

NEWS RELEASE CONTENT

from Public Works provided to the Commissioners' Office on
4/6/07 for their weekly news column

During the past 15 months, Tillamook County suffered through 3 federally declared disaster events with damage to numerous County roads. For the past year, Road Department staff has worked with federal agencies to assess the scope and cost of related road repairs. For damage to higher traffic volume public roads, financial damage assistance comes from the Emergency Relief program of the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA). For other public roads, assistance comes from Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). Staff has met regularly with representatives from both federal agencies. Repairs and reimbursement from the December 2005-January 2006 storm event have been completed. Cost and damage assessments from the November and December 2006 storm events are mostly complete. Now staff is working to schedule needed permitting, access permissions to affected abutting parcels and the actual repair work for this next Summer. At a 75% reimbursement rate, County expects to receive about \$150,000 from FEMA for damage received in late 2006. Assessment and cost figures are still being developed at 2 remaining larger FHWA sites including the culvert damage site at the South end of South Prairie Road (November 2006) and the Tillamook River Road guardrail/embankment failure (December 2005). Public Works wishes to acknowledge the strong and timely support work for the County put in by Michael Smith of FEMA.