



WSDOT

Scour Workshop

Module 9

Pier Scour

June 1st, 2023

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Principal River Engineer Natural Waters, LLC



Current Duties

- Owner of Natural Waters, LLC
- WSDOT HQ staff augmentation team assisting State Hydraulics Engineer



Background and Experience

- Previous WSDOT State Hydraulic Engineer
- Private sector hydraulics and river engineering consultant
- Research River Engineer



Education

- B.S. Civil Engineering (Washington State University)
- M.S. River Engineering (University of Iowa – Iowa Institute of Hydraulic Research)



Personal Interests

- Spending time with family
- Rivers
- Dirt biking, Fishing, Camping, and Coaching/Watching Sports

Pier Scour Overview

- Pier scour processes and alignment of appropriate analysis
- Factors that influence pier scour
- Importance of surface and subsurface material data
- Bridge hydraulics and pier design
- Pier Scour calculations and evaluation



Image Source: Casey Kramer

Pier Scour Processes

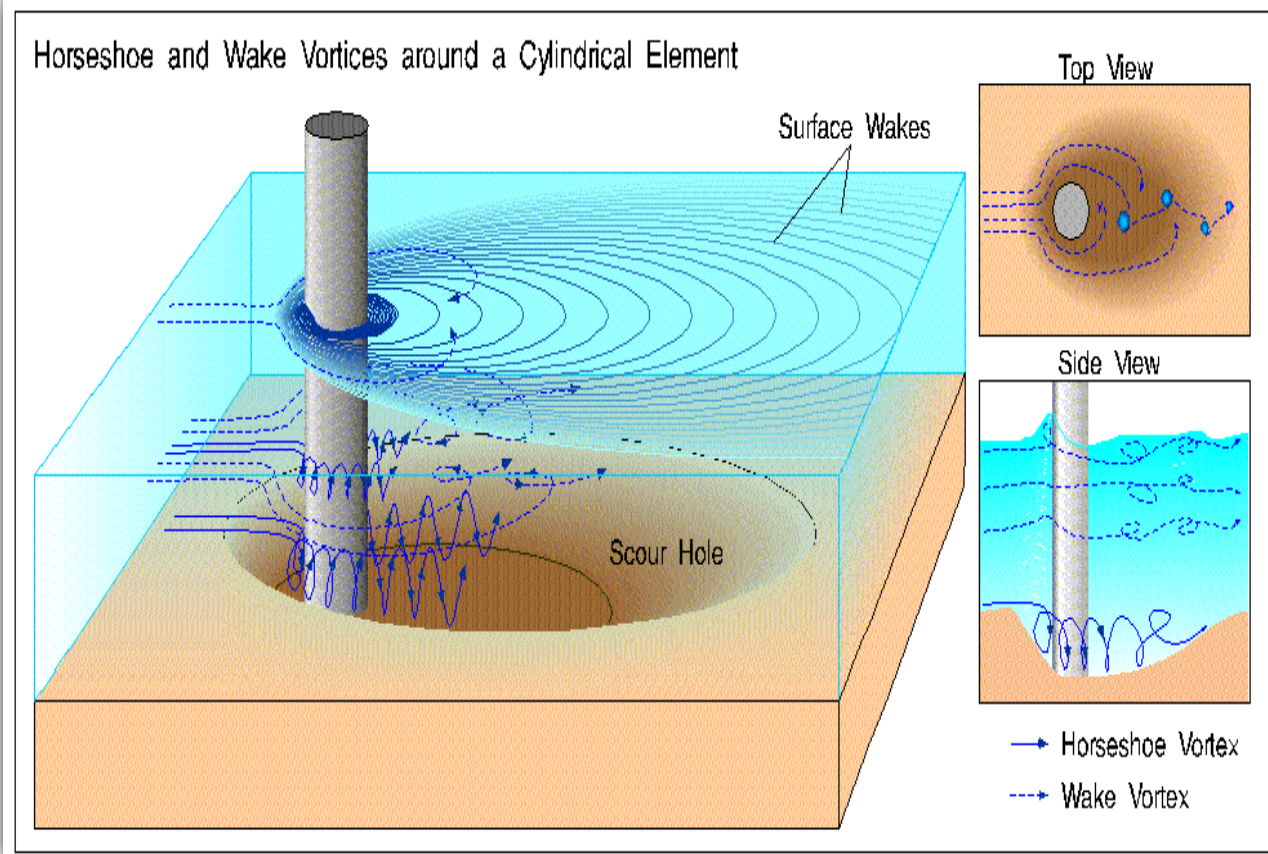


Image Source: FHWA



Image Source: Casey Kramer

Pier Scour

- Detailed information on pier scour can be found in HEC-18
- HEC-18 includes pier scour equations for:
 - Sand bed channels
 - Coarse bed channels
 - Cohesive and erodible rock materials
 - Complex pier geometry
 - Debris accumulations

HEC-18 Available Pier Scour Methods

- HEC-18 Equation (Section 7.2)
- Florida DOT Methodology (Section 7.3)
- Wide Piers (Section 7.4)
- Complex Pier Geometry (Section 7.5)
- Multiple Columns (Section 7.6)
- Debris on Piers (Section 7.7)
- Coarse Bed Materials (Section 7.11)
- Cohesive Materials (Section 7.12)
- Erodible Rock (Section 7.13)

Pier Scour



Image Sources: Casey Kramer

Pier Scour – Rule of Thumb

$y_s \leq 2.4$ times pier diameter for $Fr \leq 0.8$

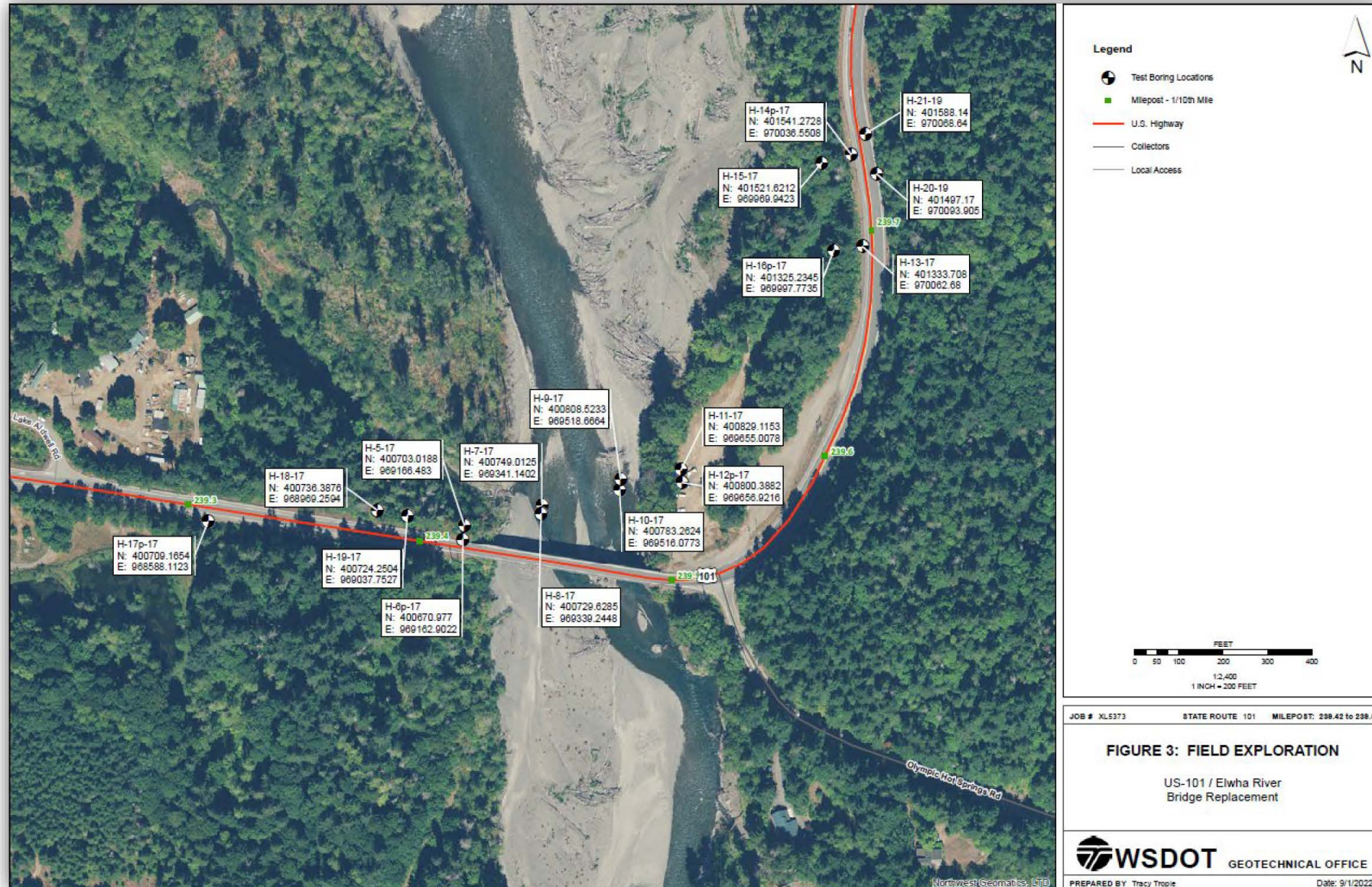
$y_s \leq 3.0$ times pier diameter for $Fr > 0.8$

Surface and Subsurface Material



Image Sources: Casey Kramer

Surface and Subsurface Material



Subsurface and Subsurface Material

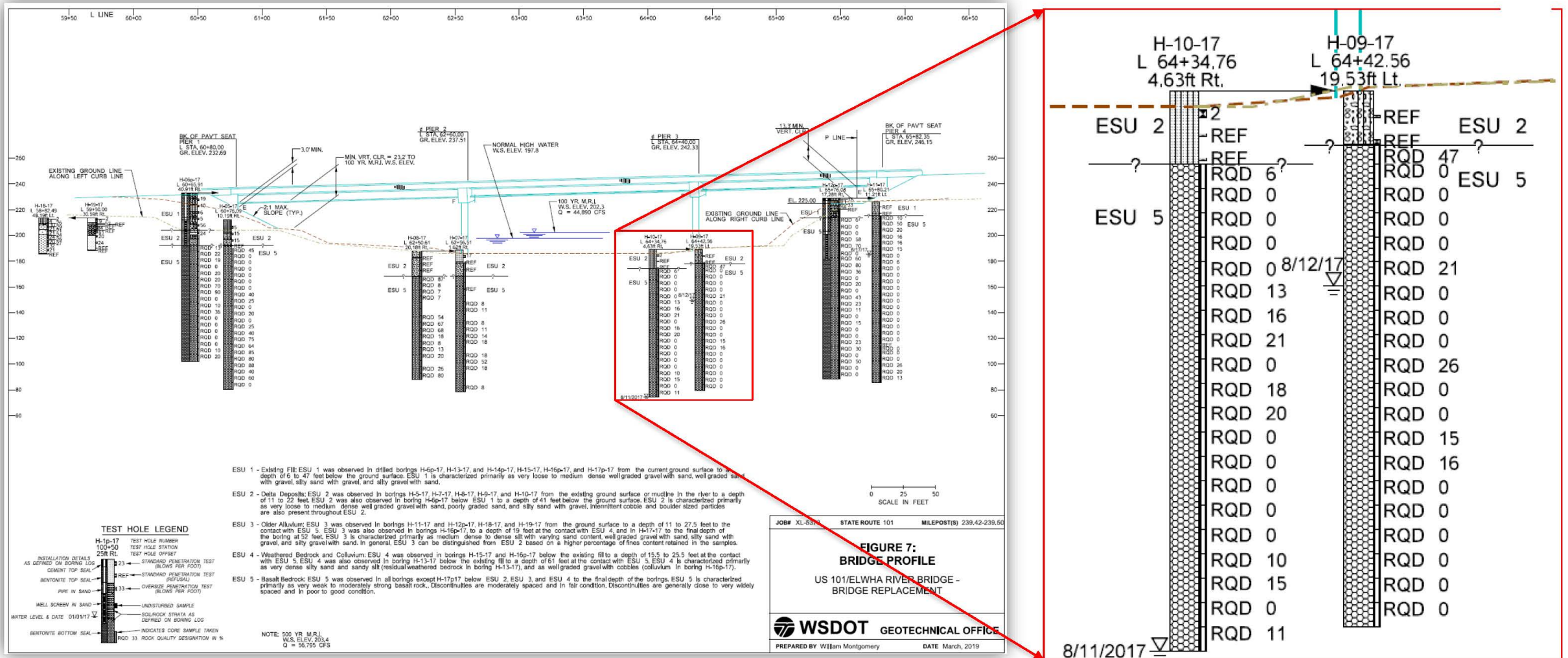


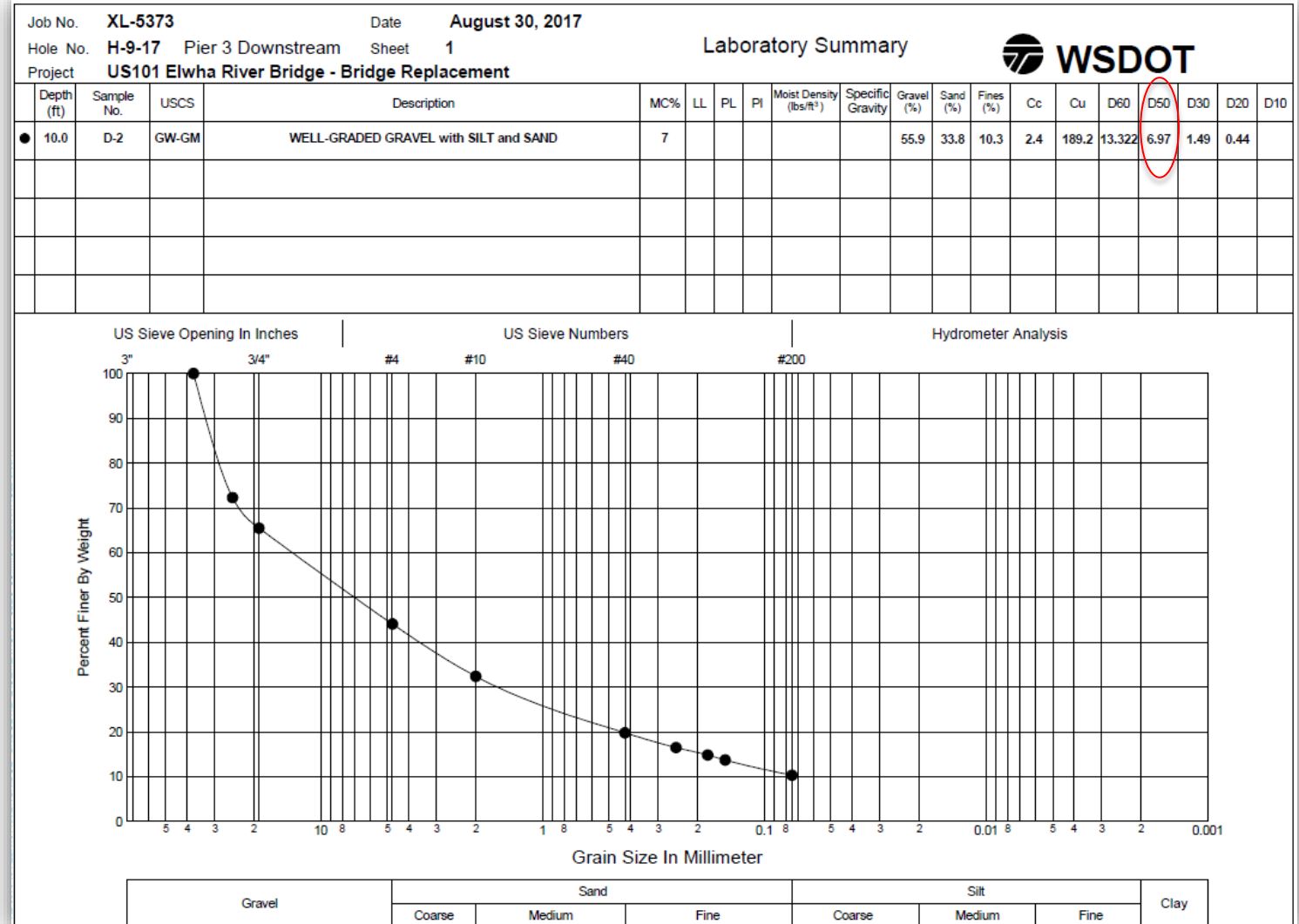
Image Source: WSDOT

Subsurface and Subsurface Material

Surface Gradation (Pebble Count)

Particle Percent Smaller Than	Downstream Diameter (in)
D ₁₆	1.7
D ₅₀	3.4
D ₈₄	6.8
D ₁₀₀	14.3

Image Sources: WSDOT



Subsurface Gradation – Geotechnical Boring

Debris Potential



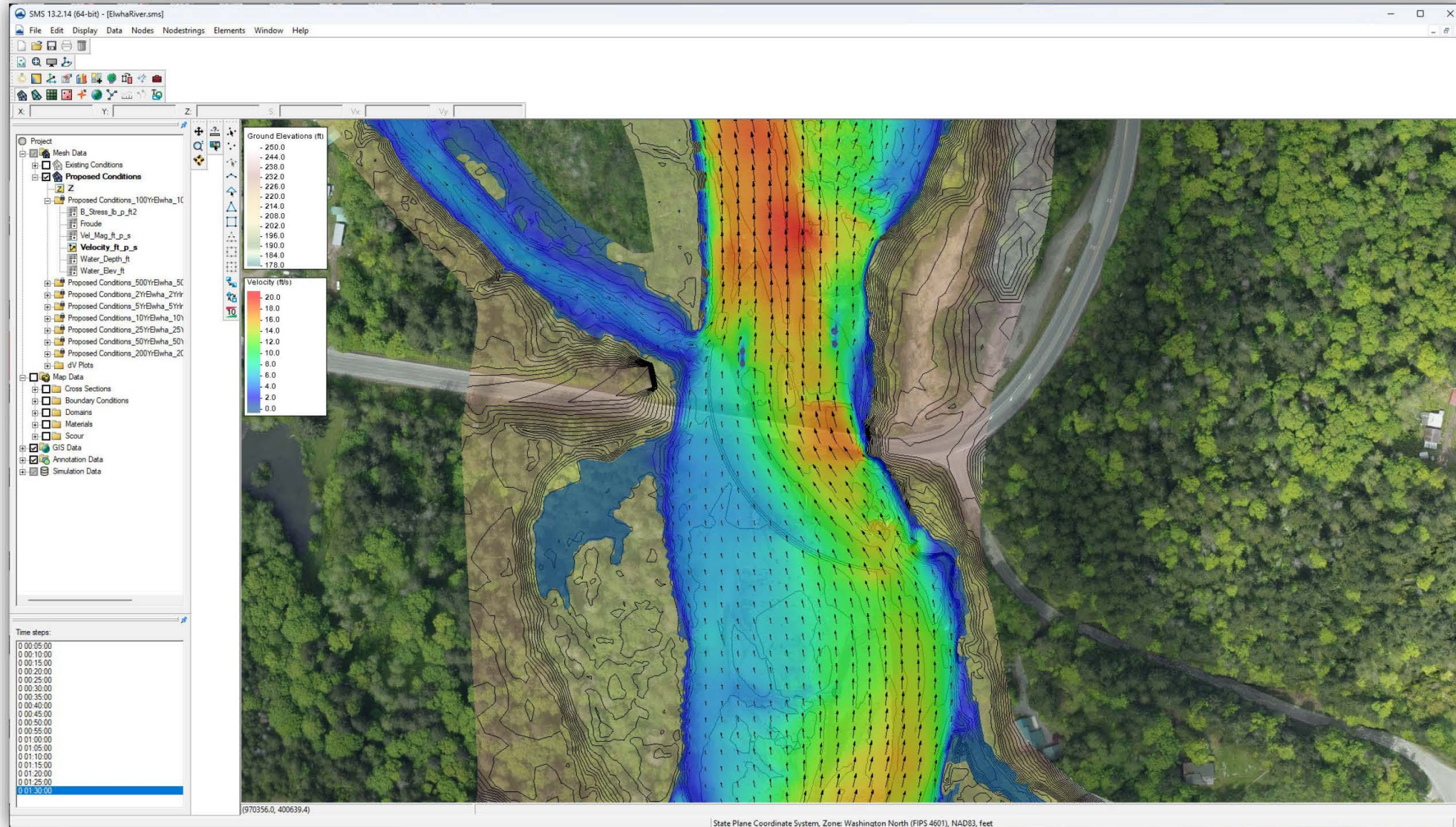
Image Source: Casey Kramer

Debris Potential

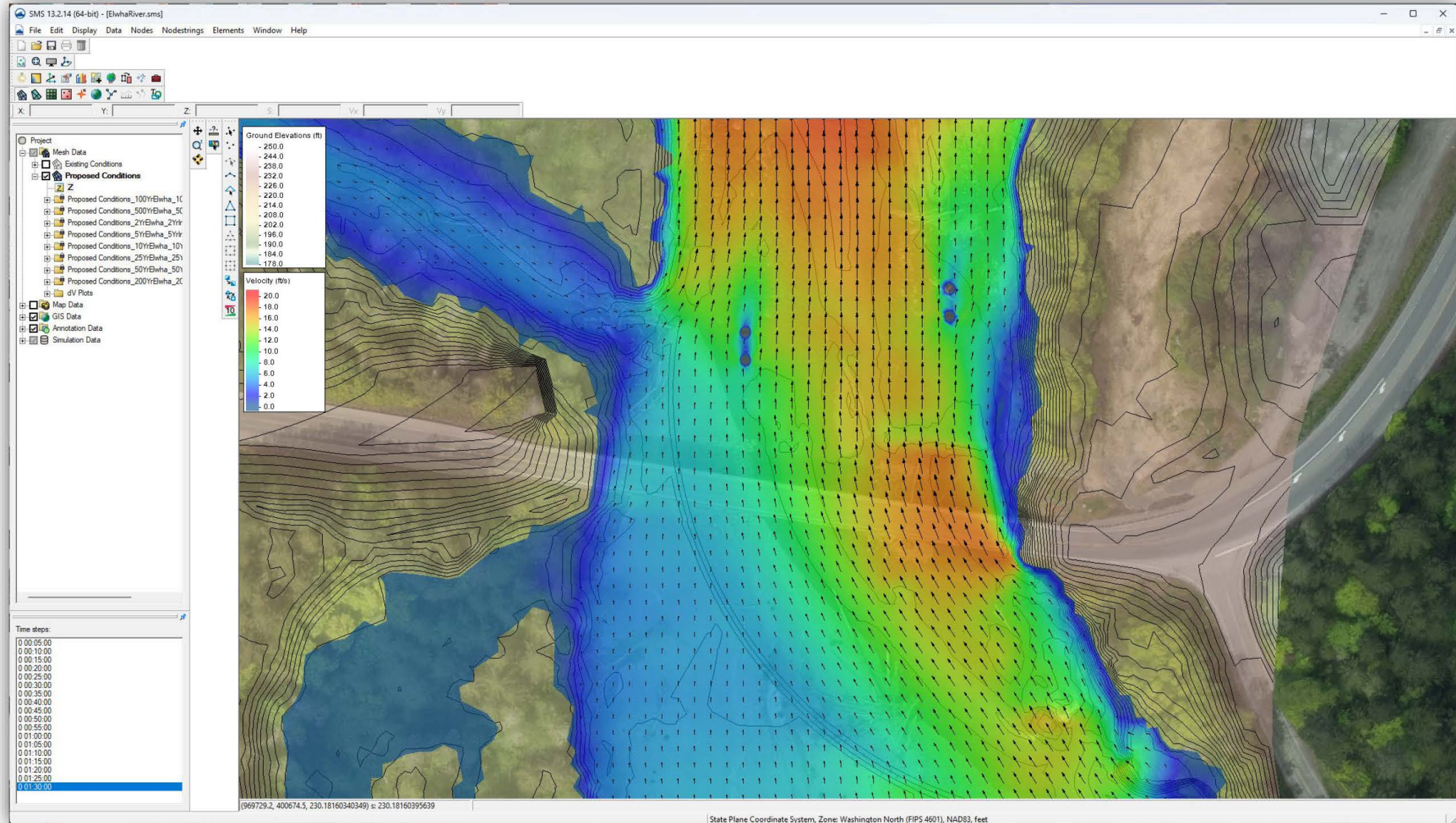


Image Sources: Casey Kramer

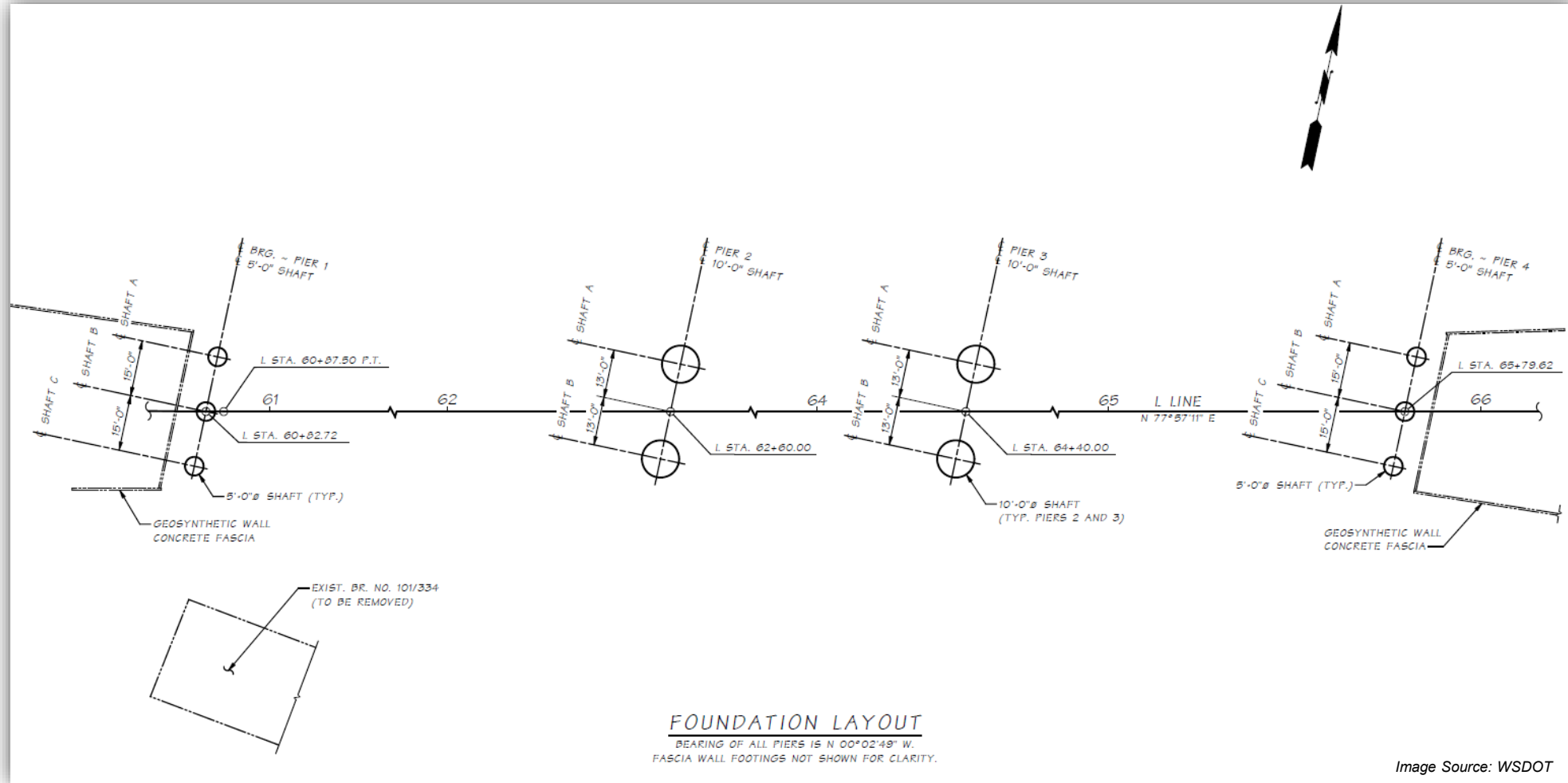
Bridge Hydraulics



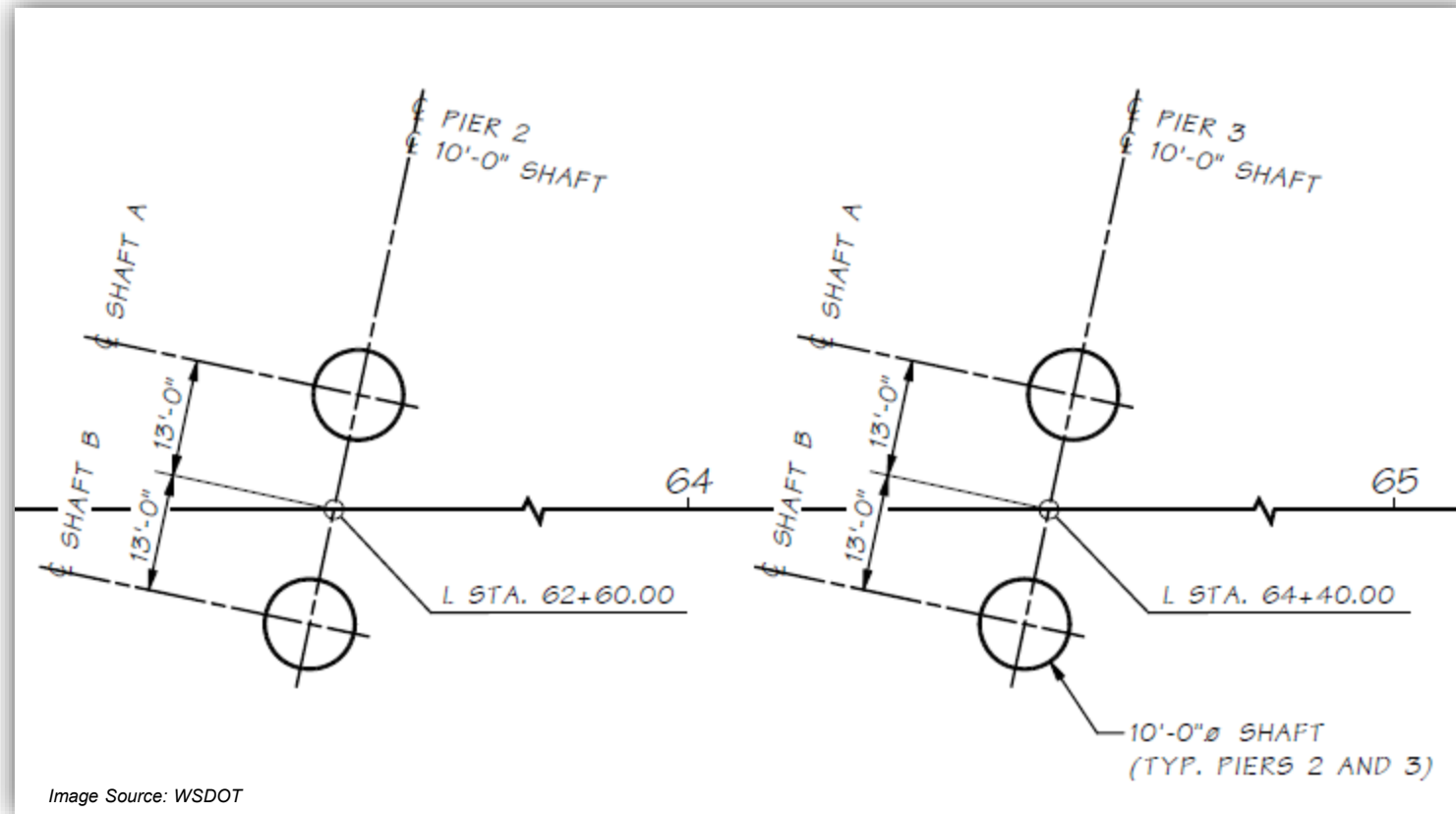
Bridge Hydraulics



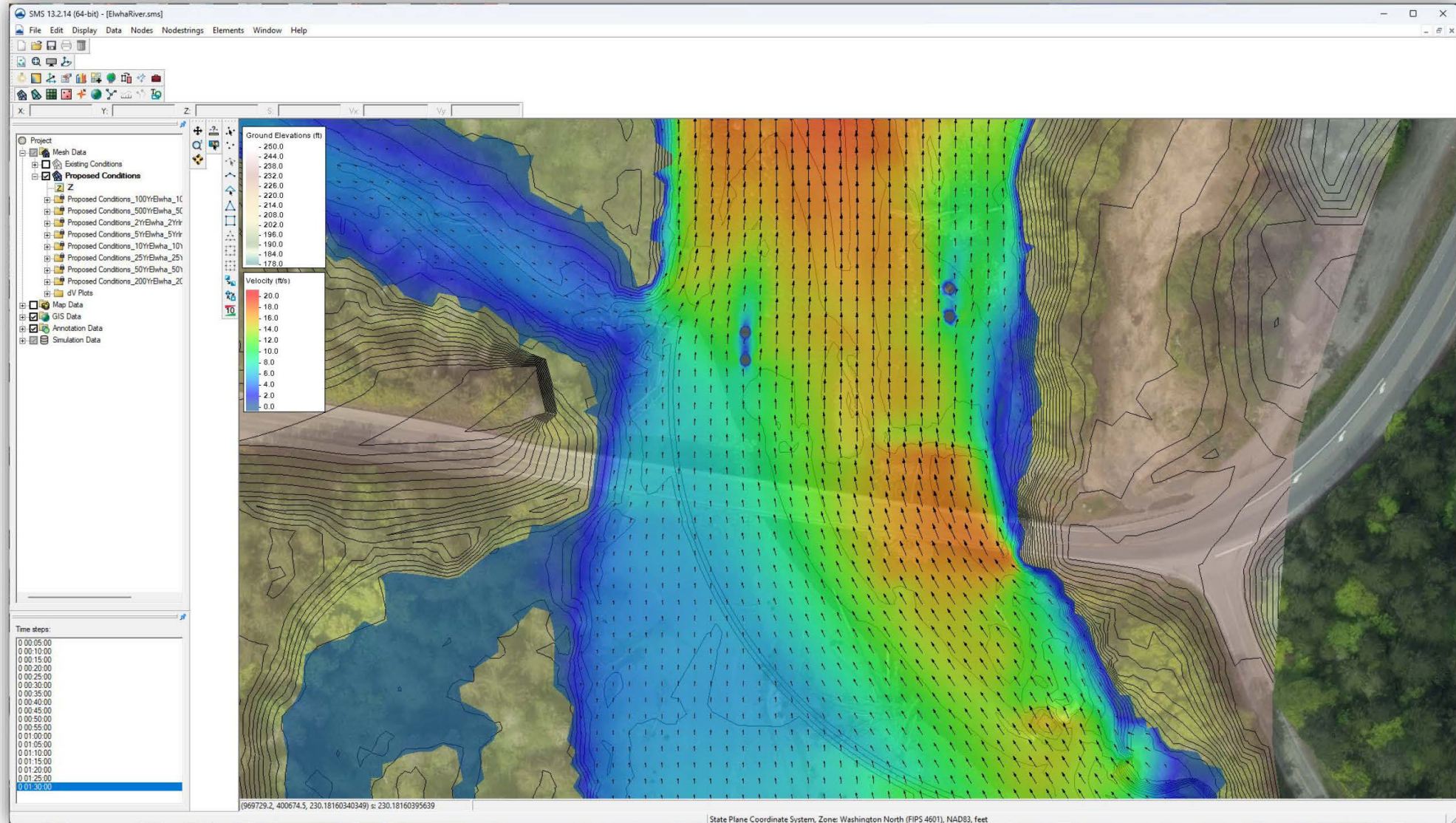
Bridge Layout



Pier 2 and Pier 3 Layout



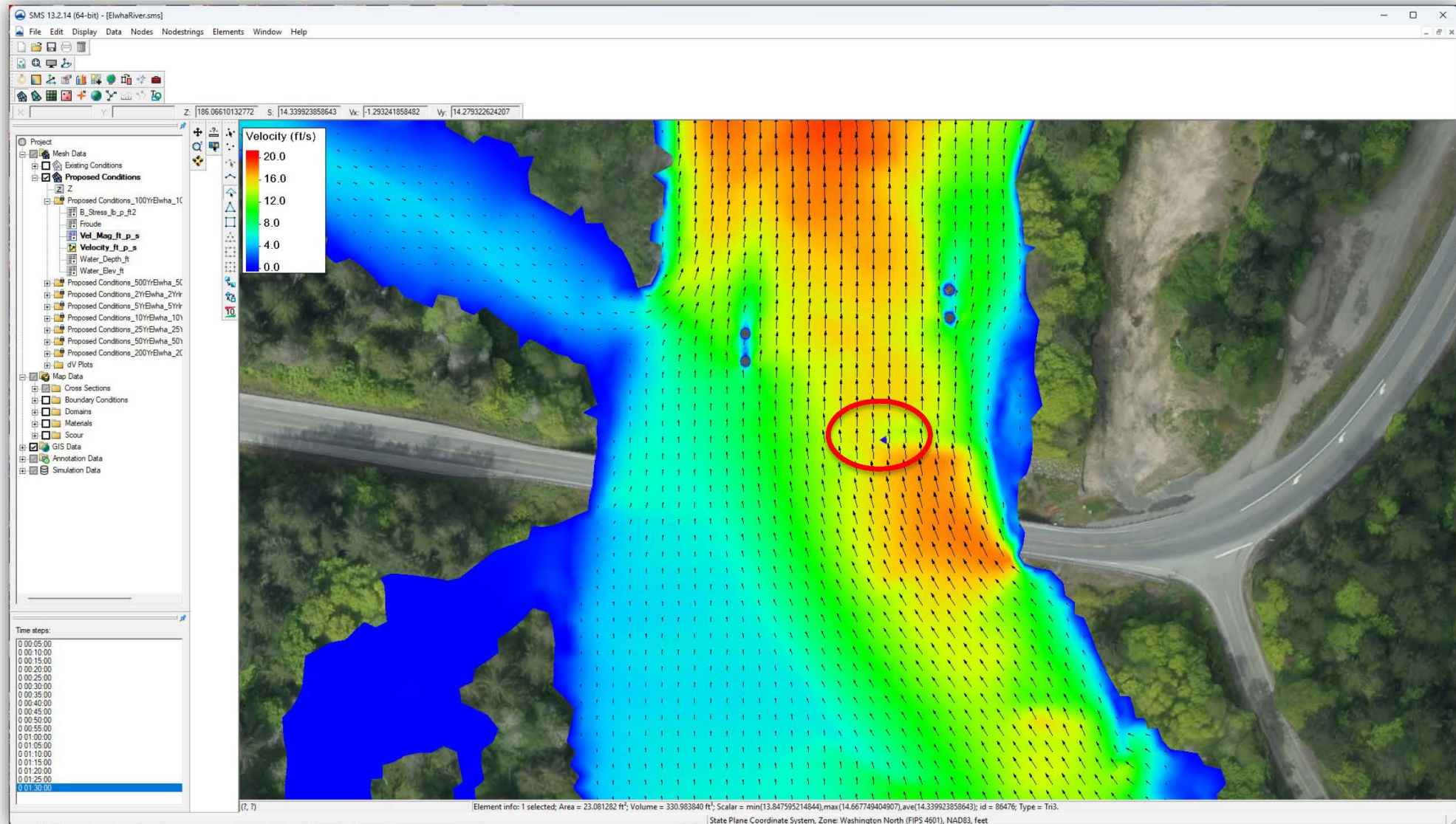
Bridge Hydraulics



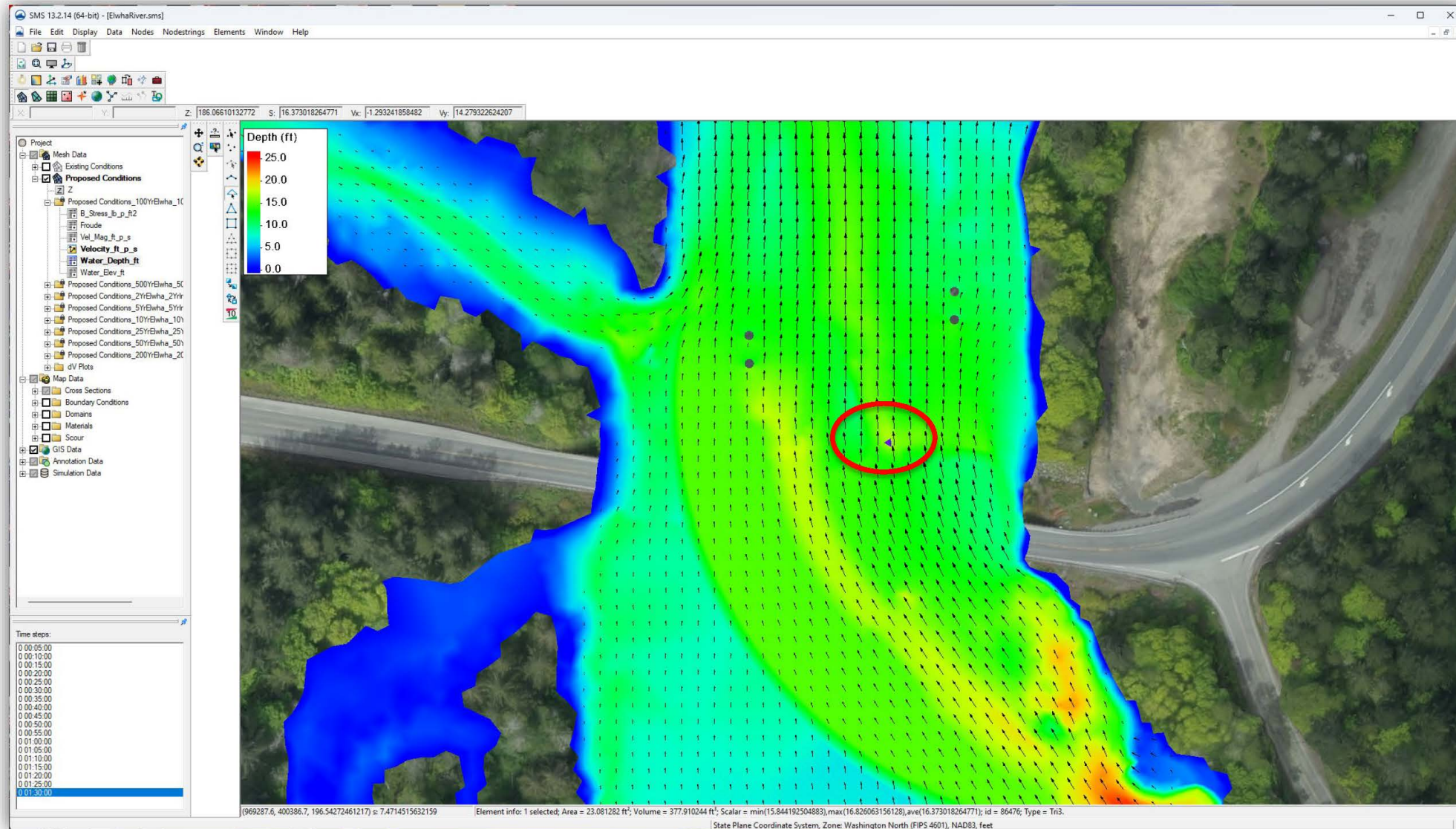
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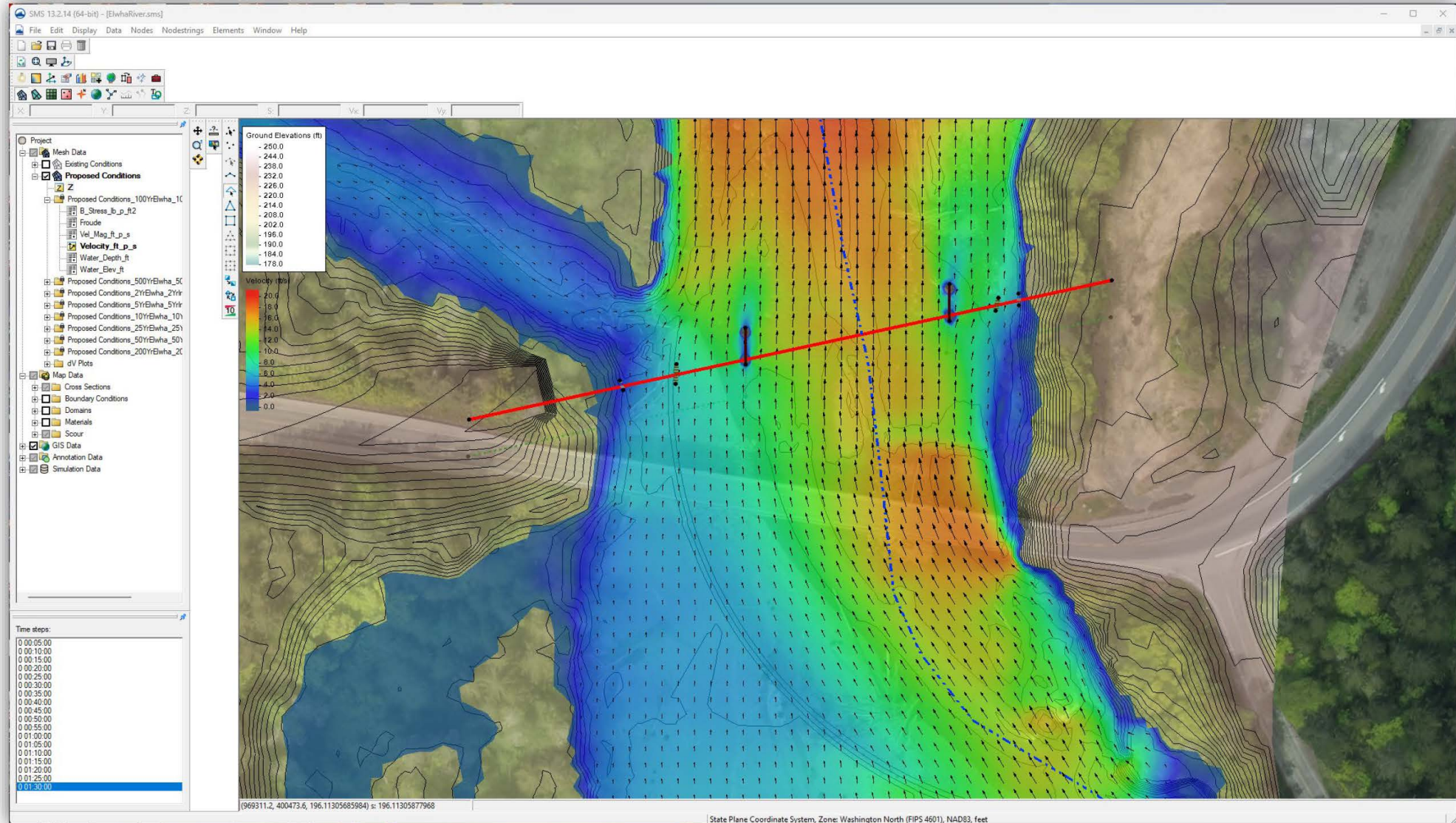
Bridge Hydraulics



Bridge Hydraulics



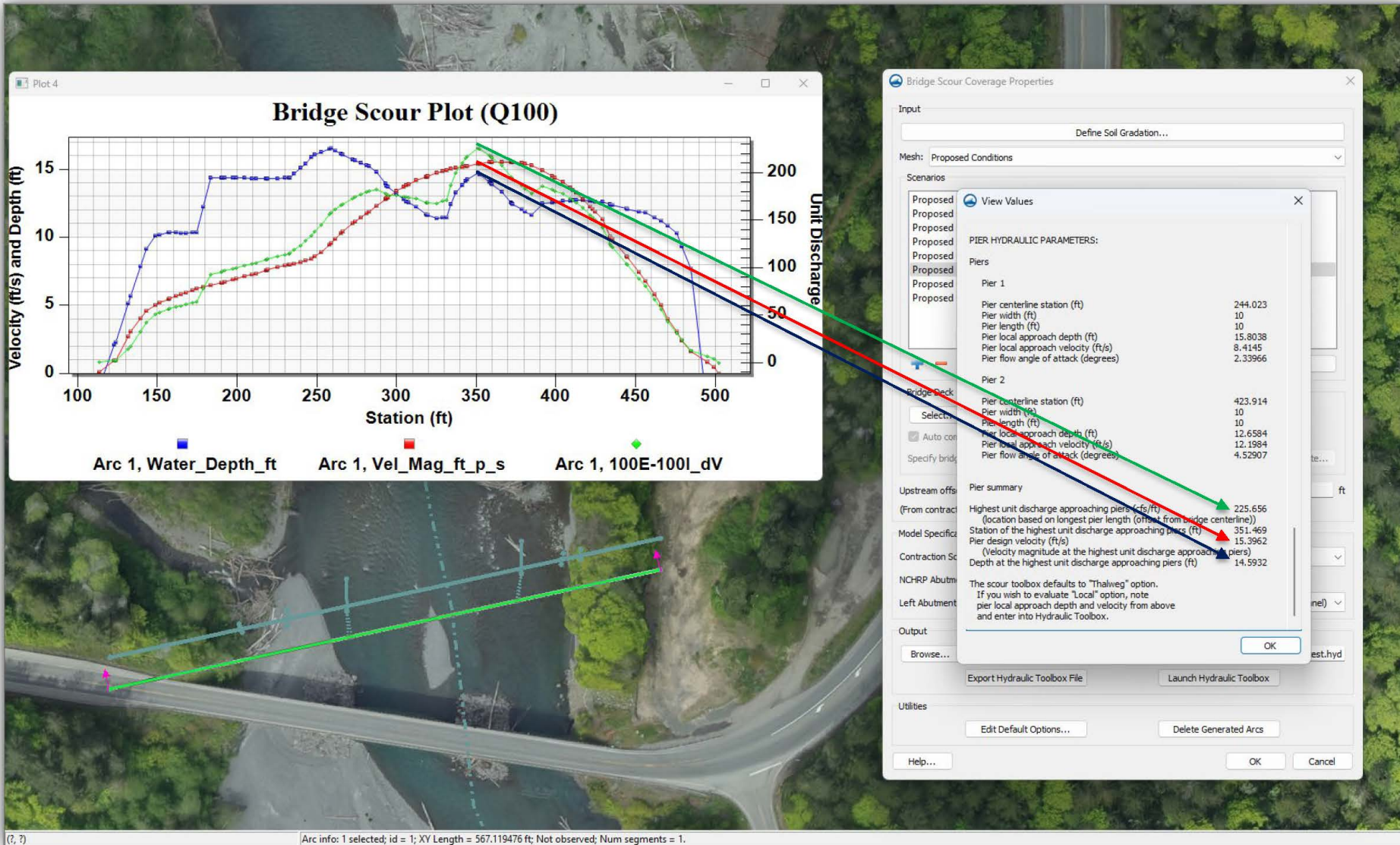
Bridge Hydraulics



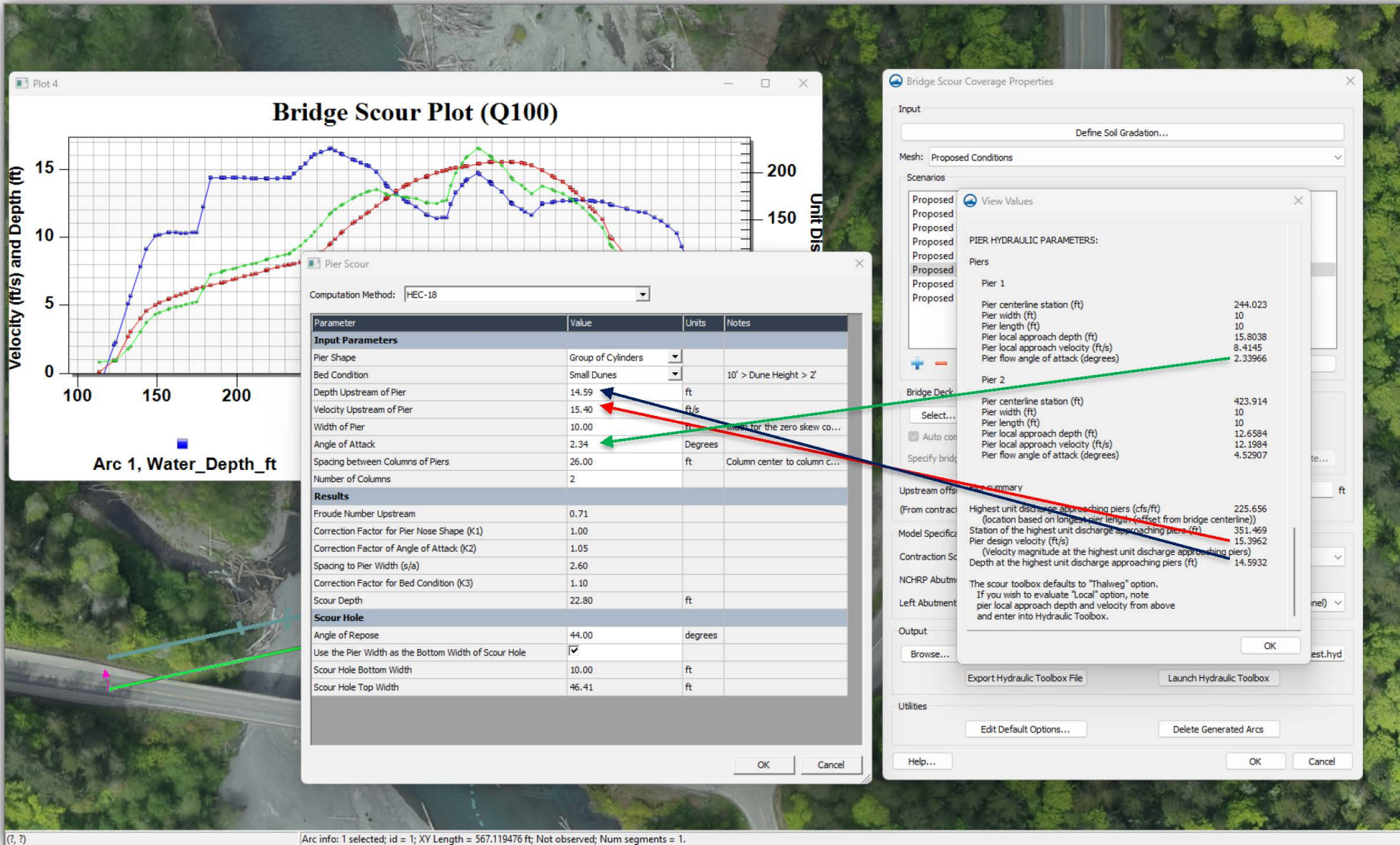
Bridge Hydraulics



Bridge Hydraulics



Bridge Hydraulics



Pier Scour Inputs

Pier Scour

Computation Method: HEC-18

Parameter	Value	Units	Notes
Input Parameters			
Pier Shape	Group of Cylinders		
Bed Condition	Small Dunes		10' > Dune Height > 2'
Depth Upstream of Pier	14.59	ft	
Velocity Upstream of Pier	15.40	ft/s	
Width of Pier	10.00	ft	width for the zero skew co...
Angle of Attack	2.34	Degrees	
Spacing between Columns of Piers	26.00	ft	Column center to column c...
Number of Columns	2		
Results			
Froude Number Upstream	0.71		
Correction Factor for Pier Nose Shape (K1)	1.00		
Correction Factor of Angle of Attack (K2)	1.05		
Spacing to Pier Width (s/a)	2.60		
Correction Factor for Bed Condition (K3)	1.10		
Scour Depth	22.80	ft	
Scour Hole			
Angle of Repose	44.00	degrees	
Use the Pier Width as the Bottom Width of Scour Hole	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Scour Hole Bottom Width	10.00	ft	
Scour Hole Top Width	46.41	ft	

OK Cancel

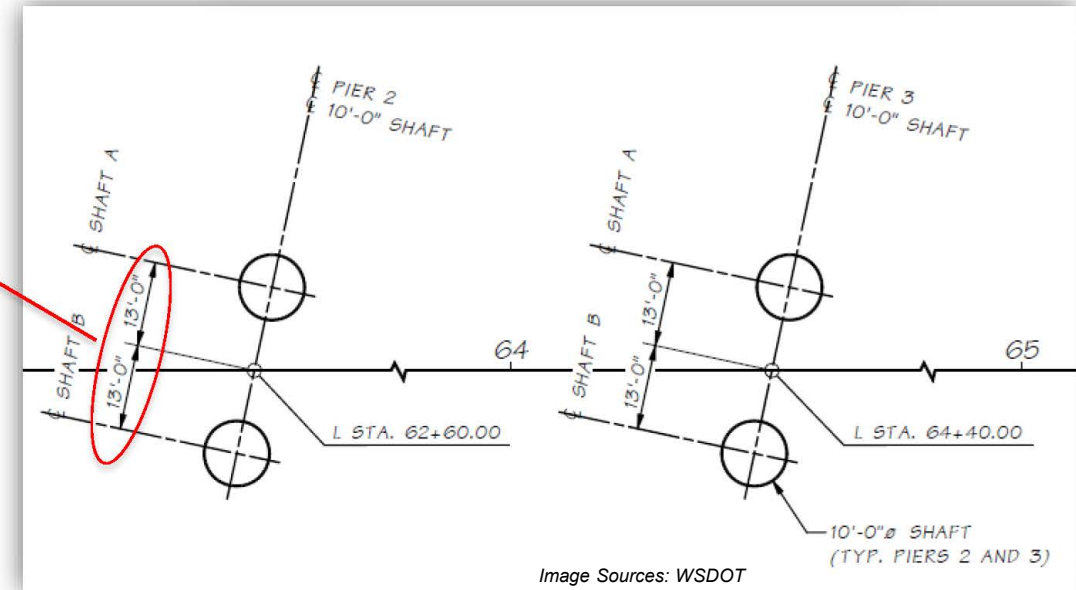
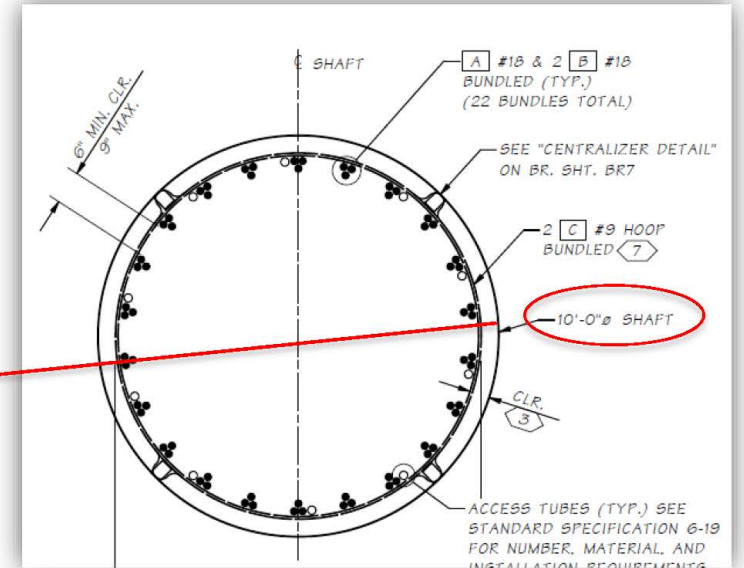


Image Sources: WSDOT

Bridge Hydraulics

Pier Scour

Computation Method: HEC-18

Parameter	Value	Units	Notes
Input Parameters			
Pier Shape	Group of Cylinders		
Bed Condition	Small Dunes		10' > Dune Height > 2'
Depth Upstream of Pier	14.59	ft	
Velocity Upstream of Pier	15.40	ft/s	
Width of Pier	10.00	ft	width for the zero skew co...
Angle of Attack	2.34	Degrees	
Spacing between Columns of Piers	26.00	ft	Column center to column c...
Number of Columns	2		
Results			
Froude Number Upstream	0.71		
Correction Factor for Pier Nose Shape (K1)	1.00		
Correction Factor of Angle of Attack (K2)	1.05		
Spacing to Pier Width (s/a)	2.60		
Correction Factor for Bed Condition (K3)	1.10		
Scour Depth	22.80	ft	
Scour Hole			
Angle of Repose	44.00	degrees	
Use the Pier Width as the Bottom Width of Scour Hole	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Scour Hole Bottom Width	10.00	ft	
Scour Hole Top Width	46.41	ft	

OK Cancel

Pier Scour

Computation Method: HEC-18

Parameter	Value	Units	Notes
Input Parameters			
Pier Shape	Group of Cylinders		
Bed Condition	Small Dunes		10' > Dune Height > 2'
Depth Upstream of Pier	14.59	ft	
Velocity Upstream of Pier	15.40	ft/s	
Width of Pier	10.00	ft	width for the zero skew co...
Angle of Attack	10.00	Degrees	
Spacing between Columns of Piers	26.00	ft	Column center to column c...
Number of Columns	2		
Results			
Froude Number Upstream	0.71		
Correction Factor for Pier Nose Shape (K1)	1.00		
Correction Factor of Angle of Attack (K2)	1.20		
Spacing to Pier Width (s/a)	2.60		
Correction Factor for Bed Condition (K3)	1.10		
Scour Depth	26.12	ft	
Scour Hole			
Angle of Repose	44.00	degrees	
Use the Pier Width as the Bottom Width of Scour Hole	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Scour Hole Bottom Width	10.00	ft	
Scour Hole Top Width	53.16	ft	

OK Cancel

Bridge Hydraulics

Pier Scour

Computation Method: HEC-18

Parameter	Value	Units	Notes
Input Parameters			
Pier Shape	Circular Cylinder		
Bed Condition	Small Dunes		10' > Dune Height > 2'
Depth Upstream of Pier	14.59	ft	
Velocity Upstream of Pier	15.40	ft/s	
Width of Pier	10.00	ft	width for the zero skew co...
Results			
Froude Number Upstream	0.71		
Correction Factor for Pier Nose Shape (K1)	1.00		
Correction Factor of Angle of Attack (K2)	1.03		
Pier Length to Pier Width (L/a)	1.00		If L/a > 12, use 12
Correction Factor for Bed Condition (K3)	1.10		
Scour Depth	22.24	ft	
Scour Hole			
Angle of Repose	44.00	degrees	
Use the Pier Width as the Bottom Width of Scour Hole	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Scour Hole Bottom Width	10.00	ft	
Scour Hole Top Width	45.26	ft	

OK Cancel

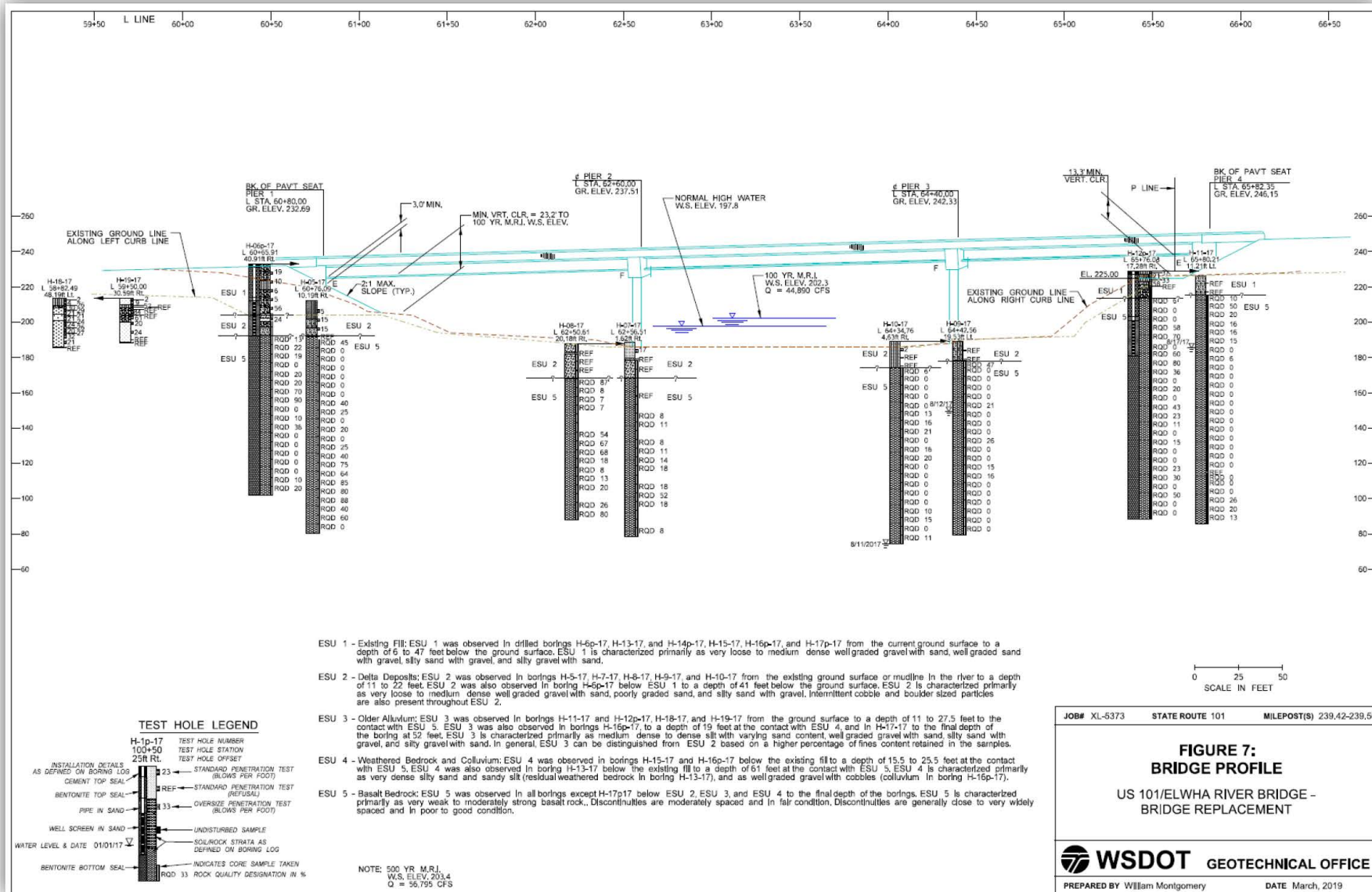
Pier Scour

Computation Method: HEC-18

Parameter	Value	Units	Notes
Input Parameters			
Pier Shape	Group of Cylinders		
Bed Condition	Small Dunes		10' > Dune Height > 2'
Depth Upstream of Pier	14.59	ft	
Velocity Upstream of Pier	15.40	ft/s	
Width of Pier	10.00	ft	width for the zero skew co...
Angle of Attack	10.00	Degrees	
Spacing between Columns of Piers	26.00	ft	Column center to column c...
Number of Columns	2		
Results			
Froude Number Upstream	0.71		
Correction Factor for Pier Nose Shape (K1)	1.00		
Correction Factor of Angle of Attack (K2)	1.20		
Spacing to Pier Width (s/a)	2.60		
Correction Factor for Bed Condition (K3)	1.10		
Scour Depth	26.12	ft	
Scour Hole			
Angle of Repose	44.00	degrees	
Use the Pier Width as the Bottom Width of Scour Hole	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Scour Hole Bottom Width	10.00	ft	
Scour Hole Top Width	53.16	ft	

OK Cancel

Subsurface and Subsurface Material



0 25 50
SCALE IN FEET

JOB# XL-5373 STATE ROUTE 101 MILEPOST(S) 239.42-239.50

**FIGURE 7:
BRIDGE PROFILE**

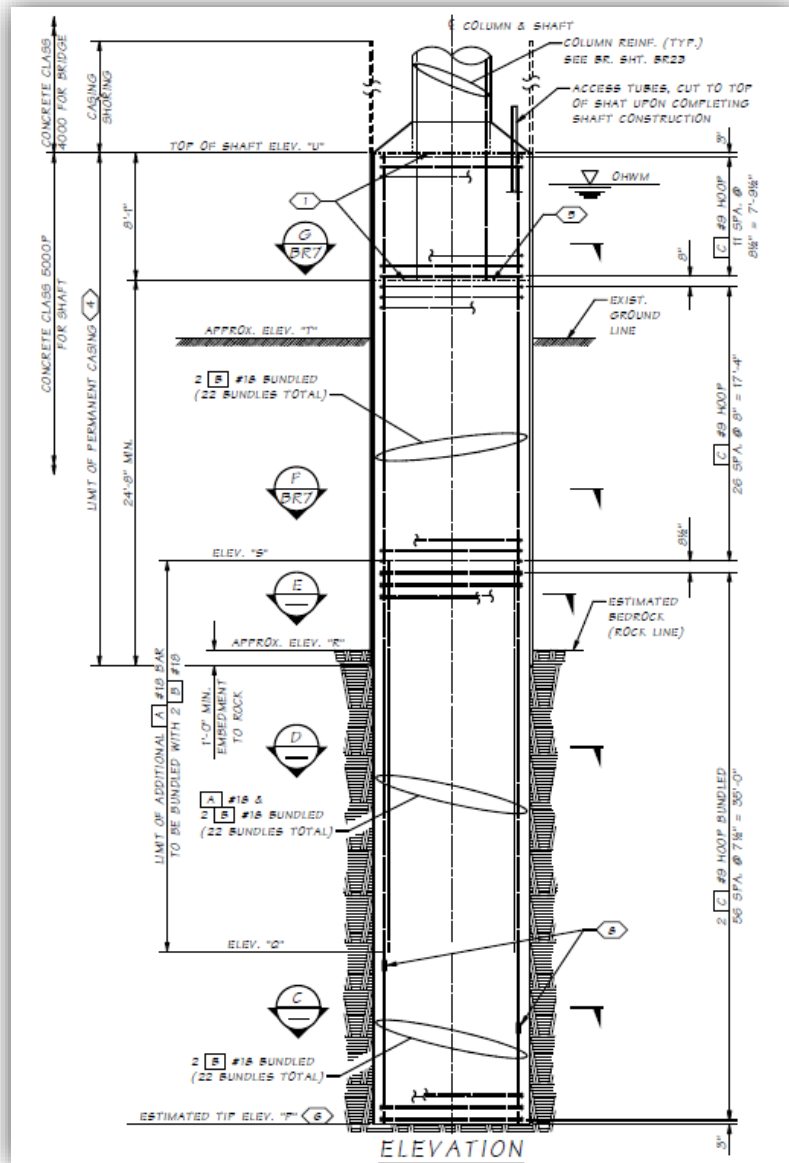
US 101/ELWHA RIVER BRIDGE -
BRIDGE REPLACEMENT

WSDOT GEOTECHNICAL OFFICE

PREPARED BY William Montgomery DATE March, 2019

Image Sources: WSDOT

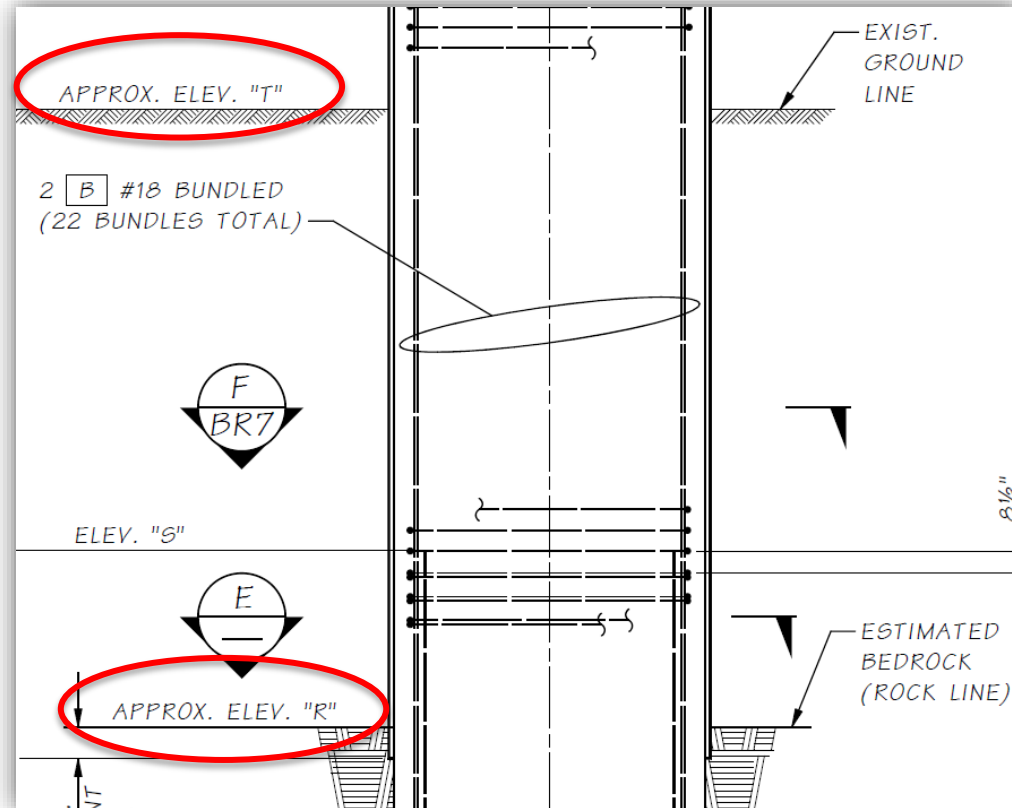
Pier 2 Details



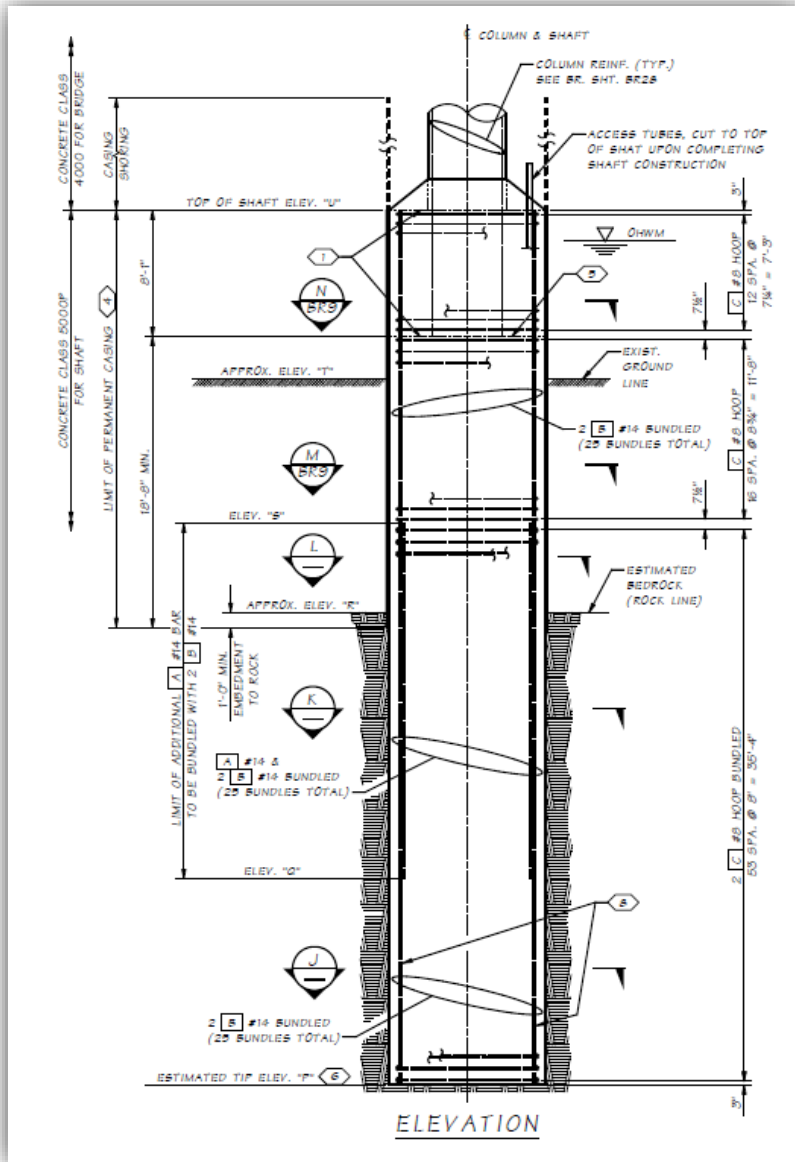
SHAFT ELEVATIONS

SHAFT	ELEVATION POINT					
	"P"	"Q"	"R"	"S"	"T"	"U"
A	137.8	148.8	168.0	173.8	188.0	199.80
B	137.8	148.8	168.0	173.8	188.0	199.80

Image Sources: WSDOT



Pier 3 Details



SHAFT ELEVATIONS

SHAFT	ELEVATION POINT					
	"P"	"Q"	"R"	"S"	"T"	"U"
A	143.8	157.0	174.0	177.0	189.0	199.80
B	143.8	157.0	174.0	177.0	189.0	199.80

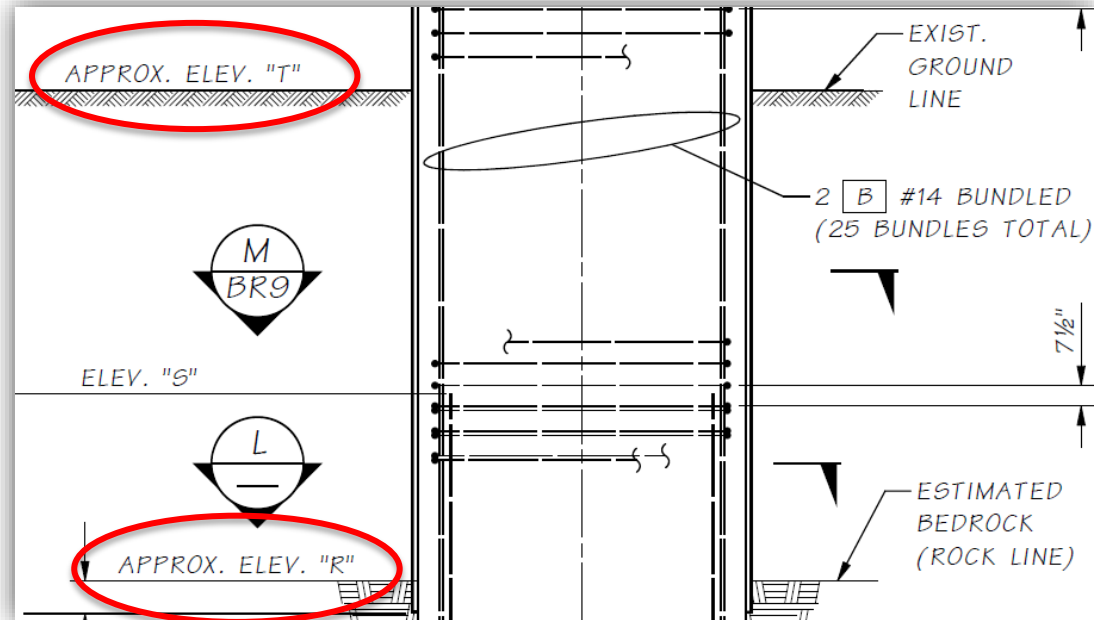


Image Sources: WSDOT

Tsunami Scour

- BDM 3.16.8

Bridges Subjected to Tsunami Effects

The **AASHTO Guide Specifications for Bridges Subject to Tsunami Effects** are intended for the design and construction of **conventional bridges** to resist the effects of tsunami waves.

- Tsunami Guide Specs 8.1

8.1.1—Expected Scour

The tsunami-induced scour, y_{s_t} (ft), shall be taken as:

$$y_{s_t} = R_t y_{s_{corr}} \quad (8.1.1-1)$$

- Wave direction, velocity and depth from DNR

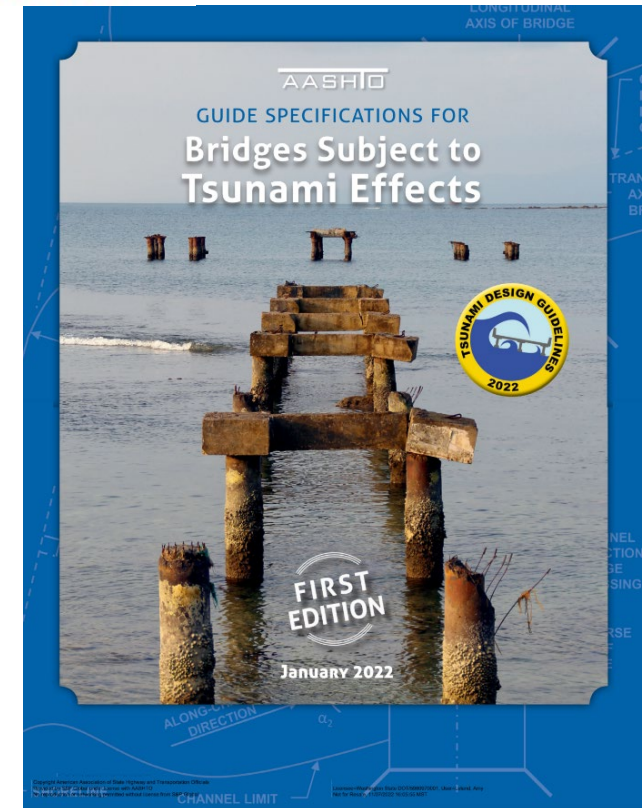


Image Source: AASHTO