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PRESS RELEASE

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District: 8 - San Bernardino
Contact: Terri Kasinga
Phone: (909) 383-4631
Website: www.caltrans8.info
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

UPDATE FOR EMERGENCY BRIDGE WORK ON STATE ROUTE 60 AT THEODORE IN MORENO VALLEY

RIVERSIDE- Caltrans District 8 is providing an update for the $2 million emergency bridge repair on State Route 60 (SR 60) at Theodore Street in Moreno Valley. Work to repair the bridge was suspended on March 20 due to migratory bird (*Says Phoebe*) nests located on the underside of the bridge. The initial nests have been abandoned by the mother and hatchlings and work was scheduled to resume this week for emergency repairs to replace two damaged girders. The bridge was heavily damaged in January by a flatbed truck carrying an excavator.

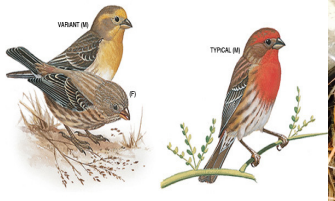
Today, additional nests were discovered for several migratory bird species by Caltrans Biologists while the contractor was installing wire mesh on the bents of structure to stop future nests from forming. Locating additional nests with eggs has again halted the job from moving forward until further notice. Below is a photo of one of the bird nests with one egg for a species named *House Finch.* There is the possibility that a swallow's nest is also located on a bent over eastbound SR 60.

Last week a solar powered traffic control signal, equipped with battery and electrical backup, was installed and activated on Friday. The signal will allow two-way traffic control to traffic traveling east and west of SR 60 using Theodore. There is now one lane open to traffic with the signal cycling every 30-35 seconds to allow one vehicle at a time to cross the overpass. Drivers are advised to use caution and wait for the signal to cycle green before proceeding across the bridge.

The one-way traffic control signal was placed to allow access to the motoring public and alleviate detour traffic in residential areas of Moreno Valley. ***Trucks*** *are encouraged to use the Theodore overpass and avoid using residential routes as detours.*

Caltrans will continue to keep the public informed with a status on the project with any change in the work schedule.

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.



House Finches

http://www.beworkzonealert.com/

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