



# Kittitas Reclamation District

P.O. Box 276

Ellensburg, WA 98926

Phone: (509) 925-6158 Fax: (509) 925-7425

## **KITTTAS RECLAMATION DISTRICT BRIDGE POLICY**

- A) Kittitas Reclamation District (KRD) has 330 miles of canals and laterals which serve almost 60,000 acres within Kittitas County, Washington. There are numerous bridges and culverts within the canals and laterals which allow pedestrians, equipment, and vehicles to cross the KRD canals and laterals.
- B) KRD has developed a Crossing and Use Policy, both of which require written permission for a member of the public and/or an adjoining landowner(s) to cross and/or use KRD rights-of-way. All crossing licenses are required to be reduced to writing in order to be valid. Depending on the location of the crossing, a crossing license may require approval of the United States Bureau of Reclamation (USBR) prior to being issued. This policy applies to all crossing of the KRD canals and/or laterals by bridge.
- C) KRD has three types of bridges that have been installed since the canal was constructed. The three types are as follows:
1. Bridges constructed, owned, maintained, and inspected by USBR (“USBR Bridges”);
  2. Bridges constructed and/or owned, maintained, and inspected by KRD (“KRD Bridges”); and
  3. Bridge constructed and owned by an individual or entity other than USBR and/or KRD or a bridge that could have been originally constructed by USBR, no longer needed for project purposes, and has been solely used by landowners and is no longer the responsibility of the KRD or the USBR. These bridges are sometimes referred to as “landowner bridges” and/or “farm bridges” depending on the date KRD maps were created.
- D) Use of Bridges: KRD and USBR bridges are maintained and reserved for use by KRD and/or USBR personnel. In limited circumstances, KRD and/or USBR administrative staff may authorize others to use a KRD or USBR bridge. Any such use permission will be reduced to writing in a form acceptable to KRD and recorded with the Kittitas County Auditor.
1. Landowner bridges are not the responsibility of KRD and/or USBR to construct, repair, maintain, or replace. Any necessary construction, repair, maintenance, and/or

replacement of a landowner bridge is the responsibility of the landowner(s) and/or the individual(s) who have a written right recognized by KRD to use the landowner bridge.

2. KRD and/or USBR have the right to inspect any existing landowner bridges which cross the KRD canals and/or laterals and if, in the sole judgment of KRD and/or USBR, the landowner bridge requires repair, maintenance, and/or replacement for the safety of the canal and lateral operations, the landowner(s) and/or the individual(s) who have a written right recognized by KRD to use the landowner bridge are responsible for the cost of the repair, maintenance, and/or replacement of the landowner bridge. In the event the landowner refuses and/or fails to maintain, repair, or replace the landowner bridge, then the KRD may revoke the permission to locate the landowner bridge and require the landowner to remove the landowner bridge. If the landowner refuses and/or fails to remove the landowner bridge, then the KRD may, in its sole discretion, remove the landowner bridge at the landowner's sole cost and expense.
3. KRD and USBR reserve the right to have KRD and/or USBR engineers and/or personnel review any plans to construct, maintain, repair, or replace a landowner bridge. No construction, repair, maintenance, or replacement of a landowner bridge may occur without the landowner(s) and/or the individual(s) who have a written right recognized by KRD to use the landowner bridge obtaining the permission of the KRD in advance of the construction, repair, maintenance, or replacement of the landowner bridge. No construction, repair, maintenance, or replacement of a landowner bridge can commence without the landowner providing an engineer stamped design for bridge and load rating. A load rating sign must be posted appropriately at the bridge site.
4. KRD has the right to have KRD and/or USBR engineers review any proposed construction, repair, maintenance, or replacement of a landowner bridge and any such review shall be at the cost of the landowner(s) and/or the individual(s) who have a written right recognized by KRD to use the landowner bridge.
5. KRD and/or USBR personnel and staff are authorized, in their sole judgment, to order the removal of landowner bridges that are not properly maintained and/or repaired and/or are in danger of collapsing into the KRD canal or lateral when being crossed by vehicles.

Any individual or entity requesting a crossing license that will involve the construction of a new landowner bridge must design the landowner bridge to current USBR standards and must provide plans to KRD and/or USBR in advance of the construction of the landowner bridge so that KRD and/or USBR personnel may review the plans prior to the construction of the landowner bridge. All such review shall be at the cost of the landowner(s) and/or the individual(s) who have a written right recognized by KRD to use the landowner bridge. In no case will a bridge be allowed to be constructed without a written crossing license. Anytime KRD reviews the condition of a landowner bridge and/or reviews the proposed construction, repair, maintenance, or replacement

of an existing landowner bridge, KRD may require as a condition of approval, that the landowner enter into a crossing license with KRD and/or USBR.