



NEWS RELEASE

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West Coast Contractors Utilizes Their Construction Expertise on Sweet Creek Road *Oregon community finally receives greatly needed repairs on vital collector road*

COOS BAY, OREGON – OCTOBER, 2011 – As the largest lumber producing state in the nation, Oregon's timber revenues are nearly \$9.6 billion annually.¹ To bring such a valuable product to market, Oregon's timber industry must have the state's highway system in working order. Sweet Creek Road, a collector road, connects nearly 70 families and tens of thousands of acres of private and recreational timber land to nearby Mapleton, Oregon and the Highway 126 corridor. Lying within a few feet of a bend in the Siuslaw River, a quarter-mile section of the roadway has faced major weather damage and deterioration. West Coast Contractors (www.westcoastcontractors.com) based in Coos Bay, Oregon is employing their expertise to replace the damaged section of road. The repairs will allow local residents, tourists, Forest Service, and lumber companies to continue using the road which connects them to Highway 126, the major arterial for the area.

This section of Sweet Creek Road was originally built decades ago by dynamiting a rock face and building the road on top of the rubble. The result was a steep drop to the Siuslaw River on one side of the road, and a rock face on the other. Flooding, weather, and time have all taken their toll on the road. One lane has slipped into the river, causing the road to be reduced to a single lane for the past 18 months with traffic signals at either end regulating the traffic over the one-lane section. Over the years, several repairs have been made to shore up the road, but currents from the river along with the shifting rock base have continued to erode the bank.

With 50 years of expert heavy construction experience, West Coast Contractors will be using state-of-the-art construction methods to assure the road will hold up for many years to come. Employing the help of subcontractor Pacific Foundation of Vancouver, Washington, WCC will build a retaining wall made from reinforced concrete slabs and piling drilled into the rock bed. The wall will then be anchored deep into the rock with specialty drilling equipment to prevent further slides. WCC has also recommended design changes which provide a more stable road as well as reducing the construction time. One of these changes was to build two bridges over the less stable areas of the slide to prevent further settling of the rock base. This \$4.8M project has the full attention of one of WCC's experienced crews who are working to build strong foundations for a better future.

David Kronsteiner, President of West Coast Contractors, understands the value of Oregon's

¹ <http://www.oregon4biz.com/The-Oregon-Advantage/Industry/Forestry-and-Wood-Products/>



infrastructure. “Coming from a smaller local community, many of us at WCC know how important it is to maintain our roads and highways,” says Kronsteiner. “We want to take on this project with the speed and efficiency that our teams can deliver so we can keep Oregon moving.”

About West Coast Contractors

Founded in 1962, WCC is a general contractor that specializes in heavy construction projects including bridges, harbors, marine facilities, and governmental work. WCC is renowned for construction jobs that are able to withstand severe weather conditions, and is a leader in developing environmentally sound procedures for sensitive locations. Clients include the U.S. Corps of Engineers, United States Coast Guard, states of Oregon and California, Chevron, NOAA, Roseburg Forest Products, and the Ports of Morrow, Newport, and Coos Bay. For more information visit www.westcoastcontractors.com or contact Lindsey Beedle at Christie Communications at lbeedle@christiecomm.com or via phone at 805.969.3697.