



## SOLUTIONS FOR INCREASED WATER STORAGE CAPACITY

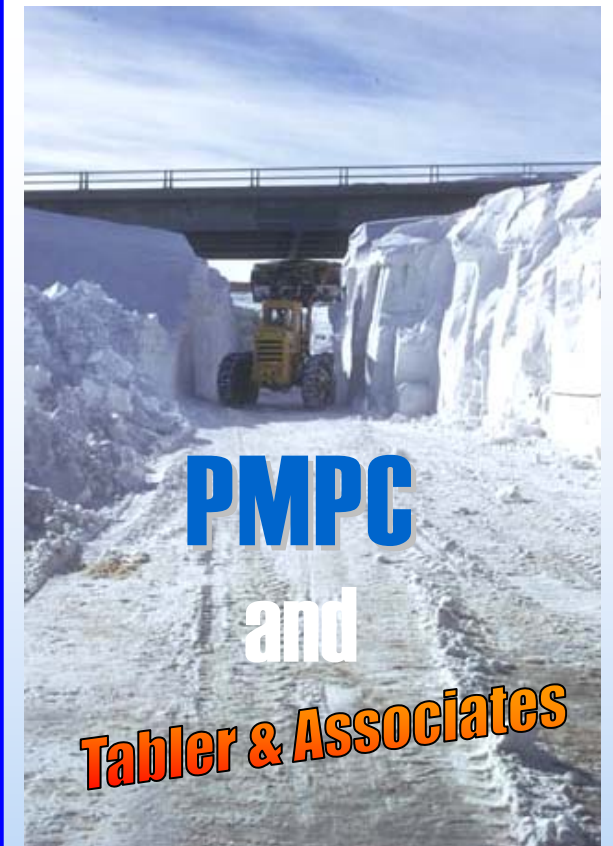
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**BLOWING  
SNOW  
SOLUTIONS**

# BLOWING and DRIFTING SNOW SOLUTIONS

Blowing snow causes countless problems many of which affect the safety of the traveling public.

Solutions to blowing snow incorporate the proper combination of:

- Snow fences
- Traffic operations
- Proper road design

Benefits of blowing snow mitigation:

- Decrease road maintenance costs
- Reduce road closures
- Decrease accidents and deaths caused by poor road conditions

Snow fences are used to protect:

- Interstates highways
- County roads
- Railroads
- Oil field operations
- Pipeline access



**SNOW FENCES WORK**



**SNOW FENCE DESIGN**

## CASE STUDY

WYOMING I-80  
34 YEARS, 50 MILES

No snow fences existed on I-80 in southeastern Wyoming between Laramie and Walcott when opened in 1970.

Because of snow drifts, limited visibility and road ice, snow fences were mandated on a 50-mile stretch of I-80. Snow fences were installed from 1970 to 1990 resulting in 73% road protection in this project area.

The snow fence protection resulted in the following:

- 70% crash reduction in areas protected by snow fence
- At existing traffic volume, snow fence prevents
  - 244 crashes per year
  - 106 injuries per year
  - 2.2 fatalities per year
  - 8 days of road closure per year
- Annual return of \$5,777,000 resulting in a benefit-to-cost ratio of 15:1

**Source** – Effects of Snow Fences on Crashes and Road Closures: A 34-Year Study on Wyoming Interstate-80 by Dr. Ron Tabler and Joel Meena, P.E.