

HIGHWAY 5 INFORMATION & UPDATES



Ministry of
Transportation
and Infrastructure

Infrastructure update prepared for residents
For the weeks of March 7 to March 20, 2022

Operational changes to the Othello detour

Rock production operations are taking place in the median area of the highway over a stretch of approximately 2km in the Othello area.

While a temporary crossover has been in place since the reopening of the highway, drivers can now expect variable detour configurations in this area moving forward.

Traffic patterns will vary to accommodate site operations. Pay attention to changing road signs and configurations.

Obey speed limits and drive for the conditions

As work is ongoing in many areas of the highway, speed limits have been reduced.

Check Drive BC prior to travelling. Obey reduced speed limits. Prepare for alternating single-lane traffic and drive for weather-related road conditions. Be cognizant of other vehicles. Allow space for trucks to slow down, exit, merge and and turn near construction zones.

Drivers are also reminded:

- Not to stop to take pictures in the corridor
- Cell phone reception can be unreliable in the area
- Rest stops and washrooms may be closed

Frequently asked questions

What is the best way to plan a trip along the corridor?

If you are planning to drive the Coquihalla Highway (Highway 5) between Hope and Merritt, expect reduced speeds, changes to traffic patterns and potential delays. Please check DriveBC for the latest travel advisories and highway conditions.

Why should travellers check DriveBC before driving the Highway 5 corridor?

- Webcams provide a sense of current road conditions
- Learn about current and upcoming road events or activities
- Plan your route to avoid closures or maintenance activities

Where can drivers expect reduced speed limits?

As work is still ongoing in many areas of the highway, speed limits have been reduced throughout the corridor. In addition to the Ministry's ongoing works to repair the damage caused by the flooding in November of 2021, travellers can expect unrelated construction zones outside of this body of flood repair work. Drivers are asked to check DriveBC before travelling and to adhere to reduced speed limits, traffic control and signage.



The Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure publishes these newsletters for residents regularly. See digital copies and the latest updates at:

gov.bc.ca/highway5recovery

Your Highway 5 Team

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Ministry of Transportation & Infrastructure

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- For general enquiries, please email highway5.information@gov.bc.ca.

We aim to reply within 24 hours. Thank you for your patience.



Othello

Works in progress

Our team continues to repair the more than 20 sites along Highway 5 that were damaged in the November 2021 flooding events. Recent work includes:

- Kingsvale Bridge: Armouring slope, placing riprap, culvert instalment through Coldwater Road and building of protection berm
- Bottletop Bridge: Armouring embankment with riprap
- Brodie Bridge: Hauling and placing fill and riprap, removing excess materials and filling bridge abutment slope
- Murray Flats #1-3: Placing rock and riprap
- Mine Creek #4: Placing and keying-in riprap, finishing protection of berm access
- Old Tram/ Othello Interchange: Continue building Othello Old Tram Road and acceleration lane embankment; drafting/cutting temporary interchange alignment
- Othello: Armouring west-facing slope with riprap
- Juliet Bridge: Hauling, placing, and keying-in riprap

We are also exploring long-term solutions to repair four sites with extensive damage: Othello, Jessica Bridge, Juliet Bridge and Bottletop Bridge. We are engaging with communities on the permanent fixes at these sites in preparation for the upcoming construction season. More information will be shared when it is available.

We are also prioritizing preparations for the spring thaw, or freshet, armouring vulnerable areas of Highway 5 with additional rocky material (riprap). These rocks deflect the impact of the rushing water away from nearby infrastructure, while the gaps between rocks trap and slow the flow of water.



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