



National Park Service
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Mount Rainier National Park News Release

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For Immediate Release

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FLOOD DAMAGE REPAIR TO BEGIN ON NISQUALLY AND STEVENS CANYON ROADS IN MOUNT RAINIER NATIONAL PARK – Damaged Stevens Canyon Road Section Closed During Repair

Mount Rainier National Park Acting Superintendent Randy King announces that repair of the Nisqually Road at MP 12.3 (Glacier Hill) and Stevens Canyon Road at MP 14.1 (east of Backbone Ridge Viewpoint), damaged during the January 2009 flood, will soon begin.

The award for the repair contract was made by Western Federal Lands Highway Division (WFLHD) to Randolph Construction Services, Inc. of Pasco, WA for \$965,407. The Notice to Proceed is tentatively scheduled to be issued on June 15 with a completion date of July 31, 2009. During the construction period Stevens Canyon Road will be open to the public from the Stevens Canyon Wye to Box Canyon from the west and to the Grove of the Patriarchs from the east. Through traffic on Stevens Canyon will not be allowed until the road is repaired.

Repair of the road damage at MP12.3 on the Nisqually Road (just east of the long bridge over the Nisqually River) will necessitate alternating one-lane through traffic. Visitors should anticipate delays up to 20 minutes maximum at this location.

“We have been working closely with WFLHD geotechnical/design engineers in assessing the damage and developing repair strategies,” Acting Superintendent King said.

At present, the Stevens Canyon Road is open to traffic from the west to Box Canyon MP 8.6 (measured from the Stevens Canyon Wye intersection with the Nisqually Road) and from the east to the Grove of the Patriarchs (approx. 0.2 miles from intersection with SR 123). Visitors will have the option of traveling between the west and east sides of the park between Ashford and Packwood via Forest Service Road 52 (Skate Creek Road-scheduled to open by June 15) or via U.S. 12/S.R. 7.

Updated information on this project may be obtained by calling Mount Rainier National Park at 360-569-2166. Information on this project, as well as general park information, is also available on Mount Rainier National Park's web page www.nps.gov/mora

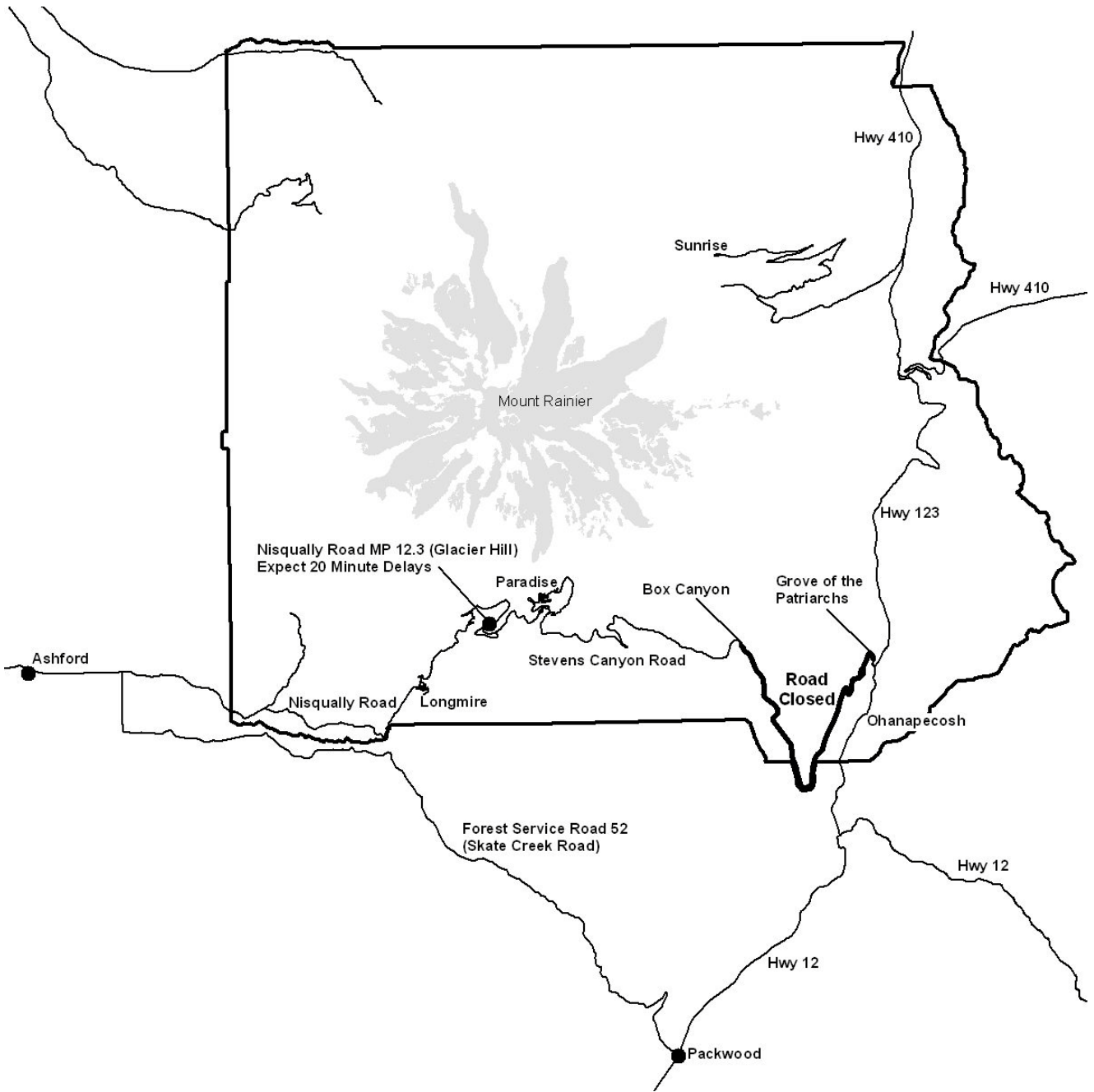
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NOTE: Drivers can now get real time traffic and weather information by dialing 5-1-1 from most phones. This new traveler information system builds upon the highly successful Washington State Highway hotline that manages 4.6 million calls each year. Callers can also use 5-1-1 to get statewide construction, mountain pass conditions, and state ferry system information, as well as toll free numbers for passenger rail and airlines. TTY users can call 1-800-833-6388.

Mount Rainier and area road map on page 2

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