

# Unknown Foundation Testing and Emergency Repairs for the Lake Cushman Bridge

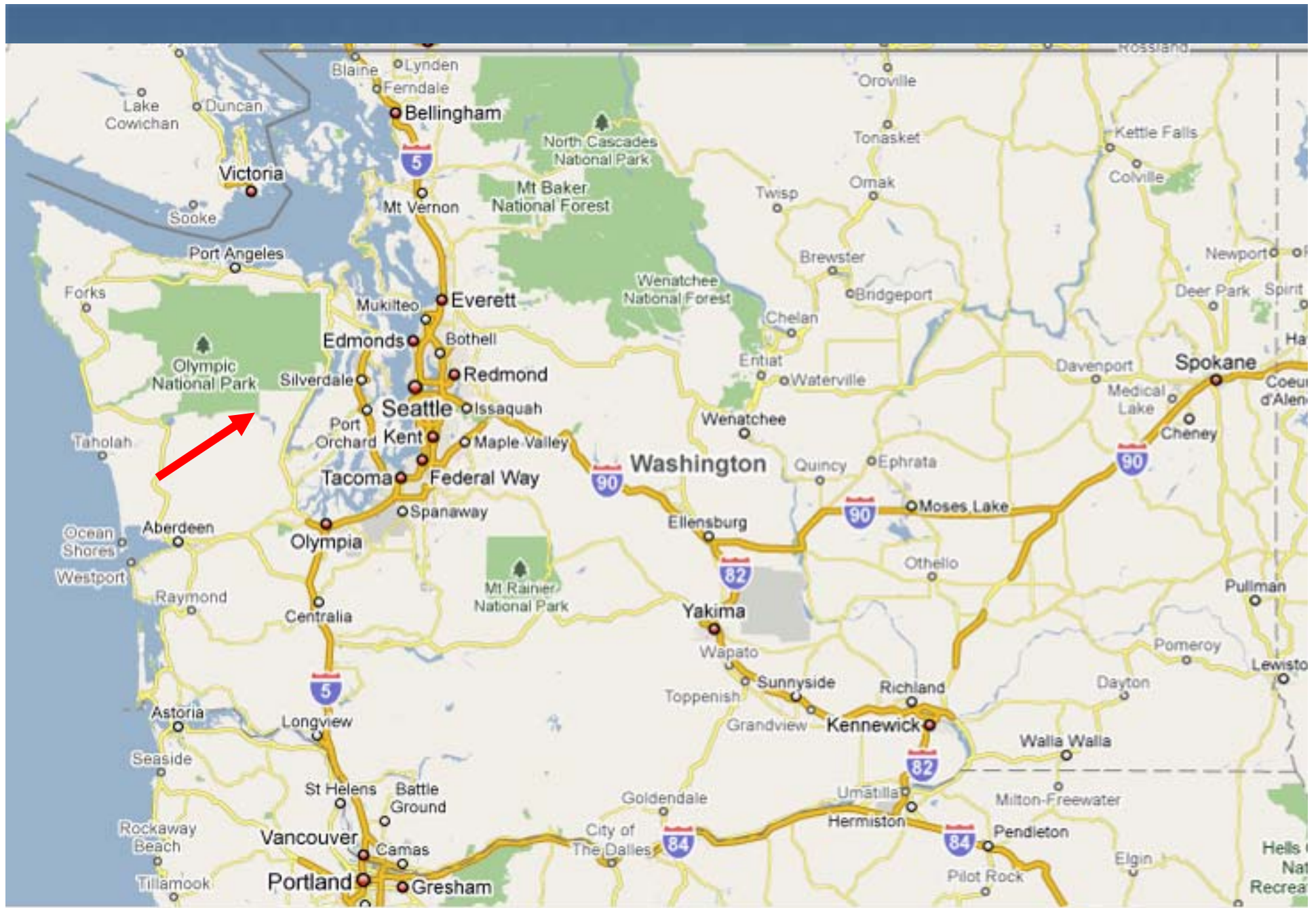
Kathy Van Hecke, US Forest Service  
Dan Stromberg, Collins Engineers

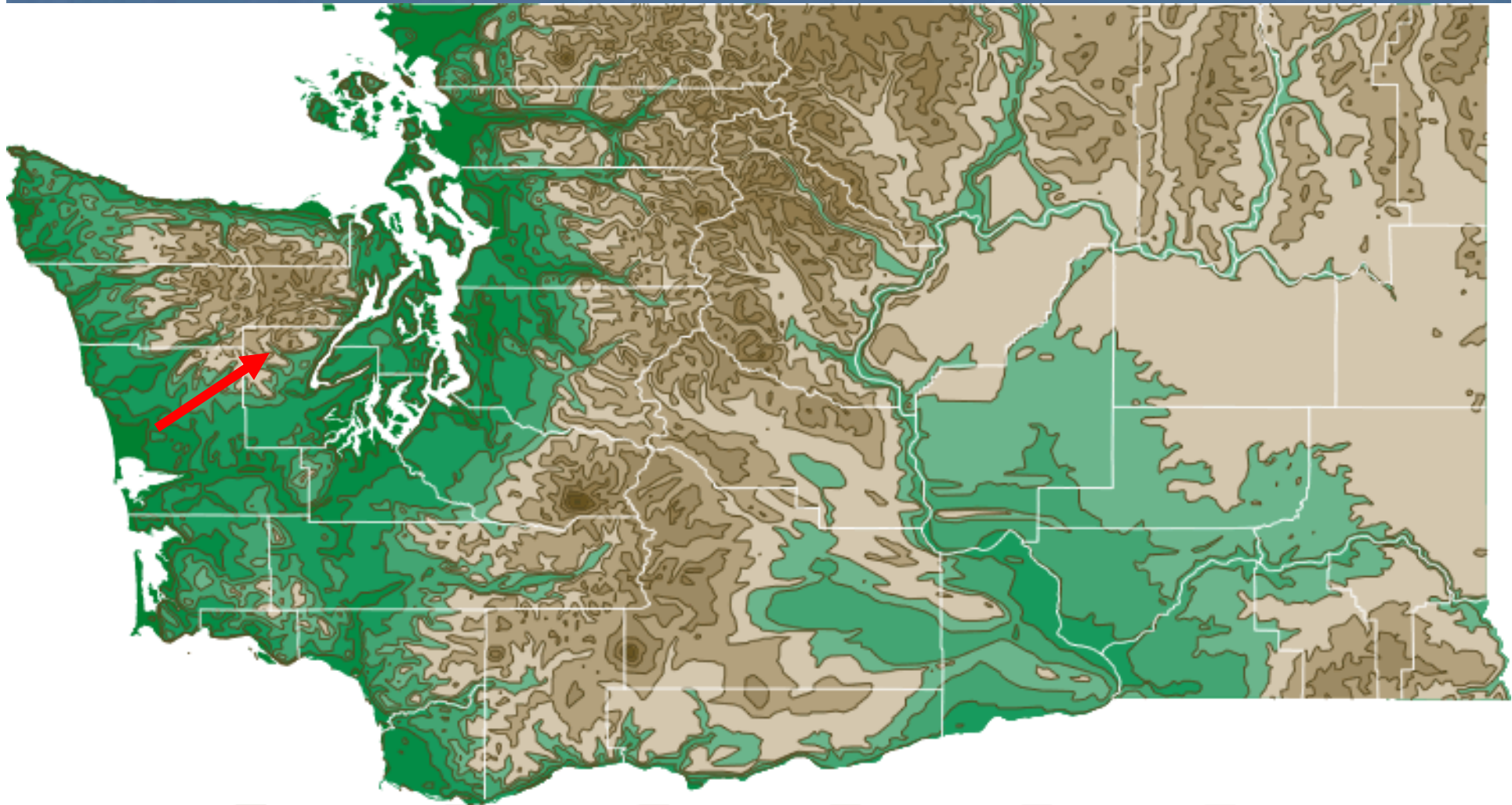


# History & Background

- Original structure designed and constructed by Bureau of Public Roads, in 1958.
- Built as part of the causeway across Lake Cushman, Olympic Peninsula, Washington State
- Lake Cushman is a reservoir built for power generation by Puget Sound Power; formed by damming the N. Fk. Skokomish River
- Bridge is on National Forest land abutting Olympic National Park









## Lake Cushman

**Lake Cushman** is a 4,010 acre (16 km<sup>2</sup>) [lake](#) on the north fork of the [Skokomish River](#) in [Mason County, Washington](#). The lake is maintained by [Cushman Dam No. 1](#) providing [electrical power](#) to the [Tacoma Power](#) system. Though slightly colder than out-of-state lakes, Lake Cushman's temperature is relatively normal for Washington lakes. It is fed by the [Skokomish River](#) which is a glacial runoff river.

[View article on wikipedia.org](#)

### Photos



[More photos](#)

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[Travels](#) - Lake Cushman

[The Pacific Northwest](#) - Lake Cushman

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By [Juha.K](#)

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Olympic National Park



Lake Cushman Bridge



Residences

Lake Cushman Resort



Lake Cushman Looking W

Cabin Adult Famil

Image USDA Farm Service Agency  
Image © 2009 DigitalGlobe  
© 2009 Tele Atlas

Imagery Date: Jun 24, 2006

47°28'31.94" N 123°17'51.40" W elev 2341 ft

Eye alt 46458 ft



■ Staircase Falls, Washington

Lake Cushman Bridge


Residences 

Image USDA Farm Service Agency

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Imagery Date: Jun 24, 2006

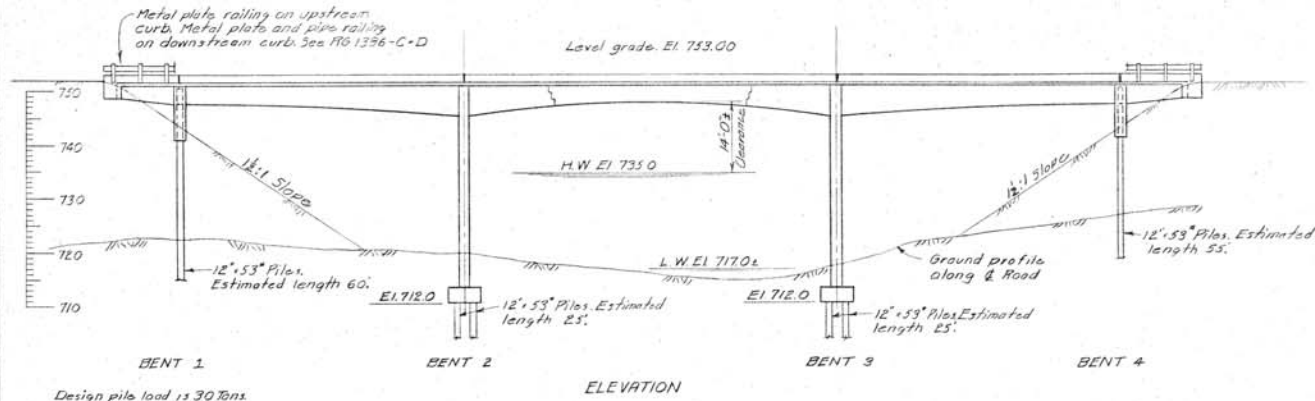
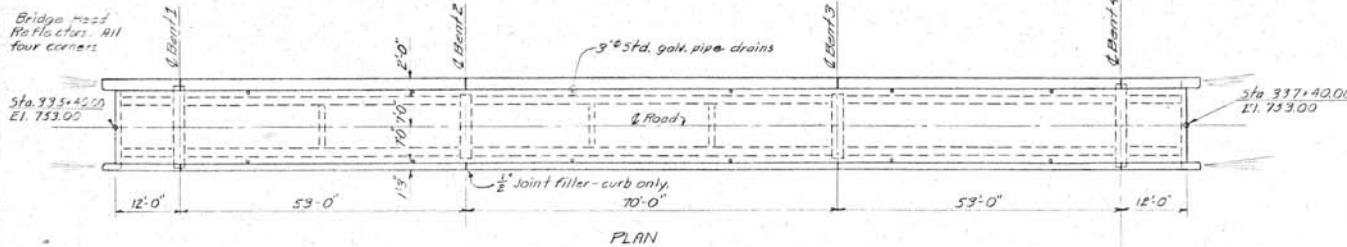
47°30'15.07" N

123°18'58.21" W

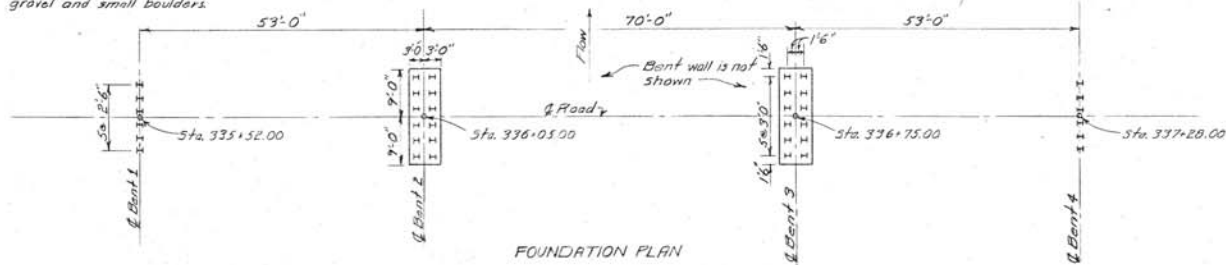
elev 739 ft.

Eye alt 8082 ft

Bridge Road  
Reflectors All  
four corners

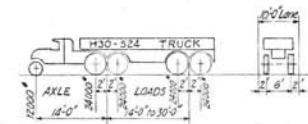


Design pile load is 30 tons.  
Foundation Material is  
gravel and small boulders.



**GENERAL NOTES**

- SPECIFICATIONS:** Construction, Bureau of Public Roads FP 57.  
Design, A. A. S. H. O. Standard Specifications for Highway Bridges 1953.
- DEAD LOAD:** Concrete 150 Lbs. per cu. ft. paving allowance 25 Lbs. per sq. ft. of roadway surface.
- LIVE LOAD:** H-30-S24 Loading. Impact  $I = \frac{50}{L+125}$  ( $L = \text{span length}$ ).  
Maximum  $I = 30\%$ .
- UNIT STRESSES:**  $f_c = 1320$  p.s.i.,  $f_s = 20,000$  p.s.i.,  $\tau_c = 10$
- CONCRETE:** All concrete shall be Class "A". Maximum size of course aggregate shall be 1 1/2". All concrete shall be mixed with Type II Portland Cement (low alkali) and with an air entraining admixture. All concrete shall be vibrated. All exposed corners shall be chamfered unless otherwise noted.
- FINISHING CONCRETE:** Roadway slabs and curbs shall be finished according to specifications. The outside faces of the slab and curbs shall be given a "rubbed finish". All other surfaces shall be given an "ordinary finish".
- REINFORCEMENT STEEL:** All bars shall be deformed intermediate grade steel conforming to A.S.T.M. Specification A 15-54 T. All bars in the slab shall be supported on "metal chairs", or an approved type of concrete saddle. Except as shown all dimensions refer to center of bars.
- STEEL BRIDGE RAILING:** All items of rail construction are included in the contract item for "Steel Bridge Railing" and include the metal plate rail, metal pipe rail and couplings, steel posts and all rail and post securing bolts, nuts, washers and shims. All items of steel rail construction shall be galvanized. The pay length for the steel bridge railing shall be measured out to out of end wings.
- STRUCTURAL STEEL PILES:** All piles are steel "H" tearing piles.
- BRIDGE HEAD REFLECTORS:** Will be furnished by the Bureau of Public Roads. Cost of installation on end wings of railing shall be included in the contract item for "Steel Bridge Railing".



H30-S24 TRUCK DIAGRAM  
Concentrated 27000 for Moment 33000 for shear  
Uniform W = 900 per lin. ft. of lane  
H30-S24 LANE LOADING

**ESTIMATE**

Structure Excavation.....	100 Cuyds.
Class "A" Concrete.....	308 Cuyds.
Reinforcement Steel.....	62,000 Lbs.
Miscellaneous Steel.....	5,500 Lbs.
Structural Steel Piles, Furnishing.....	1,300 Lin. ft.
Structural Steel Piles, Driving.....	36 Each
Steel Bridge Railing.....	410 Lin. ft.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
BUREAU OF PUBLIC ROADS  
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

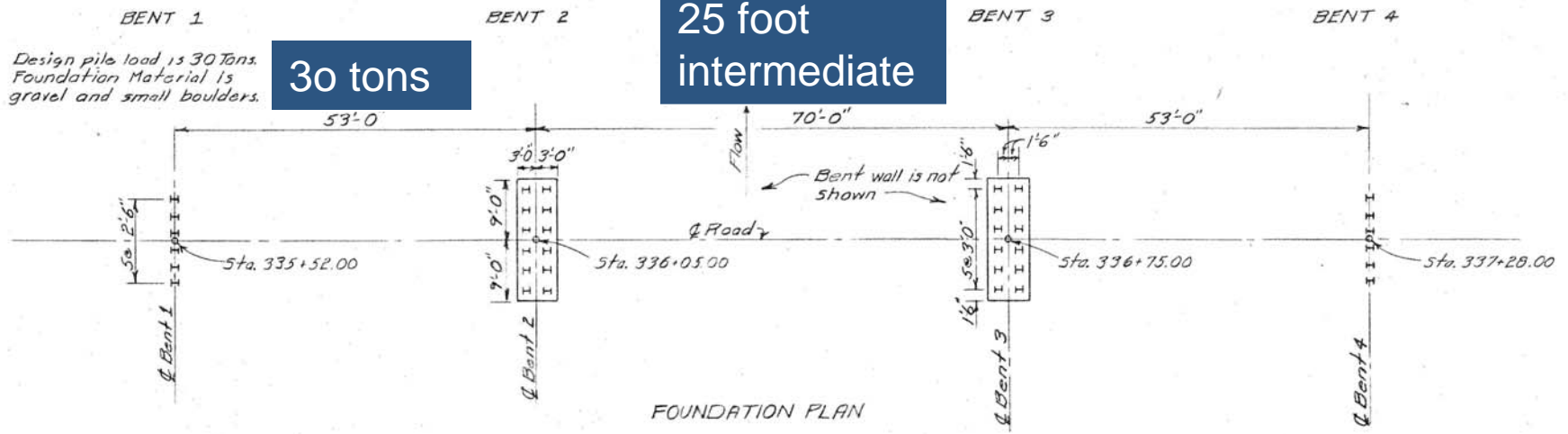
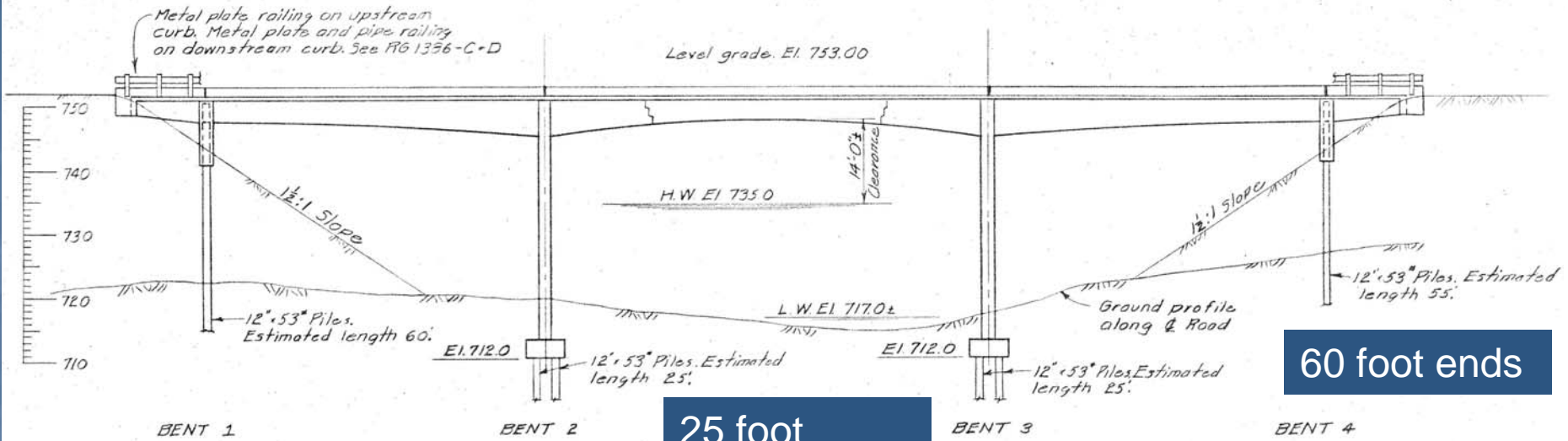
**LAKE CUSHMAN BRIDGE**  
STATION 336+40

WASHINGTON FOREST DEVELOPMENT ROAD PROJECT  
OLYMPIC 245-B  
# 2357-0.1  
SHEET 1 OF 4 SHEETS

APPROVED: *H. H. Angwin*  
SUPERVISING BRIDGE ENGINEER

SCALE: 1" = 1'-0"  
NOVEMBER 1957





October, 2002 photo





November, 2002 inspection photo





A photograph showing a concrete bridge with a metal railing on the left side. The bridge spans over a riverbed filled with gravel and rocks. On the right side of the river, there is a steep bank covered in a gabion structure, which consists of several layers of wire mesh filled with rocks. A red arrow points from a text box at the bottom right to this gabion structure. The background shows a forested hillside under a clear sky.

April, 2008 inspection photo

Typical gabion bank protection



# Scour Issues

- Developed from time of construction
  - Lateral Migration scour
  - Contraction scour
  - Local scour (debris)
  - Wave action
- Many attempts to study and mitigate

# Historic Scour Mitigation

- 1968 – large riprap placed
- 1976 – gabion mats on lower fills and around piers (piles exposed again in 1977)
- 1981 – extensive gabion mats on fills and around piers (successful until 2007)
- Evaluated in 1981 by Hydraulic consultant
  - Encasement of piles 6 – 10 feet below existing
  - Extensive riprap and gabions
  - Recommended extensive check dam (this would mean no fishies could swim upstream!)



➔ 1986+ MONITORING

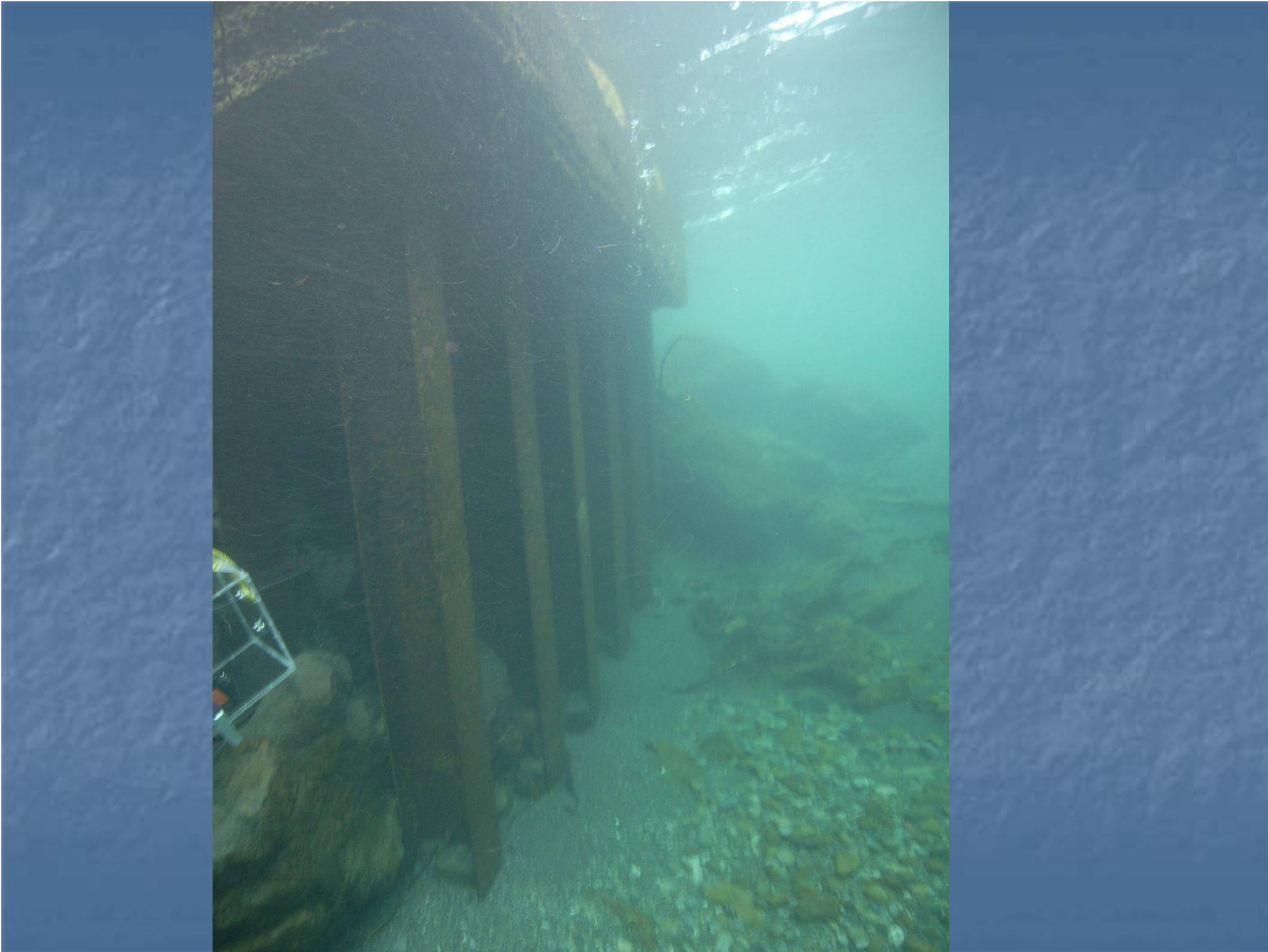


# Underwater Inspections

- October, 2002
- March, 2006 (In conjunction with FHWA to develop an Underwater Inspection Training Video)
- Both inspections performed by Collins Engineers, Inc.













# December 3, 2007

- Stream Gage 1.2 miles upstream from bridge
- Logged discharge at 20,100 cfs which exceeds a 50-year flood
- Largest flow since construction of the bridge (1934 – 27,000; 1949 – 24,200)
- Highest flows occur in Nov/Dec—after reservoir has been lowered









# Re-establish Access

- Restoring access was politically charged:
  - 23 landowners with access rights (boat or road?)
  - FERC re-licensing of dam
- Forest service – land, trailhead, safety, decommissioning, fire management, administration (but maybe not?)
- Short-term vs long-term
  - Factors of safety
- Funding - ERFO

# Evaluation Challenges

- No drill logs at bridge itself
- No as-builts
- Pay item for piles from original construction contract increased 144% (longer piles, more piles, driving costs?)
- Center pier vs. end pier
- No deficiencies despite previous scour and significant overloads



# Evaluation Opportunities

- Baseline inspection of existing bridge (post flood damage)
- Documentation of post-construction changes to structure
- Underwater inspection
- In-place testing of existing piles to determine as-built lengths
- Drilling of site (pending)

# Specialized Inspection/Evaluation through Collins Engineers, Inc.

- Underwater inspection and condition assessment of piles through diving.
- Above water inspection and condition assessment of piles through climbing and/or ladder access
- Determination of in-place pile lengths for both submerged piles and piles that are above water. (Muenow and Associates as subcontractor)
- Specialized access (high ladder) to gather as-built dimensions
- Specialized non-destructive testing to determine the location of steel components embedded in concrete.
- Assessment and reporting



Underwater inspection and  
condition assessment of piles  
through diving.















Above water inspection and  
condition assessment of piles  
through climbing and/or ladder  
access















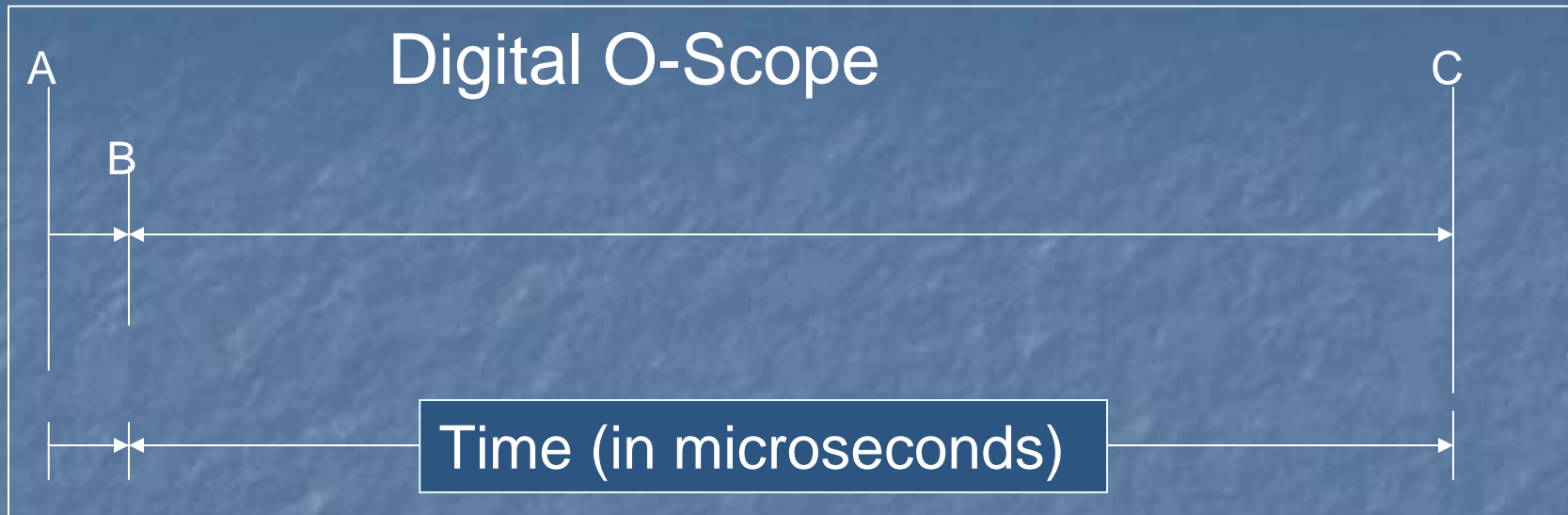
Determination of in-place pile lengths for both submerged piles and piles that are above water.

# In-place Pile Length Determination

- Based on sound wave theory – “Pulse Echo Test” – inducer/receiver
- Measures length of a feature until a discontinuity that exceeds 50% of the cross-sectional area is encountered
- The end of a pile would be read as a discontinuity.



# MUENOW and ASSOCIATES, Inc.



Graphic of Reflected Energy on O-Scope

A. Initial Impact...Starts Timing Sweep

B. Reflection...Top of Pile or in cap

C. Reflection...Bottom of Pile or  
Reflection from discontinuity

Length of Pile is B to C:  $\text{Time}/2$









Long cable

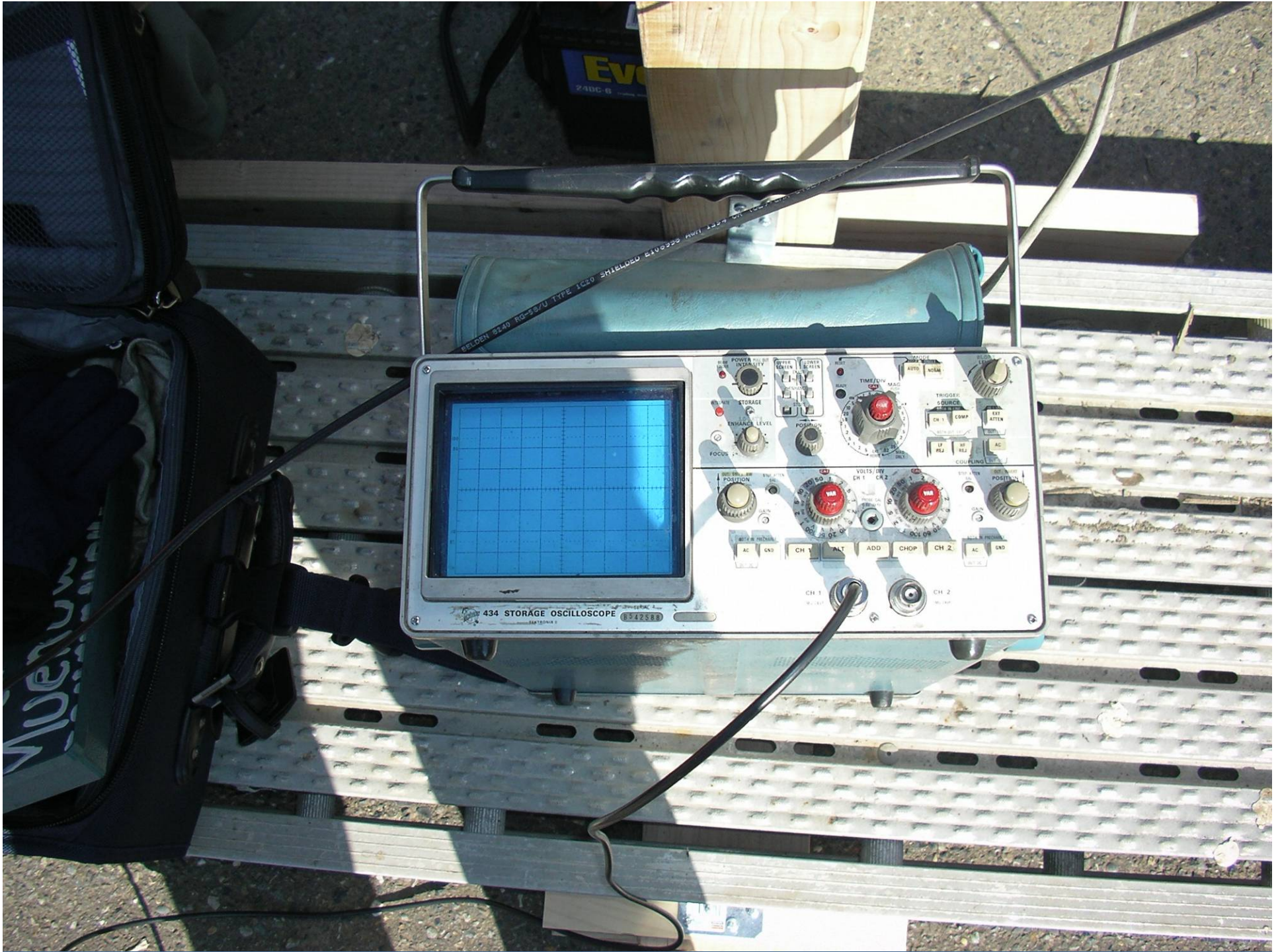












434 STORAGE OSCILLOSCOPE  
542588

BELDEN 5240 RS-35/U TYPE 1C20 SHIELDED 5406295 MW 1250 OHM

Mentum















Gather as-built dimensions and perform non-destructive testing to determine the location of steel components embedded in concrete.











# Assessment and Report

- Results of pile lengths translated to structural capacity of entire bridge
- Results of modifications regarding improved overall stability/bracing from deeper caps
- Evaluation of slope stability for support of a load
- Work within small factor of safety ( $FS=1.4$ ) with load restrictions (HS15) and site management



# Short-term Access Solution

- “Bridge” the gap
- Used reduced factors of safety
  - (minimum criteria but checked against historic overloads and conditions)
- Mitigation/management of site
  - Control loads by gate access
  - Annual inspection
  - Post-flood inspection
  - Short-term = 5 years!























# Summary

- Foundation constraints for emergency access to establish minimum design criteria (working with what you have to move ahead)
- Multiple in-depth inspection techniques
  - Value within one firm → One stop “shopping”
  - Availability of technology
- It doesn't have to look great...it just needs to do the job SAFELY!
- A long-term solution is still in planning. All data will be used in looking at alternatives.
- Documentation, documentation, documentation!



# Costs

- Inspection Contract - \$24,700
- Bridge Supply and Installation
  - Supply - \$93,685
  - Installation - \$28,455
- Being able to get to your cabin again:
  - PRICELESS?