

Mount Rainier National Park

Nisqually to Paradise Road Construction Update



Wayside Notes

A road well-travelled aptly describes the historic Nisqually to Paradise Road. It is the most common entry to popular destinations in Mount Rainier National Park. Like most roads that you travel, it too, requires maintenance and periodic repairs. Due to adverse winter weather road work must occur during the busy summer season.

This year the main focus is on the section from Longmire to Paradise although some work will take place between Nisqually Entrance and Longmire.

The road continually endures impacts from thousands of cars, buses, and RVs. It sustains damage from nature's forces: snow, ice freezing and thawing, rain, and more snow. The road is also impacted by fallen trees and the river meandering too close.

Improvements to the road will preserve its integrity as a popular scenic drive and provide continued safe access for years to come.

Did You Know? With humble beginnings as a wagon path in 1893, the Nisqually to Paradise Road served as the first road into the park, built in stages between 1904 and 1915. It was planned as a pleasure road that would conduct visitors through spectacular scenery in a manner most harmonious with the natural environment.

What to Expect

- **Road Work Has Begun.** Road work for the season is now underway on the Nisqually-Paradise Road. Approximate work locations this week are near Paradise and below Longmire.
- **Know Before You Go.** Road work will take place Monday through Friday. *No work is scheduled Saturday - Monday for the Memorial Day weekend.*
- **Be Prepared.** Expect delays up to 20 minutes at one stop. *Your total construction delay should not exceed 30 minutes.*
- **Plan Ahead.** Restroom facilities are located at Kautz Creek, Longmire, Narada Falls, and Paradise.
- **Drive Cautiously.** The road by design is narrow and winding with very little shoulder. Expect uneven surfaces, holes and bumps.

For more information go to:
<http://www.nps.gov/mora/parkmgmt/nisqually-paradise-road.htm>