

A new bridge and 4 miles of road alignment will be constructed approximately 1 mile below Hoover Dam to relieve the traffic bottleneck and dangerous conditions caused by traffic being routed across the dam. Three miles of new road will be constructed on the Nevada side of the River, and one mile on the Arizona side. Both segments of road will traverse good to excellent habitat of desert bighorn sheep.

Plans are underway to capture and radiocollar 35 bighorn in and near the project area in Nevada, and to begin a 28-month intensive study of bighorn movements, seasonal habitat use, and a quantitative assessment of habitat parameters. Design and planning for the bridge and road will commence after the movement study; data from the study will be used to insure that the construction does not block movement corridors or damage critical habitat components.

The project will be directed by Charles Douglas, Unit Leader, CPSU/UNLV. Don Ebert (Yosemite) will conduct parts of the study, movement and habitat use, for his masters thesis. The study is funded by the Bureau of Reclamation in cooperation with NPS; the Bureau also is funding a companion study on the Arizona side of the river that is being conducted by AZ Dept. of Game & Fish.