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February 11, 2022 File: 1135510101

Attention: Mr. Hayat Niazi, M.Eng., P.Eng., PMP
Project Manager, Structure Section-Bridges
Transportation Division-Infrastructure
Government of Northwest Territories
5015 49 Street, NGB-2
Yellowknife NT, X1A 2L9

Dear Mr. Hayat,

Reference: 2021 Frank Channel Bridge Inspection Report

## INTRODUCTION

The Construction of Frank Channel Bridge is located at km243.8 on Highway 3. The bridge was completed in 1960.



Figure 1 Frank Channel Bridge Location From Google Map

The bridge structure has two simply supported 260 ft (79.2 m) through truss spans and two simply supported 66 ft (20.2 m) steel girder spans. Each truss has ten bays. The flooring system consist of 8-inch-thick concrete slab supported by four equally spaced steel stringers placed in longitudinal direction and resting on steel floor beams. There are 11 transverse steel floor beams and forty (40) stringers in each truss span. Each end of the floor beams is connected with vertical and diagonal members of the truss and the bottom chords by rivets and bolts with gusset plates.



Each girder span consists of four longitudinal steel girders supporting the deck. It presently has an 8-inchthick concrete deck with a clear roadway of 7.32 m width for two traffic lanes and provide a 5.8 m vertical clearance.

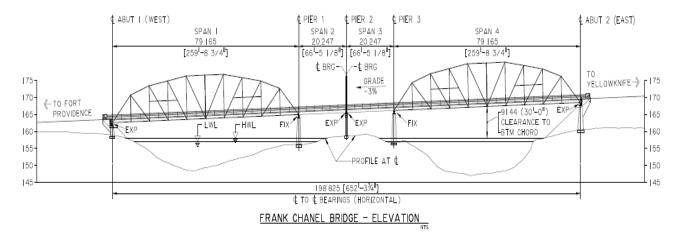


Figure 2 Elevation view of Existing Bridge

The bridge configuration is straight and unskewed. The bridge has two concrete abutments and three piers supported on concrete spread footing dowelled to bedrock. Abutments and piers are supported on spread foundation over the bedrock.

All the existing expansion joints at both abutments and pier 2 are finger plate joints. Fixed joints at pier 1 and 3 are compressed sealed joints. At both abutments, the through truss span is free for expansion through rocker bearings and fixed in the longitudinal direction for translation at pier locations. The steel girder spans are fixed for translation at one end (pier 1 and 3) and free for expansion at pier 2.



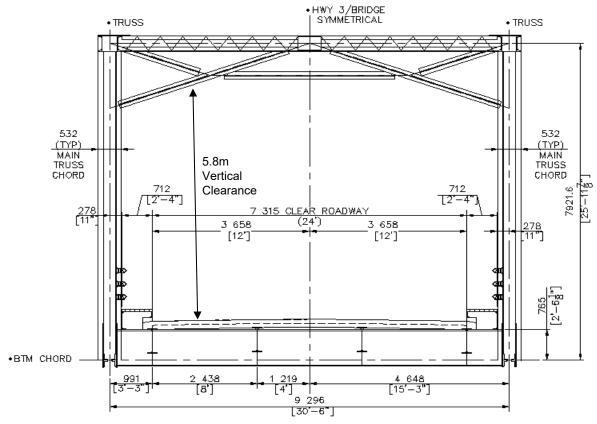


Figure 3 Truss Span (Span 1 and Span 4) Section

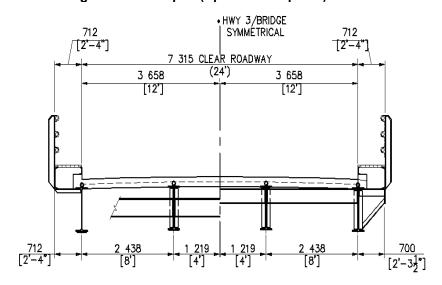


Figure 4 Girder Span (Span 2 and Span 3) Section



On July 24, 2021, six bridge inspectors from Stantec Consulting Ltd provided the visual inspection on the bridge by rope access.

Tlicho Investment Corporation & Group of Companies provided the traffic Control during the inspection. A safety boat was in place for emergency rescue if required. The bridge deck and bottom chords were cleaned by Tlicho prior to the inspection.

The inspection data and findings are input into the GNWT's Bridge Management System (BMS) Software, developed by Stantec Consulting Ltd.

## **BRIDGE INSPECTION FINDINGS**

Following observations were oberved during inspection. The photos can be found in the Appendix A. The details and recommendations can be found in BMS report included in Appendix C.

## **Approaches**

- Embankments are in stable condition
- Medium wheel truck rutting, edge crack, light flushing and ravelling throughout the wearing surface as well as light settlement at bridge ends.
- Approach guardrail and end treatment are in good condition.
- There is no connection between the approach rails and concrete parapet at all four corners.

#### **Abutment**

- Light scaling throughout abutment walls and ballast walls.
- Medium to wide vertical cracks and small spall area on the wingwalls and concrete parapets.
- Approx. 100mm headslope settlement observed on Abutment 1 visible at Abutment 1,
- Narrow to Medium crack with efflorescence at the underside of roof slab on Abutment 2.

#### Truss

The labels of the main truss members are marked in Figure 5.

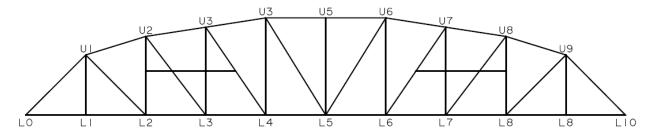


Figure 5 Main Truss Member Labels (looking from South)

- Bottom Chord: Light surface corrosion through with paint peeling at most locations. No noticeable section loss (>5%) was noticed.
- Truss Top chord: Top Chord are general in excellent condition. The splash zone at end are rusted with coating peeled or failed. No section loss was reported.

- An impact damage was noted at U1 portal frame in Span 1 at west. This, however, would not affect the axial resistance of top chord.
- Truss verticals/Diagonals: Good to excellent condition up to mid height, coating in good condition up to mid height. Light surface corrosion with painting peel is observed in the lower half portion. No section loss or light section loss (<2%) was observed.
- Floor Beams: Light to medium corrosion was observed on one face of few floor beams on bottom of
  web directly above the bottom flange. About 2 to 4 mm section loss is reported. This is typically
  throughout for all the end floor beams and some intermediate floor beans (Span 1-L7, L9, Span 2
  L7, L9). Since no section loss is reported in top and bottom flanges, the flexural resistance of the
  beam would not be affected.
- Stringers: light to medium rusting with negligible section loss and flakiness.
- Bridge Rail: Light corrosion with minor section loss. Coating condition is poor with more than 50% of area are peeled and has Category 4 rating on rust. The post 4 at downstream (south side) Span 4 is slightly rotated toward west.

# Girder Span

- Girders in girder spans: Light corrosion on the exterior girder and end sections, flakiness. No noticeable section loss has been observed.
- Interior girders are in good condition.

#### Paint

 The coating has failed in the splash zone, along bottom chord, floor beam, stringers and connections and gutter area as well as deck joints. Pack rust between plates is noticed.

## Deck

- The deck was patched in 2017. Light to median scale up to 20mm deep throughout the deck.
- From the chain drag inspection, the delamination area estimated at approximately 80m².
- Several potholes are noticed.
- The exterior of the deck below the curb are severe spalled with rebar exposed at numeral locations.

## Bearings

- Rock bearings of the trusses are in general good condition are functional as intend. Light corrosion with nor section loss.
- Some anchor bolts of bearings (Span 2, G1, G3 and G4) supporting steel girders at Pier 2 are sheared off. The bronze plate bearings were jammed and not function as intended
- Small concrete spalls around bearing seats observed.

## **Deck Joints**

 Light wear and abrasion on the steel armoring devices, the gap of the finger joints was measured and are within the movement range

Grave fell through the open finger joints accumulated in the drain trough

## Pier

- Overall piers are in good condition.
- Patching, spalling, staining, efflorescence, wet surface and vertical cracks observed at Pier 1. A minor spall was noticed on the cap, area 300mm x 500mm.
- Spalling, staining, wet surface and vertical crack noticed at Pier 3.
- Gravel accumulated on top of the pier caps.

## Steel Sidewalk and grating

 light to medium corrosion with minor section loss less than 5% is observed along the steel grating sidewalk and.

## **RECOMMENDATION**

The rehabilitation of the Franck Channel Bridge was planned in 2016 including deck rehab, repainting, bearings repair and strengthening of some elements. However, it was decided a new bridge will be constructed at the north side of the existing bridge to eliminate the clearance limits as per required by the industries and local community. The new bridge will be constructed with 5 years and the existing bridge will remain in use during construction and will be demolished after new bridge is in place.

Based on the inspection findings and 2021 load rating results, the bridge has compacity for the legal loads of CS1, CS2and CS3. The load rating reports were provided separately and are included in appendix B

No immediately major repairs are recommended for the bridge. The potholes on the deck should be repaired. The bearings on the Pier 2 should be monitored due to the sheared off anchor bolts.

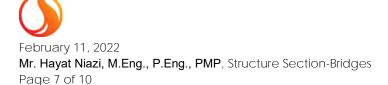
If the Department decide to not construct the new bridge in 5 years, the following rehabilitation options are recommended:

- Routing inspection for the bridge
- Whole deck area partial depth rehabilitation
- Repainting splash zone of the truss elements, girders, steel sidewalk grating and bridge rail.
- Replace the bearings on Pier 2
- Concrete repairs on the abutment and piers as well as the concrete parapets

If you have any questions regarding the report, please contact me directly.

Regards,

STANTEC CONSULTING LTD.





Ren Cheng, M. Eng., P. Eng.

Senior Bridge Engineer Phone: (780) 782-7378 ren.cheng@stantec.com

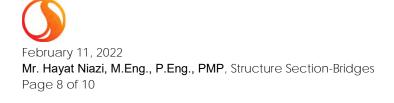
## Appendices:

A. Inspection Photos

B. 2021 load Rating Report

C. OSIM Report

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# Appendix A INSPECTION PHOTOS



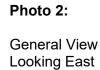
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Photo 1-Elevation View Looking North







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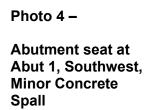
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Photo 3 –

Abutment Wall at Abut1, Headslope Settled







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Photo 5 -

Bearing Seat at Abutment 2, Northwest, Gully at the Headslope







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Photo 7 -

Gravel Collected in the Drain Trough at Abutment 1,







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Photo 9 -

Concrete Parapet and Curb at Abut 1, Wide Cracks and Minor Spall noticed



Concrete Parapet and Wingwall at Abut 1, North, Severe Scaling and Minor Spall





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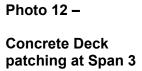
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Photo 11 –

General View of the Span 1







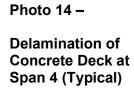
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Photo 13 – Concrete Spall, severe scaling and delamination near Pier 3







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Photo 15 –

Delamination of Concrete Deck at Span 4 (Typical)







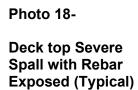
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Photo 17-Wide Crack and Concrete Spall at Span 1







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Photo 19 -

Deck Soffit- Exterior, Severe Spall with Rebar Exposed (Typical)







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Photo 021 –

Deck Soffit at Span 1 (typical)







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Photo 023 –

Deck Soffit Full Depth
Patching at Span 2







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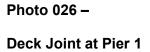
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Photo 025 –

Deck Joint at Abut ment1







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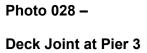
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Photo 027 –

Deck Joint at Pier 2







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Photo 029 -

Deck Joint at Abutment 2

# Photo 030 -

Steel Grating/Curb at Span 1, light Corrosion, Rusting with Coating Failed





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Photo 031 -

Steel Grating/Curb and Handrails at Span 1, light Corrosion, Rusting with Coating Failed

# Photo 032 -

Handrail Post at Span 4, 4th form Abutment 1 at Southside (DS), Slightly Rotated to the West.

Light Corrosion with Paint Peeled





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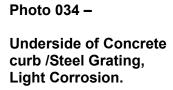
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Photo 033 -

Handrails at Span 2, Typical paint peeled, Light Corrosion with No Section Loss







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Photo 035 -

Floor Beam at Span1, L1, Typical, Light to Medium Corrosion on the Web at End with Section Loss 0-5%

# Photo 036 -

Intermediate Floor Beam, Typical, Light Corrosion on the Web at End with Section Loss 0-5%





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Photo 037 – Intermediate Floor Beam at Span 4, 9<sup>th</sup> bay, 4mm Section Loss on the web Near Bottom Flange

# Photo 038 -

Floor Beam at Span4, L10, Pack Rusting Along Bottom of Web, Just Above Bottom Flange with 2 mm Section Loss.





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Photo 039 -

Underside of Span1, Stringers and lateral Bracings, Typical







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# Photo 041 -

Underside of Span 1, Looking Abutment 1, Stringers and lateral Bracings, Typical Light Corrosion at the Bottom Flange of the Floor Beams and Exterior Stringers.

# Photo 042 -

Underside of Span 4, Looking Abutment 2, Stringers and Lateral Bracings, Typical Light Corrosion at the Bottom Flange of the Floor Beams and Exterior Stringers.





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Photo 043 – Underside of Span 2, Looking Pier 1, Girders, Typical Light Corrosion at the Bottom Flange of the Exterior Girders.

# Photo 044 -

Connection of Floor Beam, Lateral Bracing and Bottom, Light Corrosion with Minor Section Loss





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Photo 045 –
Pier 1 Looking East,
In Fair Condition







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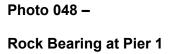
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Photo 047 –

Bearing at Pier 1,
Light Corrosion







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Photo 049 – Gravel on the Pier Cap, Pier 1







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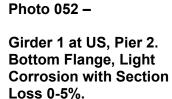
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Photo 051 -

Anchor Bolt Bent on the Span 2 of Girder 3, US, Pier 2







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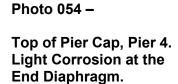
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Photo 053 -

Girder 4 at DS, Pier 2, Web, Light Corrosion with Section Loss 0-5%.







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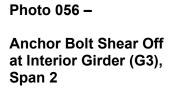
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Photo 055 –

Anchor Bolt Shear Off at Exterior Girder(G4), Span 2







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Photo 057 –
Pier 3 Looking West,
In General Fair
Condition

Photo 058 –
Pier Cap, Pier 3





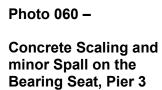
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Photo 059– Rock Bearing at Pier 3, Light Corrosion







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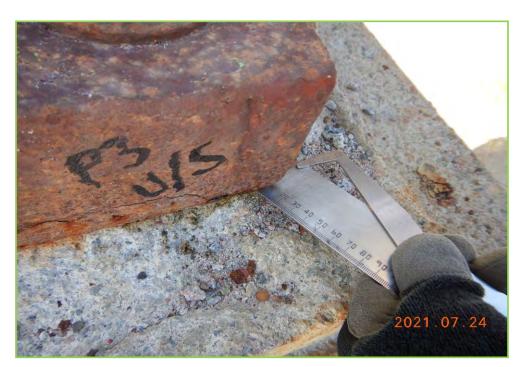


Photo 061 –

Concrete/Grout spall at Bearing Seat, Pier 3, US

### Photo 062 -

Span2, West Exterior Girder Support on Floor Beam L10 of Span1, Light Corrosion, Minor Section Loss, 200x200mm, 2 mm





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Photo 063 -

Typical Exterior Girder at Span 2, Light Corrosion with Minor Section Loss



Floor Beam L1 of Span 4 at Pier 3, Pack Rusting, Light Corrosion with Minor Section Loss





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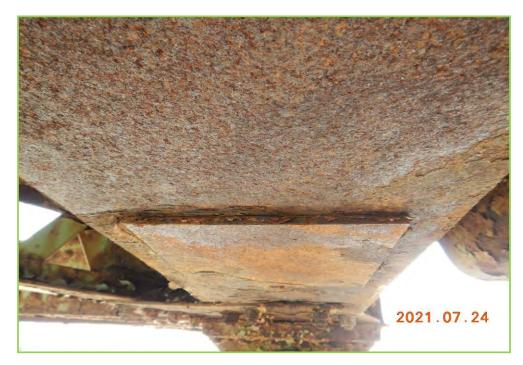
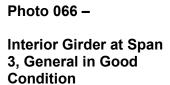


Photo 065 -

Girder End of Exterior Girder at Span 3, Light Corrosion with Minor Section Loss







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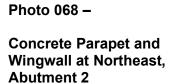
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Photo 067 -

Exterior Girder (G4) at Span 3, US, Light Corrosion with Minor Section Loss







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Photo 069 -

Riprap Slope Protection at Abutment 2







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Photo 063 -

Typical Exterior Girder at Span 2, Light Corrosion with Minor Section Loss



Floor Beam L1 of Span 4 at Pier 3, Pack Rusting, Light Corrosion with Minor Section Loss





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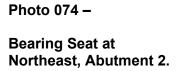
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Photo 073 –

Bearing Seat at
Southeast, Abutment







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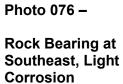
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Photo 075 -

Rock Bearing at Southeast, Light Corrosion







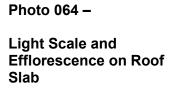
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Photo 077 – Roof Slab at Abutment 2







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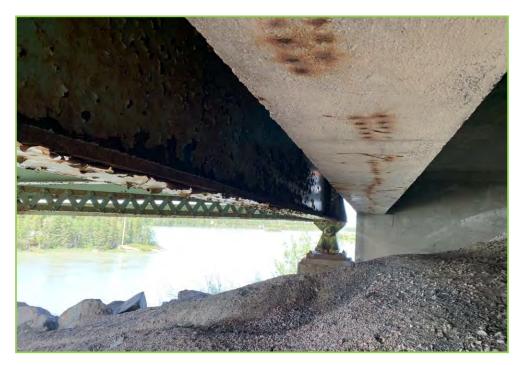


Photo 079 -

Bottom of Ballast Wall at Abutment 2, Staining due to Rebar Corrosion with not Enough Cover

# Photo 080 – Guardrail at Abutment 1, Northwest, No Connection to Concrete

**Barrier** 





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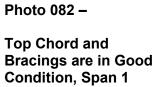
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Photo 081 -

Turndown End Treatment at Southwest, Typical in Good Condition







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Photo 083 -

Span 1, Truss Element, Light Corrosion at the Connection of Sway Bracings



Span 1 Portal, Minor Deformed on the Bracing Due to High Load Damage





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Photo 085 -

Top Chord and Bracings are in Good Condition, Span 4



Connection of the top Chord and Vertical/Diagonal, Typical Good Condition, Span 4





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Photo 087 –

Top Chord, Span 4,

Excellent Condition







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Photo 089 –

Upstream Looking North, Safety Boat







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Photo 091 -

Bottom Chord at Span 4, DS. Light Corrosion with Minor Section Loss



Bottom Chord at Span 1, DS. Light Corrosion with Minor Section Loss





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Photo 093 -

Rope Inspection of the Truss Element



Truss Connections at Span 4, Typical Light Corrosion with Minor Section Loss





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Photo 095 -

Vertical at Span 4, Typical Light Corrosion and Minor Section Loss at Splash Zone

### Photo 096 -

Truss Connections at Pier 1, Span 1, Light Corrosion with Minor Section Loss





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Photo 097 -

Vertical at Span 1, Looking inside. Typical Light Corrosion and Minor Section Loss at Splash Zone



Truss Connections at Span 1, Light Corrosion with Minor Section Loss





Reference: 2021 Frank Channel Bridge Inspection Report

### Appendix B LOAD RATING REPORTS



Reference: 2021 Frank Channel Bridge Inspection Report

## Appendix C 2021 OSIM INSPECTION REPORT