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July 6, 2010

# North Bank Lane Newsletter

## Project Background

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), in cooperation with the Federal Highway Administration, Western Federal Lands Highway Division (WFLHD) is implementing the Ni-les'tun Unit of the Bandon Marsh National Wildlife Refuge Wetland Restoration and North Bank Lane Improvement Project (Project) near the Town of Bandon, Oregon. North Bank Lane runs from US Highway 101 to US Highway 42 as shown on the attached map.

The Ni-les'tun Unit (Unit) of Bandon Marsh National Wildlife Refuge (Refuge) was historically a tidal wetland. In the late 19th and early 20th centuries levees were built on the banks of the Coquille River to hold back the river's water and drain the Marsh so that it could be used for agricultural purposes. The USFWS purchased the land in order to restore over 400 acres of valuable tidal wetlands in the Unit. North Bank Lane provides access to the Unit in the Refuge. In order for the USFWS to fully implement its proposed tidal wetland restoration portion of the Project, improvements needed to be made to North Bank Lane. Currently North Bank Lane floods annually at the low elevation crossings of Fahys and Redd creeks during winter storms. Also, the culverts presently at Fahys and Redd creeks are undersized and restrict fish passage. WFLHD plans to raise North Bank Lane at the culvert locations to reduce the severity and frequency of flooding and install larger, fish-friendly culverts. In addition, WFLHD plans to improve North Bank Lane so that it is a consistent roadway width with shoulders to better accommodate the mix of motorized and non-motorized users.

Construction activities for the tidal wetland restoration portion of the project began in 2009 and will be completed in 2010. For up-to-date information about the tidal restoration activities please see the USFWS blog at <http://www.fws.gov/oregoncoast/bandonmarsh/restoration/index.cfm>

## Progress Report

Tidewater Contractors Inc. of Brookings, Oregon has been awarded the contract for the new road construction. The contractor plans to begin work the week of July 6<sup>th</sup> with initial construction surveying, staking, and construction sign installation. Culvert installations and embankment will be soon to follow. This road construction project will last two construction seasons and is scheduled to be complete in the fall of 2011. A road closure at Redd Creek is expected in late July 2010 for approximately one week. An additional road closure at Fahys Creek is expected in mid to late August 2010 for approximately two weeks. Road closure, delays, and other pertinent information regarding the road construction activities will be posted in this weekly newsletter.

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



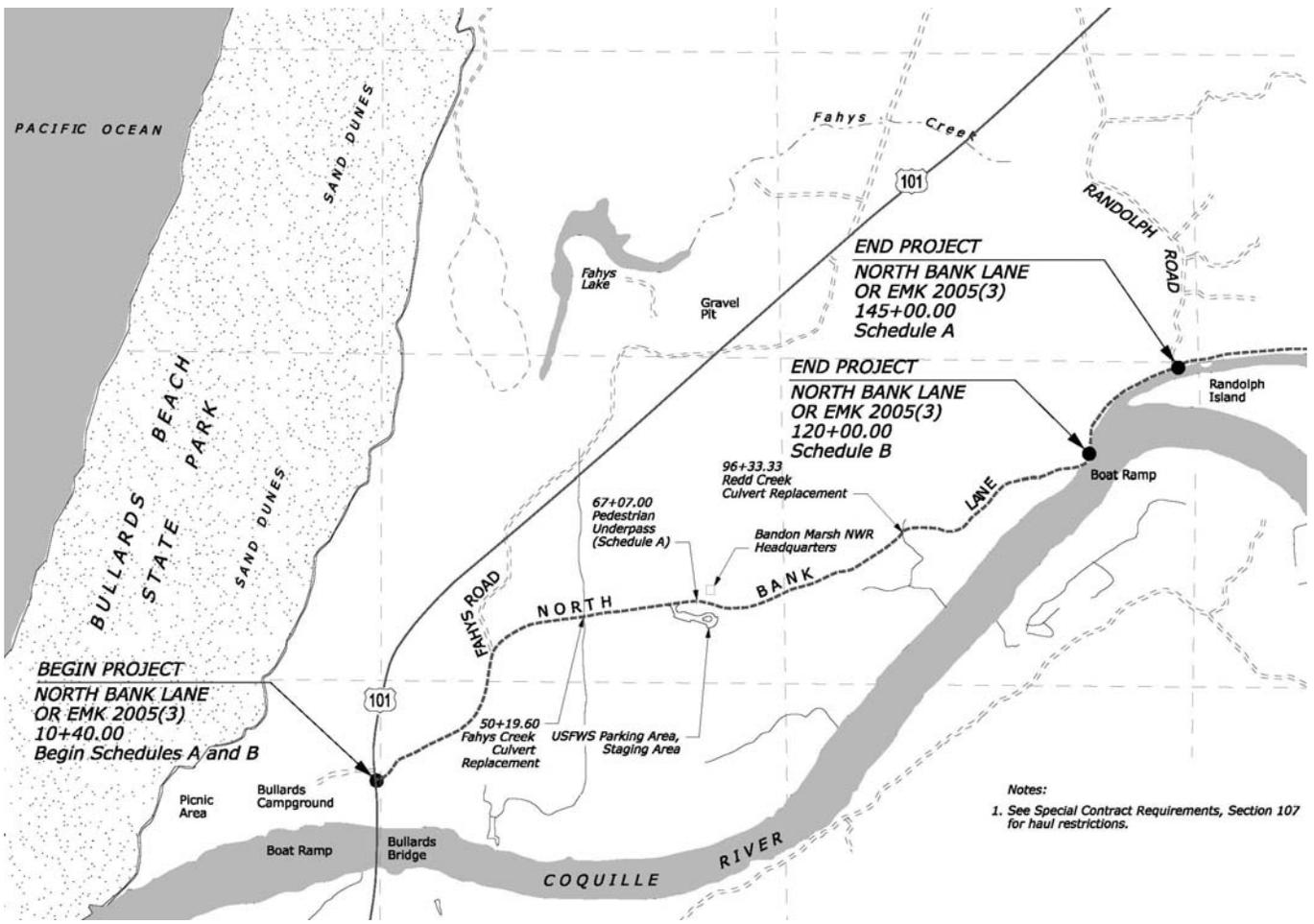
### Contractor's Work Schedule

Monday thru Friday - Hours: 7am – 5pm

### Traffic Delay Information

There are no traffic delays anticipated between July 6 – July 12, 2010





Notes:  
 1. See Special Contract Requirements, Section 107 for haul restrictions.