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I-70 Salt Wash Bridges scour project begins

Detour for Colorado Riverfront Trail near Fruita will be in place through the winter

MESA COUNTY - The Colorado Department of Transportation and contractor KSK, LLC have begun a scour mitigation project on four Interstate 70 bridges near Fruita. The bridges are at drainages known as Big Salt Wash and Little Salt Wash, near Mile Points 18-19 respectively. Traffic impacts on I-70 are limited with occasional shoulder closures. The Little Salt Wash work zone will impact the Colorado Riverfront Trail - Monument View section near Fruita. An extended detour for part of the trail will be in place through the winter. The trail detour will be signed for recreation trail users. Most project work will take place underneath the interstate and there will be minimal impacts to traffic on I-70. Additional project work on I-70 will include deck repairs to the two structures. Work on this project is anticipated to be complete by the end of March 2023.

Scour is erosion that can occur to bridge abutments due to flowing water eroding sediment around the bridge footers. The project will be installing micropiles at each bridge's abutments and piers to modify the existing shallow foundation to a deep foundation. This approach will reduce the scour risk at these structures. The contractor's proposed approach will be utilizing equipment which can operate underneath the structure rather than on top of the bridge deck, thus minimizing disruptions to the traveling public utilizing I-70 between the communities of Fruita and Mack. To view an informational video about this technique please click on this link: [Micropiles | Keller North America \(keller-na.com\)](https://www.keller-na.com)

The Monument View section of the Colorado Riverfront Trail near Fruita will be closed at the Little Salt Wash project work zone with a detour. The detour will be in place 24/7 until mid-March, when the project is anticipated to be complete. The trail detour is necessary for

crews to be able to safely complete improvements on the I-70 overpass structures at the Salt Wash drainage along the Colorado Riverfront Trail. Trail users should use the signed detour route shown to safely detour the construction on the north and south side of the trail.

Traffic Impacts to I-70 and Colorado Riverfront Trail

- Motorists should expect minimal impacts to I-70, although flaggers will be in place to allow construction equipment and crews to get in and out of the work zone.
- The Colorado Riverfront Trail - Monument View section near Fruita will be closed at the Little Salt Wash project work zone with a detour. The 1.75 mile detour will be in place 24/7 until mid-March, when the project is anticipated to be complete.

Trail users traveling south on Colorado Riverfront Trail - Monument View section:

A detour route is established at the intersection of the Colorado Riverfront Trail and the Fruita Bike Path. Trail users will be rerouted onto the Fruita Bike Path to US 6 to Colorado Highway 340 and finally to Raptor Rd.

Trail users traveling north on Colorado Riverfront Trail - Monument View section:

A detour route is established at the Colorado Riverfront Trail access located on Raptor Rd. Users will be rerouted on Raptor Rd to CO 340 to US 6, and finally to the Fruita Bike Path connection to the Colorado Riverfront Trail.

The detour adds approximately 1.75 miles of travel for trail users. CDOT and KSK, LLC appreciate trail user cooperation in following the designated detour route.

Stay Informed and Connect with the project

Project information is available at:

- Project information hotline: 970-291-0527
- Project email: I70SaltWashBridges@gmail.com
- Project website: <https://www.codot.gov/projects/i70-salt-wash-bridge-scour>
- <https://subscription.cotrip.org/alerts>
 - Click on "Subscribe Construction Updates"
 - Enter email address
 - Select "Northwest Colorado"
 - Select "I-70 Salt Wash Bridges Scour Project."
 - Click: "Submit"

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