

Southwest Oregon Culverts (Pilot Program)

Starting in the summer of 2015, ODOT will administer a pilot program that will repair or replace more than 150 culverts along Oregon 38 and U.S. 101 in Douglas County and Coos County.

The program, which consists of several individual culvert projects, was created by ODOT and the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) in an effort to provide much-needed culvert repairs while making necessary improvements for fish passage.



Many of the culverts in these areas are aging and damaged. Some pipes require frequent maintenance or back up during storms. Poor drainage and erosion can compromise the integrity of the road surface. Other culverts present a barrier to fish passage.

The least complicated culverts will be addressed first, while those that are more difficult to stage will be delivered later. The first project, scheduled for summer 2015, will focus on repairing small culverts along Oregon 38. The following winter, another project will repair and replace small culverts under U.S. 101. In 2016 and 2017, construction will involve small and medium size culverts on both highways, and most large culverts will be addressed in 2017 or 2018. Several of these large culverts will be replaced with bridges, providing a natural streambed for fish. All construction will be completed by the end of 2018.

Construction impacts

Most small culvert repairs will require intermittent shoulder and lane closures for a day or two. Small culverts replacements will require a lane closure for 2-3 days, with flaggers providing traffic control.

Large culvert replacement and bridge construction will have a greater impact to the traveling public. In these areas, motorists should expect single-lane closures for several months. Traffic control will be provided by either flaggers or a temporary signal.

Traffic delays at most locations will be a couple of minutes. However, due to the large number of culverts under construction, there may be more than one active work zone on each highway, so motorists may be stopped multiple times on each trip.

ODOT will notify local media prior to any traffic impacts. During construction, updates on this and other ODOT projects will be available online at www.tripcheck.com. Starting in July 2015, additional information can be found at www.SouthwestOregonCulverts.com.

Large culverts on Oregon 38

Unnamed creek (MP 7.5): New culvert
 Hoagland Creek (MP 8.8): New culvert
 Luder Creek (MP 11.6): New bridge
 Burchard Creek (MP 21.5): New bridge
 Grabb Creek (MP 25.1): New bridge
 Scott Creek (MP 25.6): New culvert
 Green Creek (MP 41.9): New culvert

Large culverts on U.S. 101

Clear Creek (MP 221.1): New culvert
 Eel Creek (MP 222.7): Repair outlet
 Southport Slough (MP 244.0): New open-bottom culvert

Luder Creek will be replaced in 2016. All other large culverts are scheduled for construction in 2017-18.

Project Fast Facts

- Location** Oregon 38 and U.S. 101 (Coos, Douglas County)
- Overall budget** \$30 million
- Construction timeline** Summer 2015 to fall 2018
- General Goals**
 - Improve drainage
 - Reduce maintenance costs
 - Improve fish passage

Need More Information?

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