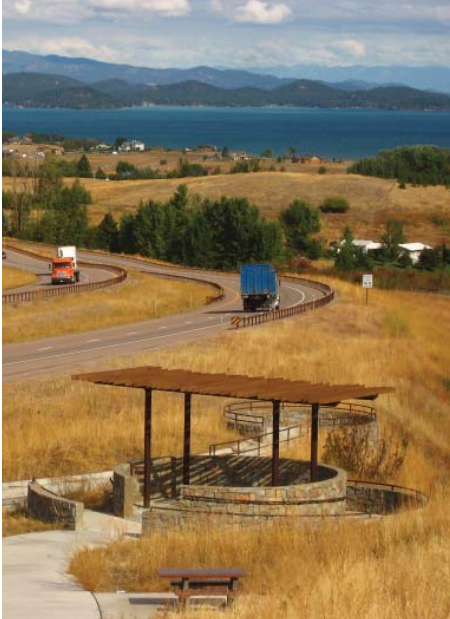




U.S. HIGHWAY 93 THROUGH THE FLATHEAD INDIAN RESERVATION

VARO TO POLSON, MONTANA

MONTANA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION, THE CONFEDERATED TRIBES OF THE SALISH & KOOTENAI AND THE FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION



JONES & JONES
ARCHITECTS
LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS
PLANNERS

U.S. Highway 93 traverses the Flathead Indian Reservation for fifty-five miles along the base of the Mission Mountains in western Montana on its way to Glacier National Park.

The corridor is home to grizzly bears, elk, deer, painted turtles and a number of fish and birds. It is also the homeland of the Bitterroot Salish, Lower Pend Oreille and Kootenai Tribes.

With Jones & Jones as design consultants, this famous highway was reconstructed as a respectful “visitor” to the land, the people and the wildlife. The project demonstrates ways the land can shape the road, restoring sensitive habitats, respecting the way of life in the rural towns along this historic route and giving travelers a deeper understanding of this scenic cultural landscape.

With forty wildlife underpasses and overpasses, this road reconstruction increases the number of wildlife crossings on U.S. roads by a third—establishing it as America’s Wildlife Highway.

FACTS

- 55-mile scenic segment of road connecting Missoula to Flathead Lake, Montana
- 40 wildlife crossing structures
- Two scenic overlooks
- 10 miles of Class A bike trails
- 25 miles of passing lane segments
- Natural stormwater treatment
- Low-frequency radio station broadcasting stories of Salish and Kootenai culture

BENEFITS

- Context-sensitive transportation solution
- Protects tribal values, lands and resources
- Preserves rural character and small town life
- Enhances recreation and cultural tourism
- Boon to local economies
- Innovative cost controls
- Restored native landscape and habitats
- Connections for wildlife habitats
- Better surface water management and water quality
- Managed regional development

Transportation Planning Excellence Award, 2008
Federal Highway Administration/Federal Transit Administration

President’s Transportation Award for the Environment, 2001
American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials

Strive for Excellence Team Award, 2001
Federal Highway Administration