



Forest Service News Release

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Roads closed near Laurel Ponds due to monitoring well drilling

BISHOP, Calif. July 14, 2021 — Inyo National Forest and Mammoth Community Water District (MCWD) would like to inform the public of road closures beginning July 19 and lasting approximately six weeks, due to a well drilling project in the Laurel Pond area, located west of Mammoth Yosemite Airport.

“Because the well rig will be staged on roads, the well drilling will require closing of portions of several roads,” stated Mammoth District Ranger Gordon Martin. “We appreciate the public’s patience and understanding during the installation of these important monitoring wells.”

The MCWD operates much of their water and sewer system on National Forest System lands under a special use permit. Laurel Ponds receives treated wastewater from the MCWD treatment plant in town. The purpose of the monitoring wells is to monitor ground water quality around Laurel Pond.

The well drilling project consists of drilling four new monitoring wells to replace the current monitoring wells to provide better data. The old wells will be capped according to the California State Department of Water Resources standards. Drilling will take place seven days a week during daylight hours and will start on or about July 19, 2021 and take approximately six weeks to complete.

Please see this online map showing the locations of the road closures: <https://go.usa.gov/xF3D9> and the detailed schedule posted on the MCWD website: www.mcwd.dst.ca.us.

Any questions or concerns can be directed to Jake Trauscht, MCWD Assistant Engineer, at (760) 934-2596 ext. 290 or jtrauscht@mcwd.dst.ca.us.

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