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I-5 ramp at Oregon 38 to close for several weeks

Short detour will be in place for southbound motorists heading to Drain, Oregon coast

DRAIN – The southbound Interstate 5 off-ramp at the Oregon 38 junction (Exit 162) will be closed up to 33 days starting Monday morning, June 16, due to road construction. A detour will be in place and motorists should expect congestion and delays through the work zone.

While the ramp is closed, southbound I-5 motorists heading to Drain, Elkton and Reedsport can take the off-ramp at Curtin (Exit 163) and detour through Bear Creek Road and Curtin Road to Oregon 38 (Umpqua Highway). Message boards and detour signs will be in place.

This 1½ mile detour runs through a residential area. The speed limit has been reduced to 35 mph on Curtin Road and motorists are advised to drive with caution and watch for children at play. Local law enforcement will patrol the area.

Due to ongoing congestion and potential delays, motorists from outside the area should also consider alternate routes to the coast, such as Oregon 126 (Florence-Eugene Highway).

The ramp closure will allow workers to repair damaged concrete in the adjacent southbound lane. The \$18.5 million *I-5: Martin Creek to Anlauf Paving* project will repair or replace several sections of concrete between Cottage Grove and Drain.

Although the ramp may be closed several weeks, ODOT and prime contractor Oregon Mainline Paving are working on an expedited construction schedule with the goal of opening the ramp as soon as possible.

For the latest road and travel information, visit www.Tripcheck.com or dial 511. For more project information, go to: <http://www.oregon.gov/ODOT/HWY/REGION3/Pages/martincreek.aspx>.

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