



NEWS RELEASE

Lolo National Forest

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United States
Department of Agriculture

Forest Service
Lolo National Forest
Building 24, Fort Missoula
Missoula, Montana 59804

For Immediate Release

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Construction to Begin Monday Along Rock Creek Road

Missoula, MT. – Road improvement work, a culvert replacement and the installation of a retaining wall along Rock Creek Road will begin Monday, June 23 and continue over a two-month period this summer. The work will be limited to weekdays but will require two short-term road closures for up to five days. The dates for those closures have not yet been announced. Motorists should expect to encounter delays of up to 30 minutes along Rock Creek Road over the two month construction period.

The construction will greatly improve the long-term condition of the road, and in the case of the culvert replacement and retaining wall, reduce potential sediment flowing into Rock Creek.

The reduced potential sediment delivery will directly benefit fish habitat. In addition, the removal and replacement of the existing undersized culvert near Cougar Creek with a pre-cast concrete bridge will allow for fish movement along a natural stream bed. The bridge will also be sized to pass large flood flows.

The construction activity will be occurring at the following points along Rock Creek Road:

- New retaining wall at mile marker 19.50 (just south of Butte Cabin trailhead) for a length of 550 feet
- Culvert replacement at mile marker 23.8 (near Cougar Creek). The existing culvert will be replaced with a pre-cast concrete bridge
- Reconstruction of the entrance to Dallas Campground to improve the road surface.

An alternate route into the Rock Creek area is through Phillipsburg, then along Highway 348 and west to the old Gillis Bridge. Motorists can then cross the bridge and turn right to access Upper Rock Creek.

For current information on road work and potential delays, please contact the Missoula Ranger District at (406) 329-3814.

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