



I-70 Floyd Hill

Central Section Tree Clearing Frequently Asked Questions

- 1. Why do you need to remove trees as part of the I-70 Floyd Hill Project?**
 - Tree removal is necessary for the construction of the future I-70 eastbound and westbound I-70 viaducts. The implementation of these viaducts will improve safety and mobility by flattening the existing curve in the roadway and allow space for the construction of the westbound I-70 Express Lane.
- 2. Where will tree clearing take place on the Project?**
 - Tree clearing will occur in the Central Section of the Project directly south of I-70 on the hillside above the Clear Creek Greenway Trail in the Sawmill Gulch area. The Central Section of the Project spans from the middle of Floyd Hill to Hidden Valley/Central City Parkway (Exit 243).
- 3. When will tree clearing begin? When will this work conclude?**
 - Tree clearing is expected to begin in mid-to late-August 2024 and is estimated to be complete in late October.
- 4. How many trees will be cleared on the Project?**
 - While approximately 1,000 trees on the hillside to the southeast of I-70 are anticipated to be cleared, the Project team will remove only as many trees as necessary.
- 5. What will happen once the trees have been cleared?**
 - Once the trees have been cleared, the Project team will begin rock blasting activities in this area to further facilitate the construction of the future viaducts. Building these viaducts adjacent to the existing I-70 travel lanes will allow the Project team to have less impact on traffic over the next few years.
- 6. Will trees be replanted when construction is complete?**
 - Yes. The cleared area will be stabilized and then revegetated with native trees and shrubs after construction is complete. The team is currently working to determine the correct density of landscaping needed when revegetation occurs.
- 7. Will wildlife be affected by the tree clearing?**
 - The Project team has conducted environmental surveys to ensure that birds and other wildlife in the area will not be affected by the tree clearing.
- 8. Who is the Project team working with to ensure tree clearing operations are conducted within state regulations?**
 - The team is working with Colorado Parks and Wildlife, Fire Services, Colorado State Forest Service and other local agencies to ensure they conduct operations correctly and in alignment with state regulations. The Project team also works with these agencies to maintain fire safety.
- 9. How is the Project protecting Clear Creek during tree clearing operations?**
 - The Project team is implementing best practices to protect Clear Creek while trees are removed in the hillside above. These best practices include installing silt fence, berms and sediment traps.
- 10. What is happening to the trees being cleared?**
 - The contractor, Kraemer North America, is currently working with local government agencies to see if they have use for these trees. If they do not, the team will mulch the trees and haul them away from the Project.
- 11. Will removing the trees make the area vulnerable to landslides?**
 - Once trees are removed, we will regrade and stabilize the area so there will not be an increased risk of landslides.

Renderings of the current hillside condition:



Renderings of the hillside after tree removal:



Renderings of the hillside once the WB and EB viaducts are built and the hillside is revegetated:

