



The A, B, C's of U.S. 395 mile markers in Oregon

If you drive far on U.S. Highway 395 in Oregon you may notice something different about the small green paddle signs that mark the miles on this major north-south route that runs between the Washington State and Nevada borders. Depending on which section of U.S. 395 you're on, you might see the letter "B", "C", "D" or "E" after the mile number. The letters are there to help emergency responders and ODOT crews identify specific highway sections when a mile post number is given as the location of a crash, stranded motorists, highway hazard or other incident.

Although U.S. 395 is a north-south route, there are several short segments where the highway follows and becomes part of some east-west routes on its journey through Oregon. Each time U.S. 395 splits off from following another highway (such as I-84, U.S. 26 and U.S. 20) to continue its solo venture south, the mile markers re-set to zero. This proved confusing for travelers and emergency service providers when mile post numbers were provided as a location of a stranded vehicle or other highway incident.

"Basically, if a person called for help and said they were stranded at mile post four on U.S. 395, it could be interpreted as any one of several different locations along the route," said ODOT Public Information Officer Tom Strandberg.

Typically, travelers could identify a local city or other landmark that indicated which section they were on, but it could be confusing at times, especially for travelers not familiar with the area.

"The alpha designators now create a single and unique mile point on the highway for emergency responders and other crews," he said.



Mile marker on U.S. 395 south of Ukiah

Here's a breakdown of the U.S. Hwy. 395 mile post (MP) marker alpha designators in Oregon:

Alpha

Designator / MP

Highway Section

None MP 0-12:

From U.S. 730 (near Washington border) to I-84 (south of Stanfield).

B MP 0-121-B:

From I-84 (in Pendleton) to U.S. 26 (in Mt. Vernon).

C MP 0-68-C:

From U.S. 26 (in John Day) to U.S. 20 (near Burns).

D MP 0-90-D:

From U.S. 20 (near Riley) to junction of OR 31 (23 miles north of Lakeview).

E MP 120-157-E:

*From OR 31 (23 miles north of Lakeview) to California border.
(This section picks up OR 31 MP numbers, starting at MP 120)*

ODOT