

BFI Reconnaissance Form

Site Reconnaissance

As a part of the Bridge Foundation Investigation (BFI) report process, a site reconnaissance should be made to inspect the existing structure (if applicable), look for settlement problems with the endfills or pile caps, examine the stream crossing through the bridge structure (if applicable) to determine potential problems with erosion, scour or flow characteristics and look for other features or potential problems. During this site visit, the BFI Reconnaissance Form should be filled out, with any of these problems noted, and a sketch drawn showing a plan view of the bridge with the stream, roadway or railroad that the bridge crosses. The engineer should take photos of the bridge and stream crossing, both upstream and downstream of the bridge for the project records.

Prior to visiting the site

Do we have existing boring data or foundation data for the site or area?

On the site visit check and note the following:

Type of existing foundations
Any repairs or addition of piling
Settlement problems with endfill
Any settlement in the bridge deck
Any shims between cap and beam
Limits and condition of rip rap
Rock outcrops
Presence of old foundations or obstacles in area
Is project staked?
Are BMs in-place?
Are plans compatible with the site?

Prepare sketch of site in plan view

For stream crossings, this sketch should cover from at least 300 feet up stream to 300 feet downstream.

For major streams and rivers the sketch should extend far enough upstream and downstream to show potential for stream cutting or meander.

Note locations of sand deposition, rock outcrops, trees being undermined, scour holes, etc.

Develop profile of stream bottom if possible from existing bridge.

Note the existence of utilities hanging from the bridge on this sketch.

Provide any comments that you can on how will the site have to be drilled?

If BM or BM data is not present, notify the project manager.

If the project is not staked, notify the project manager.