

# PROJECT UPDATE

## SH 9 Wildlife and Safety Improvements

### Overview

In April 2015, the Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) began a safety and improvements project on the 11-mile segment of State Highway 9 between Kremmling and Silverthorne. Work includes culvert replacement, wildlife fence installation, overpasses and underpasses for wildlife crossings, roadway realignment, and new guardrail and signage. The project is expected to last until mid-July 2017.

The first phase of the project is focusing on the north side of the project, from Mile Marker (MM) 131 to 137. This work comprises approximately 6 miles of activity and will take place from April to November 2015. Work will include culvert replacement and repair, highway realignment and the construction of four wildlife crossings.

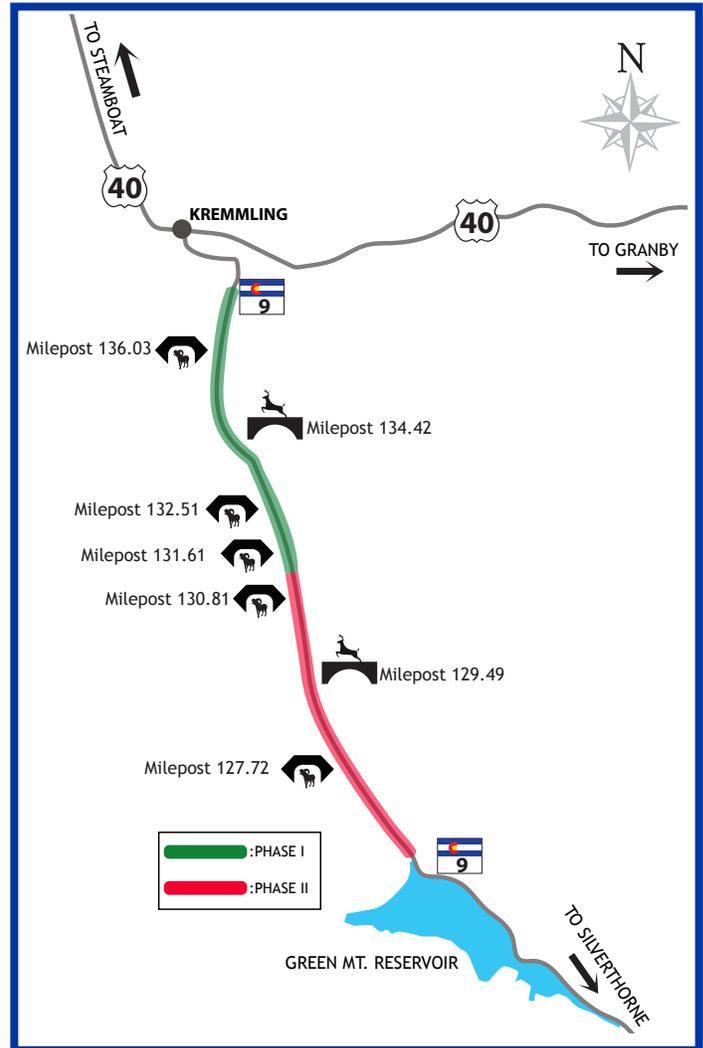
This project represents a public-private funding partnership among CDOT, Grand County, Summit County, Citizens for a Safe Highway 9 (C49), and Blue Valley Ranch.

Kirkland Construction of Rye, Colorado, is the contractor for this \$39.2 million project.

### Benefits

Once completed the SH9 Wildlife and Safety Improvements project will:

- Add wildlife crossings
- Install wildlife fence along CDOT right-of-way
- Improve horizontal and vertical alignments of highway to meet 65 mph design speed
- Widen roadway template to include 8-foot shoulders
- Flatten side slopes to allow vehicle recovery areas
- Improve signage and striping
- Add safety devices (guardrail) where required
- Upgrade drainage structures



### Progress

To date, construction is approximately 5 percent complete and will focus this year on the north end of the project. Work so far has included removing materials from beside the highway to fill and level areas to allow for roadway widening later in the project.

In addition, crews are installing pipe and will begin installing wildlife fencing soon. Crews will begin major work on the first wildlife crossing in June, an underpass at MM 136.03.

As of Tuesday, May 26, traffic has been shifted onto a  
*(continued on other side)*



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June 2015

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*(continued from other side)*

temporary detour near MM 136 as crews install pipe and prep for construction of the first wildlife underpass.

### Schedule and Impacts

Normal work hours are Monday through Friday from 6:30 a.m. to 7 p.m. Some Saturdays will be needed for construction activities, and some night work will be required to install overpass structures and pipes.

Speed limits have been reduced to as low as 25 mph through the construction zone. Unpaved rough road conditions may exist and that expected delay times are 45 minutes. Alternate routes motorists can utilize are US 40 and SH 131. A 12-foot width restriction also is in place through the construction zone.



*Crews perform excavation and embankment work along SH 9.*

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