The Allegheny National Forest announced Thursday the temporary closure of the Kinzua Beach Recreation Area. The facility will undergo major renovations beginning immediately and lasting until its re-opening for Memorial Day 2010. However, according to the Forest Service's Recreational Facility Analysis posted on its Web site, the Kinzua Beach is slated for closure. Few details were released by the Forest Service. During the construction period, foot travel is permissible; however, the public should avoid the active construction zone during weekday daylight hours and use extreme caution in the area at all times and be alert to hazards.

The off-season construction also warrants the closure of the parking facilities at Kinzua Beach during the winter season. District Ranger Tony Scardina stated in a brief press release, "We recognize that this temporary closure may inconvenience some members of the public and we appreciate everyone's cooperation. We look forward to the re-opening of the improved facility next season."

Closing

year is being renovated.

The comments in the analysis say the wastewater system at the beach is no longer functional and is beyond repair. The Forest Service recommendation is to work with a private business or partner to "reinvigorate" the site. By 2013, the site should be a new operational facility operated and maintained by a partner, the analysis said.

In Thursday’s announcement by the Forest Service, there is no mention of a partner or private business. No one from the Forest Service could be reached for further comment as to why a facility slated for closure just last (See CLOSING, Page 12)