



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 15-177
June 12, 2015

One Lane of State Highway 23 in Franklin County at Slide Location Opens to Traffic

LITTLE ROCK (6-12) – A hill slide on State Highway 23 north of Interstate 40 in Franklin County that prompted the immediate closure of a section of the route north of Cass has stabilized and one lane is open for traffic, according to Arkansas State Highway and Transportation Department (AHTD) officials.

Last month, a slope supporting the roadbed on the east side of the highway slid due to saturation from a large amount of rain and caused large cracks to form in the northbound and southbound travel lanes, rendering both impassable. AHTD engineers and maintenance crews have stabilized the southbound lane and opened it to traffic yesterday.

Portable traffic signals have been installed on each end of the slide to govern use of the one available lane. Motorists are advised to slow down and proceed with caution through the area as the roadway surface is comprised of asphalt millings.

AHTD engineers are completing designs for a permanent repair solution and future closings at this location on State Highway 23 may be necessary later this summer.

The slide location is approximately 19 miles north of I-40 and 5.5 miles north of Cass. Approximately 700 linear feet of roadway was affected by this event. The closure included 3.2 miles of State Highway 23 between the Mulberry Mountain Lodge (south end) and Fly Gap Road (north end).

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.