



Columbia County Road Department

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Apiary Road Culvert Work to Be Completed Between July 22nd and August 10th

The Columbia County Road Department will begin work to replace a failing Culvert on Apiary Road beginning Wednesday, July 22nd through Monday, August 10th 2009. The closure will last for 2 ½ weeks and crews will be working overtime to complete this large project within the timeframe. The dates and the delivery of the new culvert have been confirmed. Road Department Staff have also determined that there is no possible way to build a detour route around the work area. The Road Department asks Apiary Road users to be aware that the road closure will require extra time for residents. A foot bridge and a parking area for residents, will be provided.

Because of the condition of the culvert and the need to complete the work prior to the Hood to Coast Race that is scheduled for August 29th and 30th the Columbia County Road Department will be closing Apiary Road for 2 ½ weeks to complete the culvert replacement in as short a time as possible.

County Road Department Director Dave Hill provided the Commission with pictures and summarized the condition of the culvert as failing and if not replaced before this next winter season, would almost certainly require weight restrictions on Apiary Road. Hill said that the bottom of the culvert is pushing up at the center, which means that there is pressure from the top and the sides forcing the culvert up. The culvert is also sagging and separated at the joint. The fill from this culvert is primarily sand and the high water has washed away much of the backfill around the pipe, which has eliminated the support for the pipe. Because the pipe is pushed up in the center, there will be more undermining and

erosion that will cause debris to plug the culvert, and create a high probability that when the winter weather comes the culvert not be able to handle the flow and put water over the top of the road.