



**STATE OF TENNESSEE
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**

**STRUCTURES DIVISION
BRIDGE INSPECTION AND REPAIR OFFICE**
SUITE 1200, JAMES K. POLK BUILDING
505 DEADERICK STREET
NASHVILLE, TN 37243-1403
(615) 741-0776

BUTCH ELEY
DEPUTY GOVERNOR &
COMMISSIONER OF TRANSPORTATION

BILL LEE
GOVERNOR

June 28, 2022

To: Jimmy Nelson
Meigs County
Highway Chief Admin Officer

Subject: Bridge Federal ID 610A0220001 Requires Closure
Bridge Location No. 61 - 0A022 - 1.06
Big Sewee Rd. over Sewee Creek
Meigs County

The enclosed Bridge Evaluation Report (BER) requires the subject bridge to be closed to all traffic. The bridge closure shall be completed by July 12, 2022 to remain in compliance with TDOT and FHWA regulations.

After the bridge is properly closed, pictures of the closure are required as verification. Specifically, pictures of the closure barricades should be taken at each bridge end and should demonstrate the proximity of the barricades and the bridge. Pictures should also be taken of advance warning barricades and advanced warning signs. All pictures should be labeled with the Bridge Federal ID, the date, and the number of the approach.

If structural repairs are completed, the TDOT Regional Bridge Engineer should be notified so a follow-up inspection can be completed. Any repair plans or as-built drawings shall be provided so that we can better evaluate the work performed.

All correspondence including receipt acknowledgement, closure verification pictures, and details of repairs shall be sent to TDOT.BridgeEval@tn.gov. Should you have any questions, please advise.

Sincerely,

for Ted Knaizewycz, PE
Director of Structures

BRIDGE EVALUATION REPORT

Location: Meigs County

Date: June 28, 2022

Bridge ID No.: 610A0220001

Location No.: 61-A022-1.058

Route: NFA A022 (Big Sewee Road)
over Sewee Creek

Bridge Geometry:

Roadway Width: 11'-1"
Structure Length: 99'-0"
Span Lengths: 1 @ 99'-0"

Type of Construction: This structure consists of one steel truss and floorbeam system span with a timber deck. The substructure is masonry.

Commentary

A cursory inspection was performed on June 23, 2022. The following are noted deficiencies:

1. There is heavy corrosion on the eyebar at L3L connection. This member is a non-redundant steel tension member, and its failure may result in the collapse of the bridge.
2. Members L3-U3, L4-L5, and L3-L4 have heavy corrosion.
3. Several truss connections are loose, have heavy corrosion or have other defects.
4. Bridge railing has loose screws and does not meet current state or federal safety standards. *(These repairs to be performed by Meigs Co. Highway Dept.)*
5. Approach guardrails are non-existent. *(These to be provided/installed by MCHD)*

At the time of inspection, the bridge was required to be posted for a gross weight limit of 3 tons for all vehicles.

Recommendations

1. Close the bridge to all traffic with proper signs and barricades (see the attached Bridge Closing Alternatives for standard barricades).

2. Repair or replace the eyebar at the L3L connection.
3. Repair or replace members L3-U3, L4-L5, and L3-L4.
4. Repair or replace all pins.
5. Tighten all loose connections and members.
6. Repair all poor connections.

At the minimum, Recommendation Item 2 shall be satisfactorily completed to re-open the bridge to traffic. After the repairs have been completed, the bridge shall be re-inspected and re-evaluated to determine the adequacy of the repairs and the load capacity of the bridge. Please note that completing all repairs mentioned above will only put the bridge back into light service. Due to the advanced deterioration of the bridge, repair may not be reasonable, and replacing the structure may be the best option.



(for) Ted Kniazewycz, P.E.
Director of Structures