



I-25 South Gap Project Monument–Castle Rock



MOVING FORWARD

APRIL 2019

Entire 18-mile Project will be Under Construction this Summer

Interstate 25 between Castle Rock and Monument will soon become the longest work zone in Colorado.

Spanning 18 miles, CDOT’s I-25 South Gap project has started in sections. Construction began on the north section in September 2018 and in the south section earlier this year. As early as June, drivers will start to see roadwork in the middle section, too.

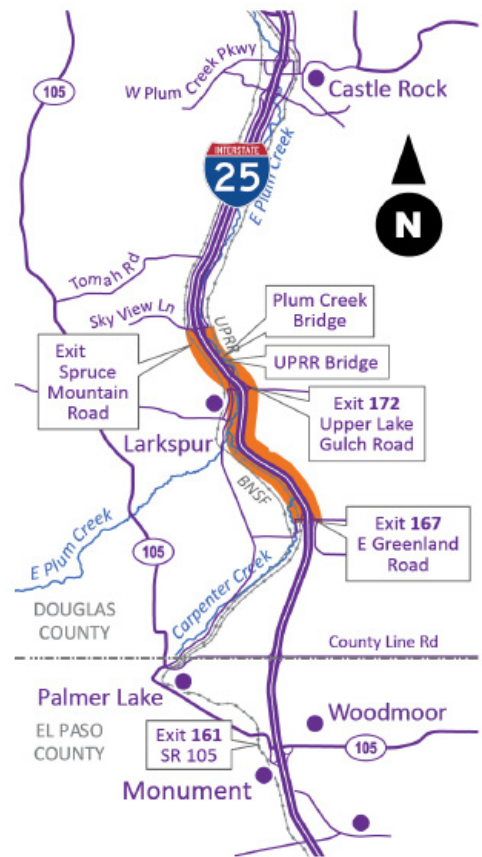
The middle section - between the Tomah Road interchange and Greenland Road - is the most complex. It has the most significant grade changes and the largest number of structures to build. In addition to a new Express Lane and wider shoulders in each direction, work will include construction of a new wildlife crossing and new bridges at Upper Lake Gulch, over Plum Creek, and one at Spruce Mountain Road.

Drivers can expect two travel lanes in both directions of I-25 to remain open during peak travel times. Plus, the team will coordinate with events in the area, such as the Renaissance Festival.

Long-term ramp closures at Upper Lake Gulch and Spruce Mountain roads will be required so crews can safely build the bridges. Local access is a priority, so crews will not close Spruce Mountain Road and Upper Lake Gulch Road ramps at the same time. In addition, various traffic shifts throughout the 6-mile middle section will give crews room to work.

Construction on the middle section will begin north of Greenland Road. Crews will re-stripe the road and place barrier to protect work zones that will be either in the median or on the outside shoulders - similar to work in the north and south ends of the project.

Watch for narrower lanes and shoulders. The work zone speed limit will be a maximum of 65 mph. The project is expected to be completed in 2022.



Contact Us!

Keeping drivers and other stakeholders informed is CDOT’s top priority:

Email alerts: Sign up online at i25gap.codot.gov

Text alerts: text I25Gap to 21000

Hotline: 720-745-5434

Email: i25gap@codot.us

Facebook: [Facebook.com/I25SouthGapProject](https://www.facebook.com/I25SouthGapProject)



Project Observes Work Zone Awareness Week

During the week of April 8, the Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) and transportation construction companies celebrated National Work Zone Awareness Week. This annual event is held to launch the start of active construction season and encourage drivers to be safe and alert while driving through highway work zones.

The I-25 South Gap project team is encouraging motorists to “Drive Like You Work Here” and follow posted speed limits for the safety of construction crews. This theme was used throughout Work Zone Awareness Week and will appear in various communication channels during the course of the I-25 South Gap construction project.

The project team also took time to remember the workers whose lives have been lost while working in the construction zone. Everyone deserves to get home safely, whether you are driving on the roads or working on the roads. Let’s all work together to have a safe construction season!

Every Day is Earth Day for the I-25 South Gap Project

CDOT’s I-25 South Gap project is committed to protecting the environment and continues to implement various mitigation measures to ensure environmental compliance through project completion in 2022.

Some of these measures include: water trucks to mitigate dust, erosion control work to protect floodplain areas and tracking pads placed at work zone exit points to reduce tracking on the roadway. In addition, crews conduct environmental surveys prior to starting work in a new area to monitor and protect species inhabiting the area such as owls, hawks, and one very small creature, the Preble’s meadow jumping mouse.*

“The I-25 South Gap Team recognizes the unique animal and plant life that make up the natural landscape along the project corridor. This is why we have designed and will construct a project that preserves one of the greatest drives on Colorado’s Front Range,” said John Barkowski, Kraemer North America Environmental Manager.

We encourage everyone to not only celebrate Earth Day on April 22 but to make every day Earth Day and help protect our beautiful planet!

**Preble’s meadow jumping mouse is a subspecies of meadow jumping mouse and inhabits Colorado and Wyoming. It is found nowhere else in the world and is listed as threatened under the United States Endangered Species Act, according to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. The mice are about 9 inches long (including tail) with large hind feet adapted for jumping and a long bicolor tail (which accounts for 60 percent of its length). The Preble’s mouse enters hibernation in September or October and doesn’t emerge until about May.*

Wildlife Crossings Will Improve Safety along I-25

Safety is the No. 1 priority for the I-25 South Gap project, and part of that mission is protecting both drivers and animals along this beautiful corridor.

For the last 60 years, the I-25 South Gap corridor has experienced higher-than-average animal/vehicle-related crashes. While viewing wildlife along the corridor is enjoyable, CDOT and Colorado Parks and Wildlife share the desire to protect both the wildlife near and motorists on the roadway.



During the design phase of the I-25 South Gap project, CDOT and CPW worked hand-in-hand to install 12 cameras along the corridor. They researched the diverse wildlife in the area, wildlife travel patterns and the number of wildlife present in each camera zone. The data collected resulted in the decision to construct five new wildlife crossings and about 24 miles of wildlife fencing as part of the project.

The new wildlife crossings along the I-25 South Gap are unique in that they will be built below the interstate. The newly installed wildlife fencing will lead animals to underground tunnels. Wildlife will be able to safely cross to the other side of the road without interfering with traffic or being hit by a vehicle.

These measures are expected to lower the number of animal/vehicle-related crashes on the corridor and improve the safety of those traveling between Castle Rock and Monument for years to come.

Choose Your Commute

CDOT is working to provide commuters with options during the I-25 South Gap Project.



Bustang's new DTC circulator will run four times each weekday from Colorado Springs to Denver, with 16 stops in the DTC. Visit ridebustang.com for routes and info.



I-25 MyWay's personalized commuting plans will help you take back your commute and make the most of your time on the road during this effort to improve safety and travel reliability. Financial incentives can make commuting a little easier on your wallet, too. Visit i25myway.org to get started.

Connect with us on Facebook

There are many ways to connect with the I-25 South Gap project, and CDOT recently added one more.

In early April, CDOT launched a new Facebook page dedicated entirely to the I-25 South Gap project.

This Facebook page gives the most up-to-date information regarding construction activities or emergencies along the corridor. You can also directly interact with the project team via Facebook messenger and receive quick responses to questions you may have.

We want to hear your feedback, and this is another way to connect with the project team from the ease of your own home!

Don't be the last to know about delays or milestones on the I-25 South Gap corridor. Follow, like and share the new Facebook page (@I25SouthGapProject).

We are excited to stay better connected with you during the duration of the I-25 South Gap project!



Project In Motion

Clockwise from top left: Crews pump concrete to form future walls; Grading along the southern portion of the project; South Gap corridor during the March Bomb Cyclone; Crews replace an overhead message sign; the new wall between northbound and southbound I-25 in the northern section is taking shape.