

# Fishhook shows its old stripes

*Highway*  
Sentinel staff report

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SANTA CRUZ — The Fishhook is back.

The Highway 1 and 17 interchange, known to locals as the Fishhook for its sharp curve, is returning to its old configuration. That means two lanes of northbound Highway 1 will be moving through the interchange.

Crews began restriping the highway back to its original state Friday. The work may stretch into today if crews did not finish Saturday.

The work, however, should be ready in time for the Monday commute.

In early spring, the state Department of Transportation, at the request of the Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission, changed the striping in an attempt to reduce accidents, said Caltrans.

The experiment allowed for only one lane of northbound Highway 1 to enter the Fishhook.

After a trial period, traffic reports indicated that although there was a drop in accidents at the interchange, the potential for rear-end accidents increased on Highway 1.

This was due to congestion and weaving caused by having only a single lane for northbound traffic through the interchange.