

Project Summary

The existing Maybert Road Bridge is located approximately 3 miles east of the town of Washington. The bridge was built and designed by the Cotton Brothers and Company, a well-known bridge building firm in California and Nevada. While Caltrans Bridge Reports indicate that the current bridge was constructed in 1915, other publications suggest that the bridge may have been constructed in 1895. Historically, a bridge at this location connected the mining towns of Washington and Maybert.

The bridge has far exceeded its useful life and is now rated among the worst bridges in the State. In addition, the bridge has a long history of bridge condition issues culminating in a 3-ton load restriction in 1993 – the minimum allowed in California.

Since project award in 2008, the County has completed the project environmental clearance (2012) and right of way acquisition stages (2015). The County has also agreed to carefully disassemble, remove and relocate the bridge to Nevada City for future use as part of their recreational trail expansion efforts.

The County Board of Supervisors awarded a contract to Steelhead Contractors, Inc. for approximately \$1.1 million dollars in June 2016 to construct the project. Project construction is expected to begin on **August 29, 2016** and be completed before December 20, 2016.

The bridge is expected to be closed to the public during this time. County staff requests that the public avoid the area until after the project is completed.

For general project information please contact (530) 265-1411 or visit the County's Facebook page at www.facebook.com/nevcopwsocial. For construction concerns or issues please call Greg Zeis at 916-367-8059.

County of Nevada
Department of Public Works
950 Maidu Avenue
Nevada City, CA 95959

TO:

Nevada County
Department of Public
Works

Maybert Road Bridge
Replacement Project

August 29 –
December 20, 2016



Tel: (530) 265-1411

2016 Maybert Road Bridge Replacement Project

Background

The existing Maybert Road Bridge is located approximately 3 miles east of the town of Washington. The bridge was built and designed by the Cotton Brothers and Company, a well-known bridge building firm in California and Nevada. While Caltrans Bridge Reports indicate that the current bridge was constructed in 1915, other publications suggest that the bridge may have been constructed in 1895. Historically, a bridge at this location connected the mining towns of Washington and Maybert.

The bridge has far exceeded its useful life and is now rated among the worst bridges in the State. In addition, the bridge has a long history of bridge condition issues that culminated in a 3-ton load restriction in 1993 – the minimum allowed in California.

Current bridge issues include:

- Deterioration of the timber bridge rail and decking
- Issues with lateral cross bracing between existing bridge trusses
- Inability of the interior bottom chord eye-bars to take tension.
- Issues with the bridge trusses
- Longitudinal movement of the existing bridge abutment
- Deterioration of the existing bridge abutment, including gaps in the stacked shale rocks and loosening or crushing of existing shale rocks
- Rusting of all unpainted steel truss elements

In 2008 the County was awarded federal funding for comprehensive bridge replacement and improvements on the bridge approaches.

Environmental Clearance

The Initial Study / Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS/MND) was circulated for public review and finalized in 2012. The final study concluded that there would be less than significant impacts upon implementation of these mitigations. The Board of Supervisors unanimously approved the IS/MND on August 12, 2012. Caltrans subsequently approved the federal environmental clearance documents in November 2012.

Right of Way

Upon completion of the design and environmental clearance, staff began working on the right of way acquisition process. With the road more than 100 years old, the right of way was prescriptive in nature, meaning easements were implied after the continuous public use of the road over private property. In order to extinguish any legal ambiguity pertaining to the right of way, the federal funding required that the County formally acquire the prescriptive right of way.

Project right of way was formally acquired in 2015 and removed the final obstacle for project construction in 2016.

Existing Bridge Removal

The mitigation measures included in the environmental clearance included a detailed public process to make the old bridge available to a State, locality, or responsible entity for reuse. As part of this process, the city of Nevada City approached the County regarding potential use of this bridge within its city limits.

The County has come to an agreement with Nevada City to reuse the bridge as part of their recreation trail expansion efforts. The project will include careful disassembly and documentation of the existing bridge. The bridge will then be delivered to Nevada City for their future use.

Construction

The County Board of Supervisors awarded a contract to Steelhead Contractors, Inc. for approximately \$1.1 million dollars in June 2016 to construct the project.

Starting August 29th, the bridge is expected to be closed to the public. Two large orange 8-foot by 4-foot notification signs will be placed on Washington Road and Maybert Road to inform recreational traffic of the closure, and public notices will be submitted to the public prior to the road closure. County staff request that the public avoid the area until after the project is complete. The project should be completed before December 20th.

The County's Department of Public Works will provide regular project updates on its Facebook Page at www.facebook.com/nevcopwsocial. County staff will also utilize the County's "Friday Memo" and Press Releases to inform the public of project milestones and delays.

The project is funded with federal Highway Bridge Program grant funding. The project will be managed by HDR Construction Control, the County's on-call Construction Management and Inspection Consultant. The project manager can be reached at 916-367-8059 or at Greg.Zeiss@hdrinc.com

Contact Information

Greg Zeis (HDR Construction Control)

Project Manager – 916-367-8059

Greg.Zeiss@hdrinc.com

Nevada County Department of Public Works

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