

## George County opens new East Wilkerson Ferry Bridge

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George County Supervisor Larry McDonald announced this week the opening of the new East Wilkerson Ferry Bridge in District 3. The bridge is located just off the east bank of the Pascagoula River near the State's River Management Office.

The new 57 foot long concrete span bridge replaces the original wooden decked bridge and was built directly over the existing location. The new three-span bridge is 12 feet longer and three feet higher than the previous bridge.



"The bridge's size will improve roadway safety and access when the Pascagoula River floods or during heavy rains. It will serve the residents in District 3 for years to come," McDonald said.

The completion of the bridge took approximately five weeks. Construction was delayed due to the extreme cold weather conditions. County crews are still in the process of finishing the entrances and exits.

"We still need to smooth out a few rough spots but the bridge is open to traffic," McDonald explained.

The total cost for this improvement project was \$50,000 with half provided by the County and half by the Pat Harrison Waterway District.

"This project is a great example of the County working together with Pat Harrison Waterway Board members to improve safety and drainage in the water shed areas around the Pascagoula River," McDonald said.

The East Wilkerson Ferry Bridge is the second new bridge constructed in the county in the last four months. The new Brushy Creek Bridge was opened in November.