Glacier National Park Information Sheet – Spring 2015

Going-to-the-Sun Road – 2015: Top 10 Things You Need to Know

1. Glacier National Park is open year-round. Most visitor services and facilities are open May through September; however, autumn/winter/spring non-motorized recreation opportunities and primitive camping are available year round.

2. The Going-to-the-Sun Road (Sun Road), the first American roadway designated both a National Historic Landmark and a National Civil Engineering Landmark, began a multi-year rehabilitation in 2007. This project is a collaboration between the Federal Highway Administration, the National Park Service and Glacier National Park following concerns that this landmark road was in serious need of rehabilitation in order to preserve it for future generations. Accelerated night work and Shoulder season work (after mid-September and before mid-June) cause short-term impacts to the smallest numbers of park visitors.

3. The majority of the “Alpine” portion of the Road (Loop to Siyeh Bend) has undergone a facelift and reconstruction of numerous structural deficiencies. Last year construction focused on the segment between Rising Sun and Siyeh Bend following the shift of construction from the west side to the east side of the Sun Road. This year construction will be ongoing in this segment but will also expand to encompass construction operations essentially from Siyeh Bend to the St. Mary park boundary, a total of 15 miles, however, not all of this will be under construction at the same time.

4. Short traffic delays will occur in construction zones. Expect some one-lane directional travel and no more than a 30 minute total daytime delay. Night delays are not expected, however, if they occur, information will be advertised and signed in advance of the actual closure.

5. Schedules for the multi-year rehabilitation call for opening lower elevations in the spring as weather and work permits and opening the alpine section over Logan Pass from mid-June to mid-September. In 2015, the earliest the road will open is 7 a.m. Friday, June 19. Once open, the entire Sun Road will be open through 7 a.m. Monday, September 21, weather permitting. The St. Mary Campground will not be accessible by vehicle until June 5, 2015 due to construction operations in the area.

6. Regardless of reconstruction on the Sun Road, access to Logan Pass ends every year no later than the Monday following the third full weekend of October (October 19, 2015), weather permitting. Should snow storms and hazardous driving conditions prompt temporary closures prior to the projected October closure date; every effort will be made to reopen to Logan Pass as conditions permit.

7. More information about the Sun Road rehabilitation project and other visitor services is available at http://www.wfl.fhwa.dot.gov/projects/gtsr/. To receive email updates about the Going-to-the-Sun Road project, please email a request to gtsr@mail.wfl.fhwa.dot.gov.

8. For 2015, the Sun Road transit system operates July 1 through September 7 from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. Information and shuttles can be found at visitor/transit centers at Apgar and St. Mary after entering the park from either West Glacier or St. Mary.

9. An east-side hiker shuttle is also available for a fee. Guided park tours are available from park concessioners via boat, bus, foot and horse. For details, visit www.nps.gov/glac/planyourvisit/outdooractivities.htm.

10. Public scoping was completed on the Going-to-the-Sun Road Corridor Management Plan and EIS in September 2013. We are now in the process of developing alternatives. Please visit http://parkplanning.nps.gov/glac for more information.

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