

Agness – Illahe Road Construction News

July 7th, 2003

This project is located approximately 30 miles up the Rogue River from Gold Beach, Oregon. This project consists of a complete highway reconstruction of approximately 3.5 miles of roadway. The project begins at the intersection of Curry County Road Number 375 and Forest Service Road 33 and continues along the Rogue River to Foster Bar. This work will consist of mechanically stabilized earth walls, rock buttresses, rockery walls, drainage structures, guardrail, and paving. When finished there will be one full lane with many new turnouts and viewpoints, which will improve traffic flow along the river. October 2002 the Federal Highway Administration awarded a \$4.34 million contract to Roy E. Ladd Construction of Redding, California. The completion date for this project is October 2003.

ROAD CLOSURES WILL CONTINUE. *This will pose the following schedule: 1 HOUR DELAYS MONDAY 6:00am to 6:00pm, ROAD CLOSED 7:00AM TUESDAY TO 5:00PM THURSDAY, 1 HOUR DELAYS FRIDAY 6:00am to 6:00pm with no weekend work. Night work will begin July 15th during the hours of 5:00pm to 3:00am. This schedule will continue until these retaining walls are complete. While the Illahe road is closed there will be a clearly signed detour route to Foster Bar via Agness Pass. If coming from the Rogue Valley it is suggested to use the Eden Valley route rather than the Bear Camp route. New signs along this route have been installed to clearly mark the route and printable maps are available on the project website www.agness-road.com.*

For the week of July 7th, crews plan to begin many new activities. Crews will begin to place cross drainage culverts, drill and shoot ditch lines, excavate and place rock for planned buttresses, and possibly begin installing electrical conduit for the new power line. Crews will continue excavating and constructing the many retaining walls. Work areas will be scattered the full length of the project with much more equipment scheduled to arrive soon.

A night shift will soon begin. It is anticipated to start a night shift July 15th. The hours of this night shift are not set yet. This night work will start as the day shift quits though. It is expected that the night shift will work a 4-10 schedule. The night shift will install culverts and wall backfill in hopes to keep work areas limited and quiet for residences.

The roadway is greatly changing by the day if not by the hour, so please be alert watching for the changing road conditions. There are many traffic switches and large excavated holes to drive around and thru. Please, keep speeds down and eyes on the road!

Due to safety concerns the Forest Service Illahe Campground located in the middle of the project is closed to the public until completion of the project.

Federal Highway has a web page that this and all future newsletters, maps, and project photos will be posted at. The easy web address pointer is www.agness-road.org.

All problems, concerns, and questions should be directed to the Federal Highway Administration's Project Engineer currently located in Gold Beach, OR:

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