



CALTRANS COMMUTER ALERT

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Date: Friday, October 26, 2012
District: 8 - Riverside and San Bernardino Counties
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TIPS FOR DRIVING IN HIGH WINDS

Inland Empire – The Santa Ana winds are returning to the Inland Empire. Winds can gust in excess of 80 miles per hour in this region. Caltrans wants to make sure motorists and truckers are prepared. Helpful driving tips are noted below.

- First – know before you go! Check IE511.org or call “511” from the Inland Empire. You may also go Caltrans website to check for road conditions and closures at <http://www.dot.ca.gov/cgi-bin/roads.cgi> or the California Highway Patrol (CHP) website at <http://cad.chp.ca.gov/>. Watch for travel advisories on the Caltrans overhead/roadside signs.
- Be aware of other vehicles and slow down or move over when approaching RVs, campers, trucks, buses, or trailers being towed.
- Reduce the speed of your car to minimize the wind’s affect on your vehicle. Make sure you have BOTH hands on the steering wheel. Exit the freeway/roadway if you feel unsafe. Try not to park on the shoulder – find a safe location to park until winds subside.
- High profile vehicles are not recommended to travel during high wind events. *This includes unloaded trucks and trailers.*
- Make sure your load is TIED DOWN! Ladders, construction equipment, and other items being hauled can be deadly to motorists.
- Watch for blowing debris or fallen trees/branches on the highway – reduce your speed and be extremely cautious. If you encounter fallen electrical wires – **DO NOT** exit your vehicle.
- Be advised that roads may close at any time in the event of emergency, sand storms, accidents, etc. Again, know before you go!
- Listen to the radio or watch local news on TV before you travel for road conditions.

Source: http://www.ehow.com/how_2073728_drive-high-winds.html

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**SLOW FOR THE
CONE ZONE**
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