



May 15, 2024

## NDOT Bridge Division – Bridge Inspection Program

### Bulletin 24.03

**Subject: Inspection Report Note Quality**

**To: Nebraska Public Bridge Owners and Inspectors**

It is required to provide bridge inspection notes which describe and justify any NBI condition rating of 5 or less for bridge deck (Item 58), bridge superstructure (Item 59), bridge substructure (Item 60), or culvert (Item 62). Also provide notes for any bridge elements that have any quantity appraised in Condition State (CS) 3, or 4. Notes should clearly describe the type, size, and location of any defects.

**NBI condition notes** should be provided in BrM > Inspection > Condition > NBI/Elem Condition > Inspection Notes.

Inspection > Condition > NBI/Elem Condition

**Element condition notes** should be provided in BrM > Inspection > Condition > NBI/Elem Condition > Element Conditions in the Notes field of the relevant bridge element. The screenshot below shows the location of the Notes edit field for a reinforced concrete bridge deck element. Similar Notes editing is available for each element.

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**Examples:**

**Concrete deck with 1080 defect:**

Element Conditions										
Hide Elem Inspection Details <span style="float: right;">Arrow Key Grid Navigation Help</span>										
Element: <input type="text" value="Elem # or Elem Desc"/> Struct. Unit.: <input type="text" value="All"/> Env.: <input type="text" value="All"/> <input type="button" value="Clear Filters"/> <input checked="" type="radio"/> Quantity <input type="radio"/> Percent <input type="button" value="Add Element"/>										
Elem.	Str. Unit.	Env.	Element Description	Tot. Qty.	Units	Qty1	Qty2	Qty3	Qty4	
12	1	Ben. (1)	Re Concrete Deck	100	sq.ft	30.000	40	30	0	
1080	1		Delamination/Spall/Patched Area	60	sq.ft	20.000	40	0	0	
Show Condition States Notes: <a href="#">Collapse Notes</a> CS 2 30 sq ft spall at the end of floor, east end, 10 sq ft of spall underside of deck at abut 1 north side										

If an element has multiple Condition State defects, each has a note as to how much is where.

**Strip Seal Example:**

120	1	Ben. (1)	Steel Truss	500	ft	490.000	2	1	7	
300	1	Sev. (4)	Strip Seal Exp Joint	200	ft	150.000	0	15	35	
2310	1		Leakage	35	ft	0.000	0	15	20	
Show Condition States Notes: CS3 water leaking at centerline of Bridge at abut 1 CS4 Strip seal is missing at abut 2 in west bound lane... <a href="#">[edit]</a>										
2320	1		Seal Adhesion	10	ft	0.000	0	0	10	
7000	1		Damage	5	ft	0.000	0	5	0	

Note that there is some CS-3 and CS-4 defects. A separate note for each Condition State is required.

**NBI Inspection Notes Example:**

Inspection Notes
Deck is in poor condition with spalls and delams both on top of the deck and on underside of the deck on all spans Exposed rebar some section loss on the overhang supporting the bridge rail at mid-span of spans 1 on west edge . Bridge rail is in good condition . Joints have failed at abut 1 and is missing at abut 2 . Superstructure is in good condition with just some signs of paint starting to flake at the low chord of the truss . Bearings appear to be working at all locations . Substructure is missing in this example . Streambed is looking stable and no local scour is observed .

Notes are required for any NBI condition rating of 5 or less. The general notes should be detailed as to location and the quantity of the defect.

Example:

- 11/18/2022 Delineators present at North corners only. Deck has minor splitting and moderate wear throughout. Both bridge rails have damage at south end. All steel elements have **heavy rust**. Spans 1 and 5 are in fair condition. Spans 2 and 3 East **exterior stringers lean out at top**. Abutment backwall and pile lean **North at top by 2 to 3 feet**, backwall planks are settling with small gaps developing. Abutment 1, Pile 1 has 10% section loss. Bent 2 is comprised of damaged original pile with new pile and corbels to support the cap. Bent 3, Pile 1 has flange damage, waler weld is cracked on North side. Bent 3, South waler is distorted between Piles 3-4. Abutment 2 is buried.

Above is an example of an inspection note that is lacking some detail.

1. The note calls out "heavy rust". The bridge had surface rust. If there is "heavy rust", there should a call out as to the remaining section.
2. "exterior stringers lean out at top". There should a dimension or sketch detailing the amount of rotation from vertical. (There were no photos either showing defect)
3. "Abutment 1 piling lean North at top by 2 to 3 feet". There should be a measurement of how much this pile is out of plumb. The next time it is inspected, the inspector can see if the pile is leaning more or is stable.

Keep complete notes. Use photos and sketches to back up or supplement your notes.

**Attachments:** None

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