

Precast Concrete Solutions for **BRIDGES**

Cheticamp River Bridge Replacement

Cheticamp, Nova Scotia



After an inspection in 2006 showed major concrete deterioration, doing minor bridge repairs, as done in the past, didn't seem feasible anymore and a complete bridge replacement was recommended. After being approved, there were many things to consider with constructing a new bridge. The bridge crosses over the Cheticamp River, which is a vital salmon river, so a lot of attention was focused on conserving the environment around the bridge. This bridge is also considered the entrance into the Cape Breton Highlands National Park, so there are a large number of motorists, bikers and pedestrians that cross this bridge annually.

In the end, steel tub girders were used to cross the entire river in one span to avoid, as much as possible, doing any harm to the surrounding environment. Another precaution that was taken was eliminating the need for suspended formwork by using Precast Concrete Full Depth deck slabs for the driving surface of the bridge. This allowed the full depth deck slabs to be produced in the plant while construction was happening on site. The slabs were shipped to site and installed in a minimal amount of time, taking away from additional traffic delays. 36 pieces of 9" thick solid deck slabs (8,760 sq.ft.) and 38 pieces of 12" curb sidewalk were installed in June of 2010 and the entire project was completed in the fall of 2010, creating a stable and attractive entrance into one of Canada's most beautiful parks.



Project: **Cheticamp River Bridge - Cheticamp, NS**
 Owner: **Public Works and Government Services Canada**
 Engineer: **Harbourside Engineering - Dartmouth, NS**
 Contractor: **J&T VanZutphen Const. Inc. - Port Hood, NS**



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