



Date: Feb. 4, 2014

NR number: 14020425

For more information: Tom Strandberg - (541) 963-1330

## Public Meeting schedule Feb. **27** in Wallowa re: **Whiskey Cr. Culvert Project**

WALLOWA, Ore. – The Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) will host a Public Open House Meeting **February 27** to provide information and hear comments regarding the **Whiskey Creek Culvert Replacement Project**. The purpose of the open house is to present information about the project and advise motorists of a planned 14 day closure this summer of Whiskey Creek Road at the work site, approximately 5.5 miles east of Wallowa, to accommodate the work. The meeting will be held **6 – 7 p.m.** at the Wallowa City Hall, 104 N. Pine Street, Wallowa. All interested parties are encouraged to attend.

“The project has two goals,” said ODOT Project Leader Ken Patterson. “The first is to remove an existing fish passage barrier for steelhead and Chinook salmon. Additionally, the existing culvert is showing signs of failure and is in need of replacement. A new single span bridge will be constructed to address those issues.”



*Inside the existing Whiskey Creek Culvert*

The Western Federal Lands Highway Program is providing the funding for the estimated \$350,000 project. Due to site constraints, the plan is to close Whiskey Creek Road at the project site for about two weeks, sometime between July 15 and August 15. This time coincides with the in-water work period for the protection of fish. To expedite the work and reduce road closure times, rapid reconstruction methods will be used to build the new bridge. These will include installing bridge pilings prior to closing the road and using precast bridge abutment walls and deck slabs to save valuable construction time.

“ODOT realizes the 14-day road closure this summer will result in some impacts to travelers and we will work to get the route open as soon as possible,” Patterson said. “We encourage anyone who

has an interest in the project or uses this roadway to attend the public meeting and share their comments.”

More information is also available by contacting Ken Patterson at 541-963-1365, or by email at [kenneth.e.patterson@odot.state.or.us](mailto:kenneth.e.patterson@odot.state.or.us). A project location map is attached.

### Project Location Map

