



For Immediate Release:
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EMERGENCY CLOSURE SR2/US 76 BETWEEN HIAWASSEE AND CLAYTON

Hiawassee, Ga. – State Route 2/US 76 remains closed between Hiawassee and Clayton due to a tractor trailer crash at Cassie Lane. The carcass of the burned out tractor trailer is gone and Georgia DOT has assessed the damage. The roadway will open by 4 p.m. if the cleanup goes as planned.

“We hope to reopen Highway 2 by 4 p.m. today. The pavement will be rough until we can remove the damaged layer of asphalt tomorrow. The fire melted the tar out of the asphalt leaving only the gravel. An area almost one lane wide and 528 feet long will be removed and replaced tomorrow. One lane will be closed beginning at 9 a.m. to 4p.m. for the repair work,” explained Brent Cook, Georgia DOT District Engineer serving Northeast Georgia.

What: A tractor trailer carrying 10,000 gallons of fuel crashed on State Route 2 at Cassie Lane in Towns County, east of Berrong Lake.

When: Crash occurred about 8:30 a.m. on Highway 2/US 76. Georgia DOT hopes to complete assessment and have details for opening the roadway late this afternoon. Open the road with rough pavement by 4 p.m. today. Repair tomorrow 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. with one lane closed.

Where: State Route 2/US 76 east of Hiawassee and east of Berrong at Cassie Lane Lake in Towns County.

Detour Route: Traffic from Hiawassee is now detoured from SR 2/US 76 to SR 17 south to SR 356 to SR 197 then back to SR 2/US 76 in Clayton.

DriveAlert ArriveAlive calls attention to an alarming increase in roadway fatalities across Georgia, many resulting from preventable crashes and distracted driving. *DriveAlert ArriveAlive* implores motorists to buckle up; stay off the phone and no texting; and drive alert. Visit www.dot.ga.gov/DS/SafetyOperation/DAAA. #ArriveAliveGA For more information about Georgia DOT, visit www.dot.ga.gov or on *Facebook* (<https://www.facebook.com/GDOTNE>) and *Twitter* (<https://twitter.com/GDOTNE>).

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