



INFORMATION RELEASE

Office of the Director

ARKANSAS STATE HIGHWAY AND
P. O. Box 2261 – Little Rock, Arkansas
Telephone (501) 569-2227

TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT
ArkansasHighways.com
Twitter: @AHTD

Contact:
Danny Straessle

NR 15-137
May 20, 2015

Slide Prompts Immediate Closure on State Highway 23 in Franklin County

LITTLE ROCK (5-20) – A hill slide on State Highway 23 north of Interstate 40 in Franklin County has prompted the immediate closure of a section of the route north of Cass, according to Arkansas State Highway and Transportation Department (AHTD) officials.

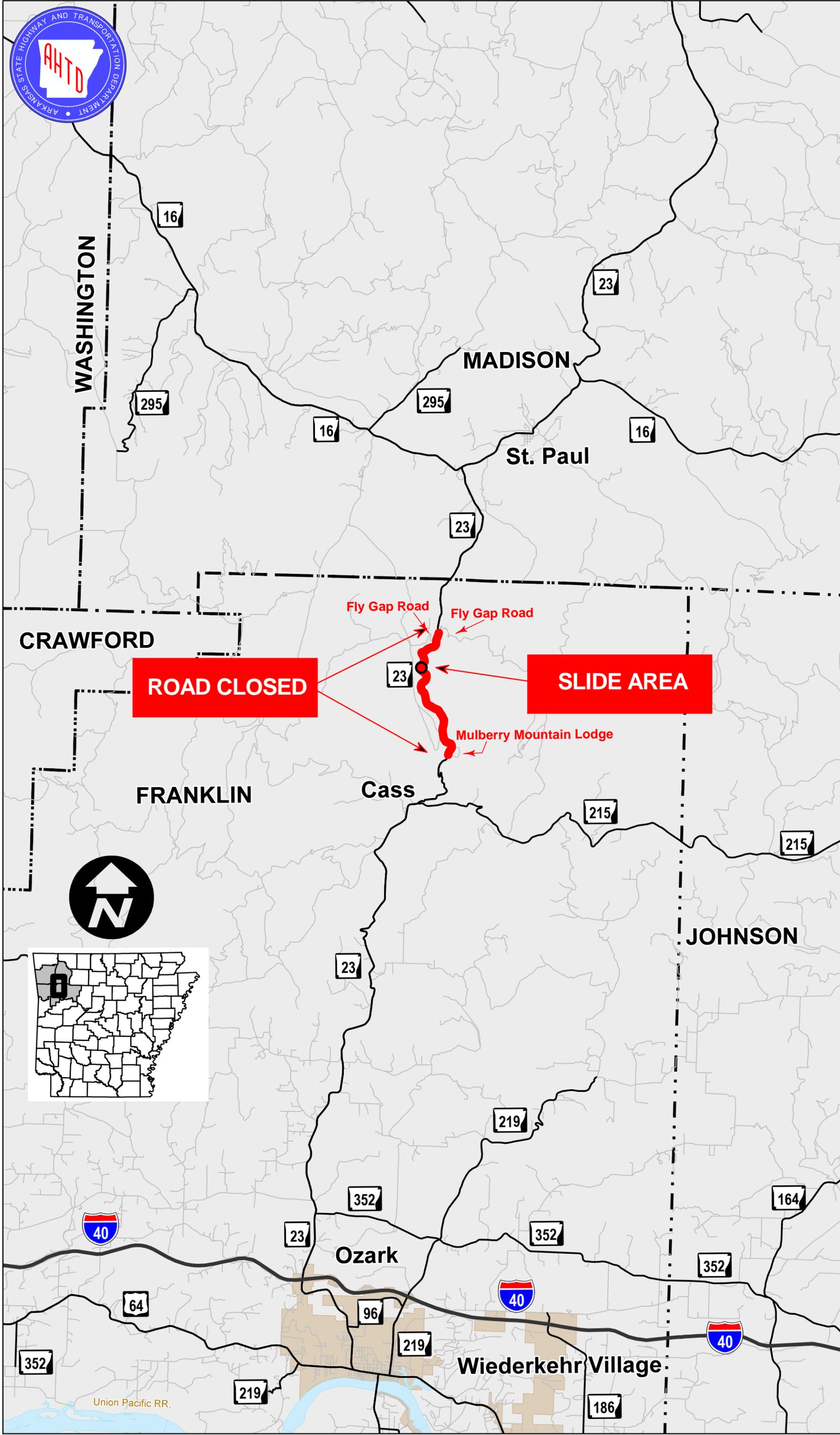
A slope supporting the roadbed on the east side of the highway is in the process of sliding and has caused large cracks to form in the northbound and southbound travel lanes and has rendered both impassable. This section on State Highway 23 will remain closed until repairs can be made, which may take several weeks. A more definitive timeframe will be announced once AHTD engineers have had an opportunity to further evaluate the slide.

The slide location is approximately 19 miles north of I-40 and 5.5 miles north of Cass. Approximately 700 linear feet of roadway is at risk of sliding. The closure includes 3.2 miles of State Highway 23 between the Mulberry Mountain Lodge (south end) and Fly Gap Road (north end). See attached map.

A detour route is being established and electronic message boards are in the process of being placed to warn motorists of the closure at various points along State Highway 23 (both north and south of the closure as well as immediately north of I-40), and on State Highway 215 (which intersects State Highway 23 at Cass).

Additional State Highway closures can be found at www.idrivearkansas.com/closures/ or www.arkansashighways.com. Follow us on Twitter @AHTD for alerts about travel conditions throughout Arkansas.





WASHINGTON

MADISON

St. Paul

CRAWFORD

ROAD CLOSED

SLIDE AREA

FRANKLIN

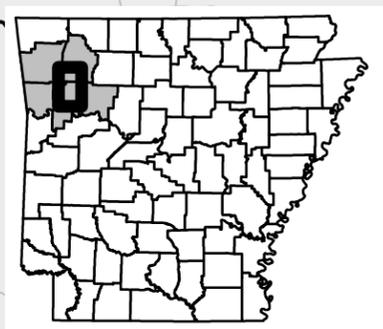
Cass

JOHNSON

23

Ozark

Wiederkehr Village



Union Pacific RR.