

BEFORE THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
FOR COLUMBIA COUNTY, OREGON

In the Matter of Designating a Maximum Speed     )  
of 40 MPH for Fishhawk Road                             )     Order No. 28-2007

WHEREAS, pursuant to ORS 810.010(2), Columbia County is the road authority over for all county roads outside the boundaries of an incorporated city; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to ORS 810.180(5), the Oregon Department of Transportation may establish a designated speed on a highway outside of a city, upon a written request of a road authority; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to ORS 810.180(1)(a), "designated speed" means the speed that is designated by a road authority as the maximum permissible speed for a highway and that may be difference from the statutory speed for the highway; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to ORS 810.180(5)(f), the Oregon Department of Transportation may delegate its authority under ORS 810.180(5) with respect to low-volume highways to the county with jurisdiction over the Road; and

WHEREAS, Columbia County has jurisdiction over the portion of Fishhawk Road in NW Columbia County, as shown on the Fishhawk Road Map which is attached hereto as Attachment 1, and is incorporated herein by this reference; and

WHEREAS, Columbia County performed a speed zone investigation on Fishhawk Road, a copy of which is attached hereto as Attachment 2, and is incorporated herein by this reference; and

WHEREAS, the results of the speed zone investigation indicate that a maximum speed zone of 40 mph on Fishhawk Road is appropriate for the health and safety of the public; and

WHEREAS, the Oregon Department of Transportation accepted the County's speed zone investigation and delegated its authority under ORS 810.180(5) by letter dated December 13, 2006, a copy of which is attached hereto as Attachment 3, and is incorporated herein by this reference;

NOW, THEREFORE, it is hereby ordered as follows:

1. The designated speed for Fishhawk Road in Section B, as shown in Attachment 1, is 40 miles per hour.

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///  
///

2. The Columbia County Road Department shall post the road indicating the designated speed.

Dated this 28th day of February, 2007.

Approved as to form

By: Swah Hanson  
County Counsel

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
FOR COLUMBIA COUNTY, OREGON

By: Rita Bernhard  
Rita Bernhard, Chair

By: Anthony Hyde  
Anthony Hyde, Commissioner

By: Joe Corsiglia  
Joe Corsiglia, Commissioner

# FISHHAWK ROAD COLUMBIA COUNTY

OCTOBER, 2006

## RECOMMENDED

INVESTIGATED  
SECTION B

NOT INVESTIGATED  
SECTION A  
NO CHANGE

FISHHAWK ROAD

FISHHAWK CREEK

85%  
Speed  
49

NORTH BANK RD.

LONNQJIST RD.

NEHALEM RIVER

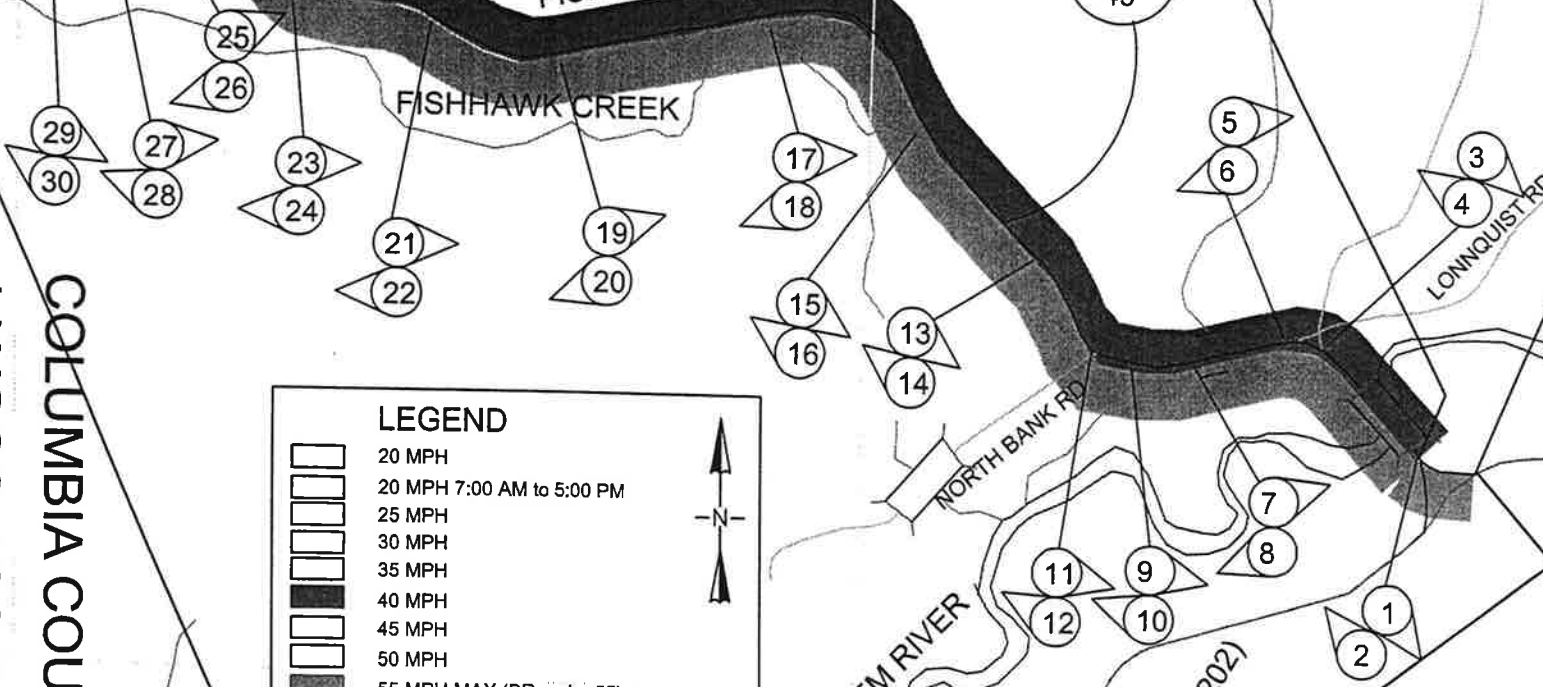
NEHALEM HWY (OR 202)

CLATSOP COUNTY  
COLUMBIA COUNTY

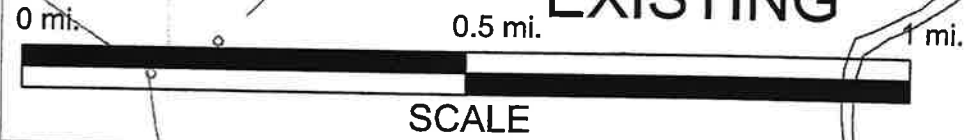
**LEGEND**

[White Box]	20 MPH
[Light Gray Box]	20 MPH 7:00 AM to 5:00 PM
[Medium Gray Box]	25 MPH
[Dark Gray Box]	30 MPH
[Black Box]	35 MPH
[White Box]	40 MPH
[Light Gray Box]	45 MPH
[Medium Gray Box]	50 MPH
[Dark Gray Box]	55 MPH MAX (BR under 55)

North Arrow



EXISTING



ATTACHMENT 2



**Columbia County Road Department**

1054 Oregon Street, St. Helens, OR 97051

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**Dave Hill, Public Works Director**

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Ph: (503) 366-3964 Fax: 397-7215

e-mail: [hilld@co.columbia.or.us](mailto:hilld@co.columbia.or.us)

Ed Fischer  
State Traffic Engineer  
Oregon Department of Transportation  
Traffic Management Section  
5<sup>th</sup> Floor Transportation Building  
Salem, OR 97310-1354

October 17, 2006

Dear Mr. Fischer:

Columbia County has conducted a speed zone investigation on Fishhawk Rd in NW Columbia County. Fishhawk Road is a low volume road and Columbia County has speed zone authority over low volume county roads in our jurisdiction pursuant to ORS 810.180 (5)(f).

This speed study was initiated because of calls from local residents concerned with vehicles driving at excessive speeds. Also, Clatsop County conducted a speed study on a section of Fishhawk Road in their jurisdiction which is contiguous with Columbia County's section.

This 2 mile stretch of road is rural in character and with very little roadside development. Most of the traffic consists of passenger cars traveling to a private lake resort near the end of the road and log trucks accessing vast amounts of timberland.

This section of road only has two public roads intersecting it. Both access very few houses and are unpaved. Site distance is limited at one intersection but is already signed appropriately with advanced warning signs. Both intersections are stop controlled with signs. Fishhawk Road is fairly curvy with intermittent straight sections. The road is narrow and shoulders vary between one and five feet. There are two paved lanes throughout the section but the roadway only measures 21 feet in width.

A speed study using plate traffic counters was conducted over a 24 hour period. The counters were placed on a straight section of road. The 85<sup>th</sup> % speed for both directions of travel was 49 MPH. There was only one recorded accident but others are known to have occurred and all are due to excessive speed around corners.

Columbia County is recommending a 40 mph speed limit on the entire section of road studied. This is lower than the 85<sup>th</sup> %, but is more in line with the speeds required for the curves on this section. Nine out of the 14 curves should be driven at 40 mph or less and given the narrow lanes and lack of significant shoulder, a speed of 40 mph is appropriate. This is also consistent with the speed posted on Clatsop County's section of Fishhawk Road.

Therefore, Columbia County requests that the current basic rule designation be dropped and a speed zone order be established on Fishhawk Rd as identified in the attached speed zone study. If you have any concerns with the attached study please contact Aaron Clodfelter at 503-397-5090.

Sincerely,

David A. Hill, PE  
Public Works Director

OREGON DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
 Report of Speed Zone Investigation  
 FISHHAWK ROAD  
 From the Nehalem Highway (OR 202) to 0.22 miles East of Sjoli Rd.  
 Columbia County  
 October 16, 2006

Recommendation: No speed zone orders are in effect for this section of roadway. Establish the following speed zoning:

Section:

		<u>Existing</u>	<u>Recommended</u>
<u>Not Invest'd</u>	<u>On Fishhawk Road</u>		
A	From: Nehalem Highway (OR 202)	MP___ 55mph	55MPH
	To: Leg to Nehalem Hwy (OR 202)		
	<u>Investigated</u>	<u>On Fishhawk Road</u>	
B	From: Leg to Nehalem Hwy (OR 202)	MP___	
	To: 0.22 miles E. of Sjoli Road	MP___ 55mph	40MPH
	(Columbia/Clatsop County Line)		

Historical Background:

Investigation requested by: Local resident.

Requested speed: None stated.

Previous action: None

Clatsop County performed an investigation on the section of Fishhawk Road in their jurisdiction.

This investigation will connect their investigation with Nehalem Highway (OR 202).

Investigation:

	<u>Section A</u>	<u>Section B</u>
Section Length	Not Investigated	1.98 miles
85% Speed	“ ”	48.9
2005 Accident Rate*	“ ”	
2005 Average Daily Traffic	“ ”	320
Culture Type and Density	“ ”	Sparse Density and Rural
Horizontal Alignment	“ ”	14 curves
Vertical Alignment	“ ”	Mildly undulating, 8 Vertical Curves
Curve Signs & Speed Riders	“ ”	In place
Existing Posted Speed	“ ”	Unposted
Recommended Speed	“ ”	40 mph

\*Accidents per Million Vehicle Miles

<u>Roadway Data:</u>	<u>Section A</u>	<u>Section B</u>
Surface	Not Investigated	Bituminous
Width	“ ”	21 feet
Lanes	“ ”	2
Parking	“ ”	None
Shoulders	“ ”	1-5 ft. unpaved improved
Intersecting Streets	“ ”	2
Paved	“ ”	0
Stopped	“ ”	2
Signalized	“ ”	0
Pedestrians/bicycles	“ ”	0

Accident Data:

Study Period	“ ”	2003-2005
Total Accidents	“ ”	0
Total Injuries	“ ”	0
Total Fatalities	“ ”	0
2005 Accidents	“ ”	0
2005 Accident Rate (R)	“ ”	0
2005 State Rate (r) <u>1/</u>	“ ”	---
Deviation	“ ”	---

Spot Speed Data:

85% Speed	“ ”	49 mph
Pace Limits <u>2/</u>	“ ”	35-44 mph
% in Pace	“ ”	52%
Maximum Speed	“ ”	70 mph
Posted Speed	“ ”	Unposted (55 mph BR)
% Exceeding Posted Speed	“ ”	0%
Computed Speed <u>3/</u>	“ ”	49 mph
Recommended Speed	“ ”	40 mph

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1/ No comparable state rate available

2/ Ten mile-per hour range containing the largest number of sample vehicles

3/ 85% speed minus deviation.

Factors Influencing Recommendation:

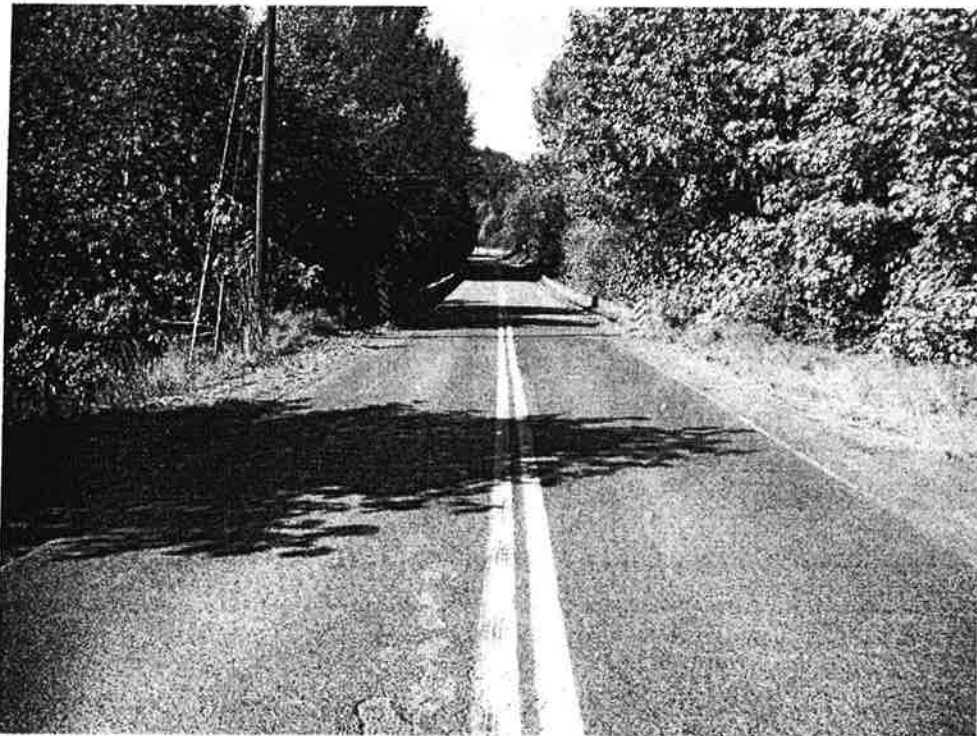
85% speed, pace limits, roadway geometry, consistency with Clatsop County findings.

**TYPICAL VIEWS**

Fishhawk Road  
Columbia County  
September 2006



1. Looking east from 100' west of leg to Nehalem Highway (OR 202)



2. Looking west from 100' west of leg to Nehalem Highway (OR 202)



**TYPICAL VIEWS**  
Fishhawk Road  
Columbia County  
September 2006

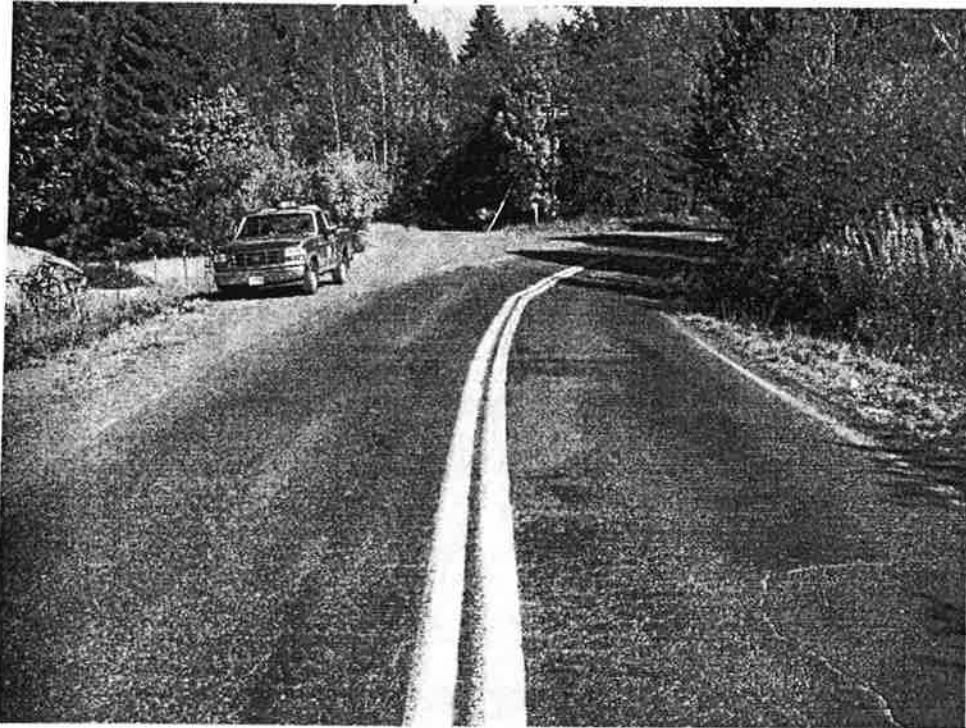


3. Looking east from 70' east of Lonnquist Rd.

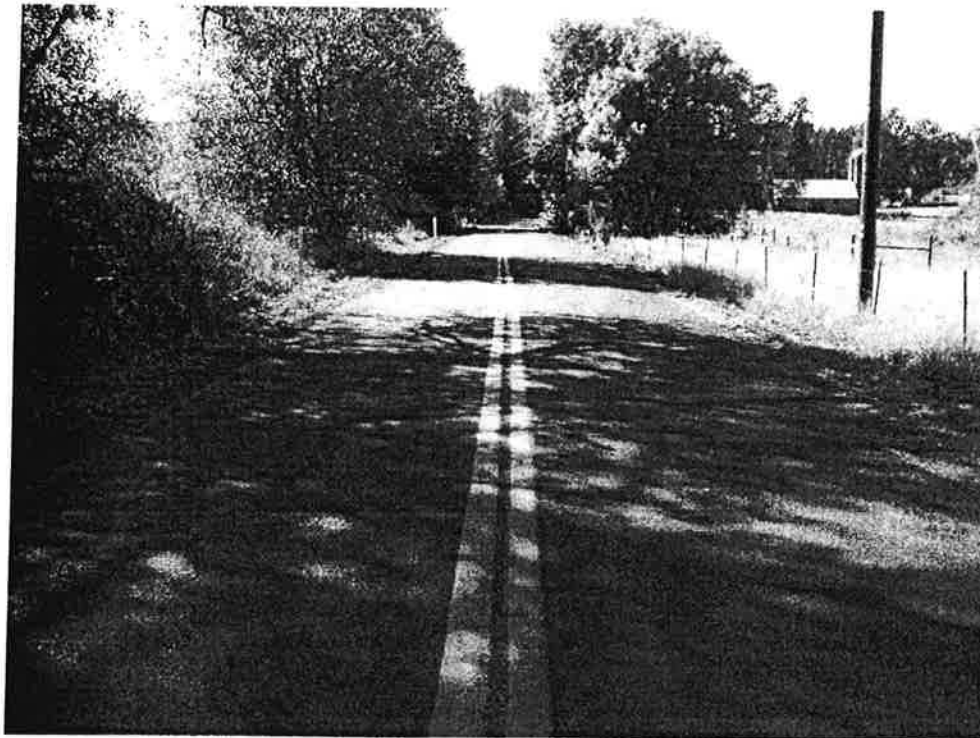


4. Looking west from 70' east of Lonnquist Rd.

**TYPICAL VIEWS**  
Fishhawk Road  
Columbia County  
September 2006



5. Looking east from 200' west of Lonquist Rd.



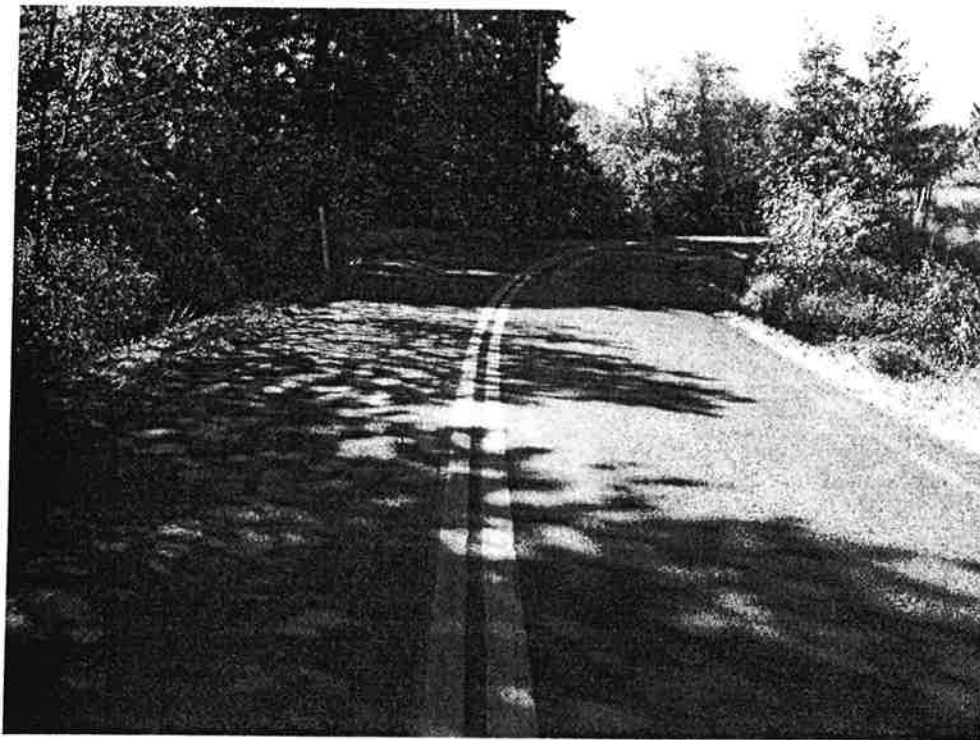
6. Looking west from 200' west of Lonquist Rd.

**TYPICAL VIEWS**

Fishhawk Road  
Columbia County  
September 2006



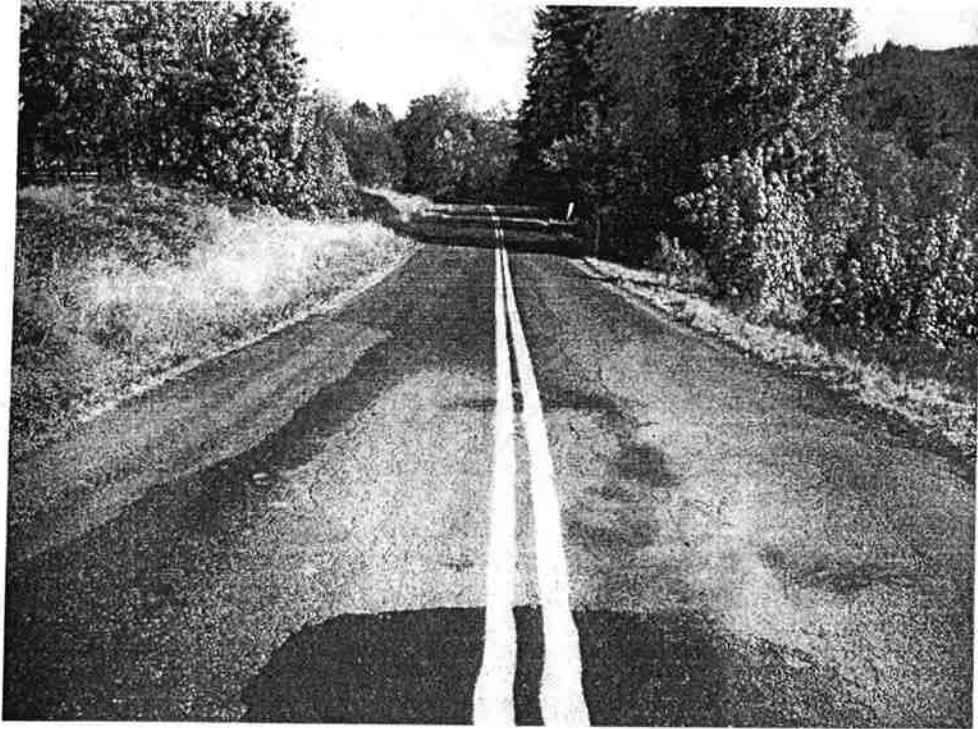
7. Looking east from 0.16 mi west of Lonnquist Rd.



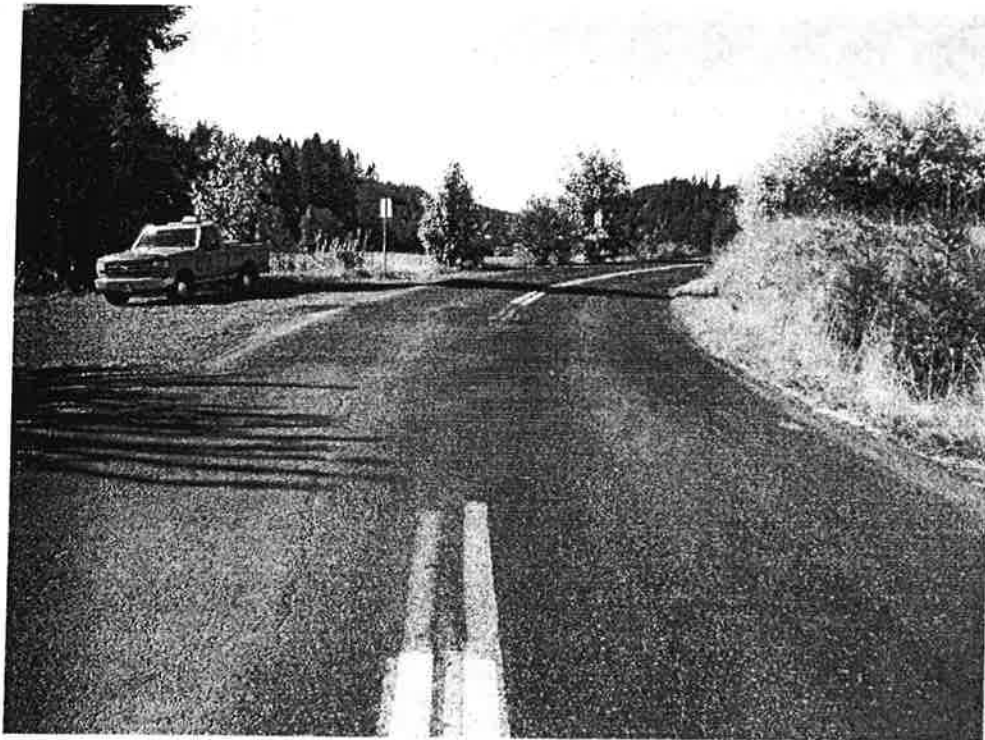
8. Looking west from 0.16 mi. west of Lonnquist Rd.

**TYPICAL VIEWS**

Fishhawk Road  
Columbia County  
September 2006



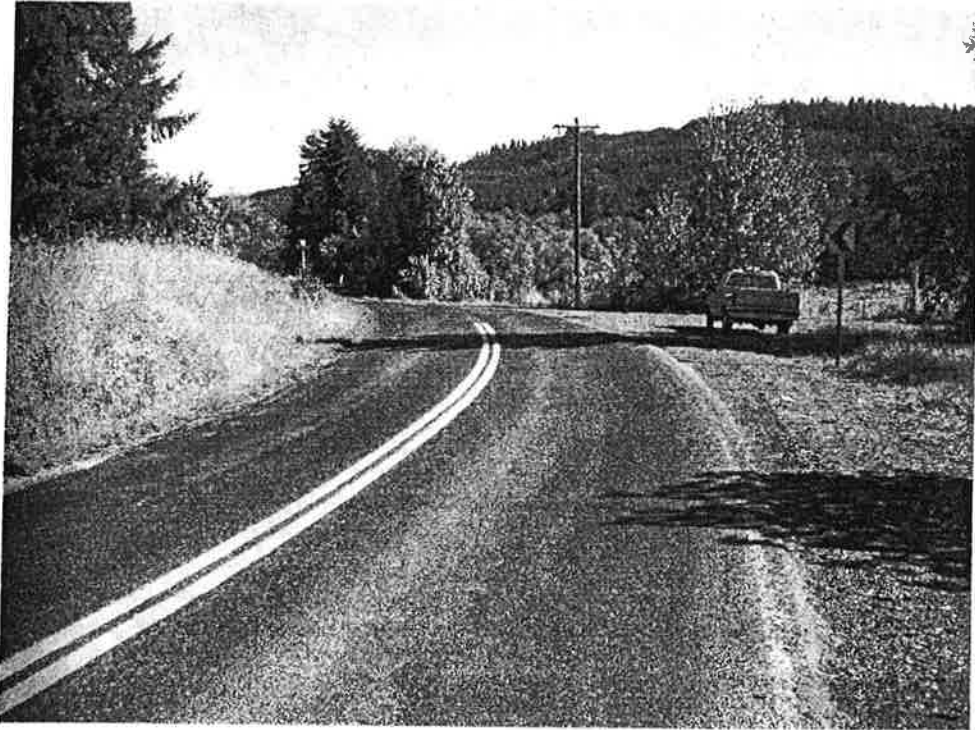
9. Looking east from 70' east of North Bank Rd.



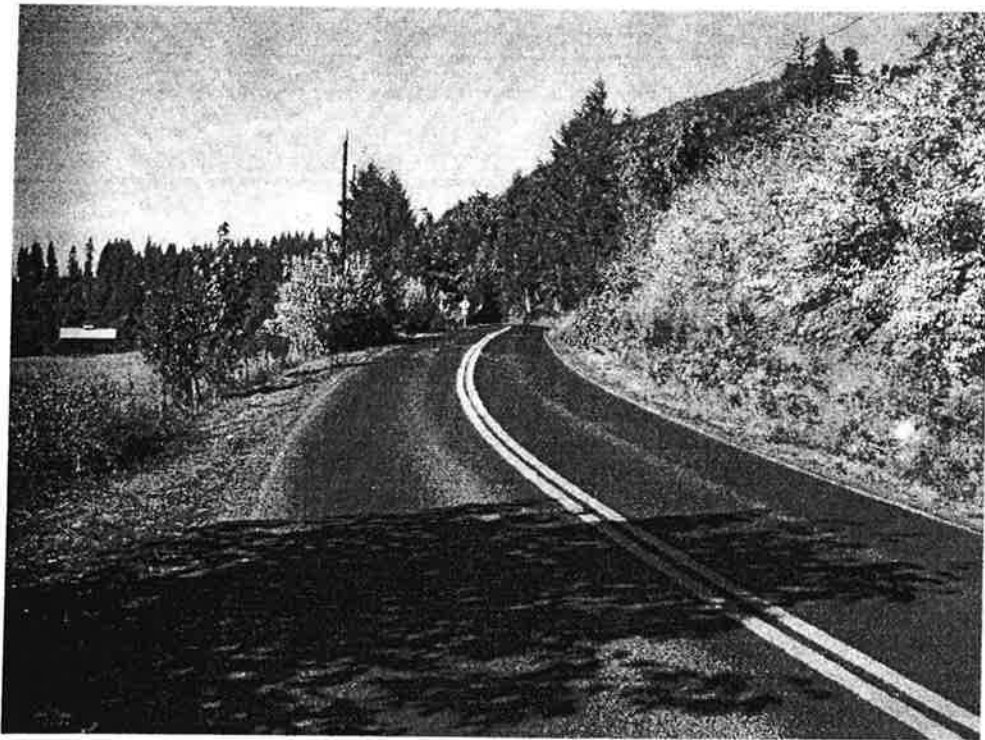
10. Looking west from 70' east of North Bank Rd.

**TYPICAL VIEWS**

Fishhawk Road  
Columbia County  
September 2006

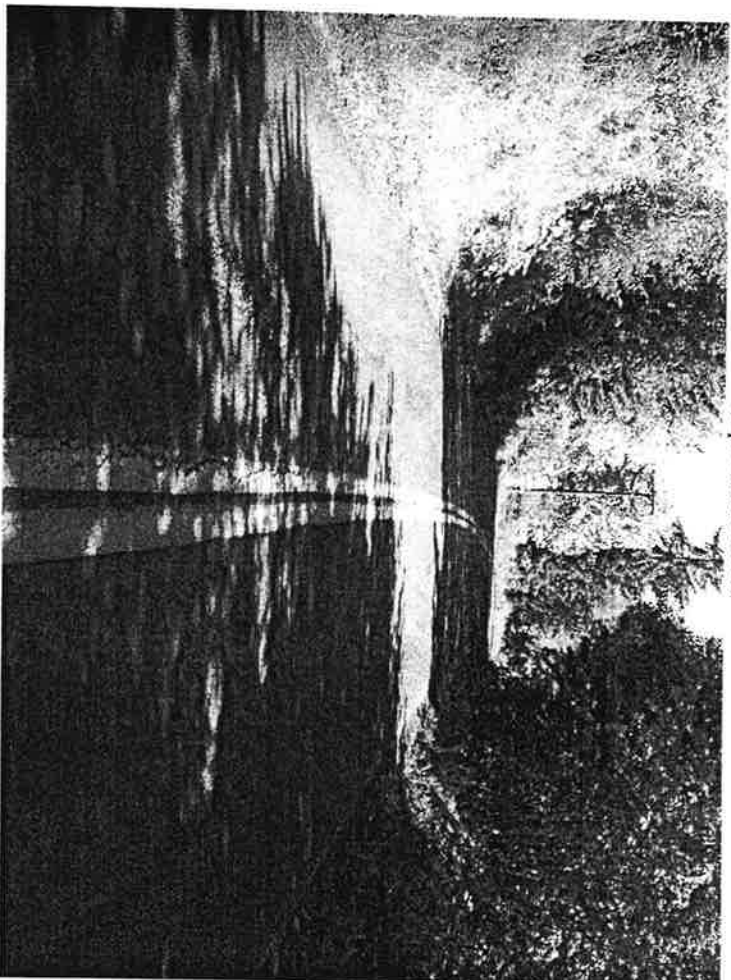


11. Looking east from 80' west of North Bank Rd.

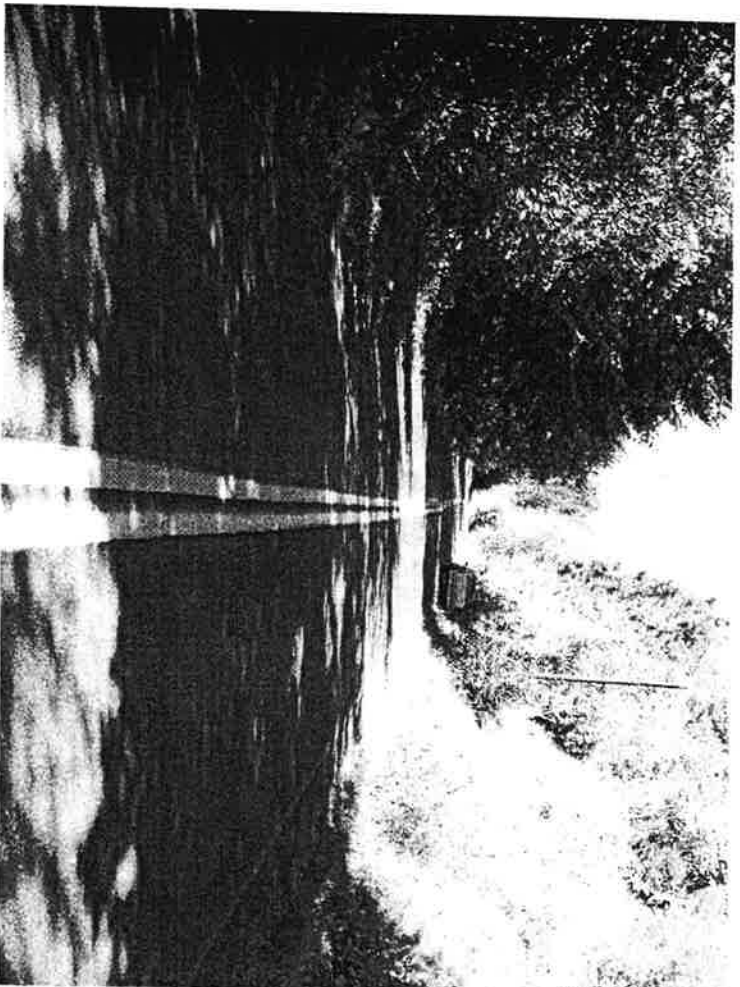


10. Looking west from 80' west of North Bank Rd.

**TYPICAL VIEWS**  
Fishhawk Road  
Columbia County  
September 2006



13. Looking east from 0.13 mi. west of North Bank Rd.



14. Looking west from 0.13 mi. west of North Bank Rd.

**TYPICAL VIEWS**

Fishhawk Road  
Columbia County  
September 2006



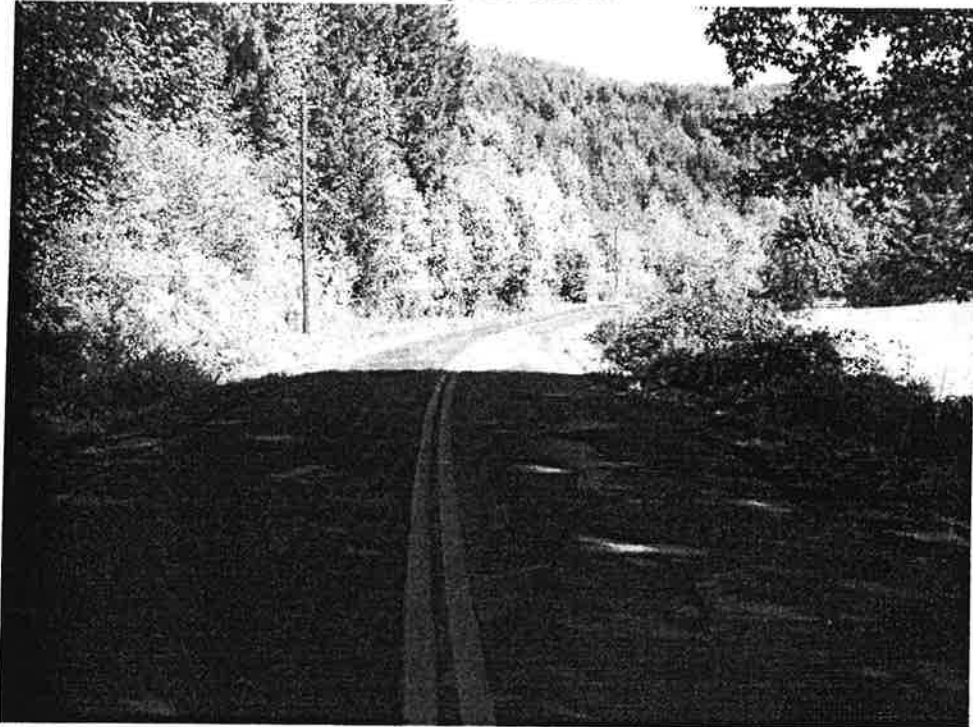
15. Looking east from 0.35 mi. west of North Bank Rd.



16. Looking west from 0.35 mi. west of North Bank Rd.

**TYPICAL VIEWS**

Fishhawk Road  
Columbia County  
September 2006



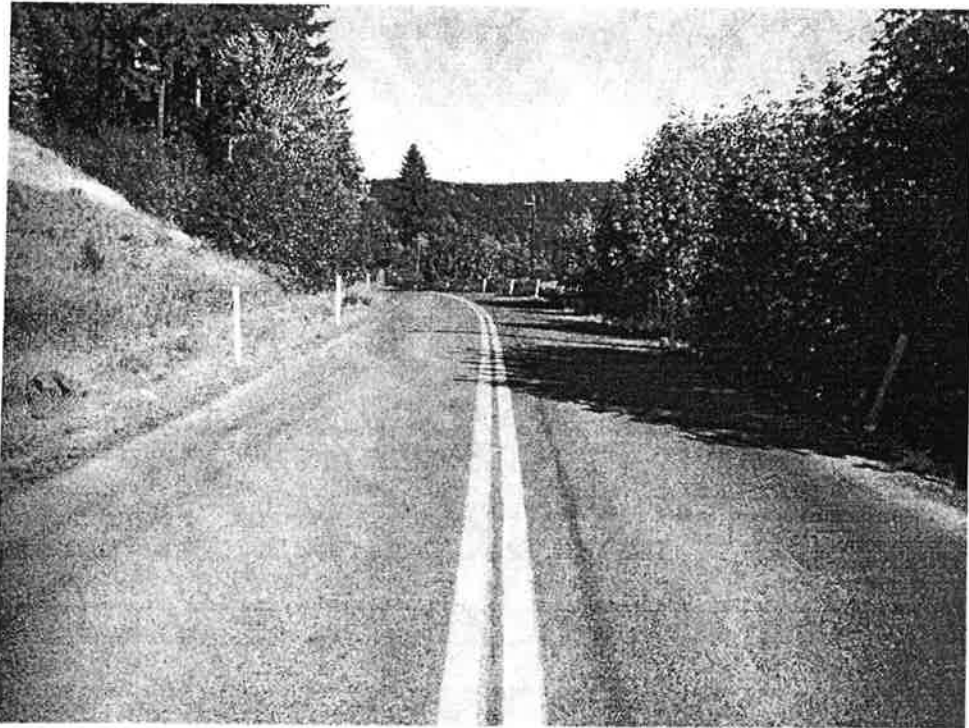
17. Looking east from 0.55 mi. west of North Bank Rd.



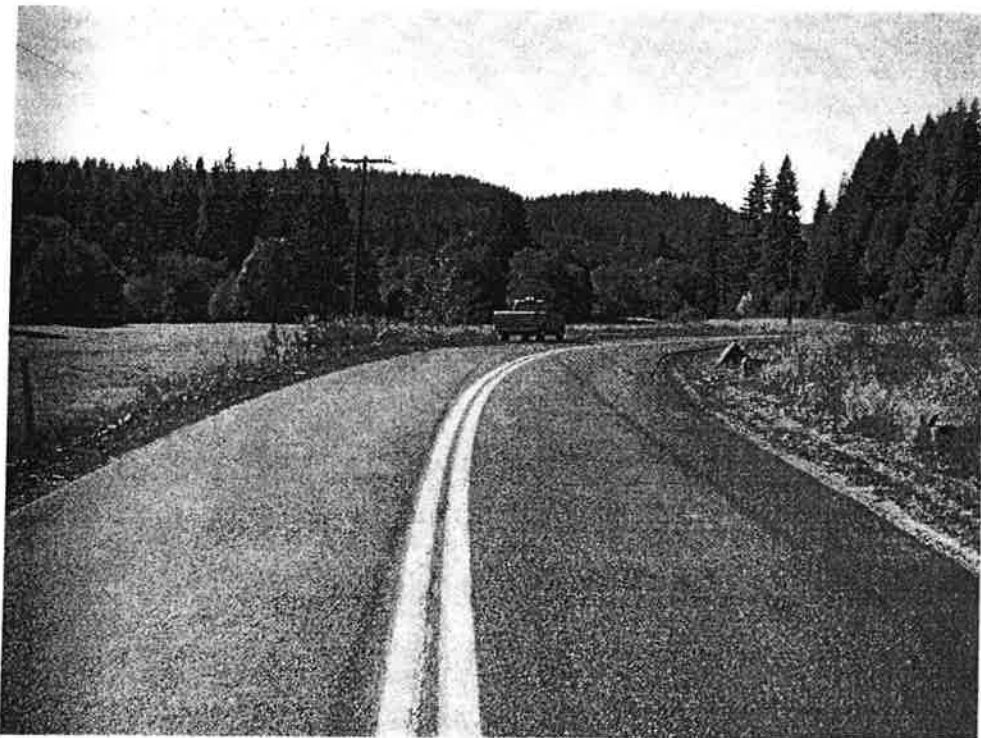
18. Looking west from 0.55 mi. west of North Bank Rd.



**TYPICAL VIEWS**  
Fishhawk Road  
Columbia County  
September 2006



19. Looking east from 0.79 mi west of North Bank Road.



20. Looking west from 0.79 mi. west of North Bank Road

**TYPICAL VIEWS**

Fishhawk Road  
Columbia County  
September 2006



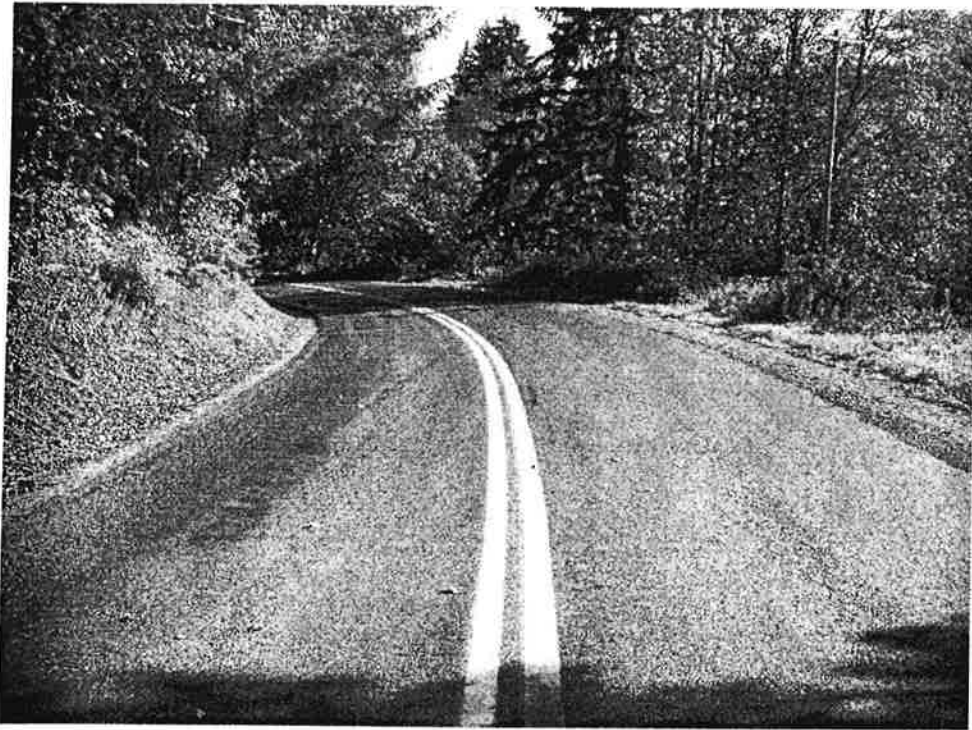
21. Looking east from 0.77 mi east of Sjoli Road



22. Looking west from 0.77 mi. east of Sjoli Road

**TYPICAL VIEWS**

Fishhawk Road  
Columbia County  
September 2006



23. Looking east from 0.59 mi east of Sjoli Road



24. Looking west from 0.59 mi. east of Sjoli Road

**TYPICAL VIEWS**

Fishhawk Road  
Columbia County  
September 2006



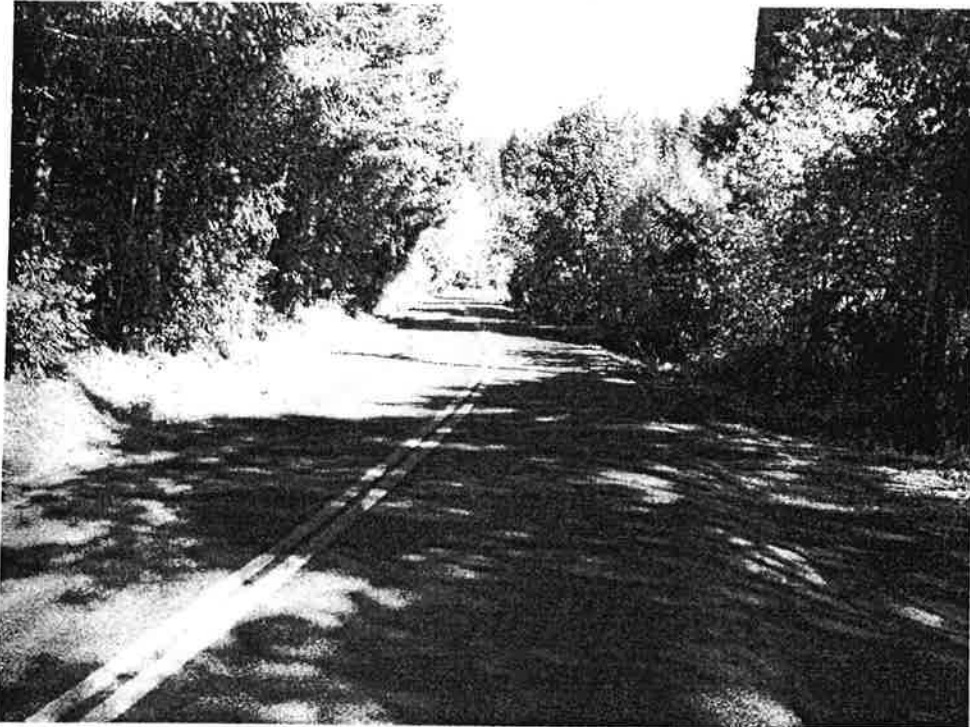
25. Looking east from 0.41 mi east of Sjolli Rd.



26. Looking west from 0.41 mi. east of Sjolli Road

**TYPICAL VIEWS**

Fishhawk Road  
Columbia County  
September 2006



27. Looking east from 0.36 mi east of Sjoli Road.



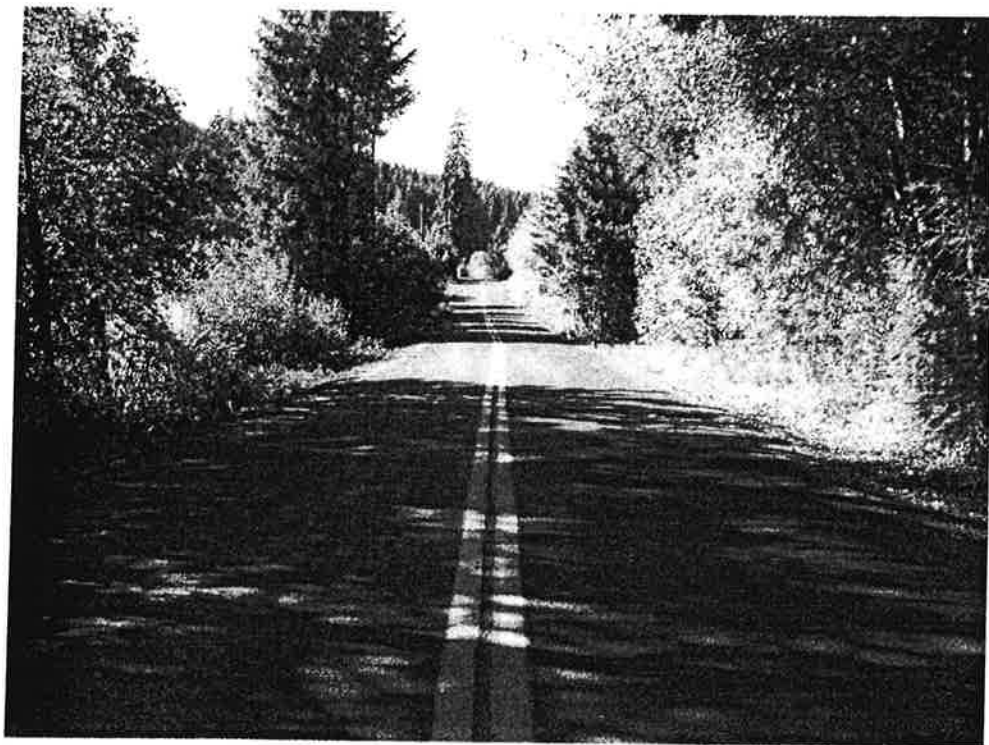
28. Looking west from 0.36 mi east of Sjoli Road

**TYPICAL VIEWS**

Fishhawk Road  
Columbia County  
September 2006



29. Looking east from 0.30 mi east of Sjoli Road



30. Looking west from 0.30 mi east of Sjoli Road

OREGON DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

SECTION B

MOTOR VEHICLE ACCIDENT LISTING

**City:**  
**County:** Columbia  
**Street:** Fishhawk Rd.  
**Highway Name:**  
**Highway #, Route#**  
**From (MP):** Leg to Nehalem Hwy (OR 202)  
**To (MP):** 0.22 miles E. of Sjolli Rd.  
**PERIOD** 1/1/2003 to 12/31/2005  
**REMARKS:**

YEAR	COLLISION TYPE										CLASSIF.				PERSONED INJURED	
	ANGLE	HEAD-ON	REAR-END	SIDESWIPE OVERTAKING	TURNING	PARKING	NON-COLLISION	FIXED OBJECT	PEDESTRIAN	BACKING	MISCELLANEOUS	ALL COLLISIONS	FATAL	NON-FATAL		PROPERTY DAMAGE ONLY
2003											0					
2004											0					
2005											0					
<b>TOTAL</b>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

**Compiled by:** A. Clodfelter  
**Date:** October 17, 2006  
**Accident Notes:**

Oregon Department of Transportation

Roadway: Fishhawk Rd.

Date: Sep. 26-27, 2006

City:

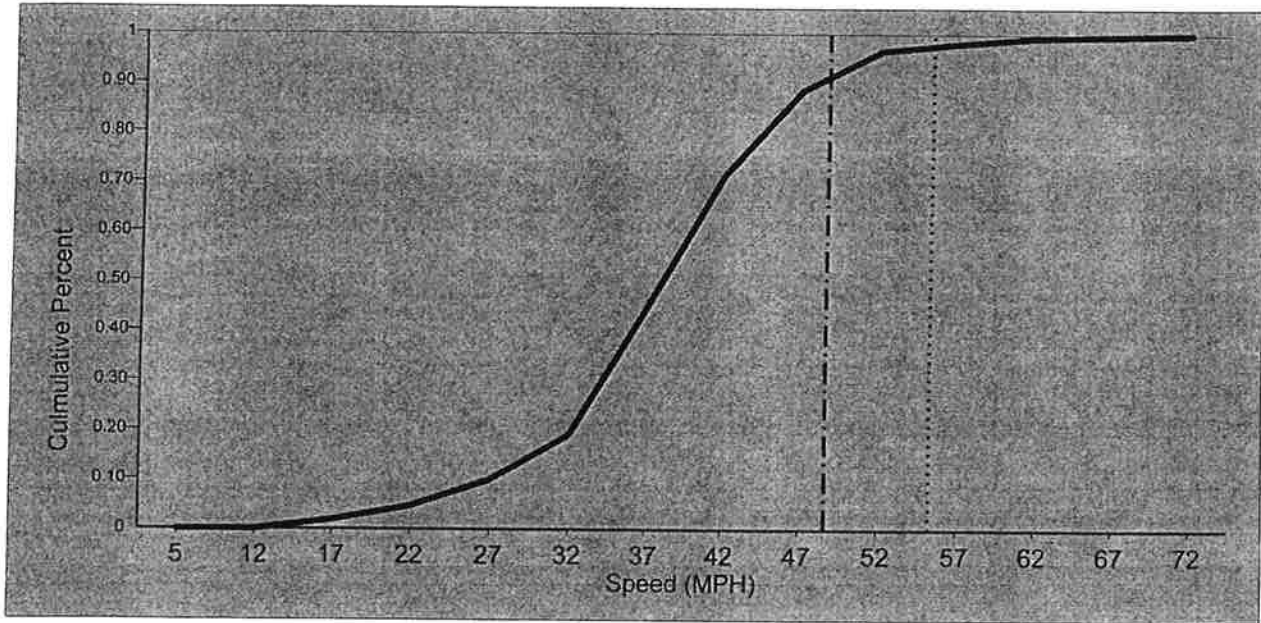
Time: 1430-1430

County: Columbia

Location 1075' w. of North Bank Rd.

Weather: clr, calm, 80 F

Direction of Travel: WB & EB



	MPH	MPH	MPH
	WB	Averaged	EB
# of Vehicles	155	322	167
85th % Speed	49	49	49
Pace Limit	35-44	35-44	35-44
% in Pace	52%	52%	52%
Mean Speed	40.4	40.35	40.3
Median Speed	42	42	42
Std. Dev.	8	8.53	9.06
Max Speed	60	65	70
Posted Speed	55 (BR)	55 (BR)	55 (BR)
% Exceeding Posted	2.60%	3.40%	4.20%



**Nu-Metrics Traffic Analyzer Study  
Computer Generated Summary Report  
City: Berkenfeld  
Street: Fishhawk Rd**

A study of vehicle traffic was conducted with HI-STAR unit number 3317. The study was done in the West Bound lane on Fishhawk Rd in Berkenfeld, OR in Columbia county. The study began on 09/26/2006 at 02:30 PM and concluded on 09/27/2006 at 02:30 PM, lasting a total of 24 hours. Data was recorded in 60 minute time periods. The total recorded volume of traffic showed 155 vehicles passed through the location with a peak volume of 21 on 09/26/2006 at 03:30 PM and a minimum volume of 0 on 09/27/2006 at 12:30 AM. The AADT Count for this study was 155.

**SPEED**

Chart 1 lists the values of the speed bins and the total traffic volume for each bin.

**Chart 1**

0 to 9	10 to 14	15 to 19	20 to 24	25 to 29	30 to 34	35 to 39	40 to 44	45 to 49	50 to 54	55 to 59	60 to 64	65 to 69	70 to 74	75 >
0	0	2	2	10	16	38	43	27	13	1	3	0	0	0

At least half of the vehicles were traveling in the 40 - 44 mph range or a lower speed. The average speed for all classified vehicles was 41 mph with 2.58 percent exceeding the posted speed of 55 mph. The HI-STAR found 2.58 percent of the total vehicles were traveling in excess of 55 mph. The mode speed for this traffic study was 40 mph and the 85th percentile was 48.84 mph.

**CLASSIFICATION**

Chart 2 lists the values of the eight classification bins and the total traffic volume accumulated for each bin.

**Chart 2**

0 to 20	21 to 27	28 to 39	40 to 49	50 to 59	60 to 69	70 to 79	80 >
147	5	1	1	1	0	0	0

Most of the vehicles classified during the study were Passenger Cars. The number of Passenger Cars in the study was 152 which represents 98.10 percent of the total classified vehicles. The number of Small Trucks in the study was 1 which represents 0.60 percent of the total classified vehicles. The number of Trucks/Buses in the study was 1 which represents 0.60 percent of the total classified vehicles. The number of Tractor Trailers in the study was 1 which represents 0.60 percent of the total classified vehicles.

**HEADWAY**

During the peak time period, on 09/26/2006 at 03:30 PM the average headway between the vehicles was 163.64 seconds. The slowest traffic period was on 09/27/2006 at 12:30 AM. During this slowest period, the average headway was 3600.0 seconds.

**WEATHER**

The roadway surface temperature over the period of the study varied between 52 and 91 degrees Fahrenheit. The HI-STAR determined that the roadway surface was Dry 100.00 percent of the time.

**Nu-Metrics Traffic Analyzer Study  
Computer Generated Summary Report  
City: Birkenfeld  
Street: Fishhawk Rd**

A study of vehicle traffic was conducted with HI-STAR unit number 3008. The study was done in the East Bound lane on Fishhawk Rd in Birkenfeld, OR in Columbia county. The study began on 09/26/2006 at 02:30 PM and concluded on 09/27/2006 at 02:30 PM, lasting a total of 24 hours. Data was recorded in 60 minute time periods. The total recorded volume of traffic showed 167 vehicles passed through the location with a peak volume of 19 on 09/26/2006 at 02:30 PM and a minimum volume of 0 on 09/26/2006 at 08:30 PM. The AADT Count for this study was 167.

**SPEED**

Chart 1 lists the values of the speed bins and the total traffic volume for each bin.

**Chart 1**

0 to 9	10 to 14	15 to 19	20 to 24	25 to 29	30 to 34	35 to 39	40 to 44	45 to 49	50 to 54	55 to 59	60 to 64	65 to 69	70 to 74	75 >
0	0	4	7	7	13	44	43	29	13	4	1	1	1	0

At least half of the vehicles were traveling in the 40 - 44 mph range or a lower speed. The average speed for all classified vehicles was 41 mph with 4.19 percent exceeding the posted speed of 55 mph. The HI-STAR found 4.19 percent of the total vehicles were traveling in excess of 55 mph. The mode speed for this traffic study was 35 mph and the 85th percentile was 49.13 mph.

**CLASSIFICATION**

Chart 2 lists the values of the eight classification bins and the total traffic volume accumulated for each bin.

**Chart 2**

0 to 20	21 to 27	28 to 39	40 to 49	50 to 59	60 to 69	70 to 79	80 >
150	14	3	0	0	0	0	0

Most of the vehicles classified during the study were Passenger Cars. The number of Passenger Cars in the study was 164 which represents 98.20 percent of the total classified vehicles. The number of Small Trucks in the study was 3 which represents 1.80 percent of the total classified vehicles. The number of Trucks/Buses in the study was 0 which represents 0.00 percent of the total classified vehicles. The number of Tractor Trailers in the study was 0 which represents 0.00 percent of the total classified vehicles.

**HEADWAY**

During the peak time period, on 09/26/2006 at 02:30 PM the average headway between the vehicles was 180.0 seconds. The slowest traffic period was on 09/26/2006 at 08:30 PM. During this slowest period, the average headway was 3600.0 seconds.

**WEATHER**

The roadway surface temperature over the period of the study varied between 52 and 82 degrees Fahrenheit. The HI-STAR determined that the roadway surface was Dry 100.00 percent of the time.



# Oregon

Theodore R. Kulongoski, Governor

## Department of Transportation

Traffic-Roadway Section  
355 Capitol St. NE, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Salem, OR 97301-3871  
(503) 986-3568  
Fax: (503) 986-4063

December 13, 2006

File Code:

Dave Hill, Public Works Director  
Columbia County  
Road Department  
1054 Oregon Street  
St. Helens, OR 97051-1395

TRA 7-2

Dear David,

Thank you for your report of speed zone investigation conducted on Fishhawk Road in Columbia County. The investigation submitted by Columbia County meets the criteria adopted by the Oregon Department of Transportation when establishing speed zones on low-volume roads.

As a matter of policy, ODOT does not issue speed zone orders on low-volume roads. It will be the responsibility of Columbia County to issue the speed zone order. Once the speed zone order has been issued, this speed zone will be enforceable. Please send this office a copy of the written order once this speed zone has been established.

If you have any further questions, please call Paul Davis at (503) 986-3609.

Edward L. Fischer, PE, PTOE  
State Traffic Engineer

Copy with Enclosure(s) to:

Sue D'Agnese, Region Traffic Manager, ODOT Region 1

PD/cwc

