

Highway 35



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This week has had its ups and downs. Malcolm Drilling's rig incurred a major breakdown, their drilling head, the key component failed. Evidently for Malcolm Drilling major breakdowns like this come with contingency plans. They simply took another drill head from a machine in California arriving here the next day. They did hit some tough drilling at the Green Apple site at one of the 48" diameter shafts. A few feet from design depth their drill bit got stuck. Pushing the machine harder they were able to free the bit, but when they brought it up the cutting teeth had been worn smooth from the rock and tremendous pressure being applied to drill through it. This may have contributed to the equipment failure. The photo on the upper right is recent mining of riprap in the Tamarack Quarry using a large excavator brought in on three lowboy trailers from California, note the operator next to the machine. They also did some drilling Thursday in preparation of blasting. So its possilbe next week a small blast might occur in Tamarack.



This week traffic shifted onto the temporary alignment easterly of White River. This will allow them to start building the new road that is approximately 8-foot higher than the existing road. Also this week the first of two large culverts started to go in. The one in the lower photo is near the Boy Scout camp, a 12-foot diameter pipe, 160-feet long. They will be working on this the rest of this week and into next week.



Next week travelers will encounter traffic controlled stops on Highway 35 Monday thru Friday, 7:00AM to 6:00 PM. The stops will be brief, mainly for equipment crossing the road or steel reinforcement cages being hauled over to the drilled shaft sites.

If anyone has comments or wants additional information, please call or submit an Email enquiry to the contact information shown at the bottom of this page.

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