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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE, SEPTEMBER 9, 2021

NEWS RELEASE

Durango–La Plata County Airport travelers may be affected by US 160 closure

Durango, CO: There will be a full nightly closure of U.S. 160 near Chimney Rock National Monument and Lake Capote starting **Monday, Sept. 20 through Friday, Sept. 24** (five nights). The closure will be from **9 p.m. to 6 a.m.** daily.

Motorists seeking eastbound/westbound access on U.S. 160 will need to arrive at the closure point before 9 p.m. or after 6 a.m. A detour will not be available.

Durango La-Plata County Airport (DRO) advises airport travelers driving to or from Pagosa Springs and areas east of the roadway closure to consider if they will need to adjust drive times.

- Passengers arriving at the airport on flights after 7 p.m. will not be able to access areas east of the U.S. 160 closure until 6 a.m. the following day. The approximate drive time between DRO and the U.S 160 closure site is one hour, but passengers need to factor in the time it will take to deplane, collect baggage, and arrange for ground transportation before they depart the airport heading east.
- Individuals driving from areas east of the closure to catch early-morning departures will not be able to get through the U.S. 160 closure until 6 a.m. Passengers are reminded that the recommended arrival time at the airport is a minimum of 90 minutes prior to scheduled departure.

The safety closure is necessary to set large precast concrete arches over the roadway as part of the Colorado Department of Transportation's [U.S. 160 Wildlife Crossing Project](#).

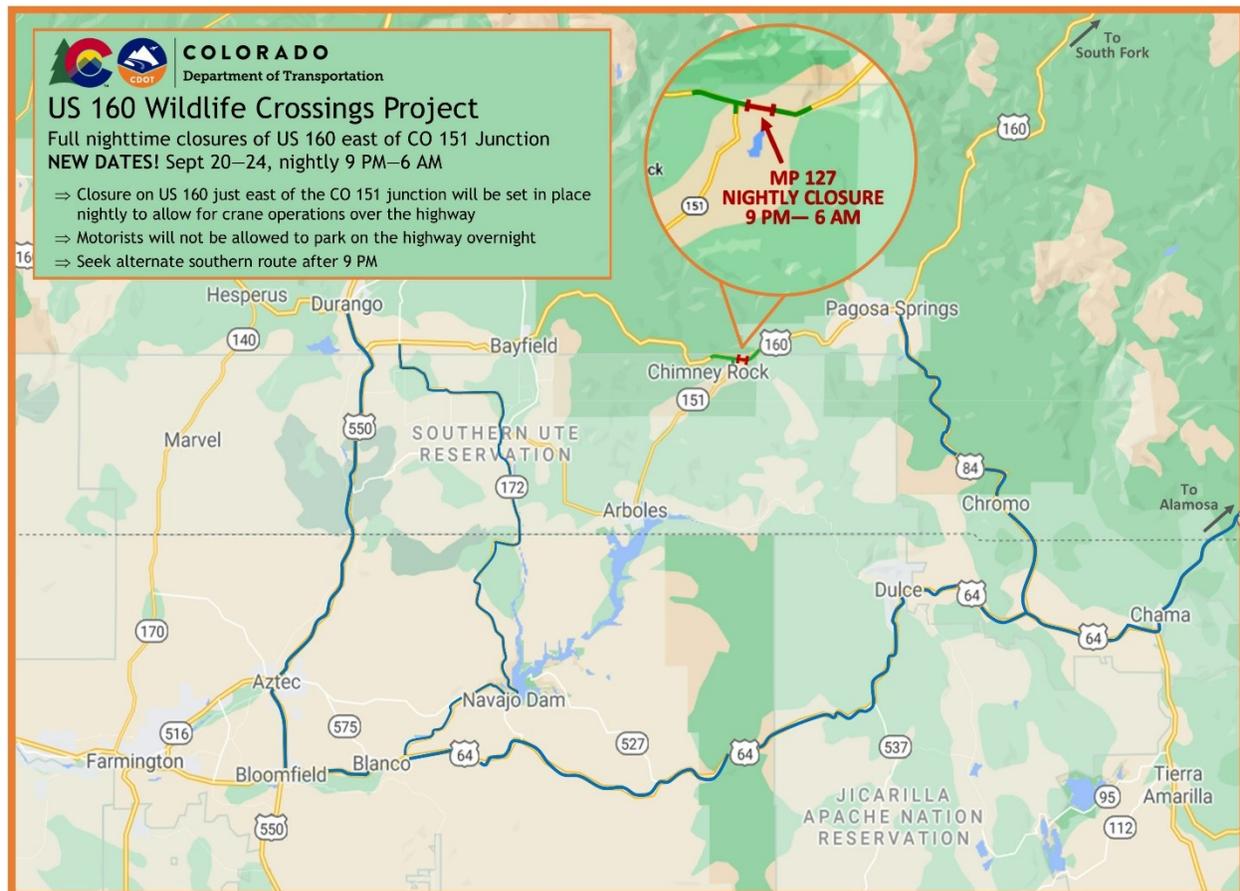
The intersection of U.S. 160 and CO 151 will remain open; however, motorists will only be able to travel westbound (toward Bayfield and Durango) during nighttime closures. Eastbound travel (toward Pagosa Springs) will not be allowed, as the closure area is just east of the intersection. See attached map.

MORE

Otherwise, travelers may consider an alternate southern route via U.S. Highways 84, 64 and 550, through New Mexico. A detour at the work zone is not available. Additionally, vehicles are not permitted to stop or wait overnight on U.S. 160 while the highway is closed.

The public can sign-up for email updates or access information through the following resources:

- Project hotline: (970) 903-4004
- Project email: PublicInfoCO@gmail.com
- Website: codot.gov/projects/us160-wildlife-crossing



About Durango-La Plata County Airport

Durango-La Plata County Airport (DRO) is the primary regional airport for Southwest Colorado, Northwest New Mexico, and the entire Four Corners region. DRO welcomed over 390,000 passengers in 2019 and contributes over \$290 million annually to the regional economy. DRO is served by four major U.S. airlines (American, Delta, Frontier, and United), offering year-round daily nonstop routes to Dallas-Fort Worth (DFW), Denver (DEN), Phoenix (PHX), and Salt Lake City (SLC), twice-weekly nonstop service to Las Vegas (LAS), and seasonal nonstop service to Los Angeles (LAX).

DRO operates as an enterprise fund of the City of Durango and generates self-sustaining revenue from airport tenants and users in the form of airline rent and landing fees, terminal concessions, ground leases, and parking fees. The airport does not receive any local tax funding.

Learn more about the Durango-La Plata County Airport at FlyDurango.com. Follow us on social media at twitter.com/DROAirport and facebook.com/DROAirport