

News Release
USDA Forest Service
Coronado National Forest
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www.fs.fed.us/r3/coronado



Effective Immediately

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(for news media use only)

TEMPORARY CLOSURE OF MONTOSA CANYON ROAD

Road Closed for Guardrail Installation

TUCSON, AZ (February 3, 2009) – The Smithsonian Institution, Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory, Fred Lawrence Whipple Observatory, will install a cable barrier-type guardrail on the Montosa Canyon Road (Forest Road 184) on the Nogales Ranger District, Coronado National Forest. The project is located on the road which leads from the Whipple Observatory Visitor Center to the observatory atop Mt. Hopkins. The road will be closed for the purpose of public safety during construction. The project is anticipated to continue through March 30, 2009

The guardrail construction section of Montosa Canyon Road (see attached map) will be closed to all public use Monday through Friday between the hours of 7:00 a.m. to 8:15 a.m., 8:45 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. The road will be open at all other times of the day and during weekends. Traffic control will include a flagman at each end of the road closure along with temporary traffic control signage.

For more information, the public is invited to contact the Nogales Ranger District at (520) 281-2296.