



"ICE ROAD TRUCKERS" HITS THE BEARTOOTH PASS

By Angela Douglas



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BILLINGS - "Ice Road Truckers" has made its way through the Beartooth Pass.

The History Channel's reality TV show follows the lives of nearly ten truckers as they haul semi-loads across frozen bodies of water and icy roads in treacherous conditions, and now a Montana highway can be checked off the list.

Last week the Treasure State got a chance to highlight one of its most dangerous mountain passes, the Beartooth Highway just outside of Red Lodge.

According to Betsy Baumgart with the Montana Office of Tourism in the Department of Commerce, for the past six days "Ice Road Truckers" produced a commercial for the TV series on the icy Beartooth Highway.

Producers of the commercial were looking to simulate a semi crashing on an icy highway.

The production received a free permit from the Montana Department of Transportation to close the highway during filming.

Baumgart says the entire ordeal went smoothly.

The crew of 30 people included 15 Montanans, according to Baumgart.

Rocky Mountain Helicopters in Bozeman and FilmLites Montana, a production company, also in Bozeman, were both hired to help create the commercial.

Baumgart says out of the "Ice Road Truckers"' \$500,000 budget for the commercial, \$100,000 was spent locally in Red Lodge and Billings.

"It was a good economic impact for a short period of time," Baumgart states.



Nick at Apr 12th 2010 3:11 PM

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Neutral

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