

February 9, 2026

NDOT Bridge Division – Bridge Inspection Program

Bulletin 24.02

Subject: Load Rating Review Request within Inspection Reports

To: Nebraska Public Bridge Owners and Inspectors



Jim Pillen, Governor

Accurate and current load ratings for in-service bridges are necessary to ensure bridges can carry legal loads or are appropriately posted if weight restrictions are required.

NDOT has an automated process to indicate the need for a load rating review of bridges based on inspector reported condition code changes that meet the criteria in Section 5.8 of the BIP manual. NDOT will notify the owner within 10 working days if changes to condition require an updated load rating review.

Should other circumstances, in the judgement of the inspector, warrant an assessment by a load rating engineer, inspectors should follow the steps below.

1. Select the Load Rating Review Recommended box in BrM > Bridges > Inspection > NDOT Condition as shown in the screenshot below.

The screenshot shows the 'NDOT Condition' section of the NDOT Bridge Inspection form. The 'Bridge ID' is 5000 00000 and the 'Inspection' date is 11/04/2025 (6/24/25). The 'Feature Intersected' is 'TEST Bridge'. The 'Facility Carried' is 'TEST Bridge'. The 'mm/dd/yyyy' date field is set to 10/25. The 'Underwater Condition' section includes dropdown menus for 'UW Piling (NE 360)', 'UW Bracing and Connectors (NE 361)', 'UW Columns and Wall (NE 362)', 'UW Footing (NE 363)', and 'UW Debris (NE 365)', all set to 10/25. The 'Assistant Inspector(s)' section includes dropdown menus for 'Assistant Inspector 1 (NE 400A)', 'Assistant Inspector 2 (NE 400B)', 'Assistant Inspector 3 (NE 400C)', and 'Assistant Inspector 4 (NE 400D)'. The 'Load Rating Review Recommended (NE LRRR)' checkbox is selected and highlighted with a red box. The 'Agency Inspection Notes' section contains the text: '11/21/2024 - Bridge is not posted. Delineators are present at all four corners. Minor rail damage throughout. Up to 2 inches of gravel present on the deck. Superstructure steel has moderate surface rust.' The bottom of the form has buttons for 'Save', 'Save & Close', 'Cancel', and 'Delete Bridge Inspection'.

2. Provide a thorough note explaining why the Load Rating review is requested in the BrM > Bridges > Inspection > NDOT Condition > Agency Inspection Notes.

Attachments:

No attachments.

This guidance will also be included within the BrM FAQ section.

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