

UPPER HOH ROAD MILEPOST 4.0

Near record flows of the Hoh River washed out the Upper Hoh Rd embankment near milepost 4.0 beginning on Nov. 5, 2006. The usual winter flow of the Hoh River is approximately 5,000 cubic feet per second (cfs) --- at one time during the November 2006 storms the flow increased to 58,000 cfs.

Jefferson County Public Works responded immediately to the emergency to save the road. Bruch and Bruch Construction of Port Angeles was hired to construct a 400-foot long riprap revetment to protect the slope and replace the roadway embankment. Large rock was used to construct the base of the revetment. Smaller rock was placed on top of the base. The remainder of the slope extending up to roadway elevation was constructed of reinforced soil and re-vegetated with willows.

The \$300,000 repair was funded by the Emergency Relief Program of the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) since this roadway serves as the main access to Olympic National Park. Environmental mitigation for this project is anticipated to consist of replacement of a fish passage barrier culvert at Dismal Creek (Upper Hoh Rd milepost 9.0) in 2011. This work is also funded by FHWA.



Flooding of the Hoh River washed away the river bank adjacent to the Upper Hoh Rd – in some places to within less than a foot away from the road. The river bank that remained after flooding was unstable.



The erosion control blanket will biodegrade over time and willow roots will form a dense mat that will help to hold the embankment in place.



On April 17, 2007, three weeks after completion of bank reconstruction, willows and grasses began to sprout.