

# SR 241 – Dry Creek Bridge Replacement

## Project Purpose

WSDOT rates all bridges in the state highway system to determine when they will be replaced. Bridges are rated for structural soundness and operational function. The existing timber bridge is heavily weathered and split in places. This project will provide a new bridge at Dry Creek.

## Project Description

Dry Creek Bridge is located on SR 241 north of Sunnyside in Yakima County. SR 241 connects the Department of Energy Hanford Site and Grant County with lower Yakima County. This route is traveled daily by Hanford commuters and has heavy truck traffic during harvest.

## Project Benefits

**Safety** - The existing Dry Creek Bridge is structurally deficient. Replacing the bridge will improve safety for drivers.

## Environmental Protection

Environmental documentation is needed in order to address potential environmental issues. As preliminary designs progress, environmental concerns will be evaluated and appropriate mitigation will be developed. WSDOT is committed to protecting the environment, and makes every effort to assess and minimize negative impacts from highway improvement projects.

## Project Cost Estimate

\$2.3 million

Note: This estimate includes engineering, right-of-way, and construction costs.

## Construction Timeline

Design Start: Summer 2008

Construction Start: Summer 2010

## RECENT UPDATE

On Aug. 21, 2009, lightning sparked a brush fire that consumed the old timber bridge that crosses Dry Creek on State Route 241 in Yakima County.

WSDOT maintenance and engineering workers dismantled the scorched remains of the bridge and brought in a culvert and gravel to construct a temporary repair on Aug. 23.

We were planning to replace this bridge in 2010, realigning the channel and installing a three-sided concrete box a few hundred feet to the south. Our crews were able to install the culvert at the current location, which is just what the project design called for as part of the permanent fix. Construction of the new crossing is scheduled for 2010.



Timber bridge over Dry Creek on SR 241 before the fire.



Fire destroys the old timber bridge August 21, 2009

## For More Information

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