

## Douglas Moon: Saving the Bridgeport bridge, but not done yet

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Other Voices  
Douglas Moon



In supporting the restoration of the covered bridge at Bridgeport, you worked hard to save an important part of California's gold rush and transportation history for future generations to experience and enjoy.

*Submitted photo/Shirley Moon*

This community should be very proud of accomplishing the goal of financing the effort to save the historic covered wood bridge at Bridgeport, South Yuba River State Park.

This community pulled together in a nonpartisan, dedicated and sustained way over many years to save this iconic structure, the longest single span covered wood bridge left in the world.

You worked hard to save an important part of California's gold rush and transportation history for future generations to experience and enjoy.

With one unanimous voice, the County Board of Supervisors, every city and town council and chamber of commerce in Nevada County, the Economic Resource Council, the South Yuba River Park Association, the South Yuba River Citizens League, Bear Yuba Land Trust, local businesses, many citizens, our assemblyman, local state senators, and our congressman all supported this project. You all worked together toward the common goal of making this project a high priority for the California Department of Parks and Recreation and achieving the total amount of funding necessary to completely renovate, restore and reopen our bridge. Again, you all should be very proud.

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However we are not done.

Even as restoration has begun on the bridge, there is still a lot of work that will need to be done to complete the project. The bridge still needs to be lifted to a new height, the bridge needs to be rebuilt to the specifications necessary to maintain its historical status and then there is the removal of all of the support structures that have gone up in and around the bridge over the last eight years. This is a very unique restoration project, not attempted before by State Parks (or possibly by anyone else). Everyone wants to know what is going on with the project.

This community deserves to receive regular updates on the progress of the work, what is being accomplished, what's next in the process and when the restoration will be completed. The community needs to stay involved in the project to its completion.

Ask for and expect regular updates on the progress of the renovation. Stay engaged and insist on being informed.

As we monitor this renovation and restoration project together to its successful conclusion, when our Bridge is reopened to the public, then we can rest assured that we have indeed accomplished our goal, "Saving Our Bridge."

*Douglas Moon chairs the Save Our Bridge Campaign Committee. He lives in Penn Valley.*