



# Big Wood River Bridge to Elkhorn Rd.

## Reconstruction Project

Newsletter #3— July 2015

### Final Design Available for Review

<b>General Steps and Schedule</b>	
<b>Preliminary Design</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Surveying and mapping</li> <li>• Traffic analysis</li> <li>• Geotechnical investigations</li> <li>• Utility coordination</li> <li>• Preliminary roadway and drainage design</li> <li>• Preliminary bridge design</li> <li>• Local government coordination/Presentations</li> <li>• Stakeholder/property owner communications</li> <li>• Public open house #1 – August 26, 2014</li> </ul>	February 2014 through Fall 2014
<b>Environmental Re-evaluation</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Wetland impact evaluation</li> <li>• Biological assessment</li> <li>• Noise modeling and evaluation</li> <li>• Wildlife and vegetation evaluation</li> </ul>	Spring 2014 to Summer 2015
<b>Final Design</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Roadway plans</li> <li>• River hydraulics</li> <li>• Bridge design</li> <li>• Utilities design</li> <li>• Retaining walls and drainage</li> <li>• Local government coordination</li> <li>• Stakeholder/property owner communications</li> <li>• <b>Public Open House #2 – July 7, 2015</b></li> </ul>	Fall 2014 through Fall 2015
<b>Advertisement and Contracting</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Complete bid documents and advertise</li> <li>• Award the project to a contractor</li> </ul>	Winter 2015 to Early 2016
<b>Construction</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Specific construction approach to be announced prior to beginning construction</li> </ul> <p><small>* Note that some early tree removal may occur in fall 2015 and the final construction schedule is contingent on funding, FHWA approval and permitting</small></p>	2016 to 2017*

**Public Involvement Progress:** Since the preliminary design was completed in August 2014, the team has continued coordination and communication with key stakeholders, affected property owners, interested organizations local governments and the Blaine County Regional Transportation Committee. The team has held additional coordination sessions with agencies and utility representatives to identify and resolve specific issues necessary to complete the proposed final design. Key issues have included drainage, wetland impacts, utility placement, wildlife passage and river-related construction issues.

For more project information, see contact information on the back of this newsletter or visit the project web site at <http://itd.idaho.gov/Projects/D4Idaho75TimmermanToKetchum/bigwoodriverbridge.asp>

**Project Background:** The Big Wood River Bridge to Elkhorn Rd. project (BWRB) is the second project, following the Timber Way to Big Wood River Bridge project, to advance since the completion of the Idaho 75 Timmerman to Ketchum Environmental Impact Statement (Idaho 75 EIS) in 2008. Like the Timber Way project, the BWRB project follows the design concepts defined in the Idaho 75 EIS, which can be viewed at <http://www.itd.idaho.gov/projects/D4/Idaho75TimmermanToKetchum/>. The project is planned for construction in 2016/17\*. Some preliminary construction activities may also occur beginning fall 2015.

**Design Process Status:** With the execution of the upcoming Final Design Public Open House, the design team is nearing completion of the tasks outlined in the “Final Design” section of the “General Steps and Schedule” table shown at left. The tasks listed under “Environmental Re-evaluation” section are in progress and on schedule.

#### Project Description:

- Replace and widen the bridge to 74 ft. with four 12 ft. lanes, plus a 4 ft. median and adequate shoulders
- Reconstruct Idaho 75 north of the bridge to transition into the existing four-lane roadway configuration
- Retain the existing center turn lane and signal at Elkhorn Rd.

#### Anticipated Construction Approach:

- Overall construction schedule includes 2016 and 2017
- Maintain two lanes of traffic during construction
- Follow Blaine Co. ordinance for work hours, with some limited night work as needed to avoid traffic delays
- Begin general construction work early in 2016, with some preliminary work beginning fall 2015



#### Final Design Public Open House

Tuesday, July 7, 2015 - 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.  
Sun Valley City Hall - 81 Elkhorn Rd.

*Drop in anytime to view the final design for the bridge and roadway improvements and provide comment*

# Big Wood River Bridge Project

Conceptual Rendering of the Planned New Bridge

(Looking west with existing RR Trestle Bridge shown behind)



**Idaho Transportation Department**

216 South Date

Shoshone, ID 83352

## ***For More Information on the Big Wood River Bridge Project...***

***Steve Hunter, Project Manager***

*Idaho Transportation Department*

*216 South Date, Shoshone, ID 83352*

*[steve.hunter@itd.idaho.gov](mailto:steve.hunter@itd.idaho.gov) / 208-544-7909*

***Mike Pepper, Public Involvement Lead***

*KMP Planning*

*2530 Canyon Gate Pl. Twin Falls, ID 83301*

*[kmpplanning@cablone.net](mailto:kmpplanning@cablone.net) / 208-734-6208*

"Attention - If you would like information regarding this project in Spanish, please call (208) 334-4444 / Ana Gonzalez (208) 886-7837"  
"Atención - Si usted quiere la información acerca de este proyecto en Español, llame por favor al (208) 334-4444 / Ana Gonzalez (208) 886-7837"