

Northwest Missouri Bridge Reopened, with Restrictions

(KTNC)--A northwest Missouri bridge that was closed last week due to flooding is open again, but with restrictions.

The Missouri Department of Transportation says the bridge on Route A over the Nodaway River, just east of Maitland, was opened Monday with a weight restriction. Inspectors closed the bridge on September 15, due to concerns that recent flooding may have caused excessive scouring of the 51-year-old structure.

Once floodwaters receded, inspectors from the state bridge division were able to assess the bridge structures underwater and the bank at the end of the bridge. The bridge inspection team, along with a MoDOT geologist and local officials determined the bridge could reopen with a 20-ton weight restriction.

MoDOT District Engineer Don Wichern says the restriction allows them to open the bridge to most traffic. Approximately 2,300 vehicles use the bridge daily.

Officials caution that the bridge could close again should waters rise again. Any additional water in the river channel could affect the stability of the slope under the bridge end and compromise the bridge support.

Wichern says drivers should adhere to the weight restriction for their own safety.

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