

SR 305 Agate Pass Bridge Cleaning

WHAT'S HAPPENING?

As part of WSDOT's responsibility to maintain bridges, the Agate Pass Bridge on State Route 305 will be cleaned this February. The work will require daytime single-lane closures across the bridge.

LANE CLOSURE INFORMATION

The bridge will be reduced to one-way alternating traffic during the following times:

- 8:45 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday through Thursday, Feb. 12-15
- 11 consecutive days from Tuesday, Feb. 20, through Friday, March 2
 - 8:45 a.m. to 3 p.m. weekdays
 - 7:45 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 24 and Sunday, Feb. 25

How will WSDOT manage traffic during the bridge cleaning?

Daytime single-lane alternating traffic will be controlled by flaggers on both sides of the bridge, and law enforcement personnel will control traffic at the SR 305/Suquamish Way intersection. Accommodations will be made for emergency vehicles.



Agate Pass Bridge on State Route 305 in Kitsap County

What can drivers expect?

SR 305 drivers can expect delays up to 30 minutes if not more during the Agate Pass Bridge cleaning and other maintenance.

WSDOT advises drivers to minimize discretionary trips and avoid the bridge during the work hours if possible. Drivers are also encouraged to consider working from home or adjusting work schedules if possible to help ease traffic congestion.

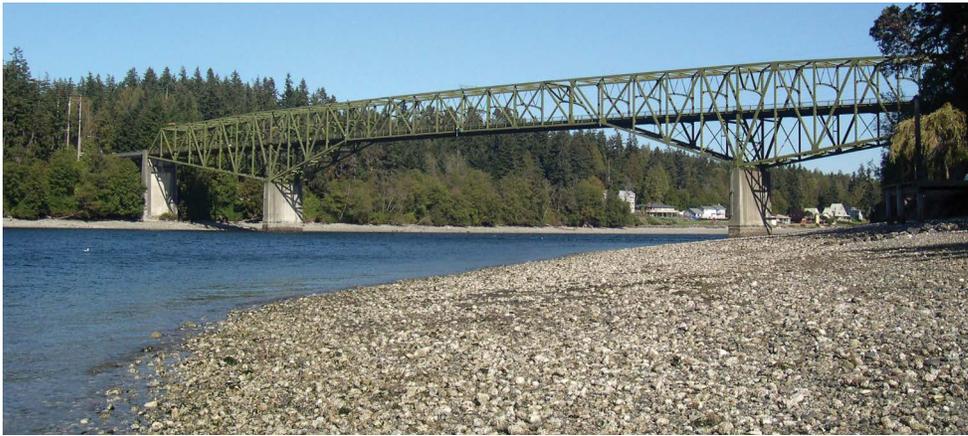
Why isn't the work taking place at night?

Crews will thread an articulated boom through the steel truss members of the bridge to reach

very tight areas that must be cleaned by hand and then flushed. Daylight is absolutely necessary to ensure proper equipment maneuvering. Crews need to be able to see and communicate with each other for efficiency and safety. The work is labor-intensive and multiple crews will be on the bridge simultaneously. Working at night introduces unacceptable safety risks and inefficiencies.

How will the bridge be cleaned?

Crews will use Under-Bridge-Inspection-Trucks (UBITs) and other equipment to reach various areas of the bridge including areas under the bridge. They will remove



Agate Pass Bridge



Crews will use Under-Bridge-Inspection Trucks (UBITs) to clean, inspect and maintain the Agate Pass Bridge in February 2018.

accumulations of debris by hand, followed by a low-pressure water flush.

In addition to cleaning the bridge, crews will remove and treat rust areas with protective paint and perform other maintenance duties intended to extend the service life of the bridge.

Why is the work being done in February?

February was chosen for several reasons. Peregrine falcons, a protected species, have historically nested on the bridge. February avoids their nesting season. February also has lower traffic volumes than summer travel months when bridge work had previously taken place. This bridge-cleaning activity has become an annual event in WSDOT's ongoing efforts to maintain the bridge.

Will Bainbridge Island Ferry be affected?

Ferry schedule will not be affected, however drivers are advised to give themselves extra time when driving to the terminal.

How many commuters use the bridge each day?

On average the Agate Pass Bridge is used by 22,000 vehicles each 24-hour day. During the seven hours between 8 a.m. and 3 p.m., SR 305 carries about 9,200 vehicles across the bridge.

Is this work weather sensitive?

Yes. Freezing conditions such as freezing rain, snow or high winds could delay the work.

Why is cleaning the bridge so important?

Cleaning the bridge is a critical component of inspection and maintenance activities. Dirt, other organic debris and rust can hide potential maintenance problems that, if not addressed, can shorten the bridge's useful life.

When was the bridge built?

The Agate Pass Bridge was built in 1950.

Where can I get more information?

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