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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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## **MEDIA RELEASE**

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### **COLUMBIA COUNTY ROAD DEPARTMENT WORKS THROUGH STORM EVENT**

As snow fell on Columbia County, road crews worked hard to keep County roads open and safe. Even though snow was on the ground, county road workers worked 14-20 hour shifts to keep roads open for travel and emergency services. The heavy snow (over 24 inches deep in places) caused trees to fall across roads and power lines to fall. It was important to coordinate efforts and assist local utility companies to get to sites where there were downed trees and power lines.

As a result of the recent storm event, county road crews were on the job starting Tuesday and worked round the clock through Wednesday to clear trees, and assist local utility companies to get to effected sites.

According to Road Department Director, Dave Hill, the County Roads were closed at 25 different locations throughout the County. Utility companies were extremely busy, requiring extra coordination in order to efficiently get the clearing work done to open the roads. "We were lucky this was only a two day event and that heavy rains did not fall immediately after the snowfall". "The coordination between our crews, the 911 center and the utilities went very smoothly", he said.

The Columbia County Road Department is responsible for over 550 miles of roadway in the County. This makes it difficult to address all of the demands in weather events like this one, however the County Road Crew, which consists of 20 dedicated employees did an outstanding job of getting the roads cleared for residents.