

Highway restrictions continue

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SANTA CRUZ — Solo drivers will no longer be allowed over Highway 17 and the hours the highway is open have been cut back. The California Highway Patrol will be enforcing a two-person or more per car requirement on Highway 17.

Private cars will be allowed over Highway 17 between 7 to 9 a.m. and from 3 to 7 p.m. Buses, emergency vehicles and Summit area residents with CHP passes are allowed free access. Santa Cruz Metropolitan Transit buses will be running from the Santa's Village parking lot in Scotts Valley to San Jose and back throughout the day and evening.

A CHP spokesman said that officers are expecting slow traffic and delays as most commuters head back for their first full week of work following the earthquake.

The highway will be closed mid-day to allow Caltrans crews more freedom while they work to clear landslides and cut into the mountains to prevent further rockfalls.

Other road closures in the Santa Cruz area remain in effect.

Highway 9 is closed four miles north of Boulder Creek. Commute traffic can still reach Los Gatos from Highway 9 by using Bear Creek Road.

Highway 1 is closed at the Watsonville exits and traffic re-routed through and around the city due to a fallen bridge at Harkins Slough.

For more information see the quake information digest on page A3.

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