Chimney Rock at Chimney Rock State Park will close early on Thursday and all day on Friday while a helicopter flies in supplies for a construction project.

The Park’s gates will close at 2:30 p.m. on Thursday, so that a helicopter can land in the Meadows in preparation for Friday’s work. During past fly ins, flights have been delayed because of early morning fog. Contractors hope having a helicopter onsite will get rid of any delays caused by low visibility.

Starting Friday morning, a helicopter will place steel for new connector stairs which will lead from the Park’s upper parking lot to the Hickory Nut Falls trail.

Since mid-summer, contractors have demolished the Park’s old stairs and been constructing a totally new set of stairs that serve as a secondary route to the trail.

Fly in work is dependent upon weather, so work may be rescheduled for a later date if the weather does not cooperate. For the latest closure news and construction updates, visit chimneyrockpark.com or facebook.com/chimneyrockparknc.