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**Department of Transportation**

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## **CDOT and local counties announce limited opening of Independence Pass**

*Only passenger vehicles allowed*

**PITKIN/LAKE COUNTIES** - The Colorado Department of Transportation, in cooperation with local counties, announces that CO Highway 82 over Independence Pass is now open with limited access and alternating traffic. Eastbound and westbound traffic on either side of the pass will encounter alternating traffic flow controlled by flagging personnel. Motorists are advised that only passenger vehicles, such as cars, SUVs and vans are allowed. There will be a heavy law enforcement presence on both the east and west sides of the pass. No commercial motor vehicles (CMVs), camper trailers, recreational or similar vehicles are allowed. A 35-foot length restriction is in place.

Motorists should expect slow speeds, lengthy travel times and potential delays of up to two hours. Campers and recreational vehicles are strongly advised to seek an alternate southern route.

I-70 Glenwood Canyon has been closed for several days due to the Grizzly Creek Fire. ([Media Kit: Grizzly Creek Fire - Highway Images & Video](#)) As a result of the I-70 closure, drivers have been attempting to use CO 82, although it is not an advised detour route. The combination of heavy traffic, narrow width of the highway in several locations and vehicle length restrictions are creating unsafe travel conditions on Independence Pass. Earlier this week multiple CMVs and vehicles towing trailers became stuck on the pass and forced a closure of the pass.

CDOT reminds travelers to be wary of using GPS mapping apps for searching alternate routes, since not all platforms provide up-to-date information. Travelers should avoid using county or forest roads as alternate routes, as road conditions may not be favorable. Please visit [www.cotrip.org](http://www.cotrip.org) for the latest information on road closures and conditions.

