

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

Death Valley National

CA Highway 190 PO Box 579 Death Valley, CA 92328

> phone 760.786.3243 fax 760.786.3246

Death Valley News Release

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Contact: Rick Kendall, acting Public Information Officer

Phone: 760.786.2392 ext. 225
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Flood Damage at Death Valley National Park--Update

On the evening of September 7, 2006, a storm cell dropped between ½ and 1 inch of rain on the Furnace Creek area of Death Valley National Park over the course of 45 minutes leading to localized flooding and debris flows which damaged park facilities and roads. The park remains open to visitors as cleanup continues. In places with especially heavy flooding, roads were covered with more than eight feet of mud and gravel. Several unoccupied private vehicles parked in the path of the flooding at the Furnace Creek Inn parking lot were carried more than one hundred feet by floodwaters and deposited in mud and gravel. Some roads were also undercut by floodwaters and road crews are working to complete repairs. No injuries have been reported from the flood event.

On September 8, park and CALTRANS road crews worked to open several damaged sections of road in the park and electricity and phone service were restored late in the afternoon. Work will continue on park roads and facilities for several weeks and additional updates will be provided as conditions change.

Current road conditions as of 2:00PM on September 9, 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

Twenty Mule Team Canyon Road: CLOSED

Mustard Canyon Road: CLOSED

Beatty Cutoff Road: **Open.**Daylight Pass Road: **Open.**

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

23-25.

Emigrant Canyon Road: Open.

Photos:



NPS Photo

Floodwaters undercut portions of a service road in Death Valley National Park.



NPS Photo

Floodwaters from Furnace Creek Wash carried this unoccupied vehicle more than 100 feet down the Furnace Creek Inn parking lot.

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