

North Dakota Parks & Recreation Department

## **NEWS RELEASE**

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*For more information, contact Icelandic State Park at 701-265-4561*

### **Icelandic State Park detour to remain in place next year**

With summer winding down, the North Dakota Parks and Recreation Department (NDPRD) wants to thank the visitors to Icelandic State Park for their patience during the retrofit of the Renwick Dam.

The multi-year project is forcing traffic to follow a detour to reach the campground and beach areas and motorists are asked to reduce their speed and drive cautiously along the route. At times the five-mile reroute (3 miles on gravel) has been problematic for vehicles as busy summer traffic takes its toll on the gravel road. The road has had gravel and dust abatement material added and the NDPRD has invested over \$16,000 in its up keep, about 8 percent of Icelandic State Park's biennial operating budget. Nearly 8,000 campers have used the road through August and expectations are visitation will remain busy through the fall

“Unfortunately restrictions keep visitors from using the most direct route to the campground, but the detour does provide a viable alternative. It's been difficult to keep up with the road maintenance because of the busy summer we're having at Icelandic State Park and the constant flow of vehicles on the road,” NDPRD director Mark Zimmerman says. “We will have to go through another season of using the detour and ask the public remains patient during the construction period. Park management will continue to assist local jurisdictions in maintaining their road.”

Work on the Renwick Dam will resume in May of 2013 and the detour will remain in place until it is determined use of the road crossing the dam will not adversely affect construction. The dam is owned by the Pembina County Resource District and NRCS.

Information about Icelandic State Park along with details about the retrofit of the Renwick Dam can be found on the NDPRD website at [www.parkrec.nd.gov](http://www.parkrec.nd.gov).