



COMMUTER ALERT

15-132a

Date: Monday, July 20, 2015

District: 8 – Riverside/San Bernardino

Contact: Philip Havins or Joy Schneider

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

TURN AROUND – DON'T DROWN!

INTERSTATE 10 CLOSED NEAR DESERT CENTER

RIVERSIDE – The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) is alerting motorists that Interstate 10 (I-10) closed between Route 86 and the Arizona State Line at approximately 2:30 p.m. today after a severe storm caused a section of the interstate to collapse. I-10 eastbound collapsed and the westbound direction was severely undermined at Tex Wash (Adair Overcrossing), about 44 miles east of Route 86 (Coachella) and 42 miles west of the Arizona State Line.

Caltrans Structural engineers to conduct damage assessment at the location of the collapse along with other surrounding washes and structures along this section of I-10. Once the damage assessments are complete and the repairs are determined, more information will be released along with an estimate as to when the interstate may reopen. An emergency contract will be necessary to make the repairs to the interstate.

Motorists are advised to avoid travel on I-10 until further notice and use other detours routes such as Arizona Route 95 to Interstate 40 (I-40), Interstate 8 (I-8) to State Route 111 (SR 111) to State Route (SR 86) 86 or **State Route 177 (SR 177) to State Route 62 (SR 62) to access I-10.**

If you plan to travel in desert regions of Riverside or San Bernardino counties, please be prepared for severe storms over the next two days. Carry sturdy shoes, warm clothing, water, a charged cell phone, and ensure that your gas tank is full. If you encounter running water – **turn around-don't drown!** Two feet of running water can lift a large vehicle or bus and six inches of running water can sweep a person away.

I-10 is a major goods movement route and carries local destination, domestic trade, as well as some longer haul international cargoes. It is one of the largest arterial roadway systems to play a critical role providing “last mile” connections to regional ports, manufacturing facilities, intermodal terminals and warehouses, and distribution centers. Traffic volumes along I-10 between Coachella and Arizona average about 27,000 vehicles per day.

Follow Caltrans District 8 on Twitter at <https://twitter.com/Caltrans8> or go to our website at www.caltrans8.info. View traffic conditions at <http://quickmap.dot.ca.gov>.

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