

WSDOT: SR 409 Puget Island Bridge Painting and Deck Replacement project update

Work to paint the SR 409 Puget Island Bridge is on schedule. This week, crews wrapped up one section of painting work.

Setting up and taking down the containment system and lane closure takes time away from work being done on the bridge. We received requests from the Wahkiakum County Chamber of Commerce and the Sheriff's Department to keep one lane of the bridge closed during the 4th of July holiday and during the Bald Eagle Days later in July to help expedite the bridge work.

We consulted with community leaders, who all agreed, keeping the lane closure in place will get the work done faster and has minimal impact on travel. With that in mind, we've agreed to let contractor crews keep one lane of the highway closed during the 4th of July holiday and during the Bald Eagle Days. Traffic on both directions of the bridge will continue to alternate through a single lane of the highway around-the-clock. Reminder: During construction, the speed limit across the entire span of the bridge is 25 mph.

Overnight bridge closures will be needed while crews remove the worn asphalt and aged timber decking to install a new deck. The subcontractor doing the deck replacement work will mobilize into the area on Monday, July 9, though it is still too soon to tell when the bridge closures will begin. To help you plan we will certainly make sure to share that information with you via email once we have it, and the information will also be posted on our Travel Advisory web page: www.wsdot.wa.gov/regions/southwest/construction/

Once deck replacement work begins, total overnight bridge closures will occur from 9 p.m. to 5 a.m., on Sundays through Thursdays. We are working with local emergency services to ensure there is emergency access on and off the island during closures. The Wahkiakum County Ferry will run free of charge during the overnight closure hours.

Please let us know if you have questions or comments about the project.

Tamara Greenwell

360-905-2056

