



# NEWS RELEASE

**Today's Date:** Thursday, September 3, 2015

**District:** 05 – Santa Barbara, San Luis Obispo, Monterey, San Benito and Santa Cruz Counties

**Contact:** Susana Z Cruz (bilingual) or Colin Jones

**Phone:** (805) 549-3138 or 549-3189

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## Update #4

### **HIGHWAY 9 FULL CLOSURE AT HENRY COWELL STATE PARK BETWEEN FELTON AND PARADISE PARK COMMUNITY NORTH OF SANTA CRUZ CONTINUES**

SANTA CRUZ COUNTY– Crews continue upgrading Highway 9 by constructing a retaining wall and viaduct, as well as modifying drainage system at Location 1, which consists of an extended full closure of a nearly 1-mile section of the highway (Mile Marker 3.55 to 4.4) at the Northern Henry Cowell State Park Boundary from Felton to the Paradise Park Community north of Santa Cruz which began February 10. The roadwork schedule will be as follows:

**Location 1:** (Northern Henry Cowell Boundary -- from Felton to the Paradise Park Community)

Full, 24-hour closure for six to eight months; completion is expected by **Friday, October 16.**

10-15 minute delays anticipated for additional travel time due to the detour.

**No driveways/intersections will be closed at Location 1. There will be access for all residences and businesses.**

**Locations 2-4, beginning in June: COMPLETED END OF AUGUST (except for final paving)**

Location 2: between Alba Rd. and Western Ave. (near Ben Lomond)

Location 3: near San Lorenzo Avenue (near Brookdale)

Location 4: north of McGaffigan Mill

This is a very difficult project to construct and maintenance is required to keep the highway in good condition. This area of Highway 9 has limited access, exceptionally steep slopes, hard granitic foundation materials, large trees and stumps and a constricted work window to avoid environmental impacts. With all of these challenges, the progress continues to be slower than expected. Location 1 is currently 80% complete. We estimate the highway being opened in mid-October. Electronic message signs are posted alerting motorists of this closure. **Motorists can use Hwy. 17 to Mt. Hermon Rd. or Graham Hill Road (bicyclists too) as the detour/alternate route.**

**NOTE: ALL BUSINESS WITHIN THE PROJECT LIMITS REMAIN OPEN. Caltrans would like to thank the Hwy. 9 community for its patience during this project.**

The contractor for this \$2 million project is Graniterock Company of San Jose, CA. Caltrans reminds motorists to move over and slow down when driving through highway work zones.



Photo of the viaduct deck forms, poured yesterday, Sept. 2.

