

Arch Gets Underway in Summer '06 Colorado River Bridge 40% Complete

The joint venture partnership of Obayashi Corporation and PSM Construction USA, Inc., is 40% complete on the \$114 million centerpiece of the Hoover Dam Bypass Project - the Colorado River Bridge. Subcontractor Ladd and Associates of Redding, California, recently finished excavating approximately 40,000 cubic yards of rock at the abutments, approach pier and arch footings. The joint venture team has constructed 9 of the 10 pier footings and over half of the bridge's 440 pre-cast column segments. *(continued inside)*



View from the Nevada side of the Colorado River Bridge alignment looking east toward Arizona. In the foreground, formwork is being constructed and reinforcing steel is being placed for the Nevada bridge abutment.



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Hoover Dam Bypass Project Management Team
As the Hoover Dam Bypass Project reaches another milestone, the Federal Highway Administration wants to thank the agencies and consultants of the Project Management Team. This Team is committed to working together to advance the Hoover Dam Bypass Project as quickly as possible and complete this much needed alternative route around Hoover Dam.

Arizona Department of Transportation
U.S. Bureau of Reclamation,
Lower Colorado Region
Western Area Power Administration

Design Team
HDR Engineering
Sverdrup Civil
T.Y. Lin International

Contractors
R. E. Monks Construction
Vastco Inc.
Edward Kraemer & Sons, Inc.
Obayashi Corporation
PSM Construction USA, Inc.

Environmental Impact Study Consultant
CH2M HILL

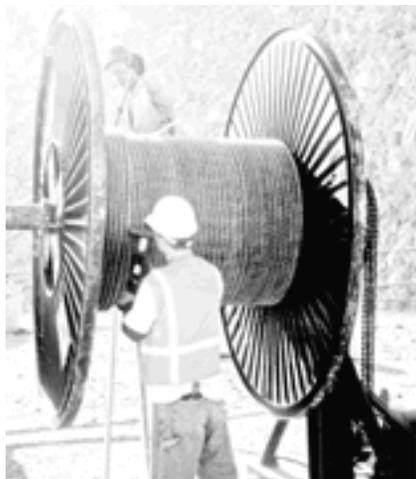
Nevada Department of Transportation
National Park Service,
Lake Mead National Recreation Area
Federal Highway Administration
Arizona Division • Nevada Division
Central Federal Lands Highway Division

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Visit our website:
www.hooverdambypass.org
Commercial vehicle restrictions are still in effect for travel across the Hoover Dam. If you have questions about these restrictions, please call the Hoover Dam Restriction Hotline at 1-888-248-1259.

Colorado River Bridge 40% Complete *(continued)*

Currently, the joint venture team is constructing the two tower cranes that will span the canyon for deliveries of materials and pre-cast column segments (see article below). The south tower crane is complete and being used to set the bridge's pre-cast column segments on the footings. The cables on the north crane will be in place soon, enabling work to begin on that side of the bridge once the line is operational.

Construction of the arch footings/skewbacks is also underway and steel tub girder fabrication is taking place off-site. Once the columns are erected, the tub girders and concrete deck surface will be constructed on the approach spans to pave the way for arch construction. Work is scheduled to begin later this year on the massive cast-in-place arch.



Construction of the 1,900-foot-long Colorado River Bridge began in January 2005 and the project is continuing to progress on schedule and within budget. The bridge will connect the completed Arizona and Nevada Approach highways over the Colorado River, which flows nearly 900 feet below. Following the completion of the bridge in 2008, the final roadway surfacing will be completed under a separate contract. The Bypass will open to the public later that year.

(left) Crews constructing formwork for the footings of one of the bridge piers. This photo was taken from a basket that was suspended 700 feet above the Colorado River. The shadow of the basket can be seen on the face of the rock wall.

(right) Workers winding cable onto a temporary reel during the construction of the south tower crane.

“Constructing a major bridge is a task in itself, but doing so almost 900 feet above the Colorado River on steep canyon walls amplifies the difficulty, and requires a rare blend of construction expertise. Our contractors have done a great job in meeting this engineering and construction challenge.”

- Dave Zanetell

Hoover Dam Bypass Project Manager

Materials Delivery System Is A Project In Itself

Building a 1,900-foot-long arch bridge across the Colorado River is a major feat of engineering. But before crews can even begin this challenging project, they must first devise and construct a system for delivering materials out over the canyon while work is in progress – essentially, a project in itself.

To do this, crews are building two tower cranes on opposite sides of the canyon, forming dual high-lines. Once the high-lines are erected, the entire length of the bridge will be accessible to the crane hook for delivery of materials used in both foundation structures and the main arch crossing.

Construction of Hoover

Dam utilized several high-lines, and one remains today at the Dam to service the powerhouses. But due to the height of the bridge crossing the canyon, the high-lines being used for bridge construction will be about twice as long as that used for building the Dam.

The south tower crane is completed and the north crane is in progress.



A view of the south tower crane's twin, 14-part pulley system. The pulleys apply tension to the twin, 3-inch high-line cables that span the canyon.

Phase Two Complete

Nevada Approach Portion Of The Bypass Completed On Schedule

The Nevada Approach is the roadway leading from Nevada U.S. 93 to the new Colorado River Bridge crossing, located approximately 1,600 feet downstream of the Hoover Dam. The contractor, Edward Kraemer & Sons, Inc., completed the \$30.1 million Approach as planned in November of 2005.



View of the Hoover Dam Canyon Bridge, looking north from Gold Strike Canyon along the completed Nevada Approach.

The Nevada Approach portion of the bypass includes:

- 2.2 miles of four-lane roadway (two lanes in each direction)
- Six new bridges
- Traffic Interchange near the Hacienda Casino to provide access to existing U.S. 93, which will become the Hoover Dam Access Road
- 1.6 million cubic yards of earthwork
- Retaining walls totaling 50,000 square feet
- Extension of the National Park Service River Mountain Loop Trail
- Wildlife crossings
- Drainage improvements
- Trail access parking
- Staining of newly exposed rock cuts as determined by the Design Advisory Panel

To see photos documenting construction of the Arizona and Nevada Approaches, as well as other portions of the Bypass project, please visit the project web site, www.hooverdambypass.org. Click on the “construction” icon on the left side of the page, and then select “construction photos.” You can also visit our newly activated web cam to view live images of the construction area. From the main page, just click on the “web cam” icon.

