



NEWS RELEASE

Today's Date: Friday, June 19, 2009 – 09-043
District: District 2 - Redding
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Advance animal detection warning system

REDDING – The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) District 2 and UC Berkeley Partners for Advance Transit and Highways will begin installation of an advance animal detection warning system and evaluation of the effectiveness of the system.

This project will use radar sensors to detect animal activity along a section of State Route 3 in Siskiyou County, near Fort Jones. Upon detection, the system will activate flashing beacons at animal crossing signs warning motorists of animal presence. Use of roadside cameras to monitor drivers' responses will help determine the effectiveness of the system.

Studies estimate up to a million collisions per year involving large animals; resulting in 29,000 injuries and about 200 human and untold wildlife fatalities in the U.S.

Motorist should prepare for minor delays over the next few weeks at the project site just north of Fort Jones.

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NOTE: *An electronic version of this news release is available on the Internet at the following web address:* <http://www.dot.ca.gov/dist2/roadinfo.htm#newsrelease>

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