



Hood Canal Bridge West-Half Retrofit and East-Half Replacement Project

Approach Spans

The approach spans are non-floating fixed structures that connect the floating bridge to the land. The west approach span is 190 feet long and the east approach span is 640 feet long. They are built on concrete piers that extend from 45 to almost 100 feet below the canal floor.



The new west approach span, July 2006



The old east approach span waits to be rolled onto temporary supports to make way for the new approach span.



Crews remove jacks from the old east approach span. August 2005

August 2005 Approach Span Replacements

In order to replace the approach spans, the contractor, Kiewit-General (K-G), constructed work trestles and temporary supports underneath and beside each approach span. Crews then assembled the new approach spans on the north side of the old approach spans. On August 11-13 and again on August 21-23, 2005 the bridge was closed to traffic while the old approach spans were rolled onto temporary false work and the new approach spans were put in place. The bridge was scheduled to be closed for two three-day closures, but K-G finished each roll in two days, opening the bridge to traffic ahead of schedule.

Approach Span Replacement Process

- Step 1 Disconnect phone and power lines to the existing approach span
- Step 2 Cut the existing approach span road deck at both ends to disconnect it from the transition span and the asphalt
- Step 3 Set up all the jacks under the existing approach span
- Step 4 Jack the existing approach span up on to the rollers
- Step 5 Roll the existing approach span on to the temporary falsework
- Step 6 Demolish and remove roadway approach slabs
- Step 7 Set pre-cast end wall or retaining wall at the end of the approach span
- Step 8 Finish the end wall
- Step 9 Remove the tops of existing piers
- Step 10 Remove jacks from the existing approach span and place under new approach span
- Step 11 Jack the new approach span up on to the rollers
- Step 12 Roll the new approach span into place
- Step 13 Install permanent bearing pads at each pier
- Step 14 Remove all jacks from the new approach span
- Step 15 Install new roadway approach slabs
- Step 16 Install expansion joint
- Step 17 Pave and stripe roadway
- Step 18 Reconnect power and phone lines
- Step 19 Open to traffic