

US-199 reopens south of O'Brien after wildfire closure

September 5, 2023



US-199 (Redwood Highway) reopened over the weekend between O'Brien and the California border following a reduction in fire evacuation levels and the reopening of US-199 in California. The highway was closed due to fire activity from the [Smith River Complex](#).

Motorists are reminded that the Smith River Complex fires remain active. Watch for fire vehicles in the area and be prepared for the possibility of closures if fire conditions change.

Paving work on US-199 between Cave Junction and the California border paused in late August because of hazardous air quality from wildfires. As construction resumes on Sunday, Sept. 10, watch for lane closures, primarily at night. Flaggers and pilot cars will provide traffic control. Motorists should expect congestion and delays of up to 20 minutes. Motorists should slow down, drive with caution and allow extra space between vehicles.

Caltrans is controlling traffic on US-199 south of the Oregon border in the area affected by wildfire. Pilot cars are shuttling vehicles through the area using one lane. At the time of this release, motorists are advised to expect delays of up to an hour. For the latest updates on traffic in California, go to <https://roads.dot.ca.gov/>.

With the combined delays for construction and the shuttling of traffic in California, those traveling between the Rogue Valley and the coast may wish to continue using alternate routes or delay their trip. Motorists are encouraged to check the status of the fire and highways before traveling.

More information:

Oregon highways – <https://www.TripCheck.com>

California highways – <https://roads.dot.ca.gov/>

Smith River Complex – <https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident-information/casrf-smith-river-complex->