

The Foresthill Bridge



The Foresthill Bridge
Aka - The Auburn-Foresthill Bridge
Opened 1973

At 730 feet high with an 862- foot span, the Foresthill Bridge was the second highest in the world when it opened in 1973. While it has lost that status, it is still the world's largest cantilever bridge and among the ten highest. The bridge took three years to construct and cost thirteen million dollars. A seismic retrofit in 2011 cost seventy-four million dollars.

Originally built to span a planned reservoir resulting from a proposed dam on the North Fork of the American River. The reservoir was estimated to rise to six hundred feet leaving the bridge just one hundred thirty feet above the water level. The Auburn Dam was never built and likely will never be considered viable as it was found to lie on an earthquake fault line.

The bridge was fabricated by the Kawasaki Heavy Industries Company of Japan and constructed by Willamette Western Contractors.

Highestbridges.com, Wikipedia.com
Photo courtesy of Placer County Museums