



June 17, 2010

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE-----

Mosquito Lake Road-Middle Fork Bridge No. 140

OPEN Friday, June 18, 2010 – 5:00 PM

The Whatcom County Public Works Department and Tiger Construction are pleased to announce the completion of the Mosquito Lake Road-Middle Fork Bridge Rehabilitation project, located approximately 5.5 miles south of the Mt. Baker Highway. The bridge will re-open to traffic at approximately 5:00 PM on Friday June 18th, 2010.

The rehabilitation included replacement of the approach spans, removal and replacement of the decking, new guardrails, replacement of many structural steel members, repainting the bridge and installing scour protection in the river. The project cost was approximately \$2.3 million and was 100% federally funded.

There are a few issues that the Public should be aware of:

- 1) There will be a brief (approximately 2 day) closure in mid-July to finish coating portions of the new concrete approach spans. This closure will be coordinated with other County work on the next bridge to the north, Porter Creek.
- 2) There is a small bump on the west (Acme) end of the bridge where the steel truss meets the concrete approach span. This is due to a fit-up problem on the truss expansion plates. We will be correcting this problem during the short closure in July. In the meantime, we have signed this location with a "bump" sign.
- 3) Additional cleanup work will be continuing at the project site for the next couple weeks. Drivers should use caution, watch for construction equipment, and anticipate that there may be periods of flagged traffic at the bridge. Delays are expected to be minimal.

Whatcom County Public Works would like to thank the public for their patience during this long project. Questions should be directed to Whatcom County Public Works

360-715-7450