

## Changes at Putnam's Point

### Pier at park will be demolished and replaced

By DD BIXBY H&N Staff Writer

Crews began demolishing the landing at Putnam's Point Park on Upper Klamath Lake Thursday in preparation for construction of a boardwalk-style fishing pier.

The 2.65-acre park at the mouth of the Link River is a popular fishing and recreational area, but its pier was closed in October 2006 after a city engineer deemed it structurally unsound, and a fence was installed to prevent public access.

A five-person crew used chainsaws to remove boards from the old pier, careful to keep debris from falling into the water. The demolition should be finished by Monday.

Ken Hay, programs and development superintendent for the city parks division, said construction on the new pier should start this summer. The cost of the project is estimated at \$300,000.

Hay said the city received two grants — \$50,000 from the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife and \$10,000 from the Klamath Tribes — for new construction. The city parks department is paying for demolition costs, estimated at \$19,000.

The plan, Hay said, is to build the pier as grant funding comes in. Bids for the project will request construction be completed in phases.

Trees, rocks and other parts of the park's landscape will not be touched; just the wood from the pier will be replaced.

As construction phases are completed, sections will be opened for public use.

Over the years, the city, sometimes with the help of Eagle Scouts, has upgraded Putnam's Point Park with benches, picnic tables and an Americans with Disabilities Act accessible trail.

The project will be open to the public as parts are finished



**A crew from Rocky Mountain Construction demolishes the landing at Putnam's Point Park Thursday. Work on a new pier should start this summer.**