

U.S. Department of  
Homeland Security

United States  
Coast Guard



Commander  
United States Coast Guard  
Thirteenth District

915 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue  
Rm 3510  
Seattle, WA 98174-1067  
Staff Symbol: dpw/brg  
Phone: (206) 220-7282  
Email: d13-smb-d13-bridges@uscg.mil

14 December 2021

## PRELIMINARY PUBLIC NOTICE 08-21

The United States Coast Guard is soliciting public comments on a proposal by the Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railway Company (BNSF) to replace an existing movable swing bridge with a fixed bridge. All interested parties are herein notified that the Commander, Thirteenth Coast Guard District, has received a request for a Preliminary Navigation Clearance Determination (PNCD) from the Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railway Company (BNSF). A PNCD is a necessary first step in preparation for applying for a Coast Guard Bridge Permit for the replacement of BNSF Bridge 70.0. BNSF submitted a Navigation Impact Report (NIR) to the Coast Guard. Based on the NIR the Coast Guard is preparing to issue a PNCD. This PN is soliciting for comments *exclusively related to navigation*. The public is highly encouraged to carefully review this notice and provide comments with regard to the proposed bridge's ability to meet the reasonable needs of navigation only.

**WATERWAY AND LOCATION:** Skagit River, mile 16.3, between Mount Vernon and Burlington, Skagit County, Washington.

**CHARACTER OF WORK:** BNSF proposes to replace the existing single-track swing bridge with a single-track fixed bridge. The reason for this proposal is due to no opening request has been submitted within the last three decades. The need for this proposal is to replace a structurally deficient, functionally obsolete bridge. The new proposed bridge will be 13 feet shorter and constructed off-line, approximately 30 feet to the west, down river, of the existing bridge. The project is being developed using a design-build concept to allow for an innovative, yet cost effective design. The 60% conceptual plan set clearly define the navigational clearances for construction planning. Prior to commencement of construction, BNSF will submit plans showing the final design chosen for the construction of the bridge to the USCG District Commander. BNSF does not anticipate deviations from the conceptual plans provided herein that would materially affect navigation and require a U.S. Coast Guard Bridge Permit amendment action.

**MINIMUM NAVIGATIONAL CLEARANCES:** See table and diagrams on next page. Note: The navigation clearances described are referenced to Ordinary High Water (OHW). Span 3 is considered non-navigable due to a shoaling gravel bar.

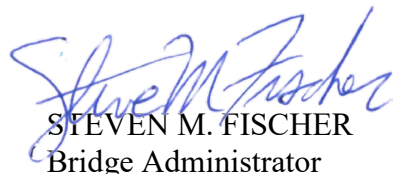
	Existing	Proposed
Horizontal	Span 1 (south) 142.0 ft. (closed/non-opening) Span 2 (inside) 83.0 ft. (open) Span 3 (inside) 83.0 ft. (open) Span 4 (north) 123.0 ft. (closed / non-opening)	Span 1 – 111.0 ft. (fixed/closed) Span 2 – 239.0 ft. (fixed/closed) Span 3 – 141.0 ft. (fixed/closed)
Vertical (Low Steel)	Span 1 – 20.0 ft. (closed/non-opening) Span 2 – 20.0 ft. (closed), Unlimited (open) Span 3 – 19.8 ft. (closed), Unlimited (open) Span 4 – 19.3 ft. (closed/non-opening)	Span 1 – 19.8 ft. (fixed/closed) Span 2 – 19.5 ft. (fixed/closed) Span 3 – 19.2 ft. (fixed/closed)

**Datum:** NAVD88

**SOLICITATION OF COMMENTS:**

Mariners and maritime stakeholders are requested to express their views, in writing, on the proposed bridge and its possible impact on navigation, if any, giving sufficient detail to establish a clear understanding of their reasons for support of, or opposition to, the proposed navigation clearances. Comments will be received for the record at the address noted in the header. Comments should be sent to arrive on or before 07 January 2022.

Map of location and plans attached.



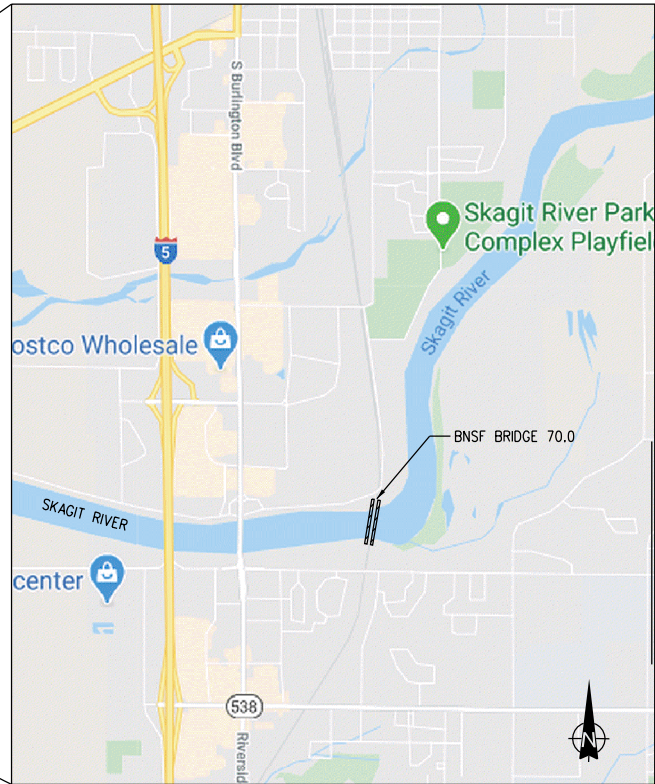
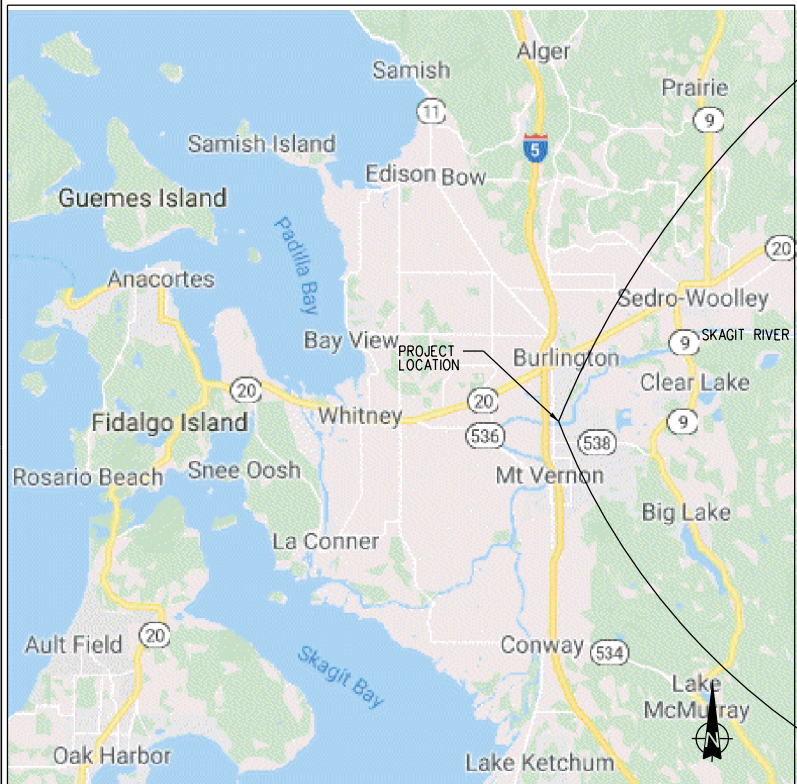
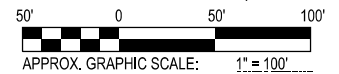
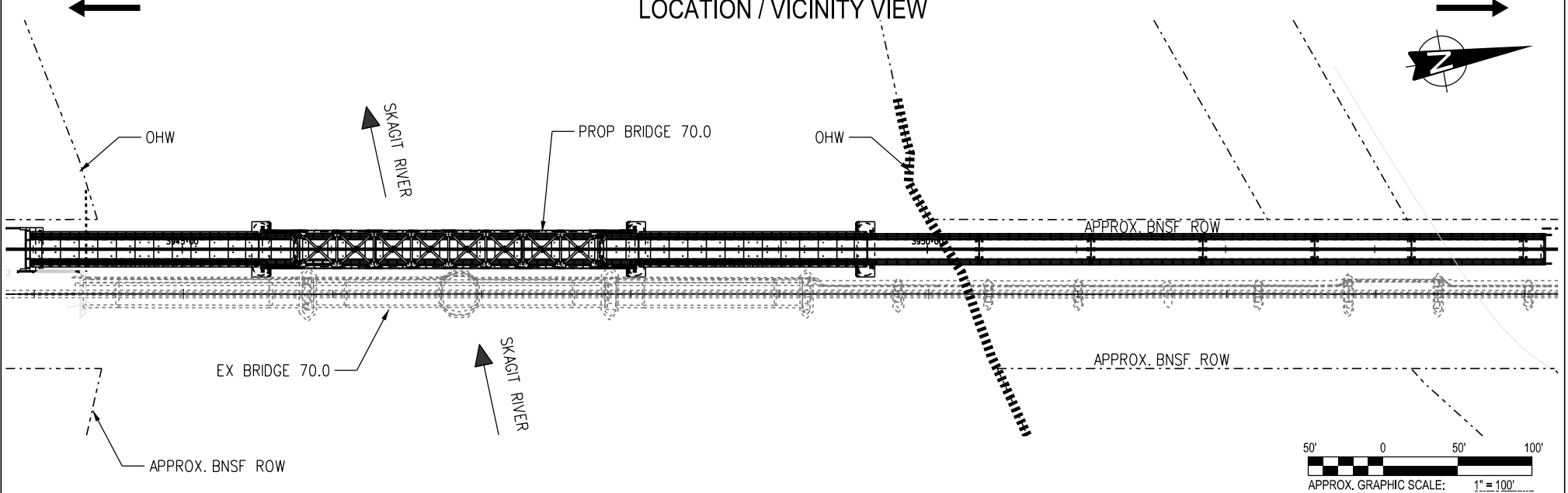
STEVEN M. FISCHER  
 Bridge Administrator  
 By direction of the Commander,  
 Thirteenth Coast Guard District

This is a web-searchable copy and is not the official, signed version; however, other than the signature being omitted, it is a duplicate of the official version.

MT. VERNON, WA

# PROPOSED PERMANENT BRIDGE 70.0 LOCATION / VICINITY VIEW

BURLINGTON, WA



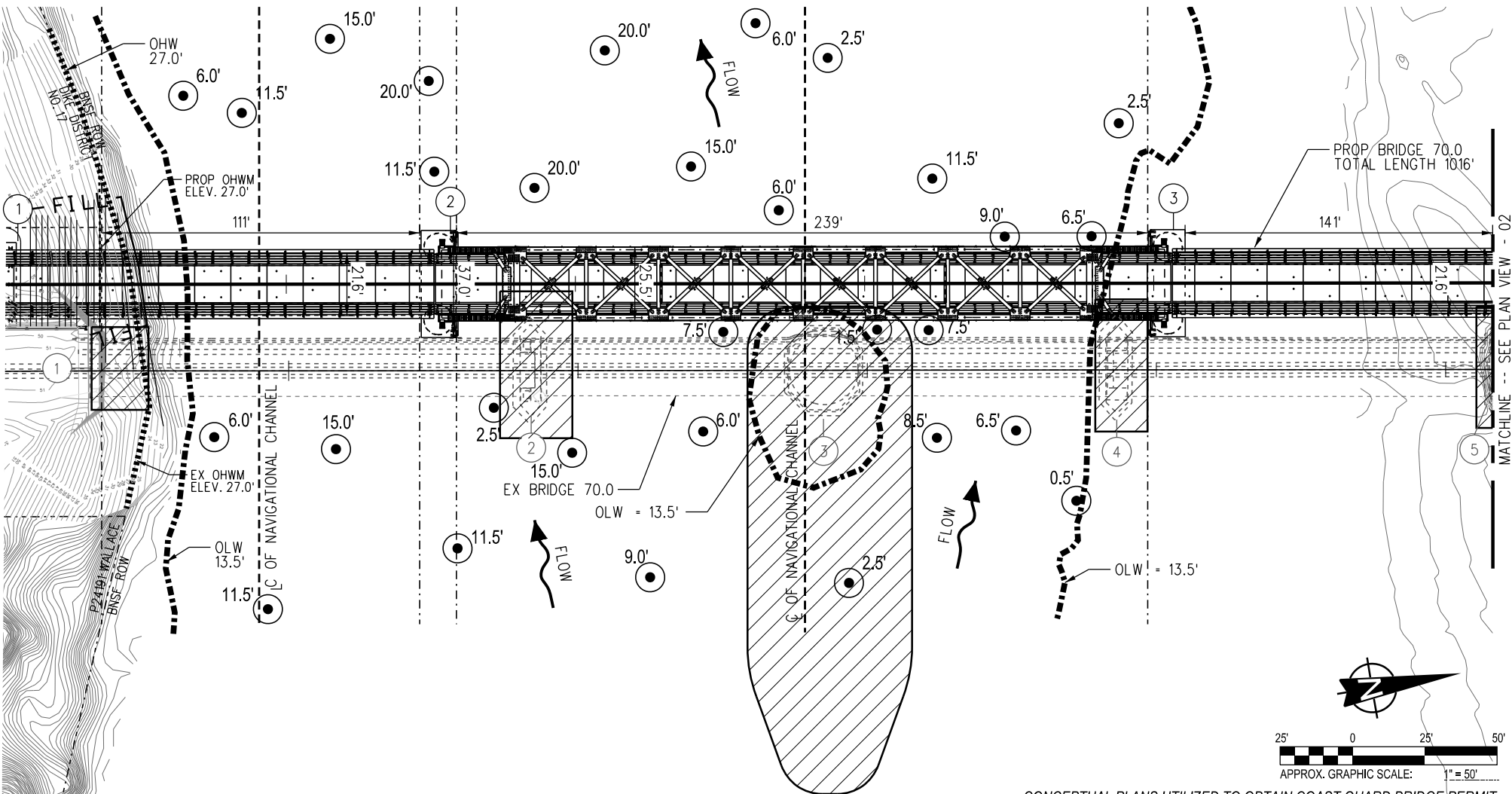
**APPLICANT / OWNER:** BNSF RAILWAY  
**CONSULTANT / AGENT:** AECOM, INC. / JACOBS ENGINEERING GROUP  
**NAME OF BRIDGE:** BNSF BRIDGE 70.0  
**NAME OF WATERWAY:** SKAGIT RIVER  
**MILE POINT OF BRIDGE LOCATION:** 17.8  
**CITY:** MT. VERNON  
**COUNTY:** SKAGIT  
**STATE:** WASHINGTON  
**DATE:** 11/02/2021

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MT. VERNON, WA

# PROPOSED PERMANENT BRIDGE 70.0 PLAN VIEW - 01

BURLINGTON, WA



LEGEND	
	BNSF RIGHT-OF-WAY (ROW)
	CENTERLINE OF NAVIGATIONAL CHANNEL
	LIMITS OF NAVIGATIONAL CHANNEL
	EXISTING STRUCTURE
	100-YR FLOOD
	ORDINARY HIGH WATER (OHW)
	ORDINARY LOW WATER (OLW)
	APPROX. EXCAVATION FOOTPRINT
	1.0' WATER DEPTH AT OLW

SEE SHEET 7 OF 7 FOR EARTHWORK QUANTITIES

CONCEPTUAL PLANS UTILIZED TO OBTAIN COAST GUARD BRIDGE PERMIT.  
BASED ON: AECOM, INC. PRELIMINARY DESIGN. ELEVATIONS ARE RELATIVE TO NAVD88.

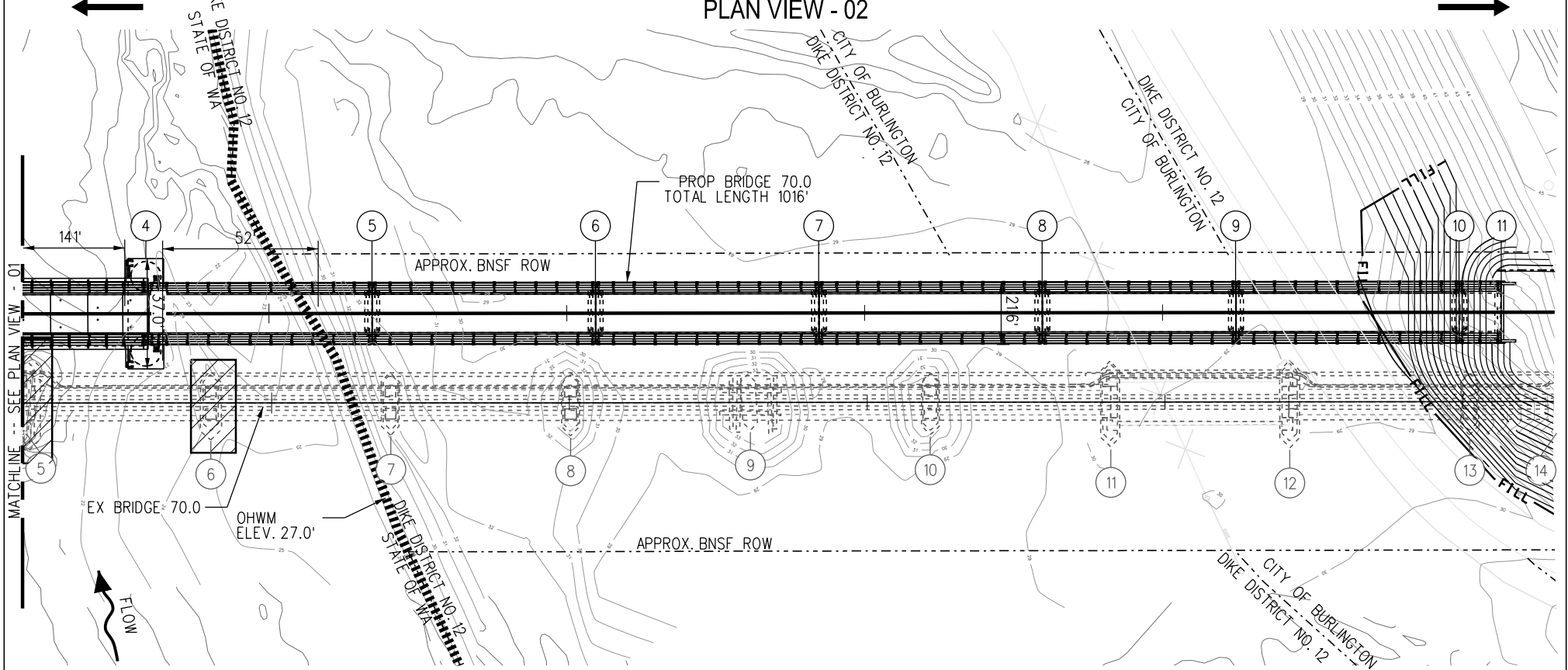
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**CITY:** MT. VERNON  
**COUNTY:** SKAGIT  
**STATE:** WASHINGTON  
**DATE:** 11/02/2021

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MT. VERNON, WA

# PROPOSED PERMANENT BRIDGE 70.0 PLAN VIEW - 02

BURLINGTON, WA



### LEGEND

- BNSF RIGHT-OF-WAY (ROW)
- CENTERLINE OF NAVIGATIONAL CHANNEL
- LIMITS OF NAVIGATIONAL CHANNEL
- EXISTING STRUCTURE
- ..... 100-YR FLOOD
- ..... ORDINARY HIGH WATER (OHW)
- ..... ORDINARY LOW WATER (OLW)
- ▨ APPROX. EXCAVATION FOOTPRINT
- 1.0' WATER DEPTH AT OLW

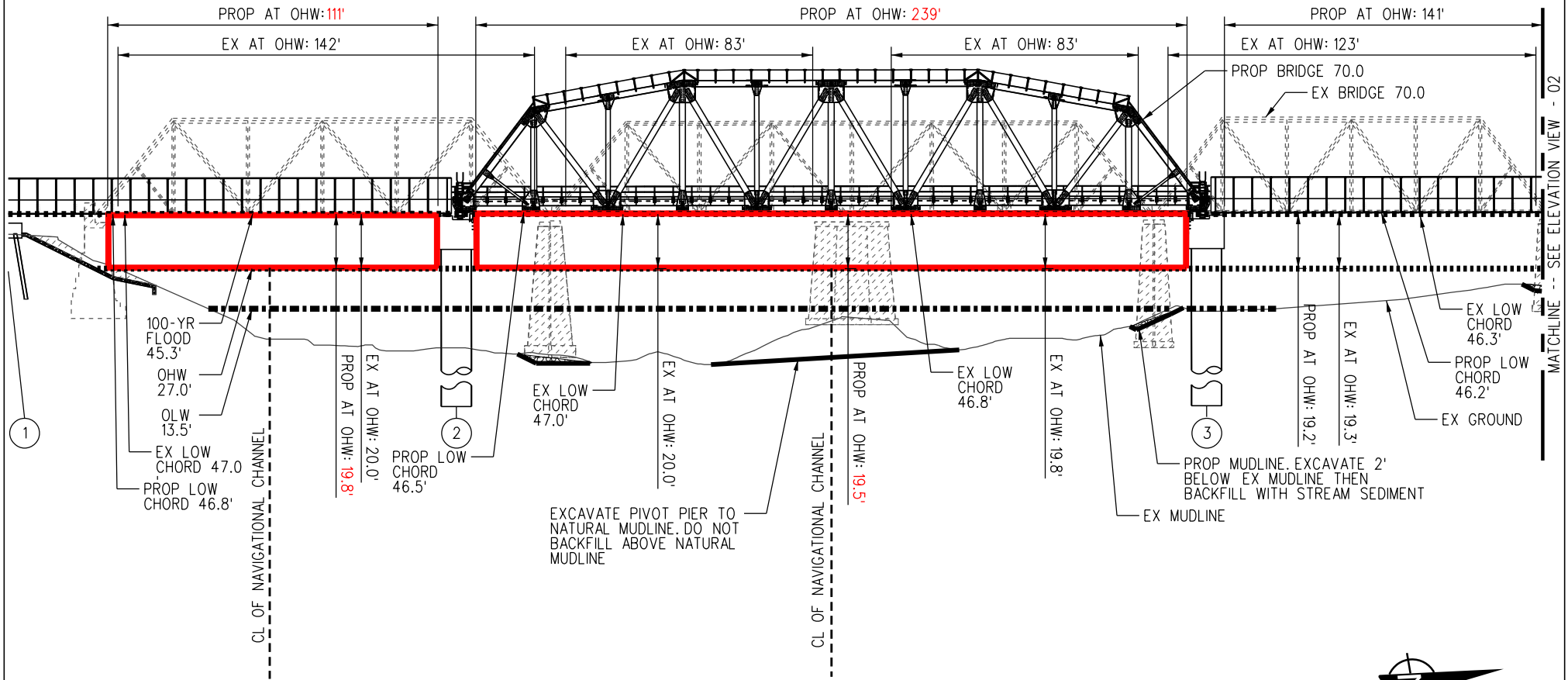
CONCEPTUAL PLANS UTILIZED TO OBTAIN COAST GUARD BRIDGE PERMIT.  
 BASED ON: AECOM, INC. PRELIMINARY DESIGN. ELEVATIONS ARE RELATIVE TO NAVD88.

**APPLICANT / OWNER:** BNSF RAILWAY  
**CONSULTANT / AGENT:** AECOM, INC. / JACOBS ENGINEERING GROUP  
**NAME OF BRIDGE:** BNSF BRIDGE 70.0  
**NAME OF WATERWAY:** SKAGIT RIVER  
**MILE POINT OF BRIDGE LOCATION:** 17.8  
**CITY:** MT. VERNON  
**COUNTY:** SKAGIT  
**STATE:** WASHINGTON  
**DATE:** 11/02/2021

SEE SHEET 7 OF 7 FOR EARTHWORK QUANTITIES

SHEET 3 OF 7

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**LEGEND**

- BNSF RIGHT-OF-WAY (ROW)
- CENTERLINE OF NAVIGATIONAL CHANNEL
- LIMITS OF NAVIGATIONAL CHANNEL
- EXISTING STRUCTURE
- ..... 100-YR FLOOD
- ..... ORDINARY HIGH WATER (OHW)
- ..... ORDINARY LOW WATER (OLW)
- ..... STREAMBED MIX BACKFILL
- ..... PROPOSED NAVIGATIONAL ENVELOPE
- 1.0' ○ WATER DEPTH AT OLW

**NOTES**

1. 652 CY OF FILL AT PIERS 2, 3, AND 4 (OHWM TO MUDLINE).
2. 141 CY OF FILL AT PIER 1 FOR SHORELINE ARMORING (OHWM TO EL. 19.0').

CONCEPTUAL PLANS UTILIZED TO OBTAIN COAST GUARD BRIDGE PERMIT.  
BASED ON: AECOM, INC. PRELIMINARY DESIGN. ELEVATIONS ARE RELATIVE TO NAVD88.

**APPLICANT / OWNER:** BNSF RAILWAY  
**CONSULTANT / AGENT:** AECOM, INC. / JACOBS ENGINEERING GROUP  
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**MILE POINT OF BRIDGE LOCATION:** 17.8  
**CITY:** MT. VERNON  
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**STATE:** WASHINGTON  
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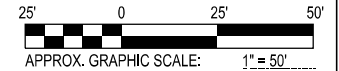
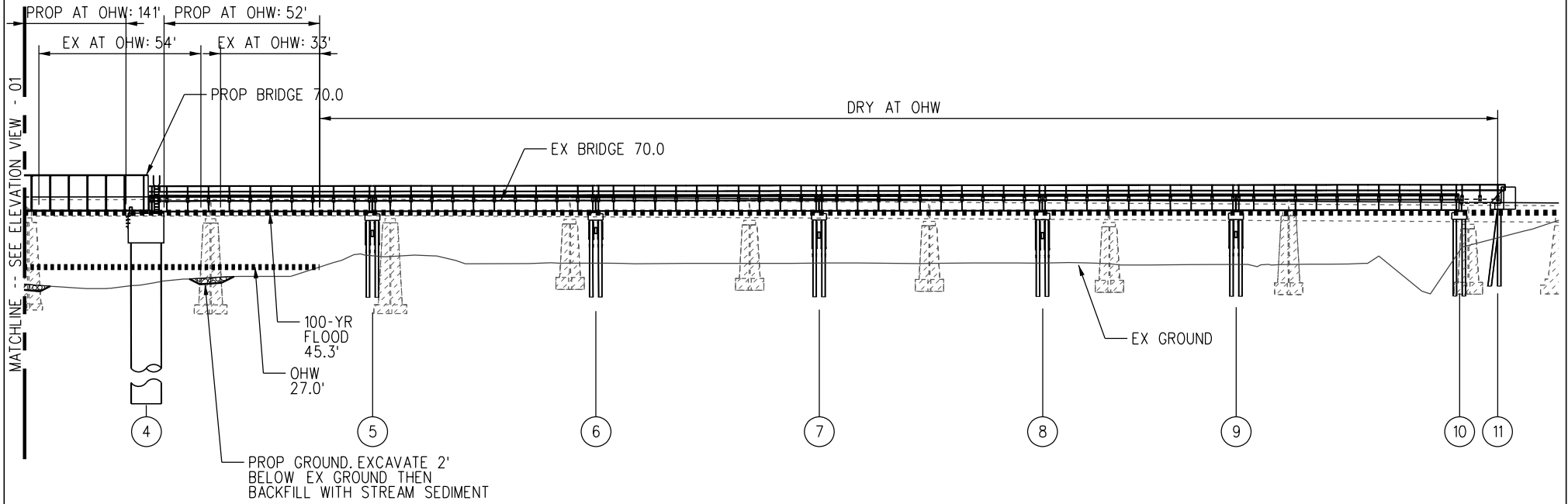
MATCHLINE -- SEE ELEVATION VIEW - 02

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MT. VERNON, WA

# PROPOSED PERMANENT BRIDGE 70.0 ELEVATION VIEW - 02

BURLINGTON, WA



CONCEPTUAL PLANS UTILIZED TO OBTAIN COAST GUARD BRIDGE PERMIT.  
 BASED ON: AECOM, INC. PRELIMINARY DESIGN. ELEVATIONS ARE RELATIVE TO NAVD88.

### LEGEND

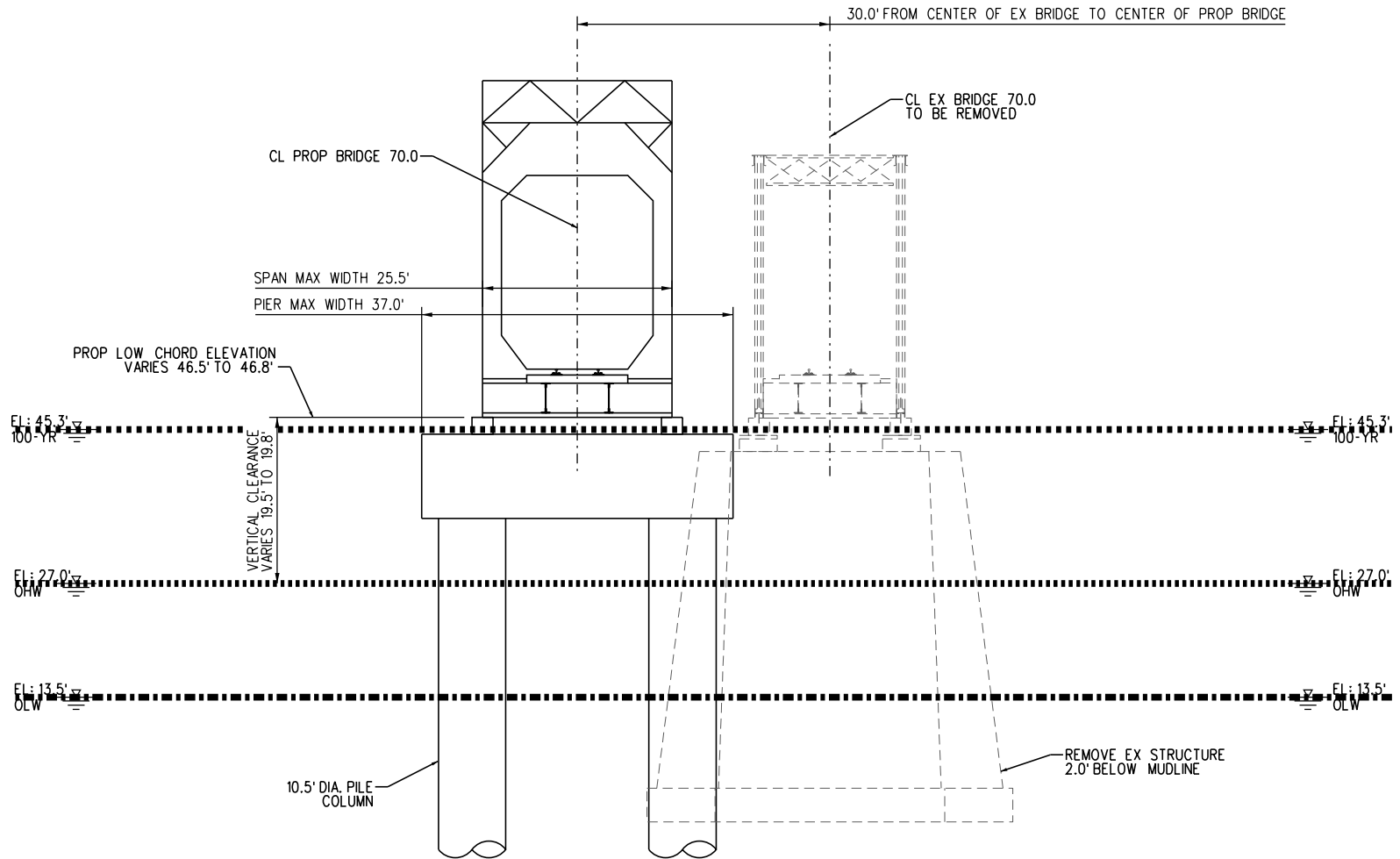
- BNSF RIGHT-OF-WAY (ROW)
- - - - - CENTERLINE OF NAVIGATIONAL CHANNEL
- - - - - LIMITS OF NAVIGATIONAL CHANNEL
- - - - - EXISTING STRUCTURE
- ..... 100-YR FLOOD
- ..... ORDINARY HIGH WATER (OHW)
- ..... ORDINARY LOW WATER (OLW)
- 1.0' WATER DEPTH AT OLW

### NOTES

1. 652 CY OF FILL AT PIERS 2, 3, AND 4 (OHWM TO MUDLINE).

**APPLICANT / OWNER:** BNSF RAILWAY  
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**DATE:** 11/02/2021

# PROPOSED PERMANENT BRIDGE 70.0 TYPICAL SECTION VIEW - 01



CONCEPTUAL PLANS UTILIZED TO OBTAIN COAST GUARD BRIDGE PERMIT.  
BASED ON: AECOM, INC. PRELIMINARY DESIGN. ELEVATIONS ARE RELATIVE TO NAVD88.

### LEGEND

- BNSF RIGHT-OF-WAY (ROW)
- CENTERLINE OF NAVIGATIONAL CHANNEL
- LIMITS OF NAVIGATIONAL CHANNEL
- EXISTING STRUCTURE
- 100-YR FLOOD
- ORDINARY HIGH WATER (OHW)
- ORDINARY LOW WATER (OLW)
- 1.0' WATER DEPTH AT OLW



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