



# News Release

12/26/2024

John Tomlinson  
ITD Communication Manager  
208-501-5671  
[john.tomlinson@itd.idaho.gov](mailto:john.tomlinson@itd.idaho.gov)

**UPDATE: SH-21 closure extended, now includes Idaho City to Lowman**

UPDATE: The closure for SH-21 has been extended and now includes Idaho City (milepost 41) to Lowman (milepost 72).

LOWMAN - The Idaho Transportation Department will close State Highway 21 from Grandjean to Banner Summit this afternoon due to high avalanche risk.

The current weather pattern is likely to trigger avalanches in this section of highway. The anticipated closure will begin at 5 p.m. today.

Motorists needing to use the roadway are advised to make the trip immediately or plan to use alternate routes, like State Highway 75.

The ITD avalanche crew monitors the snowpack along this section of highway to forecast the risk of avalanches large enough to reach the roadway. This practice allows the department to keep the highway open during the winter months with a reasonable confidence of safety for the traveling public.

There are nearly 70 avalanche paths in this 11-mile stretch of SH-21. Avalanches can be triggered without warning, so there is no parking or stopping within this section of road during the winter.

The highway will reopen when the snowpack has stabilized and the risk of active avalanches is reduced. Updates on closures and openings will be posted on [511.idaho.gov](http://511.idaho.gov).

###

