Construction and traffic update

March 18, 2022

Gearing up for Spring

Despite challenging conditions, considerable construction progress has been made over the winter. The installation of large concrete girders on Sheep Bridge last fall has been followed by the placement of concrete box girders (so named because the shape viewed from the end is in the form of a hollow box) on the Lynx Viaduct. Between those structures, the placement of large steel girders on Bighorn Bridge is also underway. Elsewhere, installation of piles has continued (approximately 200 to date) in preparation for other bridges and walls. See progress highlights in **this 30-second video**.

Work continues to occur predominantly at night, during closures extending from 10 pm to 7 am Mountain time. Half-hour stoppages also continue to occur during the day and evening. When planning your travels, don't forget to check the **Highway Status Calendar** on the project website, as well as **DriveBC** for current/imminent conditions.

With the coming spring, there will be an increase in construction activity, particularly during the multi-day 24/7 extended closure scheduled for the period between the Easter and Victoria Day holiday long weekends (for more informatioon see below).

Spring 2022 Extended Closure

Kicking Horse Canyon Constructors will implement another multi-day, 24/7 extended closure this spring, beginning at 12:00 noon April 19 and continuing until 12:00 noon May 20, thus avoiding the long holiday weekends. The formal notifications for this and other traffic management arrangements can be found and downloaded on the **Traffic Management** page of the project website.

During the extended closure, all through traffic will be diverted to the alternative route of Highway 93S and Highway 95 through Radium Hot Springs. For school buses and a small number of local commuters who qualify due to the obligation to travel regularly between Golden and Field/Lake Louise for work, **a pass system** has been reactivated for this year. Commuters with a pass will be escorted through the project zone by a pilot vehicle during two daily brief commuter passage windows.

Like the overnight closures, the extended closures affect only the 4.8-kilometre construction zone itself. Traffic from the east will continue to be able to reach Field, Emerald Lake and other destinations including Beaverfoot and even the Kicking Horse Rest Area. Similarly, traffic from the west will continue to be able to reach businesses and other destinations on Golden Hill.
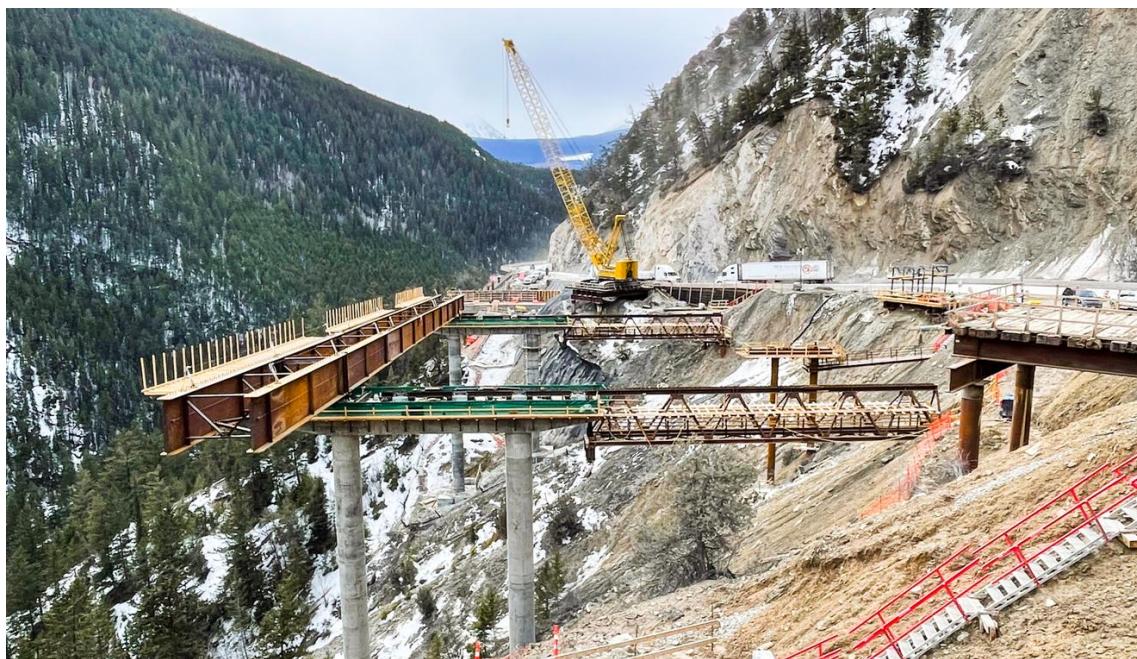
Please be extra cautious and alert on the alternative route. There are many intersections and driveways, wildlife is plentiful, and all traffic is required to stop for school buses with red lights flashing while students get on or off and cross the road.

Did you know?

More than half of the skilled labour on the Kicking Horse Canyon Project has been hired locally. With priority also given to qualified people from under-represented groups in BC construction, women make up about 13% of the project's labour force, more than twice the provincial average of 6%. 10% of the workers are Indigenous, also well ahead of the provincial benchmark. Workers are employed and supplied by **BC Infrastructure Benefits**, the Provincial Crown Corporation established to ensure British Columbians get access to well-paying, career-building jobs, skills development and apprenticeships under the Community Benefits Agreement. Find out more or apply to work at **BCIB.ca**.

Contact the Project

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