

## UPPER HOH ROAD—MILEPOST 8.0

In 2017, heavy rain events beginning in the middle of October and ending the last week of November resulted in a series of peak flows in the Hoh River that winds adjacent to the Upper Hoh Road. The high and fast-flowing Hoh River eroded the bank resulting in a 25 to 30 foot drop at the roadway centerline with additional undermining of the westbound lane of the Upper Hoh Road. Approximately three hundred feet of river bank required reconstruction and stabilization before the road could be reopened. The Olympic National Park, Hoh Rainforest Visitors Center staff and park visitors were evacuated on November 23rd. Jefferson County Commissioners passed a Declaration of Emergency on November 27th.



A combination of heavy storms and high river flows between mid-October and the end of November affecting the Hoh River caused the closure of Upper Hoh Road, milepost 8.



Workers place erosion protection on new slope just before reopening the road.

Permits and approvals from numerous Federal, State, and Tribal agencies were required prior to initiating the emergency repairs. Federal agencies included USACE, NOAA, NMFS, and USFWS. Washington State agencies included WDFW, DOE, DNR, and DAHP.

With emergency repairs complete the Upper Hoh Road was reopened and access to Olympic National Park restored on December 19th. The cost of the emergency repair work was \$272,000. Final completion of the repair will require repaving of the roadway and guardrail installation. Jefferson County Public Works continues to pursue emergency funding for these repairs.