



# EIS UPDATE

## BRIDGE REPLACEMENT PROJECT

NOVEMBER 2019

In December 2003, a draft environmental impact statement (EIS) was published as part of a bi-state collaborative effort. This draft EIS was the first step in complying with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). Currently, the Port of Hood River (Port) is advancing the project to complete the EIS effort and position the project for future funding and construction.

### What's new on the project?

- Revising the Supplemental Draft EIS for technical accuracy.
- Summarizing results of the cultural resources surveys, determine if additional investigations are needed
- Initiating consultation with US Fish and Wildlife Service and the National Marine Fisheries Service to address Project impacts to threatened and endangered species and habitat.
- Coordinate with the US Bureau of Indian Affairs and continue consultation with Native American tribes, including offering tribes the opportunity to conduct ethnographic studies to document Native American people, their culture, historical use, and traditional cultural properties associated with the project area.
- US Coast Guard is conducting public review on the project's Navigation Impact Report.

### What are the next steps?

- Begin revising the Supplemental Draft EIS for a policy compliance review by the FHWA.
- Preparing a draft biological assessment for a technical review by state agencies.
- Continuing to consult with Native American tribes and other federal agencies, as needed.

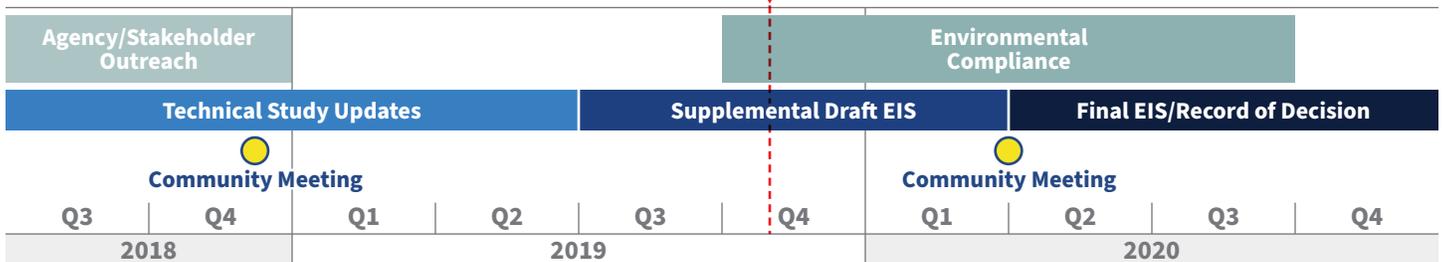


### How would bridge replacement benefit the Columbia River Gorge communities?

*The Hood River Bridge provides a critical connection for residents and visitors to the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area. One of only three bridges spanning the Columbia in this region, the bridge is a critical rural freight network facility for agriculture, forestry, heavy industry and high-tech companies with freight originating throughout the northwest. The existing bridge is nearing the end of its serviceable life and is obsolete for modern vehicles with height, width, and weight restrictions and is also a navigational hazard for marine freight vessels. The bridge has no sidewalks or bicycle lanes for non-motorized travel and would likely not withstand a large earthquake.*

*If project funding is secured, the new bridge would provide a safe and reliable way for everyone to cross or navigate the Columbia River—by car, truck, bus, bicycle, on foot, or on the water. A new bridge would support a thriving economy and livable communities.*

**WE ARE HERE**



To learn more about the project, please visit us at:  
[www.portofhoodriver.com/bridge](http://www.portofhoodriver.com/bridge)

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