

N.C. 12 Reopens - 12/20/12

The final section of N.C. 12 damaged by Hurricane Sandy and a pair of Nor'easters reopened at 6:45 p.m. on Wednesday, Dec. 19. The nearly back-to-back storms broke apart the pavement along a 0.4-mile section of the highway just north of Mirlo Beach in Dare County and washed away protective dunes along the roadway.

To rebuild N.C. 12, crews removed the damaged pavement, graded the road bed and hauled in dozens of dump truck loads of asphalt from Williamston to form the new roadway. They finished putting down the second layer of asphalt Wednesday afternoon. Crews then striped the new lanes and reconstructed shoulders to create a gentle slope to ensure motorists safety.

Now that the road has reopened, the department closed the four-wheel drive route and removed the checkpoints. Sandbag installation and dune reconstruction along N.C. 12 remain under way and will continue after the road reopens.

FERRY INFORMATION

The NCDOT Ferry Division officially closed the emergency ferry route, which carries motorists between Stumpy Point and Rodanthe. The Hatteras-Ocracoke route will not revert to its regular winter schedule until sometime after Christmas.

The vessels used during the operation will return to service at the routes where they were previously assigned, but the Ferry Division will remain on standby to assist if N.C. 12 becomes impassable again.