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North Umpqua Highway Newsletter

Progress Report

Paving began after Labor Day on the shoulder widening from the top of the project down to Watson Falls. Paving the mainline, both lanes of the highway, began this past Monday September 26th at the top of the project. The resurfacing consists of a process where both lanes get the top 2-inches of existing asphalt concrete milled out and then inlaid with 2-inches of new asphalt concrete. Nearly all of the existing asphalt concrete milled in the main road is hauled away and recycled into the new hot asphalt concrete to constitute twenty (20) percent the new hot asphalt concrete mix. This has been completed from Stump Lake, near the top of the project, approximately 4 miles down the hill. Additionally, another 1.5-inch lift of asphalt concrete will be placed on top of the 2-inch base lift that has just been placed. The majority of the top 1.5-inch lift will be placed next season in 2012. Depending on weather conditions, the road should be repaved to Watson Falls by the end of next week or shortly thereafter. The contractor is continuing to prepare shoulder widening and road reconstruction from Fish Creek Bridge (MP 55.9) down to below Slide Creek/Medicine Creek (MP 53). The work consists of grading work on the slopes, ditches, and shoulders to prepare for widening of the road throughout this area. They have also constructed sections of special rock embankment on the embankment slopes for reinforcement. The contractor has also constructed many new amended ditches while the US Forest Service has worked to seed, irrigate and establish native vegetation to prevent erosion in the newly constructed ditches. Many new sections of guardrail have also been installed along with new culverts under the roadway. Between Fish Creek Bridge (MP 54) and Milepost 53, sections of asphalt/base repair will be in progress. **Expect patches of gravel** in the roadway in this section during the next couple weeks. These areas are expected to begin being paved back very soon. The upgrade work at Fish Creek Bridge is complete and the new concrete is curing. The upgraded work consists of new narrower curbs and bridge rail that will effectively widen the travel lanes on the bridge. A temporary traffic signal will continue operating at the Fish Creek Bridge to allow alternating one-way traffic through the work zone. Soon new guardrail sections will be mounted to both ends of the bridge and both lanes will be re-opened to traffic.

Flaggers and two pilot cars will continue to provide alternating one-way traffic through multiple work zones to facilitate public traffic during work hours. Please observe the “Wait for Pilot Car” signs that are posted on all of the side roads along the work zone. Expect Traffic Delays of 20 minutes.

Heavy Truck traffic on Forest Road 37 (Fish Creek Rd/Watson Falls) and Forest Road 6560 on the Rogue National Forest will continue for a couple more weeks. The trucks will be travelling on the 14-mile stretch of Forest Road 37 that runs north/south between Boundary Pit and Hwy 138 and the 4 miles stretch of 6560 road between the Boundary Pit and Highway 230. Additionally, heavy truck traffic will also be 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 6560, Forest Road 37, or Forest Road 28 (Copeland Creek Rd).

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



Contractor’s Work Schedule

Monday thru Friday: Hours: 7am– 7pm

Traffic Delay Information

Expect 20 minute delays

