

U.S. 95 THORNCREEK ROAD TO MOSCOW

AUGUST 2005

U.S. 95 Thorncreek Road to Moscow Profile: Ed Haagen



Ed Haagen is preparing an evaluation on the impact of a new roadway on prime agricultural land for the Idaho Transportation Department's U.S. 95 Thorncreek Road to Moscow Project.

Haagen is the principal of Haagen's Consulting, a GIS and resource analysis company located in Moscow.

Haagen will evaluate the project's alternatives/alignments for their impact on prime agricultural land. He will follow the Farmland Protection Policy Act (FPPA), Public Law 97-98, 7 U.S.C. 4201, and will use the Land Evaluation and Site Assessment (LESA) Protocol to determine the impact on agriculture for each alternative. This data will be part of the final Environmental Impact Statement.

The FPPA was passed as part of the Agriculture and Food Act of 1981 (Public Law 97-98), after Congress identified the need to implement programs and policies to protect farmland and combat urban sprawl.

The FPPA is intended to minimize the impact federal programs have on the irreversible conversion of farmland to non-agricultural uses. It assures that – to the extent possible – federal programs are administered to be compatible with state and local governments, and private programs and policies to protect farmland.

For the purpose of FPPA, farmland includes prime farmland, unique farmland and land of statewide or local importance. Farmland subject to FPPA requirements does not have to be currently used for cropland. It can be forest land, pastureland, cropland or other land. It does not include water or urban built-up land.

Prior to his current position, Haagen was the Resource Soil Scientist in north Idaho for the Natural Resources Conservation Service for 14 years.

The September breakfast meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, Sept. 13. The meeting will be held at the Sandpiper Grill Restaurant (formerly known as the Mark IV), 414 Main St. in Moscow, from 7 to 8 a.m.

CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

TOP OF LEWISTON HILL TO GENESEE

- Excavation has begun on the west side of the roadway on the south end of the project
- Two crushers located on Cow Creek Road are working two shifts per day, five 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 535,000 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.
- Rock base hauling is approximately 40 percent complete on the northbound lanes
- Paving the northbound lanes is expected to begin this fall
- Expected completion of the project is fall 2006. Scarsella Bros., Inc. from Seattle is the prime contractor.

In July and August, the information kiosk was staffed at the Moscow Farmer's Market. More than 500 people stopped by to ask questions, talk to project staff and learn more about the project.



KIOSK MOVED TO UNIVERSITY OF IDAHO

Earlier this month, the information kiosk for the U.S. 95 Thorncreek Road to Moscow Project moved to the University of Idaho. Staffing days and times have also changed.

The kiosk is now located on the second floor of the Idaho Commons Building, 875 Line St., at the south end of the building.

The kiosk will be staffed two days a week by someone who can answer questions about the project. Staffing days and times are:

**Tuesdays and Thursdays
from 3-5 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 are held the second Tuesday of every month from 7 to 8 a.m. at the Sandpiper Grill Restaurant (formerly known as the Mark IV), 414 N. Main Street in Moscow. The next breakfast meeting will be held Sept. 13.

The breakfast meeting topic will be the impact of a new roadway on prime agricultural land.

Ed Haagen, the principal of Haagen's Consulting, is the scheduled speaker. Haagen's Consulting is a GIS and resource analysis company. A profile of Ed is inside this newsletter.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

- Web site: www.itd.idaho.gov/GetInvolved/D2/ and click on U.S. 95, Thorncreek Road to Moscow, Stage 1
- Email: thorncreekroadtomoscow@itd.idaho.gov
- Call: ITD Project Manager Ken Helm at 799-5090

ITD THANKS YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED INTEREST IN THIS PROJECT

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