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PRESS RELEASE

Date: 5/14/13

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FOUR TIMES AROUND THE WORLD FOR WELD COUNTY PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT THIS PAST WINTER



Snow at the Weld County Public Works Department. The county's snow response for the 2012-2013 winter involved 134 Public Works employees including drivers, snow patrollers and snow desk responders.

WELD COUNTY, CO – The seasons have changed, and the numbers are in. During the 2012-2013 winter, Weld County Department of Public Works snow plow drivers (including graders with plows) drove approximately 100,000 miles clearing the roads for the traveling public – which equates to driving approximately four times around the Earth at the equator.

“We are so proud of the work our Public Work’s team does in maintaining our county roads,” said Commissioner Sean Conway, coordinator for the department this year. “When a storm comes in, they are ready to go whether they are in the plows, the graders or managing the county Snow Desk.”

Maintaining more than 3,000 miles of roads, 77% of which are gravel, can be challenging. “When we first get word of a potential winter storm, we start planning,” said Public Works Director Dave Bauer. “Twelve-hour shifts are scheduled, and the snow desk is put on alert.”

The Snow Desk is a small office within the Public Works building where coordination of plow efforts during winter storms takes place. “Each plow truck and grader is equipped with a radio so drivers and Snow Desk operators can communicate with each other. This enables the Snow Desk to get updates on road and weather conditions as well as make sure our drivers are safe,” said Bauer.

Winter weather kept the Public Works team busy with plowing up through the month of April.

BY THE NUMBERS:

- Miles traveled for plowing: 100,000 (approximate)
- Tons of sand used: 9,500
- Personnel hours: 5,200
- Material and Labor: \$408,926

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