



Pacific Northwest Region
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News Release

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Wallowa Mountain Loop Road (Forest Service Road 39) Closes on October 15th for Continued Construction

BAKER CITY, OREGON – The 13-mile stretch of the Wallowa Mountain Loop Road, also known as the North Pine section of Forest Service Road (FSR) 39, is still under construction and will be closing on October 15th for the winter, to allow the contractor to complete major repairs in preparation for paving next summer and fall. This North Pine section of FSR 39 begins at the junction of Highway 86 (10 miles east of Halfway, Oregon), heads north for 13 miles on FSR 39, and ends at the junction with FSR 66 (Duck Creek/Fish Lake Road).

Forest Service Road 66 remains the detour route, was in good condition this summer, and will continue to be open until snow fall. This 30-mile detour route is a single-lane gravel road with turnouts. It is suitable for vehicles with trailers; however is not recommended for motor homes or motorcycles.

“We realize that this construction is an inconvenience, especially for hunters this time of the year. We are hopeful the public understands the need to close the North Pine section of the 39 Road because there are sections of the road that will be totally rebuilt, with no room for travelling around the construction. The result of this



for the greatest good

NEWS RELEASE

(continued)

inconvenience will pay off in the long run, with this newly paved section of FSR 39 after next fall,” expressed Kris Stein, Hells Canyon National Recreation Area Ranger.

Currently and until October 15th, visitors travelling the Wallowa Mountain Loop Road can expect to encounter more construction activity in this 13-mile stretch of the road, with up to one hour delays until October 15th. The contractor has until November 30, 2015 to complete this project.

As a reminder, the construction schedule remains the same for this next year as well:

- **October 15, 2014 to June 15, 2015:** Construction work on the 13-mile North Pine section of FSR 39 continues and this section of the road will be closed until June 15, which will begin the next phase of the construction, roadway excavation (see next bullet). (see detour route FSR 66).
- **June 16, 2015 to June 30 2015:** The 13-mile North Pine section of FSR 39 will be closed beginning at 8:00 am every Tuesday morning through 5:00 pm every Thursday evening 6/16/14 – 6/30/14. The road will be open at 5:01 pm every Thursday evening through 7:59 am every Tuesday morning for travel 6/16/14 – 6/30/14. However, it’s important to note that the road surface will be rough as it is still under construction during these open periods. (see detour route FSR 66)
- **July 1, 2015 to October 15, 2015:** Visitors can expect up to one hour delays on the 13-mile North Pine section of FSR 39 or use the detour. Construction activities will be on-going, so please drive responsibility through the construction zone (see detour route FSR 66).

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