



3/15/24

### Wilson Boat Ramp construction update

Staff and construction team met this week to discuss the construction schedule for the Wilson Boat Ramp. There is still nearly 3 ft of snow at ramp area currently. The weather looks like it will be sunny and 40's to near 50 for the next 4-5 days before it appears to cool off and get wet again. Due to the buried infrastructure and a level of expertise related to clearing snow and not damaging the base, the contractor has requested we do not hire an outside contractor to clear the area. They are going to clear the area to ensure that it is done to create the least impact on the base, ensure good surface drainage in areas they need it and set themselves up for success moving forward. Until they can clear the area, and have it dry out a bit to evaluate winter impacts, we are not allowing traffic on the road base. Therefore, we are unable to provide a temporary window of access prior to the 25<sup>th</sup> of March construction start. The contractor has also indicated there is not presently an opportunity to identify temporary windows of access during construction, and therefore work will proceed as scheduled. The plan will be to continue our weekly meetings to evaluate weather and progress to see if any windows of access become available. During the interim, the Snake River Fund has been given permission to clear South Park Boat ramp this weekend and open the restrooms for early season access. They have also been working with Bridger Teton National Forest to ensure downstream egress is available at Pritchard Boat Ramp.

I would like to express my thanks to the Snake River Fund for supporting both the County and the boating community through this process. We look forward to completing the project and providing the community with an improved, more functional, and safer launch environment moving forward.

Short term schedule is:

- The contractor will be staging equipment on Monday March 25<sup>th</sup> with clearing to begin early that week.
- Surveying, evaluation of base and some grading will take place initially before they begin finish prep and crush for asphalt.
- Staff will provide updates every Friday from here on out to the boating community, elected officials, and other stakeholders to ensure clarity with the project.

For questions or concerns you can contact Andy Erskine, Parks Superintendent, [aerskine@tetoncountywy.gov](mailto:aerskine@tetoncountywy.gov).