



# SH 9 WILDLIFE AND SAFETY IMPROVEMENTS

## PROJECT UPDATE

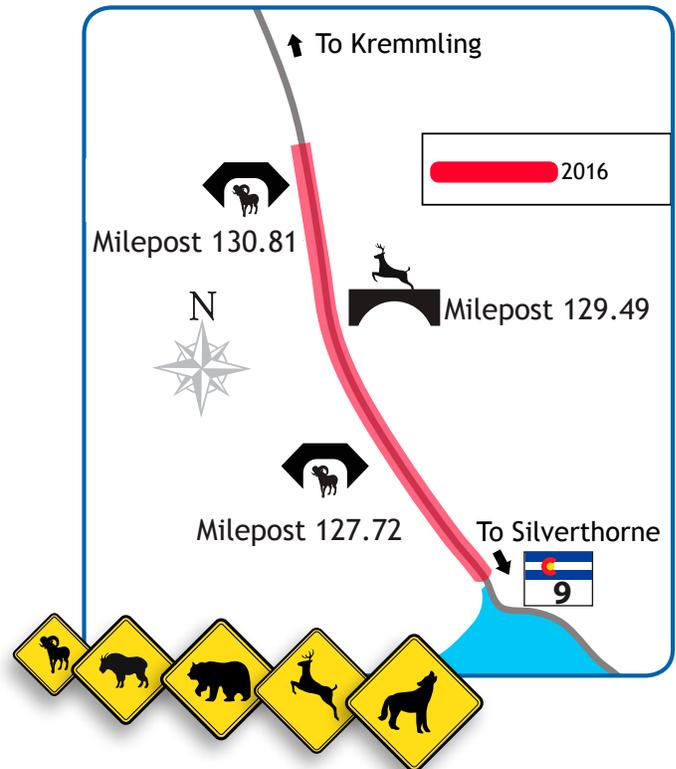
The Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) State Highway (SH) 9 Wildlife and Safety Improvements project is nearly complete. Within the next two weeks, construction crews will end the winter shutdown and resume work on the final phase of the project, which will focus largely on landscape seeding.

No further traffic impacts are expected and the seeding is expected to be complete in no more than three weeks. Inspection crews will then finalize the project and examine the fencing structures and guardrails throughout the designated construction zone. The project remains on schedule for its originally scheduled completion date of July 2017.

## REASONS FOR THE PROJECT

The SH 9 Wildlife Safety and Improvements project involved the reconstruction of an 11-mile segment between Kremmling and Silverthorne, from mile points 126 to 137. The main goal was to improve the safety of the roadway for motorists and wildlife alike.

From 2007-2011, a total of 133 vehicular accidents were reported along this section. CDOT data shows the majority of the reported accidents (47 in total) were vehicular-wildlife collisions. Information from the Colorado Division of Wildlife reported an average of nearly 60 annual wildlife mortalities on the same stretch of road for that time period.



## PROJECT IMPROVEMENTS

Construction crews installed a total of seven wildlife crossings in the area, consisting of five underpasses and two overpasses. Fencing was installed to guide the wildlife to the crossing access points and avoid the busy highway.

In addition, crews improved roadway alignments to meet the 65-mph designated speed, along with installing 8-foot shoulders. Improved drainage structures were also added to manage the elements. Ultimately, motorists traveling between Kremmling and Silverthorne will be able to do so in a significantly safer environment.

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Highway wildlife overpass

Email: [SH9Kremmling@publicinfoteam.com](mailto:SH9Kremmling@publicinfoteam.com)  
 Phone: 970-724-4724  
 Website: [www.codot.gov/projects/sh9wildlife](http://www.codot.gov/projects/sh9wildlife)



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June 2017

Public Information Manager  
c/o ZoZo Group, LLC  
700 E. 24th Avenue, Suite #2  
Denver, CO 80205



**COLORADO**  
Department of  
Transportation



**PROJECT UPDATE**

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### FUNDING

The \$39.2 million project was funded with a public-private partnership among CDOT, Grand County and Blue Valley Ranch. Kirkland Construction was awarded the bid on behalf of CDOT.

### CONTACT THE PROJECT TEAM

If you have questions about the project, please leave a message on the project hotline or email us. You will receive a response within 24 business hours.



*Highway wildlife overpass*

**Email:** [SH9Kremmling@publicinfoteam.com](mailto:SH9Kremmling@publicinfoteam.com)

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