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North Umpqua Highway Newsletter

Progress Report

From June 13th to June 16th the contractor will continue working downhill from the top of project between Mile Post 67.1 and Mile Post 63. The work will consist of grading work on the slopes, ditches and shoulders to prepare for widening of the road throughout this area. Flaggers and a pilot car will continue to provide alternating one-way traffic through the work zone to facilitate public traffic during work hours, however there may be a separate short flagging zone near the top of the project. Please observe the “Wait for Pilot Car” signs that are posted on all of the side roads along the work zone. The average delay to traffic is expected to be 10 minutes with a few occasional closures up to 20 minutes. In the weeks to come the contractor will set up a traffic signal at Fish Creek Bridge (MP 56 near Medicine Creek Rd.) The signal will allow alternating one-way traffic through the work zone during non-work hours.

Heavy Truck traffic on Forest Road 37 (Fish Creek Rd/Watson Falls) will continue throughout most of the summer. The trucks will be travelling on the 14-mile stretch of Forest Road 37 that runs north/south between Boundary Pit and Hwy 138. Please exercise caution and drive carefully if you plan travel on Forest Road 37. Additionally, heavy truck traffic will also be increasing on the first 2.4 miles of Forest Road 28 (Copeland Creek Rd). Dump trucks will be hauling excavated material from Highway 138 to stockpile at the Foster Quarry site off of Forest Road 2801. Please exercise caution and drive carefully if you plan to travel on Forest Road 28 (Copeland Creek Rd). The contractor is anticipating working 4-10hr. shifts to start this spring and will be off the road on Fridays. The contractor’s schedule may eventually increase work hours per day and possibly include work on Friday and Saturday. We will provide notice of any work hours change in future newsletters.

Project Background

The North Umpqua Highway project is located entirely within the Umpqua National Forest in Douglas County, in southwestern Oregon. The project begins above Dry Creek at MP 52.8 along State Highway 138 east of Roseburg and ends at MP 67.2 near Stump Lake. It is an east-west, two-lane rural state-owned arterial roadway, providing principle access to over half of the Umpqua National Forest. This is also known as Forest Highway 47 (FH 47). Much of the highway parallels the North Umpqua River, which is designated as a Federal Wild and Scenic River and also a State Scenic Waterway. The total project length is approximately 14.4 miles. The Western Federal Lands Highway Division (WFLHD) of the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), in cooperation with the USDA Forest Service (USFS) and the Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) is planning to complete the construction by Fall of 2012. The proposed improvements consist of upgrading the existing North Umpqua Highway to a safe, two-lane roadway consistent with AASHTO and ODOT design and safety standards. The proposed work will generally be along the existing road, although minor horizontal and vertical alignment changes may be necessary to provide a more uniform driving experience and safe travel speeds. This roadway section is located between two improved, widened sections and proposed improvements should be consistent with the adjoining sections of highway.

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



Contractor’s Work Schedule

June 13th thru June 16th
Monday thru Thursday: Hours: 6am – 4pm

Traffic Delay Information

Expect 10 minute delays with occasional delays up to 20 minutes

