

# Colorado Department of Transportation

## Bridge Rating Manual

### Purpose

Each major structure in Colorado is rated to determine its safe live load capacity.

The purpose of this manual is to organize the rating process so that the procedures and results conform to the policies of the Colorado Department of Transportation. However, this manual should not overrule sound engineering judgment.

The user of this manual shall have current copies of the AASHTO Standard Specifications for Highway Bridges, the AASHTO Manual for Condition Evaluation of Bridges, the AASHTO Manual for Maintenance Inspection of Bridges, and the Staff Bridge Design Manual, and be familiar with applicable sections of these manuals.

Rating procedures for structure types not identified in this manual shall be developed by the rater and shall be subject to review and approval.

### Disclaimer

The computer programs referenced in this Manual have been tested. However, no warranty, expressed or implied, is made by the Colorado Department of Transportation as to the accuracy and functioning of the programs, nor shall the fact of distribution constitute any such warranty, and no responsibility is assumed by the Colorado Department of Transportation in any connection herewith.

### Acknowledgment

Special thanks to those in Staff Bridge who reviewed this manual prior to publication.

### **Prepared by:**

Staff Bridge Branch  
Rating Unit

Russell W. Struckman, P.E.  
Staff Bridge Rating Engineer

M. Mohseni  
M. Nord

### **Approved by:**

Stephen W. Horton, P.E.  
Staff Bridge Engineer

Malcolm L. Best, P.E.  
Staff Bridge Construction Engineer

1995

---

Notes: