

Welcome to the Holt Creek Bridge Replacement Project Information Session hosted by the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure

The Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure acknowledges this project is within the traditional territory of the Cowichan Tribes.



Ministry of
Transportation
and Infrastructure

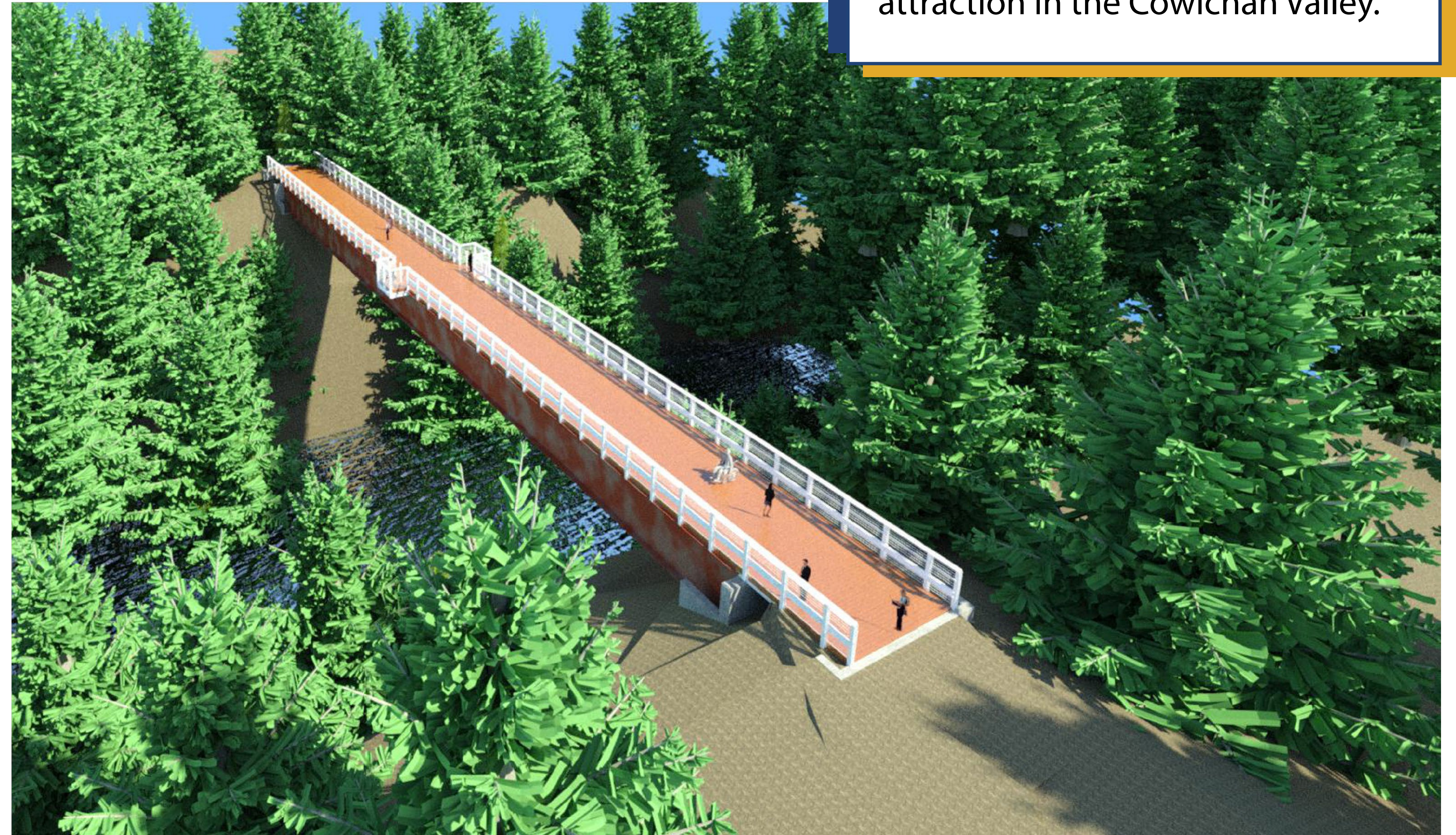
Holt Creek Bridge
Replacement Project

Project Description

The existing Holt Creek Bridge will be replaced with a new bridge to ensure a safe and accessible trail connection between Shawnigan Lake and Lake Cowichan. The new bridge will continue to be used by pedestrians, cyclists, and equestrians and be strong enough to accommodate emergency response vehicles and maintenance equipment.

Replacement of the Holt Creek Bridge supports the provincial Active Transportation Strategy.

The Holt Creek Bridge is an important active transportation corridor and recreation tourism attraction in the Cowichan Valley.







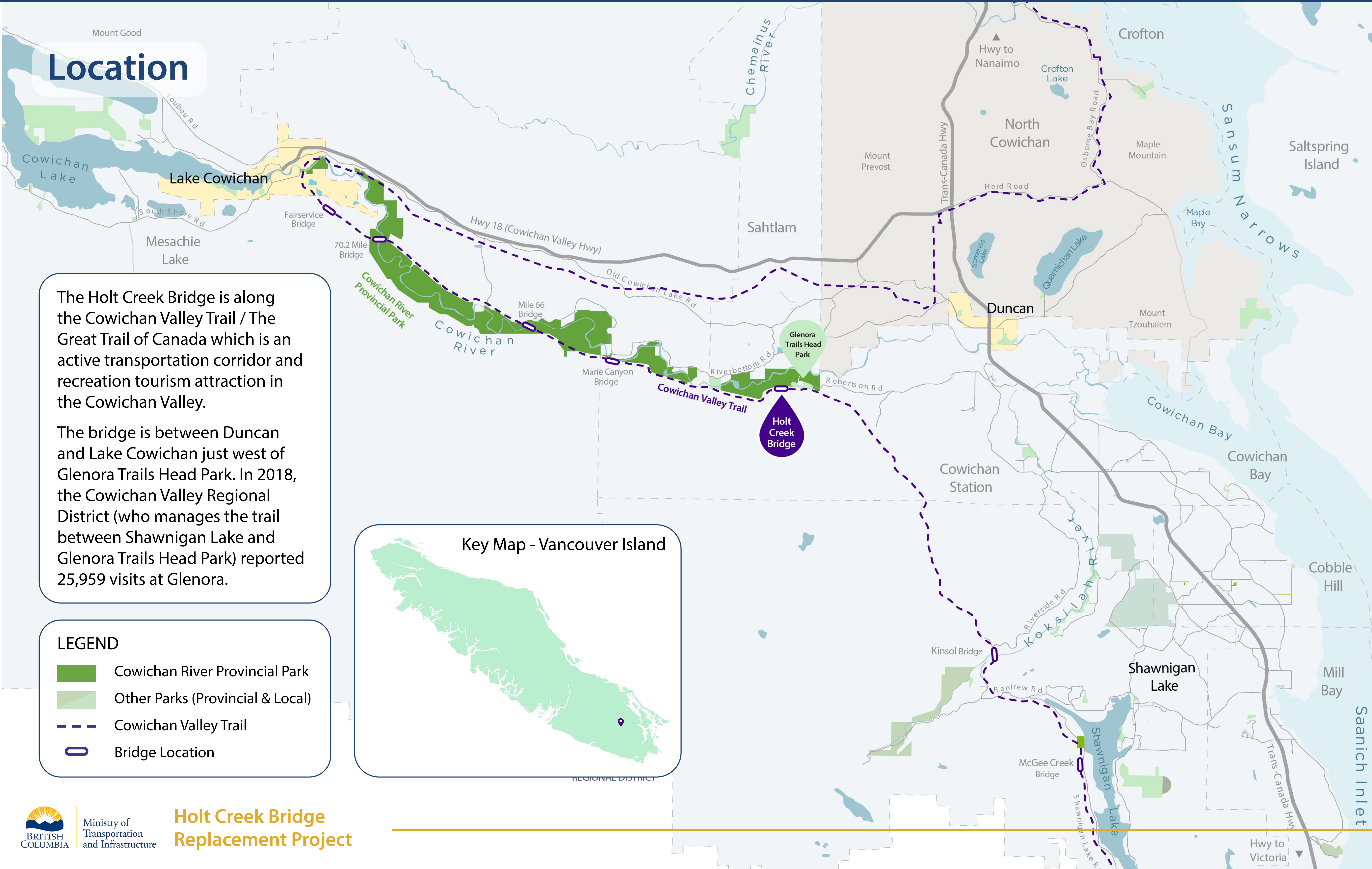
Location

The Holt Creek Bridge is along the Cowichan Valley Trail / The Great Trail of Canada which is an active transportation corridor and recreation tourism attraction in the Cowichan Valley.

The bridge is between Duncan and Lake Cowichan just west of Glenora Trails Head Park. In 2018, the Cowichan Valley Regional District (who manages the trail between Shawnigan Lake and Glenora Trails Head Park) reported 25,959 visits at Glenora.

LEGEND

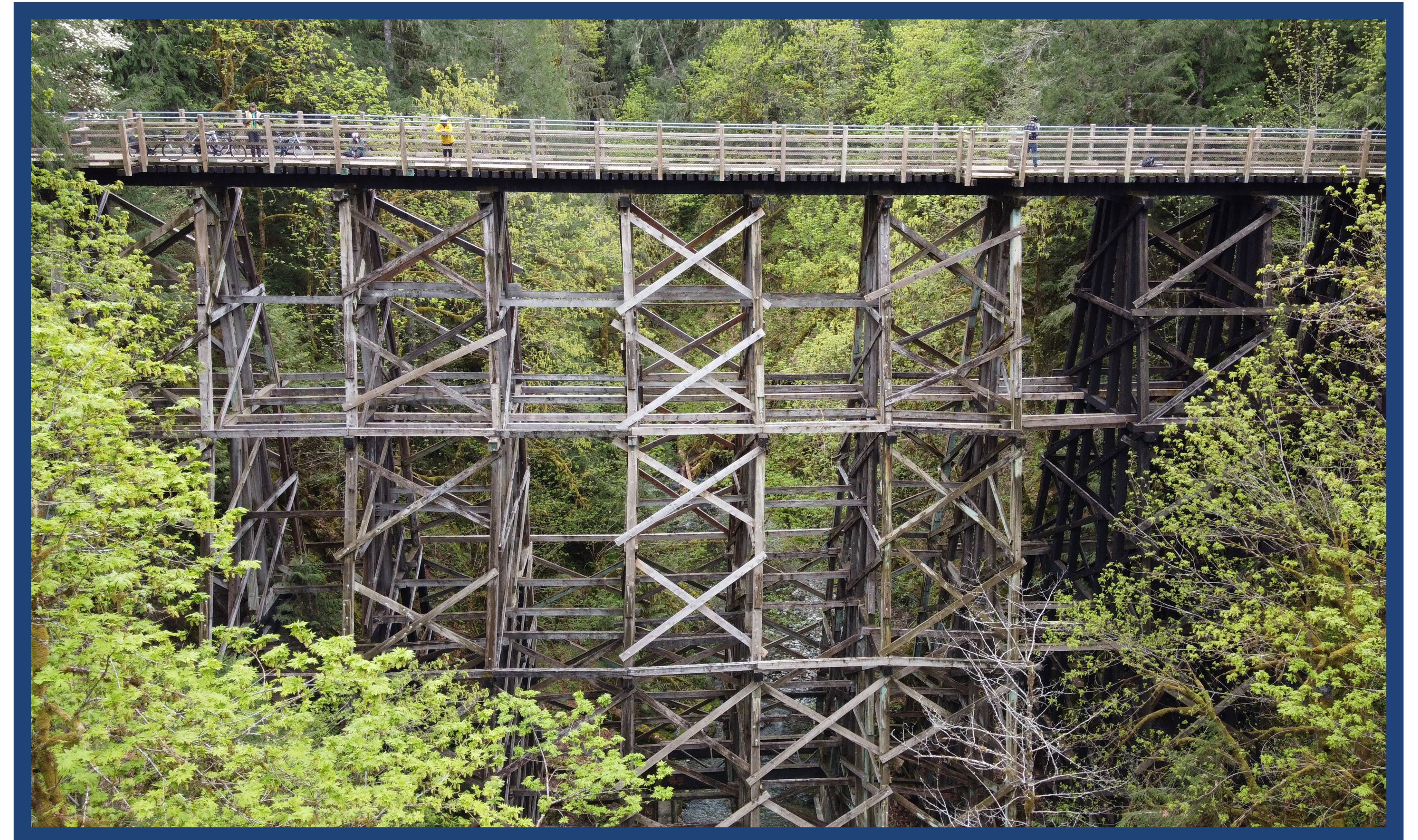
-  Cowichan River Provincial Park
-  Other Parks (Provincial & Local)
-  Cowichan Valley Trail
-  Bridge Location



Historical Context

The existing Holt Creek Bridge opened in 1922 and served as a rail line until 1991 when CN Rail handed the line over to the Province to own and maintain. Structural improvements and upgrades were made to the bridge in 2002 and 2018. A 2017 structural assessment of the bridge determined the bridge was nearing the end of its lifespan.

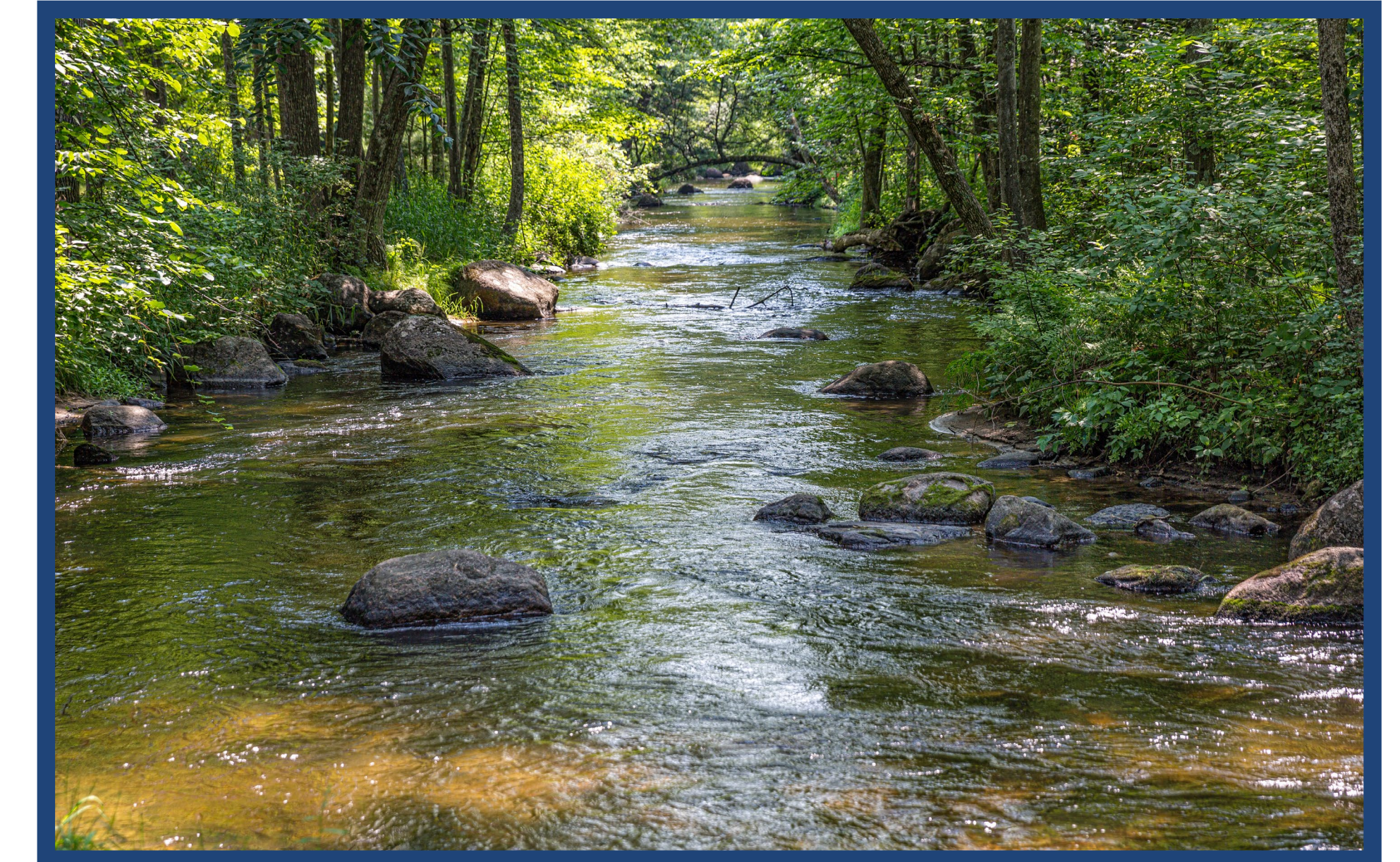
The assessment recommended the bridge be replaced rather than continuously repaired and maintained.



Project Benefits

The new Holt Creek Bridge will:

- Aim to protect the environment by:
 - Removing creosote-treated timbers from the site.
 - Avoiding in-stream works (a clear span across the stream channel will be maintained).
 - Planting native vegetation in the project area.
- Support active transportation by improving the trail connection between communities.
- Facilitate safety and accessibility in line with the Ministry's Active Transportation Design Guide.
- Support Reconciliation via Indigenous engagement, capacity building, and recognition.
- Reduce maintenance and repair costs associated with the bridge and Cowichan Valley Trail.

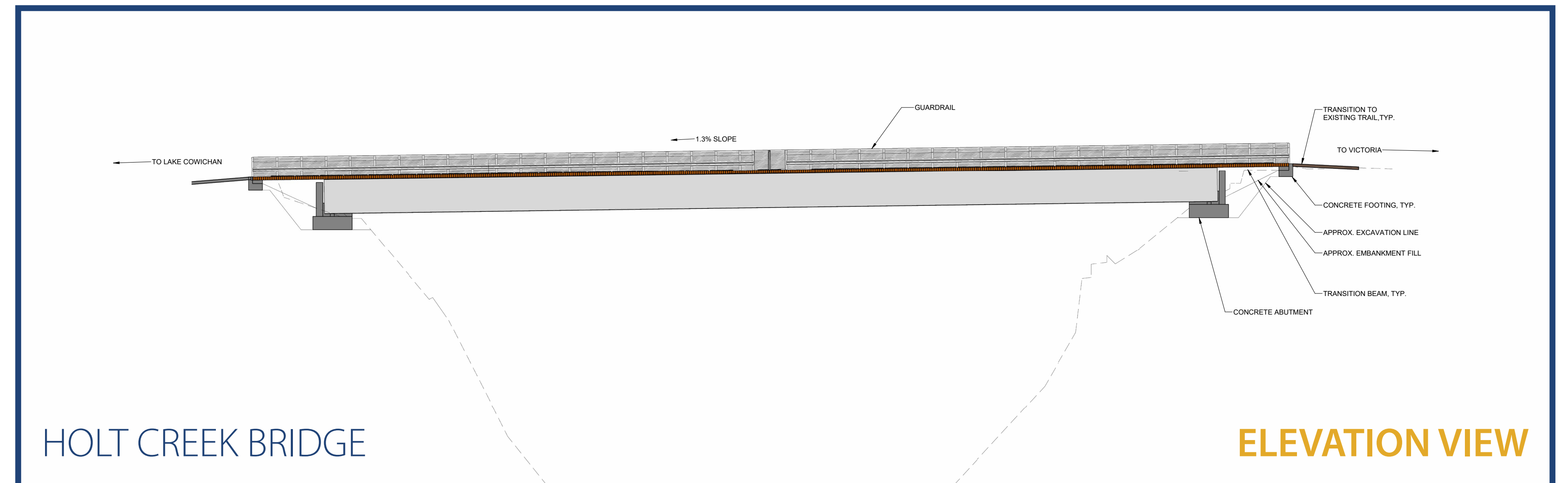
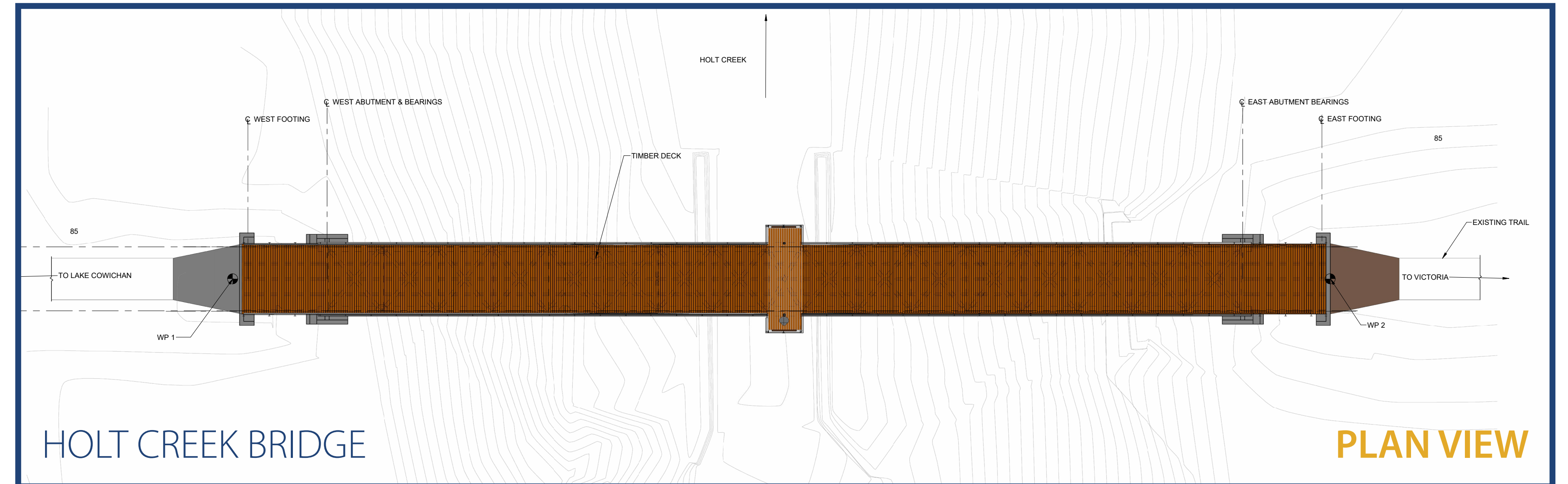


Bridge Design

The existing bridge is a timber structure that rests 34m above Holt Creek and spans 73m.

The wood bridge will be replaced with a new steel frame structure with a timber deck. The new bridge will feature steel girders supported on concrete footings on either side of the creek. The new bridge will span approximately 74m.

The bridge is designed to be functional, durable, and attractive while also being easy to maintain.



Conceptual Design



Project Timeline

Spring 2022
Approval for
Detailed Design

**Summer/
Fall 2023**
Detailed Design

Fall 2023
Construction
Funding Approval

2023/2024
Construction



Existing Holt Creek Bridge

