



Coos Bay (McCullough Memorial) Bridge
Structure Number 1823
Oregon Coast Hwy. 9, M.P. 234.03
Coos County, North Bend

Constructed - 1936
Steel Through Truss (Cantilever)
Ownership - State (OTC)

Named (in 1947) in commemoration of its designer, C.B. McCullough, this cantilever truss exhibits an array of architectural and decorative features. In addition to its distinction as one of the most impressive of Oregon's bridges, at 5305 feet, it was the longest structure on Oregon's highway system when constructed. The 1709-foot truss main span is flanked by thirteen open-spandrel, rib-type reinforced concrete deck arches. To ease design conflict between the steel truss and the arch spans, the cantilever was constructed with curved-upper and lower chords. David Plowden's Bridges: The Spans of North America (1974) states, "Few later bridges of its type have been as outstanding." This bridge was the largest of five bridges constructed as part of the Oregon Coastal Bridges Project, WPA-financed during the Great Depression, which replaced ferry service on major Oregon estuaries.