



Forest Service

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News Release



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Forest Service to assess damage to Cub Run Road

(February 18, 2015) Edinburg, Va. - Forest Service engineers will begin assessing the damage on Cub Run Road in Page County, Virginia the week of February 23, 2015, if good weather prevails. The same sections of Cub Run Road will remain closed during the damage assessment, which is anticipated to take two weeks. In addition, Pitt Springs Road will close at the intersection of Pitt Springs Road and Cub Run Road to minimize conflicts with heavy equipment and protect public safety. The public is discouraged from visiting Catherine Furnace during this time.

“We are fully invested in opening the road, if we can provide safe access,” states Acting Lee District Ranger, Barry Garten. “Until we begin assessing the road, we will not know the true extent of the damage. We may find we can do a minor amount of repairs and restore the road to its previous condition or we may find the repairs needed to ensure the road is safe are extensive and well beyond our financial means - or anywhere in between.”

In December 2013, the foundation on a section of the popular and historic Cub Run Road (Forest Road #65) collapsed, causing significant erosion into the nearby creek bed. Forest Service engineers and a team from the Federal Highway Administration reviewed the site and rendered the road unsafe for vehicle traffic due to risk of collapse. The rock foundation supporting Cub Run Road was constructed for wagon travel prior to the Civil War. The stone foundation was not built to withstand the types of vehicles and amount of use we see today. Cub Run Road has remained closed since December 2013.

“If we are able to fix minor repairs to restore the road to its previous state, we will monitor the road and if we find additional structural issues, the road will be closed again. It is important to remember that even if we can repair a temporary fix, the road still needs expensive

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reconstruction to provide long-term access,” Garten explains. “If we find the road is in a state that cannot be fixed with minor repairs and funding, we will close the road until we obtain the financial means to re-construct the road.”

The first nine miles of Cub Run Road from the south remain open; however, drivers must return back through Runkles Gap to leave the area. Approximately 90% of the road remains open to vehicle traffic.

For updates on the status of Cub Run Road and Pitt Springs Road, please call the Lee District office at (540) 984-4101 Monday through Friday during business hours.

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