**Showcase Date: July 12, 2016**

The Black Hills National Forest and Crook County, WY are replacing 4 bridges over Sand Creek south of Beulah, WY using the accelerated bridge construction.

Geosynthetic Reinforced Soil abutments and pre-fabricated superstructures will be used to construct the bridges in days rather than months. The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) invites you to participate in this Showcase event which will show you why these structures should be included your inventory.

**WHAT IS GRS-IBS?**

**GRS**: An engineered fill of closely spaced alternating layers of compacted granular fill material and fabric sheets of geosynthetic reinforcement.

**IBS**: A fast, cost-effective method of bridge support that blends the roadway into the superstructure using GRS technology. This creates a simple, joint-less interface between the bridge and the roadway alleviating the “bump at the bridge” problem caused by uneven settlement between the bridge and the approaching roadway.

**GRS-IBS** offers unique advantages, particularly in the construction of small bridges.

- Construction costs are typically 25 to 60 percent lower than conventional construction methods.
- GRS IBS bridges are easy to build with common equipment and materials, so projects can be completed more quickly.
- They are also easy to maintain because they contain fewer parts: IBS is typically built without many of the elements common to a conventional bridge abutment.
- Flexible design that’s easily modified in the field for unforeseen site conditions including unfavorable weather conditions.

**ADVENTAGES**

- You MUST bring your safety shoes, hard hat, & safety vest to visit the construction site.