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North Umpqua Highway Newsletter

Progress Report

Paving began on July 30th. Most of the shoulder widening and gravel areas have been paved back as of last Friday August 3rd. The remaining gravel area at Milepost (MP) 58.6, below Toketee-Rigdon Road, will be paved next week. **This week, the contractor will be working through Saturday August 11th. The work will consist of the continuation of paving the bottom lift of asphalt pavement and completing the milling/removal of the top 2-inches of existing pavement ahead of the new pavement placement. The contractor plans to continue working longer shifts and work on Fridays for the next several weeks until paving is completed or until further notice. Work on Saturdays is not expected after this weekend but may occur if necessary to complete stages that are necessary before opening up to traffic.**

Construction of the remaining deep patch/full width reconstruction section below Medicine Creek has been postponed this week to avoid further traffic congestion in the lower half of the work zone. This deep patch work is re-scheduled to begin on August 13th in the “S” curves near MP 53.5, below Medicine Creek. Work under traffic control will occur 24 hours per day for approximately one week in this section until the work is completed. A detour will be constructed around the full-width deep patch area and will be under 24-hour traffic control for traffic safety until the work is completed and the road is re-paved in this area.

During work hours, flaggers and pilot cars will provide alternating one-way traffic to facilitate public travel.

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

August 6 – 11th
Monday thru Saturday
Hours: 6am – 8pm

Traffic Delay Information

Expect delays up to 20 minutes

