The Montana Department of Transportation (MDT) is replacing the Varney Bridge. The bridge crosses the Madison River on Varney Road (S-249) approximately eight miles south of Ennis in Madison County.

The project will improve safety and help reduce water and ice running over the bridge. The existing Varney Bridge is a 12-foot wide single-lane structure originally built in 1897. The bridge has a pier in the middle of the stream that is an obstacle to water and ice moving under the bridge. During the winter months, water and ice back up on the pier and run over the bridge.

The project includes:

- Removing all piers in the river and constructing a single-span bridge.
- Widening the bridge to include two 12-foot travel lanes and adding 2-foot shoulders and guardrails.
- Adjusting the alignment of Varney Road with the bridge to improve sight distances.

STAY INFORMED DURING CONSTRUCTION

SIGN UP FOR CONSTRUCTION EMAIL NOTIFICATIONS
TEXT VARNEY to 22828 | EMAIL Brandon@rbci.net | CALL (406) 465-3350
LEARN MORE https://www.mdt.mt.gov/pubinvolve/varneybridge/
What you need to know during construction

Construction is anticipated to begin in late March and be completed in the fall 2019. Work is dependent on water levels and weather conditions.

• The bridge will be closed to traffic from late March to the end of 2019.
• Motorists will be detoured around the bridge through Ennis using Highway 287 (east of the bridge) and Varney Road (west of the bridge).
• The Fishing Access Site on the east side will remain open throughout construction.
• Temporary river closures (potentially 2–6 hours) will be required when construction activities pose a risk to river users. Advanced notice of river closures will be provided.
• Boats will be directed through the construction area.

Want to stay informed during construction?

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FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE PROJECT VISIT: WWW.MDT.MT.GOV/PUBINVOLVE/VARNEYBRIDGE/