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July 27, 2012

North Umpqua Highway Newsletter

Progress Report

This week, the contractor continued work near the bottom of the project between Mile Post (MP) 52.8 to MP 54 to complete the remaining shoulder widening work, amended ditches and culvert installations. They also completed culvert work between MP 63 to MP 65, and these culvert installations will be the first to be paved back beginning next Monday July 30th. The guardrail work has been completed at the Toketee Point Half Viaduct below Toketee-Rigdon Road to connect the two new sections of bridge railing. Yesterday was a long work shift: the concrete barrier and temporary traffic signal for the one-lane road below Toketee-Rigdon Road was finally removed and the roadway was re-graded allowing two-way traffic once again. We are done with traffic signals on this project! **The contractor is working today to install the final culvert below Toketee-Rigdon Road and will also have a small shoulder grading operation on Sunday afternoon to prepare for shoulder paving beginning next Monday July 30th. The contractor plans to begin working longer shifts and work on Fridays for the next several weeks until paving is completed or until further notice.**

Two long stretches of guardrail will also be installed next week immediately above and below Toketee-Rigdon Road. The remaining deep patch/full width reconstruction section is scheduled to begin on August 6th in the "S" curves near MP 53.5. Flagging will occur 24 hours per day for traffic safety for approximately one week in this section until the work is completed and repaved.

During work hours, flaggers and pilot cars will provide alternating one-way traffic to facilitate public travel. **Be aware of gravel sections** in the various reconstruction areas between Fish Creek Bridge and Milepost 60.

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

Monday thru Friday: Hours: 6am – 7pm

Traffic Delay Information

Expect delays up to 20 minutes

