



Project Summary

How long did it take?

39 days.....November 7 through December 15

7,000+ man-hours.....Wilder Construction of Everett/Bellevue plus several subcontractors

Why did this repair take so long?

The November slide happened on a rock face covered with fractured rock, requiring a greater rock removal effort prior to stabilization. The colder November weather, short days, and the 56 inches of snow that fell during the repair period added a dimension of difficulty for workers and machinery. From an engineering perspective, it was actually a fairly rapid repair, given the challenges involved.

What was required?

46 stabilization boltsEach ranging from 20'–40' in length; one-quarter mile in total length

10 drainage conduitsTo prevent buildup of water behind the rock face

17,000 square feet ofTo hold future falling rock against the rock face;
cable net an area equivalent to over one-third of a football field

2,500 cubic yards ofA volume equivalent to five two-bedroom homes;
rocks/debris removed 160 truckloads of material

Est. \$1.4 million dollarsFinal repair cost is still being determined

Traveler Safety

WSDOT and its contractor safely completed the repairs while more than half a million vehicles passed through the work site.

WSDOT predicted Thanksgiving weekend delays, if all who traveled last year followed the same pattern this year. Altering travel plans prevented delays.

Lanes of I-90 at Snoqualmie Pass were kept open as much as possible throughout the repair. WSDOT got the word out early about possible significant delays on the pass during the long Thanksgiving weekend; drivers listened, and their cooperation was key in the four factors that kept delays to a minimum:

- No extreme weather occurred. (Only 12 inches of snow fell during Thanksgiving weekend.)
- Travelers avoided peak traffic hours. (Decreases of up to 50% during historically peak periods)
- Drivers chose alternate routes. (Stevens and White Passes saw significant increases in traffic.)
- A number of folks postponed travel. (15% fewer vehicles than last year)

WSDOT commends and thanks the public for their foresight, cooperation, and patience during this major repair to a vital commercial and travel corridor.