

UPDATES: Flooding Strands Motorists in High Water, Rock slides

Written by Steve Frank
Sunday, 06 March 2011 09:04

Flooding is closing roads around the High Country, including a number in Watauga, Avery, Ashe and Wilkes Counties. The latest reports are the closings of Roby Green Road and Deerfield near the Moose Lodge. Watauga River Road is closed, with flooding in a number of places along the river,



and Bamboo Road has rushing water going over the road near the airport, and the DOT has closed that stretch of Bamboo. At Altamont, the Linville River is flooding low-lying areas, and road closings are being reported in that area. The Watauga Sheriff's Office is reporting that problem on on Castle Ford Road near NC 194, where a clogged drain has been cleared up by the DOT and that road is back open. Meanwhile, Wilkes and Alleghany firemen manned roadblocks on the top of the mountain on Highway 18, as a rock slide forced closing of the highway. Traffic is being diverted over NC 88 around the slide site. That's NC 88 east, while on NC 88 west in Warrensville, a mud slide has completely closed that section of the road, while Wilkes also reports Arbor Grove Church Road closed due to flooding.

Boone Firemen had to rescue two occupants of an SUV that was stranded in high water in the front lot of Boone Mall this morning. Boone Police closed off the Blowing Rock Road entrance to the mall while Boone Fire sent two rescuers to the flooded car, suiting up the two occupants in safety gear before escorting them to safety. Police closed the front entrance to the mall, directing traffic to the Winkler's Creek side of the mall.

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