NEBRASKA

Good Life. Great Journey.

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Jim Pillen, Governor

**August 12, 2026**

# Bulletin 26.09

**SUBJECT** **Defining the Inspection Plan and Equipment Use in BrM 7**

## Introduction

For complex inspections, reporting access and inspection equipment (B.IE.12) is required by the SNBI. This Bulletin provides guidance for when this reporting is required and how the reporting is accomplished in the BrM inspection reporting platform.

## Documentation Requirements

It is not necessary to document equipment that is used as part of ordinary procedures on commonplace bridge components that do not require advanced evaluation or access equipment. Documenting the inspection plan is optional for commonplace routine inspections.

Document any unique methods or complex access equipment that is needed to complete an inspection as part of the inspection procedures. Examples of situations that require documentation of equipment and procedures include, but are not limited to, the following.

- NSTM bridge components
- pin and hangers
- High bridge locations that cannot be reached by a standard ladder
- Bridges with low condition components that may require testing with non-destructive evaluation methods
- bridges with components that require mechanical cleaning to observe surfaces
- situations with unusual displacement that may require precision measurements or survey equipment
- Underwater inspection equipment

Vicki Kramer, Director
Department of Transportation
MAILING ADDRESS
PO Box 94759
Lincoln, NE 68509-4759
PHYSICAL ADDRESS
1500 Nebraska Parkway
Lincoln, NE 68502
PHONE 402-471-4567
EMAIL NDOT.ContactUs@nebraska.gov
dot.nebraska.gov

## Implementation

Special equipment and methods that are required for a bridge inspection are recorded in the inspection record when inspections are entered in BrM.

When creating a new inspection, upon save, BrM will open up the Inspection Plan page (Bridges ❱ Inspection ❱ Inspection Plan), shown below.

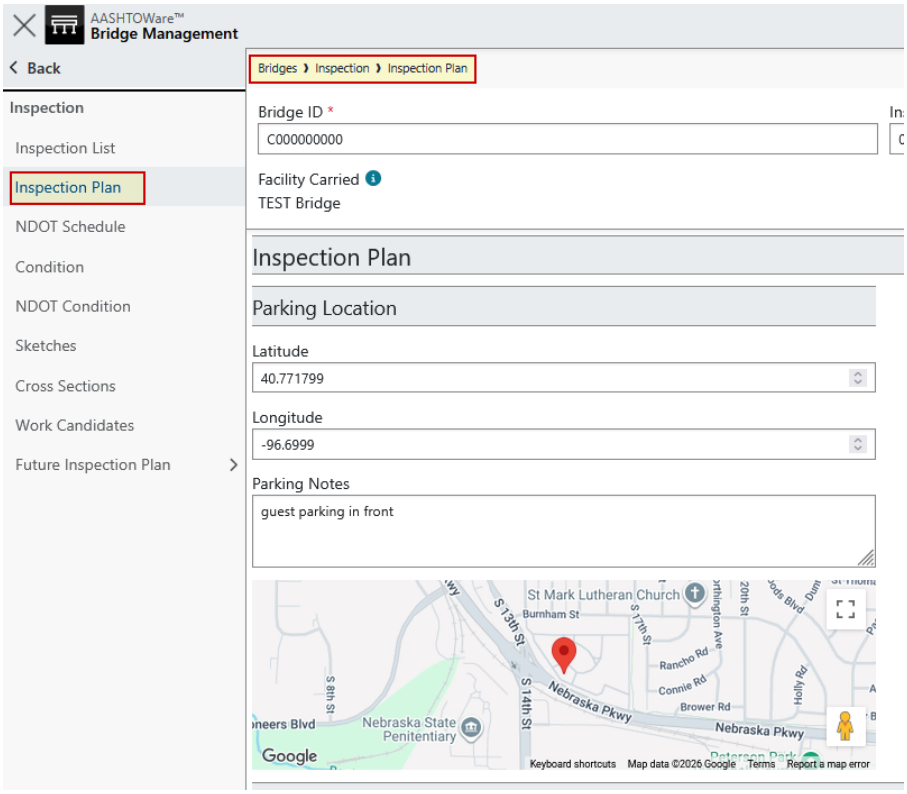


*Figure 1 Inspection Plan page*

**The top portion of the page is the bridge parking location**. If there is a preferable place to park, document it here using the Latitude and Longitude fields, and/or the Parking Notes field.

**The middle portion of the page contains defined Inspection Procedures**, which can be established on a per bridge basis in the Future Inspection Plan – Procedures page (Bridges ❱ Inspection ❱ Future Inspection Plan ❱ Procedures). If Procedures have been defined for this bridge, they will show up above the Procedure Notes field and must be checked to indicate they were performed, and any additional nodes shall be added. If Procedures have not been defined, the inspector shall indicate all procedures in the Procedure Notes Field. Figures 2 and 3 below show bridges with and without established inspection procedures.

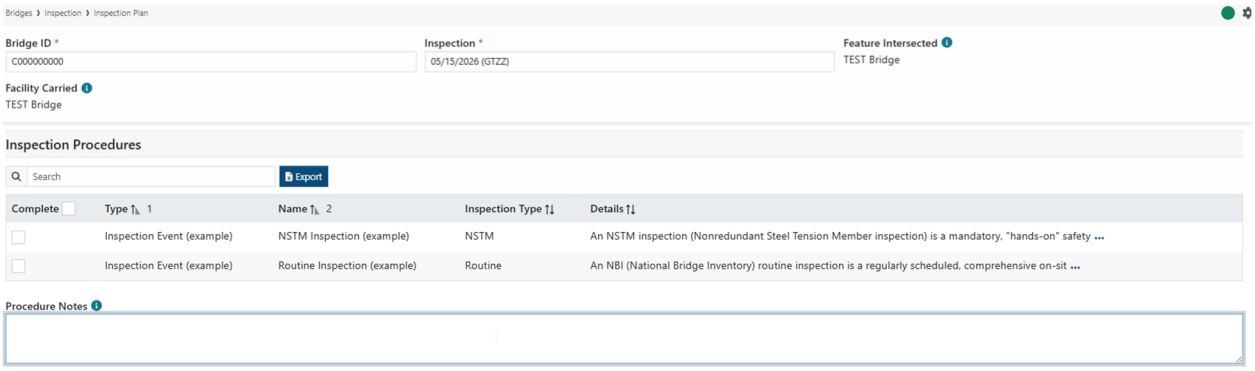


*Figure 2 Inspection Procedures - Defined*

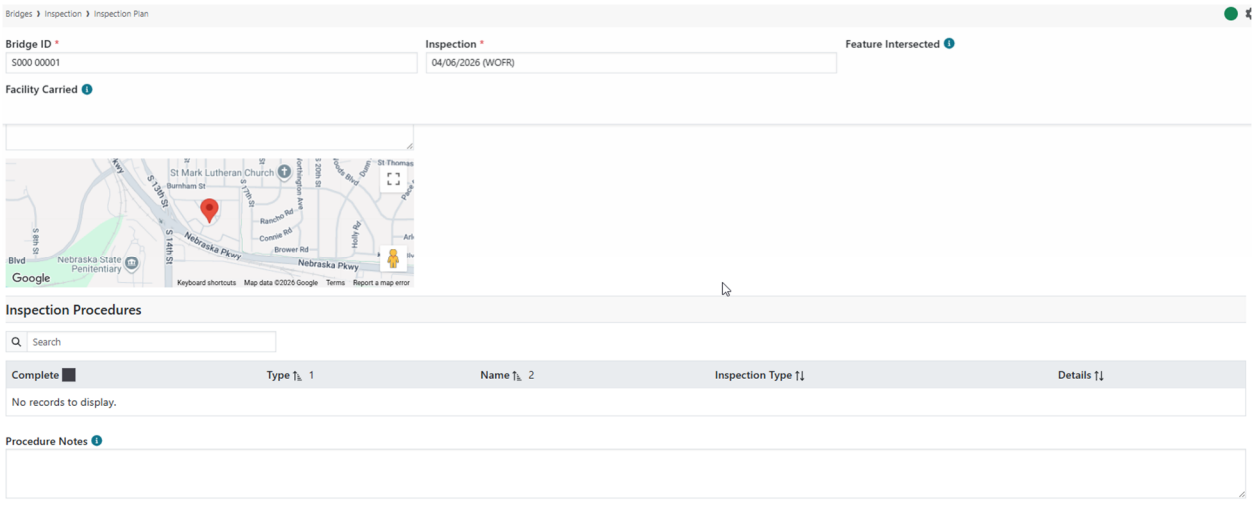


*Figure 3 Inspection Procedures - Undefined*

**The bottom portion of the page contains an area to input access and inspection equipment** as well as any accompanying notes. See Figure 4, on the next page, for an example of a situation where a ladder and waders were required to access the floor beams over the water.

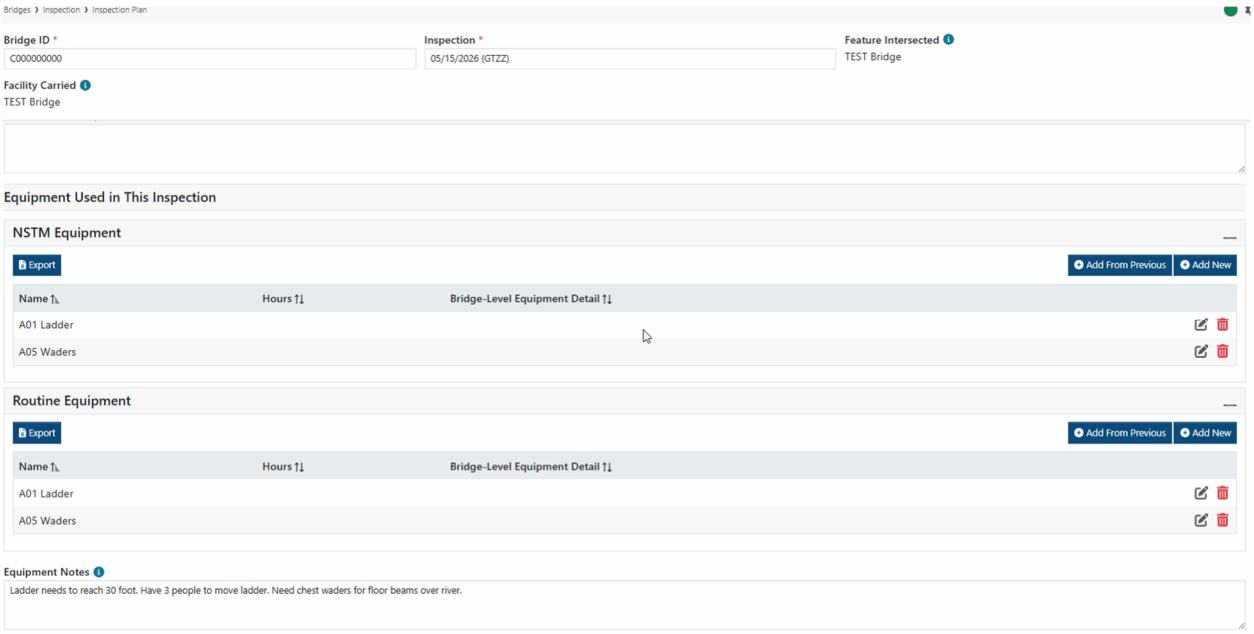


*Figure 4 Inspection Equipment*

Recurring equipment per inspection type at each bridge can be established in the Future Inspection Plan – Equipment page (Bridges ❱ Inspection ❱ Future Inspection Plan ❱ Equipment).

**Defining these at the bridge will pre-populate the respective sections on the Inspection Plan page in the future when creating a new inspection**. Note this is an optional process, as Procedures and Equipment can be defined independently on the Inspection Plan page for each inspection, but this may assist with future inspection planning and input.

To define recurring Procedures for each bridge, navigate to Bridges ❱ Inspection ❱ Future Inspection Plan ❱ Procedures. Click Add New to Create Procedure and fill out the form per each Inspection Type. See Figure 5 for an example of establishing an NSTM Procedure. NDOT has created a Procedure Template for each inspection type that pre-populates procedure Details. For any bridge requiring additional details, check the Customize Details box and make additions, as necessary.

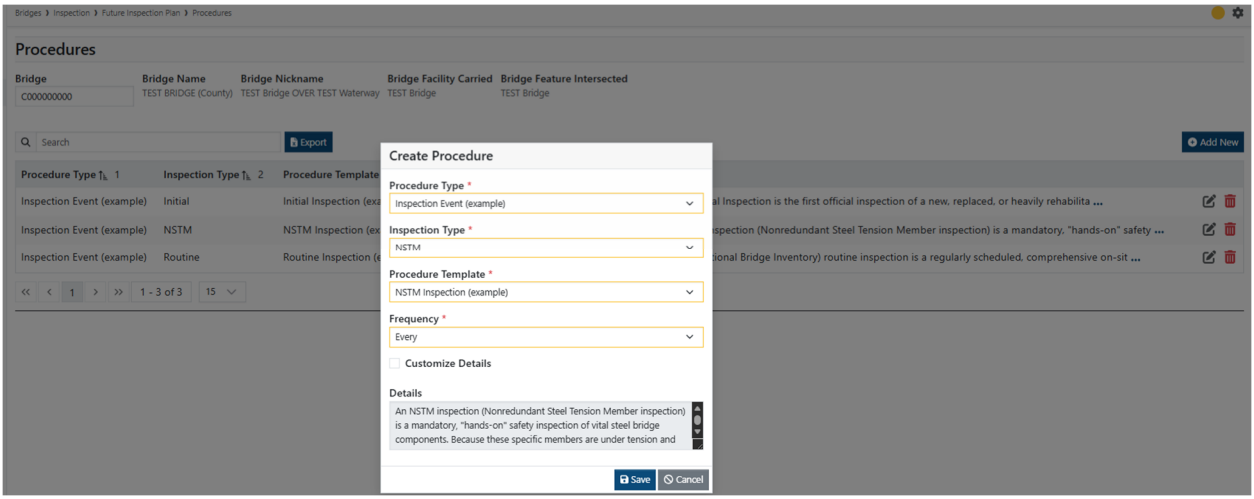


*Figure 5 Establishing Future Inspection Procedures*

Similarly, to define recurring equipment used for each inspection type at the bridge, navigate to Bridges ❱ Inspection ❱ Future Inspection Plan ❱ Equipment. Click Add New to Create Equipment, fill out the Details section with relevant information, and select the Inspection Types for each equipment type. See Figure 6 for an example on establishing future Inspection Equipment.

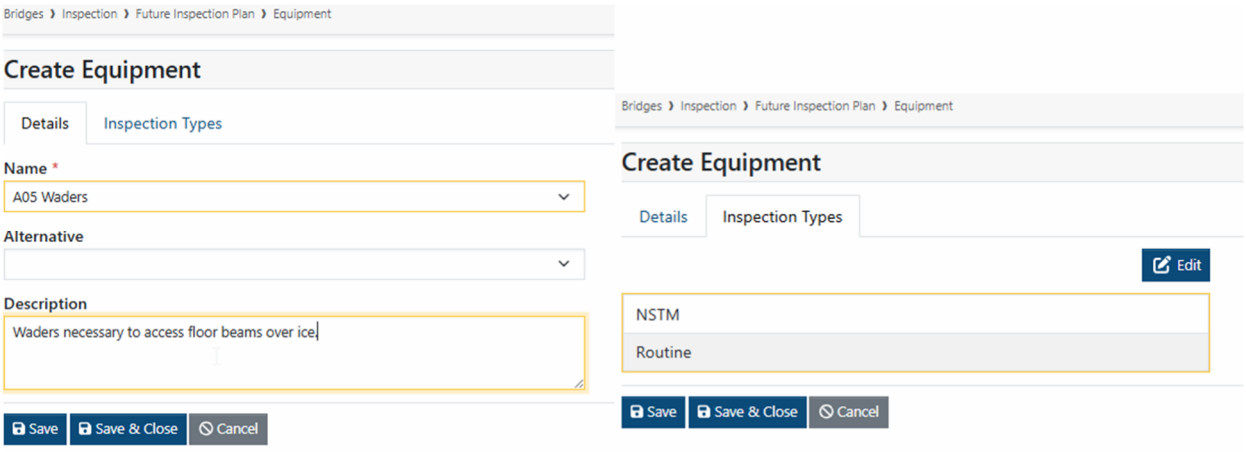


*Figure 6 Establishing Future Inspection Equipment*

**Contact Information:**

Wayne Patras
wayne.patras@nebraska.gov
402-479-4360

Nhung Hoang
nhung.hoang@nebraska.gov
402-479-4705

Wayne Patras, PE
*NDOT NBIS Program Manager*

Attachments: None
Cc: FHWA, David Mraz, *Nebraska Division Bridge Engineer*