

STAFF REPORT



MEETING DATE:	December 18, 2025
SUBJECT:	Receive Presentation from Caltrans District 2 on Whiskey Creek Bridge Project
AGENDA ITEM:	5
STAFF CONTACT:	Sean Tiedgen, AICP, Executive Director

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the SRTA Board of Directors receive a presentation from Kerry Molz, Office Chief of Programs/Project Management at Caltrans District 2, regarding recent activities and planned efforts to replace the Whiskey Creek Bridge.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Sean Tiedgen", is written over a horizontal line.

Sean Tiedgen, AICP, Executive Director

Attachment: Presentation Slides

WHISKEY CREEK BRIDGE REPLACEMENT



Project Location

Public Meeting

October 23, 2025

Contact: Matteo D'Orio
Project Manager Shasta Co.
Caltrans-District 2
Matteo.dorio@dot.ca.gov



PURPOSE AND NEED

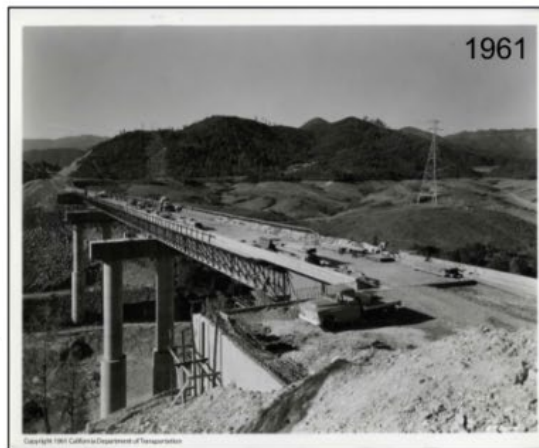


- **Need:**

In response to an FHWA memorandum regarding fracture critical bridges with T-1 steel members, deficient welds were identified on the Whiskey Creek Bridge (06-0096). If the welds are left unaddressed, this could lead to the complete failure of the bridge superstructure. Structure Maintenance & Investigations issued a Record of Critical Finding (RCF) to FHWA on 2/8/2024 requiring immediate action to resolve these deficiencies to maintain the safety of the travelling public. The bridge does not have sufficient width for repairing the welds without significant impacts to traffic and freight movement. The structure is fracture critical because it has non-redundant high strength girders comprised of T-1 steel. The bridge deck has also deteriorated over time due to traffic, exposure to freeze/thaw cycles, rebar corrosion from use of deicing salts, and unsound concrete. Due to these conditions the bridge is in a condition of poor health.

- **Purpose:**

The purpose of this project is to deliver a structurally sound bridge that urgently addresses the deficient welds in T-1 steel members, upgrades the structure to meet current highway design standards, and reduces future maintenance and capital cost needs. The project will also decrease worker exposure and ensure a safe and reliable structure for all modes of travel and goods movement, which will restore the bridge to a condition of good health.



T-1 FRACTURE ON OTHER BRIDGES

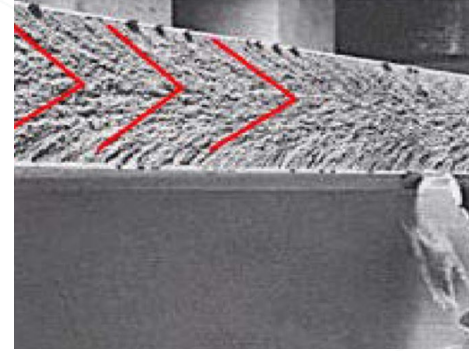


2021 Hernando de Soto

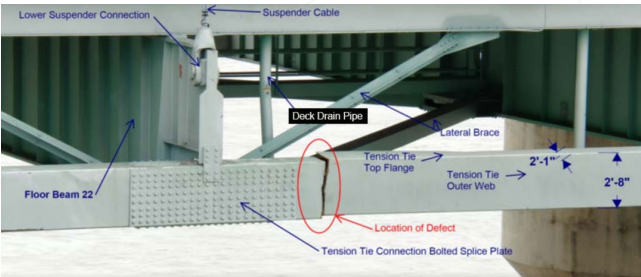


- If left unaddressed, the deficient Whiskey Creek Bridge welds could eventually lead to fracture and complete failure of the bridge superstructure.

1970 Bryte Bend Bridge



2011 Sherman-Minton



2024 Blue Mesa Reservoir



DARKFIBER PROJECT



- Separate project to install the DarkFiber elongation monitoring system on the deficient Whiskey Creek bridge welds
- Essential to preserve the integrity of the infrastructure
- Provides Caltrans confidence to keep the bridge open to the public
- In place until the bridge superstructure is replaced
- Will immediately alert the contractor and Caltrans if a crack or elongation is detected
- Also increase frequency of visual inspections from 2 years to every 6 months

**DarkFiber
Monitoring
Locations**



Installation of DarkFiber System



PROJECT MILESTONES



02-2K000 Whiskey Creek Bridge Replacement

Major Milestone	Milestone Delivery Date
M120 Draft ENV DOC	Mid October 2025
Initial Study/Categorical Exclusion (IS/CE)	
Public Meeting	
End Public Comment Period	10/23/2025
M200 Project Approval & ENV DOC	11/18/2025
Env Permits (Permits 401, 404)	12/23/2025
M460 RTL	3/24/2026
M470 CTC Funding Allocation Date	4/27/2026
M500 Construction Start	6/25/2026
Switch Traffic to Stage 1	Early August 2026
M600 Construction Completion	Late 2027
	Late 2028

WHISKEY CREEK FENCE OPTIONS

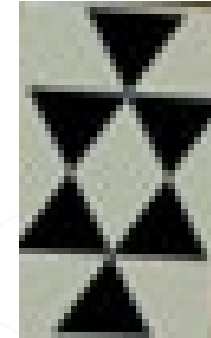


- Coordinated with local tribes and Whiskeytown National Recreation Area
- Patterns representative of all tribes
- Fence will be on the south side of the bridge
- Two options: pattern below fence or pattern above fence

Water symbol with frog legs



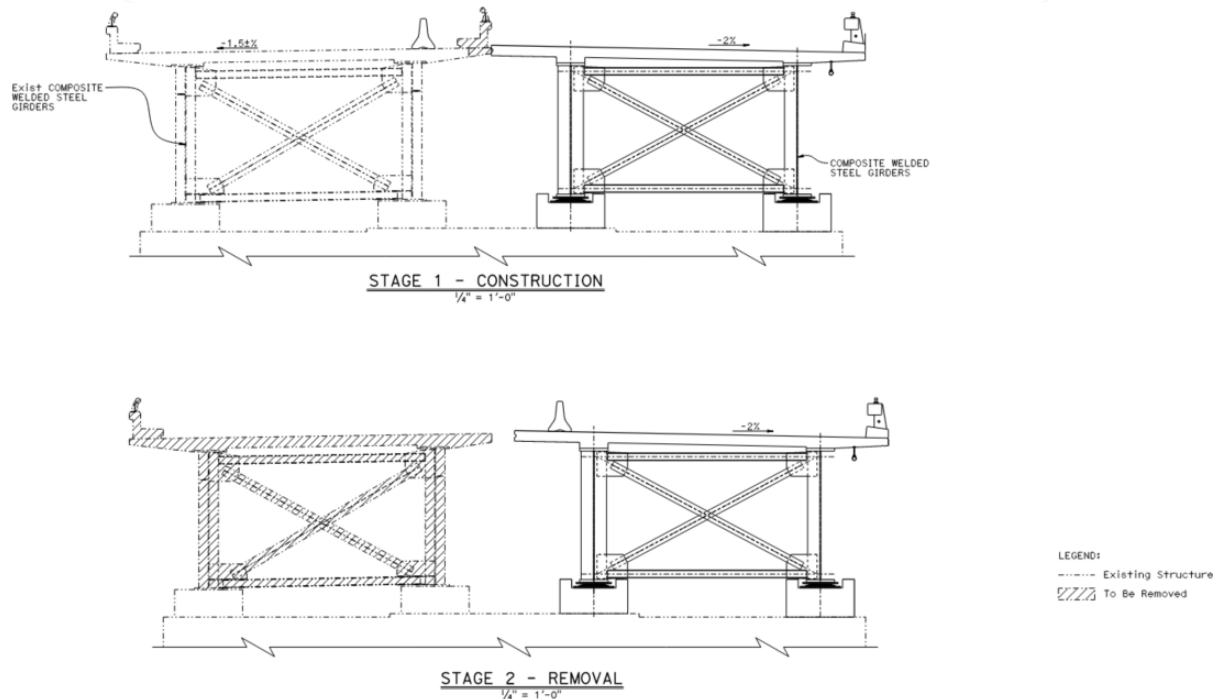
Basket Weaving Pattern



TRAFFIC AND USER IMPACTS



Cross Section and Staged Construction



Traffic Impacts

- Construction will start summer 2026
- Two full working seasons
- Increase in traffic during summer
- Two-way traffic control on existing bridge
- Intermittent one-way traffic control throughout project life
- Short-duration (<one hour) full closures for various construction activities

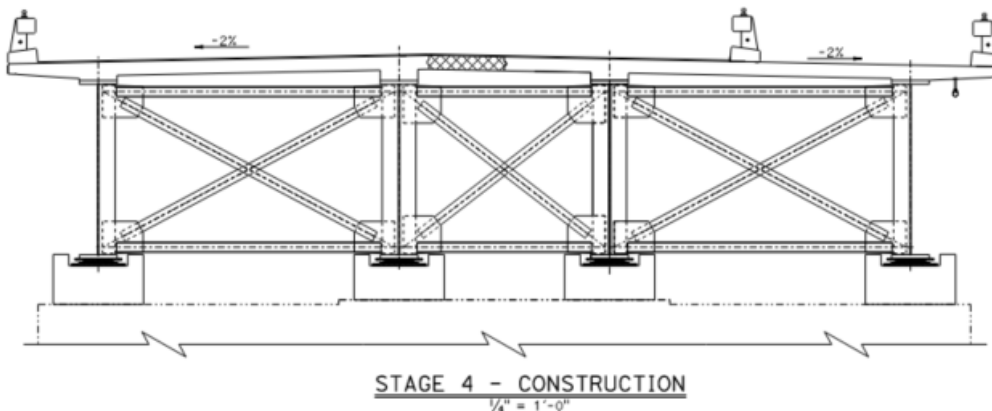
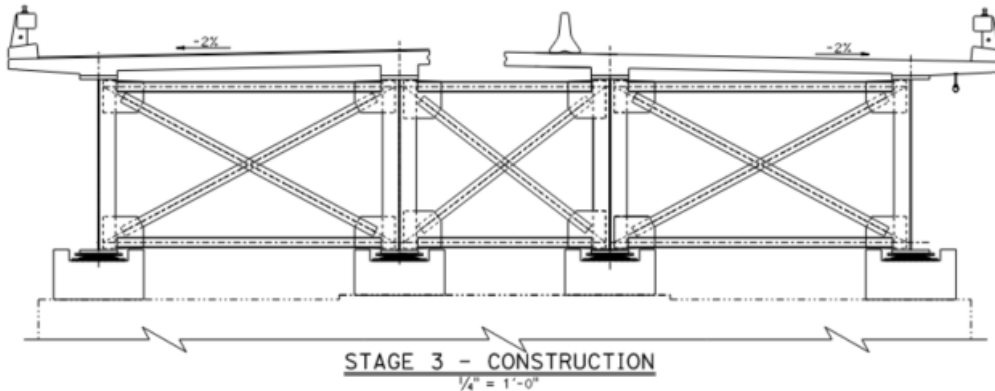
Strategies to Reduce Impacts

- Majority of project will allow both lanes of traffic to be open
- During summer, one-way traffic control operations will be performed at night when possible

FINAL STAGES AND CLOSING REMARKS



Cross Section and Staged Construction



Closing Remarks

- Special thanks to the entire project development team, management, local agencies, tribes, and partners for continued support for this urgent project
- Please let team know if there are any questions
- Public comments due by November 18
- Thank you for coming!!!

LEGEND:

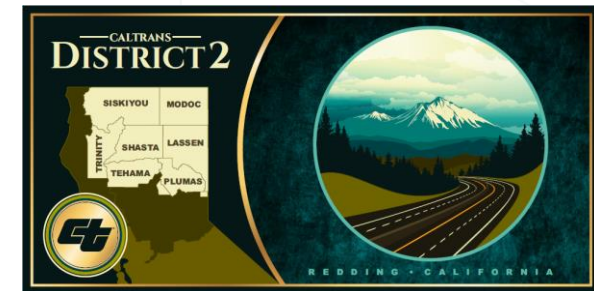
- Existing Structure
- /// To Be Removed
- XXX Closure Pour

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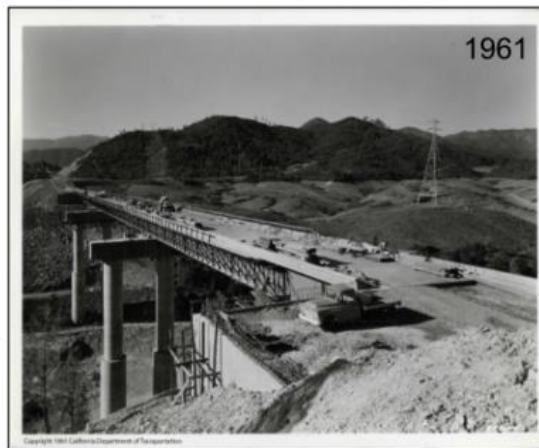


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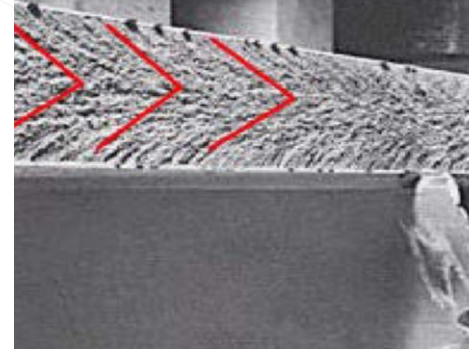


2021 Hernando de Soto



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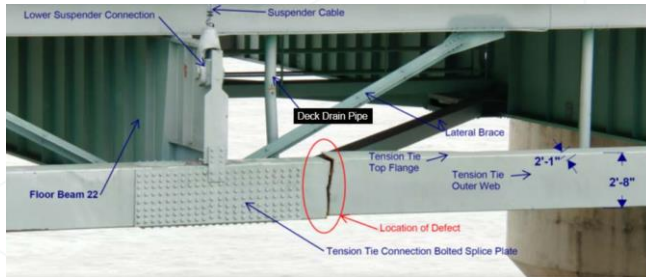
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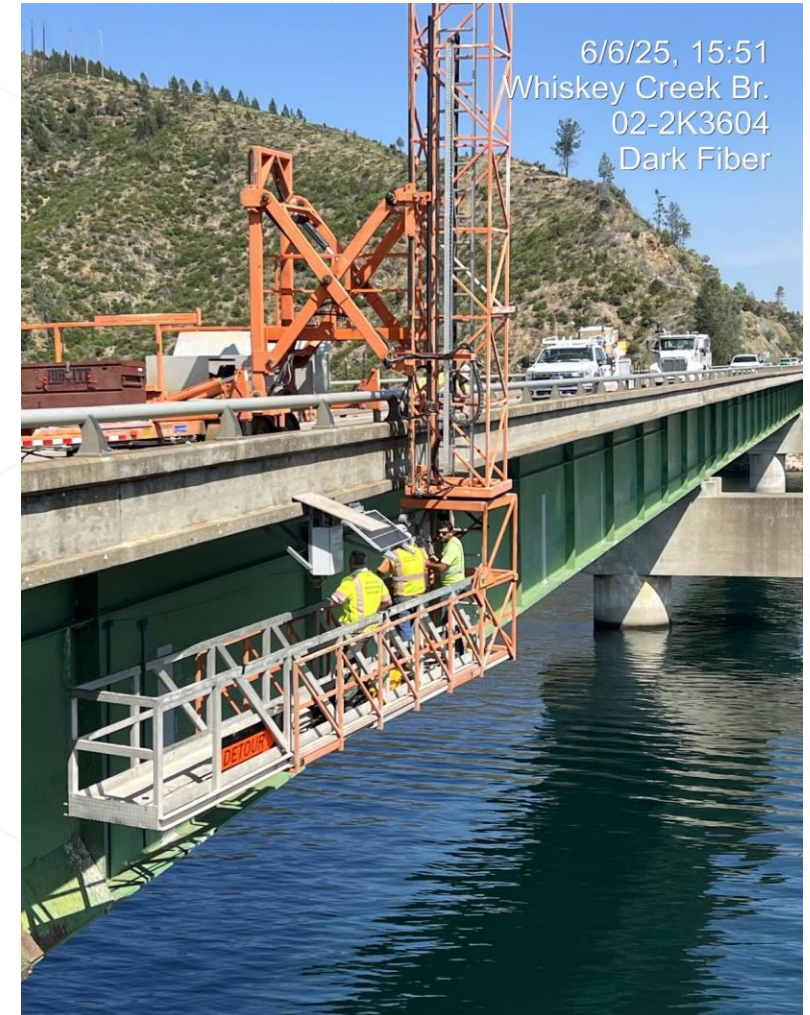


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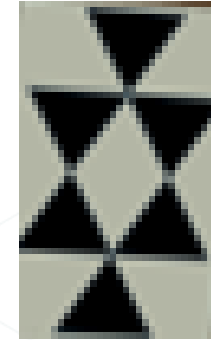


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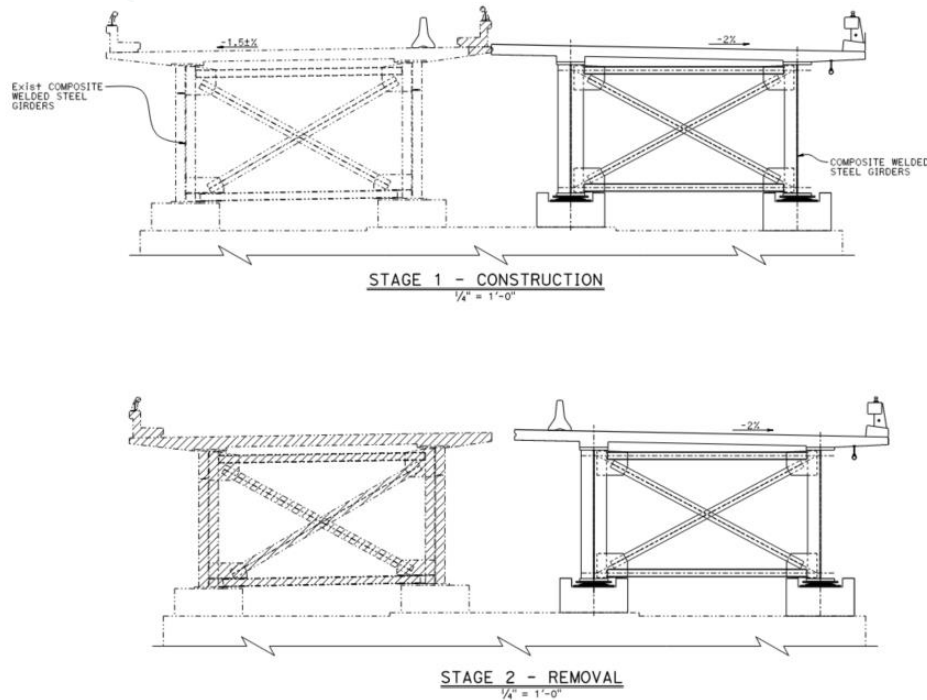
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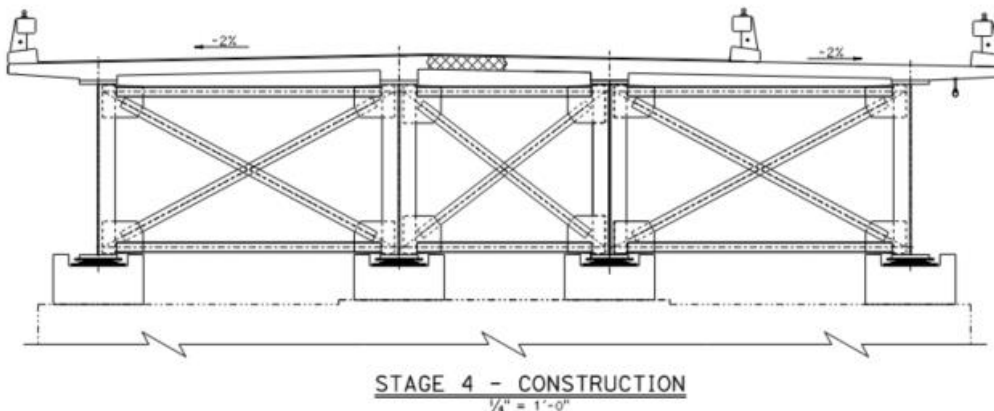
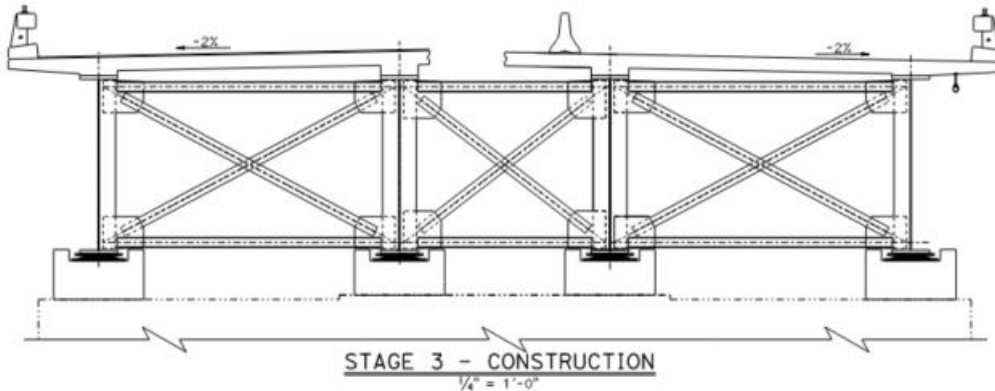
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