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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **Bridge Construction Projects to Begin on U.S. 83 in Thomas County**

Starting in early March, the Kansas Department of Transportation will begin a bridge replacement project on three bridges on U.S. 83 located north of Oakley in Thomas County.

The first bridge spans the South Fork of the Solomon River and is located 7 miles north of the U.S. 83 and Interstate 70 junction. Traffic at this location will be reduced to one lane and controlled by stop lights. Work is expected to be completed by the end of September 2015, weather permitting.

The second two bridges are located 4 and 1 miles north of the Thomas/Logan County line and span the North and South Forks of the Saline River, respectively. Traffic on the South Fork bridge will be reduced to one lane and controlled by stop lights, while traffic on the North Fork bridge will be diverted around the work zone by a shoofly detour. Work on the South Fork bridge is expected to be completed by the end of September 2015 and on the North Fork bridge by the end of July 2015, both weather permitting.

KDOT urges all motorists to be alert, obey the warning signs and "Give 'em a Brake!" when approaching and driving through the construction zones.

Klaver Construction of Kingman, Kan., is the primary contractor for these projects, with a total contract cost of approximately \$5.1 million.

The project is funded by T-WORKS, the transportation program passed by the Kansas legislature in May 2010. Find out more about this and other T-WORKS projects at <http://kdotapp.ksdot.org/TWORKS>.

For more information on the project, contact Mathew Withington, area engineer, at 785-443-1265 or [matheww@ksdot.org](mailto:matheww@ksdot.org).

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