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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Sunday, January 16, 2022 Vanessa Palange Community Outreach Coordinator C: (603) 545-9499

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PRESS RELEASE

WINTER STORM TO IMPACT NEW HAMPSHIRE

CONCORD, N.H. – The National Weather Service (NWS) in Gray, Maine, issued a Winter Storm Warning for most of New Hampshire starting in the early morning hours on Monday. New Hampshire Department of Safety Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management and the New Hampshire Department of Transportation remind residents and visitors to be prepared. This storm will significantly impact travel across the entire state.

- Belknap, Carroll, Cheshire, Hillsborough, Merrimack, Sullivan and parts of Grafton counties have a Winter Storm Warning from 1 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday. Heavy snow is expected with total snow accumulations of 6 to 12 inches. Wind gusts as high as 45 mph. Snowfall rates of 1 to 3 inches per hour are expected.
- Coos and parts of Grafton counties have a Winter Storm Warning from 3 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday. Heavy snow is expected with total snow accumulations of 6 to 12 inches. Wind gusts as high as 45 mph. Snowfall rates of 1 to 3 inches per hour are expected.
- Hillsborough and Rockingham counties have a Winter Storm Advisory from 1 a.m. to 1 p.m. Monday. Heavy snow is expected with total snow accumulations of 3 to 5 inches. Wind gusts as high as 45 mph. Snowfall rates of 1 to 2 inches per hour are expected.
- Strafford County has a Winter Storm Advisory from 1 a.m. to 1 p.m. Monday. Heavy snow is expected with total snow accumulations of 4 to 6 inches. Wind gusts as high as 50 mph. Snowfall rates of 1 to 2 inches per hour are expected.

A Coastal Flood Watch is in effect from Monday morning Monday afternoon for coastal Rockingham County and the county is also under a High Wind Warning from 5 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday

"Take time now to prepare your family," said New Hampshire Homeland Security and Emergency Management Director Jennifer Harper. "Being prepared means knowing what to do and having the things you need to stay safe. Learn more about emergency preparedness at ReadyNH.gov."

The extreme cold paired with the snow and rain will make travel difficult across New Hampshire. "This statewide event will bring heavy snow and rainfall throughout New Hampshire," New Hampshire Department of Transportation Commissioner Victoria Sheehan said. "The Seacoast and southern New Hampshire is expected to experience strong winds and heavy rainfall with central, western and northern New Hampshire experiencing intense periods of heavy snow. Each of these types of precipitation result in difficult travel conditions. NHDOT strongly recommends postponing travel until after the storm. If travel is necessary, please check the forecast and driving conditions for your entire route of travel, as impacts will be different based on location. Go slow and drive for conditions, making sure to allow yourself ample time to get to your destination and leaving space around your vehicle and other motorists. Our crews will be out statewide during the storm and will continue storm operations after the event to prepare roadways for travel. Please give our crews plenty of space to do their job and don't crowd the plow".

The combination of heavy snowfall and strong wind gusts may lead to scattered power outages. If you see a downed power line, stay away and call 9-1-1.

If you lose power, be sure to report the outage to your utility provider:

- Eversource1-800-662-7764
- Liberty.....1-855-349-9455
- NH Electric Co-Op1-800-343-6432
- Unitil.....1-888-301-7700

Director Harper and Commissioner Sheehan provide these additional winter weather reminders:

- Monitor National Weather Service radio or broadcast weather reports to keep track of changing conditions.
- Avoid travel if possible.
- Slow down and move over for emergency vehicles.
- Never crowd the plow.
- Clear all snow and ice off your car, including your roof, around lights, and license plates before traveling.
- Bridges, overpasses, and exposed road areas are the most prone to slippery conditions.

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NOTE: According to the National Weather Service, a Winter Storm Warning indicates that heavy snow of at least 6 inches in 12 hours, or at least 8 inches in 24 hours, is expected. It can also be issued if sleet accumulation will be at least half an inch.