



## **Deschutes National Forest Media Release**

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### **Danger Tree Removal Affects Travel and Trailheads on Cascade Lakes Highway**

Bend, Ore –Beginning Monday, contractors will be falling roadside danger trees along portions of the Cascade Lakes Highway and in adjacent trailhead and day use parking areas causing traffic delays on the roadway, temporary closures of trailhead and day use parking areas, and restricted roadside parking within work zones.

From September 13<sup>th</sup> to approximately the middle of October, traffic delays and restricted roadside parking can be expected along 17 miles of the Cascade Lakes Highway (Forest Road 46) within the work zone from the Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) sanding shed (near the junction of the Cascade Lakes Highway and Forest Road 4100-950) to the south end of Elk Lake (Forest Road 4625).

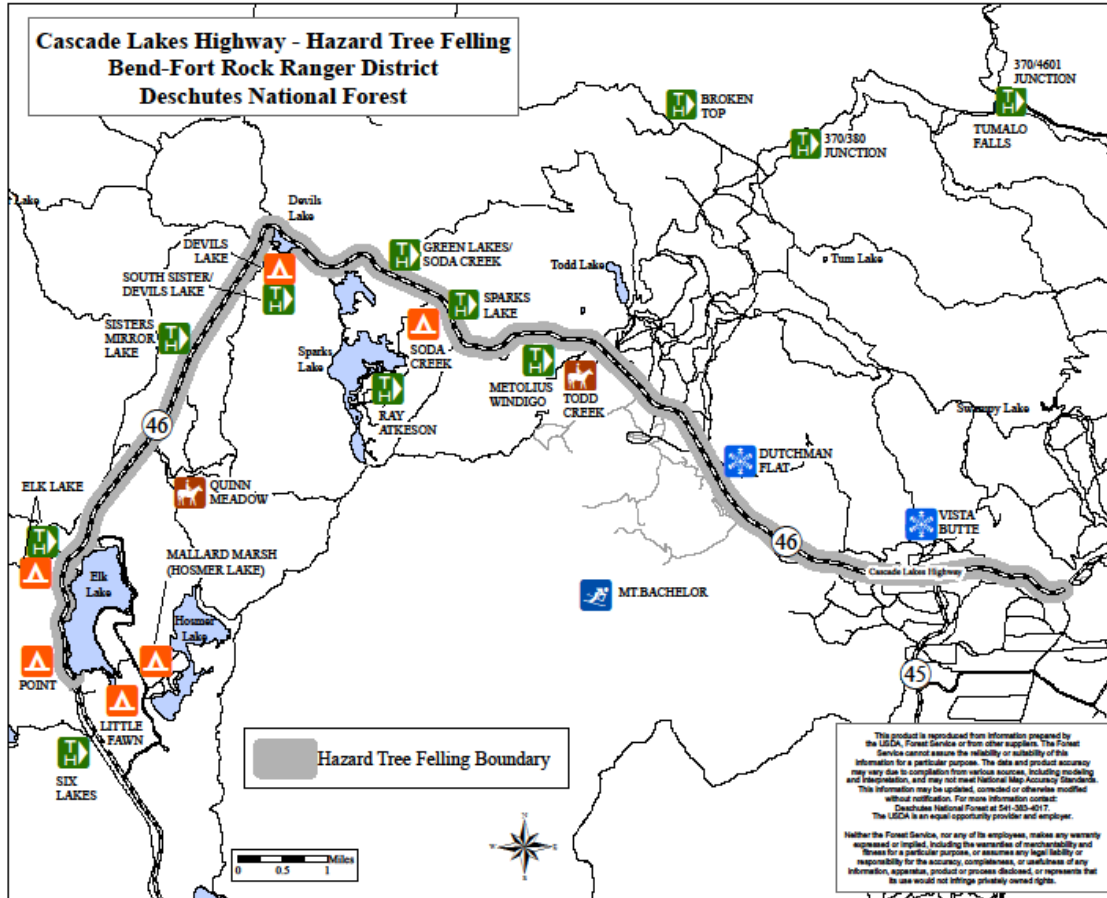
Falling activities along the portion of the Highway from the Todd Lake road junction west to the north end of the Elk Lake loop road will begin on September 13. Six trailheads and day use parking areas will be closed to all access, including foot traffic access, from September 13-15. The affected trailhead parking and day use areas include: Sparks Lake; Green Lakes/Soda Creek; South Sister/Devils Lake; Wickiup Plains; Sisters Mirror Lake and Quinn Meadow. Recreationists are encouraged to contact the Bend-Ft. Rock Ranger District (541-383-4000) for current information on closures.

Tree falling activities will occur only during weekdays. There will be no traffic delays or closures on weekends. Traffic guards and pilot cars will control traffic. Travelers can expect a maximum of a 20-minute delay.

Tree falling along the portion of the Highway from the ODOT sanding shed to the Todd Lake road junction and around the west side of Elk Lake is anticipated to occur in late September to early October. Campgrounds along this section of road will be closed for the season prior to falling activities. Additional details on traffic management for these sections will be available later this month.

During the project, trees will be felled in an area approximately 125 to 165-ft. along each side of the roadway. Material in these areas may be designated for removal for firewood or other

needs in the future; however no material will be removed at this time. The project is funded through American Recovery and Reinvestment Act dollars.



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