

Load Rating Bridges with No As-Built Plans or Non-Engineered Bridges

NM13STR-01

Budget: \$225,000 **Duration:** 18 months

Project Summary

Approximately 300 bridges in the state bridge inventory do not have as-built plans or are considered non-engineered. These bridges are difficult to load test by traditional means. This research will determine if an on-site load test combined with field measurements is a feasible method to determine an accurate bridge load rating. By testing the procedure on a variety of bridge types, researchers will develop a field-tested, written procedure.

Bridge load rating is the process of determining the safe load capacity of a bridge. A load rating is expressed as a maximum truck weight that can safely cross a bridge. Load ratings are used by the NMDOT to manage the State's significant bridge investment. This ensures a safe and efficient infrastructure that maximizes public safety and the efficient movement of goods and services within the state.

FHWA is requiring that every bridge in the State's bridge inventory have an engineered bridge load rating by March 2016. NMDOT's bridge inventory consists of all publicly owned bridges in New Mexico, including bridges owned by the State, the counties, and the cities.



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To Be Determined

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