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North Umpqua Highway Newsletter

Progress Report

The contractor continued working on a new retaining wall between approximate Mileposts 57.5 and 57.6 this week. This wall will allow for a new slow moving vehicle turnout for westbound traffic. A temporary traffic signal will continue operating at this location during non-work hours to allow alternating one-way traffic through the work zone during non-work hours. This signal is expected to be operating until approximately mid-May at this location.

The centerline striping was freshened up with a new coat of paint on the entire project on May 2nd. The contractor completed the widening work this week between Mileposts 59 and 60.5. A 2nd temporary traffic signal will be set up next Tuesday, May 8th below Toketee-Rigdon Road for bridge railing work between Mileposts 58.5 – 58.6 the week of May 6th. This signal will be operating until about the mid-July at this location.

Next week the contractor will also work on shoulder widening between approximate Mileposts 59 to 58. During work hours a pilot car and flaggers will provide alternating one-way traffic through all of the work zones between Mileposts 57 to 59 to facilitate public traffic during work hours.

The remaining culvert work, shoulder widening and paving, base lift paving and top lift paving on the entire 14 miles of the project is scheduled to be completed by the end of September 2012.

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

May 7th – May 10th

Monday thru Thursday: Hours: 7am – 5pm

The contractor may occasionally work on Fridays but that is not anticipated until later in the season.

Traffic Delay Information

Expect 10 minute delays with occasional delays up to 20 minutes

