

PRESS RELEASE

16-003(a)

Date: Monday, January 11, 2016
District: 8 - San Bernardino
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ROUTE 243 CLOSED DUE TO FALLEN BOULDER

RIVERSIDE- the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) is reporting that State Route 243 (SR 243) between Pine Cove and Idyllwild is closed due to a fallen boulder approximately 18 feet in diameter. Rock fall began before 10:00 p.m. on Sunday, January 10, and shortly thereafter the large boulder fell onto the highway.

Caltrans Geotechnical engineers have investigated the slope at the location where the boulder fell on the highway. They have determined that the slope is safe and that once the debris and boulder from the initial slide are removed the road will be reopened. Caltrans maintenance crews will be using a fifty thousand pound excavator, equipped with a hydraulic breaker, to disintegrate the boulder and remove the debris. This operation will begin around 6:00 p.m. tonight.

SR 243 will remain closed until further notice.

Motorists are able to access the Pine Cove community from Interstate 10 (I-10), however not Idyllwild. Motorists traveling to communities north of Pine Cove (such as Idyllwild) must use SR 74 (through Hemet) to SR 243 as a detour.

For more information on this and other Caltrans projects, visit our web site at www.caltrans8.info and sign up for [COMMUTER/MEDIA E-MAIL ALERTS](#). View traffic conditions at <http://quickmap.dot.ca.gov> or you can view planned lane closures at www.lcswebreports.dot.ca.gov. Follow us on Twitter at www.twitter.com/caltrans8.

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