



**NDOT Bridge Structure C04200905
Sappa Creek Bridge
County Road D
2 mi East of Stamford, Harlan County, Nebraska**

The Nebraska Department of Transportation (NDOT) is seeking parties interested in taking ownership of the Sappa Creek Bridge, which carries County Road D over Sappa Creek, 2 miles east of Stamford in Harlan County. This bridge (NDOT bridge structure #C004200905) was originally constructed in 1916 and moved to its present location at an unknown date. This bridge was determined eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places by the Nebraska SHPO in 1992 under Criterion C in its engineering significance. It is considered a historic property.

The Sappa Creek bridge is 142 feet long and consists of a 62' steel 4-panel, rigid-connected, Pratt pony truss centered between two timber approach spans. The Pratt truss is uniquely constructed utilizing two, riveted angle-steel beams for each chord. The truss also employs out-rider bracing extending beyond the width of the deck. The bridge substructure is constructed of timber pile bent abutments and piers with timber backwalls. The bridge deck is also timber supported by timber stringers. The approach spans have cable railings. The steel truss has a clear roadway width of 16 feet.

An inspection conducted in 2024 determined the bridge is both structurally and functionally deficient. As such, Harlan County is proposing to remove the Sappa Creek Bridge and replace it with a new bridge located on the current alignment.

The bridge is not suitable or intended for vehicular service in another location, and all rehabilitation work to implement its non-vehicular reuse in another setting must conform to the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation in consultation with the Nebraska State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO). The costs of relocating, rehabilitating, and remediating the bridge or any portion of the bridge as applicable would be the responsibility of the prospective owner. Funds equal to the estimated cost of demolishing the bridge may be available to offset its relocation.

Interested parties are required to meet certain conditions, which include:

- Provide a comprehensive written plan for the preservation and future use of the bridge, including any desired modifications, and the estimated cost of rehabilitation. It is preferred that the new owner be able to use the entire superstructure of the truss bridge. All rehabilitation work must meet the Secretary's Standards (<http://www.nps.gov/tps/standards/rehabilitation.htm>)
- Maintain the structure and the features that give it historic significance according to prescribed standards.
- Assume all future legal and financial responsibility for the structure, including "hold harmless" agreements to NDOT and Harlan County. Post a performance bond.
- Provide proof of ability to assume the financial and administrative responsibilities of bridge ownership throughout its existence.

Agencies, jurisdictions, organizations or private owners interested in obtaining ownership of the bridge for aesthetic, historic, recreation or other uses should contact Stacy Stupka at (402) 479-3879 or email at stacy.stupka@nebraska.gov. This contact must be received no later than close of business on April 6, 2026. Funding to assist with relocation or rehabilitation may be provided up to the estimated cost of bridge demolition. If an interested party secures its own federal funding, it is noted that any bridge preserved with federal funding shall thereafter not be eligible for any other highway funds pursuant to Public Law 100-17, Section 123(f) (Historic Bridges).