

**FINAL**  
**FAILURE INVESTIGATION**  
**WESTCHESTER NORTH LAGOON BRIDGE**  
**Anchorage, Alaska**

August 2014

*Prepared for:*  
Municipality of Anchorage  
Project Management and Engineering  
P.O. Box 196650  
Anchorage, Alaska 99519-6650

*Prepared by:*  
*USKH Inc. now Stantec*  
2515 A Street  
Anchorage, Alaska 99503  
Phone (907) 276-4245  
Fax (907) 258-4653

USKH WO#1419006

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## ACRONYMS

AASHTO .....	American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials
DMV .....	Alaska Department of Motor Vehicles
Glulam .....	glued laminated timber
LRFD.....	Load and Resistance Factor Design
MOA.....	Municipality of Anchorage
NDS.....	National Design Specification for Wood Construction
PM&E.....	Project Management and Engineering
Psf .....	pounds per square foot
UBC.....	Uniform Building Code
USKH .....	<i>USKH Inc. – Now Stantec</i>

## 1 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The North Lagoon Bridge failed under vehicle load when a truck and chipper crossed the bridge. The failure was caused by a connection detail that allowed a constant influx of moisture into the main supporting glulam beam. The moisture kept the interior of the beam in a saturated condition and produced decay over time. The highly concentrated force from the chipper tire applied a significant shear load across a relatively small area of glulam beam. A local failure developed at one point in the decayed area, then like a zipper, the failure plane spread outward down the beam both sides from the initial point of failure. This bottom side of the beam, ledger, and decking tumbled into the wetland.

Some summary points regarding the analysis site observation and analysis of cause of failure:

- While the new fiberglass decking added load to the bridge, it was not the cause of failure.
- Normal pedestrian loading could not have initiated this type of failure until the wood decay was significantly more advanced.
- The lag bolts allowed moisture to infiltrate the interior of the glulam beam causing decay and weakness to occur in the connection zone. The beams were preservative treated but the treatments penetrate wood only to a depth of 2 inches. The lag bolts created a path for water to penetrate into the untreated core of the beam.
- Had that connection zone not been decayed, the truck and chipper would not have caused failure.
- The ledger detail induced cross-grain tension in the main supporting member, which is not recommended in wood design.

## 2 INTRODUCTION

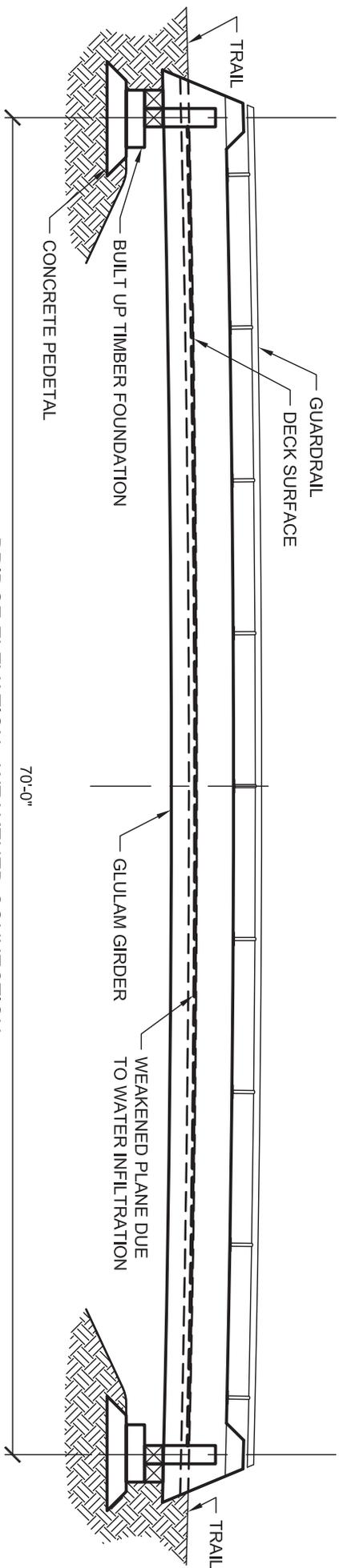
The North Westchester Lagoon Bridge failed on June 16, 2014, as a truck towing a wood chipper crossed the bridge. The MOA Parks and Recreation Department contacted *USKH Inc., now Stantec* (USKH) Structural Engineers and requested an emergency evaluation. As part of the emergency evaluation, MOA requested an analysis and a determination of the cause of failure.

The North Lagoon Bridge is located on the northwest end of Westchester Lagoon, see Figure 1. The bridge crosses over a wetland area between the lagoon and the railroad. Original contract documents were available for this investigation and reviewed (Appendix A). Site visits were conducted on June 16 and 17, 2014.

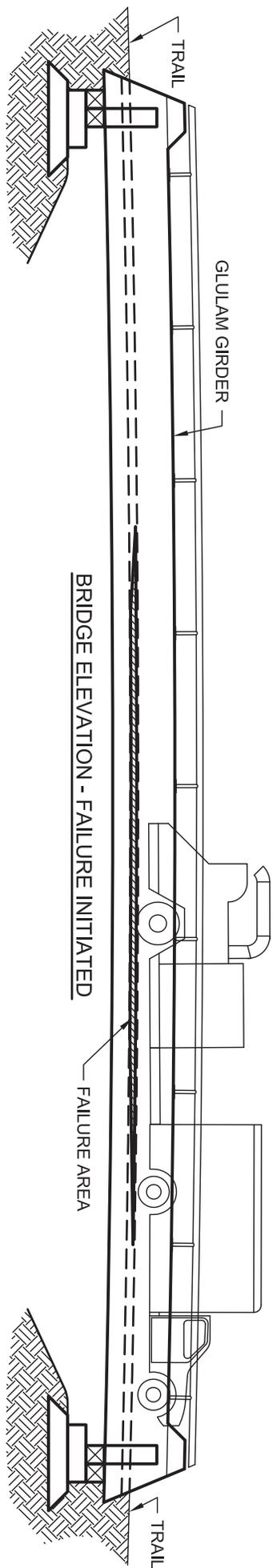
## 3 DESCRIPTION

The North Lagoon Bridge spans approximately 70 feet and is framed with glued laminated timber (glulam) beams and wood decking. The glulams are spaced 10 feet apart with the decking spanning in between supported by wood ledgers. The ledgers are inset into the glulam, and secured with lag bolts. The structure foundation is a shallow foundation system composed of timbers resting on a concrete leveling pad. A small utility conduit was attached to the bottom of the decking running along near the east glulam beam. It is our understanding that the bridge has not has any significant rehabilitation work or modifications except in 2013 when an overlay of fiberglass decking was secured to the decking and the guardrails were modified by adding another pipe railing. The original construction drawings were completed in 1987 as part of Phase 3 of the Coastal Trail construction.

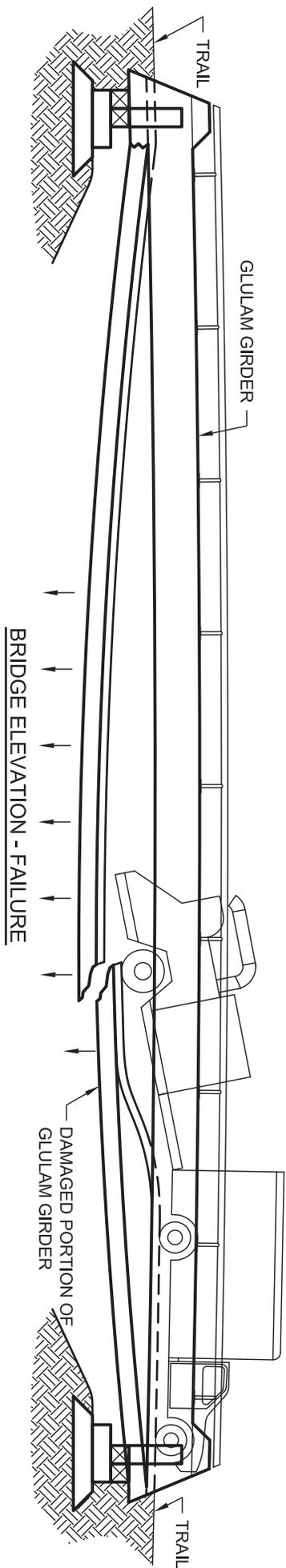
The original construction drawings have a general notes section that lists design criteria and material specifications, see Figure 2. The design codes cited are the 1985 UBC and 1983 AASTHO Specifications. Pertinent design loading indicated is 85 per square foot (psf) uniform live load and an overload vehicle with 10,000-pound (lb) weight and 8,000 lb axle load. The glulams specified are 22F-V8 DF/DF and other lumber Douglas Fir No. 1. All lumber was specified to be pressure treated.



BRIDGE ELEVATION - WEAKENED CONNECTION



BRIDGE ELEVATION - FAILURE INITIATED



BRIDGE ELEVATION - FAILURE



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COASTAL TRAIL BRIDGE ASSESSMENT  
 NORTH WESTCHESTER LAGOON BRIDGE  
 Municipality of Anchorage  
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Figure  
**2**



VICINITY MAP

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Figure

1

## 4 SITE OBSERVATIONS

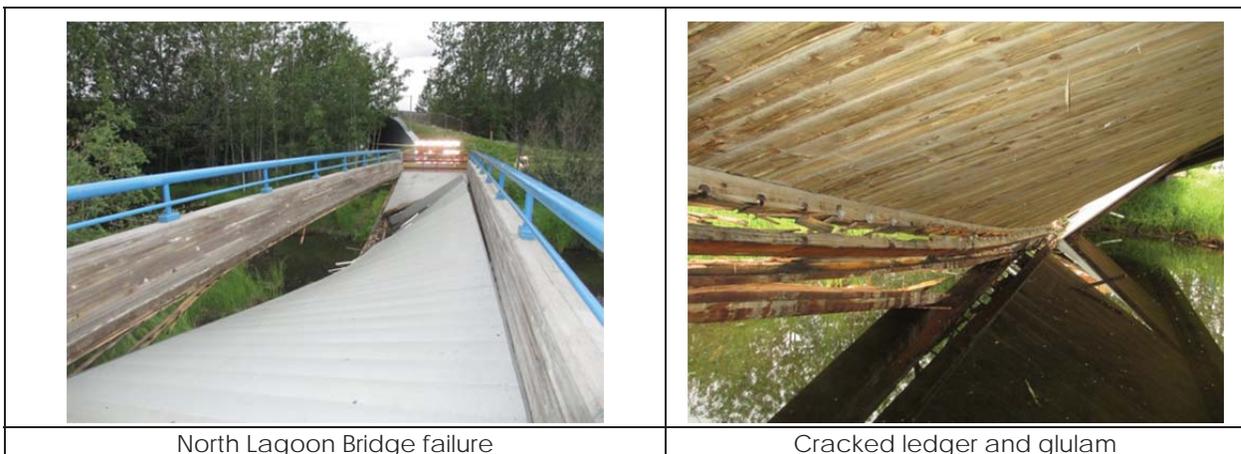
Site visits were conducted June 16 and June 17, 2014. The truck and chipper had been removed prior to the site visits and information regarding the equipment was supplied by the Municipality of Anchorage (MOA). The dimensions of the main bridge glulam beams, ledger, decking, and lag bolts were measured and compared to the construction document drawings. The glulam and lag bolts match the specific dimensions but the ledger connecting the decking to the glulam was slightly wider than called out. The called out ledger was a 4x6 which has actual dimensions of 3-1/2 by 5-1/2 inches. The measured depth matched the 5-1/2 inches but the measured width varies from 5 to 5-1/4 inches. The ledger inset dimension appeared to vary from 3/4- to 1-inch. This variation would not significantly change the capacity of this connection.

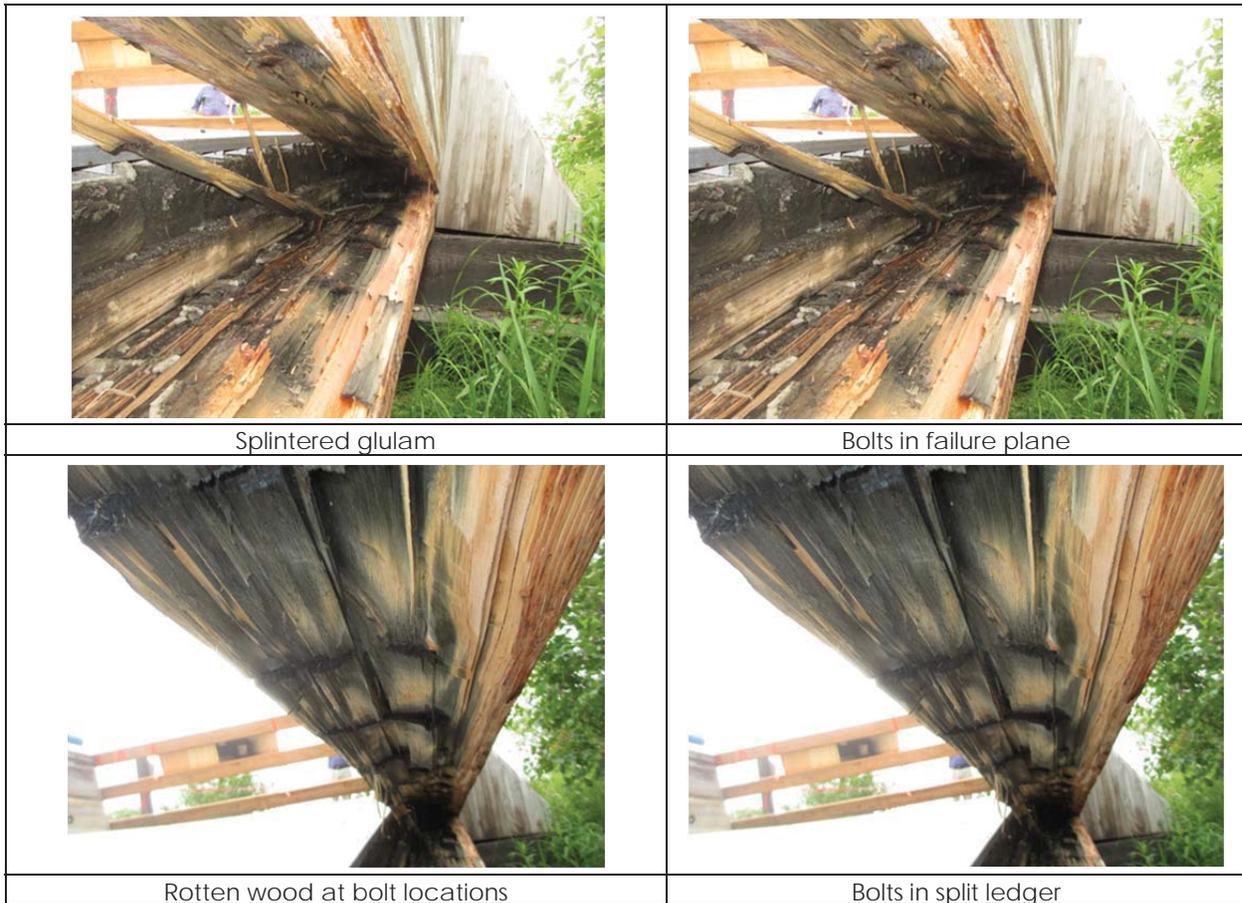
The east side glulam beam failed when the bottom part of the beam split off from the main beam and came to rest in the wetlands. Most of the deck ledger was split. A portion remained connected to the glulam while other portions remained connected to the deck. The upper portion of the west glulam was still intact spanning the wetland. The east glulam appeared undamaged. The east ledger was rotated with the twisted surface of the decking and had a crack in line with the bolts at the points of maximum twisting.

The surfaces of the glulam at the exposed failure plane were closely examined. The surfaces appeared moist and brown; stained from infiltrated moisture. The lag bolts were corroded, indicative of having been exposed to moisture. The darkest staining of the failure plane was near the point where the deck collapsed beneath the wood chipper, as shown in the newspaper photos.

The outside both glulam beams were weathered and grey. There was some minor checking and cracking in the sides of the remaining beam. There was larger checking and splitting in the top of the beams in line with the lag bolts that secure handrail mounts. The east ledger has areas of water staining and moisture on the surface. The top of the wood decking could not be observed because it was covered by the fiberglass deck overlay.

Photos taken during the site visits follow:





## 5 ANALYSIS

An analysis of the bridge was performed generally based on the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO) Load and Resistance Factor Design (LRFD) *Guide Specification for the Design of Pedestrian Bridges*, 2009; AASHTO LRFD *Bridge Design Specifications*, 6<sup>th</sup> Edition with 2013 Interim Revisions, and the 2005 *National Design Specification for Wood Construction* (NDS).

Only Limit State Strength I was checked to determine dead and live load capacity under the failure condition. Deflection and other serviceability limit states, seismic, wind, and foundations were not checked as they are not applicable to the failure. The current pedestrian bridge specification recommends 90 psf loading, non-reducible. Older versions of the pedestrian specifications recommend 85 psf, which was reducible when the area of deck supported exceeds a minimum threshold value. Given the area of the bridge deck for this bridge, the design live load could be reduced down to 69 psf under previous editions of the specification. The design documents reference 85 psf so it was assumed the bridge was designed for the reduced load.

MOA provided information regarding the truck and the chipper crossing the bridge as it failed. The truck was a 2006 Ford F-550 with an Alaska Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) registration weight of 7,099 lbs. The chipper was a 2005 Morbark Tornado 15 with a listed shipping weight of 7,300 lbs. The truck has single tires in front and dual tires in the rear. The truck was empty of tree chippings at the time of

crossing. The chipper has a single axle with single tires on each side. The truck appeared custom with a cargo section on the rear so an estimation of front-rear distribution of load and wheelbase of the truck was made by reviewing manufacturer specifications regarding the type of truck. The chipper was assumed to apply little tongue weight to the truck, so the weight of the chipper was fully applied to the single axle.

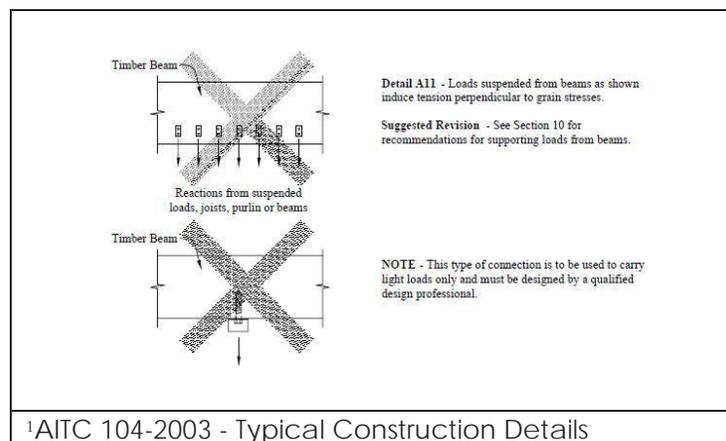
The new handrail and fiberglass deck overlay added in the 2013 trail rehabilitation added approximately 7% weight to the bridge. Modifications made to structures that cause a load increase of less than 10% are usually not considered significant.

Wood member allowable stresses were taken from the current AASHTO or NDS provisions based on the grades of wood noted in the general notes on the original construction documents.

The analysis shows the capacity of the main glulam beams is limited by an overall uniform live load of approximately 72 psf. The main beams have adequate capacity for the design vehicle and actual truck plus chipper vehicle loading. The decking is limited by the point loading from vehicles. It is loaded to its maximum capacity by the vehicle that crossed the bridge. The ledger connection appears to have adequate capacity for both uniform load and concentrated vehicle load assuming a bearing limit state on the notched glulam. Full calculations are included in Appendix B.

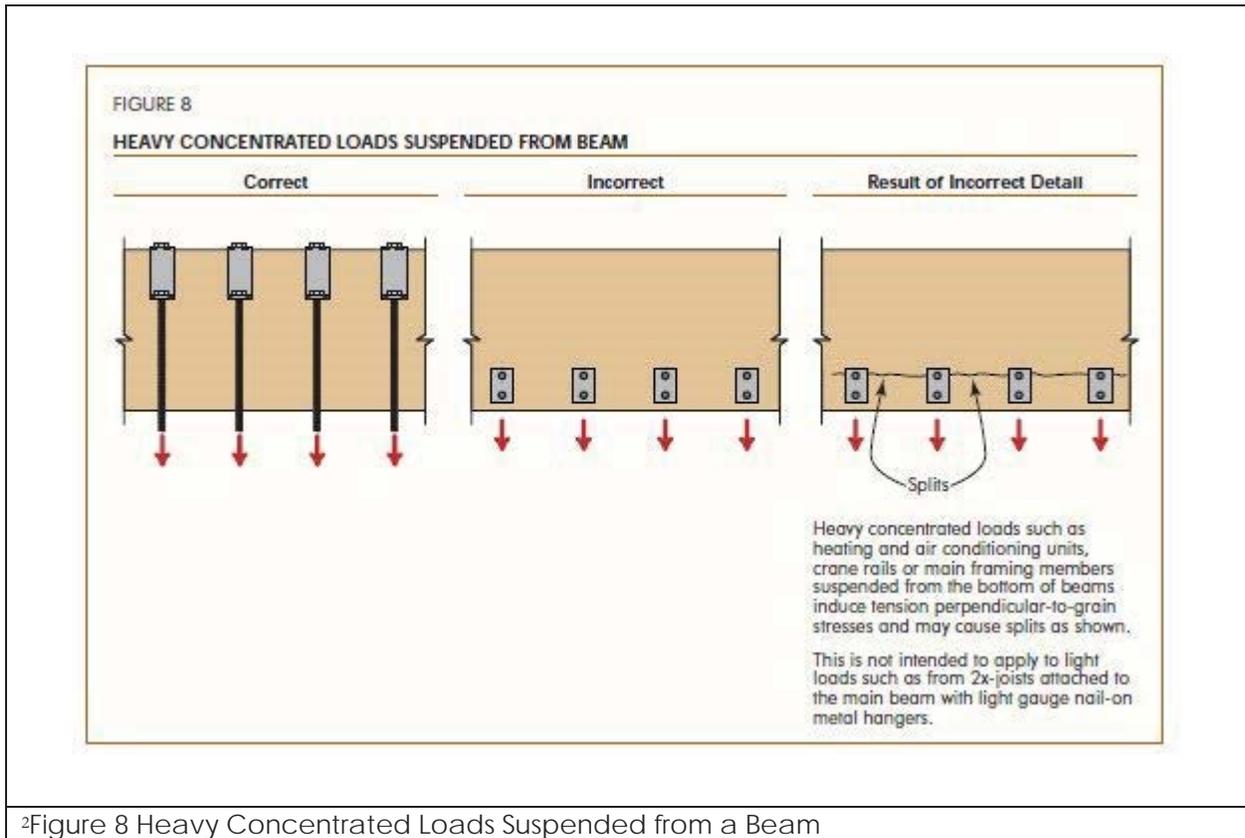
The failure mode, confirmed by analysis and site observations, appears to be cross-grain tension in the glulam beam. The ledger is set inboard of the glulam from 3/4- to 1-inch near the bottom of the glulam beams. The location means the bottom of the beam is loaded inducing cross-grain tension in the glulam. The NDS does not recognize this type of loading since wood is extremely weak in cross-grain tension, so designing connections that rely on cross-grain tension is not a recommended practice. The NDS gives recommendations for radial tension in curved glulam beams, which is basically the same as cross-grain tension. Using the allowable radial tension stress limitations given in NDS, and an assumption for length influenced by the tire loading, gives a Demand-Capacity Ratio of about 1.4. This means under the assumptions listed, the stress caused by the tire exceeds the allowable stress by about 40%. The code has a typical average factor of safety of 2, so in practice the vehicle loading did not cause failure until the plane was weakened when moisture infiltration and decay reduced the strength.

Reference the figures below from American Institute of Timber Construction and American Panel Association addressing this type of connection.



<sup>1</sup>AITC 104-2003 - Typical Construction Details

<sup>1</sup> American Institute of Timber Construction (AITC). AITC 104-2003 Typical Construction Details



A review of the as-built drawings and site investigation shows how this plane of weakness developed. Water drains off the deck onto the ledger below and eventually migrates down to the lag bolts drilled into the glulams. While in the glulams, the moisture collects in the wood and although some moisture will dissipate through the wood and back to the surface, most will stay. This results in this location of the glulam remaining in a saturated condition over time causing decay. The black/brown stains and the moistness of the beams at this area confirm this decay zone. The ledger detail relies on cross-grain tension developed in the bottom of the beam to transfer the load. This load transfer detail is not recommended as wood is weakest in this loading condition. A calculation using some assumptions showed that this was the weak link of the design. The connection held until strength reduction from wood decay reduced this capacity gradually over time.

## 6 CONCLUSIONS

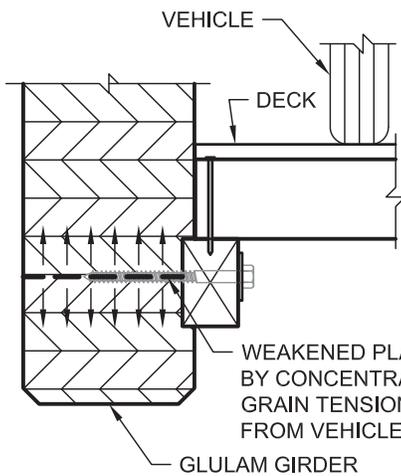
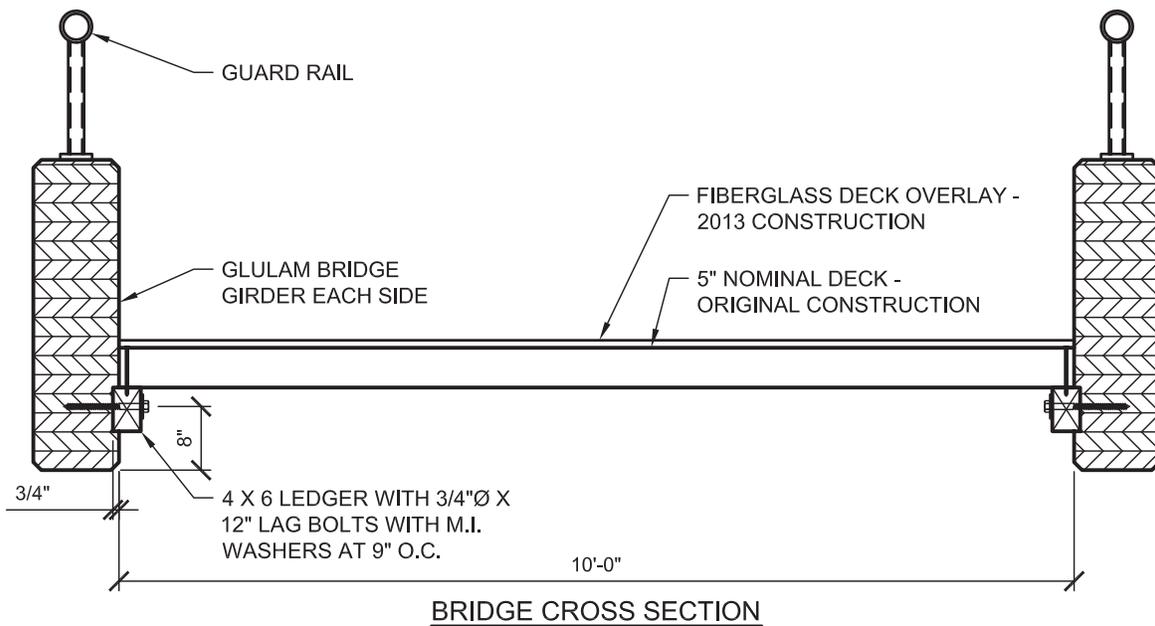
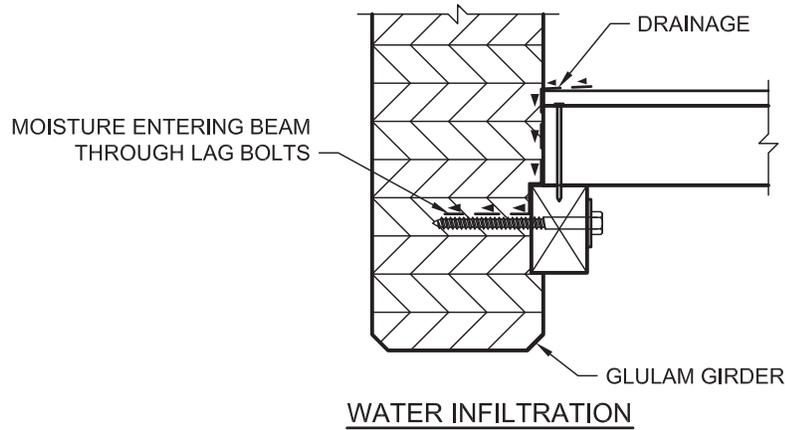
The North Lagoon Bridge failed under vehicle load. The failure mechanism was cross-grain tension along the plane of the lag bolts attaching the deck support ledger to the main glulam beams. Although this was not a recommended detail, it did not fail until years of water infiltration and decay weakened a plane defined by a line of lag bolts through the ledger.

<sup>2</sup> Form No. EWS T300H © 2007 Engineered Wood Systems. [www.apawood.org](http://www.apawood.org)

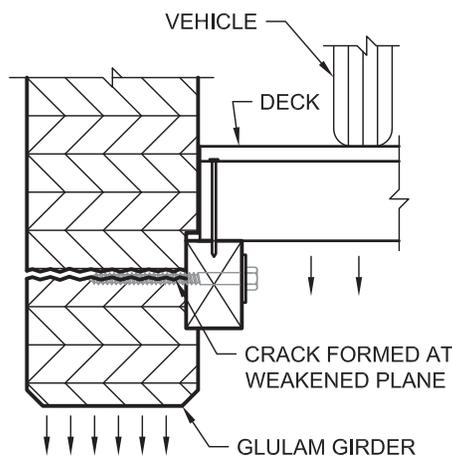
Water draining off the deck onto the ledger below and eventually migrated down the lag bolts drilled into the glulams. The constant influx of moisture into the glulam beam kept the plane in a saturated condition and decayed over time. The ledger detail relied on cross-grain tension developed in the bottom of the beam to transfer the load. The highly concentrated force from the chipper tire applied a significant shear load across a relatively small area of glulam beam. A local failure developed at one point, then like a zipper, the failure plane spread outward down the beam both sides from the initial point of failure. This bottom side of the beam, ledger, and decking tumbled into the wetland.

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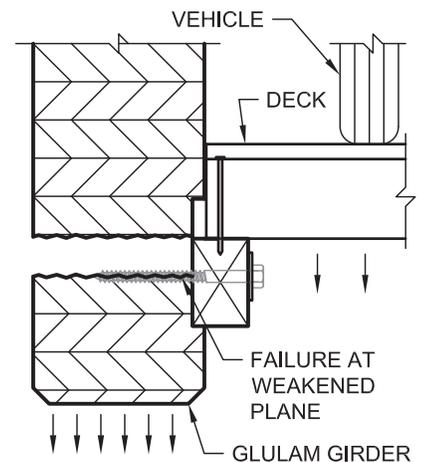
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**WEAKENED CONNECTION**



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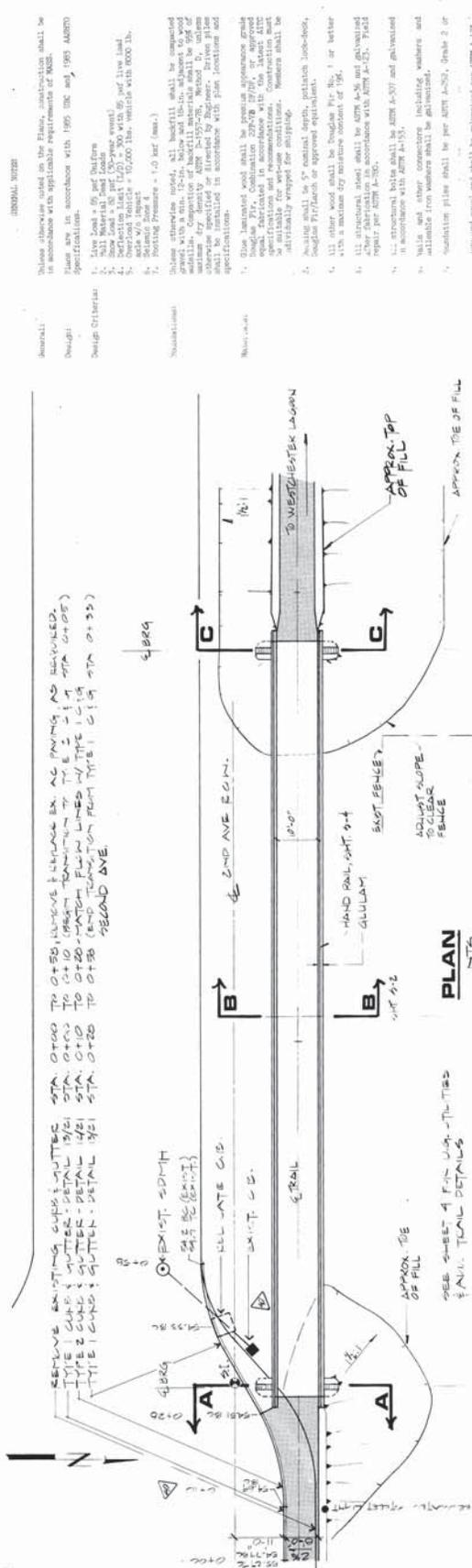
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Figure

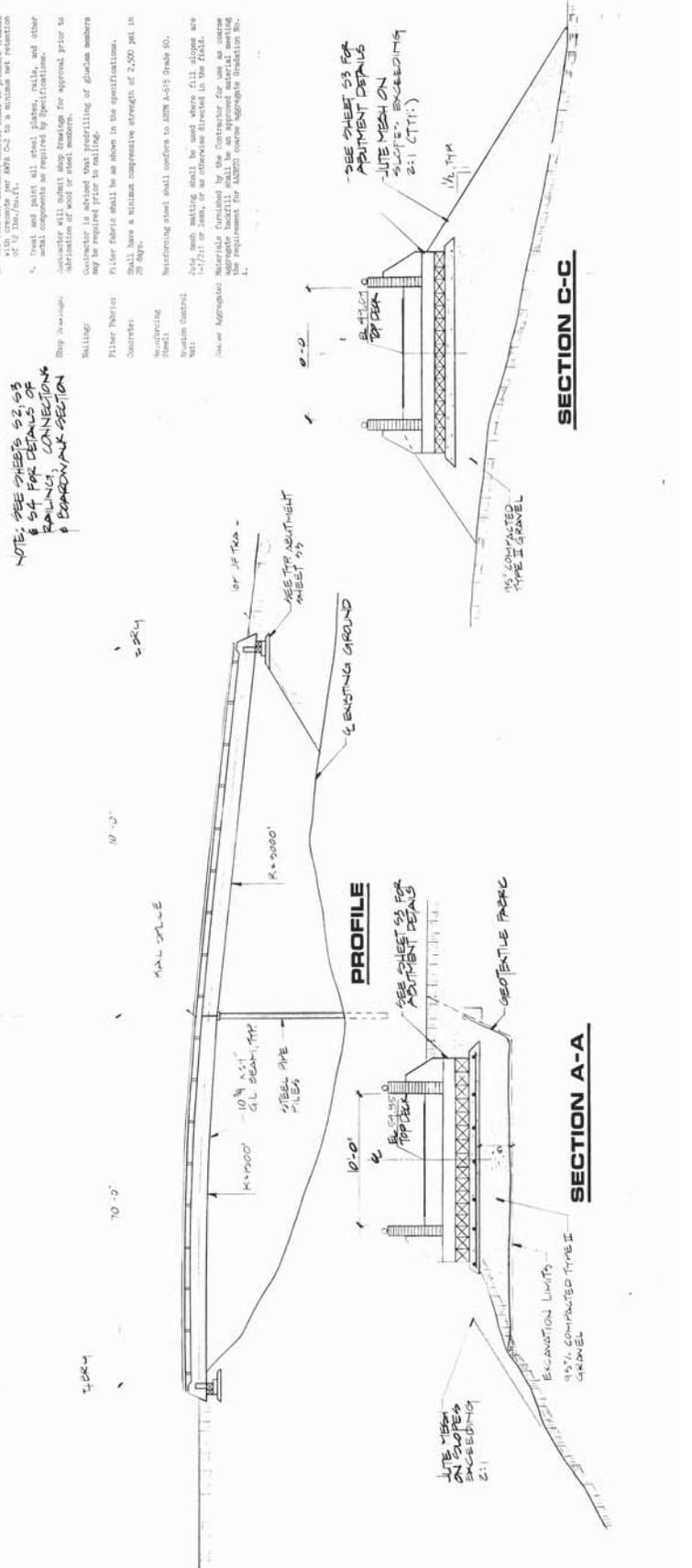
3

Appendix A – Original Construction Drawings



PLAN  
NTS

STA 0+33      STA 1+03      STA 1+73



PROFILE

SECTION A-A      SECTION C-C

Revisions: 1/23/97

01/2/97

10/20/96 10/20/96

Please refer to the Plans, submittal shall be in accordance with applicable requirements of NADP. Plans are in accordance with 1995 IRC and 1995 AASHTO specifications.

- Design Criteria:
1. Live Load = 80 psf (2.4 kN/m<sup>2</sup>)
  2. Wind Speed = 100 mph (161 km/h)
  3. Seismicity = 0.200 (10% probability with RSD 1b)
  4. Slope = 2:1 (10% slope)
  5. Subgrade = 10,000 lbs/sq ft (150 kN/m<sup>2</sup>)
  6. Frost Depth = 1.0 ft (305 mm)

Submittals:

Materials:

1. Blue structural steel shall be premium appearance grade (AISC 360) with minimum yield strength of 50 ksi (345 MPa) and minimum tensile strength of 65 ksi (448 MPa). Members shall be hot-dip galvanized to meet the requirements of AISC 15.1.
2. Steel shall be 5" nominal depth, plastic loadable, longline P17/40 or approved equivalent.
3. All other wood shall be Douglas Fir No. 1 or better with a moisture by moisture content of 19%.
4. All structural steel shall be ASTM A-588 and galvanized to meet the requirements of AISC 15.1. Field repair per ASTM A-300.
5. All structural bolts shall be ASTM A-307 and galvanized to meet the requirements of AISC 15.1.
6. Nails and other connectors including washers and anchors from washers shall be galvanized.
7. Foundation piles shall be per ASTM A-252, Grade 2 or approved equal and shall be galvanized per ASTM A-123.
8. Wood products shown on the drawings, except the steel, shall be kiln-dried to a maximum moisture content of 19% and shall be treated with preservative in accordance with AIAA 2-2.1. The preservative shall be applied to all surfaces of wood in contact with soil or water. The preservative shall be applied to all surfaces of wood in contact with soil or water. The preservative shall be applied to all surfaces of wood in contact with soil or water.
9. All wood for abutment subfill shall be pressure treated to meet the requirements of AIAA 2-2.1.
10. The contractor shall submit shop drawings for approval prior to fabrication of steel and wood members.
11. Contractor is advised that splicing of galvanized members may be required prior to setting.
12. Pile fabric shall be as shown in the specifications. Piles shall have a minimum compressive strength of 2,500 psi in 28 days.
13. Reinforcing steel shall conform to ASTM A-615 Grade 60.
14. High strength bolts shall be used when fish plates are used in pile-to-pile or pile-to-steel or steel-to-steel connections in the field.
15. Materials furnished by the Contractor for use in concrete aggregate bedfill shall be an approved material meeting the requirements for AASHTO concrete aggregate bedfill.

PHASE 3

COASTAL TRAIL

CONTRACT DOCUMENTS

BOARDWALK PLAN & DETAILS

2ND AVENUE & H STREET

DATE: 6/1/87      Com. No.: 86705.00

Drawn By:      Checked By:      \$1

Project No.: 605      109

Project Name: Boardwalk Plan & Details

Project Location: 2nd Avenue & H Street

Project Date: 6/1/87

Project No.: 86705.00

Project Name: Boardwalk Plan & Details

Project Location: 2nd Avenue & H Street

Project Date: 6/1/87

Project No.: 86705.00

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Project Date: 6/1/87

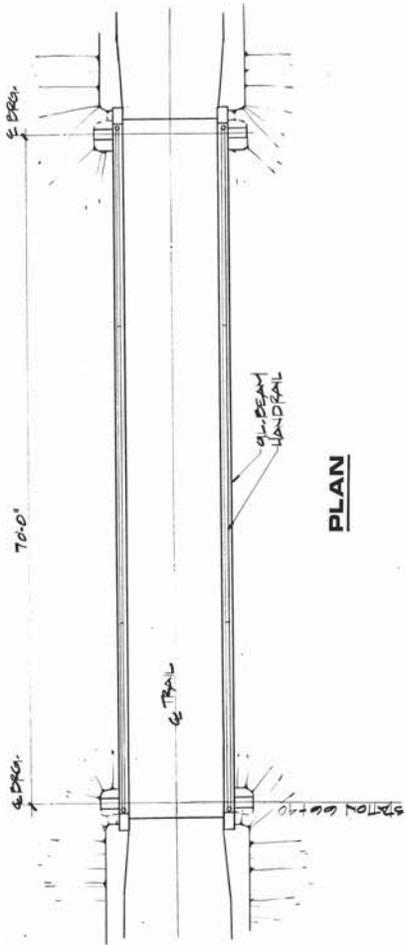
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Project Name: Boardwalk Plan & Details

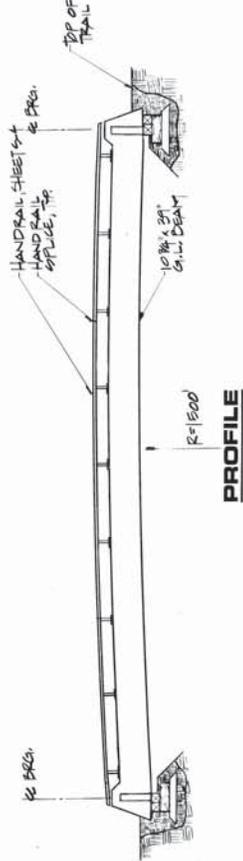
Project Location: 2nd Avenue & H Street

Project Date: 6/1/87

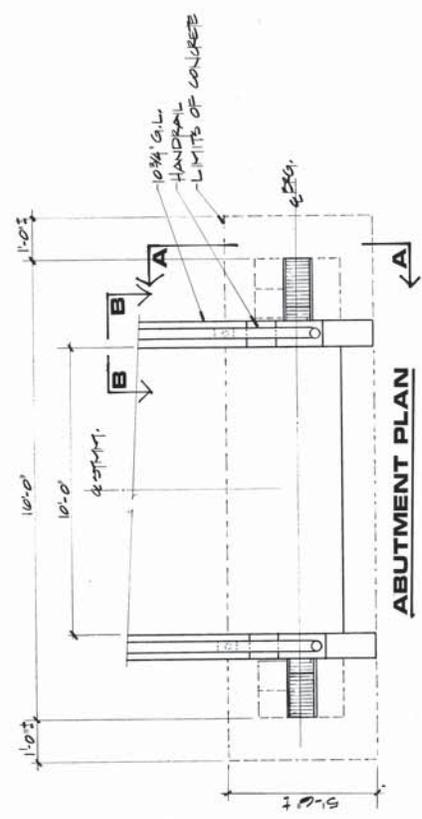
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**PLAN**

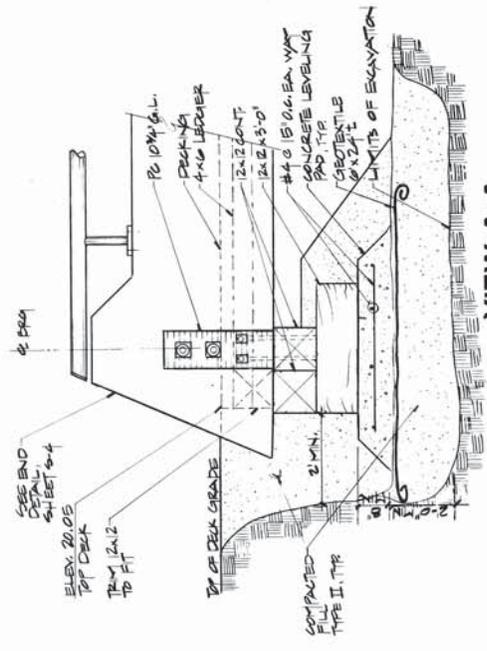


**PROFILE**

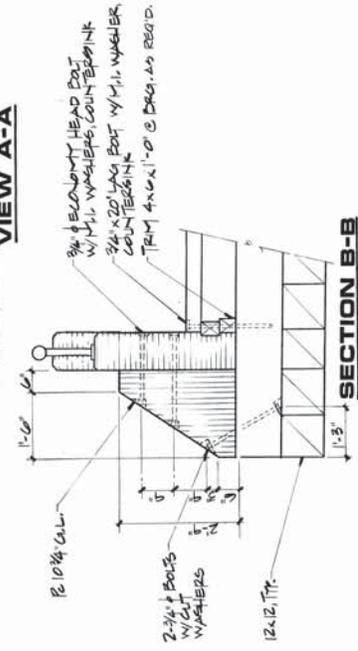


**ABUTMENT PLAN**

SEE GENERAL NOTES 511-51



**VIEW A-A**



**SECTION B-B**

**COASTAL TRAIL  
 PHASE 3**

COASTAL TRAIL  
 CONTRACT DOCUMENTS



**BOARDWALK PLAN &  
 DETAILS  
 WESTCHESTER LAGOON**

Date: 8/17/87 Com. No.: 98705.50  
 In Charge: J. DE  
 Drawn By: [Signature]  
 Checked By: [Signature]

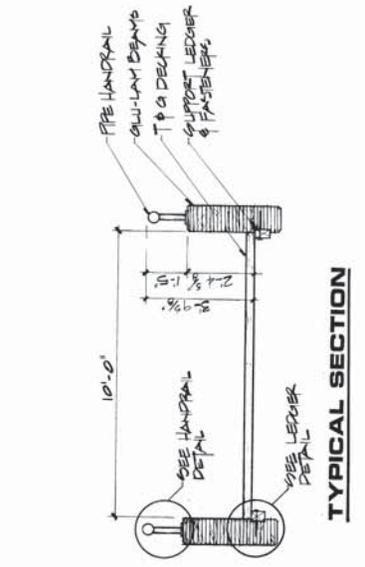
**S3**

Part Identification: 6.05  
 Plan Set Number: 11

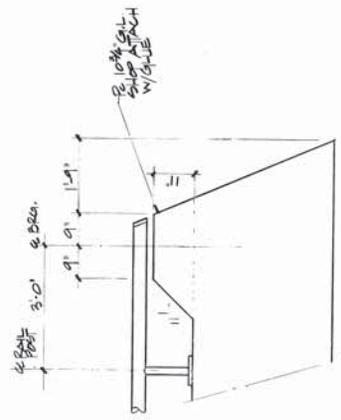
REVISIONS	9/22/81
	10/15/81



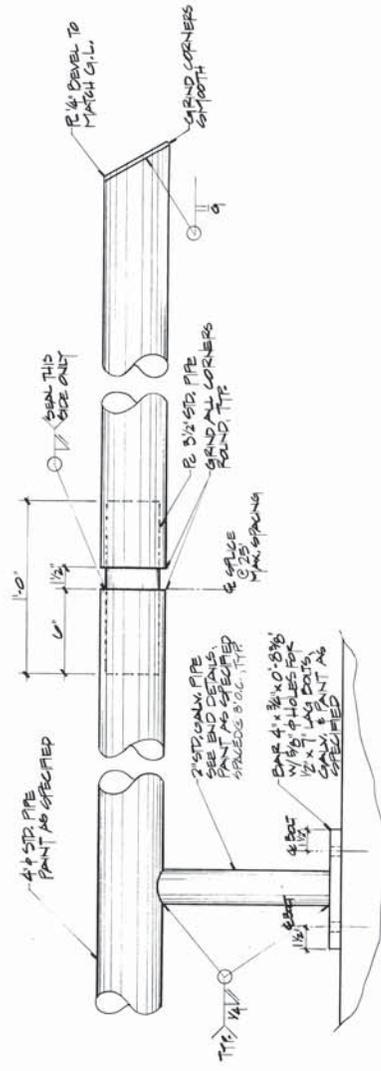
**LEDGER DETAIL**



**TYPICAL SECTION**



**END DETAIL**



**HAND RAIL DETAILS**

**COASTAL TRAIL  
PHASE 3**

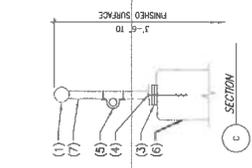
COASTAL TRAIL  
CONTRACT DOCUMENTS



Plan Set Number: 609  
112

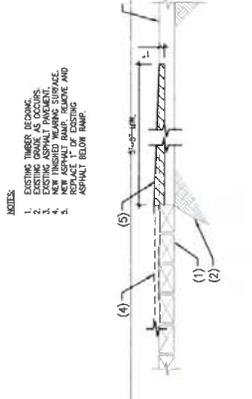
**BOARDWALK DETAILS**  
Date: 6/1/87  
In Charge: DK  
Drawn By:  
Checked By:  
**S4**

- NOTES:**
- EXISTING STEEL PIPE RAILING.
  - PIPE STRIP WITH 1/4" DIA. SELF-DRILLING.
  - NEW 1/2" x 4" x 1/8" 3/8" STEEL SHIMS WITH NAILS FROM MAIN TRUSS TO MATCH EXISTING BALANCE.
  - SHIMS PER POST; CONTRACTOR TO SOIL ANALYSIS TO ACHIEVE RAIL HEIGHT.
  - UNIFORM 3/8" RAILING HEIGHT WITH NEW GALVANIZED SCREWS AND LATCHES TO ACHIEVE EQUALHINT.
  - NEW 1 1/2" STD. GALVANIZED PIPE FINISH TO MATCH EXISTING RAILINGS.
  - PROVIDE END CAP AND INTERMEDIATE EXISTING STEEL PIPE NATIONAL FIELD VERIFY EXISTING STRIKE POST SPACING. FOR BIDDING PURPOSES, ASSUME 6'-0" O.C.



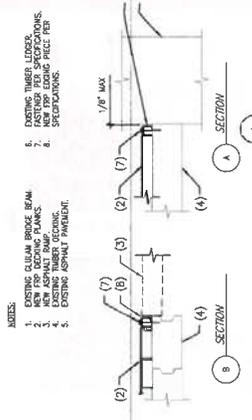
**05** EXISTING STEEL RAILING MODIFICATIONS  
SCALE: NOT TO SCALE

- NOTES:**
- EXISTING TIMBER DECKING.
  - EXISTING ASPHALT PAVEMENT.
  - NEW ASPHALT RAMP SLAB AND ASPHALT TIE-IN PAINT.
  - REPLACE 1" OF EXISTING ASPHALT TIE-IN PAINT.



**04** NEW ASPHALT RAMP AT NEW FINISHED WEARING SURFACE  
SCALE: NOT TO SCALE

- NOTES:**
- EXISTING COLUMN BRIDGE BEAM.
  - EXISTING TIMBER DECKING.
  - EXISTING ASPHALT PAVEMENT.
  - EXISTING ASPHALT TIE-IN PAINT.
  - EXISTING ASPHALT TIE-IN PAINT.
  - EXISTING TIMBER DECKING.
  - NEW ASPHALT RAMP SLAB AND ASPHALT TIE-IN PAINT.
  - SPECIFICATIONS.



**03** NEW FRP DECKING AT EXISTING TIMBER DECKING  
SCALE: NOT TO SCALE

**EXISTING BRIDGE SURFACE DIMENSIONS FOR ESTIMATING DECKING QUANTITIES**

LOCATION	LENGTH	WIDTH	REMARKS
FISH CREEK BRIDGE	102'-0"	10'-0"	---
SOUTH LAGOON BRIDGE	151'-0"	10'-0"	---
EAST SPANS SOUTH LAGOON BRIDGE	151'-0"	10'-0"	---
SOUTH LAGOON CENTER BOARDWALK	ESTIMATE 800 SQ. FT.		---
NORTH LAGOON BRIDGE	72'-0"	10'-0"	---
2ND ALLENE BRIDGE	142'-0"	10'-0"	REMOVE EXISTING 1/2" TIMBER WEARING SURFACE

**NOTE:**  
DIMENSIONS AND QUANTITIES SHOWN ON THIS SHEET ARE FOR BIDDING PURPOSES OR AS NOTED OTHERWISE. FIELD VERIFY ALL CONDITIONS.

Department of Parks and Recreation  
Municipality of Anchorage

Healthy Parks and Recreation  
Healthy People

SCHNEIDER GROUP  
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA

SEAL OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF ANCHORAGE

## Appendix B – Calculations

## Dead Loads

Glulam Beams:  $10\frac{3}{4} \times 39$   $419 \text{ in}^3 = 2.91 \text{ ft}^3/\text{ft}$

$$wt = 2.91 (0.050 \text{ kcf}) = 0.146 \text{ k/ft}$$

$$0.146 (2)(70) = 20.4 \text{ k}$$

Decking:  $3\frac{21}{32}$  thick - use 3.75

$$\frac{3.75}{12} (0.050) = 0.0156 \text{ ksf}$$

$$0.0156 (10)(70) = 10.9 \text{ k}$$

Ledger:  $4 \times 6$   $\frac{19.25}{144} (0.050) (70)(2) = 0.9 \text{ k}$

Guardrail: w/ connectors, 11 lb/ft

$$(11)(70)(2) = 1.5 \text{ k}$$

Total DL =  $20.4 + 10.9 + 0.9 + 1.5 = 33.7 \text{ k}$   
 Original

## Fiberglass overlay

Strongwell Strongdek  $wt = 2.58 \text{ psf}$   $(2.58)(10)(70) = 1.8 \text{ k}$

## Additional Guardrail

$$(3)(70)(2) = 0.5 \text{ k}$$

Total Rehab items =  $1.8 + 0.5 = 2.3 \text{ k}$

Total DL =  $33.7 + 2.3 = 36.0 \text{ k}$  % increase = 6.8%  
 Current

$$\text{Uniform } wt = \frac{36 \text{ k}}{(10 \text{ ft})(70 \text{ ft})} = 51.4 \text{ psf} \text{ say } 52 \text{ psf}$$

## Live Loads

Uniform = 85 psf

Vehicle: 10000 lb with 8000 lb axle w/o impact

Under older Guide Specifications for Design of Pedestrian Bridges  
the main supporting members may have the loading reduced  
if the deck influence area exceeds 400 square feet.

$$w = 85 \left( 0.25 + \frac{15}{\sqrt{A_i}} \right) = 85 \left( 0.25 + \frac{15}{\sqrt{700}} \right) = 69 \text{ psf}$$

## Vehicle at Failure:

Chipper: 2005 Morbark Torado 15 7300 LB

Truck: 2006 Ford F550 (Custom) 7099 LB

chipper has single axle, one tire per side

Truck has front/rear axles, double tires per side

Span = 70'      width = 10'

Main Beams:

10<sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub> x 39 GLB

22F-V8 DF/DF

Reference Design Values

$$F_{bx0} = 2.2 \text{ ksi}$$

$$E_{x0} = 1.7 \times 10^3 \text{ ksi}$$

$$G_o = 0.5$$

$$F_{v0} = 0.265 \text{ ksi}$$

$$F_b = F_{b0} C_{KF} C_m (C_F \text{ or } C_v) C_{Fu} C_i C_d C_x$$

$$C_{KF} = \frac{2.5}{\phi} = \frac{2.5}{0.85} = 2.94 \text{ (bending)} \quad = \frac{2.5}{0.75} = 3.33 \text{ (shear)}$$

$$C_m = 0.80$$

$$C_v = \left[ \left( \frac{12.0}{39} \right) \left( \frac{5.125}{10.75} \right) \left( \frac{21}{70} \right) \right]^{0.10} \leq 1.0 = 0.732$$

$$C_{Fu} = 1.0$$

$$C_i = 1.0$$

$$C_d = 1.0$$

$$C_x = 0.8 \text{ (consider only strength I limit state)}$$

$$\Rightarrow F_b = 2.2 (2.94) (0.80) (0.732) (1.0) (1.0) (1.0) (0.8) = 3.03 \text{ ksi}$$

$$E = E_o C_m C_i$$

$$= 1.7 \times 10^3 (0.833) (1.0) = 1.42 \times 10^3 \text{ ksi}$$

$$F_v = 0.265 (3.33) (0.875) (1.0) (0.80) = 0.618 \text{ ksi}$$

$$M_r = \phi M_n$$

$$M_n = F_b SCL$$

$$R_b = \sqrt{\frac{70 \times 12 \times 39}{(10.75)^2}} \leq 50 = 16.8$$

$$F_b E = \frac{(1.10)(1.142 \times 10^3)}{(16.8)^2} = 5.53$$

$$A = \frac{5.53}{3.03} = 1.83$$

$$C_L = \frac{1 + 1.83}{1.9} - \sqrt{\frac{(1 + 1.83)^2}{3.61} - \frac{1.83}{0.95}} = 0.95$$

$C_v$  is lesser, therefore  $C_v$  controls

$$S = \frac{bd^2}{6} = \frac{(10.75)(39)^2}{6} = 2725 \text{ in}^3$$

$$\phi M_n = 0.85 (3.03 \text{ ksi}) (2725 \text{ in}^3) (1.0) = 7020 \text{ in-k}$$

$$V_r = \phi V_n$$

$$V_n = \frac{F_v bd}{1.5} = \frac{0.618 (10.75)(39)}{1.5} = 173 \text{ k}$$

$$V_r = 0.75 (173 \text{ k}) = 130 \text{ k}$$

Glulam beam check - bending

→ Uniform live load

$$M_u = \frac{1.25 \left[ (52 \text{ psf})(5 \text{ ft}) \right] (70 \text{ ft})^2}{8} + \frac{1.75 (85 \text{ psf})(5 \text{ ft})(70 \text{ ft})^2}{8}$$

$$= 655 \text{ ft-k} = 7855 \text{ m-k}$$

$$\frac{7855}{7020} = 1.12 \quad \% \text{ exceeded if consider full } 85 \text{ psf}$$

Live load limit at 1.0

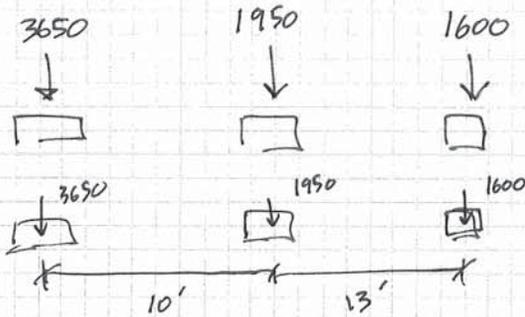
$$7020 - \frac{1.25(52)(5)(70)^2}{8} \left( \frac{12}{1000} \right) = 4631$$

$$\left( \frac{1000}{12} \right) 4631 = \frac{1.75 w (70)^2 (5)}{8} \Rightarrow w = 72 \text{ psf allowable live load with } P/C = 1.0$$

↑ Above the reduced uniform live load

→ Consider moment with truck/chipper

Note: The actual truck/chipper combo has greater weight than AASHTO 10000LB design truck



if tires placed on one side, 1 ft from edge, 1.2 multiplier for one side

$$V_{u \max} = 6.3 (1.2) (1.75) = 13.2 \text{ k}$$

$$M_{u \max} = 99.4 (1.2) (1.75) = 209 \text{ ft-k} = 2505 \text{ m-k}$$

$$\text{Add DL } V_u = (52 \text{ psf}) \left( \frac{10 \text{ ft}}{2} \right) \left( \frac{70 \text{ ft}}{2} \right) (1.25) = 11.4 \text{ k} + 13.2 \text{ k} = 24.6 \text{ k} \quad \frac{24.6}{130} = 0.19 \text{ OK}$$

$$M_u = 2389 + 2505 = 4894 \text{ m-k}$$

$$P/C = \frac{4894}{7020} = 0.70 \text{ OK}$$

Main beams OK for vehicle load but limited to uniform live load of 72 psf

## Decking

5in wide x 3 3/4 deep

DF Decking

$$F_{bx0} = 1.45 \text{ ksi (sing)}$$

$$1.650 \text{ ksi (rep)}$$

$$E = 1.70 \times 10^3 \text{ ksi}$$

$$F_{v0} = 0.112 \text{ ksi}$$

$$C_{KF} = 2.94$$

$$C_m = 0.85 \text{ (decking)} \quad 0.97 \text{ (shear)}$$

$$C_F = 1.0 \text{ (Included in NDS values)}$$

$$C_{Fu} = 1.0 \text{ (Included in NDS values)}$$

$$C_i = 1.0$$

$$C_d = 1.0$$

$$C_X = 0.8 \text{ (Strength I)}$$

$$\Rightarrow F_b = 1.65 (2.94)(0.85)(1.10)(1.10)(1.10)(1.10)(0.8) = 3.30 \text{ ksi}$$

$$E = E_0 C_m C_i$$

$$= 1.7 \times 10^3 (0.90)(1.10) = 1.53 \times 10^3 \text{ ksi}$$

Bending strength :

$$S = \frac{(5)(3.75)^2}{6} = 11.7 \text{ in}^3$$

$$\phi_{mn} = 0.85 (3.30 \text{ ksi})(11.7 \text{ in}^3)(1.10) = 32.8 \text{ in-k per plank}$$

shear:  $\phi = 0.75$

$$C_{KF} = \frac{25}{0.75} = 3.33$$

$$F_v = 0.18 (3.33)(0.97)(1.10)(0.8) = 0.465 \text{ ksi}$$

$$\phi_{Vn} = 0.75 \frac{F_v b d}{1.5} = 0.75 \frac{(0.465)(5)(3.75)}{1.5} = 4.4 \text{ K per plank}$$

— Check LL on decking

$$\text{Decking wt} = 15.6 + 2.6 = 18.2 \text{ psf}$$

$$\text{Pedestrian LL} = 85 \text{ psf}$$

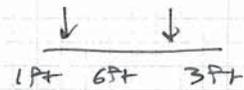
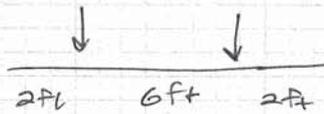
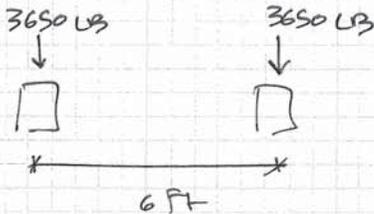
Load Factors

Str I	DC	PL
	1.25	1.75

$$\Rightarrow \text{load} = 18.2(1.25) + 85(1.75) = 171 \text{ psf}$$

$$M_u = \frac{(171)\left(\frac{5}{12}\right)(10)^2}{8} = 891 \text{ ft-lb} = 10.7 \text{ in-k} \quad \underline{\text{OK}}$$

Tire load: use 20 in x 10 in contact area



$$M_u = 153 \text{ in-k}$$

$$V_u = 6.39 \text{ K}$$

$$184 \text{ in-k}$$

$$7.67 \text{ K}$$

20 in contact area would engage at least 6 planks = 30 in

PL only

$$17.4(1.25) = 21.8 \text{ psf}$$

$$M_u = \frac{(21.8)(10)^2}{8} = 273 \frac{\text{ft-lb}}{\text{ft}}$$

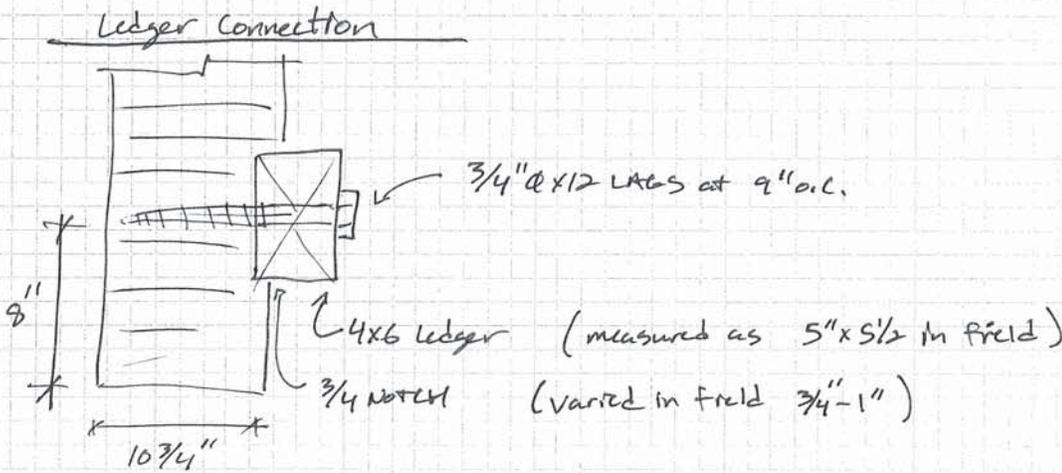
$$\text{over 30 in contact area} = 681 \text{ ft-lb} = 8.2 \text{ in-k}$$

$$\text{Total } M_u = 184 + 8 > 192 \text{ in-k}$$

$$\phi M_n = 32.8(6 \text{ planks}) = 197 \text{ in-k} \approx 0.97 \quad \underline{\text{OK}}$$

$$\text{Max } V_u = 1.25(17.4)\left(\frac{30}{12}\right)\left(\frac{10}{2}\right) + 7.67 \text{ K} = 7.94 \text{ K}$$

$$\phi V_n = 6(4.4) = 26.4 \text{ K} \Rightarrow \underline{\text{OK}}$$



"Connection design per 2005 NDS"  
 - If neglect notch and bearing on notch → consider only lag in shear.

$$Z' = Z \times C_m \phi_t \phi_g \phi_A \phi_B \phi_D \phi_E \phi_F \phi_2 \lambda$$

$$C_m = 0.7$$

$$K_F = \frac{2.16}{\phi} = \frac{2.16}{0.65} = 3.32$$

$$\phi_2 = 0.65$$

$$\lambda = 0.8 \text{ (occupancy)}$$

3/4" Ø LAG, 3/2 side member, 0.50 = G DF  $Z_{\perp} = 520 \text{ lb}$  NDS Table 11J

$$Z'_n = 520 (0.7) (3.32) (0.65) (0.8) = 628 \text{ LB}$$

$$\text{equivalent uniform load} = 628 \left(\frac{12}{9}\right) \left(\frac{1}{5 \text{ ft}}\right) = 167 \text{ psf} = w_u$$

$$D_L = 17.4 \text{ psf} (1.2) = 20.9 \text{ psf}$$

$$L_L = 8 \text{ psf} (1.6) = 136 \text{ psf}$$

use NDS/ASCE  
load factors per NDS

$$\frac{136 \text{ psf}}{157 \text{ psf}}$$

$$D/L = \frac{157}{167} = 0.94 \text{ OK}$$

$$\text{Actual } L_L \text{ capacity} = \frac{167 - 21}{1.6} = \underline{\underline{91 \text{ psf}}} \text{ if only consider lags}$$

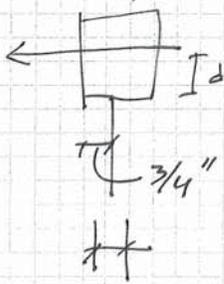
- Consider only lags for tire load

30" length  $\Rightarrow$  say 4 lags engaged

(4) (628 lb) = 2512 lb not enough capacity

Ledger connection did not fail, the glulam failed  
so load transfer must have occurred by direct bearing  
on the  $\frac{3}{4}$ " to 1" notch in the glulam

Consider bearing  
 - more consistent with observed failure mechanism



$$c = \left( \frac{3/4}{2} - \frac{3/2}{2} \right) = 1\frac{3}{8}'' \quad \phi_c = 0.90$$

$$K_F = \frac{1.1875}{0.90} = 2.108$$

$$\lambda = 0.8$$

$$\Rightarrow F_{c\perp}' = 625(0.167)(1.50)(2.108)(0.90)(0.8) = 941 \text{ psi}$$

$$941 \text{ psi} (12 \text{ in}) \left( \frac{3}{4} \text{ in} \right) = 8469 \text{ lb/ft} \Rightarrow w_u = 1693 \text{ psf}$$

Moment resisted by lag

$$m = pc = 1\frac{3}{8} P \quad T = C = \frac{m}{d} = \frac{1\frac{3}{8} P}{\frac{3/2}{2}} = 0.786 P$$

$$\frac{3}{4} \text{ LAG } w = 513 \text{ lb/in} \quad 5\frac{1}{2}'' \text{ embed}$$

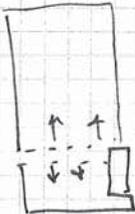
$$W' = W \times C_m \phi_t \phi_s \phi_{\perp} K_F \phi_z \lambda = 513(5.5)(0.7)(3.32)(0.65)(0.8) = 3410 \text{ lb}$$

$$P_u = \frac{3410}{0.786} = 4338 \text{ lb/ft} \Rightarrow w_u = 868 \text{ psf}$$

If consider direct bearing, ledger failure probably not a limit state

By loading on bottom section of beam, will induce cross-grain tension stress. → Actual failure mechanism observed

Consider area of stress. This is not considered by AASHTO or NDS. NDS does have guidance for radial tension stress at curved members  $F_{rt} = 15 \text{ psi}$ . This is basically same as cross-grain tension



$$F_{rt}' = F_{rt} \times C_m \times C_t \times K_F \times \beta \times \lambda$$

$$= 15 (0.7) (1.0) (2.88) (0.75) (0.8)$$

$$= 18.1 \text{ psi}$$

Consider over 30 in length

$$30 \text{ in} (10.75 - 0.75) (18.1) = 5440 \text{ LB}$$

$$V_u \text{ from tire loading} = 7670 \text{ LB} \quad \frac{D}{C} = 1.41$$

41% Exceeded

Alternative =  $\frac{1}{3} F_{rt} C_{Uv}$  (wind or earthquake loading or southern pine)

$$F_{rt} = \frac{1}{3} (265) (0.732) = 65 \text{ psi}$$

$$F_{rt}' = 65 (0.80) (2.88) (0.75) (0.8) = 89 \text{ psi}$$

The lower bound is probably more accurate.

TABLE 1

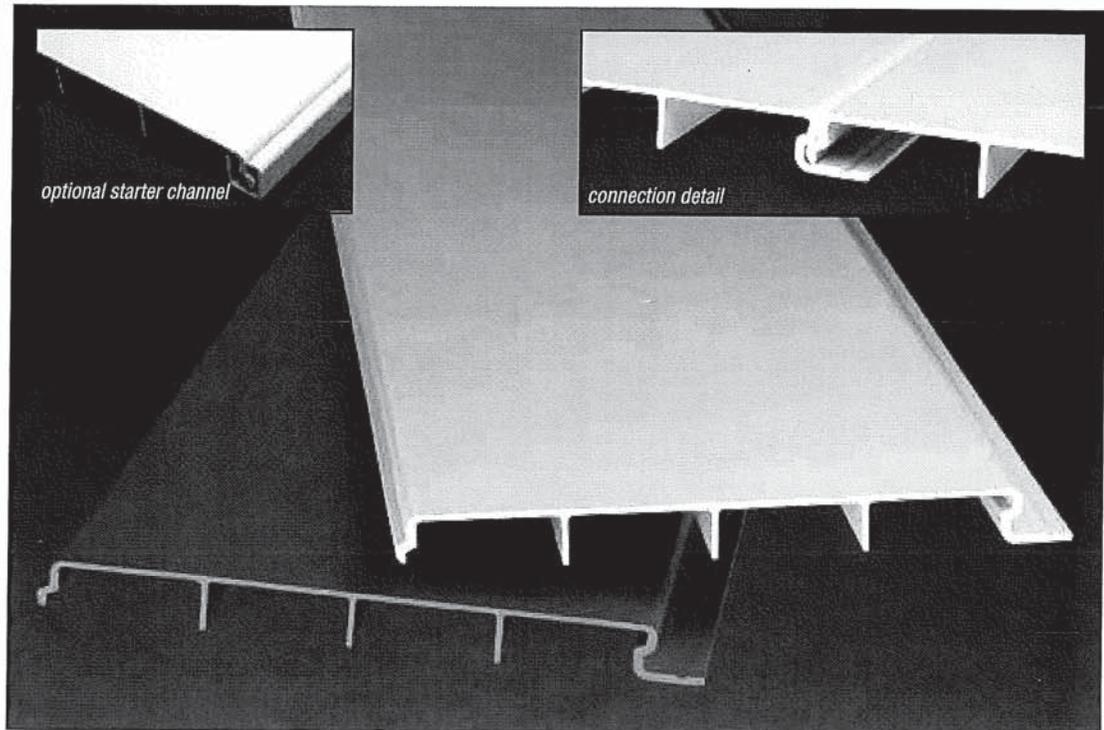
DESIGN VALUES FOR STRUCTURAL GLUED-LAMINATED SOFTWOOD TIMBER STRESSED PRIMARILY IN BENDING<sup>(1,2,3)</sup>

Combination Symbol	Species <sup>(4)</sup> Outer/Core	Balanced/ Unbalanced <sup>(5)</sup>	Bending About X-X Axis (Loaded Perpendicular to Wide Faces of Laminations)					
			Extreme Fiber in Bending <sup>(6)</sup>		Compression Perpendicular to Grain		Shear Parallel to Grain (Horizontal) <sup>(7)</sup>	Modulus of Elasticity <sup>(8)</sup>
			Tension Zone Stressed in Tension	Compression Zone Stressed in Tension	Tension Face	Compression Face		
			$F_{bx}^+$ (psi)	$F_{bx}^-$ (psi)	$F_{c1x}$ (psi)	$F_{vx}$ (psi)	$E_x$ (10 <sup>6</sup> psi)	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
<b>Western Species</b>								
EWS 20F-E/ES1 <sup>(11)</sup>	ES/ES	B	2000	2000	560	560	200	1.8
EWS 20F-E/SPF1 <sup>(12)</sup>	SPF/SPF	B	2000	2000	425	425	215	1.5
EWS 20F-E8M1	ES/ES	B	2000	2000	450	450	200	1.5
EWS 20F-V12	AYC/AYC	U	2000	1400	560	560	265	1.5
EWS 20F-V13	AYC/AYC	B	2000	2000	560	560	265	1.5
EWS 22F-V/POC1	POC/POC	B	2200	2200	560	560	265	1.8
EWS 22F-V/POC2	POC/POC	U	2200	1600	560	560	265	1.8
EWS 24F-E/ES1	ES/ES	U	2400	1700	560	560	200	1.7
EWS 24F-E/ES1M1	ES/ES	B	2400	2400	560	560	200	1.8
EWS 24F-V4	DF/DF	U	2400	1850	650	650	265	1.8
EWS 24F-V4M2 <sup>(13)</sup>	DF/DF	U	2400	1850	650	650	220	1.8
EWS 24F-V8	DF/DF	B	2400	2400	650	650	265	1.8
EWS 24F-V10	DF/HF	B	2400	2400	650	650	215	1.8
EWS 26F-E/DF1 <sup>(11)</sup>	DF/DF	U	2600	1950 <sup>(14)</sup>	650	650	265	2.0
EWS 26F-E/DF1M1 <sup>(11)</sup>	DF/DF	B	2600	2600	650	650	265	2.0
EWS 24F-1.8E Glulam Header <sup>(15)</sup>	WS,SP/ WS,SP	U	2400	1600	500	500	215	1.8
<b>Southern Pine</b>								
EWS 24F-V3	SP/SP	U	2400	1950	740	740	300	1.8
EWS 24F-V5	SP/SP	B	2400	2400	740	740	300	1.7
EWS 26F-V4	SP/SP	B	2600	2600	740	740	300	1.9
EWS 30F-E2	SP/SP	B	3000	3000	805	805	300	2.1 <sup>(19)</sup>
EWS 30F-E2M2 <sup>(14)</sup>	LVL/SP	B	3000 <sup>(17)</sup>	3000 <sup>(17)</sup>	650 <sup>(18)</sup>	650 <sup>(18)</sup>	300	2.1
EWS 30F-E2M3 <sup>(14)</sup>	LVL/SP	B	3000 <sup>(17)</sup>	3000 <sup>(17)</sup>	650 <sup>(18)</sup>	650 <sup>(18)</sup>	300	2.1
Wet-use factors			0.8	0.8	0.53	0.53	0.875	0.833

Footnotes on page 8.

Bending About Y-Y Axis (Loaded Parallel to Wide Faces of Laminations)				Axially Loaded			Fasteners		Combination Symbol
Extreme Fiber in Bending <sup>(9)</sup>	Compression Perpendicular to Grain	Shear Parallel to Grain (Horizontal) <sup>(7,10)</sup>	Modulus of Elasticity <sup>(8)</sup>	Tension Parallel to Grain	Compression Parallel to Grain	Modulus of Elasticity <sup>(8)</sup>	Specific Gravity for Dowel-Type Fastener Design		
$F_{by}$ (psi)	$F_{cLy}$ (psi)	$F_{vy}$ (psi)	$E_y$ ( $10^6$ psi)	$F_t$ (psi)	$F_c$ (psi)	$E_{axial}$ ( $10^6$ psi)	Top or Bottom Face	Side Face	
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	SG	18	
1100	300	175	1.5	1050	1150	1.6	0.41	0.41	EWS 20F-E/ES1 <sup>(11)</sup>
875	425	190	1.4	425	1100	1.4	0.42	0.42	EWS 20F-E/SPF1 <sup>(12)</sup>
1400	315	175	1.4	800	1000	1.4	0.41	0.41	EWS 20F-E8M1
1250	470	230	1.4	900	1500	1.4	0.46	0.46	EWS 20F-V12
1250	470	230	1.4	925	1550	1.5	0.46	0.46	EWS 20F-V13
1500	375	230	1.6	1150	1950	1.6	0.45	0.45	EWS 22F-V/POC1
1500	375	230	1.6	1150	1900	1.6	0.45	0.45	EWS 22F-V/POC2
1100	300	175	1.5	1050	1150	1.6	0.41	0.41	EWS 24F-E/ES1
1100	300	175	1.5	1050	1150	1.6	0.41	0.41	EWS 24F-E/ES1M1
1450	560	230	1.6	1100	1650	1.7	0.50	0.50	EWS 24F-V4
1450	560	230	1.6	1100	1650	1.7	0.50	0.50	EWS 24F-V4M2 <sup>(13)</sup>
1450	560	230	1.6	1100	1650	1.7	0.50	0.50	EWS 24F-V8
1450	375	200	1.5	1100	1550	1.6	0.50	0.43	EWS 24F-V10
1850	560	230	1.8	1400	1800	1.8	0.50	0.50	EWS 26F-E/DF1 <sup>(11)</sup>
1850	560	230	1.8	1400	1800	1.8	0.50	0.50	EWS 26F-E/DF1M1 <sup>(11)</sup>
1300	375	200	1.5	950	1200	1.6	0.42	0.42	EWS 24F-1.8E Glulam Header <sup>(15)</sup>
1750	650	265	1.6	1150	1650	1.7	0.55	0.55	EWS 24F-V3
1750	650	265	1.5	1150	1650	1.6	0.55	0.55	EWS 24F-V5
2100	650	265	1.8	1200	1600	1.9	0.55	0.55	EWS 26F-V4
1750	650	265	1.7	1350	1750	1.7	0.55	0.55	EWS 30F-E2
1750	650	265	1.7	1350	1750	1.7	0.50	0.50	EWS 30F-E2M2 <sup>(16)</sup>
1750	650	265	1.7	1350	1750	1.7	0.50	0.50	EWS 30F-E2M3 <sup>(16)</sup>
0.8	0.53	0.875	0.833	0.8	0.73	0.833	See NDS	See NDS	

## STRONGDEK™ FIBERGLASS ARCHITECTURAL DECKING SYSTEM



- **Easy to Install**
- **Hidden Fastening System**
- **Rot, Rust and Mildew Resistant**
- **Non-Conductive**
- **Stronger than Wood or Plastic Lumber**
- **Lightweight**

STRONGDEK™ fiberglass decking is an attractive, low-maintenance architectural decking system that offers an alternative to traditional decking materials. The panels will not rot, rust, chip or mildew, which make them ideal for high-moisture environments, including saltwater.

STRONGDEK™ panels are designed to connect to form a continuous solid surface utilizing an innovative interlocking design. The deck sections are easily installed with screw-like fasteners that are not visible, creating a smooth, attractive surface.

STRONGDEK™ panels have intermediate ribs on each panel that help provide extra stiffness and strength, allowing the deck to perform ideally in areas with pedestrian traffic. An optional grit surface can be added to provide a non-skid surface.



Typical applications of STRONGDEK™:

- Hotel Recreational Areas
- Homes and Condominiums
- Buildings in Coastal Areas
- Marinas and Docks

*STRONGDEK™ decking was installed at the Perdido Beach Resort in 2003, and still looks attractive today. The resort's owner, Jim Medlock, said, "The deck has held up very well. During the summer months, it has a function on it just about every Friday and Saturday night!"*

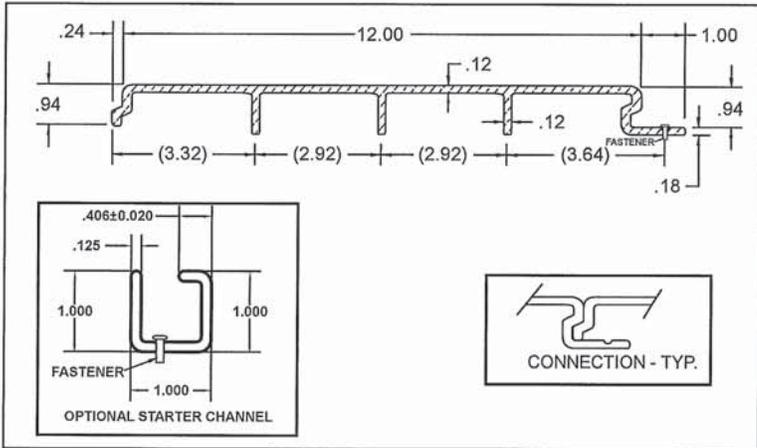
## Sizes and Colors

STRONGDEK™ is 12" wide and standard 24' long panels are available in stock. Panels can also be produced in any length that is practical. Standard colors are light gray or beige. Panels can be produced with an optional grit surface.

## Available Accessories

A STRONGDEK™ starter channel can be used to provide a finished look to lengthwise ends, while equal leg angles can be used for end closures and/or cantilever supports.

## Dimensional Details



## STRONGDEK™ Load / Deflection Data

$I_{12} = 0.31 \text{ in.}^4$  Wt = 2.58 lb./lin. ft. (gritted)

SPAN		50	100	150	200	250	300	350	400	450	500	550	600	650
		u=2394 c=730	u=4788 c=1460	u=7182 c=2190	u=9576 c=2920	u=11970 c=3650	u=14364 c=4380	u=16758 c=5110	u=19152 c=5840	u=21546 c=6570	u=23940 c=7300	u=26334 c=8030	u=28728 c=8760	u=31122 c=9490
24" 610mm	$\Delta u$	0.019	0.026	0.034	0.041	0.048	0.054	0.073	0.080	0.086	0.094	0.100	0.107	0.113
	$\Delta u$	0.488	0.671	0.853	1.036	1.219	1.372	1.859	2.042	2.195	2.377	2.530	2.713	2.865
	$\Delta c$	0.016	0.022	0.028	0.034	0.04	0.045	0.061	0.067	0.072	0.078	0.083	0.089	0.094
	$\Delta c$	0.406	0.559	0.711	0.864	1.016	1.143	1.549	1.702	1.829	1.981	2.108	2.261	2.388
30" 762mm	$\Delta u$	0.032	0.041	0.056	0.069	0.081	0.096	0.117	0.131	0.144	0.155	0.165	0.179	
	$\Delta u$	0.800	1.029	1.410	1.753	2.057	2.438	2.972	3.315	3.658	3.924	4.191	4.534	
	$\Delta c$	0.021	0.027	0.037	0.046	0.054	0.064	0.078	0.087	0.096	0.103	0.11	0.119	
	$\Delta c$	0.533	0.686	0.940	1.168	1.372	1.626	1.981	2.210	2.438	2.616	2.794	3.023	
36" 914mm	$\Delta u$	0.047	0.065	0.090	0.115	0.140	0.169	0.207	0.227	0.252				
	$\Delta u$	1.189	1.646	2.286	2.926	3.566	4.298	5.258	5.761	6.401				
	$\Delta c$	0.026	0.036	0.05	0.064	0.078	0.094	0.115	0.126	0.14				
	$\Delta c$	0.660	0.914	1.270	1.626	1.981	2.388	2.921	3.200	3.556				
42" 1067mm	$\Delta u$	0.067	0.101	0.145	0.191	0.239	0.288	0.340	0.365					
	$\Delta u$	1.707	2.560	3.680	4.854	6.081	7.308	8.641	9.281					
	$\Delta c$	0.032	0.048	0.069	0.091	0.114	0.137	0.162	0.174					
	$\Delta c$	0.813	1.219	1.753	2.311	2.896	3.480	4.115	4.420					
48" 1220mm	$\Delta u$	0.096	0.158	0.233	0.310	0.391	0.463							
	$\Delta u$	2.438	4.023	5.913	7.864	9.936	11.765							
	$\Delta c$	0.04	0.066	0.097	0.129	0.163	0.193							
	$\Delta c$	1.016	1.676	2.464	3.277	4.140	4.902							
54" 1372mm	$\Delta u$	0.138	0.246	0.370	0.497	0.626								
	$\Delta u$	3.498	6.241	9.395	12.619	15.911								
	$\Delta c$	0.051	0.091	0.137	0.184	0.232								
	$\Delta c$	1.295	2.311	3.480	4.674	5.893								

u = Uniform load in lbs/ft<sup>2</sup> (N/m<sup>2</sup>). For example, a 100 lb. uniform load over 3 ft<sup>2</sup> is 300 lbs. of total load.  
 $\Delta u$  = Typical deflection under the uniform load in inches (mm)

c = Concentrated load in lbs/ft of width (N/m of width)  
 $\Delta c$  = Typical deflection under concentrated load in inches (mm)

NOTE: STRONGDEK™ panels were attached to beams with tek screws and tested in a multi-panel configuration. This data was used to create the STRONGDEK™ load table above for a single panel.



# STRONGWELL

ISO-9001:2008 Quality Certified and ISO-14001:2004 Environmentally Certified Manufacturing Plants

**BRISTOL LOCATION**

400 Commonwealth Ave., P.O. Box 580, Bristol, VA 24203-0580 USA  
 (276)645-8000 FAX (276)645-8132

**CHATFIELD LOCATION**

1610 Highway 52 South, Chatfield, MN 55923-9799 USA  
 (507)867-3479 FAX (507)867-4031

www.strongwell.com

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