

February 12, 2024

MT FLATHEAD 486 (1) MT FLAP FLATHD 2021 (1) – North Fork Project Construction Update

The North Fork Project was not completed last year and will go into a second season, which was not part of the original schedule. FHWA is working closely with the contractor to finish all work and provide a quality product by the end of the 2024 season. FHWA is working with Brice Constructors to finalize a schedule for this year. Information below reflects their tentative schedule.

- **Schedule for Work**
 - **Belton/Blankenship Roads** – The Belton/Blankenship Roads are complete for major work. The contractor will be fixing issues spots such as potholes within the construction limits once weather allows. These are tentatively scheduled to be looked at in June when the contractor has returned to the area.
 - **Glacier Drive at Polebridge** – Work on Glacier Drive is scheduled to resume June 3rd weather and conditions permitting. The work will be from the intersection at the Mercantile to the bridge. Work is scheduled to be completed by end of August.
 - **North Fork** – Work on North Fork is scheduled to resume June 3rd weather and conditions permitting. The work will be from the Canadian border to 5 miles south. The work is scheduled to be completed by mid-September.
- **Traffic Control Plan:**
 - Traffic control on Glacier Drive will be flaggers at each end and a pilot car similar to last year. Traffic will not be held for longer than 30 minutes as specified in the contract with the contractor.
 - Traffic Control on North Fork will be flaggers and a pilot car as needed. Traffic held by flaggers will be held no longer than 30 minutes as specified in the contract with the contractor. August 6th will be the beginning of a road closure like last season. Local traffic will be allowed through.
- **Dust Control Plan**
 - Dust control will be performed per the contract. Contractor will control dust within the construction limits as necessary during work hours. The contractor will be required to control dust on active haul roads, in the pit, staging areas and on project during construction. The roadway is only considered an active haul road when the contractor's trucks are transporting material to or from the site.
 - Contractor will apply water for dust control across the traveled roadways and the driveways within the construction limits of the project as required by their contract.
 - They are responsible for dust control. The roadway is a gravel road and will not be dust free.
 - Be aware that there are logging operations scheduled in the area at the same time as the construction. Contractor will not be responsible for dust control for the logging operations.
- **Work Remaining:**
 - **Belton/Blankenship:**

- The contractor will be fixing issues spots such as potholes within the construction limits once weather allows.
- **Glacier Drive - Polebridge:**
 - Placement of roadway material on Glacier Drive.
 - Installation of ditches along Glacier Drive.
 - Subgrade work at the Mercantile parking lot.
 - Placement of roadway material at the Mercantile.
 - Turf establishment throughout the construction zone as needed.
 - Placement of erosion control around the culverts.
- **North Fork:**
 - Installation of 4-5 roadway culverts.
 - Subgrade work.
 - Placement of roadway material.
 - Installation of driveway culverts and ditches.
 - Turf establishment through out the construction zone as needed.

If you have comments or questions on the project, please contact Stephanie McElhinney.

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