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## PRESS RELEASE

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### WCR 53 OPEN WHILE CREWS COMPLETE TEMPORARY REPAIRS



WELD COUNTY, CO – Crews have made enough progress on Weld County Road 53 to open the road to traffic while they complete the temporary repairs.

On September 14<sup>th</sup>, WCR 53 road was closed in the vicinity of Bridge 53/58A because of the September floods. Flood waters damaged the bridge abutments, guardrail, WCR 53 north of the bridge, and the intersection of WCR 53/WCR 388. A large portion of the roadway was impassable for several days after the flooding and the bridge could not be accessed from any either direction.

Weld County is proud to announce 43 days later, the road reopened to traffic. Travelers should be aware, however, that delays are possible while work continues.

“Opening this road is important not just for travelers,” said Commissioner Sean Conway, “but also for farmers as this is a major farm-to-market route, for the Platte Valley Fire Department as this road provides a vital connection for their fire district, and for the Platte Valley School District.”

#### Weld County Road 53 Temporary Repair Summary:

- This project consisted of emergency road and bridge repairs adjacent to Bridge 53/58A north of Kersey.
- WCR 53 in the vicinity of Bridge 53/58A was closed to traffic on September 13<sup>th</sup>. WCR 53 was reopened to traffic on October 25<sup>th</sup> (43 days later). WCR 388 is anticipated to be reopened on November 1<sup>st</sup>.
- A construction contract for emergency flood repairs was awarded to Kehn Construction of Fort Collins on October 2<sup>nd</sup>. The original contract amount for the construction contract is \$964,550.00.



*Top photo: Contracted crews clear debris out of the river as they work on Weld County Road 53 bridge repairs.*

*Left: After the flood (far left) and after temporary repairs (left)*

*Photos courtesy of Weld County.*