

National Park Service Deat U.S. Department of the Interior Park

Death Valley National

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## **Death Valley** News Release

Release Date: FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Date: September 8, 2006

## Flood Damage at Death Valley National Park-Park Remains Open

On the evening of September 7, 2006, a storm cell dropped between ½ and 1 inch of precipitation on the Furnace Creek area of Death Valley National Park over the course of 45 minutes leading to localized flooding and debris flows. Park road crews were onscene immediately to assess damage and begin opening roadways. The park remains open to visitors.

Park Superintendent James T. Reynolds said that "we will get our roads open as quickly and as safely as possible" but urged caution to motorists along California Highway 190 between Zabriskie Point and the Beatty Cutoff Road due to debris and dust. Park road crews and CALTRANS road crews are currently working to open roads. Electrical and phone service in the southern part of the park (including the park headquarters and Furnace Creek Inn and Ranch Resort) have been out since the evening of September 7 but facilities remain open to visitors. The daytime high on September 8 is expected to be 109 degrees so visitors are cautioned to carry water and know that air-conditioned facilities may not be immediately available. Crews are working to restore electrical and phone service to all facilities by the evening of September 8. All services in the northern part of the park at Scotty's Castle are operational.

Additional updates will be provided as conditions change.

Current road conditions as of 11:00AM on September 8, 2006:

California Highway 190 (between Zabriskie Point and Beatty Cutoff Road): Open.

Watch for dust and debris on roadway and yield to road crews and machinery.

California Highway 190 (between Death Valley Junction and Zabriskie Point and

Between Beatty Cutoff and US395): Open.

Badwater Road: **CLOSED** 

Artists Drive: **CLOSED** 

West Side Road: CLOSED

Beatty Cutoff Road: Open. Watch for dust and debris on roadway.

Daylight Pass Road: Open. Watch for dust and debris on roadway.

Scotty's Castle Road: Open. Watch for debris on roadway at mile markers 1-3 and

23-25.

Emigrant Canyon Road: Open.

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