



Good Life. Great Journey.

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

August 12, 2026

Bulletin 26.09



Jim Pillen, Governor

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.

The screenshot shows the AASHTOWare Bridge Management interface. On the left is a sidebar menu with options: Inspection, Inspection List, Inspection Plan (highlighted with a red box), NDOT Schedule, Condition, NDOT Condition, Sketches, Cross Sections, Work Candidates, and Future Inspection Plan. The main content area has a breadcrumb trail at the top: Bridges » Inspection » Inspection Plan (the last two items are highlighted with a red box). Below the breadcrumb, there are input fields for 'Bridge ID *' (containing 'C000000000') and 'Facility Carried' (containing 'TEST Bridge'). A section titled 'Inspection Plan' contains a 'Parking Location' field, 'Latitude' (40.771799), 'Longitude' (-96.6999), and 'Parking Notes' (containing 'guest parking in front'). At the bottom is a Google Map showing the location with a red pin near Nebraska Pkwy and Nebraska State Penitentiary.

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.

Bridges > Inspection > Inspection Plan

Bridge ID *
C00000000

Inspection *
05/15/2026 (GTZZ)

Feature Intersected
TEST Bridge

Facility Carried
TEST Bridge

Inspection Procedures

Q Search [Export](#)

Complete	Type 1	Name 2	Inspection Type 1	Details 1
☐	Inspection Event (example)	NSTM Inspection (example)	NSTM	An NSTM inspection (Nonredundant Steel Tension Member inspection) is a mandatory, "hands-on" safety ...
☐	Inspection Event (example)	Routine Inspection (example)	Routine	An NBI (National Bridge Inventory) routine inspection is a regularly scheduled, comprehensive on-sit ...

Procedure Notes

Figure 2 Inspection Procedures - Defined

Bridges > Inspection > Inspection Plan

Bridge ID *
S000 00001

Inspection *
04/06/2026 (WOFR)

Feature Intersected

Facility Carried



Inspection Procedures

Q Search

Complete	Type 1	Name 2	Inspection Type 1	Details 1
No records to display.				

Procedure Notes

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.

Bridges > Inspection > Inspection Plan

Bridge ID *
C000000000

Inspection *
05/15/2026 (GTZZ)

Feature Intersected
TEST Bridge

Facility Carried
TEST Bridge

Equipment Used in This Inspection

NSTM Equipment

Export Add From Previous Add New

Name ↴	Hours ↴	Bridge-Level Equipment Detail ↴	
A01 Ladder			✎ ✖
A05 Waders			✎ ✖

Routine Equipment

Export Add From Previous Add New

Name ↴	Hours ↴	Bridge-Level Equipment Detail ↴	
A01 Ladder			✎ ✖
A05 Waders			✎ ✖

Equipment Notes

Ladder needs to reach 30 foot. Have 3 people to move ladder. Need chest waders for floor beams over river.

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.

The screenshot shows the 'Procedures' form with a 'Create Procedure' modal open. The modal contains the following fields and options:

- Procedure Type ***: Inspection Event (example)
- Inspection Type ***: NSTM
- Procedure Template ***: NSTM Inspection (example)
- Frequency ***: Every
- ☐ Customize Details
- Details**: An NSTM inspection (Nonredundant Steel Tension Member inspection) is a mandatory, "hands-on" safety inspection of vital steel bridge components. Because these specific members are under tension and

Buttons at the bottom of the modal are 'Save' and 'Cancel'.

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.

The figure consists of two screenshots of the 'Create Equipment' form.

Left Screenshot (Details Tab):

- Name ***: A05 Waders
- Alternative**: (Empty)
- Description**: Waders necessary to access floor beams over ice
- Buttons: Save, Save & Close, Cancel

Right Screenshot (Inspection Types Tab):

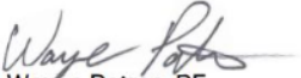
- Inspection Types**: NSTM, Routine
- Buttons: Edit, Save, Save & Close, Cancel

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*