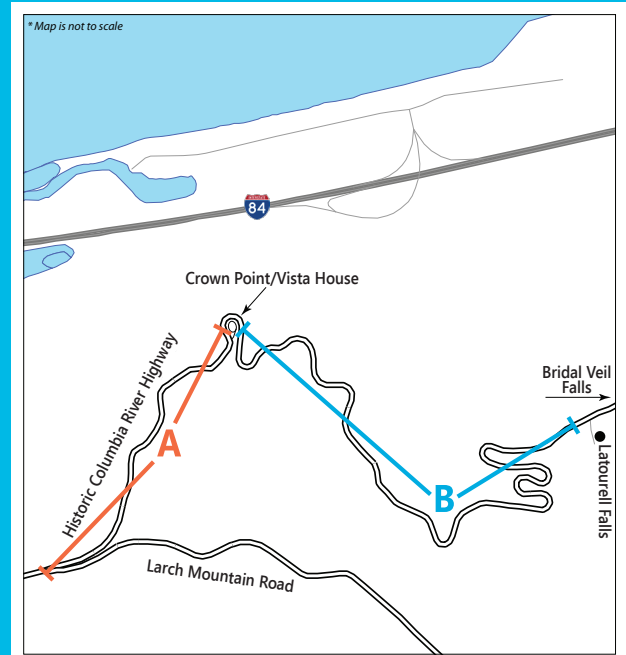


CROWN POINT VIADUCT RESTORATION PROJECT PROJECT UPDATE

MARCH 2013

**Historic Highway
traffic delays and
road closures at
Crown Point:
March to
mid-June, 2013**



Historic Columbia River Highway (Historic Route 30) Driving Restrictions Larch Mountain Rd. to Latourell Falls (Sections A and B on map)

March – April 14, 2013

- Periodic single lane road closures with traffic delays of up to 30 minutes
- Vista House open daily, 10 am - 4 pm

April 15 – May 23, 2013

- Closed to all vehicles (including bicycles and pedestrians)
- Vista House closed



May 24, 2013 – 12 am to Noon

- Periodic single lane road closures with traffic delays of up to 30 minutes
- Vista House open at 9 am

Memorial Day Weekend: May 24 (Noon) – May 27 (Midnight), 2013

- No traffic restrictions
- Vista House open daily, 9 am - 6 pm

May 28 – Mid-June, 2013

- Periodic single lane road closures with traffic delays of up to 30 minutes
- Vista House open daily, 9 am - 6 pm

NOTE: Access for local residents in Latourell will be maintained throughout the project.

A two-year construction program to restore the Crown Point Viaduct at Vista House and portions of the Historic Columbia River Highway began in mid-July 2012. It is currently scheduled to be completed by the end of May 2013, with the potential for construction to continue through mid-June. Closures and traffic delays are necessary due to the complexity of the repairs being undertaken and the challenging work environment in the Columbia River Gorge. The Federal Highway Administration, Western Federal Lands Highway Division, is working with the Oregon Department of Transportation and the Oregon Parks and Recreation Department to minimize travel impacts to Vista House visitors and other users of the Historic Highway.

For More Information: www.wfl.fhwa.dot.gov/projects/or/crownpoint



What and where is the Crown Point Viaduct?

The Crown Point Viaduct is an approximately 600-foot-long concrete structure located on the Historic Columbia River Highway (HCRH, Historic Route 30) adjacent to Vista House.

The purpose of this structure is to carry the highway around the rock formation at Crown Point which was a serious obstacle to its construction in 1914. It includes a seven-foot-wide sidewalk, a foundation wall along the inside of the viaduct, and 29 support columns.

The Crown Point Viaduct/Vista House complex provides over one million visitors each year an opportunity to experience exceptional views of the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area. The HCRH is one of only two roads in the United States designated as a National Historic Landmark, a National Scenic Byway, and a National Historic District.

While the focus is rehabilitation of the Crown Point Viaduct, the project also includes restoration of portions of HCRH (Historic Route 30) between Larch Mountain Road and Crown Point and between Crown Point and Latourell Falls. Vista House at Crown Point was recently remodeled and no additional improvements to it are proposed as part of this road improvement project.

Why is restoration needed?

Nearly one hundred years old, the viaduct structure and retaining walls are deteriorating. If left unrepaired, the structure and walls could fail and have significant safety impacts, as well as result in loss of this historic structure. Without restoring and repairing the viaduct, the Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) would most likely need to impose weight restrictions for vehicles, which could prevent buses, RVs and other large vehicles from traveling the HCRH and accessing Crown Point. Restriction of access to the HCRH and Crown Point would have significant adverse effects on the local and regional economy.

The viaduct restoration has been designed to maintain the original appearance as much as practical. Due to its historical nature, replacement of the structure is not considered an option because rehabilitation options are available. The rehabilitated structure and retaining walls will have a color and texture similar to the weathered original existing structure to the extent practical.

When will construction occur?

Construction is occurring in two major phases, with the first phase completed in January 2013. The second phase is currently underway, with completion by mid-June 2013.

What types of traffic control will be needed?

Given the unique nature of this construction, partial and full road closures will be necessary at specific times. Travel delays can be expected throughout the spring construction period. See the schedule above for planned traffic controls in 2013.

Where can up-to-date construction information be obtained?

Regular project updates will be posted on the Project website (see below) and on a variety of other websites, including those for ODOT, Oregon Parks and Recreation Department, chambers of commerce, and tourism groups. Businesses and property owners in the vicinity can expect to receive direct mailings; flyers will also be posted in nearby community locations. Portable reader boards will notify travelers of road closures and travel delays.

For more information about this project, please refer to the project website at the address below or contact Mike Odom, Project Manager, at Mike.odom@dot.gov.



U.S. Department
of Transportation

Federal Highway
Administration



Western Federal Lands Highway Division
Federal Highway Administration



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