

October 28, 2003

Bear Creek-Dewatto Road – Road Closure – MP 4.0 (at Blacksmith Creek)

During the recent rainstorm – October 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup>, a large cross culvert under Bear Creek Dewatto Road was washed out at Blacksmith Creek (milepost 4.0) taking a large section of the roadway with it.

Instead of placing a temporary bridge at this location, Public Works is trying to obtain the necessary authorization from the Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) to install a permanent structure. As soon as we have an approved direction from WDFW, we will order the culvert and begin preparatory work. After the culvert is received, we will be able to get it in place shortly thereafter.

The County Engineer and Commissioner Wes Johnson met with representatives from the Washington State Department of Transportation October 24<sup>th</sup>, and reviewed the site. As soon as we have an approved direction from the State, we will order the culvert. That will take about 3 weeks for fabrication and delivery. After the culvert is received, we will be able to get it in place shortly thereafter.

Chief Mike Green of Mason County Fire District No. 2 was contacted and provided us with the following information:

Kitsap County Fire will respond from their side, and Mason County Fire District No. 2 will respond from the Collins Lake station. Response time to calls west of the road closure will be delayed.

If further information is required, please feel free to call the Public Works office at (360) 427-9670, Ext. 450; or, from Belfair: (360) 275-4467, Ext. 450.