Center Ine Roads



During the awards ceremony, Director Dan Flowers praised the competitors for their skills and achievements.



Commission Chairman Jonathan Barnett was pleased to present the Team Champions award to District Nine.

Employees Compete for AHTD Roadeo Title

AHTD employees from around the state traveled to Little Rock's Central Shops on May 24th to compete in the 17th Annual Equipment Operators Roadeo.

Family, friends and co-workers spent the day watching a large field of competitors, each of whom had arrived with top-notch skills. Contestants competed in the following categories throughout the day: Tractor/Lowboy, Tandem Axle Dump Truck, Single Axle Dump Truck, Tractor/Mower, Backhoe and Motor Patrol.

After a full morning of competition and a catered lunch, awards were handed out to those who finished at the top of the standings. This year's title of Team Champions went to District Nine. It was their fifth Team Champions title.

Ralph Fulton, District Engineer, was proud of his team. "Congratulations to the District Nine Roadeo Team. They will be treated to a steak dinner as a reward for their success. The skills represented by the Roadeo competitors continue to impress me each time they compete."

The top two winners in each category will travel to Ashville, North Carolina, in October to compete in the 2007 Southeastern Regional Equipment Operators Roadeo. The AHTD has come home with the regional trophy each of the four years the competition has been held. Teams from across the southeast region of the country will compete alongside Arkansas in the regionals.



Team Champions, District 9: (I. to r.) Director Dan Flowers, Jeff Myatt, Cam Whitney, Kenny Riley, Commission Chairman Jonathan Barnett, District Engineer Ralph Fulton, District Maintenance Engineer Steve Lawrence, Jeff Upton, Lance Baker, Joey Ragland and Commission Vice Chairman Carl Rosenbaum.

MAY 2007 • ARKANSAS STATE HIGHWAY AND TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT

Tractor/Lowboy



Darrell Barnes District 8

John Harvey District 2

Jeff Upton District 9

Tractor Mower



Keith Skelton District 5 (not shown)

Dwain Rosenbaum Jason Mitchell District 3

District 1

Tandem Axle Dump Truck



Kenny Howard District 8

Tony Ruhl District 10

Brad Fulks District 5

Backhoe



Larry Otwell District 3

Lewis James District 4

Kenny Riley District 9

Single Axle Dump Truck



Joey Ragland District 9

Todd Clifford District 10

Joe Villalobos District 8

Motor Patrol



Lance Baker District 9

William Hickman District 7

Euclid Elliott District 7





































United Way Campaign Recognition

For the second year in a row, the AHTD has received recognition from the United Way for its fundraising campaign.

The Department received a United Way Crest Award on April 25th at the Hilton Little Rock Metro Center for its 2006 campaign, which raised \$24,765.12.

To earn a Crest Award, an organization must meet two of four criteria: a 10% increase in employee giving, 50% or more employee participation, \$100 or more employee gift per capita, or one or more \$1000 Pillar club members. The Department met the 50% participation requirement and District Five District Engineer Lyndal Waits was a Pillar giver.

The award was accepted for the AHTD by Tara Robinson of the Human Resources Division, who served as coordinator of this year's campaign.

"It was an honor to accept this award for the Department," stated Robinson. "For those who contributed financially to the United Way campaign, thank you again."



Tara Robinson, Human Resources Division, with the Crest Award.

AHTD Employees Volunteering in Public School

A group of employees from the AHTD have volunteered to work with students at Chicot Elementary School in Little Rock.

The volunteers are spending time listening to students in the first and second grades read books. The time spent reading will improve reading fluency and give the students

an additional opportunity to have meaningful conversations with adults.

Those employees participating include Terry White, Les McSwain, Louis Peralta, Amanda Walker, Melissa Doss, Cynthia Spencer, Philip Terry, Corey Key, Angela Jordan, Sarah Wilson and Vicki Haydon.



Josue Martinez, a second grader, reads to Amanda Walker, a Programmer III, in Computer Services.

Les McSwain, of the AHTD Bridge Division, spends time reading with second grader Demondre Johnson.



Employee: Bashar Qedan,
Assistant Resident
Engineer, Fayetteville
Resident Engineer
Office, District 4.

Length of Service: 19 Years, 8 Months.

Job Duties:
Along with the

Resident Engineer, my main responsibility is to oversee and ensure that all construction projects are built according to the Department's plans and standard specifications. This is accomplished by coordinating work with the contractors, training and scheduling of office personnel to inspect such work, and when required, interpretation of plans and specifications. The other major duty I have at the Resident Engineer Office is to address the concerns and questions of the general public regarding our construction projects.

Favorite part of the job: To observe a roadway section or a bridge being built from the ground up is a tremendous feeling of accomplishment. However, this sense of accomplishment could never happen without the support and help of my co-workers. It is a team effort. The other thing I really enjoy about my job is the daily teaching and learning. I really like to work and train our young engineers and inspectors. At the same time, I appreciate learning new things from my co-workers who may have different experience in dealing with a given situation.

Background: After receiving my Master's Degree in Civil Engineering at the University of Arkansas, I was hired by the Department in September of 1987 as Civil Engineer I. I worked in the Materials and Research Division in Little Rock. In 1990, I transferred to the Alma Resident Engineer Office and, for the next 7 years, worked on the once-in-a-lifetime job of Interstate 540 construction between Alma and Fayetteville. In 1997, I became the Resident Engineer in the Van Buren Resident Engineer Office and, in 2002, moved back to Fayetteville to work in the Fayetteville Resident Engineer Office.

Family: I am happily married to my lovely wife Dua. I have the most beautiful daughters: Nadia, 23; Samar, 19; Layla, 17; Hanna, 14; and Lana, 8 months. My very handsome son, Omar, is 4 and keeps me running. I have a special grandson, Ricky, who is 2. Simply, I am very blessed.

Hobbies/Interests: Besides enjoying spending time with my family, I like carpentry work, landscaping and yard work. When I get the chance, I love to golf.



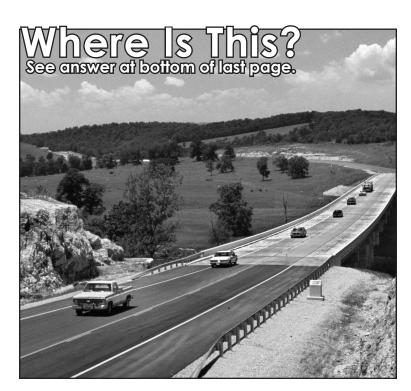
Construction of the Highway 49 Bridge over the Mississippi River in Helena. The bridge opened to traffic in July 1961. An average of 6,200 vehicles cross it daily.

Attention Central Office Employees

Just a reminder that the Department has revised the Emergency Procedure Plan in the Central Office building in order to better serve our employees and visitors during an emergency evacuation.

Changes made include fire extinguisher signs, legends for evacuation routes and designated Areas of Rescue Assistance.

For further information, contact Ken Jordan in Human Resources at 501-569-2694.



Team AHTD Completes Heart Walk American Heart

Association_®



A team of 14 members from the AHTD participated in the 2007 Central Arkansas Heart Walk presented by the American Heart Association. The walk was held on April 21st on the North Shore of the Arkansas River in North Little Rock. Our team walked or ran a 5K route and raised money to help in the fight against heart disease and stroke.

2007 EQUIPMENT OPERATORS ROADEO SEMI-FINALS

In addition to coverage of the AHTD Roadeo Finals held in Little Rock, this issue of the CenterLine includes the results of Semi-Final competitions held in the weeks leading up to the Finals. Because of our newsletter deadline, these results could not be included in the last issue of the CenterLine. Congratulations to the winners of the Semi-Finals spotlighted below.

	.9. 4. 0. 4. 10. 10. 10		into continuida	s spotlighted				
			Tractor/ Lowboy	Tandem Axle Dump Truck	Single Axle Dump Truck	Tractor/ Mower	Backhoe	Motor Patrol
	DISTRICT	1ST PLACE	Elvis Garrett	Brad Faulks	Michael Foster	Keith Skelton	Bill Barker	Terence Carter
	FIVE April 13,	2ND PLACE	Sammy Bennett	Randy Zeigler	James Moody	Randy Rector	Evan Higginbottom	David Bailey
	2007	3RD PLACE	Jeremy Matheny	Todd Bolin	Russell McBride	Phillip Darien	Tim Hurtt	Willie McCord
	DISTRICT FOUR April 19, 2007	1ST PLACE	Kevin Tucker	Lionel Elder	Bobby Dean	Jermiah Jackson	Lewis James	Clifton Beavers
		2ND PLACE	Terrel Scroggins	Chris Ingram	Fred Ridenhour	Fred Ridenhour	Eric Brigance	Roger Simpson
		3RD PLACE	Marcus Standridge	Brad McCurry	Milton Sanchez	Dustin Higgins	Keith Chambers	Bobby Dean
	DISTRICT TEN April 26, 2007	1ST PLACE	Trent Wood	Tony Ruhl	Todd Clifford	David Pratt	Rick Hale	Gerald Ellis
		2ND PLACE	James Clark	Shalane Swafford	Robert Losh	Corey Weatherford	Matt Larue	Darrell Campbell
		3RD PLACE	Gary Pruitt	James Miller	Phyllis Ashby	Jason Orrick	Heath Eubanks	Anthony Williams
	DISTRICT THREE May 3, 2007 DISTRICT NINE	1ST PLACE	Ryan Lovell	Willie Martin	Rick Williams	Dawin Rosenbaum	Larry Otwell	Eugene Greenwood
		2ND PLACE	Steven Muldrew	Shane Buck	Christi Ray	Ronald Hughes	Brad McJunkins	David Holden
		3RD PLACE	Pat Edmondson	Neal Price	Doris Whitaker	Linda Shelton	William Jones	Latricia Jones
		1ST PLACE	Jeff Upton	Jeff Myatt	Joey Ragland	Cameron Whitney	Kenny Riley	Lance Baker
		2ND PLACE	Donnie Billups	Keith Carpenter	Scott Willis	Cecil Armer	Roy Bryant	Terry Eidson
	May 10, 2007	3RD PLACE	Justin Garrison	Misty Barber	Jody Williams	Rod Tucker	Aaron Worsham	Howard Farmer





Human Resources: (l. to r.) Linda Cuningkin recently received her 5-year service award from Human Resources Division Head Crystal Cole. Linda was also recently promoted from Central Office Receptionist to Office Administrative Assistant II in Right of Way.



District 10: (I. to r.) Kyle Beasley, Single Axle Truck Driver, on leave from the 875th Company, received his 5-year service award from District Engineer Joe Barnett.



District 3: (l. to r.) Josh Lewis, Construction Aide III, receives his 15-year service award from Resident Engineer Steve Frisbee.



Public Affairs: (l. to r.) Shelli Russell, Public Affairs Specialist, receives her 5-year service award from Randy Ort, Public Information Coordinator.



District 3: (I. to r.) Athena Bright, Inspector, receives her 15-year service award from Resident Engineer Steve Frisbee.



District 9: (I. to r.) Mike Brasel, Area Maintenance Supervisor, presents Gary Hopkins, Maintenance Aide II, with this 10-year service award.



District 2: (I. to r.) James House, District Engineer, presents Kirk Howard, Maintenance Aide I, with his 10-year service award. Deborah Pruitt, Area Maintenance Supervisor, also presents.

District 8 Roadeo Semi-Finals



Tractor/Lowboy (l. to r.) - 1st: Shane Mitchell 2nd: Paul Burris, 3rd: Kenny Caldwell



Tandem Axle Dump Truck (l. to r.) - 1st: Kenny Howard, 2nd: David Pruitt, 3rd: Steve Pierce



District 6: Eddie Erick, Construction Aide II, and wife Marla, were recently blessed with two grandsons, born 2 days apart. Collin Burk Echols (I.), born April 13, 2007, at 7 lbs., 1 oz. and 19" long is the son of Melanie Echols. Nickolas Blaze Erick (r.), born April 15, 2007, at 6 lbs., 14 oz. and 19" long, is the son of Jason Erick.



Single Axle Dump Truck (I. to r.) - 1st: Joe Villalobos, 2nd: Randy Tankersley, 3rd: Bill Biggs



Tractor / Mower (I. to r.) - 1st: John Crawford, 2nd: Greg Konkel, 3rd: David Pruitt



Backhoe (I. to r.) - 1st: Randy White, 2nd: Paul Charton, 3rd: Scott Craig



Motor Patrol (I. to r.) - 1st: Danny Gardner, 2nd: Dennis Langston, 3rd: Danny Duvall



Arkansas Highway Police: (I. to r.) Captain Paul Claunch, Commander of AHP Special Services, presents Investigator Mike Cash with his 20-year service award.



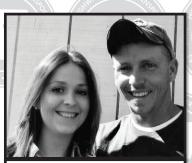
Legal: (l. to r.) Chief Legal Counsel Robert Wilson presents Charles Dirden, Staff Attorney, with his 5-year service award.



District 4: (l. to r.) Lea Knight, Inspector, receives her 15-year service award from Resident Engineer Jeff Stroud.



District 9: (I. to r.) Stacy Burge, Assistant Resident Engineer, receives his 15-year service award from Jeff Wheeler, District Construction Engineer.



District 4: (r. to I.) David Nelson, Motor Patrol Operator - Finish, and Amanda Quinlivan were recently married on April 20th at Arkole Baptist Church in Huntington, Arkansas.



District 4: Gary Dewitt, Electrical, Plumbing & Mechanical Repairer, receives his 10-year service award.



District 7: (I. to r.) Gary Clark, Single Axle Truck Driver, receives his 5-year service award from Larry Bloomfield, Area Maintenance Supervisor.



Maintenance: (l. to r.) Tom Duncan, Striping Crew Supervisor, receives his 15-year service award from Ed Marlin, Striping Superintendent.



Planning & Research: (I. to r.) Tamara Easley, Civil Engineer II, receives her 5-year service award from Mark Bradley, Staff Research Engineer.



District 7: (l. to r.) Carolyn Thornton, Area Headquarters Attendant, receives her 20-year service award from Larry Bloomfield, Area Maintenance Supervisor. Carolyn has also recently retired.



District 7: (I. to r.) Rick Hilton, Backhoe/Front End Loader Operator, receives his 15-year service award from Larry Bloomfield, Area Maintenance Supervisor.



District 7: (l. to r.) J.R. Bledsoe, Maintenance Aide II, receives his 20-year service award from Larry Bloomfield, Area Maintenance Supervisor.



District 5: Aaron Layne Futrell, born January 20, 2007, weighing 6 lbs.,10 oz., is the first grandchild of Carolyn Maxwell, Single Axle Truck Driver.



District 10: Lorraine Winstead, retired AHTD employee, killed this 30 lb. turkey. Its beard is ten inches and its spurs are one inch.



District 7: Zach Turner, 13-year -old son of Jeff Turner, Motor Patrol Operator-Finish, bagged this 18 lb. turkey during the youth hunt this year. The turkey had a 9" beard and 5/8" spur.



District 6: Aaron Ring, Crew Leader, killed this 18.5 lb. turkey on April 17, 2007. Its beard is 9 inches and its spurs are 3/4 inches.



NEW EMPLOYEES

ARKANSAS HIGHWAY POLICE

Serena Hill, Administrative Aide I Laurel Young, Permit Technician

CONSTRUCTION

Brooks Horn, Construction Aide II, RE 94 William Robertson, Construction Helper I, RE 23 Shad Watkins, Construction Aide II, RE 94

HEAVY BRIDGE MAINTENANCE

Keith Parnell, Bridge Repairer I

HUMAN RESOURCES

Holly Murray, Office Administrative Assistant I

MATERIALS

Rodney Catlett, Materials Technician I

DISTRICT 1

James Leon, Jr., Single Axle Truck Dr., Monroe

DISTRICT 2

James Ferguson, Single Axle Truck Dr., Lincoln

DISTRICT 4

Dwight Coutcher, Single Axle Truck Driver Ralph Trusty, Single Axle Truck Driver, Logan

DISTRICT 6

George Bynum, Single Axle Truck Driver, Saline Sammy Hightower, Single Axle Tr. Dr., Hot Spring Judy Kyzer, General Laborer, Pulaski Doyle Lee, General Laborer, Pulaski
Aaron Paul, Single Axle Truck Driver, Hot Spring
Marlin Miller, Multi-Axle Truck Driver, Faulkner Timothy Raborn, Single Axle Truck Driver, Saline Melissa Ross, Personnel Clerk William Townsend, Single Axle Truck Dr., Pulaski Randy Tankersley, Hydraulic Excavator Opr-Fin. Freddy Ward, General Laborer, Pulaski Ronald Webb, Single Axle Truck Driver, Pulaski Gregory White, General Laborer, Pulaski

Courtney Ellis, General Laborer, Clark Terry Nelson, Single Axle Truck Driver, Clark Joseph Rogers, General Laborer, Columbia

DISTRICT 8

Paul Bowden, Single Axle Truck Driver, Pope Larry Lawless, Guard Joshua Saunier, Single Axle Truck Driver, Pope Kenny Voss, Single Axle Truck Driver, Pope

DISTRICT 9

Jodi Godbehere, District Receptionist Darin Henson, General Laborer, Benton Jimmy Holt, Multi-Axle Truck Driver Alex Yang, Single Axle Truck Driver, Benton

DISTRICT 10

Stephen Burnett, Single Axle Tr. Dr., Craighead Travis Henderson, General Laborer, Mississippi Winifred Maples, General Laborer, Mississippi Kevin McLean, Single Axle Tr. Dr., Mississippi

PROMOTIONS

BRIDGE

Mark Edwards, Design Technician II

FISCAL SERVICES

Lanecia Weston, Office Admin. Assistant V

HUMAN RESOURCES

Natasha Halbert, DBE Program Specialist

MATERIALS

Judith Orrick, Administrative Aide IV

PLANNING & RESEARCH

Charles Brewer, Transportation Specialist

RIGHT OF WAY

Linda Cuningkin, Office Admin. Assistant II

John Hartsell, Jr., Adv. Const. Field Engr., RE 11 Anthony James, Crew Leader, Crittenden

DISTRICT 2

John Breitenstein, Sign Erector Patrick Byrd, Maintenance Aide I, Lincoln William Lum, Construction Aide I, RE 24

DISTRICT 4

Frederick Trent, Single Axle Tr. Dr., Crawford

DISTRICT 5

Patricia Blake, Single Axle Truck Dr., Cleburne Donald Roach, Single Axle Truck Dr., Cleburne

DISTRICT 6

John Caldwell, Crew Leader, Garland Robert Davidson, Street Sweeper Op., Pulaski Robert Kellar, Single Axle Truck Driver, Pulaski Tony Skarda, Single Axle Truck Driver, Prairie Kenjuan Washington, Roller Operator Bryson Whiteside, Bridge Repairer I

DISTRICT 7

Donald Crawford, Motor Patr. Op.-Fin., Columbia Janet McElroy, District Bookkeeper, 15 yrs. Ronnie Harcrow, Maintenance Aide I, Ouachita Brenda Harris, Area Hq. Attendant, Columbia Robert Johnson, Multi-Axle Truck Driver Gilbert Niemeir, Maintenance Aide I, Ouachita

DISTRICT 8

Randall Burris, Single Axle Truck Driver, Pope Juan Garcia, Single Axle Truck Driver, Pope Timothy Johnson, Single Axle Truck Driver, Pope

James Branstetter, Maintenance Aide II, Benton Billy Roberts, Storeroom Supervisor

DISTRICT 10

Paul Carr, Administrative Assistant I Kim Pugh, Area Hg. Attendant, Poinsett

SERVICE AWARDS

ARKANSAS HIGHWAY POLICE

Mike Cash, Investigator, 20 yrs. Johnny Debord, Patrol Officer, 15 yrs.

COMPUTER SERVICES

Terry Wright, User Support Liaison, 30 yrs.

CONSTRUCTION

Carolyn Brister, Resident Ofc. Tech., 5 yrs., RE 05 Stacy Burge, Asst. Resident Engr., 15 yrs., RE 92 Dennis Clark, Inspector, 25 yrs., RE 32 Gary Fletcher, Const. Proj. Coord., 30 yrs., RE 24 James Reynolds, Inspector, 10 yrs., RE 73 Ken Thornton, Senior Inspector, 15 yrs., RE 76 James Wolfe, Const. Proj. Coord., 30 yrs., RE 24

EQUIPMENT & PROCUREMENT

Rickey Grissom, Shop Supervisor, 20 yrs.

FISCAL SERVICES

Steve Malcom, Maint. Inventory Coord., 30 yrs.

LEGAL

Charles Dirden, Staff Attorney, 5 yrs.

MAINTENANCE

Christopher Cooper, Comm. Maint. Spec., 5 vrs. Loyd Haas, Sign Erector, 5 yrs.

MATERIALS

Jack Hart, Inspector, 30 yrs. Kenyada Simpson, Materials Technician II, 5 yrs.

PLANNING & RESEARCH

Maria Hanley, Cartographer I, 5 yrs. Terry Vittitow, Cartographer II, 15 vrs. Steve Weston, Transp. Study Coord., 15 yrs.

PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Shelli Russell, Public Affairs Specialist, 5 yrs.

RIGHT OF WAY

Debbie Holmes, Office Admin. Asst. III, 30 yrs.

Kit Carson, Division Head, 35 yrs. Darrell Gray, Surveys Technician II, 20 yrs.

Ivan Coburn, Motorist Assistance Prov., 5 yrs. De'andra Warren, Multi-Axle Truck Dr., 5 yrs.

DISTRICT 2

Kirk Howard, Area Hq. Attendant, 10 yrs.

DISTRICT 4

Gary Dewitt, Elec. Pl. & Mech. Repairer, 10 yrs. Esther Hamm, Area Headquarters Att., 10 yrs. Lewis James, Crane Operator - Finish, 20 yrs. Serrita Pense, Maintenance Aide I, 10 yrs.

DISTRICT 5

Sandra Hartsell, Single Axle Truck Driver, 5 yrs.

DISTRICT 6

Richard Hearn, Maintenance Aide II, 15 yrs. Jimmy Nail, Crew Leader, 25 yrs. Jennifer Primm, Rest Area Attendant, 5 yrs.

DISTRICT 7

Gary Clark, Single Axle Truck Driver, 5 yrs. Ricky Cummings, Single Axle Truck Driver, 5 yrs Marilyn Harris, Area Hq. Attendant, 15 yrs. David Steelman, Roller Operator, 15 yrs.

DISTRICT 8

David Bartlett, Sign Crew Supervisor, 30 yrs. Andrew May, Maintenance Aide II, 20 yrs. Berkley Snider, Sign Erector, 5 yrs. Roy Treadwell, Crew Leader, 15 yrs.

DISTRICT 9

Gerald James, Multi-Axle Truck Driver, 10 yrs.

DISTRICT 10

Kyle Beasley, Single Axle Truck Driver, 5 yrs. James Morgan, Maintenance Aide II, 30 yrs.

RETIREMENTS

ARKANSAS HIGHWAY POLICE

Terry Cutchall, Ark Hwy Police Corporal, 31+ yrs.

DISTRICT 7

Jackie Thornton, Area Hq. Attendant, 20+ yrs.

DISTRICT 8

J. Stevenson, Senior Inspector, 26+ yrs.

DISTRICT 9

Rick Widner, Storeroom Supervisor, 29+ yrs.

MAINTENANCE

Gerald Billingsley, Paint Transp. Truck Dr., 6+ yrs.

MEMORIALS

HUMAN RESOURCES

Clarence J. Montgomery, 05/01/07, Retired

MATERIALS

Albert H. Cockrill, 04/26/07, Retired

DISTRICT 4

Olen R. Crawford, 04/27/07, Retired Jimmy R. Davis, 05/06/07, Retired

DISTRICT 5

Lonnie K. Dickey, 05/04/07, Retired

MILITARY DUTY

As of 5/9/07, the AHTD had 13 employees serving active duty in a branch of the United States military. Dates denote the deployment date.

HUMAN RESOURCES

Travis Nelson, Safety Inspection Officer, 5/8/06

MAINTENANCE

Michael Brown, Sr. Traffic Investigator, 6/12/06

PLANNING & RESEARCH

Kimberly Sanders, Transp. Planner, 11/29/06

DISTRICT 1

Ricky L. Benson, Construction Helper II, 7/19/06

DISTRICT 4

Brandon Bowen, Mechanic, 10/12/06 Jeremy Bowles, Construction Helper II, 7/13/06 Nathan Reed, Multi-Axle Truck Driver, 10/3/05

DISTRICT 6

Shirley Hammett, Area Hq. Attendant, 7/20/04

DISTRICT 9

Steven Halsted, Hydr. Excav. Op.-Finish, 7/3/06 Eric Jaeger, Maintenance Aide I, 8/30/06

DISTRICT 10

Kyle Beasley, Single Axle Truck Driver, 7/19/06 Robert Martin, General Laborer, 7/19/06 Dustin Miller, Bridge Repairer I, 7/19/06



the White River near Cotter. The Highway 62 Bridge passing over

Answer to "Where Is This?"