

Agness – Illahe Road Construction News

June 20, 2003

This project is located approximately 30 miles up the Rogue River from Gold Beach, Oregon. This project consists of a complete highway reconstruction of approximately 3.5 miles of roadway. The project begins at the intersection of Curry County Road Number 375 and Forest Service Road 33 and continues along the Rogue River to Foster Bar. This work will consist of mechanically stabilized earth walls, rock buttresses, rockery walls, drainage structures, guardrail, and paving. When finished there will be one full lane with many new turnouts and viewpoints, which will improve traffic flow along the river. October 2002 the Federal Highway Administration awarded a \$4.34 million contract to Roy E. Ladd Construction of Redding, California. The completion date for this project is October 2003.

ROAD CLOSURES WILL CONTINUE. *This will pose the following schedule: 1 HOUR DELAYS MONDAY 6:00am to 6:00pm, ROAD CLOSED 8:00AM TUESDAY TO 5:00PM THURSDAY, 1 HOUR DELAYS FRIDAY 6:00am to 6:00pm with no weekend work. This schedule will continue until these retaining walls are complete. While the Illahe road is closed there will be a clearly signed detour route to Foster Bar via Agness Pass. If coming from the Rogue Valley it is suggested to use the Eden Valley route rather than the Bear Camp route. New signs along this route have been installed to clearly mark the route and printable maps are available on the project website www.agness-road.com.*

For the week of June 23rd, 2003, Ladd will begin to place for our first wall near the beginning of the project. Following the completion of this first wall Ladd will shift to complete the second wall just beyond the Illahe Campground. It is possible that Ladd will complete our first two walls next week. Crews will continue excavating at Foster Bar building the new alignment through the switchbacks. Crews will begin placing the needed under drains at the beginning of the project. As time allows crews will start to pioneer for the planned large rock buttress. Work will continue to construct the embankment for the intersection at the start of the project. It is planned next week to place dust abatement on the detour route. At this time there is no exact date as this work is weather dependant. Excavation will continue in the narrows located near the Illahe Campground. The Lone Tree culvert is nearly backfilled and traffic is expected to drive this new alignment soon. The roadway is greatly changing by the day if not by the hour, so please be alert watching for the changing road conditions.

Due to safety concerns the Forest Service Illahe Campground located in the middle of the project is closed to the public until completion of the project.

Federal Highway has a web page that this and all future newsletters, maps, and project photos will be posted at. The easy web address pointer is www.agness-road.org.

All problems, concerns, and questions should be directed to the Federal Highway Administration's Project Engineer currently located in Gold Beach, OR:

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