

Installation Techniques



1
Use an abutment log to stabilize one or both ends of the bridge, to make the crossing level, to minimize the span, or if the stream bank is soft due to wet soil conditions.



5
Install the bridge between bumper trees or place bumper logs to help prevent the hitch of logs from slipping off the bridge and into the stream.

Water Quality & Erosion Control Measures



2
Place bridge at an adequate height (2-3 ft.) above water level to allow for high flows.



1
Install waterbars on both approaches to the stream crossing 25-50 ft. back from the stream.



3
Wrap the bridge panel with a chain. Use a small log or pole as a fulcrum point to help lift the panel and protect it from the arms of the blade. Secure the chain to the blade and lift just high enough to clear the terrain.



2
Stabilize the approaches with brush and logging slash. The skidder tires will shed any mud on the mat of logging slash, and help keep sediment off the bridge deck and out of the stream.

Removal and Close-Out



Do not drag the panels through the stream. Keep the panels as level as possible to prevent dirt on the panels from entering the stream.



Reshape approaches and install deep waterbars.



After removing the bridge, seed and mulch all areas of exposed soil a minimum of 25 ft. back from the edges of the stream, or to the first waterbar.

Courtesy of the Vermont Department of Forest Parks and Recreation

Funding for Bridges Provided by:

- ◆ USDA Forest Service—Presumpscot River Watershed Redesign Grant
- ◆ USDA Forest Service—Enhancing Brook Trout Habitat Through Forest Management Redesign Grant
- ◆ USFWS Gulf of Maine Coastal Program
- ◆ Maine Outdoor Heritage Fund



Forest Service

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Conservation and Forestry
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Water Quality Program
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http://www.maine.gov/dacf/mfs/policy_management/index.html

Maine Forestry Bridge Program
Productive Harvests—Protecting Water

Steel and Wood
Skidder Bridges
Available for Loan to
Maine Loggers



Maine Department of Agriculture
Conservation and Forestry
Maine Forest Service
Water Quality Program



Program Details

The Maine Forest Service has partnered with several organizations to provide loaner steel and wood skidder bridges at low or no cost to loggers around Maine.



BRIDGE SPECS

Steel bridges are made up of 3 panels and come in 20' and 24' lengths and are either 12 or 14' wide. Wooden bridges are generally

16' to 20' long and come in various widths.

GETTING A LOANER BRIDGE If you need a bridge for your job call the contact person for the bridge in the appropriate area. The contact person will describe the specifics of the program to you. Loan agreements vary depending on the organization loaning the bridge, but all bridges require you to pick up and return the bridge. Some require a small rental fee and or deposit.

Bridge Locations and Contacts

STEEL BRIDGES

West Paris—Oxford County Soil and Water Conservation District: Ph. 743-5789, ext. 101/111

Casco—Hancock Lumber: Jeff Hall Ph. 207-329-9128

Gray—(Cumberland County Soil and Water Conservation District: Heather True Ph. 207-892-4700 ext 107 or 207-657-3922

Vassalboro—Kennebec Soil and Water Conservation District: Dale Finseth Ph. 207-622-7848 ext 3

North Fryeburg—Oxford County SWCD: Ph. 743-5789, ext. 101/111

New Sharon—Maine Forest Service: Patty Cormier Ph. 207-592-2238

Old Town—Maine Forest Service: Jim Ecker Ph. 207-441-4308

Woodland—Woodland Pulp: Steve Follette Ph. 207-557-0482



WOODEN BRIDGES

Sanford—Pleasant River Lumber: Terry Walters Ph. 207-459-2700

Gray—Threshold to Maine RC&D: Dick Wood Ph. 207-657-3922

Dover-Foxcroft—Piscataquis County Soil and Water Conservation District: Lynn Lubas Ph. 207-564-2321

Dyer Brook—Region Two/ SACS: Ted Wright Ph. 207-694-7492

Oakfield—Katahdin Cedar Log Homes: David Gordon Ph. 207-757-9342 or 207-757-8278

New Limerick—LP Corp: Marc Pinette Ph. 207-694-8797

Presque Isle—Central Aroostook Soil and Water Conservation District: Katheryn Michaud Ph. 207-764-4153

Fort Kent—St. John Valley Soil and Water Conservation District: Sigrid Houlette Ph. 207-834-3311

