

Mount Rainier National Park

Nisqually to Paradise Road Construction Update



Wayside Notes

In the early 1900's, the Nisqually to Paradise Road was built to offer the best views possible as visitors approached the mountain. As you can imagine, this historic route requires maintenance and periodic repairs. Due to adverse winter weather, road work must take place during the busy summer season.

This year the majority of the project will occur between Longmire and Paradise.

Each year thousands of vehicles, cycles of freeze and thaw and falling trees take their toll on the road. Improvements to the road are necessary to preserve its integrity as a popular and historic scenic drive and to provide continued safe access for years to come.

Just the Facts: Looking Like Fall

While the official start to fall happens on September 22, signs of the changing season have been popping up around the park for a few weeks. At Paradise, summer's wildflowers are replaced by the brilliant red and yellow leaves of blueberry, huckleberry and mountain ash shrubs throughout the meadows. In lower elevations throughout the park, vine and big leaf maple and red alder dot the valley floors and hillsides with color this time of year.

What to Expect

- **Road Construction** will take place until late October, 2016.
- **Work this week** will be focused, weather permitting on grading, paving and striping. At Paradise paving in both the upper and lower parking lots and in the lot in front of the Paradise Inn will take place throughout the week. Parking will be limited in both lots. Paving may occur anywhere along the route between Longmire and Paradise.
- **Paradise Overnight Parking** will be at the Paradise Picnic Area until September 23, 2016.
- **Vehicles parked in the closed area will be towed.**
- **Access.** Accessible parking spaces will be limited for the next week. Flaggers will direct visitors needing access to the Paradise Inn and Visitor Center.
- **Be Aware of Closures.** The entire Ricksecker Point Loop Road and the parking area at Glacier Bridge will be closed June through early fall. Possible weekday closures along the Paradise Valley Road.

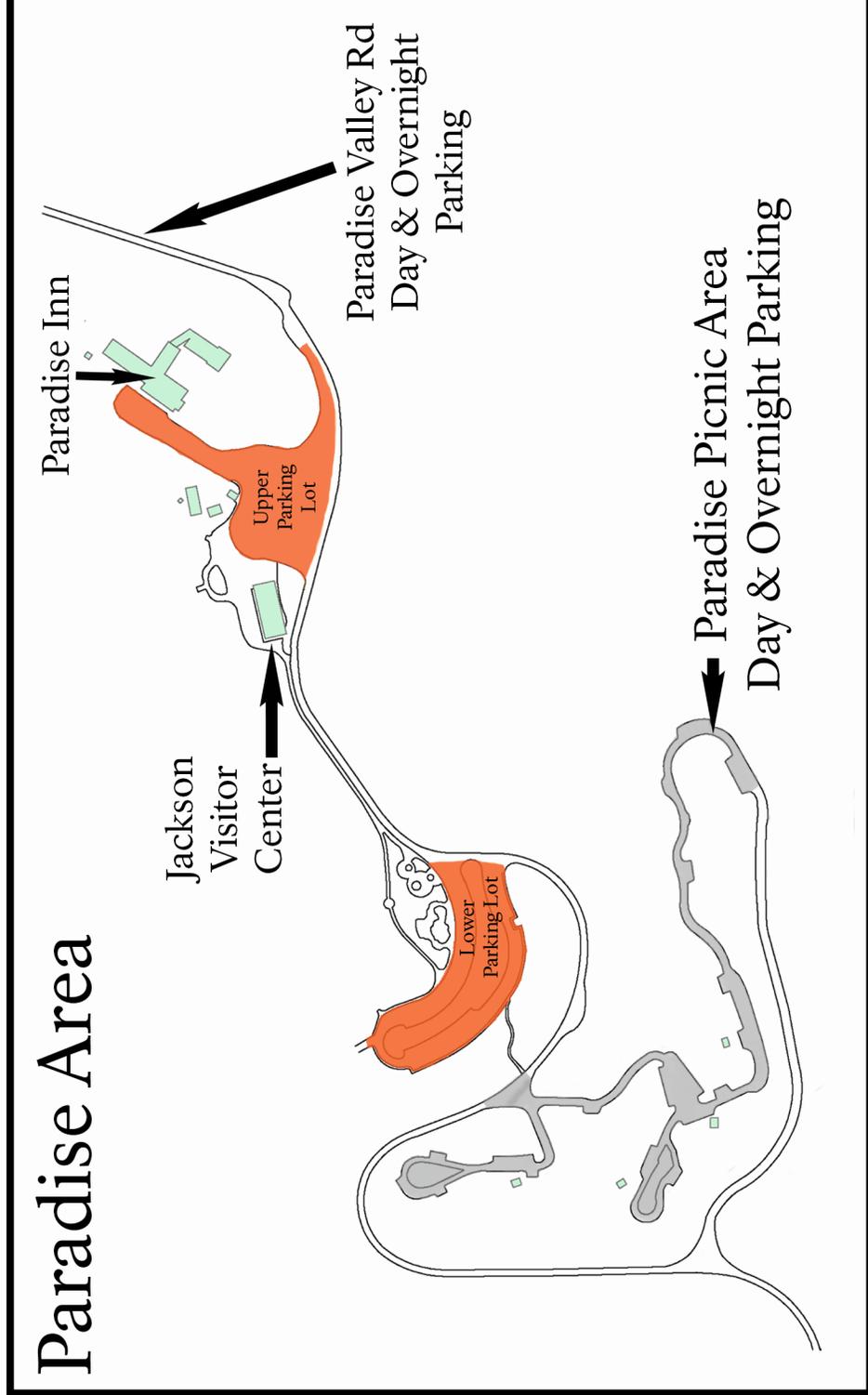
For more information go to:

<https://www.nps.gov/mora/getinvolved/nisqually-paradise-road.htm>

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Paradise Area



During construction operations 1/2 of The Upper Parking Lot and 1/2 of the Lower Parking Lot will be closed.

Park in designated areas.

 Construction Zones
park in designated areas

