

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Aug. 14, 2015

UPDATE: Please note that the road closure and detour are now scheduled to begin at 6 a.m. Monday, Aug. 17.

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Detour on State Route 4 north of Cathlamet begins August 17 Elochoman River Slough culvert replacement will improve fish habitat

CATHLAMET – Drivers and bicyclists who use State Route 4 west of Cathlamet should plan for an eight-week detour this summer.

Contractor crews working for the Washington State Department of Transportation will temporarily close both directions of SR 4 between Risk Road and Elochoman Valley Road from Monday, Aug. 17 to Oct. 2.

During the closure, crews will replace two small-scale culverts with two larger fish-friendly box culverts<<http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/Projects/SR4/ElochomanRiverCulvertReplacement/>>. The new culverts measure 12 feet tall and up to 20 feet wide.

"Replacing culverts this size is challenging work, and not something we can do overnight," said Project Engineer Lori Figone. "More than 2,200 vehicles use this highway each day. While we have a detour in place, drivers should be prepared for backups."

Project benefits

- Reduces the risk of damage caused by water going over the roadway, creating potentially hazardous conditions for drivers.
- Allows more room for debris to move through the culverts, reducing costs of regular maintenance to clean out the culverts.
- Links the Elochoman River Slough to the Columbia River providing improved fish passage to the tidal marsh lands north of SR 4.

Detour information for SR 4 drivers

- Eastbound: Turn left onto Risk Road, turn right on Foster Road, turn right on Elochoman Valley Road to return to SR 4.
- Westbound: Turn right onto Elochoman Valley Road, turn left on Foster Road, turn left on Risk Road to return to SR 4.
- Bicycle traffic is permitted; however, the detour route has narrow shoulders.
- Oversized loads are restricted from using the detour route.

Check the latest highway conditions on the Travel Alerts page<<http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/regions/southwest/construction/>> or by using the WSDOT mobile app<<http://www.wsdot.com/Inform/mobile.htm>>.

Hyperlinks within the release:

- Replace culverts:
www.wsdot.wa.gov/Projects/SR4/ElochomanRiverCulvertReplacement/<<http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/Projects/SR4/ElochomanRiverCulvertReplacement/>>
- Travel alerts:
www.wsdot.wa.gov/regions/southwest/construction/<<http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/regions/southwest/construction/>>
- Mobile app: www.wsdot.com/Inform/mobile.htm<<http://www.wsdot.com/Inform/mobile.htm>>

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