

90 I-90 Snoqualmie Pass East - Hyak to Easton Corridor

April 2016

Why is the I-90 Project area unique?

The I-90 Project area is located within the Snoqualmie Pass Adaptive Management Area, which is managed by the US Forest Service (USFS) to protect forest habitats, restore watersheds, and enhance fish and wildlife connectivity. To implement planned improvements in this area, WSDOT and its partners developed solutions that are compatible with the Snoqualmie Pass Adaptive Management Area Plan and meet the needs of people and wildlife. For example, as WSDOT removes existing bridges and culverts to accommodate additional lanes, it will rebuild these structures using proven designs to reconnect habitats and facilitate the movement of fish and wildlife. These measures will also increase safety by reducing wildlife/vehicle collisions. When complete, the I-90 Project will help create a healthier ecosystem in the central Cascades and provide a safer, more reliable transportation system.

While the I-90 Project proceeded from preliminary concept through design and construction, organizations such as the Cascades Conservation Partnership, Mountains-to-Sound Greenway Trust, and the US Fish and Wildlife Service led a concerted effort to protect and enhance the surrounding forests. These efforts added approximately 75,000 acres of conservation lands within the central Cascades. WSDOT and FHWA continue to strive to align the I-90 Project with these conservation efforts.

Who are I-90 Project partners?

The I-90 Project team has formed cooperative partnerships with county, state and federal agencies, tribes, conservation organizations, and universities. These partnerships allow WSDOT to coordinate closely with land managers, perform wildlife monitoring activities, and identify possible mitigation sites that align with project objectives.



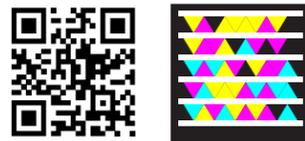
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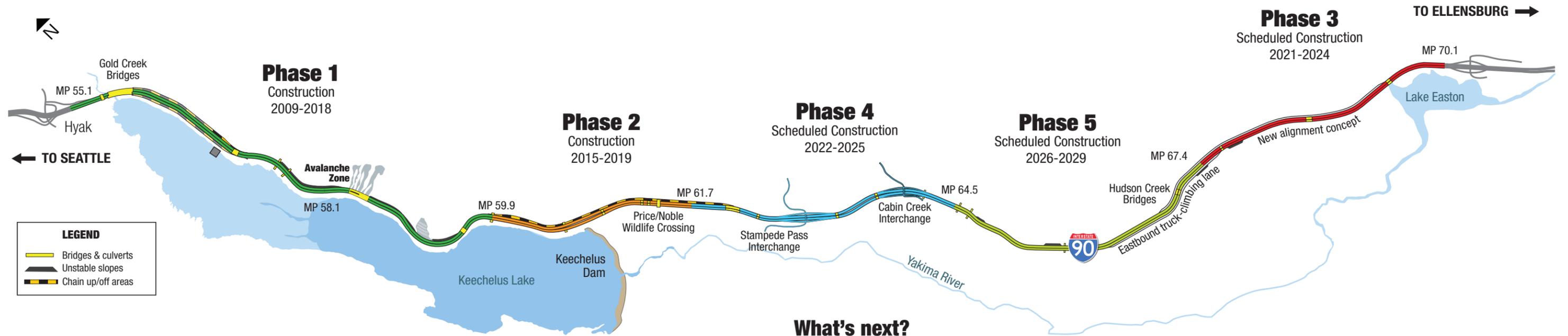


www.wsdot.wa.gov/projects/i90/snoqualmiepasseast



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What's been accomplished so far?

Phase 1 - Hyak to Keechelus Dam

Phase 1 covers five miles from Hyak to Keechelus Dam. The 2005 gas tax provided \$551 million to widen I-90, build and replace bridges including two new avalanche bridges, stabilize rock slopes and expand chain-up and chain-off areas. Construction started in 2009. The first three miles was completed in 2013 and the remaining two miles is scheduled to be complete in 2018.



New eastbound avalanche bridge



The new Gold Creek Bridges

Phase 2 - Keechelus Dam to Stampede Pass Interchange

Phase 2 covers two miles from Keechelus Dam to the Stampede Pass Interchange. Project savings from Phase 1 provided \$108 million to widen I-90, build and replace bridges, stabilize rock slopes and build the first wildlife overcrossing in the project corridor. Construction started in 2015 and is scheduled to be complete in 2019.



Design concept of wildlife overcrossing near Price Creek



Construction of wildlife overcrossing near Price Creek

What's next?

In 2015, the Legislature secured \$426 million with the Connecting Washington funding package to complete the remaining eight miles of the I-90 Snoqualmie Pass East project from the Stampede Pass Interchange to Easton. The remaining eight miles of the I-90 project are divided into three phases. In order to efficiently build the new roadway and to keep traffic moving through the work zone, the project phases will be built in the sequence shown above.

Phase 3 - Easton Hill Vicinity to West Easton Interchange

Phase 3 covers close to three miles from Easton Hill Vicinity to the West Easton Interchange. This phase continues to widen I-90, build truck climbing lanes, straighten curves and build bridges including two new wildlife overcrossings near Easton. WSDOT is looking at a new alignment concept to move the westbound lanes closer to the eastbound lanes. Construction is scheduled to start in spring 2021 and be complete in fall 2024.



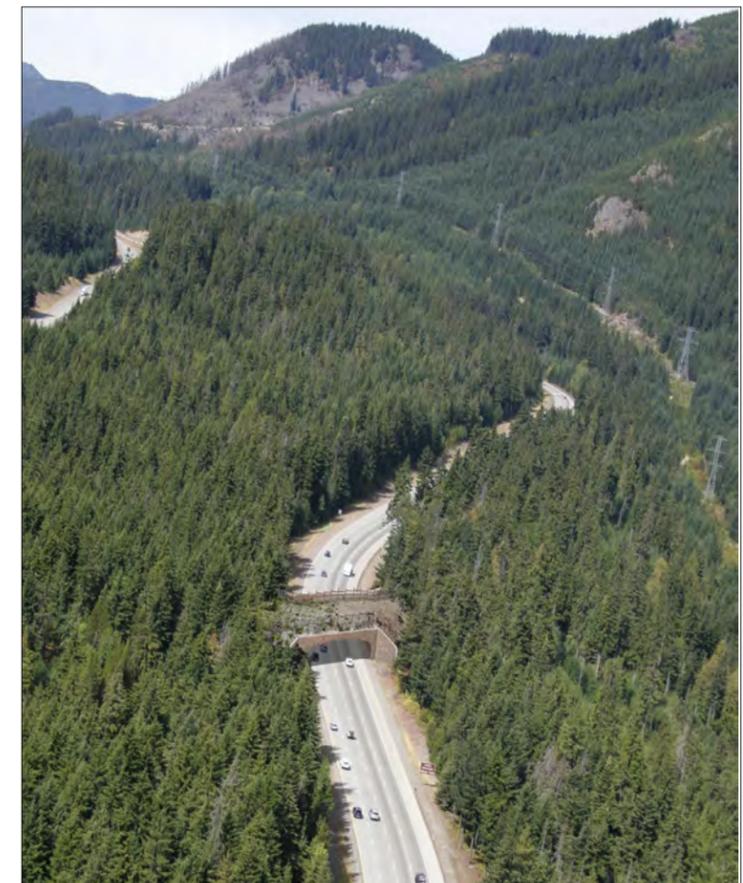
Easton Hill Vicinity

Phase 4 - Stampede Pass to Cabin Creek Interchange

Phase 4 covers close to three miles from the Stampede Pass Interchange to the Cabin Creek Interchange. This phase continues to widen I-90, straighten curves, add and replace bridges and culverts, expand chain-up areas and address wildlife connectivity. Construction is scheduled to start in spring 2022 and be complete in fall 2025.

Phase 5 - Cabin Creek Interchange to Easton Hill Vicinity

Phase 5 covers close to three miles from the Cabin Creek Interchange to Easton Hill Vicinity. This phase continues to widen I-90, straighten curves, add and replace bridges and culverts and address wildlife connectivity. Construction is scheduled to start in spring 2026 and be complete in fall 2029.



Design concept of the wildlife overcrossing at Easton Hill