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News and Information



Speed, inattention and tailgating are cited as the cause of most crashes in areas where roadwork is under way.

May 26, 2006

MoDOT will use new method to repair slide 25-foot nails will be "launched" into soil

HANNIBAL – MoDOT will try something new in Missouri to help stabilize a slide on Route 24 near Paris. Next Thursday, June 1, Soil Nail Launcher, Inc., will begin work to repair a slide is threatening Route 24 near Paris. MoDOT will have crews flagging since the work will require a lane closure on Route 24.

"This is a new method to repair slides that is faster and more cost effective," said MoDOT Geologist Denny Lambert. "We will treat 300 feet of slope in three days, compared to four to five weeks using traditional methods," he continued. A slide occurs when the land on a hillside becomes unstable and begins eroding downward. "We're concerned about slides because they can cause the base of a highway to become unstable if left untreated," Lambert explained.

"The technology used by this company is interesting," said Lambert. "They actually use a machine that was used in World War II that launched chemical warfare seven miles," he said. "They've converted it to launch 25 foot long nails into the ground to stabilize the area," he continued. Lambert said the nails go in so fast that the soil actually swells after penetration and grips the nail.

The company has done work all over the world including New Zealand and China, as well as within the United States. The cost to repair the slide is \$124,000, which is less than a conventional repair. The work is expected to be completed by the end of Saturday, June 3.

For more information about this method of slide repair, visit www.soilnaillauncher.com.

Links to related information:

[pictures and drawings](#)