

# INFORMATION RELEASE



## Office of the Director

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### HIGHWAY 7 CLOSED SOUTH OF JASPER DUE TO ROAD SLIDE

**LITTLE ROCK (8-14)** – A section of Highway 7 about 2.5 miles south of Jasper has been closed due to a road slide that occurred earlier today, according to Arkansas State Highway and Transportation Department (AHTD) officials.

An approximate 125-foot section of the highway collapsed while a contractor for the AHTD was repairing damage to the roadway that occurred during heavy rains in October 2009. Only one lane of traffic was open at the time of the slide, and no vehicles, equipment, or personnel were involved.

Traffic is being diverted off of Highway 7 eastward to Vendor, then back to Highway 7 using Highways 374, 123, and 74. Highway officials estimate Highway 7 should reopen early next week.

Crouse Construction of Harrison is the contractor that is working on the Highway 7 project. They began the work in July 2011 and expect to be complete this fall. It is not known at this time what impact, if any, today's slide will have on the estimated completion of the project.

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