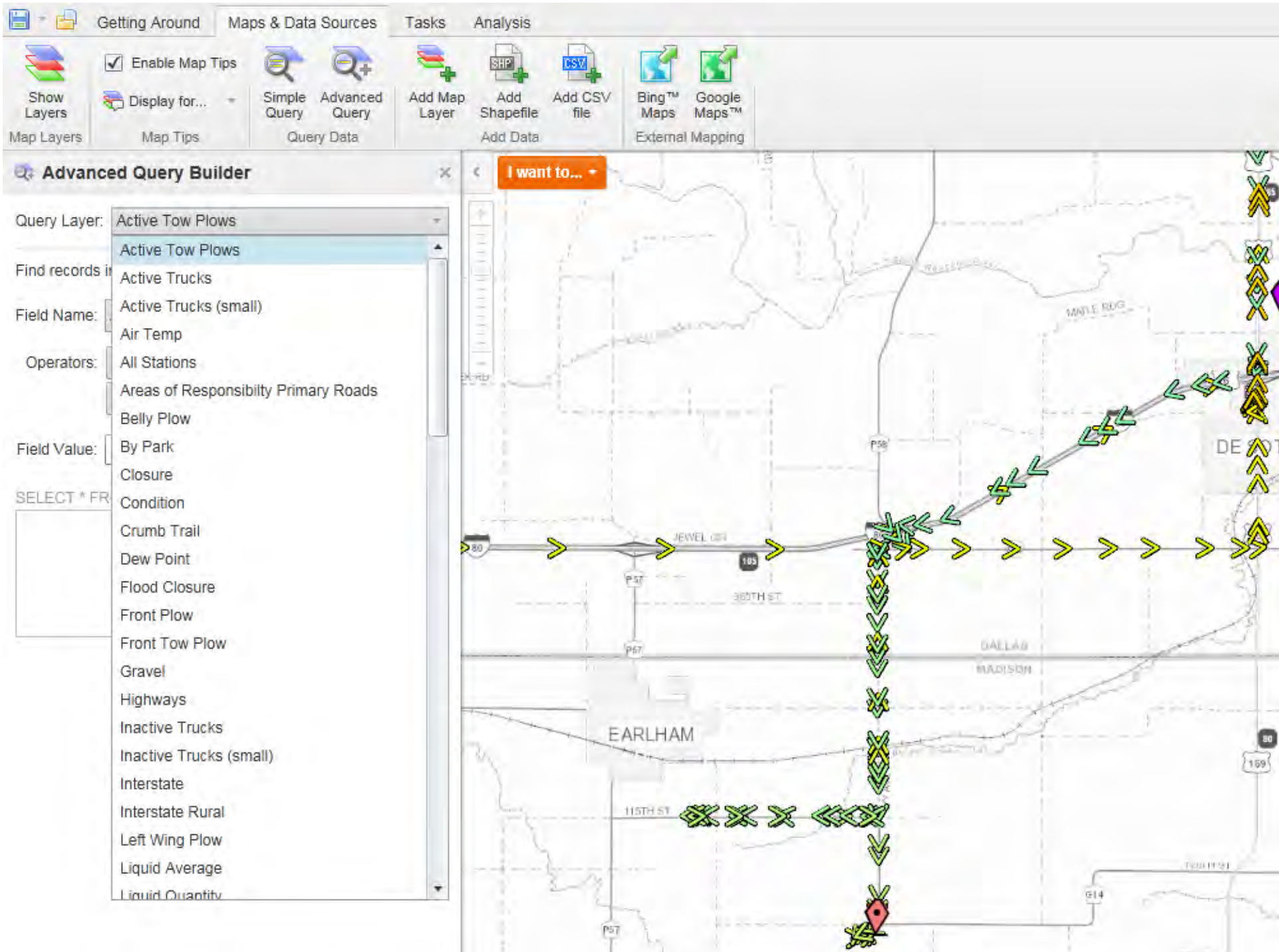
☐ Stream Levels

☐ Watches & Warnings

☐ Maintenance Garages

I want to...





# GPS Fleet Info

- Data from trucks will be used to pre-populate Resource Management System
  - Material use by route segment
  - Equipment hours
- Data will soon be used in operations analysis
- A public plow location page with plow dash cams coming later this winter

# Equipment

# Spreader Development and Evaluation

- Several spreader types in use
  - Rear chute
  - ZV
  - Plate spinner
  - Plus a few homemade versions
- Prewetting is required. Anywhere from 5 gal/lm to 50 gal/lm is common.
- Different opinions abound for what spreader/speed/prewet combo is best – but where's the proof?





Smooth rubber  
mat with 10  
3x3 grids

08/05/2013 15:04







08/06/2013 11:28





Grid Label:

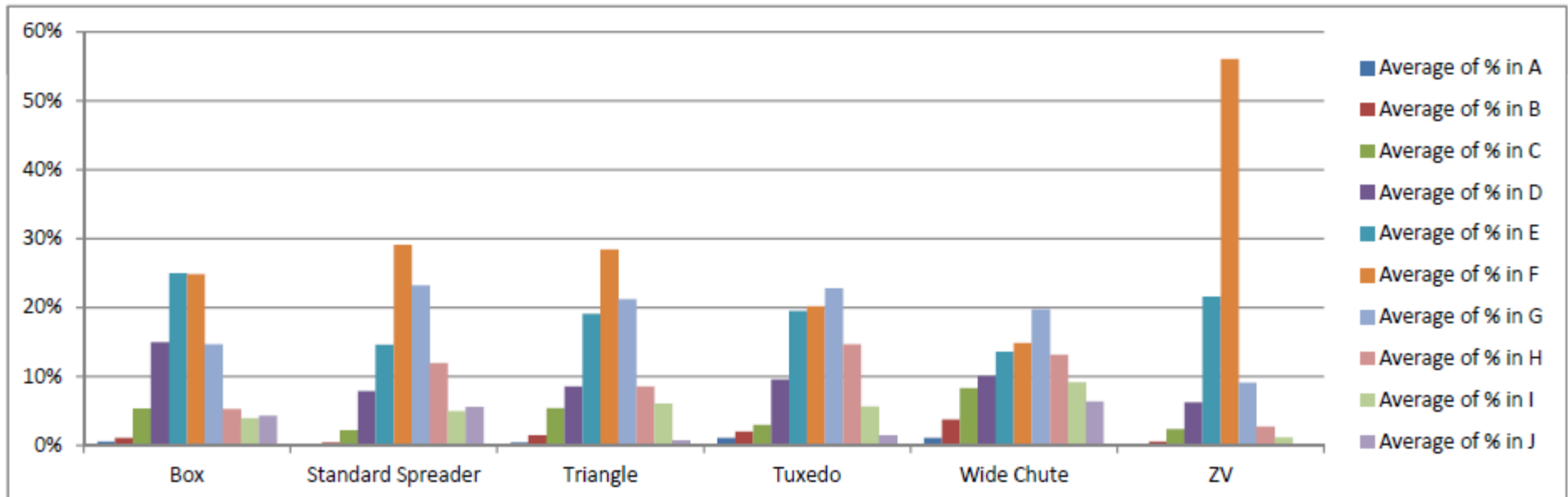
Grid size = 3' x 3'  
Total length = 30'

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J
Far shoulder									Right side shoulder

Spreader centered over F. Driver's wheel on line between E and F.

Speed (All)  
Prewet Rate DRY

Row Labels	Average of % in A	Average of % in B	Average of % in C	Average of % in D	Average of % in E	Average of % in F	Average of % in G	Average of % in H	Average of % in I	Average of % in J	% variation between grids (larger means tighter group)
Box	1%	1%	5%	15%	25%	25%	15%	5%	4%	4%	93%
Standard Spreader	0%	0%	2%	8%	15%	29%	23%	12%	5%	6%	98%
Triangle	0%	2%	5%	9%	19%	28%	21%	9%	6%	1%	97%
Tuxedo	1%	2%	3%	10%	20%	20%	23%	15%	6%	1%	87%
Wide Chute	1%	4%	8%	10%	14%	15%	20%	13%	9%	6%	58%
ZV	0%	1%	2%	6%	22%	56%	9%	3%	1%	0%	163%



Grid Label:

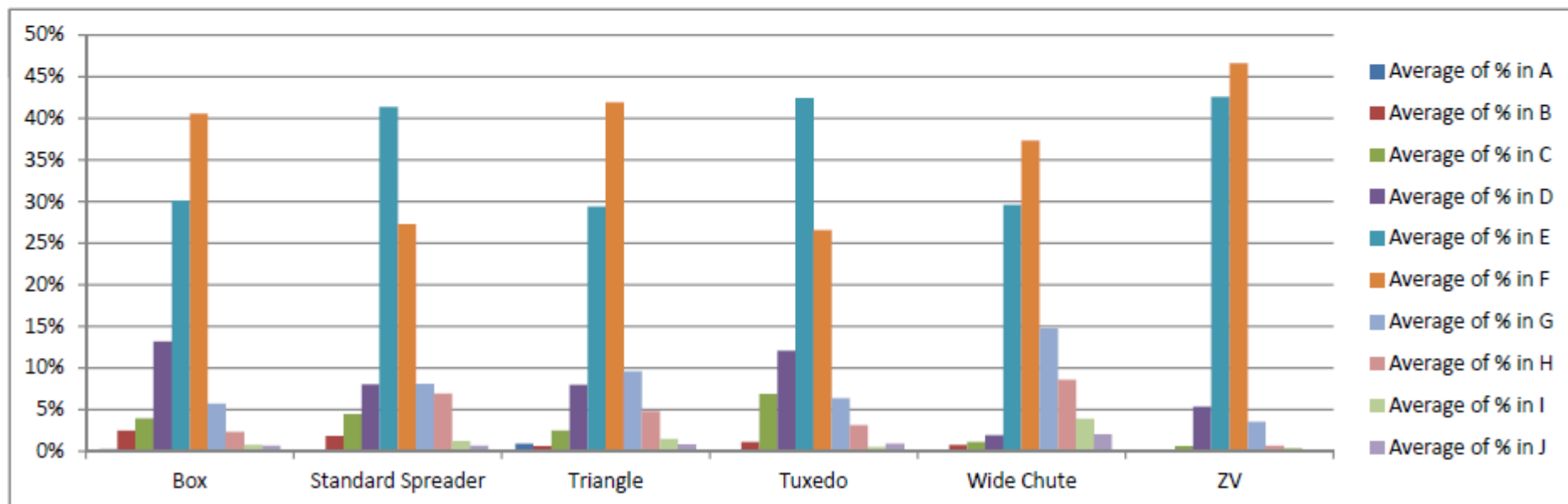
Grid size = 3' x 3'  
Total length = 30'

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J
Far shoulder									Right side shoulder

Spreader centered over F. Driver's wheel on line between E and F.

Speed (All)  
Prewet Rate 30.00

Row Labels	Average of % in A	Average of % in B	Average of % in C	Average of % in D	Average of % in E	Average of % in F	Average of % in G	Average of % in H	Average of % in I	Average of % in J	% variation between grids (larger means tighter group)
Box	0%	2%	4%	13%	30%	41%	6%	2%	1%	1%	136%
Standard Spreader	0%	2%	4%	8%	41%	27%	8%	7%	1%	1%	131%
Triangle	1%	1%	2%	8%	29%	42%	10%	5%	1%	1%	137%
Tuxedo	0%	1%	7%	12%	42%	27%	6%	3%	0%	1%	135%
Wide Chute	0%	1%	1%	2%	30%	37%	15%	9%	4%	2%	129%
ZV	0%	0%	1%	5%	43%	47%	4%	1%	0%	0%	170%





# Nontraditional RWIS

- Inexpensive
- DIY install
- Pavement temp and basic atmospheric data
- Reports 1/min and available online

