

Bridge 15.2, Bridge 15.6 and Bridge 15.9 Replacement

Project Description

The Alaska Railroad Corporation (ARRC) is proposing the replacement of bridges located north of Seward, AK at Mileposts (MP) 15.2, 15.6 and 15.9. This effort will help ensure railroad infrastructure remains in a state of good repair. Bridges 15.2 and 15.9 are single span 15-foot timber bridges and are expected to be replaced with large diameter smooth steel pipe (SSP) culverts. Bridge 15.6 is expected to be replaced with a single span concrete ballast deck bridge as well as new piers, abutments, caps and sheet pile bulkheads. Additionally, the track will be raised in order to mitigate damages from seasonal flooding and jökulhlaups (glacial lake outbursts) along the Snow River corridor.

Project Scope

Bridge MP 15.2

FAC1

June 13

2025

• Replace the existing single span 15-foot timber bridge with a large diameter smooth steel pipe.

Bridge MP 15.6

 Remove and replace the bridge substructure including piers, abutments, caps, and sheet pile bulkheads.





The single-span timber bridge at MP 15.2 will be replaced with a large diameter SSP.

Project Area Map

PROJECT FACTS

• Replace the existing three (3) span, 45-foot timber bridge substructure with a single span concrete ballast deck.

Bridge MP 15.9

• Replace the existing single span 15-foot timber bridge with a large diameter smooth steel pipe (SSP).

Track Raise

• To accommodate the glacial outburst flooding events along the Snow River floodplain corridor, the existing track will be raised throughout the corridor starting at MP 14.9 and continuing to MP 16.2. The height of the track raise will vary along the corridor with a maximum raise of approximately 5-feet.

Project Benefits

Bridge replacements and associated work will address and improve the following conditions:

- Improve overall track stability and operating safety.
- Reduce ongoing and future cost to maintain the bridge infrastructure.
- Reduce scour and flood damage potential on the bridge.

Project Status

- Environmental review and project design is underway.
- Upon National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) approval, final design and permitting will be completed; then ARRC will solicit a construction contractor to complete the work.
- Construction is anticipated to begin in 2026.
- Project completion is expected by 2030.

Funding

The project is expected to be funded 80% by the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) with the required 20% match by ARRC.

More Information

For more information or comment, email the Alaska Railroad at **Public_ Comment@akrr.com**. The ARRC Bridge Program fact sheet is available online at **AlaskaRailroad.com** > Corporate > Projects (look under Systemwide Projects).



balast deck.

The single-span timber bridge at MP 15.9 will be replaced with a large diameter SSP.





The three-span timber bridge at MP 15.6

will be replaced with a single span concrete





& profile

ALASKA RAILROAD







Bridge at MP 15.9. Cross section and profile view.