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NEWS RELEASE

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WELD COUNTY INSTALLS NEW SPEED LIMIT SIGNS

WELD COUNTY, CO – During their Monday meeting, the Weld County Board of Commissioners approved the installation of new speed limit signs on Weld County Road (WCR) 388 between WCR 61 and the entrance to the 70 Ranch in Kersey. Drivers will now notice 25 mph speed limit signs on the one-mile stretch of road.

WCR 388 is a gravel road that averages 648 vehicles per day with 71% being truck traffic. While drivers travel an average of 40 mph on WCR 388, they have to drastically slow down upon turning onto WCR 61 or entering the 70 Ranch as the speed limit inside the ranch is 25 mph. In the past five years, accident records show three accidents on this segment of the roadway each only including property-damage only.

"This is a very unique section of road as it is not used by the general public as a thoroughfare," said Commissioner Julie Cozad. "We appreciate the residents, the 70 Ranch and the truck drivers working in cooperation to suggest a speed limit that makes sense for the area."

The Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD) recommends posting the speed limit within 5 mph of the 85 percentile speed limit, in this case, 40 mph. However, other factors such as road characteristics, roadside development, accident records and shoulder conditions may be considered when establishing speed limits.

"While the Board and Public Works often follow the standards set by the MUTCD, it is important for us to listen to the public's recommendations," said Commissioner Pro-Tem Sean Conway. "Reducing the speed limit will help keep residents and drivers safe as well as maintain the integrity of the road by reducing heavy breaking."

The speed limit signs will be installed by the end of June. To indicate the change, the Weld County Department of Public Works will display red flags atop the new signs alerting drivers of the reduction in speed.

If you would like to request an area for speed evaluation, please call Public Works at 970-304-3750, and for more information about roads in Weld County, visit the Public Works webpage on www.weldgov.com.

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