

News Release

Date: August 28, 2025

District: [08-1J450](#)

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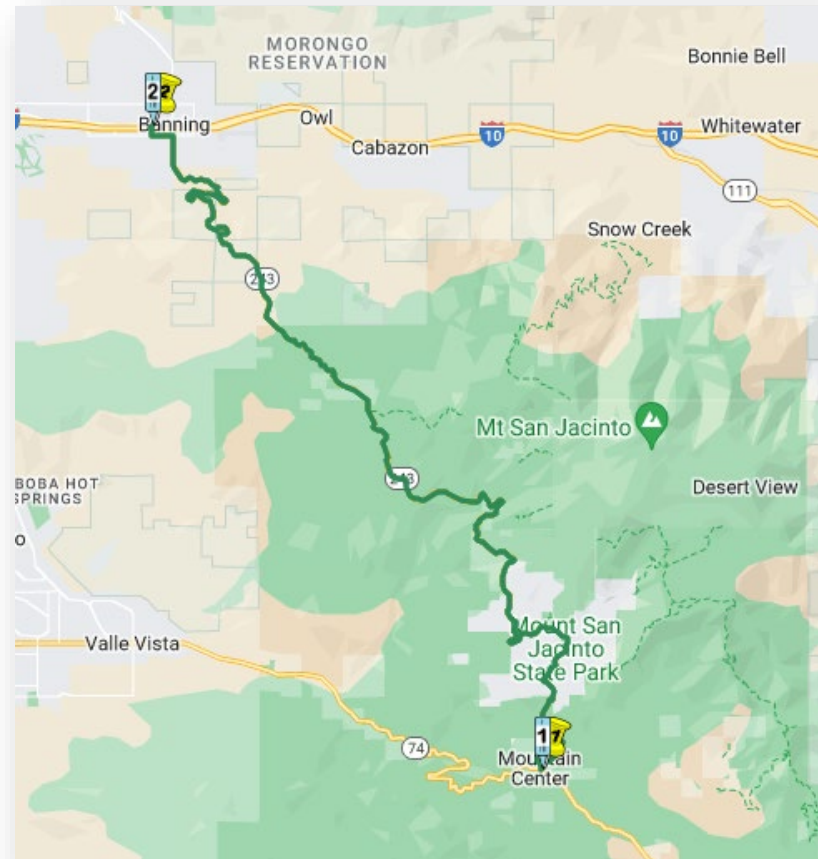
For Immediate Release

Route 243 Mill and Overlay Pavement Safety Work Coming to Mountain Center this Summer 2025

RIVERSIDE – The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) announces work on a \$16.9 M pavement safety project on State Route 243 (SR-243). This work is funded through Senate Bill (SB) 1, the Road Repair and Accountability Act of 2017.

This project will improve road conditions with a pavement mill and overlay, shoulder paving, guardrail enhancements, lighting and sign panel upgrades, storm drainage culvert improvements, and curb ramp upgrades to Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) standards to improve access for those with disabilities as part of Complete Streets elements. These elements aim to ensure safe accessibility for all roadway users.

Construction signs have been placed in the project zone, as well as clearing in shoulder areas and placement of high visibility fencing for environmentally protected areas. Work operations will occur near Idyllwild, Pine Cove, and Fern Valley from the State Route 74 Junction near Mountain Center to Interstate 10 Junction near Banning. Project work is expected to be complete by winter 2026. All work is weather and material dependent.



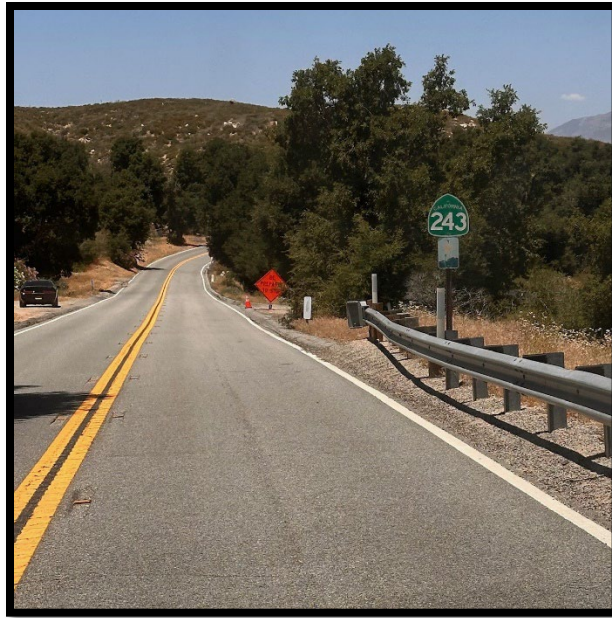


Figure 1 July 2025 State Route 243

Week of August 31st Work Schedule: Removing and replacing guardrail operations with lane closures and flagging operations will continue near Hall Decker Rd, Black Mountain Trail, and Lawler Lodge from Wednesday through Friday 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Night and weekend work may occasionally be required from 8:00 p.m. to 5:00 a.m. for weeknight and from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. for weekend.



Figure 2 Hall Decker Rd Map Location

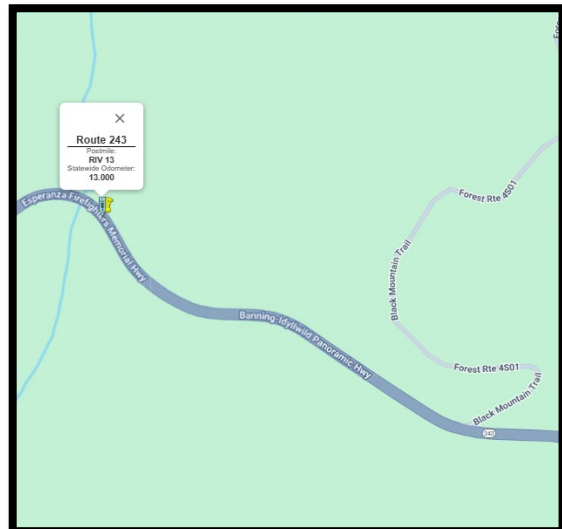


Figure 3 Black Mountain Trail Map Location

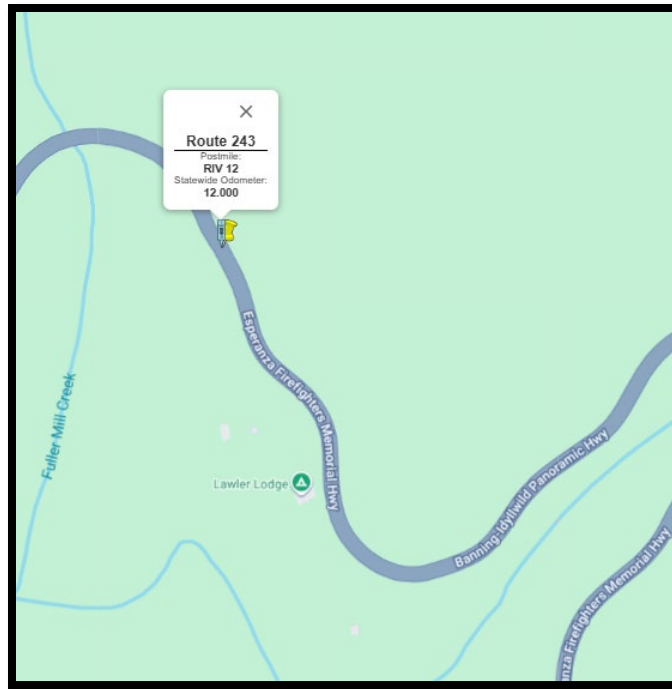


Figure 4 Lawler Lodge Map Location

What to Expect: Expect delays as traffic control will be located at various locations. Approximate flagging wait times per side are expected to be 20 min. Plan-ahead and please be mindful of work area signage as law enforcement will enforce applicable laws and regulations. Please proceed cautiously as work vehicles and crews may move in and out of shoulder areas.

Construction schedule subject to material availability and weather conditions.

Click [here](#) to sign up and receive project schedule updates.

For more information about transportation and other infrastructure projects funded with state and federal investments, visit build.gov.ca.

Know before you go! To stay on top of roadwork in the Inland Empire go to [Caltrans District 8](#) and sign up for commuter alerts.

For those with sensory disabilities requiring alternate formats (i.e. Braille, large print, sign language interpreter, etc.) and those needing information in a language other than English, please contact Public Affairs at 909-383-4631 or TTY 711.

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