News Release

Umatilla National Forest

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High Water Closes Forest Road near Dale

Pendleton, OR: The North Fork John Day River, near the town of Dale, is overflowing the river channel and causing damage to Forest Road 55. The river is washing away the edge of the road and damaging the road bed.

Kevin Martin, Umatilla National Forest Supervisor, has closed Forest Road 55 to motorized vehicles from its junction with State Highway 395 to its junction with Forest Road 5505, east of Dale.

"We are closing this portion of Forest Road 55 to protect the public from hazards associated with flooding," said Martin.

The warm weather forecasted for the weekend has the potential to continue melting the record level snow pack in the higher elevations. Motorists are cautioned not to drive through water on the road.

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