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Land of Cheese, Trees and Ocean Breeze

01-07-2010

RUBBER MEETS THE ROAD by Liane Welch

For additional information, contact:

Tillamook County Public Works
503-842-3419 or email jsteinba@co.tillamook.or.us

South Prairie Road – Fawcett Creek Bridge



TILLAMOOK, Ore.—South Prairie Road at Fawcett Creek opened ahead of schedule to all through traffic on December 28, 2009. The Fawcett Creek culvert collapsed in November 2008. Ninety percent of the funding for this bridge came from the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and with a ten percent match by Tillamook County Road Department. An analysis was performed to determine whether the County should construct a bridge or replace the culvert. Based on that analysis, FHWA determined that they would fund a bridge.

The contractor began working on the project in July 2009 by removing the existing roadway and isolating the active stream channel. Once the stream was routed through a pipe down the center of the channel, the contractor began excavation work to install permanent riprap scour protection. In August, permanent steel pilings were driven at both bridge abutments, and by the end of the month the concrete pile caps were formed and poured. In September, the new roadway sub-grade was constructed and the precast pre-stressed concrete bridge beams were delivered and set on the two abutments. The remainder of the month of September and part of October were spent forming the bridge deck and tying the steel reinforcements. The bridge deck was poured near the end of October. The contractor then focused on placing base rock on the existing roadway sub-grade and performing miscellaneous grading, drainage and road work.

The Tillamook County Road Department thanks the travelling public for their cooperation during the construction of this bridge. Please remember to keep the travelling public and road workers safe by following the speed signs in construction zones. For more information call your Road Department at 503-842-3419.

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We take pride in serving the public by providing, maintaining, and preserving a safe and efficient county road network, and quickly responding to weather events and hazards. We protect the public's investment by working with our partners and targeting resources to minimize long term costs while providing the best possible service. Please visit <http://www.co.tillamook.or.us/Various/Departments/Default.htm> for more information.