

BRIDGE DECISION CLOSER

A proposal to modify the 1908 Vancouver railroad bridge is closer to a decision on whether the task would qualify for federal Truman-Hobbs maritime safety dollars. The work would give the bridge a lift span closer to the center of the Columbia River, thus reducing risky maneuvering by towboat skippers trying to use the Interstate 5 bridge's hump area. The biggest beneficiaries would be rush-hour motorists on Interstate 5, but the Coast Guard says land traffic cannot be considered in the decision.

Tugboat route options

- 1 Straight through
- 2 Today via wide span
- 3 If new rail bridge span is installed

Interstate Bridge facts

A: Lift span

Vertical clearance 38 ft. to 174 ft., horizontal 270 ft.

B: Short span

Clearance 38 ft. by 265 ft.

C: Long span

Clearance 46 ft. to 68 ft. by 520 ft.

D-E: Hump spans

Clearance 72 ft. to 75 ft. by 265 ft.

