

**Gates Park
Pack Bridge**

Rocky Mountain Ranger
District

A Brief History

- Current bridge was built in 1964, after floods washed out the previous bridge.
- Trail 110 has been recorded as a linear historic site.
- The current bridge is not eligible as a historic structure.

What's Wrong With The Bridge?

- Under designed for potential snow loads
- Sill beams are crushing
- Concrete abutments deteriorating
- Needle beams (deck supports) listing
- Deadmans (cable anchors) could mobilize



Deadman
Anchors

Needle
Beams

Cap
Beams

Sill
Beams

Concrete
Abutments

What The USFS Has Been Doing For The Bridge

- In 2000 the caps were replaced.
- Annual inspections to ensure public safety.
- Water bars and check dams installed to prevent erosion around the deadmans.
- Fill hauled and deposited on approaches and over the deadmans.
- Surveyed and benchmarks set to determine listing.
- Started MRDG for the NEPA process.

The Process

- Minimum Required Decision Guide completed
- Public scoping
- E.A. or C.E selected based on comment content
- Alternative development and effects analysis
- Alternative selection

The Alternatives

- Repair the existing bridge
- Replace the current bridge with similarly designed bridge
- Replace the current bridge with modern design and materials
- Remove current bridge and construct ford
- No action

Repair Existing Bridge

- Rebuild to increase snow load tolerances and fix current deficiencies
- Likely would require the use of helicopter and onsite generator
- Bridge would need additional work in approximately 17 years
- ~ \$130,000 initially, \$75,000 additional after 17 years



A photograph of a wooden truss bridge spanning a river. The bridge has a complex lattice of wooden beams. In the foreground, there are trees with yellow and orange autumn leaves. The river water is dark and reflects the surrounding environment. The background shows more trees and a hillside.

Replace Current Bridge With Similarly Designed Bridge

- New structure of same style as the current bridge with increased snow load tolerances
- Likely would require helicopter transport and onsite generator
- ~ \$266,000 with a 50 year lifespan

Replace Current Bridge With Modern Design And Materials

- New design chosen with consideration for matching the bridge with the natural surroundings
- Would require helicopter transport and onsite generator
- ~ \$204,000 with 75 year lifespan



Remove Current Bridge And Construct Ford

- Removal of the current bridge without motorized assistance
- Ford constructed approximately 1/8th mile downstream from bridge site.
- ~ \$70,000 with minimum future maintenance



No Action

- Status quo, required Alternative for the analysis process
- Would require closing the bridge when it becomes unsafe for travel
- Constructing a nearby ford
- ~ \$15,000



QUESTIONS?

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