



A Construction Guide to the Eastern Sierra, *Current as of 7/10/15*

There are a lot construction projects on or near the Inyo National Forest this summer that require visitors to plan carefully. Some are overseen by the forest, some are overseen by Mono County and the Federal Highway Administration, and others by Cal Trans. Be sure to pack your patience and remember, while it still construction, you are in beautiful Eastern Sierra. From north to south:

Lee Vining Rock Fall Safety Project (CalTrans): Construction underway: The project is designed improve safety by minimizing rocks falling from the steep adjacent slopes onto US Hwy 395. A temporary traffic signal is installed and traffic will be reduced to one lane with a 24/7 reversing traffic pattern. Be prepared for daily lane closures with delays no longer than 20 minutes, Monday thru Thursday from 5:00 am to 8:00 pm and Fridays 6:00 am to 3:00 pm with flaggers and a pilot car. One hour delays could occur Monday thru Thursday from 6:00 am to 7:00 am. Notices will be posted when exact dates become available for the one hour closures.

Rush Creek Thin Blanket Project (Caltrans) will begin 7/13/15. Hwy 395, two miles south of the southern junction of State Route 120 East to the northern junction of State Route 120 West (6 miles). This project will place a hot mix asphalt overlay, place shoulder backing in various locations, fog seal shoulders, and paint traffic stripes. Drivers should anticipate daily lane closures on Hwy 395 Monday – Thursday from 6:00 am to 7:00 pm and on Friday's from 6:00 am to 3:00 pm. Roads connecting to US Hwy 395 within the project can expect five to ten minute delays when intersections are being paved. No delays are expected for US Hwy 395 through traffic. This project is scheduled to be completed by September 2015.

June Lake Streets Rehabilitation (Mono County): Underway. June Lake Beach Parking Lots are completed as are most town roads. Striping should begin the week of 7/13/15. Expect temporary delays. The work began in late June and is expected to last two months. While the roads are expected to remain open to traffic throughout the project, visitors may experience delays. Parking will be extremely limited within the construction zone, including June Lake Beach Parking Lot. Please carpool if possible. When roadside parking, ensure that your vehicle is entirely off pavement and obey "No Parking" signs.

Convict Lake Road Rehabilitation (Mono County and Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and Accessible Trail Reconstruction (Inyo National Forest and FHWA): The work will begin in July and is expected to last for four months. The roadway will be reconstructed and widened with a uphill bicycle lane from the intersection with Highway 395 to the day-use parking area at the end of the road on the east side of the lake. While the road will remain open to traffic throughout the project, expect delays of up to 30 minutes. At certain times, the road may need



to be closed for longer periods of time. These closures will be planned approximately two weeks in advance. Parking areas may be limited at times while construction work is completed. Construction will be suspended over all weekends and for Memorial Day, the Independence Day holiday, and Labor Day.

The paved path around the east side of the lake will be reconstructed to be fully accessible with hardened access points down to the lake edge. The paved trail will be closed for the duration of the project, but alternative pedestrian access will be provided around the construction.

Rock Creek Road Reconstruction (Mono County and FHWA), second (and last) year:

Underway. The project will improve the road, widen it, and provide a bicycle climbing lane along a nine-mile stretch between the Rock Creek Pack Station and Crowley Lake Drive. While the road will remain open to traffic throughout the project, visitors may experience delays of up to 30 minutes. Parking will be extremely limited within the construction zone, including trailhead parking areas for the Hilton Lake trailhead. Please carpool if possible. When roadside parking, ensure that your vehicle is entirely off pavement and obey "No Parking" signs. Construction will be suspended over all weekends and for Memorial Day weekend, the Independence Day holiday, and Labor Day weekend.

South Lake Parking Lot Repaving (Inyo National Forest): The South Lake parking lots will be closed from September 8, 2015 until October 30, 2015 (7 weeks). Boat ramp and trailer parking will not be available during the closure. The road will be closed at the La Hupp Picnic Area, which will be used to accommodate vehicle turnaround, but not parking. Recreational vehicles and vehicles with trailers will not be permitted use of the South Lake Road beyond Willow Campground during this construction closure. Roadside parking will be authorized along South Lake Road, down canyon from Parchers Resort. Parking at Parchers Resort or at Rainbow Pack Station is only for customers. Hiking access to South Lake, Bishop Pass Trail, and Treasure Lakes will be via Parchers Resort and the Rainbow Pack Station. It is approximately one mile to connect to the Bishop Pass Trail at South Lake from this location.

South White Mountain Shoulders (Caltrans): Highway 6 from Mono postmile 0.8 to 2.4. Traffic may experience up to 20 minutes delay due to road construction from July 13 through August 1, 2015.

Thinking ahead to 2016?

Whitney Portal Road Reconstruction: (Inyo County and FHWA): A major reconstruction of the Whitney Portal Road is planned for the 2016 season (that's next year, not this year). Hikers, backpackers, campers, and other users should plan for road closures (up to three hours), limited parking, carpooling, and a lot of patience. More information will become available as the project approaches.

Silver Lake Campground Repaving: (Inyo National Forest): Resurfacing of the Silver Lake Campground in the June Lake Loop is planned for the 2016 season. Recreationalists should plan for the campground to be closed during this construction project. The time frame has not been established; however it is anticipated that it will be later in the summer.