



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

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National Park Service News Release

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Rio de Chelly Bridge Construction Project to begin at Canyon de Chelly National Monument

CHINLE, AZ – The Rio de Chelly (N64) Bridge Construction Project will begin at Canyon de Chelly National Monument on Monday, February 16, 2021. This work is part of a National Park Service Bridge Preservation Program that make minor repairs to bridges within the National Park Service in the Intermountain Region and Arizona specifically.

The project is to make minor repairs to the Rio de Chelly (N64) bridge. Repairs include: reconstructing the north and south approaches, making improvements to the guardrail, repairing spalled concrete, replacing and tightening bolts, bridge deck sealant, restriping, epoxy injection at the abutment, installing a concrete cut off wall at base of slope paving and placing rip rap (for scour mitigation), graffiti removal and repainting.

Prior to construction, biological monitoring consultants will conduct a survey to check for the presence of bats potentially roosting under the bridge. Survey work will start on Tuesday, February 16 and is expected to be completed by Friday, February 19. Two people will be present along with a bucket truck under the bridge. Contractors for the bridge construction will mobilize on Monday, March 1. The bridge project is scheduled to be completed by Mid-May 2021.

The monument will remain open, and there will be minor traffic delays on the Navajo Route 64 road (North Rim Drive). There will be no full lane traffic closures during construction, but there will be times when traffic will be restricted to a one-way, single lane. Crews will be operating heavy equipment along the roads and using road sections as staging areas for materials. The needed rehabilitation will improve safety and extend the overall life of the bridge.

For more information about Canyon de Chelly National Monument, please visit www.nps.gov/cach or call the park at (928) 674-5500.

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