

# Grand Loop Road—Old Faithful to West Thumb

## Construction Activities & Upcoming Work

August 22, 2022

### Project Number:

WY NPS YELL 10(23)

### FHWA Contact:

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Yellowstone National Park

WY, 82190

### Project Partner:

National Park Service

### Contractor:

HK Contractors, Inc.

Idaho Falls, ID

### Notice to Proceed:

February 10, 2022

### Fixed Completion Date:

Fall 2023



U.S. Department  
of Transportation

**Federal Highway  
Administration**



### **Project Description**

Utilizing Great American Outdoor Act funding, the Old Faithful To West Thumb construction project includes Roadway rehabilitation, removing encroaching turf from the roadway shoulder and milling and paving the full 30-foot wide roadway segment. Sub-excavation will also occur to replace the entire road structure, including the base and sub-base in areas where frost heaving caused considerable roadway damage. Guardrails, culverts, and other drainage structures that require rehabilitation will also be replaced and improved to bring these transportation infrastructure elements into states of good repair. Additionally, the project includes parking lots, a picnic area, and contractor campsites. All project work is located in Yellowstone National Park, Teton County, Wyoming.



### **Road Surface Conditions**

Road surfaces have been removed at culvert installation and sub-excavation sites, and disturbed roadways are being maintained. Dust control measures are implemented daily. Extreme caution should be exercised by motorists and motorcyclists, particularly during rainy weather conditions. Temporary traffic control signs are utilized and flaggers are positioned at active construction locations to insure public safety.



### **Current and Upcoming Work**

The contractor is conducting culvert, sub-excavation, and masonry installations from Old Faithful to West Thumb, along with construction surveying and erosion control maintenance. In addition, utility installation continues at the Grant Contractor Campground. Construction for the project is scheduled for 12-hour days, Monday-Friday; however, beginning September 6, 2022, night work will commence and road closures will occur from 8 p.m. to 6 a.m., Monday-Friday. During road closures, motorists will utilize adjacent segments of the Lower Grand Loop Road to navigate the park.

Upcoming work will include continued sub-excavation and culvert installation, culvert lining, masonry work, and temporary paving of disturbed roadways. (Temporary paving is expected to proceed in September.) In addition, soil erosion control and surveying efforts will continue.



### **Traffic Delays/Road Closures**

Currently, up to 30-minute delays should be expected as construction proceeds. One-lane, two-way traffic control zones are facilitated by traffic control flaggers. Motorists should be cautious and tolerant as workers safely proceed with improvements through narrow and environmentally delicate areas. The Old Faithful-to-West Thumb road segment will be closed Monday through Friday from 8 p.m. to 6 a.m. beginning Tuesday September 6, 2022.

*The Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) is available for viewing upon request. Also, interested parties can view the SWPPP sign posted at the project site.*

**Project Website:** <https://flh.fhwa.dot.gov/projects/wy/oldfaithful-westthumb>

**Western Federal Lands Highway Division**

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FHWA photo.

Above: For the Old Faithful-to-West Thumb roadway, geotextile is placed as sub-excavation work proceeds. Continuous one-lane, two-way traffic lanes are maintained daily for tourists, and the park's administrative staff.



FHWA photo.



FHWA photo.

Above: Old Faithful-to-West Thumb culvert installation proceeds in multiple positions along project limits.

Left: Water and utility installation continues at the West Thumb Contractors' Campground