



Trestle Before the Fire

# RRTS 2015

By Marvin Bjornstad,  
Marianne Price

# Repairing the Trestle



May June Repair of Railing



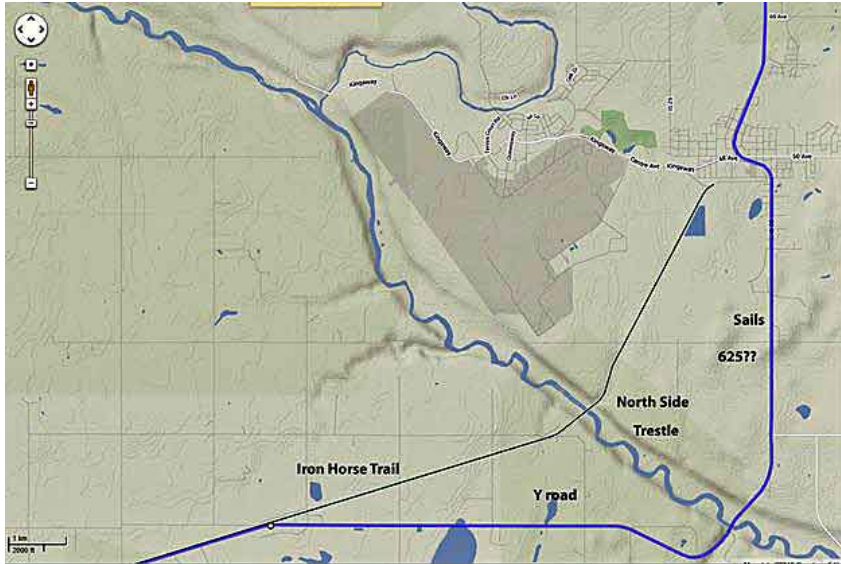
# Repairing the Trestle



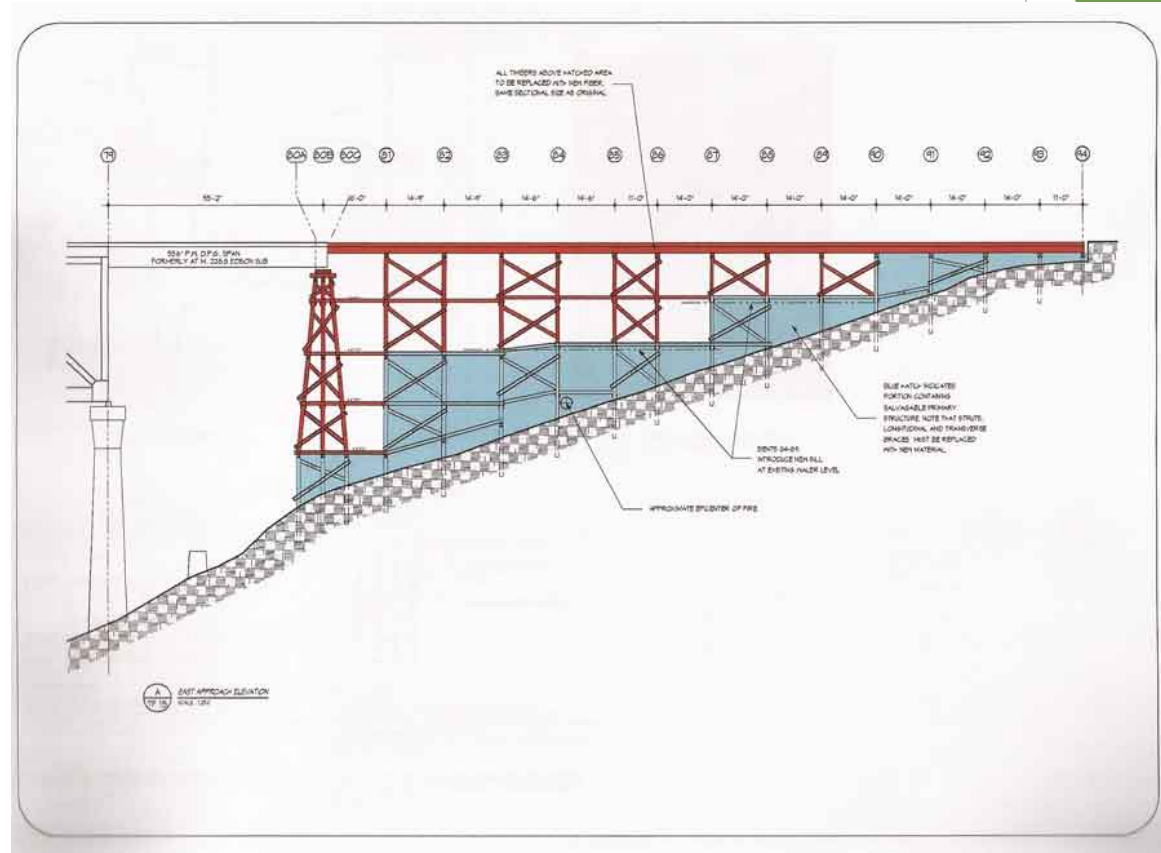
# Grant for the gates

- ▶ A more complex process than it first appeared

# 2015 as it unfolded



The Past year was much more than the rebuilding of the trestle...



# 2015 Began slowly

- ▶ Jan 1 putting proposal for gates using info from 3 made in fall 2014.
- ▶ Feb 5 ASA announces funding
- ▶ One week timeline
- ▶ Grooming Foundation will submit; RRTS will look to the other user area of the grant

# Serving the vandals who torched the trestle

- ▶ Marianne tries hard to find the guilty party
- ▶ Jerry funded some initial steps
- ▶ NE Municorr determined to keep it in public eye
- ▶ NE Municorr hires server who finds one
- ▶ Special application to serve via social media
- ▶ By November one served and others still there.

# LORG

- ▶ Met with LLB town council,
- ▶ Rich Lake
- ▶ Athabasca County
- ▶ Provincial election and change of government
- ▶ The wait begins



# Operations continue

- ▶ Purchase DVDs
- ▶ Tourism Destination Marketing Forum in St Paul Feb
- ▶ Casino Feb 28
- ▶ Harvey Aarbo lease arrangements
- ▶ Brushing power line at Smoky Lake
- ▶ Ashmont Gazebo
- ▶ Another Fire at trestle

# George Wayne gets ATN's Trail Blazer Award



George receives award in Hinton

# Canada 150 grant

- ▶ Our main failure for the year
- ▶ Complex process that took a lot of Marianne's focus
- ▶ Again the federal election modified the process

# The Owlseye Incident

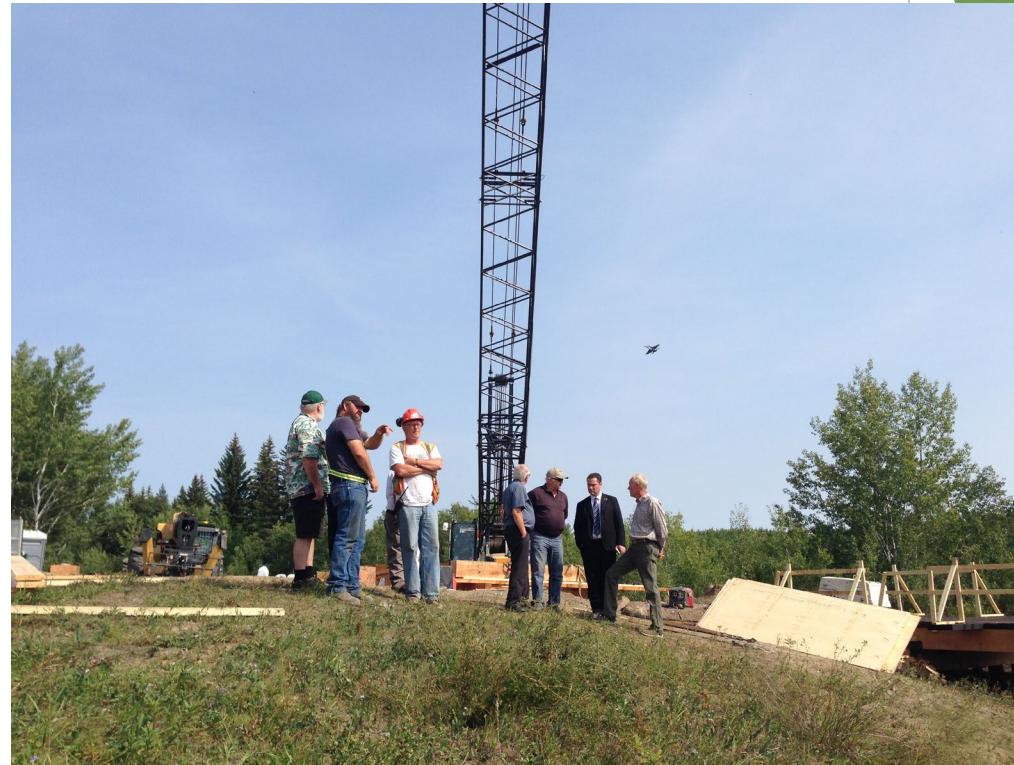
This took participating in many discussions at NE Municorr and 2 site visits before St Paul County lost a secret ballot.



Site Visit with NE Municorr

# Funding the Trestle Repair

- ▶ Initially had meetings with PC MLAs in 2013
- ▶ Then met with Minister Starke numerous times
- ▶ Met with new minister under Prentice just as Wildrose crossed floor
- ▶ Meetings with new NDP government officials
- ▶ Tried to meet with regional MLAs
- ▶ Behind the scenes with government workers



# Bonnyville staging area

- ▶ Started with good meeting in Bonnyville with Ray Prevost and BV people
- ▶ Need fill done by town
- ▶ Some discussion of a building

# Fall Trail Clean ups



# Pengrowth



Grader Operator and section of trail near Salt Plant



# Municipal Funding meetings

- ▶ 3 year agreement ended
- ▶ We needed to show what we had done with their money
- ▶ Face to face needed as they budgeted
- ▶ All decide to fund RRTS and IHT Grooming Foundation

# Foundation search

- ▶ A way of accessing money for funding specific projects in the future
- ▶ Using projects to fund operations
- ▶ May change us into a project organization working with new users
- ▶ Partnership with NE Municorr and RRTS
- ▶ Need other partners

# And trail users continue to use trail

- ▶ Through walker Sarah Rose
- ▶ Iron Horse Ultra
- ▶ Second Chance Trail Ride
- ▶ Ashmont Spring Mud Ride
- ▶ Iron Horse Ski Tour

