



Illinois Department of Transportation

2300 South Dirksen Parkway / Springfield, Illinois / 62764

May 1, 2002

Bridge Inspection Report Forms

COUNTY ENGINEERS/SUPERINTENDENT OF HIGHWAYS
MUNICIPAL ENGINEERS
CONSULTING ENGINEERS

#02-06

The purpose of this letter is to provide copies of the latest Bridge Inspection Report Forms ([BBS-BIR-1](#) and [BBS-BIR-2](#)) to those who use the forms. These forms have been approved for use by the Department and are to be used to document all bridge inspections. Note that if an old BM-BIR form is currently being used and still has room for future inspections, that form may continue to be used until there is no more room to document inspections.

As a reminder, the use of these forms is mandatory according to the National Bridge Inspection Standards in documenting all bridge inspections. However, you may use either the BBS-BIR-1 or BBS-BIR-2 for these inspections. The BBS-BIR-1 is for "MI" or multiple inspections, and is similar to the BM-BIR form that has previously been in use. This form can be used to document up to five inspection cycles, and also allows for the more detailed "element level" inspections. The BBS-BIR-2 is for "SI" or a single inspection. Therefore, a new BBS-BIR-2 form would be required for each inspection.

Please be aware that the Inspection/Appraisal Report forms (R-104 or RIS-104) are not federally approved or required inspection forms. While they may be kept in your bridge files, they may not serve as the official inspection forms for the bridge. These forms are specifically designed for transmitting certain inspection items and ratings to the district in order to code that information into the Illinois Structure Information System. Please use the BBS-BIR-1 or BBS-BIR-2 as your official inspection form.

The forms provided in Appendix II of the SIP Manual for Underwater Inspection, BM-BIR-UW-1, and Fracture Critical Inspection, BM-BIR-FC-1, have not been revised except that the form designations have been changed to BBS-BIR-UW-1 and BBS-BIR-FC-1, respectively.

It is the intention of this office to make all inspection forms available on the IDOT website in the near future. Questions may be directed to your district office or to Tim Armbrrecht of the Local Bridge Unit, telephone 217/785-8748.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Ralph E. Anderson".

Ralph E. Anderson
Engineer of Bridges and Structures

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cc- Illinois Department of Natural Resources
FHWA, Illinois Division/Attn: Dan Brydl