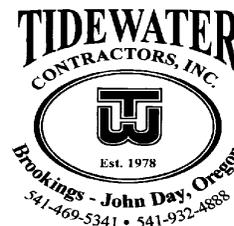




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North Bank Lane Newsletter

Progress Report

To date, the contractor has begun installing the 10-foot diameter culvert at Redd Creek and is expected to finish backfilling the culvert today. The contractor, Tidewater Contractors Inc., expects to re-open North Bank Road in the Redd Creek area, just west of the Rocky Point Boat Ramp, today. Tidewater is nearly finished hauling embankment material to the Redd Creek grade raise section. Tidewater has also started placing embankment material near Fahys Creek to raise the road grade elevation in that area and will continue hauling embankment material to this area during the week of August 2 – 6th. A total of 16 days of road closure at Fahys Creek is expected between August 9th and August 27th. The road closure will be on North Bank Lane between the intersection with Fahys Road and the Ni-les'tun Overlook area at the Bandon Marsh Headquarters. Randolph Road will be used as a detour to Rocky Point Boat Ramp and further access east on North Bank Road. Please use caution on Randolph Road on the steep grade and curves approaching the intersection with North Bank Road. Road closure, delays, and other pertinent information regarding the road construction activities will be posted weekly in this newsletter.

Project Background

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), in cooperation with the Federal Highway Administration, Western Federal Lands Highway Division (WFLHD) is implementing the Ni-les'tun Unit of the Bandon Marsh National Wildlife Refuge Wetland Restoration and North Bank Lane Improvement Project (Project) near the Town of Bandon, Oregon. North Bank Lane runs from US Highway 101 to US Highway 42 as shown on the attached map.

The Ni-les'tun Unit (Unit) of Bandon Marsh National Wildlife Refuge (Refuge) was historically a tidal wetland. In the late 19th and early 20th centuries levees were built on the banks of the Coquille River to hold back the river's water and drain the Marsh so that it could be used for agricultural purposes. The USFWS purchased the land in order to restore over 400 acres of valuable tidal wetlands in the Unit. North Bank Lane provides access to the Unit in the Refuge. In order for the USFWS to fully implement its proposed tidal wetland restoration portion of the Project, improvements needed to be made to North Bank Lane. Currently North Bank Lane floods annually at the low elevation crossings of Fahys and Redd creeks during winter storms. Also, the culverts presently at Fahys and Redd creeks are undersized and restrict fish passage. WFLHD plans to raise North Bank Lane at the culvert locations to reduce the severity and frequency of flooding and install larger, fish-friendly culverts. In addition, WFLHD plans to improve North Bank Lane so that it is a consistent roadway width with shoulders to better accommodate the mix of motorized and non-motorized users.

Construction activities for the tidal wetland restoration portion of the project began in 2009 and will be completed in 2010. For up-to-date information about the tidal restoration activities please see the USFWS blog at <http://www.fws.gov/oregoncoast/bandonmarsh/restoration/index.cfm>

Go online for more information and to read old newsletters at <http://www.wfl.fhwa.dot.gov/projects/>



Contractor's Work Schedule

Monday thru Friday - Hours: 7am – 5pm

Traffic Delay Information

Expect short delays, approx. 5 minutes,
on N. Bank Lane between August 2 – 6th.



