

Jason Wharton
Middle Fork John Day River Bridge Installation

Block 3. Proposed Project Information

The proposed bridge installation for Jason Wharton on the Middle Fork John Day River would be implemented entirely on Jason Wharton's property in Grant County, Oregon. Mr. Wharton owns property that encompasses the Middle Fork John Day River for approximately three (3) miles below the Ritter Bridge. This property is generally located from River Mile 27 to River Mile 30.

This proposed project will consist of the installation of a bridge – ideally a rail car bridge if a suitable structure can be located - that is placed on two permanent concrete abutments, one abutment on the south side of the river and one abutment on the north side of the river. Abutments will consist of solid poured concrete 4 feet wide by 8 feet long. The abutment on the north side of the river will be approximately 6 feet high and reinforced with steel rebar as necessary. The north abutment must be built up in order to facilitate constructing the approach specifications as required by the Grant County Road department. The bridge abutment on the south side will be approximately 8 feet high and reinforced with steel rebar as necessary. The land south of the bridge abutment is private, belonging to Mr. Wharton, no wetlands will be entered and the approach will be constructed as necessary to facilitate the bridge access. Bridge abutments will be reinforced with large riprap around the base to prevent washing during an extraordinary high water event such as a 50 or 100 year flood.

No fill and removal in either the Middle Fork John Day River or the associated wetlands is required for the proposed bridge installation. No wetlands will be entered or impacted. The proposed bridge site was selected with the idea of minimizing impacts to the river, associated wetlands and riparian areas. Any minor soil disturbance in the uplands, as a result of constructing the abutments will be mitigated through grass seeding and reshaping the area. The concrete abutments will be located out of any wetlands and above the ordinary high watermark. On the south side of the river there is an old road that is currently covered with cheat grass and other dry site species. This will be the area where the concrete abutment on the south side of the river is located. On the north side of the river the concrete abutment will be located below the Grant County Right of Way and above the ordinary high watermark and any wetlands. This area is also covered with cheat grass, mullen and other species that indicate a dry site. Any excess material that develops on the site on the north side of the river as a result of excavation to construct the forms will be hauled completely away to an off-site upland area. Excavated material that may develop on the south side of the river during excavation for the abutment will be hauled to an upland area on the property away from the river. Concrete abutments will have large riprap placed around the bases to prevent erosion in the event of flooding, however this material will be hauled in from off-site.

All construction will be completed with an excavator including actual placement of the bridge on to the abutments and placing the riprap around the base of the abutments. The