



# Background

## Region 1

### Rebuilding Oregon 35

Barring bad weather or other unforeseen conditions, the highway could reopen by Friday, Dec. 15.

#### What Happened

A massive debris flow and sudden changes to the paths of several rivers on the east side of Mt. Hood severely damaged Oregon 35. About 2.5 miles of the road are washed out, undercut and/or covered by massive boulders (some larger than pickup trucks) and mud. An estimated two million cubic yards of material—mud, trees and boulders—washed down the mountainside.

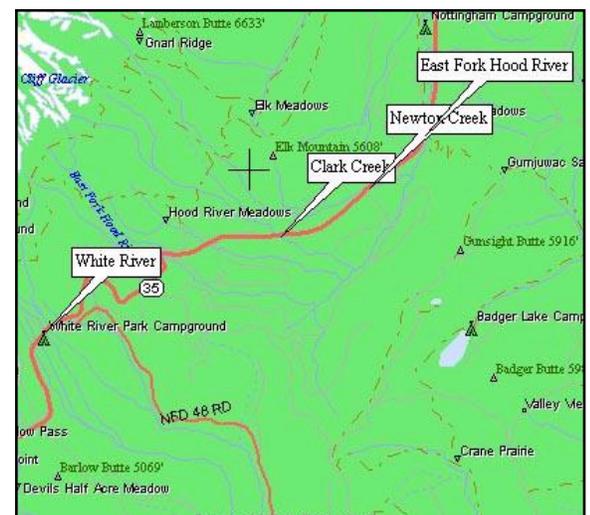


#### Impact

The White River dug a new channel through the road, completely burying the old channel (both over and under the White River Bridge) in mud and boulders. Washouts and undercuts occurred at Clark and Newton Creeks and along the East Fork of the Hood River (milepost 63).

#### Steps to Rebuild *(Updated 11/29/2006)*

Large culvert pipes have been installed on the new river channel near the White River Bridge, and the road has been rebuilt above the culvert. Next, about 200 thousand cubic yards (20 thousand normal-sized dump truck loads) of newly-deposited material in the White River Bridge area will be trucked to the Clark and Newton Creek areas, to be used to fill in the washouts so the highway can be rebuilt in those areas.



Dump trucks are expected to be coming and going around the clock to accomplish this as soon as possible. Once the highway is rebuilt at Clark and Newton Creeks, the road can re-open while work continues to clean out under the White River Bridge—this work should not interfere with the road.

33 pieces of equipment are currently working on the project (bulldozers, excavators, loaders, a rock crusher, etc.), including 25 10-yard dump trucks (standard size), three 25-yard dump trucks (huge trucks typically used in mining operations) and six 30-yard dump trucks (huge trucks typically used in mining operations). The worksite receives between 2 and 12 inches of new snow each day. Earlier this week workers experienced 40 mph winds and near white-out conditions.



### **Reopening Schedule**

The highway will remain closed until safe passage is possible.

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