

**East end of McKenzie Highway (OR 242) open on weekends to cyclists and pedestrians to Dee Wright Observatory and Obsidian Trail Head**

7-29-08

Sisters - Safety projects to replace two bridges and remove hazard trees will keep the old McKenzie Highway, OR 242, closed for much of the Summer 2008.

On the east end of the highway (Sisters end), danger tree removal operations are underway in the Deschutes National Forest west of Sisters to remove hazardous trees.

On weekdays, cyclists and pedestrians will be allowed above the snow gate at mile point 83.7 up to the logging area only; that location will vary as work progresses and will be posted with signs. On weekends the logging operation will shut down, allowing cyclists and pedestrians to proceed up to the Obsidian trail head at mile point 70.8. The highway west of Obsidian trail head remains closed to all vehicles and pedestrians due to bridge replacement work.

The west end (McKenzie Bridge end) of the highway is open up to the Alder Springs snow gate at mile point 65.9. Due to bridge replacement work above the snow gate no vehicles, cyclists or pedestrians will be allowed beyond the snow gate.

##ODOT##