

# Nebraska DOT BrM Configuration

Kent Miller P.E. - Assistant Bridge Engineer - NDOT Inventory Data

NEBRASKA

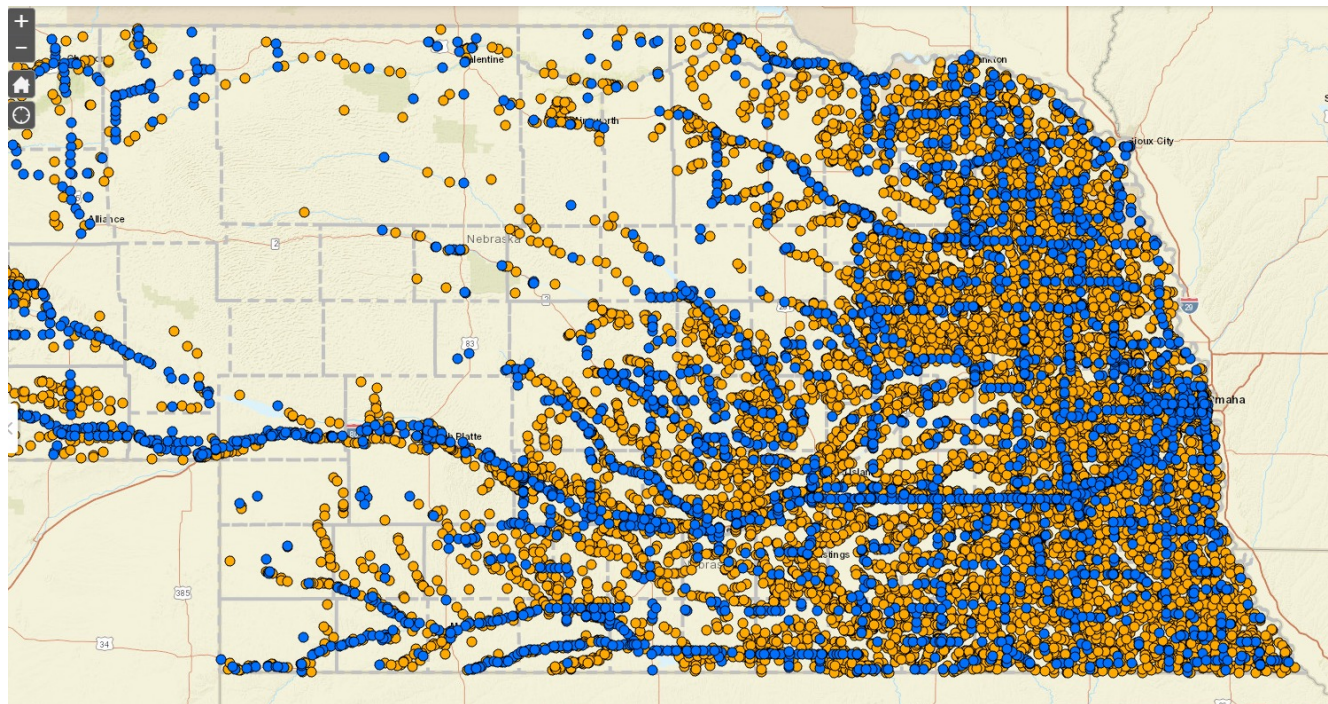
Good Life. Great Journey.

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

# BrM Configuration and Training Service Unit Project

- Currently NDOT uses BrM for Inspection only and data analysis and reporting is done with other methods.
  - This project is an attempt to make the processes for long-range funding and major work program optimization better supported and easier to run for future bridge managers.
- Goals for this project:
  1. Configure BrM to provide a forecast of network condition at various funding levels.
  2. Configure BrM to provide a bridge construction program for major work (deck replacement, or entire superstructure replacement or bridge replacement).
- Status – Just getting started but moving right along!

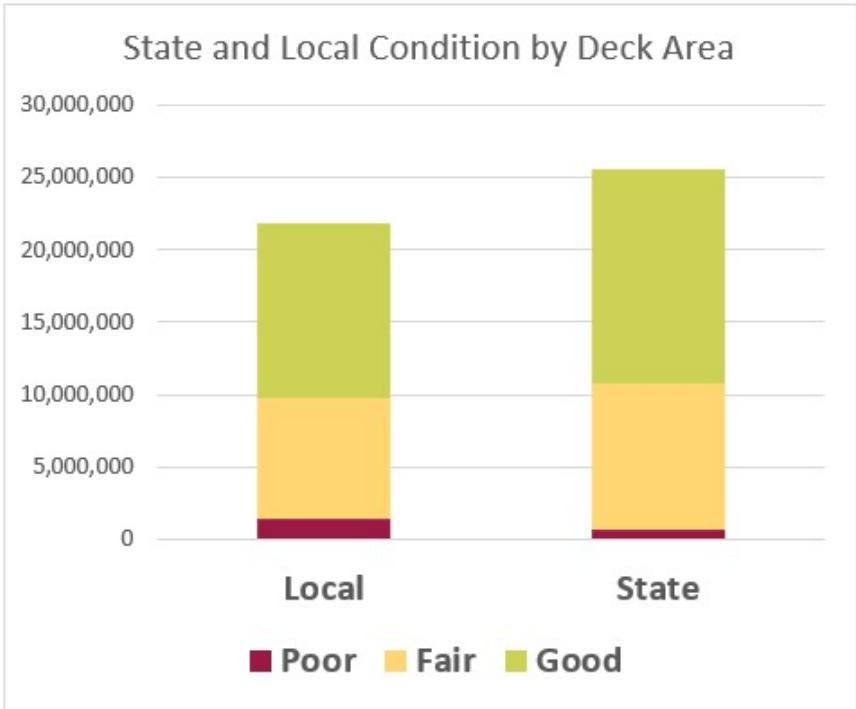
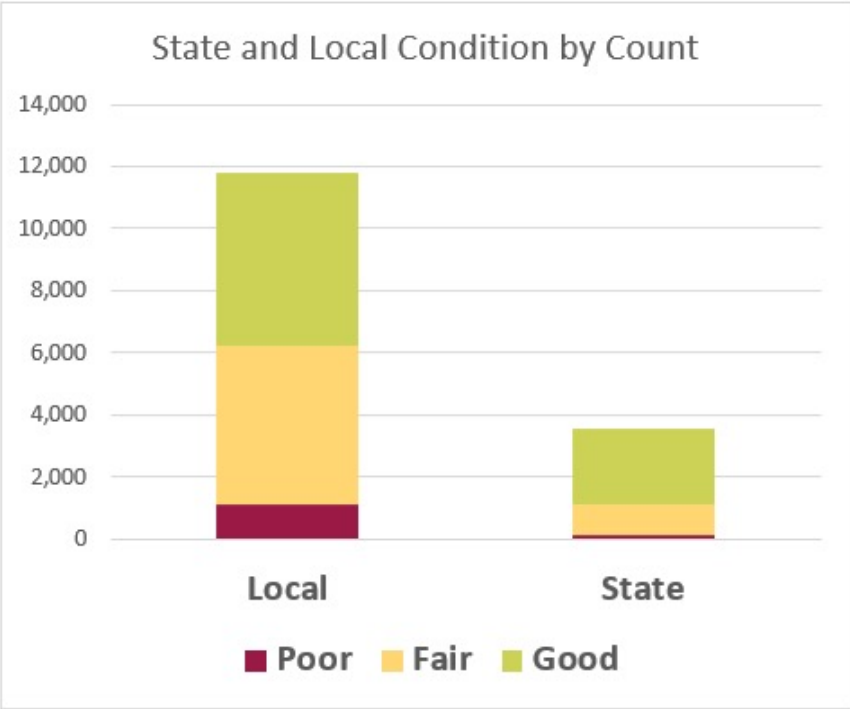
# BrM and Bridge Inspection in Nebraska



# BrM and Bridge Inspection in Nebraska

- Enterprise installation of version 6.4
  - Approximately 380 active BrM users
  - 112 Local agencies manage inspections and construction on their bridges
    - 11,500+ structures on Local system
    - Element inspection is required only on NHS (58 structures)
    - All local system structures have maximum 24-month inspection frequency
  - 2 State system inspection teams
    - 3,500+ structures on State system
    - Element inspection is required on State System
    - Most structures on a 24 month inspect cycle but about 580 meet requirements for a 48-month inspection frequency

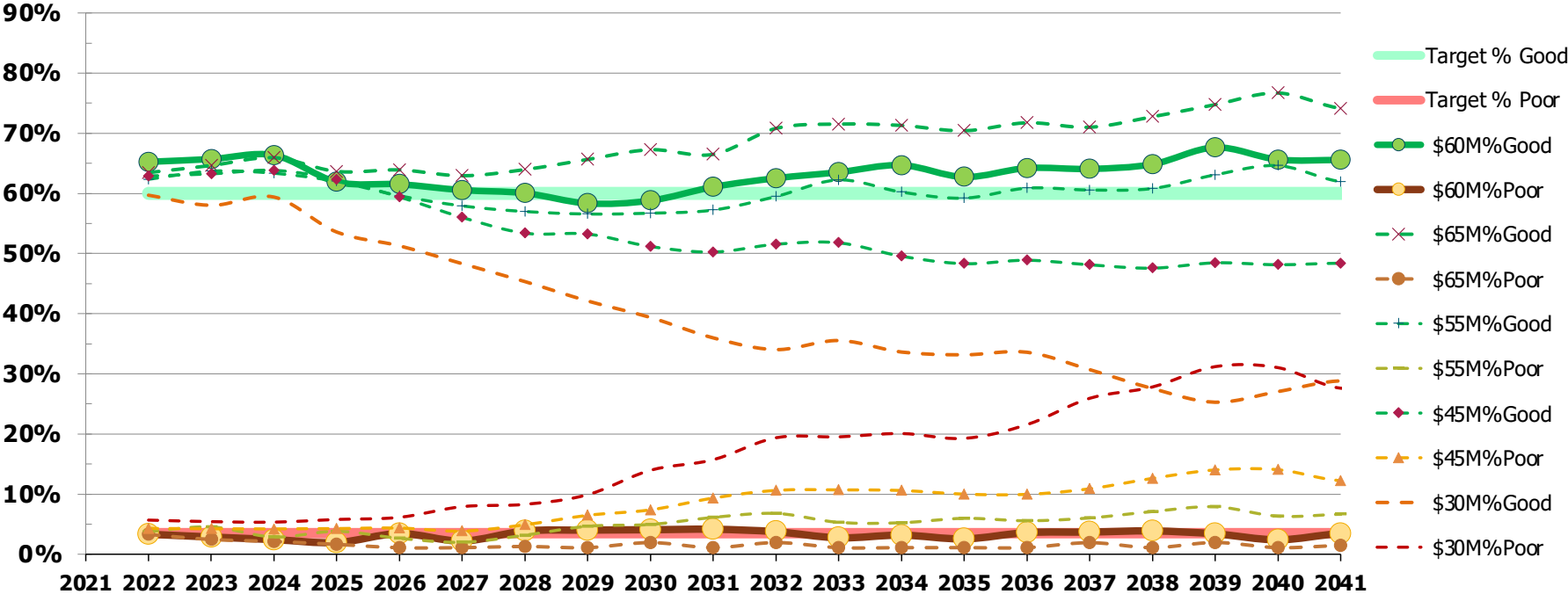
# BrM and Bridge Inventory in Nebraska



# Bridge Management – Program Funding Level

- Nebraska Statute requires a 20 Year Study of Transportation Needs and funding levels
  - LB 39-1365.02 and LB 39-1365.01
- This is an estimate of average annual funding to achieve performance targets for State system bridges.
  - used by the State Legislature for appropriations decisions
- It is also used by NDOT to approximate allocation balance between major work versus repair strategies at a systemic level
- Goal is to find minimum funding to achieve performance targets

# Bridge Management – Program Funding Level



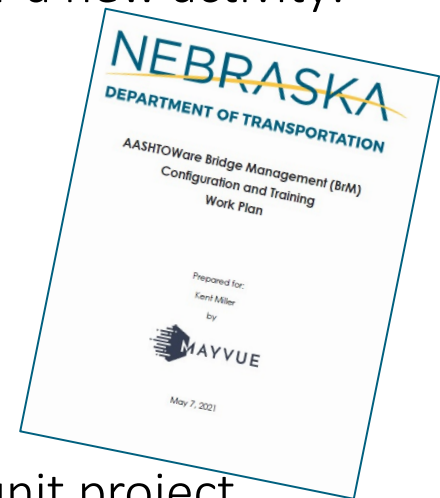
# Bridge Management – Major Work vs Other Work

- Automated preliminary data review provides suggested strategy
  - NBI data is screened by decision tree when data is updated from an SQL database
  - Any structure that is not a Repair or Preservation Candidate is reviewed for more major work.
  - Repair and preservation candidates are only reviewed when they are in the limits of a proposed roadway project.
- For major work Bridge Management Engineering review confirms strategy. Yearly recommendations are made for programming bridges that need:
  - Replacements
  - Rehab (replacing superstructure)
  - Re-deck (superstructure repairs only)
- Finalized strategies for both Major work and Preservation strategies are published to OnBase, a construction project document management and review workflow platform
- Cost estimates are done using AASHTOWare Project

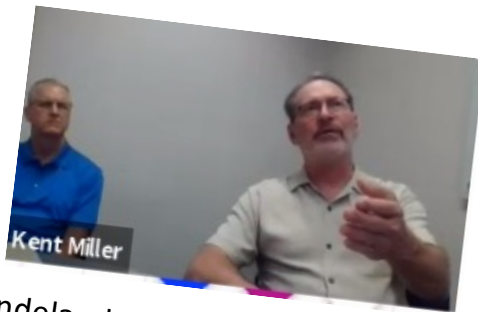


# BrM Configuration Process – Getting Started

1. Applied for State Planning and Research (SPR) funding for a new activity:  
**Bridge Management and Load Rating**
  - Received funding for
    - BrM Annual License
    - BrR Annual License
    - Consultant License (for BrR)
    - Service Units – 8
    - Consultant service cost
2. Contacted Mayvue and developed options for a service unit project
  - Another option would have been to go with the Set-up Configuration and Training that is available in the AASHTOWare Catalog.



# BrM Configuration and Training – Getting the right people in the room



Jeff Handeland BrM Manager  
and much more

Eric Bird -Bridge  
Data Tech



Kpandji Lakmon - Load Rating Engineer



Mark Traynowicz - State Bridge Engineer



Zac Boyle (Mayvue)

Others from NDOT Attending Remotely

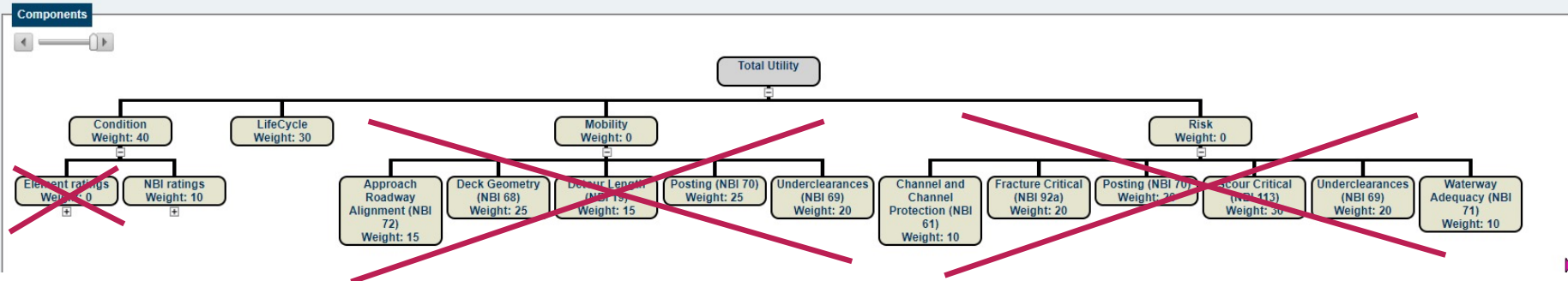
Babrak Niazi - NE Bridge Inspection Program Engineer

Fouad Jaber - Bridge Research Engineer

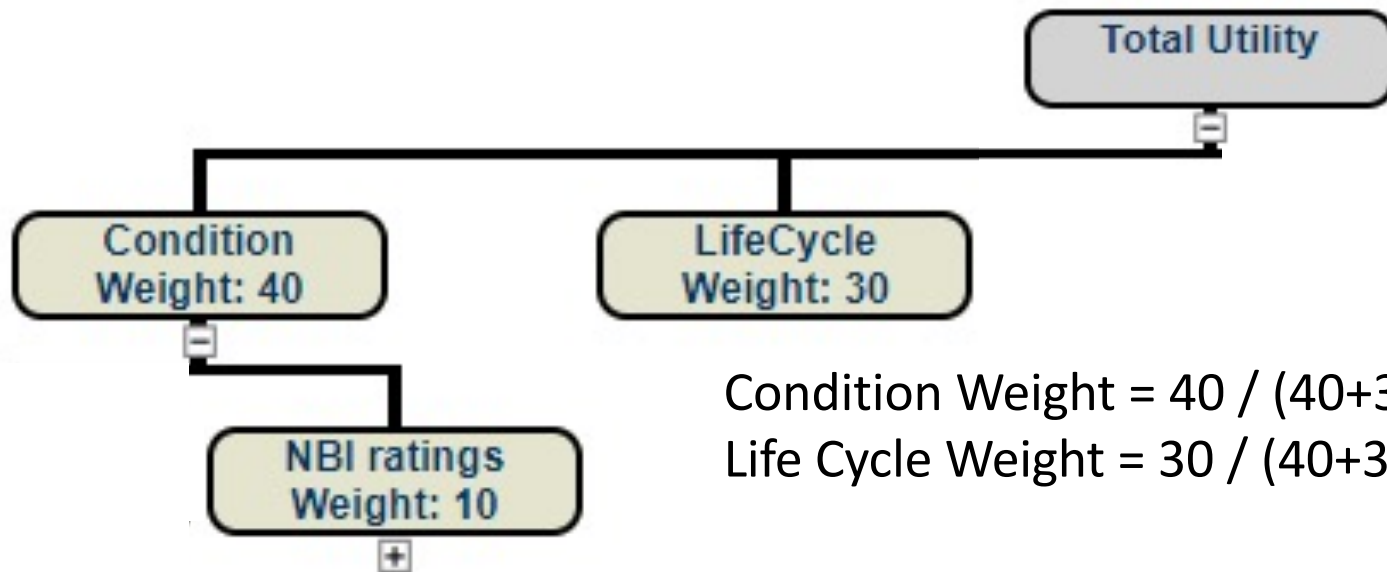
Mike Vigil - Bridge Management Engineer

# Utility – Initial Configuration for Network Condition Forecast

Admin > Modeling Config > Utility

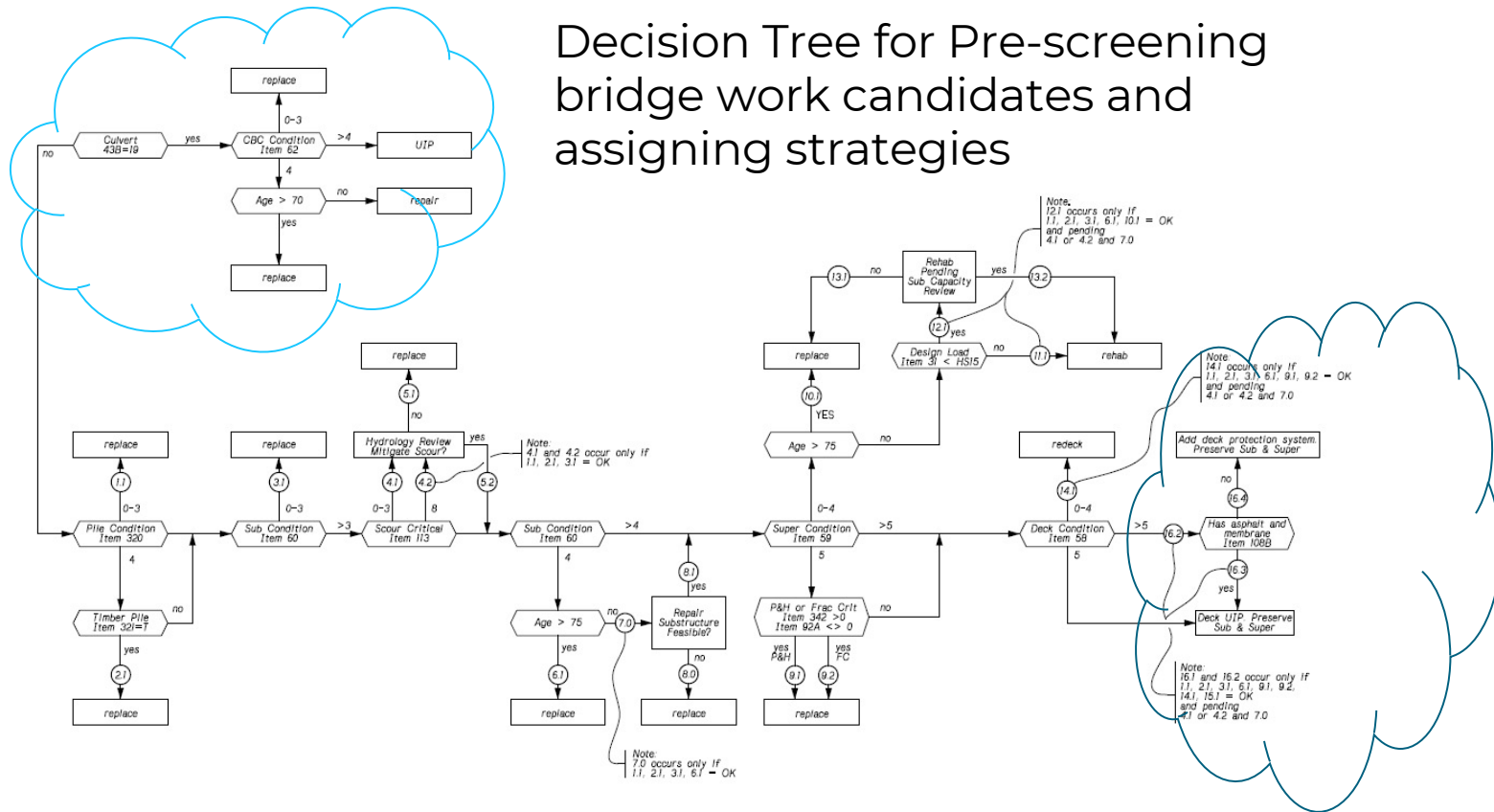


# Utility – Initial Configuration



Condition Weight =  $40 / (40+30) = 57$   
Life Cycle Weight =  $30 / (40+30) = 43$

# Decision Tree for Pre-screening bridge work candidates and assigning strategies



# Simplified Decision Tree Rules – Major Work

- Replace Bridge
  - Sub < 4
  - or ( Sub = 4 and Age > 75 )
  - or [ Sub > 4 and Super = 5 and ( Super has Pin and Hanger or is Fracture Critical ) ]
  - or ( Super < 5 and Age > 75 )
- Replace Culvert
  - Condition < 4
  - or ( Condition = 4 and Age ≥ 70 )

# Simplified Decision Tree Rules – Major Work

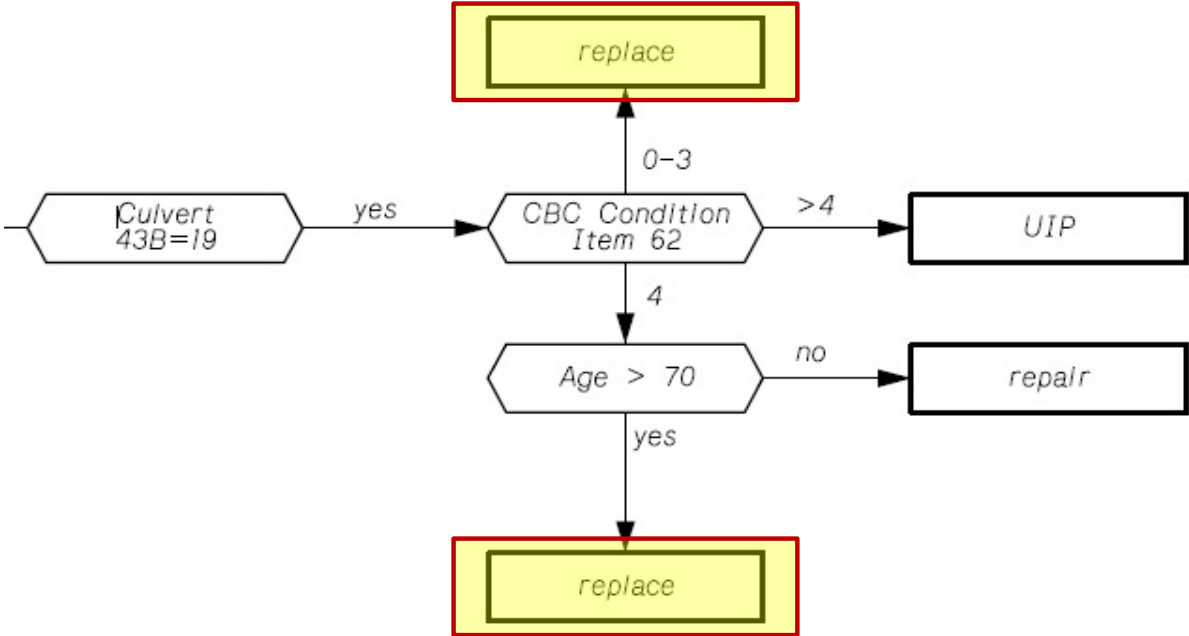
- Rehab Bridge (replace entire superstructure)
  - Sub > 4
  - and Super < 5
  - and Age < 75
  - and Design Load HS 15 or greater
- Re-deck Bridge
  - Sub > 4
  - and [ ( Super = 5 and has no Pin and Hanger and is not Fracture Critical ) or Super > 5 ]
  - and Deck < 5

# Simplified Decision Tree Rules - Repairs

- Any structure that is not a major work candidate is a Repair candidate
  - Work is done and designed for the frequency of paving projects – assumed average of 12 years
- Bridge repair strategies
  - If Asphalt and Waterproofing Membrane **is not** present
    - Deck repairs (quantity scaled as deck condition decreases)
    - Place Asphalt and Waterproofing Membrane
    - Bridge is moved on to a slower deterioration model
  - If Asphalt and Waterproofing Membrane **is** present
    - Remove and replace Asphalt and waterproofing membrane
  - Substructure and Superstructure repairs (quantity scaled as condition decreases)
  - Joints are replaced



# Decision Tree Example for Culverts



## Admin > Modeling Config > Network Policies – Example for Culvert Replacement

Type:

Table  Column  Value Is  Set

- 0 Br Closed - Replace
- 1 Br Closed - Correct
- 2 Severe Settlement
- 3 Excessive Damage
- 4 Considerable Damage
- 5 Moderate Damage
- 6 Deterioration
- 7 Minor Deterioration
- 8 No Major Problem
- 9 No Deficiency
- N N/A (NBI)

OR

Group

Add Condition Add Group Remove Group

Type: Column Value In Param Set Remove Condition

Table: inspevnt Column: culvrating Value Is: In Set

- 0 Br Closed - Replace
- 1 Br Closed - Correct
- 2 Severe Settlement
- 3 Excessive Damage
- 4 Considerable Damage
- 5 Moderate Damage
- 6 Deterioration
- 7 Minor Deterioration
- 8 No Major Problem
- 9 No Deficiency
- N N/A (NBI)

AND

Type: Column Value Type: Number Value

Table: bridge Column: yearbuilt Must Be: Less Than or Equal To Number Value: 1950

# Admin > Modeling Config > Network Policies –Example for Culvert Replacement

- A parameterized JSON text string is generated

(Column 'culvrating' of Table 'inspevnt' Is In Set

'0 Br Closed – Replace

, 1 Br Closed – Correct

, 2 Severe Settlement

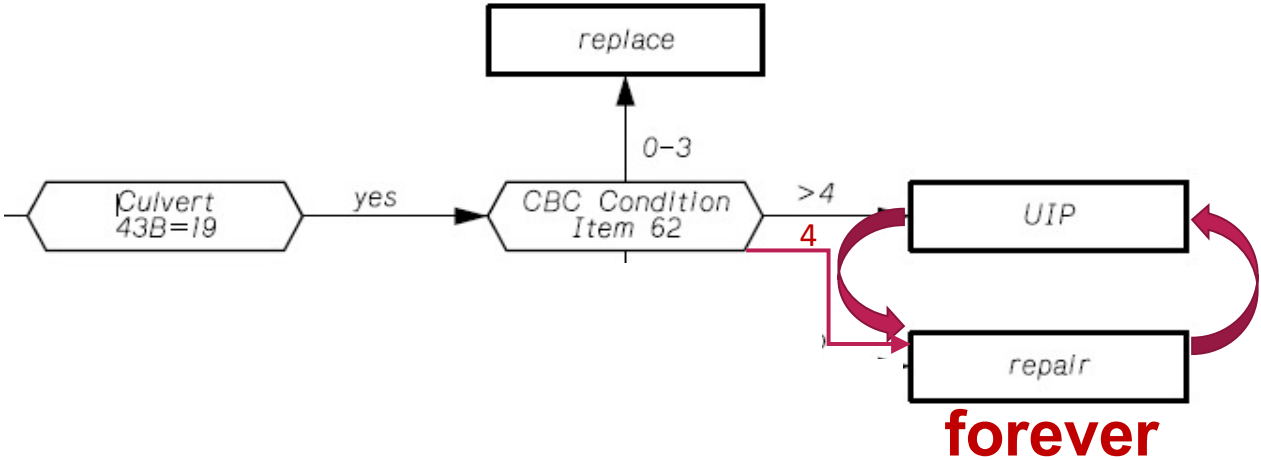
, 3 Excessive Damage'

**OR** (Column 'culvrating' of Table 'inspevnt' Is In Set

'4 Considerable Damage'

**AND** Column 'yearbuilt' of Table 'bridge' Must Be Less Than Or Equal To Number Value 1950))

# Decision Tree Example for Culverts



# No Option to Use Age or Year

Admin > Modeling Config > LCCA Policy Rules

**Rule Editor**  
Policy:  Rule:  [Create New](#)

**Rule Details**  
Name:  Resulting Action:

**Summary**  
(NBI Component Rating of 'Culvert' Must Equal Number Value 4)

**Rule Builder**  
[Add Condition](#) [Add Group](#)

Type:  Type

Field:  As Number Must Be  Number

[Add Condition](#) [Add Group](#)

- Is Null
- Bridge Health Index
- Element Health Index
- Category Health Index
- Material Health Index
- Type Health Index
- NBI Component Rating
- Repeat (in years)
- Element Condition State

[Remove Condition](#)

# Challenges

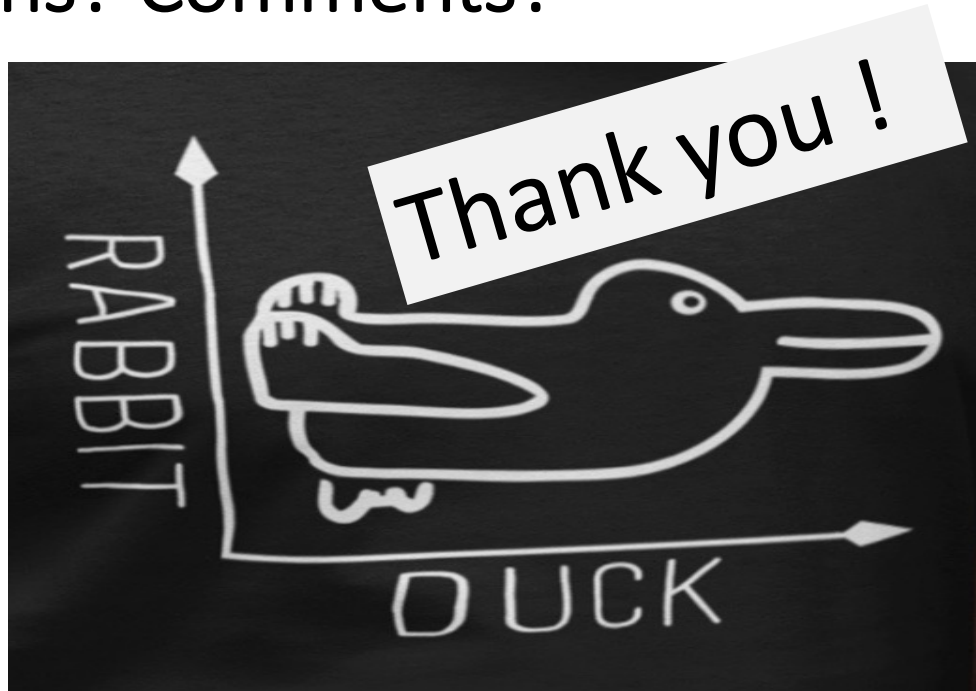
1. Options for including age and load rating data items (design load) in Network policies and LCC policies
2. The first-year problem – distribution of initial NBI deterioration for slower-than-average deterioration
3. Protection-system sensitive deterioration modelling. The capability to have deterioration models that change in response to placement of protection systems on bridges. NDOT currently puts Deck, Super and Sub onto a slower deterioration model if and epoxy polymer overlay or and asphalt overlay with waterproofing membrane are present

# Options

- Workarounds?
- Modify business practices?
- Modify software (enhancement)?
- Use existing method or a new method to meet the forecasting requirement?
- **Do other agencies:**
  - use age as a criteria to guide strategy selection at the network level?
  - have interest in a variable deterioration rate depending on preservation systems?
  - want to see a smoother performance measure forecast that avoids the first-year problem?



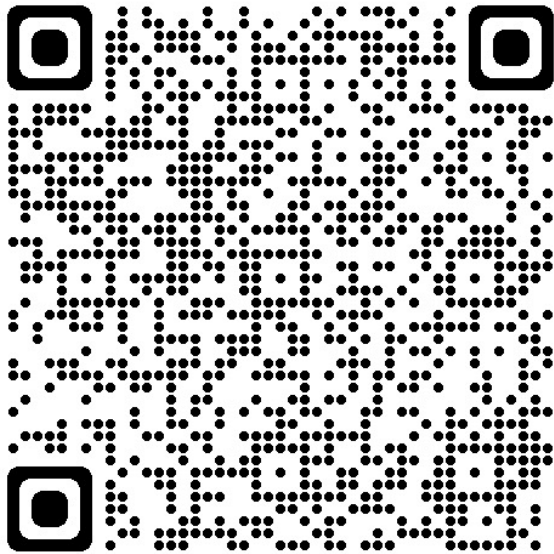
Questions? Comments?



- [kent.miller@nebraska.gov](mailto:kent.miller@nebraska.gov)

# BrM and Bridge Inspection in Nebraska

- Upcoming Inspections Map
- <https://dot.nebraska.gov/business-center/bridge/inspection/>



- Weight Restricted Bridge Map
- <https://gis.ne.gov/portal/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=f6945569f00a43268462568591475ab8>

