



Oregon Department of Transportation

NEWS RELEASE

Region 4 *Wasco, Sherman, Gilliam, Jefferson, Wheeler, Deschutes, Crook, Klamath and Lake Counties*

February 26, 2009

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

For More Information: Peter Murphy, Public Information Officer

541-388-6224

01-004-R4

Repairs Due For The Dalles Bridge

THE DALLES -- Over the past two winter seasons, The Dalles Bridge suffered ill-effects from use as the primary detour for US 97 traffic due to closure of the Biggs (Sam Hill) Bridge for deck replacement.

Increased truck and vehicle traffic caused a corresponding increase in signs of distress on the bridge.

Oregon Department of Transportation inspectors have determined that repairs must be made to The Dalles Bridge deck, which will involve the closures of a single lane at times, subject to flagging.

While repairs are being made traffic will be restricted to one lane and to loads of no more than ten feet wide.

Delays are expected to be no more than 5 minutes in duration but will continue for about 6 weeks.

Lane closures on The Dalles Bridge will occur from 6am on March 9 and continue until April 24, with the exception of the week of Spring Break in Oregon. ODOT crews will be working Monday through Thursday during the daylight hours to effect repairs and limit traffic to one lane with flaggers while work is underway. Flaggers will remain posted during evening and night hours to protect the area of repairs. On weekends, the Bridge will be fully functional beginning Friday mornings for the duration of the project.

There will be no work performed during the week of March 20 through March 29.

The Washington Department of Transportation has removed the load limit on The Biggs Bridge.

##ODOT##

For updated information on highway work and current travel information throughout Oregon, visit www.tripcheck.com or call the Oregon road report at 511 or 1-800-977-6368
Visit the ODOT News Media Center at www.oregon.gov/ODOT/COMM
