



**George Washington & Jefferson National Forests
Glenwood-Pedlar Ranger District
27 Ranger Lane
Natural Bridge Station, VA 24579**

**Contact: DAVID WHITMORE or ANNIE DOWNING
(540) 291-2188**

August 25, 2009

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**PEDLAR RIVER ROAD (Forest Service Road #39) CLOSED TO THROUGH TRAFFIC
DURING CULVERT REPLACEMENT**

Natural Bridge Station, VA --- The Pedlar River Road (Forest Service Road #39) in Amherst County will be closed to through traffic beginning on or around September 1 while the Forest Service replaces culverts at the Little Irish Creek crossing. This crossing is located just north of the Appalachian Trail footbridge crossing the Pedlar River. Access to the Pedlar River Road will be available from US Route 60 and Forest Road 315 (Panther Falls Road) and from State Route 607 and Forest Service Road 311 (Little Irish Creek); however, there will be no through traffic. The closure may last up to two months.

“We are using a new culvert design that can move more water during larger rain events, minimizing future road damage” said Glenwood-Pedlar District Ranger Annie Downing. “The open bottom design also allows fish and other aquatic species to travel freely in Little Irish Creek.”

Visitors traveling in the vicinity of the Pedlar River Road should use alternate travel routes while the road is closed. Appalachian Trail hikers using the trailhead below the Lynchburg Dam are encouraged to travel from the State Route 607 end.

-USFS-