

# Public Involvement

**WIS 73**

**Thorp – Ingram  
Crazy Horse Creek  
Rusk County**

**Thorp – Ingram  
Fisher River  
Taylor County**

**Project ID: 8210-01-02 / 8210-08-06**



**Spring 2025**

This handout and other items are available on this project's design website at  
<https://wisconsindot.gov/Pages/projects/by-region/nw/wis73culverts/default.aspx>

*Thank you for your interest in this project. We look forward to your feedback.*

## Purpose

The Wisconsin Department of Transportation (WisDOT) is in the process of developing plans for proposed replacement of the drainage structures on WIS 73 in Rusk and Taylor counties. The purpose of this handout is to provide information regarding the proposed improvements, describe the potential impacts and offer an opportunity for public comment.

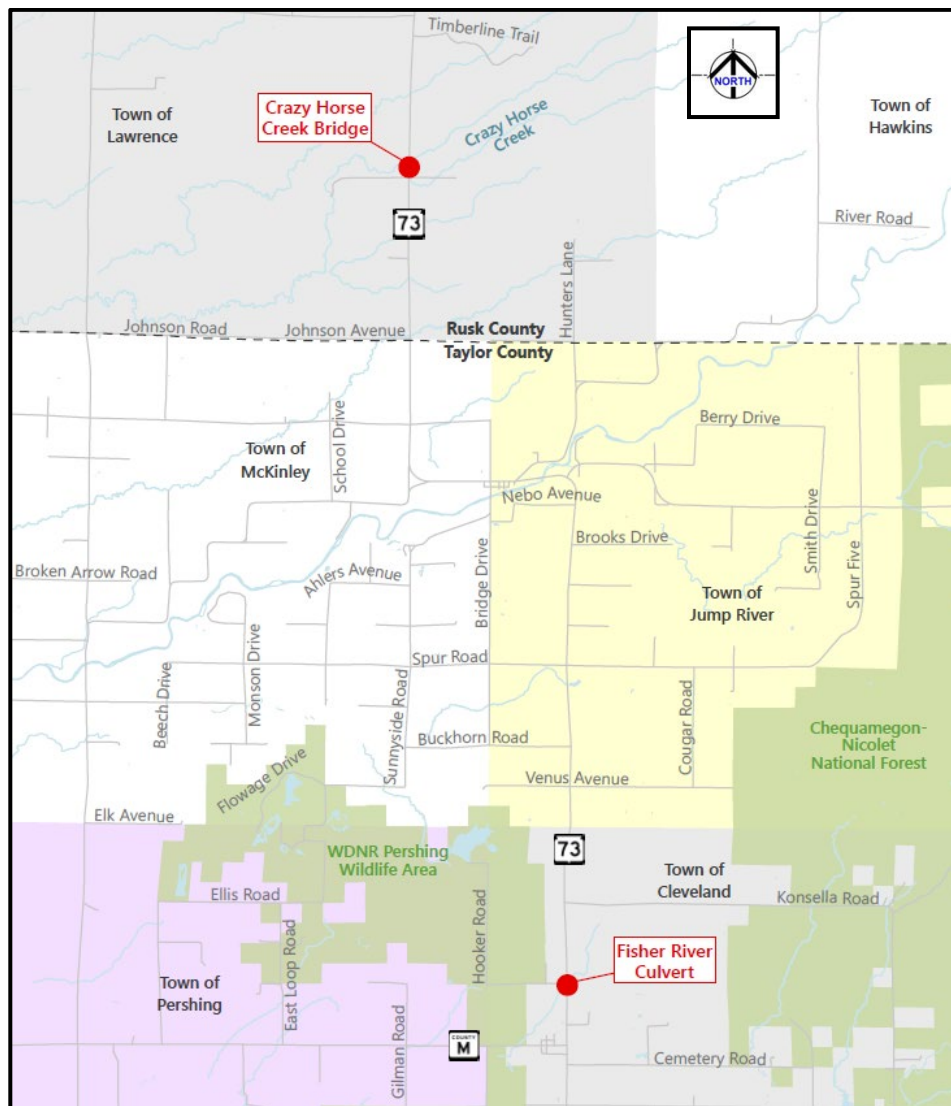
Your comments assist us in developing a project that will serve the needs of the traveling public as well as the needs of the local community and are welcomed and appreciated throughout the design process.

Included at the end of this handout is a comment form that may be used for written comments regarding the proposed improvements. You are encouraged to fill out this form and return it. Comments may also be submitted via email or phone to the contact listed below.

## Project location

The projects are in the town of Lawrence (Rusk County) and the town of Cleveland (Taylor County).

*(Structure Replacement Locations)*



## **Project purpose and need**

The existing three 6-by-9-foot metal culverts (B-54-0744) were constructed in 1989 at Crazy Horse Creek. The culverts are deteriorated (rusting), and the roadway side slopes do not meet current roadside design standards because the culverts are too short.

The existing 16-foot concrete bridge (C-60-0803) at Fisher River was constructed in 1932 and is experiencing cracking and deterioration throughout the bridge. The existing deteriorated guardrail does not meet current roadside design standards.

## **Proposed improvements**

### Crazy Horse Creek

- Removing the three 6-by-9-foot metal culverts (B-54-0744)
- Constructing a three-cell concrete box culvert (B-54-0142)
- Grading side slopes to match the new culvert
- Restoring the pavement and pavement marking at the culvert site

### Fisher River

- Removing the existing 16-foot concrete culvert (C-60-0803)
- Constructing a single-cell box culvert (C-60-0022)
- Removing the existing guardrail
- Grading side slopes to match the new culvert
- Replacing the culvert under Hooker Road
- Restoring the pavement and pavement marking at the culvert site

## **Proposed traffic impacts**

Construction is currently scheduled for 2028.

The roadway will be closed at each culvert work area. WIS 73 through traffic would be detoured on WIS 64 to WIS 27 to US 8. See the enclosed detour map.

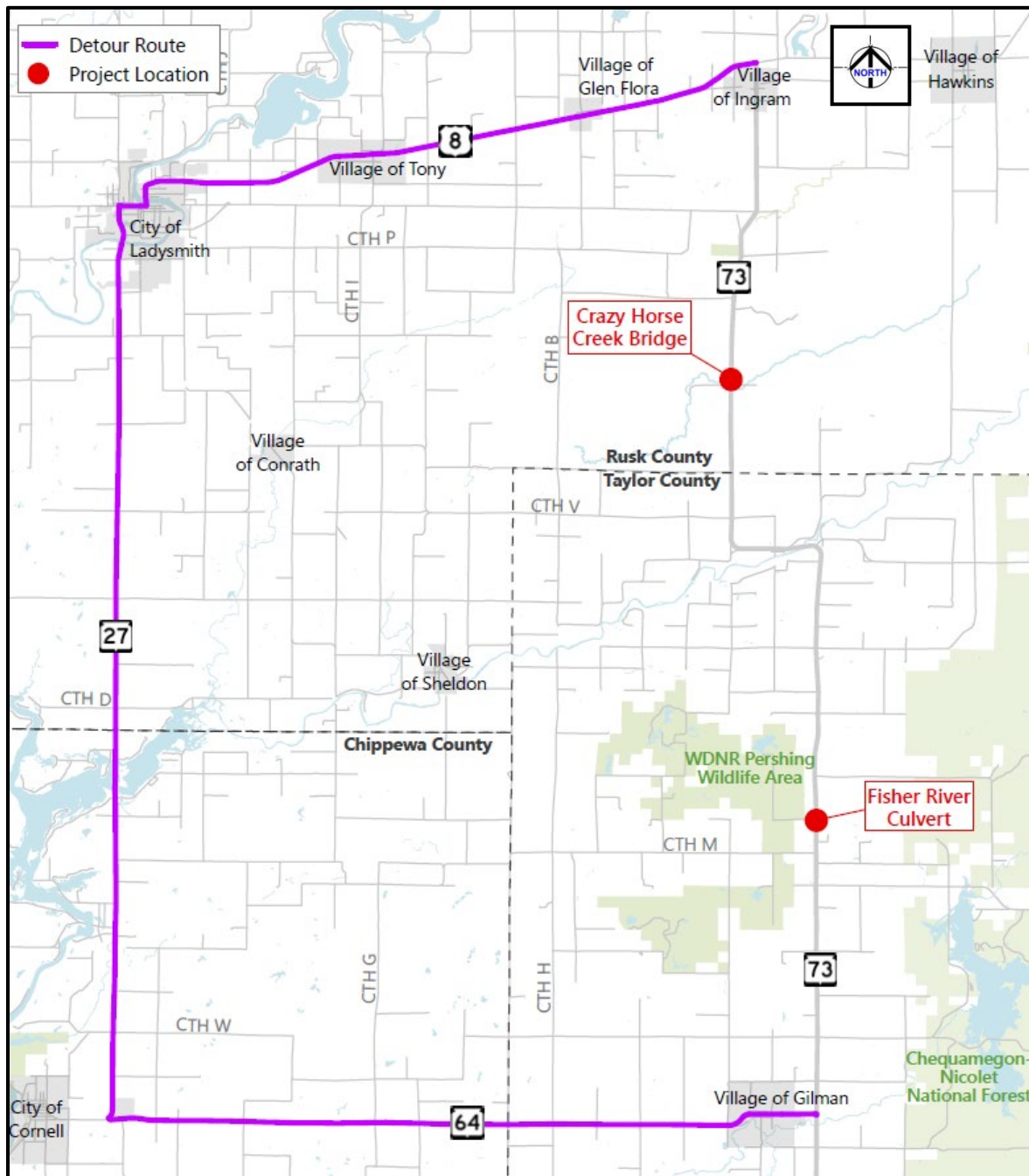
- Construction of both culverts is anticipated to occur at the same time.
- Access will remain open for local and emergency traffic between work areas.
- Access will remain open to Hooker Road, which is located within the Fisher River work zone.

Construction is anticipated to occur between June and September.

- Construction is anticipated to take approximately three months, pending favorable weather.

*(See detour route map on the following page.)*

(Detour Route Map)



## Real estate

The project will require new land interests to accommodate the structure replacements. This will include areas of new right-of-way (fee) and temporary (temporary limited easement) land acquisitions.

WisDOT expects real estate acquisitions to begin in Fall 2025. Direct mailings and coordination will occur with impacted property owners. A landowner rights brochure is available for review on the project website.

## Project schedule

- Data collection – 2024
- Concept structure development – Winter 2024
- Local officials meeting – Feb 5, 2025
- Initial property owner notification – Feb. 6, 2025
- Public comment period – April/May 2025
- Preliminary plans complete – Spring 2025
- Approve environmental and design reports – Summer 2025
- Approve right of way plat – No later than November 2025
- Real estate acquisition – Fall 2025 to fall 2027
- Project bidding – September 2027
- Construction 2028

## Public input/comments

Your comments assist us in developing a project that will serve the needs of the traveling public as well as the needs of the local community. Your input is welcome and appreciated throughout the design process.

There are several ways to submit your input by **May 23, 2025**:

1. Fill out the comment form attached to this handout and mail it to WisDOT.
2. Call or email comments or questions to Jeff Saxby, the project manager. See contact information below

Deaf, hard-of-hearing, deaf-blind and speech-disabled persons should contact the Wisconsin Relay Service by dialing 711.

For more information, please contact:

Jeff Saxby, P.E.  
WisDOT Consultant Project Manager  
(920) 380-2805  
[jsaxby@sehinc.com](mailto:jsaxby@sehinc.com)

**\*\*SCROLL DOWN FOR THE COMMENT FORM\*\***



Open for  
Business

# In This Together Program

*A quick guide to help your business  
prepare for road construction*

## 1 ORGANIZE EARLY



- Learn more about the project and its timeline
- Develop questions for WisDOT staff
- Check in with neighboring businesses and/or local business organization



- *Can you partner on promotions, events or materials?*
- *Establish a point of contact for the business community?*

## 2 STAY ENGAGED WITH THE PROJECT



- Attend public involvement meeting(s)
- Make note of contact information for the project team, and voice the unique needs of your business
- Learn more about project resources



- *Is there a construction website?*
- *Is there a mailing list?*
- *Is there an email distribution?*

## 3 HELP CUSTOMERS FIND YOU



- Consult with project staff to determine when and where there may be closures or detours
- Ask about temporary signage options
- Consider how best to inform customers



- *Maybe a joint communication with neighboring businesses for employees and customers about traffic and parking?*
- *Maybe a feature article in a customer-facing newsletter?*
- *Maybe a social media post shared by businesses and local community pages?*

## 4 DEVELOP AND ACTIVATE YOUR GAME PLAN



- Check out case studies at [wisconsindot.gov/together](http://wisconsindot.gov/together)
- Connect with project contacts to discuss any potential obstacles specific to your business such as deliveries, operational hours, employee parking, etc.
- Check in with employees



- *Is there a consistent message for customers?*
- *Are there temporary changes to shift times, parking, or deliveries?*

## 5 END OF CONSTRUCTION



- Stay positive, be flexible and know that WisDOT staff are available to help
- Collect any temporary signage
- Let customers know!



- *Consider working with other businesses on a special event?*
- *Share social media about the project's benefits?*
- *Ask customers to help spread the word?*



Remember, we are In This Together! For more planning ideas, tips and resources:  
[wisconsindot.gov/together](http://wisconsindot.gov/together)

# Public Involvement Comment Form

Project ID 8210-01-02  
Thorp – Ingram, Crazy Horse Creek  
WIS 73, Rusk County

Project ID 8210-08-06  
Thorp – Ingram, Fisher River  
WIS 73, Taylor County

Please mail by **May 23, 2025**, to the address on the back of this sheet. Comments can also be emailed to [jsaxby@sehinc.com](mailto:jsaxby@sehinc.com). Your comments assist us in developing a project that will serve the needs of the traveling public as well as the needs of the local community. Your input is welcome and appreciated throughout the design process.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Daytime Phone Number (optional): \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address (optional): \_\_\_\_\_

Please Print Comments (attach additional sheets if necessary)

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*The information in this document including names, addresses, phone numbers, email addresses and signatures is not confidential and may be subject to disclosure upon request pursuant to the requirements of the Wisconsin open records law, sections 19.31 - 19.39 of the Wisconsin statutes.*

Fold here

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Place  
Stamp  
Here

Wisconsin Department of Transportation  
718 W. Clairemont Ave.  
Eau Claire, WI 54701  
Attn.: Christena O'Brien

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To mail, fold here and tape.