

U.S. 95 THORNCREEK ROAD TO MOSCOW

MAY 2005

U.S. 95 Thorncreek Road to Moscow Profile: Juanita Lichthardt

Juanita Lichthardt is the lead biologist for the U.S. 95 Thorncreek Road to Moscow project. Juanita is a Research Ecologist with the Conservation Data Center who specializes in rare plant surveys, rare plant and plant community monitoring, and conservation planning.



For this project, Juanita has made a list of plant species of conservation concern that occur near the project area, or have high potential to occur there.

The plant species she will be looking for include:

- Piper's milkvetch
- Broad-fruit mariposa
- Spalding's catchfly
- Palouse milkvetch
- Palouse thistle
- Idaho hawksbeard
- Ample monkey-flower
- Palouse goldenweed
- Water howellia
- Green-band mariposa

She will use several methods to examine the area for these plant species.

- Aerial photos will be used to identify areas of uncultivated ground of ¼ acre or more
- Records of historical or known locations for plant species will be used
- Survey sites will be mapped and the plant communities present, and their condition, will be noted

Juanita has worked with the Conservation Data Center and Idaho Department of Fish & Game for 14 years. She has coauthored a number of reports on rare plants of the Palouse region. Juanita holds an MA in biology from Montana State University where her emphasis was in plant ecology. During the spring semester she teaches General Botany at the University of Idaho.

Juanita Lichthardt is scheduled to attend the June 14 breakfast meeting. Please see back for time and location.

CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

TOP OF LEWISTON HILL TO GENESEE

- The contractor is enlarging the pond at south end of the project and building a retaining wall at the beginning of the project on the east side of the proposed roadway
- Excavation has begun on the west side of the roadway on the south end of the project
- Two crushers located on Cow Creek Road will begin working two shifts per day, seven days per week, until this fall to crush aggregate for both projects
- Traffic delays are anticipated to be no longer than 15 minutes
- Expected completion of the project is spring 2007. Scarsella Bros., Inc. from Seattle is the prime contractor.

GENESEE TO THORNCREEK ROAD

- More than 200,000 cubic meters of materials have been excavated from the project site. Construction vehicles are traveling in and out of the work zone. Please use caution around these vehicles. Some traffic delays are possible during this work.
- Crews are working on drainage improvement structures
- Expected completion of the project is spring 2007. Scarsella Bros., Inc. from Seattle is the prime contractor.

KIOSK LOCATION CHANGING IN JUNE

The Idaho Transportation Department will be moving the information kiosk for the U.S. 95 Thorncreek Road to Moscow Project next month. Staffing days and times are also changing.

Starting June 14, the kiosk can be found at the Palouse Mall, 1850 W. Pullman Road, Moscow.

The kiosk will be staffed two days a week:
Mondays from 5:30-7:30 p.m.
and
Saturdays from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

The kiosk is updated regularly and contains project information including newsletters, brochures and notices of upcoming events.

MONTHLY BREAKFAST MEETING

Monthly breakfast meetings to provide project updates are held the second Tuesday of every month from 7 to 8 a.m. at the Mark IV Restaurant, 414 N. Main Street in Moscow.

Plant biologist Juanita Lichthardt is scheduled to speak at the June 14 meeting. See the profile inside this newsletter for more information about Juanita's work.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

- A summary and transcript of the comments received from the April 13 meeting is available on the project Web site www.itd.idaho.gov/GetInvolved/D2/ and click on U.S. 95, Thorncreek Road to Moscow, Stage 1. Follow the links to Public Involvement and click on Past Meetings.

Approximately 100 people signed in. There were 27 comments submitted including those received by mail and email.

- Email thorncreekroadtomoscow@itd.idaho.gov
- Call ITD Project Manager Ken Helm at 799-5090

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