

Spring Creek Bridge closure

Update for Beechworth community

October 2026

The Spring Creek Bridge in Beechworth Historic Park has been closed since October 2022 when a significant storm and flood eroded the northwest wall, de-stabilising the bridge.

Due to its age and how it was built, it cannot be repaired to meet today's safety requirements.

Parks Victoria has started planning for a replacement bridge so visitors can use the popular Gorge Scenic Loop again.

We will preserve the bridge's history by:

- fixing damage to the stone wingwall caused by the 2022 storm and flood
- improving drainage at the site
- using mapping tools to record the bridge's design and parts to add to historical records

This update provides information on what we have done so far and what happens next.

Works to-date

Engineering reports: specialised engineers inspected the bridge to determine if it can be safely opened after the damage is repaired. The reports found that, even if repaired, it will not be safe for pedestrians or vehicles. This is due to the age and

condition of the bridge, and weight of the road surface.

Drainage improvements: new stone drains were built to help water run off the road and away from the bridge to help protect it.



Above: Raised bitumen sections were installed to direct water away from the bridge. New stone drains help water run off the road.



Above: new stone drains help protect the bridge from stormwater damage.

Planning underway

Wingwall repairs: Parks Victoria has drafted a design for the wingwall repairs and is sourcing funds to complete the work.

Bridge replacement: Parks Victoria is exploring different options to replace the bridge:

- **Option 1** - for safe pedestrian access.
- **Option 2** - for safe pedestrian **and** public vehicle access.
- **Option 3** – for safe pedestrian **and** emergency vehicle access only.

Local stakeholder meetings: Parks Victoria and Indigo Shire Council met to discuss the bridge and managing historic heritage across Indigo Shire.

We also met with representatives from the Beechworth History and Heritage Society and the Beechworth CFA to gather their input on the future of the bridge.

What happens next?

We are planning to ask the community for your priorities and preferences to replace the bridge and future use of this site.

Once we've gathered community input to inform next steps, we will need to source funding to complete the work.

Stay safe - the bridge remains closed

The bridge remains closed to keep people safe.

It is not safe for walkers, cyclists or vehicles. It will stay closed until it is replaced.

You can still walk or ride to the bridge from the Powder Magazine at the northern end of Gorge Road, or from Newtown Falls. You must go back the same way you came in.