MONTANA
Department of Transportation

Montana Department of Transportation

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IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Highway 43 construction resuming soon

WISDOM – The Montana Department of Transportation (MDT) anticipates construction will resume the week of May 16 on the Highway 43 projects between Chief Joseph Pass and Wise River. Initial work will include topsoil and seeding tasks, with milling and chip sealing scheduled to start in July.

During topsoil and seeding work, motorists should expect reduced speed limits and single-lane closures. Plan ahead to allow extra travel time if you are commuting through the project area.

"Crews will soon start up construction on the remaining work," said MDT Engineering Project Manager Jeff Harrison. "The majority of construction was completed last summer. This year, the contractor will finish the tasks that were interrupted by last year's forest fires."

Remaining work to be completed in 2022 includes:

- Topsoil and seeding work throughout the project areas.
- Bridge end preservation milling and paving between Chief Joseph Pass and Wisdom.
- Chip sealing the roadway between Big Hole Bitterroot Road and Wisdom.
- Chip sealing the roadway between the Sportsman's Fishing Access Site and Wise River.
- Adding final striping (paint) and pavement markings.

Work completed in 2021 included replacing two bridges over Trail Creek, resurfacing approximately 35 miles of pavement, repairing the bridge deck over the Big Hole River near Wisdom, repairing deteriorated pavement near the Ruby Creek Bridge, and upgrading guardrails, roadside markers (delineators), and signs.

For more information about the work on Highway 43 between Chief Joseph Pass and Divide, visit: https://www.mdt.mt.gov/pubinvolve/hwy43/

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