



SR 14 Rockfall Mitigation Project Frequently Asked Questions

Why is WSDOT closing SR 14?

Safety is number one at WSDOT. Crews will be blasting and scaling rock on the slope above SR 14. Rock will be falling constantly during these operations, and it is not safe for drivers to be in the limited area near the work zone.

The large equipment used to bring down rocks and debris takes up most of the highway when in operation.

WSDOT must also protect nearby railroad tracks and trains from damage or delay. This will be accomplished using a protective fence, set up in the eastbound lanes.

Between rocks falling, equipment moving and the use of protective fencing, SR 14 will neither be wide nor safe enough for traffic to use during rockfall operations.



Crews on I-90 perform rockfall work similar to what WSDOT will do on SR 14 this spring and summer.

Why close SR 14 in the summer?

It is too dangerous to perform rock scaling work in wet or wintry weather.

School is not in session, so the closures will not interfere with school bus schedules.

Summertime provides the most daylight so crews can get the maximum amount of work done each day. This will allow WSDOT to complete work in a single summer rather than stretching it out over multiple years.

The equipment required to do this work is not always available year-round. Performing rockfall work in the summer gets the work done more quickly and efficiently.

How will I get around the closures?

There are NO DETOURS available for the closures at **Dog Mountain**. Drivers are encouraged to use alternate routes, including Oregon's I-84. Several interstate bridges are available if drivers wish to cross before the closure point:

- I-5 Interstate Bridge
- I-205 Glenn Jackson Bridge
- Bridge of the Gods
- US 30 Hood River Bridge
- US 197 The Dalles Bridge
- US 97 Biggs Rapids-Sam Hill Bridge

For the closures near **White Salmon**, drivers can take SR 141 and the SR 141 Spur to get around the closed sections of SR 14. This detour has been tested and is drivable for all types of vehicles, including semi trucks.



Signs will direct drivers through the detour and flaggers will be stationed at some points to provide a safe and steady flow of traffic.

The Hood River Bridge will be open during the White Salmon area closures.

What about emergency services?

Emergency response units will be available on each side of the closure points to ensure responsive service in case of emergencies.

If emergency vehicles must pass through the closure points, crews will clear the highway as quickly as possible to let them pass safely.

Find more information on the Web at:

www.wsdot.wa.gov/projects/SR14/RockfallMitigationWhiteSalmon



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