

Old US 80 Gila River Bridge



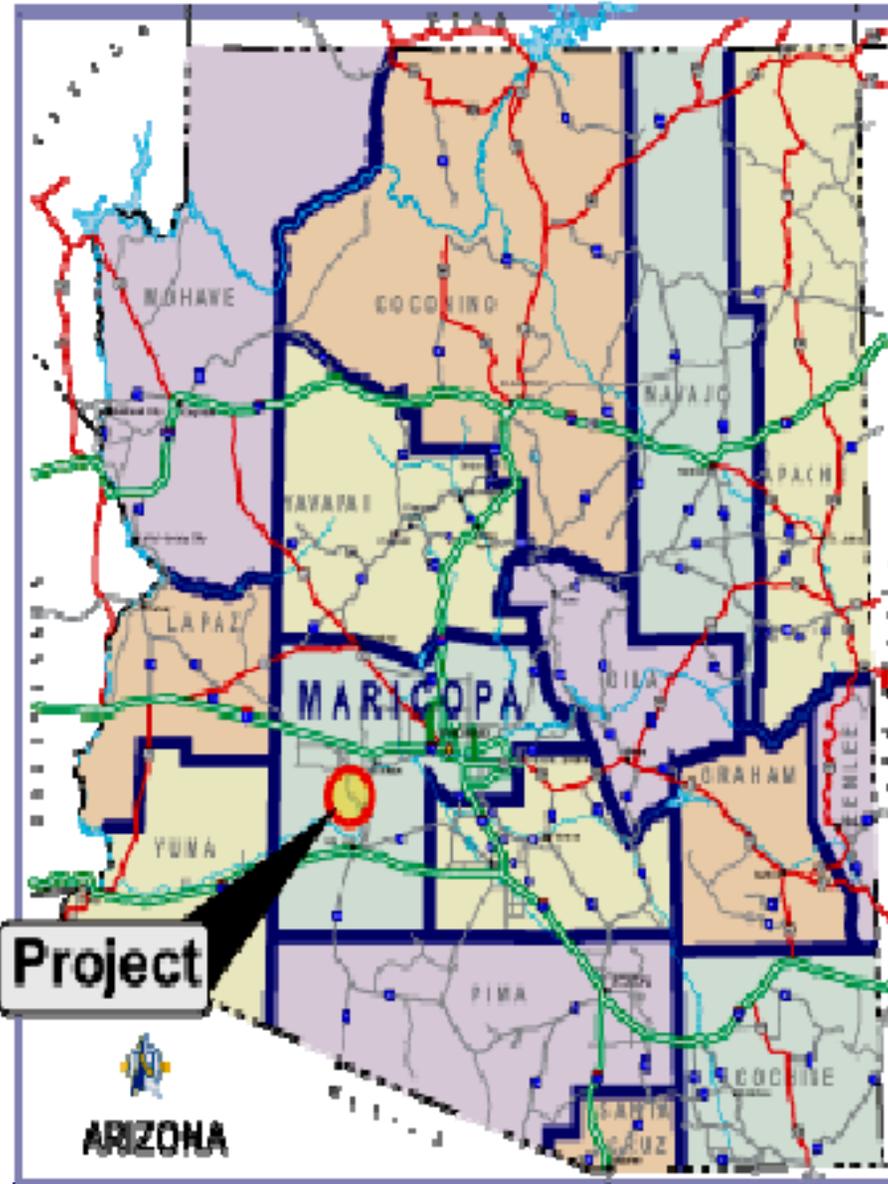
(Gillespie Dam Bridge)
Restoration Project

TE Program Round XVI

June 11, 2008

Clem Ligocki
Intergovernmental Policy Manager



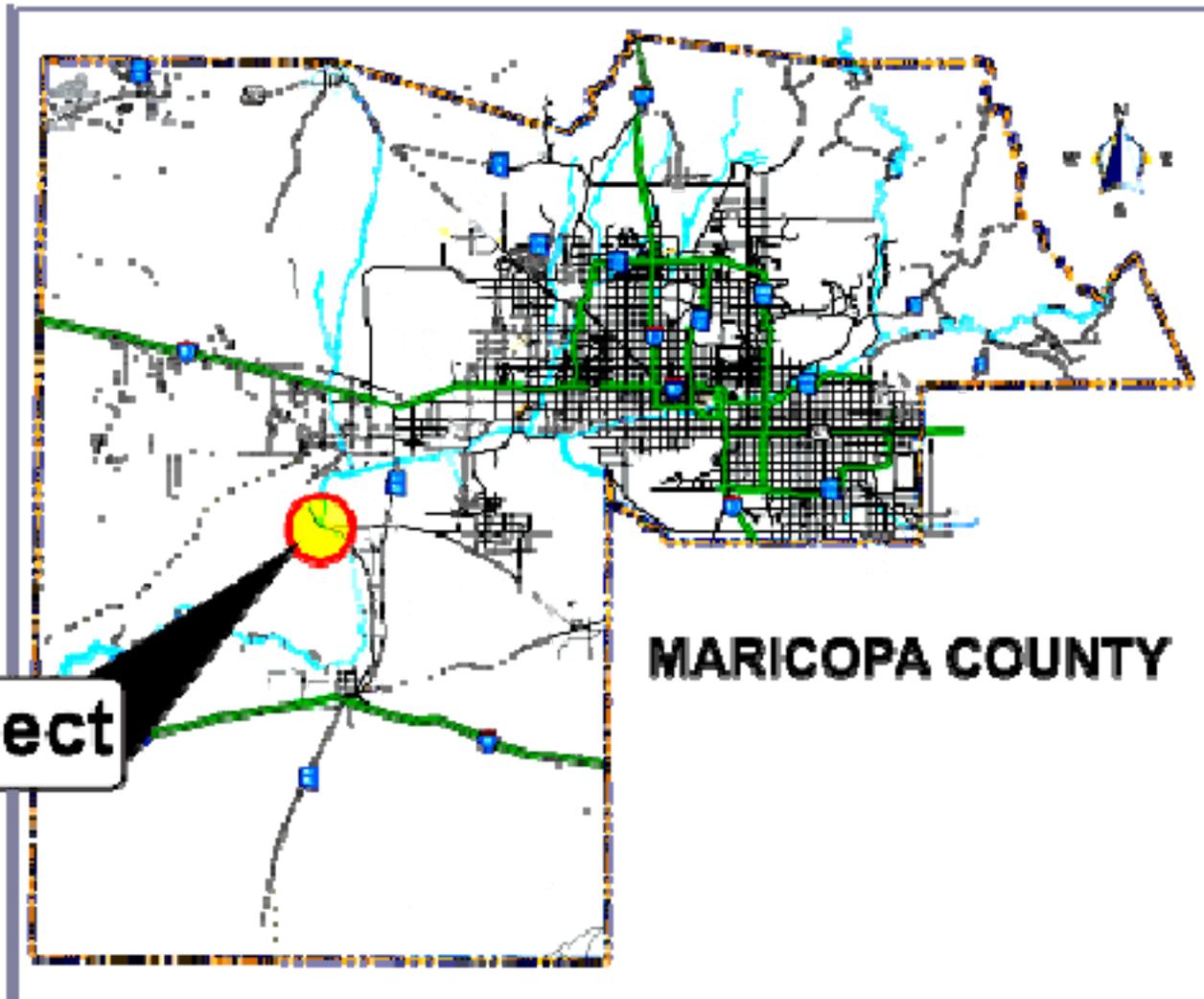


Project



Right Road Right Time Right Cost

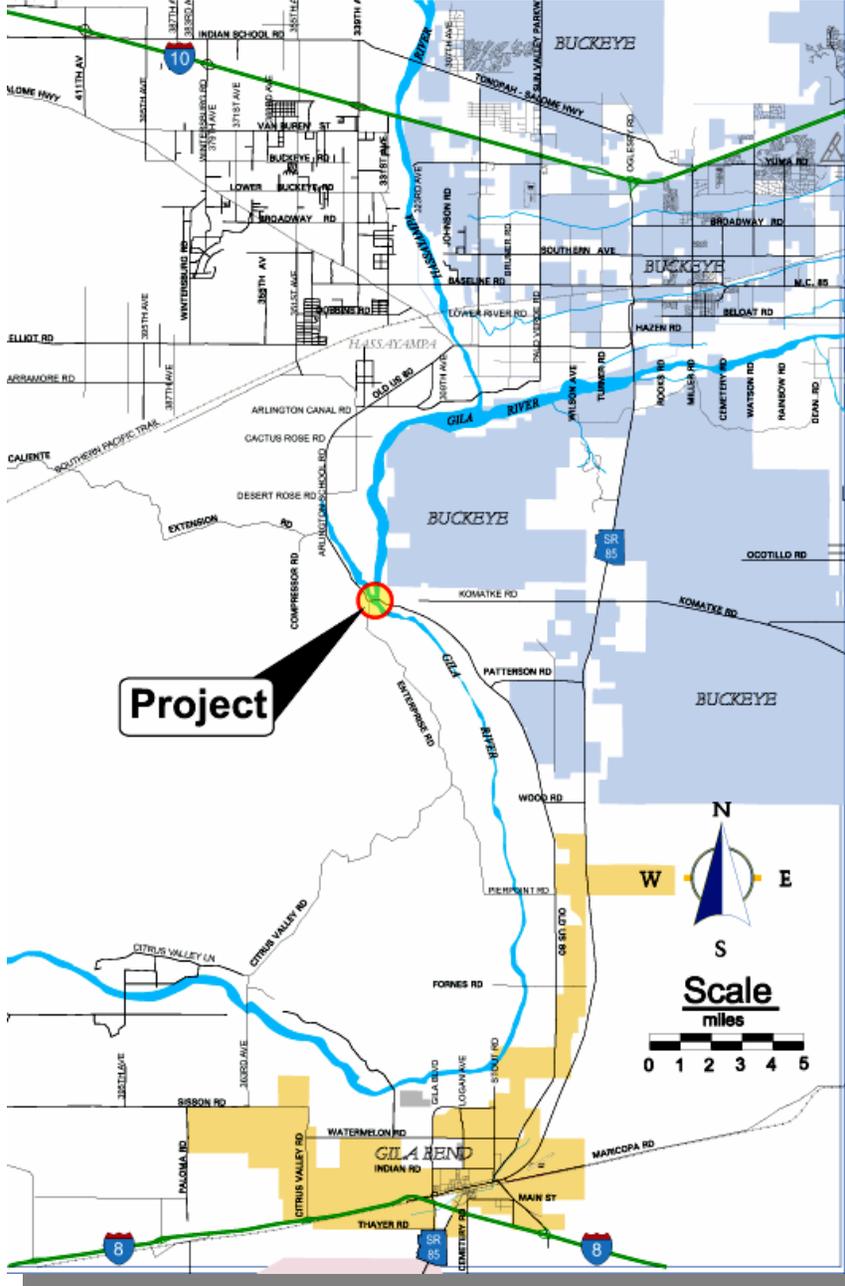




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Gillespie Dam Bridge Restoration Project



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It's not as hard as before 1927 to cross the Gila here...



THE GILLESPIE DAM, NEAR PHOENIX, ARIZONA.

104830



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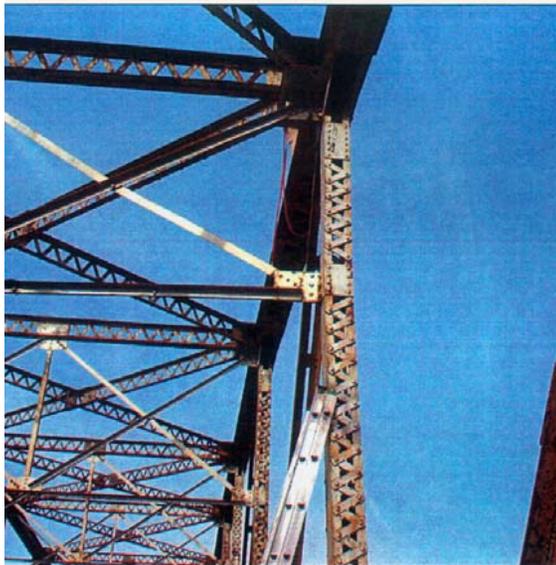
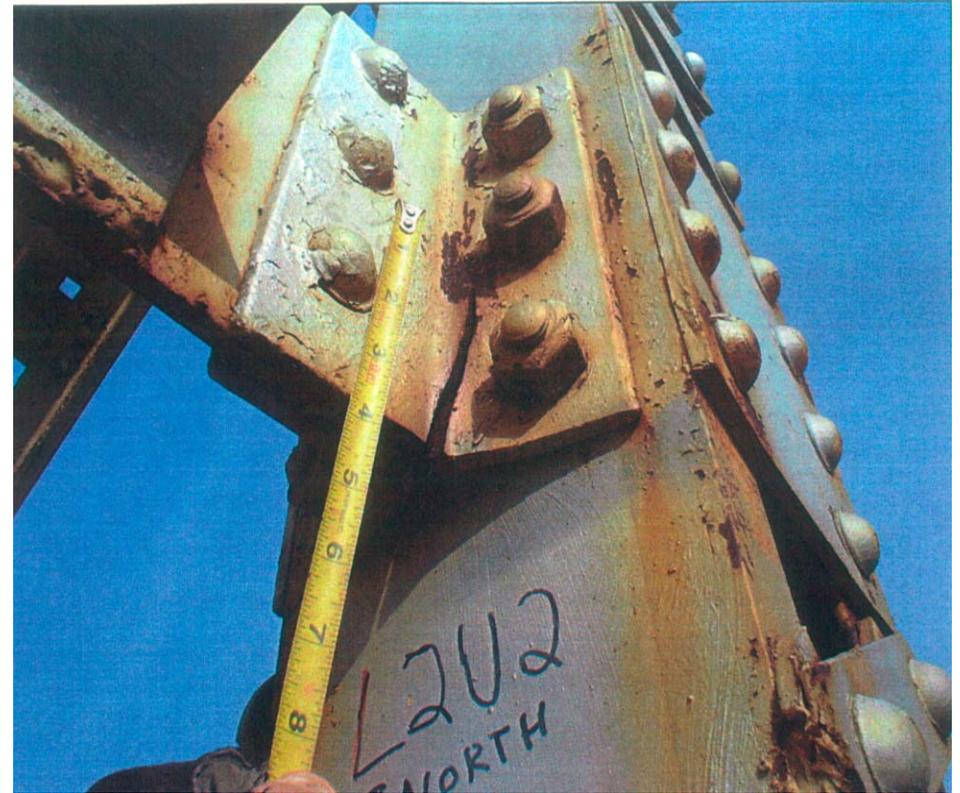


...but farm equipment sometimes has problems...

(e.g. Accident – 8-8-07)



Over Eight Decades of Collision Damages



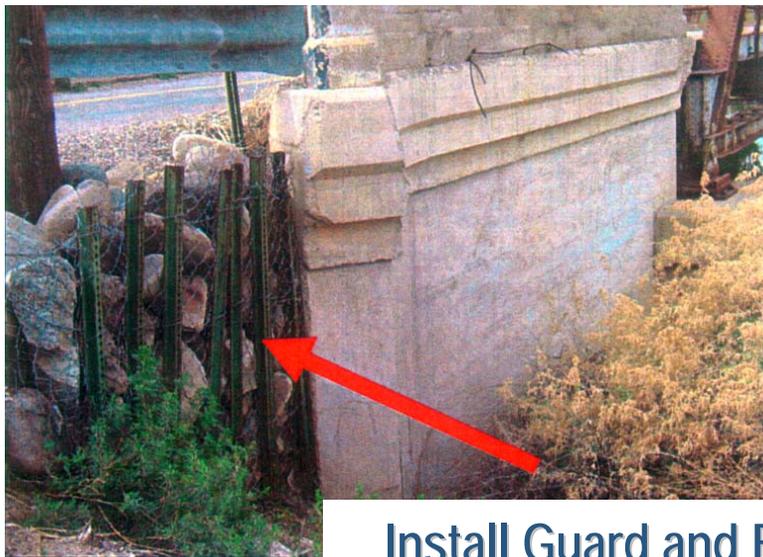


Straighten Superstructure

Replace Cracked Deck & Curb



Repair and Replace Roller Bearings



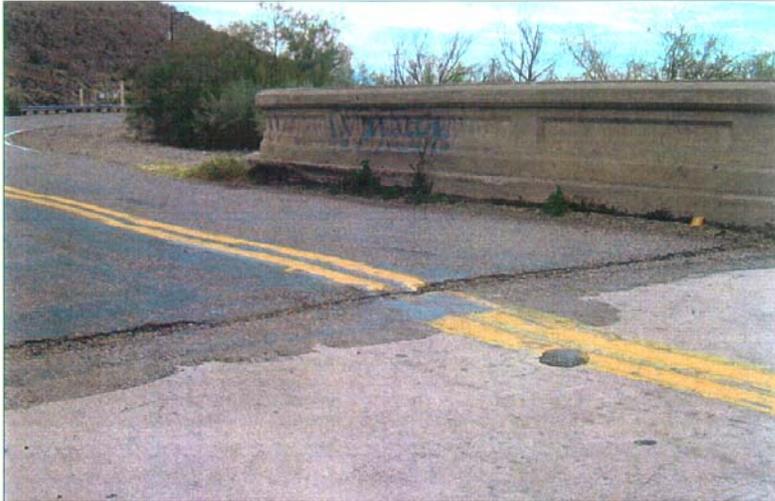
Install Guard and Barrier Rails



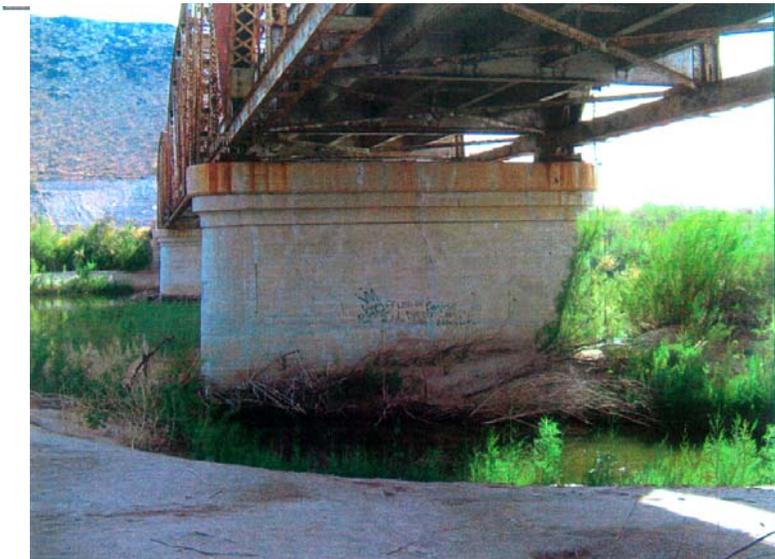
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Repave Bridge Approaches



Repair & Protect Piers



Time, traffic, accidents and our Arizona climate have taken their toll...

Bridge Safety Ratings Keep Dropping!

| Gillespie Dam Bridge | |
|----------------------|--------------------|
| Inspection Year | Sufficiency Rating |
| 1996 | 62.69% |
| 1999 | 48.77% |
| 2000 | 49.40% |
| 2002 | 49.25% |
| 2004 | 47.20% |
| 2006 | 44.90% |



Why Should We Care?



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Local Farmers & Ranchers Rely on the Bridge & Old US 80



Three School Districts Use the Bridge Several Times a Day
- Arlington and Gila Bend & Buckeye Union High School Districts

Old US 80 and the Gillespie Dam Bridge serve as a vital evacuation route for the Palo Verde Nuclear Generating Station



...and as a detour when SR 85 is closed due to accidents



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Historic Bridge Restoration

- Gillespie Dam Bridge documented in Historic American Engineering Record (HAER) on file at the Library of Congress
- Gillespie Dam Bridge Restoration supported by engineering organizations



Historic Bridge Restoration

- Gillespie Dam Bridge listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1981
- Gillespie Dam Bridge Restoration supported by preservation organizations



ARIZONA HERITAGE ALLIANCE



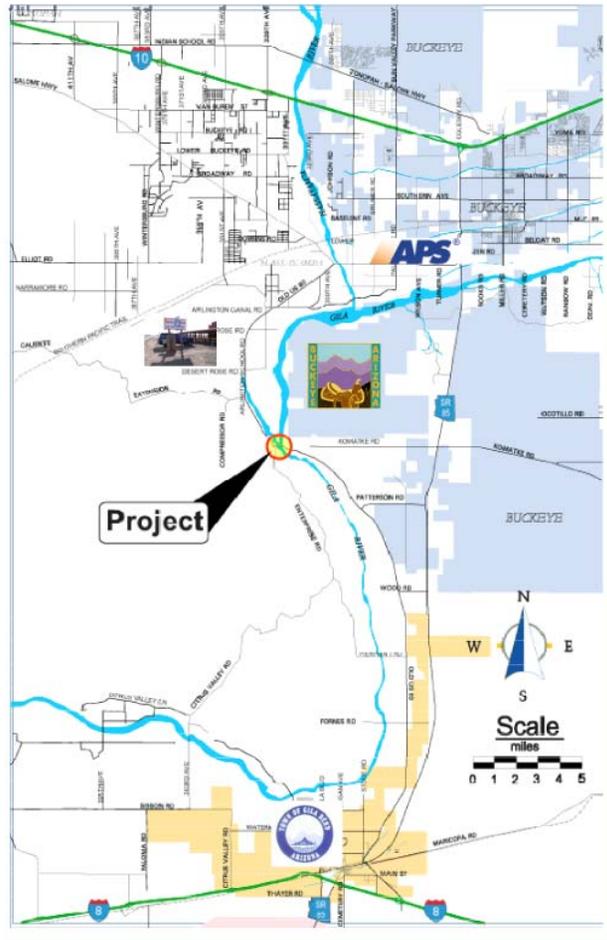
State Historic Preservation Office



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Historic Bridge Restoration



- Farmers, ranchers, school districts, businesses, cyclists, bikers and civic groups support restoration

207 Petition Signatures
received as of 6-6-08



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What's Changed in the past 5 years?

- Documented Historic American Engineering Record (HAER) – on file at the Library of Congress
- Applied for ADOT Bridge Rehabilitation funding - \$1M
- Consultation with State Historic Preservation Office
- Completed Design Concept Report
- Applied for Enhancement Funds
- Community Scoping Outreach
- Value Engineering Project
- Archaeological Reports
- Community participation
 - Gila Bend Shrimp Festival



Historic Bridge Restoration Phases

- **Phase One** – Repair/rehabilitation to allow superstructure to function as designed and to address areas where Gillespie Dam Bridge does not meet current AASHTO standards
 - **\$10.4 M Total; \$9.1M Construction**
- **Phase Two** – Repaint bridge – remove all existing paint - **\$6.1 M**
- **Phase Three** – Build new bridge downstream and convert old Gillespie Dam Bridge to bicycle/pedestrian/local use only - **\$45.3 M**



From the 1920's to 2008 & beyond – this Historic Bridge has a story to tell...

INSIDE

PAGE 2 Piaggio has 2 new MP3 scooters for '08

PAGE 2 Vehicle-industry news and announcements

PAGE 3 Click & Clack: High-end car recommendations

PAGE 3 A multitude of sins can cause poor gas mileage

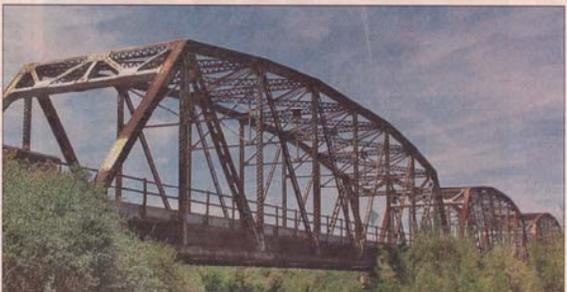
ARIZONA LIVING IS BEHIND THIS SECTION

CARS
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cars.com

THURSDAY, MARCH 27, 2008 THE ARIZONA REPUBLIC CARS.COM AC1

Road trip: Get new outlook on old U.S. 80



Total miles: About 145, round trip. From central Phoenix, take Interstate 10 west to Arizona 85, then go south to Gila Bend. Old U.S. 80 starts on the east side of town and goes north. Take it about 21 miles north to the Gillespie Dam Bridge, then 8 more miles or so to Arlington. Continue 3 miles to Hassayampa, bear right at the Salome Highway and go about 3 miles to Palo Verde. Turn north and go about 6 miles to I-10, which takes you back downtown.

Don't miss: You expect to see rocks and mountains and cactus when you cruise a desert highway. But a shrimp farm? Yet there it is: the Desert Sweet Shrimp Farm, about 5 miles north of Gila Bend. Allciconados say the shrimp here, grown in ponds filled with mineral-rich well water, taste sweeter than most shrimp. Call ahead to schedule a tour of the facility or just stop by with an ice chest and buy a few pounds to throw on the barbie. Details: 623-393-0136 or desertsweetshrimp.com.

Desert Rose Cafes: Drop by this hiker-friendly bar and grill and enjoy a burger and soda. The Desert Rose serves lunch from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Burgers are popular, as are BLTs and chicken-fried-steak sandwiches. Drop by for spaghetti Thursday nights or a fish fry Fridays. 18300 S. Old U.S. 80, Arlington. Details: 623-386-9907.

Gila River Dammed and diverted along much of its length, the Gila River generally flows placidly across the state. But heavy rains can turn the river into a torrent. See the evidence for yourself. As you drive across the Gillespie Dam Bridge, look north. The remnant of Gillespie Dam still stands in the river, a huge chunk of it torn away by the floods of 1993.

By John Stanley
THE ARIZONA REPUBLIC

Route to Gila Bend parallels Gila River, Arizona 85

The 80-year-old steel-truss Gillespie Dam Bridge spans the Gila River on old U.S. 80 near the Arlington Wildlife Area.

Even the most interesting roads can get boring when you drive them over and over again. And if the road isn't really all that interesting to begin with, alternate routes can be a welcome diversion. Nearly everyone seems to have taken Arizona 85 from Gila Bend to the Valley at some point. But the original route – along the old U.S. 80 – holds unexpected pleasures. Among them:

Gillespie Dam Bridge: This classic steel-truss bridge stretches across the Gila River about 40 miles southwest of central Phoenix. When it opened in August 1927, the narrow, two-lane span was the longest highway bridge in Arizona. This month, the Maricopa County Department of Transportation announced plans to widen the bridge, repair flood damage and add a pedestrian walkway. If approved, the year-long project is slated to begin in 2009. Details: www.gilabendaz.org (then click "Tourism" and "Historic Gillespie Dam Bridge").

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ARIZONA HIGHWAYS

Upcoming fall 2008 article on MCDOT restoration efforts

AAA Arizona

Working to update AAA of Arizona tour guide book for Arizona & New Mexico to include more on Old US 80 and the bridge



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**Please help us restore this
Arizona engineering landmark.
Thank you.**

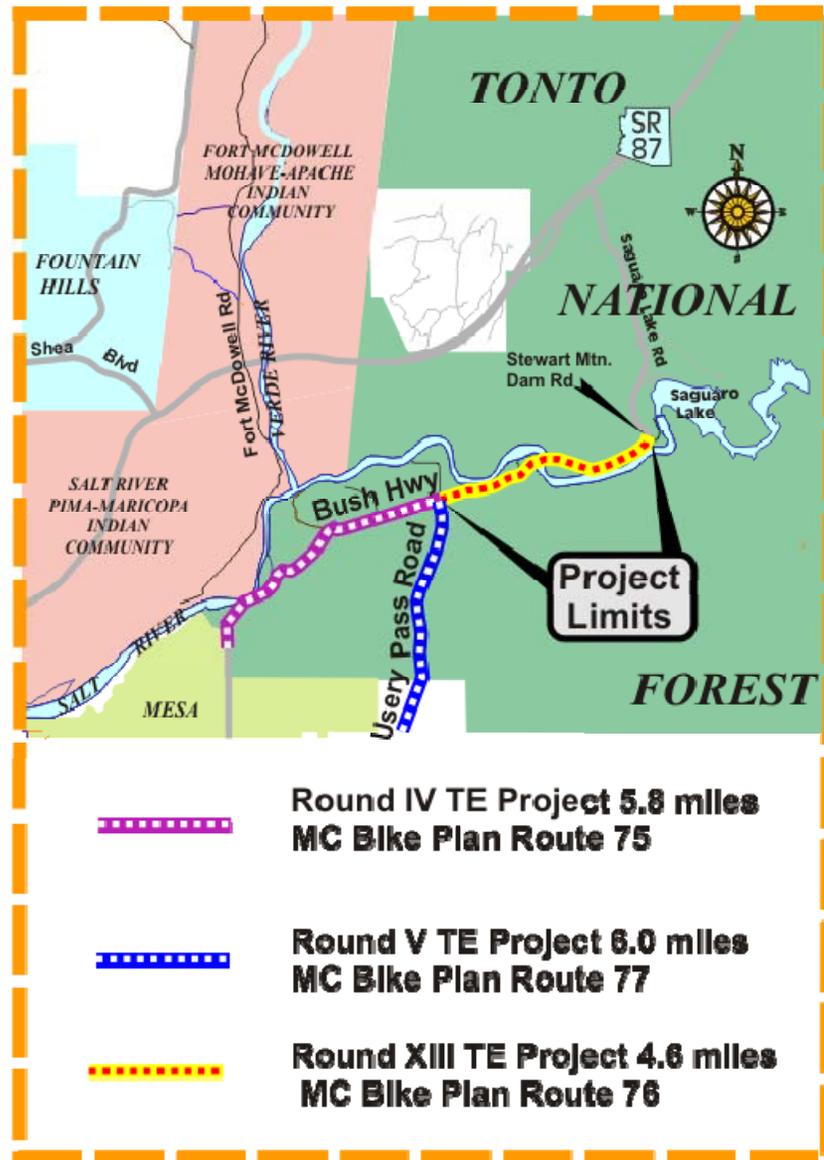


Questions?



Prior MCDOT Enhancement Projects

Cycle to the Salt *Bicycle Lane Projects*



Round IV – 1996 – Completed 1999

Round V – 1997 – Completed 1999

Round XIII – 2005 – Will bid FY'09



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