

For Immediate Release: February 1, 2024

Goldstream Creek Bridge Closure Planned for April 1

(Fairbanks, AK) –The Division of Forestry & Fire Protection (DOF, is closing the Goldstream Creek Bridge on Monday, April 1, 2024, for public safety reasons. The Goldstream Creek Bridge is located at 7.5 mile Standard Creek Forestry Road west of Fairbanks and accesses Unit 4C of the Tanana Valley State Forest (TVSF).

"The current Goldstream Creek Bridge was constructed in 1994 to replace an older bridge upstream," said **Fairbanks Area Forester Andrew Allaby**, "However, erosion of the stream bank on the north has undermined support timbers, causing them to buckle and shift. There are safety concerns around the public continuing to use the bridge in its current conditions."

Bridge closure signs will be placed at various locations along the access route, including at the entrance to the Standard Creek Forest Road near the Old Nenana Highway. A barrier will be installed to prevent passage to highway vehicles.

DOF is seeking funds to replace this bridge as part of its ongoing operations in TVSF, through the Department of Natural Resources' unrestricted general funds operating increment request. Meanwhile, the division is planning alternative access to the Standard Creek Road system via Cache Creek Forest Road.

Authority for the bridge closure is found in AS 41.17.200(b), AS 41.17.230(a), AS 38.05.300(a), AS 38. 04.058, and AS 38.04.200.

The Department of Natural Resources' mission is to develop, conserve, and maximize the use of Alaska's natural resources consistent with the public interest.

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