



Upper Lake Mary Asphalt Project TEMPORARY CONSTRUCTION CLOSURE

NOTICE: Beginning September 2, Parking areas #1 and #2 at Upper Lake Mary will be closed for construction.

The parking lots and picnic area and restrooms will be closed until construction is complete – approximately 30 days. In the interim, please find a **safe** alternative for parking and picnicking.

The lake itself is still open. The boat ramp and day-use site at the Narrows (about 1 mile south of Parking Area #2 on Lake Mary Rd) will remain OPEN.

For more information please visit the Coconino National Forest website, www.coconinoforest.us, or contact the Peaks Ranger District 928-526-0866.



Upper Lake Mary Asphalt Project Talking Points

August 2008

What's being done?

A Forest Service contractor will be conducting work at Upper Lake Mary parking areas #1 and #2 – re-paving the parking areas, providing a new accessible concrete sidewalk from the south parking area to the Upper Lake Mary boat ramp #2 site, removing a retaining wall, which will provide a better parking area for Upper Lake Mary visitors.

This project will also improve the boating experience through renovated site amenities such as improved access for visitors, parking alignment and other markings, and resource protection.

As a safety precaution, parking areas #1 and #2 at Upper Lake Mary will be closed until construction is complete.

When is the work scheduled to start?

In order to minimize the impact to visitors, the construction is scheduled to start **after** Labor Day weekend, on September 2.

How long will the closure be?

Approximately 30 days. Be sure to check for updates on the Coconino National Forest Website (www.coconinoforest.us) or contact the Peaks Ranger Station at 928-526-0866.

Will there be foot-access to the banks of the Lake if we park elsewhere?

Yes. Only the parking lots, picnic areas, and restrooms will be closed for public use/entry due to the construction and heavy machinery working on site – the lake itself will still be open for public use.

Where else can we go to launch our boats? Are there any other picnic areas nearby?

The Narrows Boat Ramp and Day-Use Site will remain open throughout construction. Lower Lake Mary also has a picnic area. The hours at these day use facilities are from dawn to dusk.

In addition, there are several nearby campgrounds that may have open sites available for day-use. These usually have a fee, but are another solid option if you're looking for a picnic table and grill.

For example, Lakeview Campground is available for Picnic/day use (10 a.m to 4 p.m.) for a fee of \$7.00 up to 5 people.

Is camping/picnicking allowed on the far bank of Lake Mary (the bank opposite the highway?)

Yes. Please help us protect the Upper Lake Mary corridor by practicing “Leave No Trace” principles while picnicking or camping on the far bank of Upper Lake Mary. Leave the area cleaner than when you arrived.

Will traffic on FH3 (Lake Mary Rd) be affected by the construction?

Traffic shouldn't be affected by the construction activity, however, drivers should always use caution on FH3 – especially in the Lake Mary area where the road often sees heavy pedestrian and bicycle traffic.

Is this project funded by the Lake Mary Fee? How much will all this work cost?

No. This project is funded by a Boating Access Grant from Arizona Game and Fish (AGFD) and a Forest Service funding match. This is a collaborative process that began before the institution of the Lake Mary Fee. The grant funding is being applied toward replacing the asphalt and improving both parking areas at Upper Lake Mary. The total project cost is approximately \$412,000.

What's the difference? How will money from the Lake Mary Fee be used differently than the money from this and similar AGFD Grants?

The Lake Mary Fee and the fees for the nearby campgrounds are collected by a concessionaire: Recreation Resource Management (RRM). RRM uses these fees to maintain the sites on a daily basis, and to do smaller, routine repairs and maintenance on all the facilities, including Lake Mary. In general, money from collaborations like this are used for larger-scale projects.

Is more of *this type of work* planned for the other parking areas at the Lake?

Under the same FS and AGFD partnership, a proposed repaving project for the Narrows will be submitted in 2009 and for Lower Lake Mary in 2010, but nothing more is planned for this year.