

Relive St. Croix River bridge construction (really fast) via time-lapse video

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The new St. Croix River bridge took four years and three months to build, but now you can watch it come together in just 1 minute and 40 seconds.

The [EarthCam](#) webcam provider, hired by the Minnesota Department of Transportation, created a time-lapse video that shows the river bridge rapidly, dramatically emerging from the depths of the river in Oak Park Heights.

The company used two cameras and took a photo every 15 minutes to chronicle the construction, said Kent Barnard, a spokesman for MnDOT. A third camera provided a live-stream of the project “so people could watch it being built in real time,” he said.

“We wanted to document it for history as a record of what we did and what we accomplished,” Barnard said. “This may be one of the last major river crossings that we build in our lifetimes.”

The new bridge opened to traffic Aug. 2.

The project — which cost up to \$646 million — also included building three miles of four-lane highway for Wisconsin 35 and rebuilding about three miles of Minnesota 36 and Minnesota 95.

Foundation work in the river began in April 2013.

The bridge connects Oak Park Heights and St. Joseph, Wis., and replaces the Stillwater Lift Bridge for vehicle traffic.

