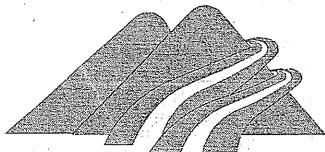


# **Foothill Transportation Corridor - South**

## **An Evaluation Of Alternative Designs For FTC-S Connectors To I-5**

Submitted To:

**Transportation Corridor Agencies**



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Attachment 1 - Bridge Type and Bridge Construction Illustration

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# Foothill Transportation Corridor – South

## An Evaluation of Alternative Designs For FTC-S Connectors To I-5

### 1. General Description

The Foothill-South Project, known as the South Orange County Transportation Infrastructure Improvement Project (SOCTIIP), is the extension of existing State Route 241 (SR 241) south from Oso Parkway to the Interstate 5 (I-5) near San Clemente in the vicinity of the Orange/San Diego County line. This extension would be operated as a toll road, as is the existing portion of SR 241, Foothill Transportation Corridor – North (FTC-N). Foothill Transportation Corridor – South (FTC-S) is the final segment of a public toll-road system that consists of the 241, 261, 133, and 73 Toll Roads. The public toll road system operated by the Transportation Corridor Agencies (TCA) is the largest network of toll roads in California.

FTC-S Connectors consisting of Southbound Connector (WS Line) and Northbound Connector (NE Line) are the two, two-lane freeway to freeway connectors providing a direct link to I-5 to and from the south bridging over San Mateo Creek. An evaluation of alternative I-5 direct connectors designs outlines the efforts and design options completed by Corridor Design Management Group (CDMG) in reducing the California Coastal Commission (CCC) San Mateo Creek and wetlands impacts. This evaluation includes summary of progressive design iterations on I-5 direct connectors and evaluation of other feasible structure types for I-5 direct connectors as provided in Section 2 and 3.

### 2. Summary of progressive design iterations on I-5 Direct Connectors

In 1994, the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and Clean Water Act Section 404 Integration Process Memorandum of Understanding (NEPA/Section 404 MOU) set forth new policies that affect the FTC-S planning process. Since then, CDMG has conducted several Advance Planning Studies (APS) delineating the feasible structure types of I-5 direct connectors for the SOCTIIP Collaborative, the TCA along with the signatory agencies, NEPA/ 404 MOU agencies.

Conventional cast-in-placed prestressed (CIP/PS) concrete box girders are considered the preferred alternative for the I-5 director connectors after an evaluation based on weighed and balanced factors as alignment and geometry, cost, constructability, environmental, aesthetics and construction duration. The bridge type and bridge construction are illustrated in Attachment 1. Besides the layout of the preferred I-5 direct connector structures is adjusted to decrease the right-of-way width required to build the structures, the number of structural

supports locating at inside of high value wetlands is also reduced to minimize impacts to wetlands in the vicinity of San Mateo Creek as outlined in the following discussion.

Figure 1 and 2 are general plans for the Southbound Connector (WS Line) and Northbound Connector (NE Line) respectively showing preferred bridge type configuration for an initial study performed in May 2001. WS Line was going south crossing San Mateo Creek at the east of the existing San Mateo Creek Bridge L/R then carrying the southbound traffic lanes over the existing I-5 southbound (SB) and northbound (NB) lanes before turning southeast to merge I-5 SB after passing Basilone Road Overcrossing (Replacement) as shown on Figure 1. NE Line was located at the east of both I-5 NB main lanes and WS Line, and while it was crossing San Mateo Creek sufficient spaces between NE Line and WS Line are placed for a future SR 241/I-5 HOV direct connector to be constructed as shown on Figure 2. Basically, the I-5 direct connectors shown on Figure 1 and 2 are the same type bridge configuration for the initial studies performed in 2001 and earlier, and the variations are mainly the bridge and span lengths and the locations of outrigger bents of the SB Connector crossing the existing I-5 SB and NB. Four bents total were located in the wetlands for each of the preferred I-5 direct connectors crossing San Mateo Creek.

Saddleback Constructors (Saddleback) reevaluated the bridge configurations for the SB Connector and NB Connector with revised WS Line and NE Line under the direction of CDMG in 2004. The revised I-5 direct connectors by Saddleback were 1,070 and 1,010 meters in a total bridge length for the SB Connector (WS Line) and NB Connector (NE Line) respectively as shown on Figure 3 and 4. Both WS Line and NE Line were curving further west and merged to the future widening I-5 SB and NB at the south of Basilone Road Overcrossing (Replacement), which was planned to be a combination of two single span cast-in-placed reinforced concrete box girder rigid frame at the south and north for the I-5 direct connectors passing under and one two-span CIP/PS concrete box girder at the center bridge. The revised WS Line crossed the existing San Mateo Creek Bridge L/R with a skew angle about 20 degrees. The north part of the SB Connector consisted of seven 71m spans and a 50.5m end span supported by two outrigger bents, one located at close to the mid-bridge of the existing right bridge and another at the southerly of Abutment 1 of the existing left bridge, accompany a bent west of the future widening I-5 SB at the south and a column positioned at the existing I-5 median between the two outrigger bents, four bents positioned at the base of hillside without impacts on the wetlands in the vicinity of San Mateo Creek and the north abutment. Only the outrigger bent over the existing right bridge was located in the wetlands for the preferred SB Connector. The NB Connector was configured with 70 and 50 meters typical spans and end spans. Four bents total were located in the wetlands for the preferred NB Connector crossing San Mateo Creek.

CDMG further revised Saddleback's I-5 direct connectors with the relocated column locations and longer spans to not only minimizing impacts on wetlands but also considering aesthetic and structural issues for the newly studied configurations as shown on Figure 5, 6 and 7. For the SB Connector, a 105-meter long span was planned for the connector crossing over the existing right bridge with supporting single column bents at the embankment toe of the existing northerly abutment and the median of the existing I-5 SB and NB at the north and south respectively without encroaching San Mateo Creek and the future existing bridge widening. Although an outrigger bent is considered undesirable from both a structural and aesthetic standpoint, an outrigger bent was still proposed located south the columns which were supporting the 105m long span to avoid a span length considered excessive for the CIP/PS concrete box girder construction. This outrigger bent was supporting two 84m spans crossing over I-5 SB to keep a structural hinge in the superstructure away from the present or future traffic under the SB Connector for safety and maintenance. A three-span balanced graceful haunched superstructure was recommended for the 105m long span and adjacent south and north spans to be aesthetically elegant and to reduce the excessive weight imposed on the columns. The total length of the preferred SB Connector was about 871m with a typical span length of 80m except the end spans and the spans over I-5 SB and NB. The preferred SB Connector would avoid impacts on wetlands in the vicinity of San Mateo Creek. The preferred NB Connector was a 13-span bridge with 65m-10@80m-70m-55m span configuration from the south to the north ends and a total length of bridge 990m. Since it was longer than 300m for the projections of NE Line inside wetlands in the vicinity of San Mateo Creek, the 80m typical spans would be able to reduce the number of single column bent inside the wetlands from four to three while those columns aligned with the columns of the SB Connector and the existing piers. For both preferred I-5 direct connectors, the most northerly bent was located at the base of the hillside to avoid foundation construction on the steep slope, and the northerly abutment was positioned to fit into the hillside with a minimum amount of earthwork and without embankment spilling into the floodplain.

During cast-in-place construction with falsework built in the wetlands temporarily, the delivery of concrete, rebars, and prestressing would be carried through the trestle supported temporary accessed road to minimize the environmental impacts on the wetlands.

### **3. Evaluation of other feasible structure types for I-5 Direct Connectors**

For the I-5 direct connectors crossing San Mateo Creek, perspective rendering for the preferred CIP/PS concrete box girder alternative and other feasible structure alternatives showing little or no impacts to the wetlands are included in Attachment 2. Cable-stayed, suspension and tied-arch bridges were three feasible design options eliminating supporting columns of NB Connector in the wetlands, if it was not an objection to the bridge tower/pylon height and/or an option to

change the planned curved roadway alignment crossing San Mateo Creek to straight.

A cable-stayed bridge with a total main span length of approximately 320m would be fitted in the planned curved NE Line roadway alignment with the supporting tower/pylon located just outside wetlands in the vicinity of San Mateo Creek. Balanced cantilever construction could be used to build the superstructure above San Mateo Creek in a symmetrical fashion about the main towers/pylons and have little impacts on the sensitive wetlands during bridge construction. The diamond shape towers/pylons would extend more than 60m above the roadway and result in not only the bridge being one of the most dominant landmarks in the area but also the required air clearance impacting on the military mission and operations at the Marine Corps Base at Camp Pendleton. The bridge site does not allow waterborne equipment to deliver and erect prefabricated bridge segments that make up a modern cable-stayed bridge to be built with optimal economics. Visual and military impacts plus lacking of cost competitive prohibit a cable-stayed bridge the preferred alternative.

A suspension bridge spanning the wetlands would be feasible only with a revision to the segment of planned curved NE Line crossing San Mateo Creek. A straight alignment of approximately 480m shifting east and tying to the planned NE Line at the ends was provided to have a longer than 320m main span carrying traffic lanes over the wetlands for the suspension bridge supported with two hollow-shaft reinforced concrete towers soaring more than 40m above the bridge deck. North abutment requiring deep cut of the existing hillside was located to incorporate greater than 0.2 span length ratio of the side span to the main span. The two towers coupled with the main cables and cable suspenders would create an entering a gateway experience as one driving through the bridge. A modern suspension bridge would be economically suited for spans in excess of 500m and multiple traffic lanes. The suspension bridge was ruled out to be the preferred alternative due to the impacts on NE Line alignment crossing San Mateo Creek and going north and high construction cost for the relative short main span length (320m), lacking of site accessible through waterway and narrow bridge width.

The planned curved NE Line alignment would be revised as outlined for the suspension bridge alternative to have a straight tied-arch bridge fitting into the area sensitive to wetlands in the vicinity of San Mateo Creek. Normally, a deck arch bridge is more structurally favored for vertical space underneath the bridge is available. A basket handle type (inclined ribs) through tied-arch bridge is proposed for the relatively limited distance from the deck surface to the creek. Generally, the basket handle rib form has higher horizontal rigidity with arch effect than the parallel rib form. A long main span length of approximately 320m coupling with inaccessible to the site through waterway preventing using a more cost effective tied-arch steel bridge with inclined network hangers (network arch). The steel box ribs would rise an estimated 30m above the bridge deck. The tied-arch bridge was also ruled out to be the preferred alternative due to the impacts on

NE Line alignment crossing San Mateo Creek and going north and high construction cost for the lacking of site accessible through waterway and heavy falsework in the wetlands during arch rib construction.

# Structural Plans

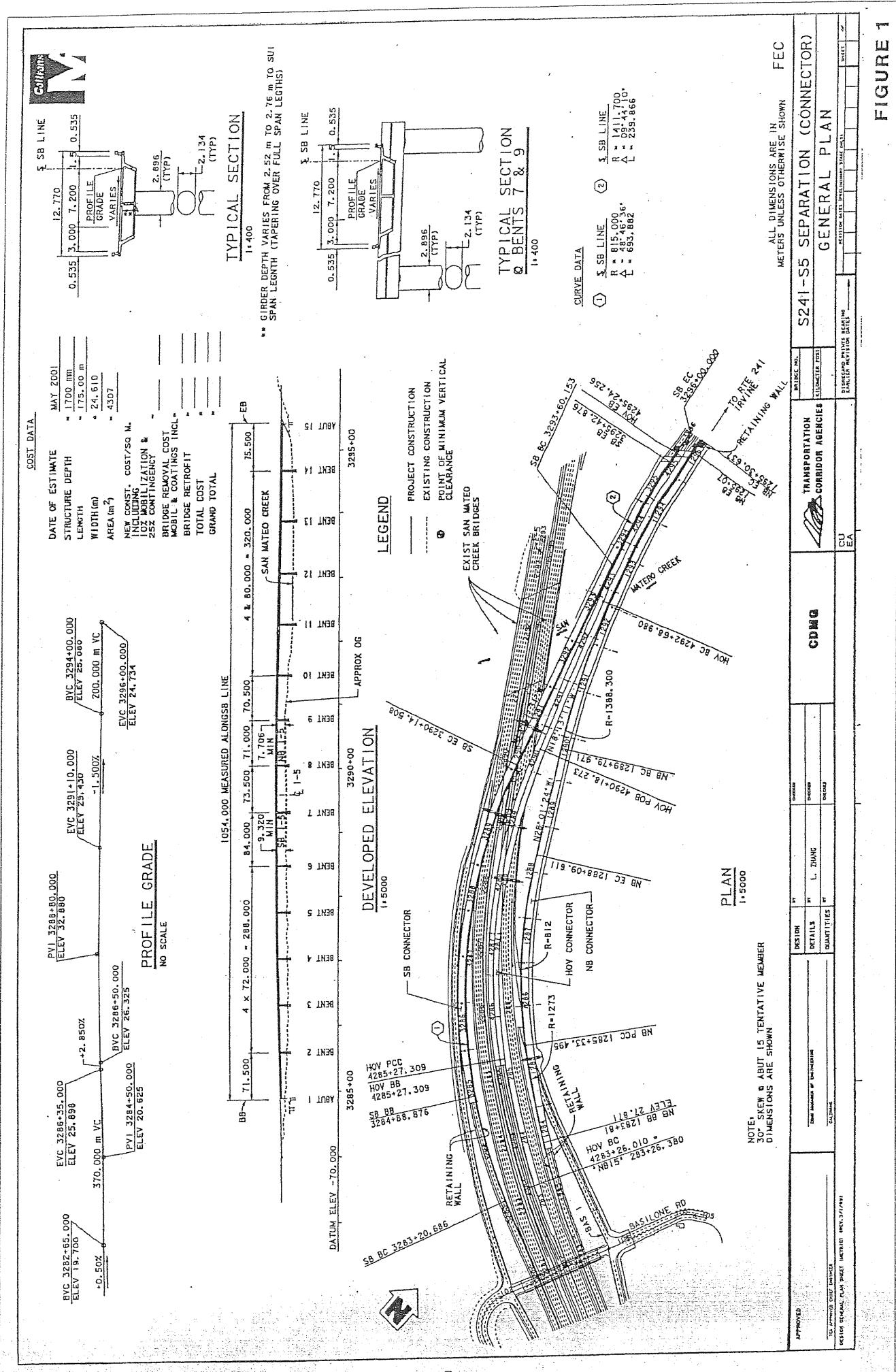


FIGURE 1

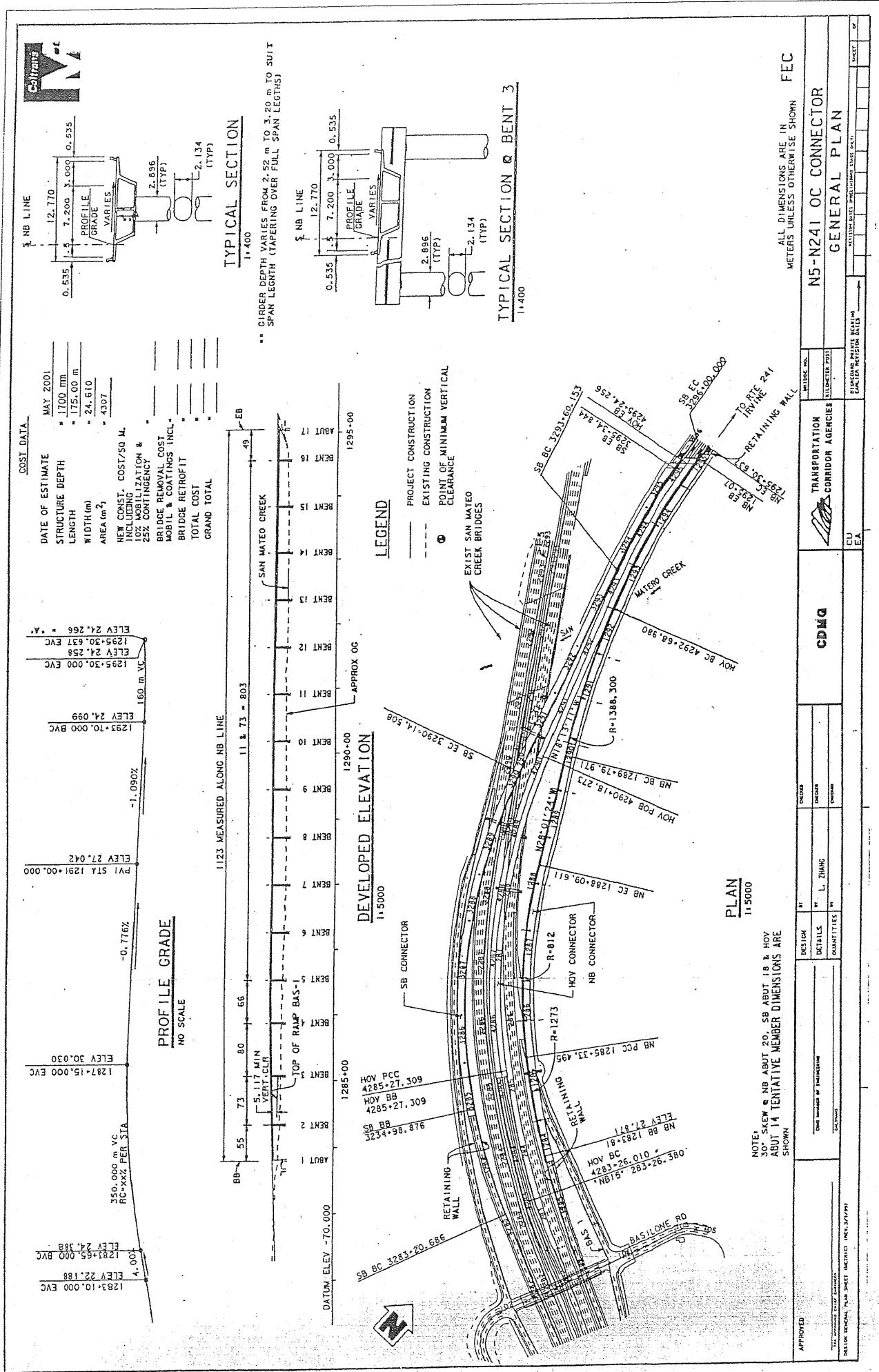


FIGURE 2

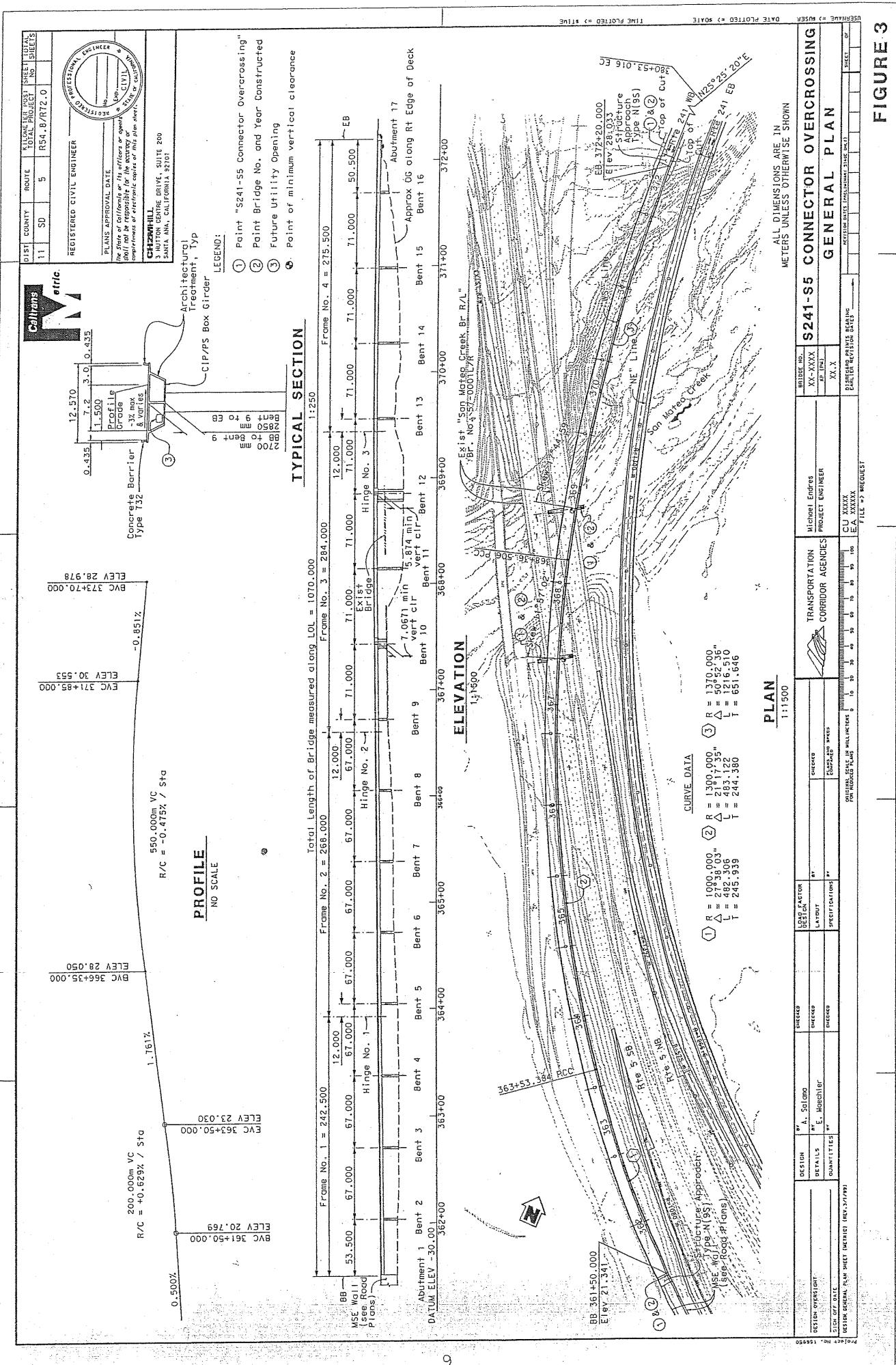


FIGURE 3

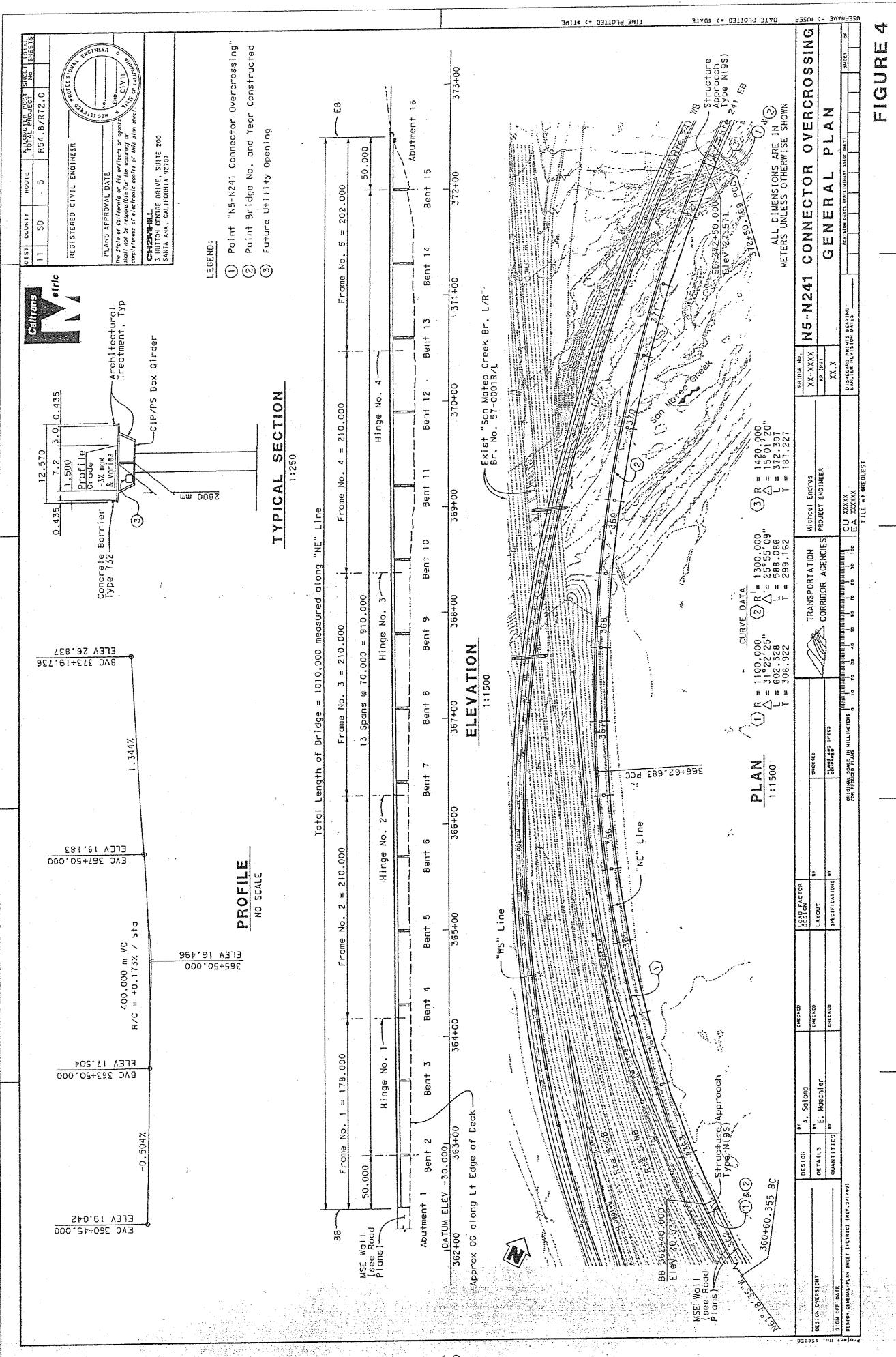


FIGURE 4

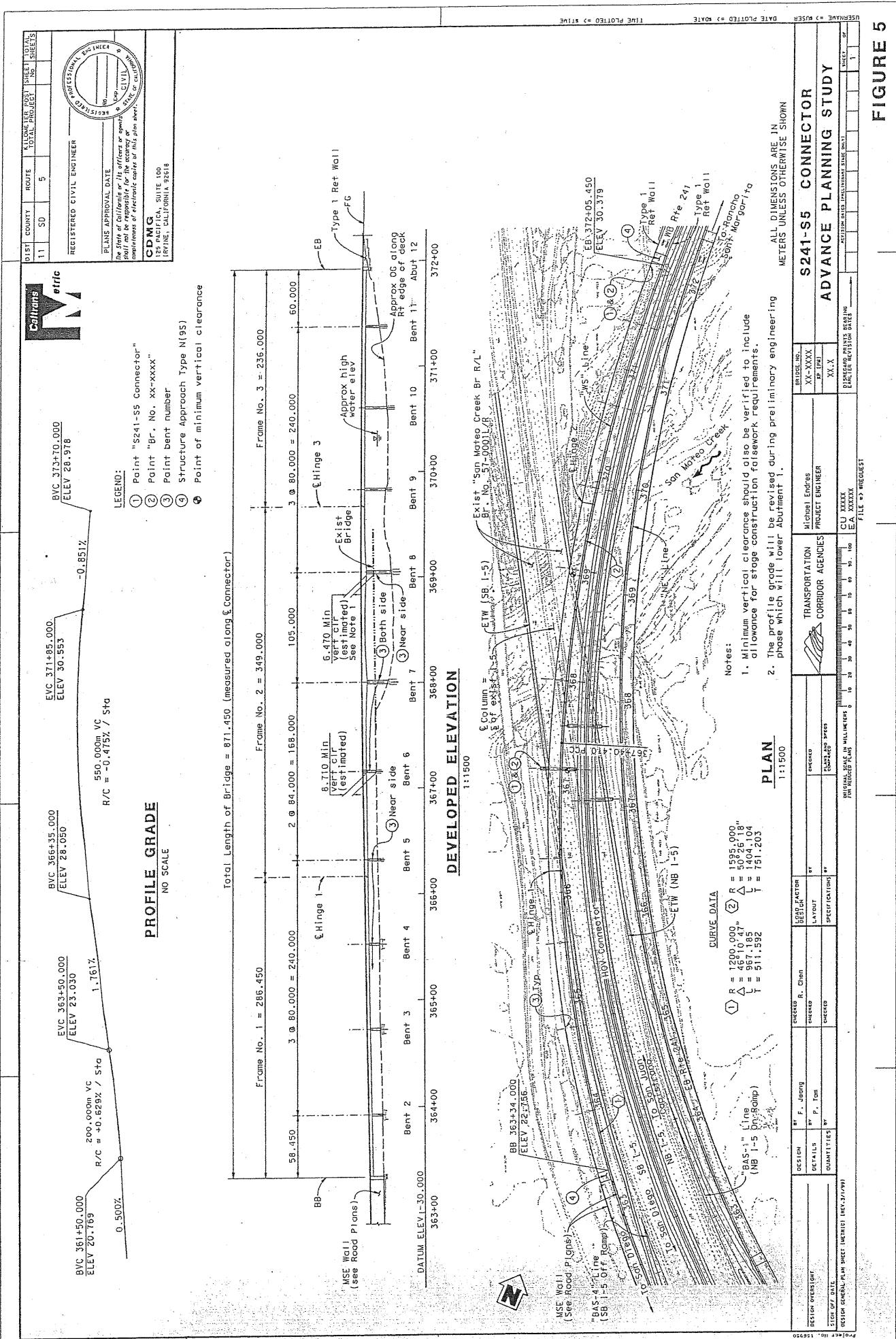
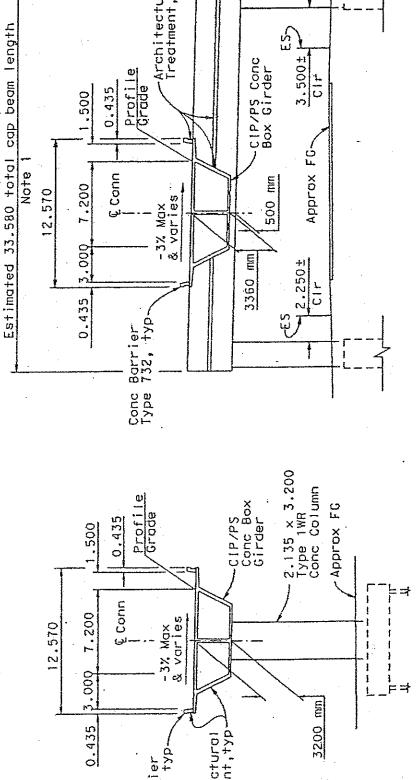


FIGURE 5



TYPICAL SECTION-  
FRAME 1  
1:200

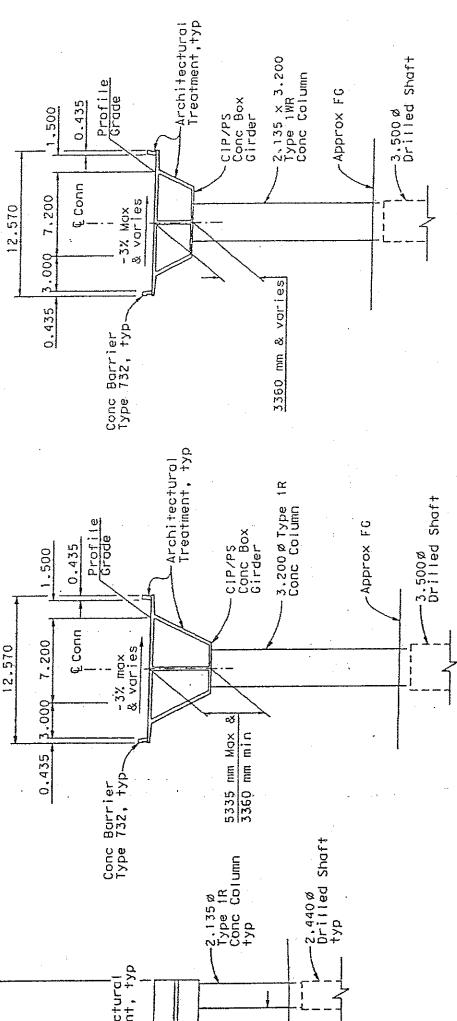
TYPICAL SECTION 1:200

BENT 7 AND 8

TYPICAL SECTION-BENT 5 AND FRAME 3

Note 2

Notes:  
Cup beam length at Bent 6 (outrigger bent) will be decided at Large Type Selection Phase. Column casting will be added to Bent 5 to increase column length.



TYPICAL SECTION - FRAME 2



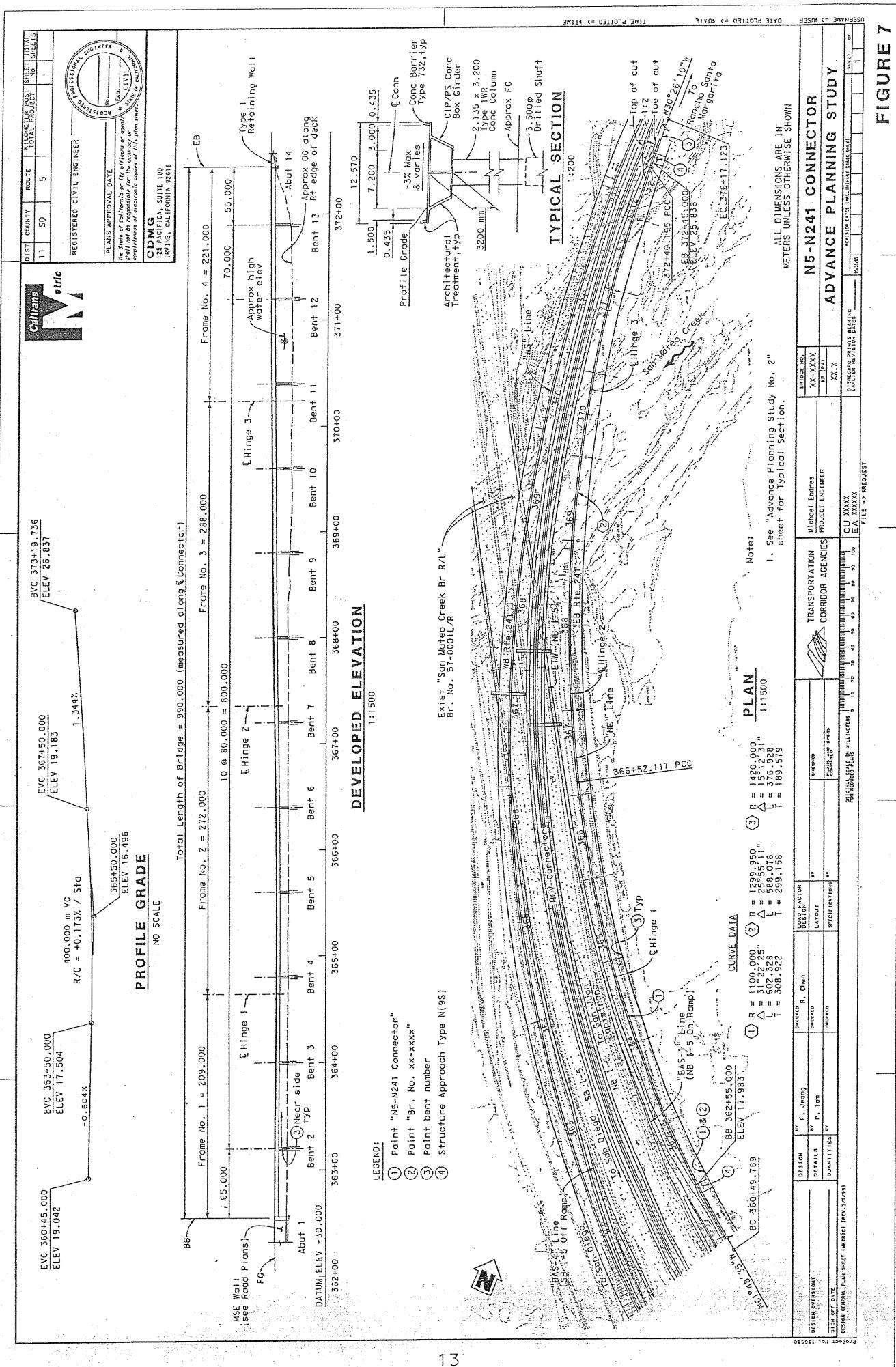
Note 2

ALL DIMENSIONS ARE IN METERS UNLESS OTHERWISE SHOWN

**241-S5 CONNECTOR PLANNING STUDY**

| REVIEW DATE (INITIALLY SIZE, Month) | SHEET | OF |
|-------------------------------------|-------|----|
|                                     | 2     | 35 |

FIGURE 6



Attachment 1:

Bridge Type and Bridge Construction  
Illustration

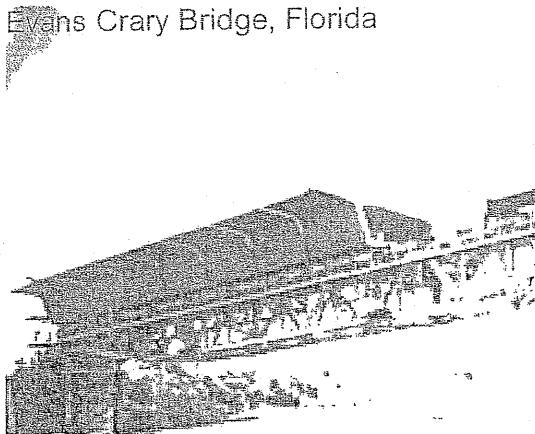
## **Bridge Type And Bridge Construction Illustration**

The span length, cost, constructability and aesthetics of I-5/S-241 Connectors over I-5 and San Mateo Creek must be balanced with the environmental considerations and community impacts. The bridge alternatives and bridge construction are illustrated as the followings.

## Concrete Segmental Bridge

A concrete segmental bridge is a bridge assembled in segments as opposed to conventional methods that build a bridge in very large sections thru ground supporting falsework. Concrete segmental bridges can be categorized by method of construction as span-by-span, incremental launching, balanced cantilever, or progressive cantilever.

Evans Crary Bridge, Florida



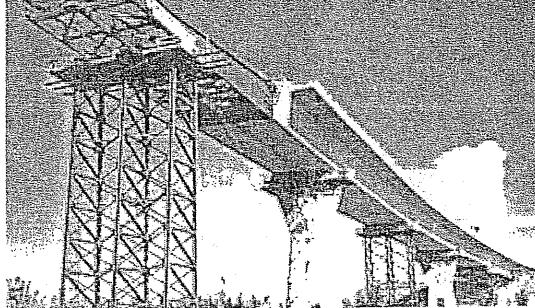
### Span-by-span Construction

An entire span of segments is supported by a temporary truss or girder until it is post-tensioned and self-supporting. A falsework system can be used at the ends of bridges where the sites are low and flat.

**Appropriate Span Length:** 80 - 150 feet

**Applicability to FTC-S Project:** Not suitable for curved alignment with spans longer than 250'.

Stoney Trail Bridge, Calgary, Canada



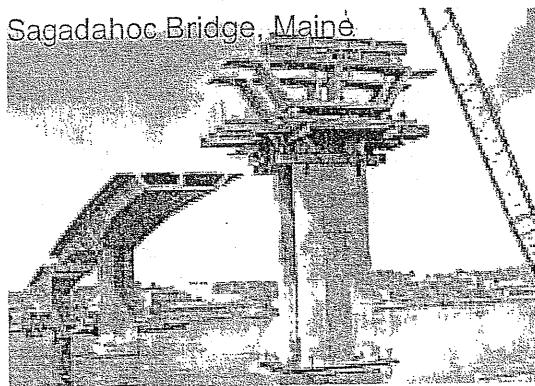
### Incremental launching Construction

A segment is attached to the previously completed bridge superstructure, and then the entire completed bridge is launched outward before the subsequent segment is assembled.

**Appropriate Span Length:** Up to 240 feet

**Applicability to FTC-S Project:** Suitable only for a constant radius curved alignment over creek and I-5 with outrigger bents and temporary supporting piers during construction. Not economical.

Sagadahoc Bridge, Maine



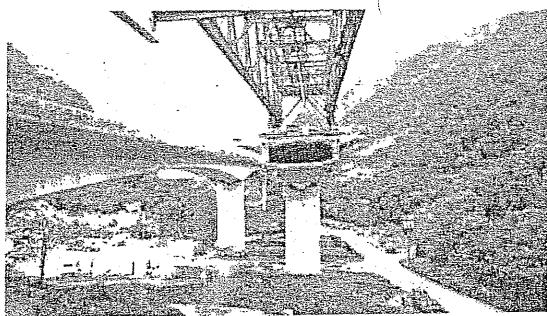
### Balanced Cantilever Construction - Precast

A segment is attached to the previously completed bridge superstructure in a symmetrical fashion about a pier.

**Appropriate Span Length:** 160 - 450 feet

**Applicability to FTC-S Project:** Significant challenges in the hauling of heavy segments, and the lifting and erection of these same superstructure segments.

North Halawa Valley Structure, Hawaii



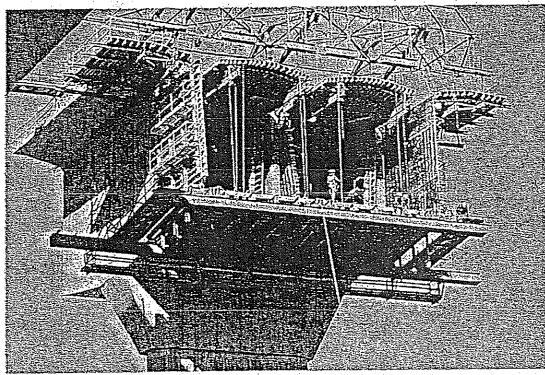
#### Balanced Cantilever Construction - Cast-in-place

The superstructure is constructed using a series of full depth cast-in-place segments in a symmetrical fashion about a pier. The previously erected superstructure segments support the relatively short traveling forms needed for casting the segments.

**Appropriate Span Length:** 260 - 750 feet

**Applicability to FTC-S Project:** Not economical due to the lacking of span repetitive, and delaying the beginning of superstructure construction in requiring specialized falsework, travelling forms and construction equipments.

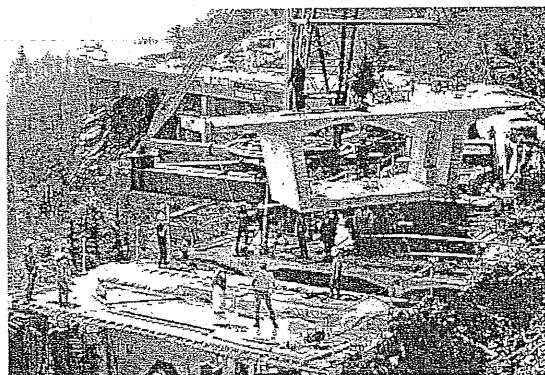
Vietnam Veterans Memorial Bridge, Virginia



#### Traveling Form

Form travelers consist of a sufficiently stiff steel frame to which form panels for the box girder segments are attached at the front. Working platforms on different levels that can be accessed from above are also suspended from the traveler. After advancing on rails on top of the superstructure, the traveler is anchored down to the previous cast segments. The traveler main beams are located either above the superstructure (overhead system) or below the superstructure (underslung system).

Linn Cove Viaduct, North Carolina



#### Progressive Cantilever Construction

The erection of multiple span bridges proceeds in one heading, often with temporary supports to limit stresses in the structure during erection.

**Appropriate Span Length:** 100 - 300 feet

**Applicability to FTC-S Project:** Not economical and significant challenges as balanced cantilever construction.

### I-285 Atlanta Interchange Viaducts, Georgia



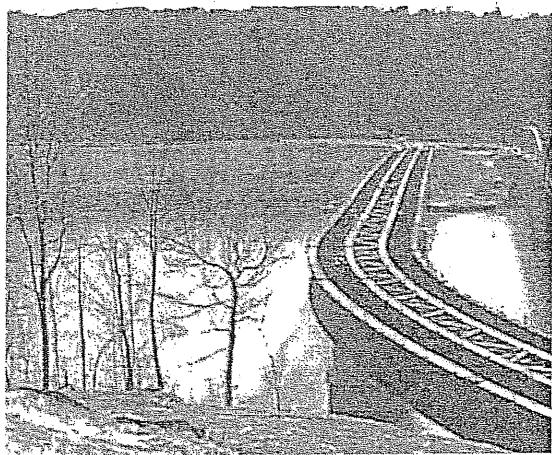
#### Concrete Box Girder Bridge - Cast-in-place Prestressed

A cast-in-place prestressed concrete box girder bridge is cast continuously on falsework with continuous draped tendons post-tensioned. It is the conventional Caltrans type bridge.

**Appropriate Span Length:** 100 - 400 feet

**Applicability to FTC-S Project:** It is feasible to build a cast-in-place prestressed concrete box girder on a long span falsework system across the creek and I-5 with a limited number of temporary supports.

### Ford City Veterans Bridge, Pennsylvania



#### Steel Plate Girder Bridge

A steel plate girder bridge, a modern version of the log bridge, is spaced at regular intervals between piers.

**Appropriate Span Length:** 100 - 400 feet

**Applicability to FTC-S Project:** steel plate girder can accommodate the curvature readily. Significant challenges in the transportation of deep girders by truck, and the fabrication and erection of these same girders.

### Storrow Drive Connector Bridge, Massachusetts



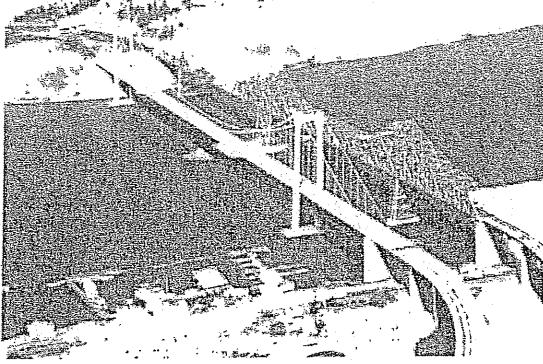
#### Steel Box Girder Bridge

A steel box girder bridge is a particular type of steel plate girder bridge where the girders form a closed hollow section which has high torsional rigidity.

**Appropriate Span Length:** 200 - 600 feet

**Applicability to FTC-S Project:** steel box girder can accommodate the horizontal curved alignment. Significant constructability considerations in fabricated girder sections, overland transportation, bridge fabrication and steel erection.

Carquinez Bridge, California



### Truss Bridge

Truss Bridges consist of straight members arranged in triangle patterns. Long spans can be achieved by increasing the overall depth where the moment is greater.

**Appropriate Span Length:** 500 - 1,200 feet

**Applicability to FTC-S Project:** Not suitable for curved alignment over creek and I-5.

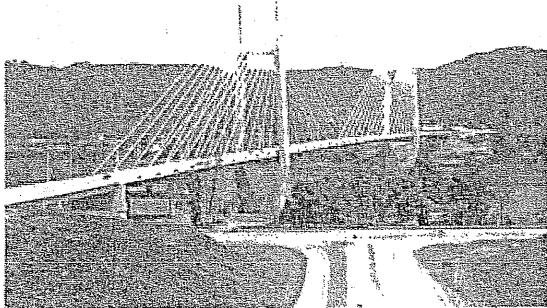
### Suspension Bridge

The towers, the cables, and the anchors are the three main parts of a suspension bridges. The cables are suspended between towers and secured usually into a heavy mass of concrete at ends of bridge. The roadway is hung from the massive steel cables by the vertical suspender cables.

**Appropriate Span Length:** 1,500 feet and up

**Applicability to FTC-S Project:** Not suitable for curved alignment over creek and I-5.

Maysville Bridge, Kentucky



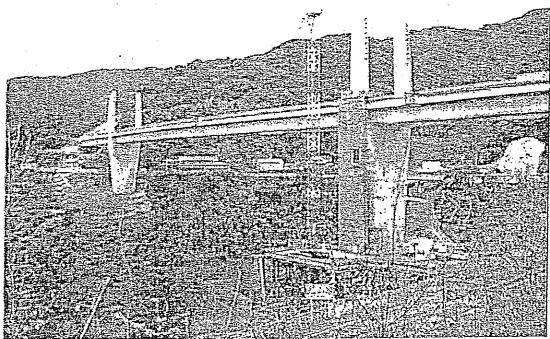
### Cable-Stayed Bridge

In cable-stayed bridges, the roadway is supported by inclined cables, stays, passing over or attached to the towers. The cable-stayed bridge requires smaller and lighter anchorages for the cables than the suspension bridge does.

**Appropriate Span Length:** 600 - 1,800 feet

**Applicability to FTC-S Project:** Long span bridge type not economical for the relatively short span length and curved alignment.

Himi Yumi Bridge, Nagasaki, Japan



### Extradosed Bridge

The extradosed bridge is a combination of a cable-stayed bridge and a segmental bridge. The stay-cables and the superstructure work in combination to carry the live load, allowing the superstructure to be more slender than a typical segmental bridge and the towers to be typically half the height above the deck than an equivalent cable-stayed bridge.

**Appropriate Span Length:** 300 - 900 feet

**Applicability to FTC-S Project:** Wide substructure not fitted in the center medium between SB I-5 and NB I-5 and not economical for the curved alignment.

Yumemai Bridge, Osaka, Japan



### Arch Bridge

The arch bridge uses a curved arch made of either steel or concrete to transfer partially the weight of bridge and vehicles into a horizontal thrust against the supports at either end.

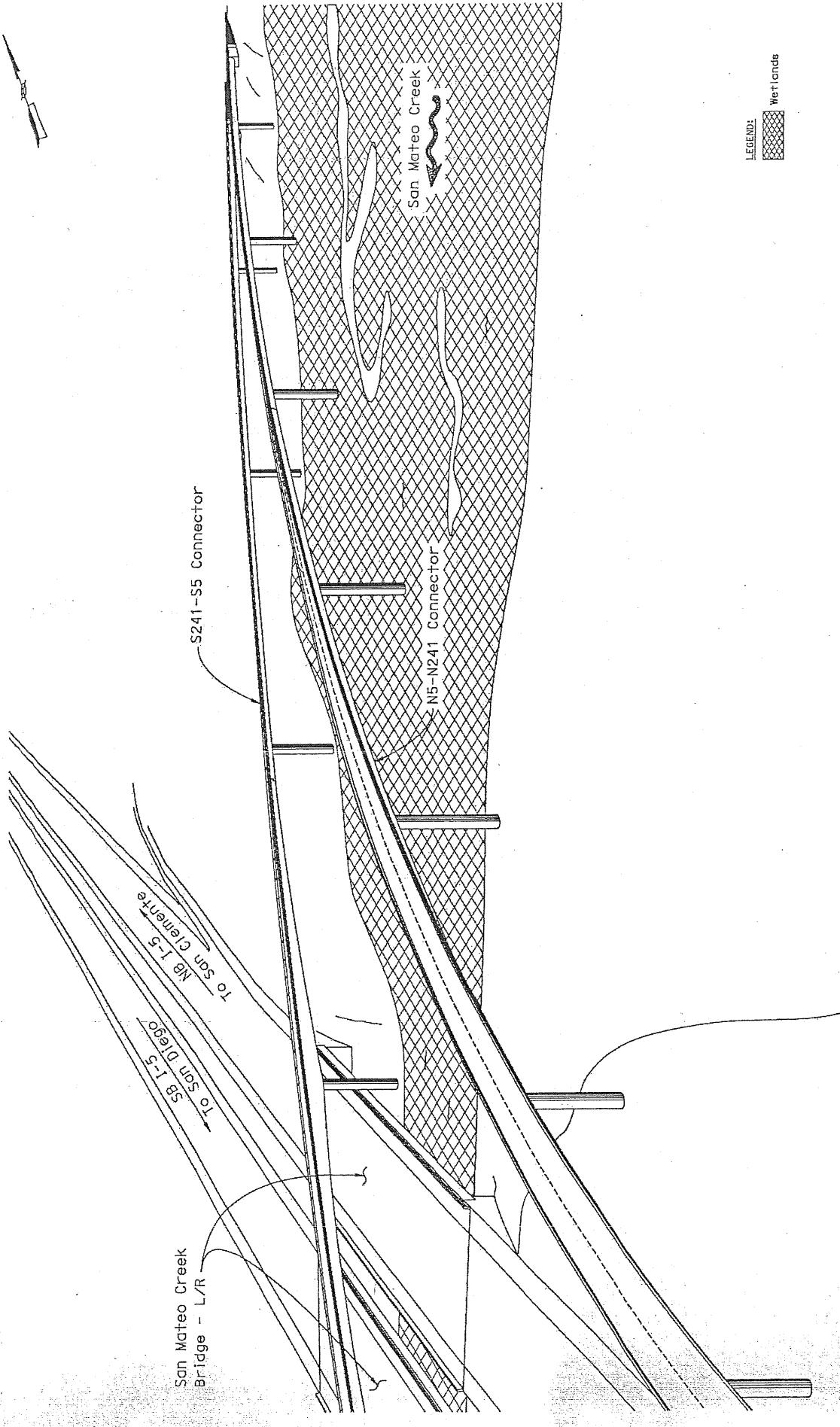
**Appropriate Span Length:** 500 - 1,200 feet

**Applicability to FTC-S Project:** Not suitable for curved alignment over creek and I-5.

Attachment 2:

Perspective Rendering for Other Feasible  
Structure Types

**CONVENTIONAL CAST-IN-PLACE / PRESTRESSED (CIP/PS) CONCRETE BOX GIRDERS**



LEGEND:  
Wetlands

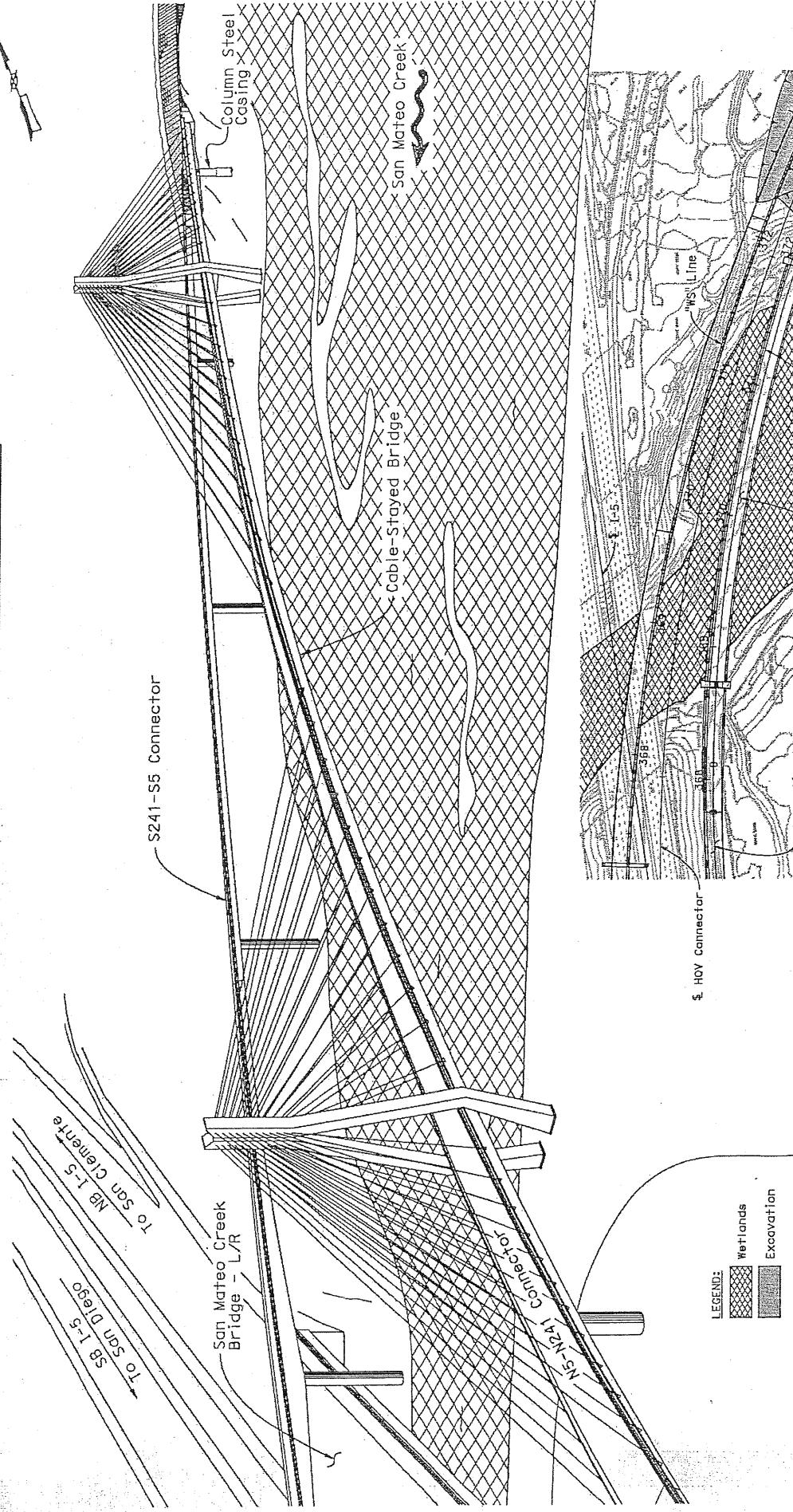
**CDMG**

**CORRIDOR DESIGN MANAGEMENT GROUP**



**Transportation Corridor Agencies**

## CABLE-STAYED BRIDGE WITH PRESTRESSED (PS) CONCRETE BOX GIRDERS



LEGEND:




Wetlands      Excavation

Notes:

1. The main span length of the cable-stayed bridge over San Pedro Creek is estimated longer than 320 meters to have each tower positioned located outside wetlands and 117 in curved roadway alignment.
  2. Deep cut of existing hillside will be required for north embankment construction.
  3. The height of pylons above bridge deck is estimated to be more than 60 meters.

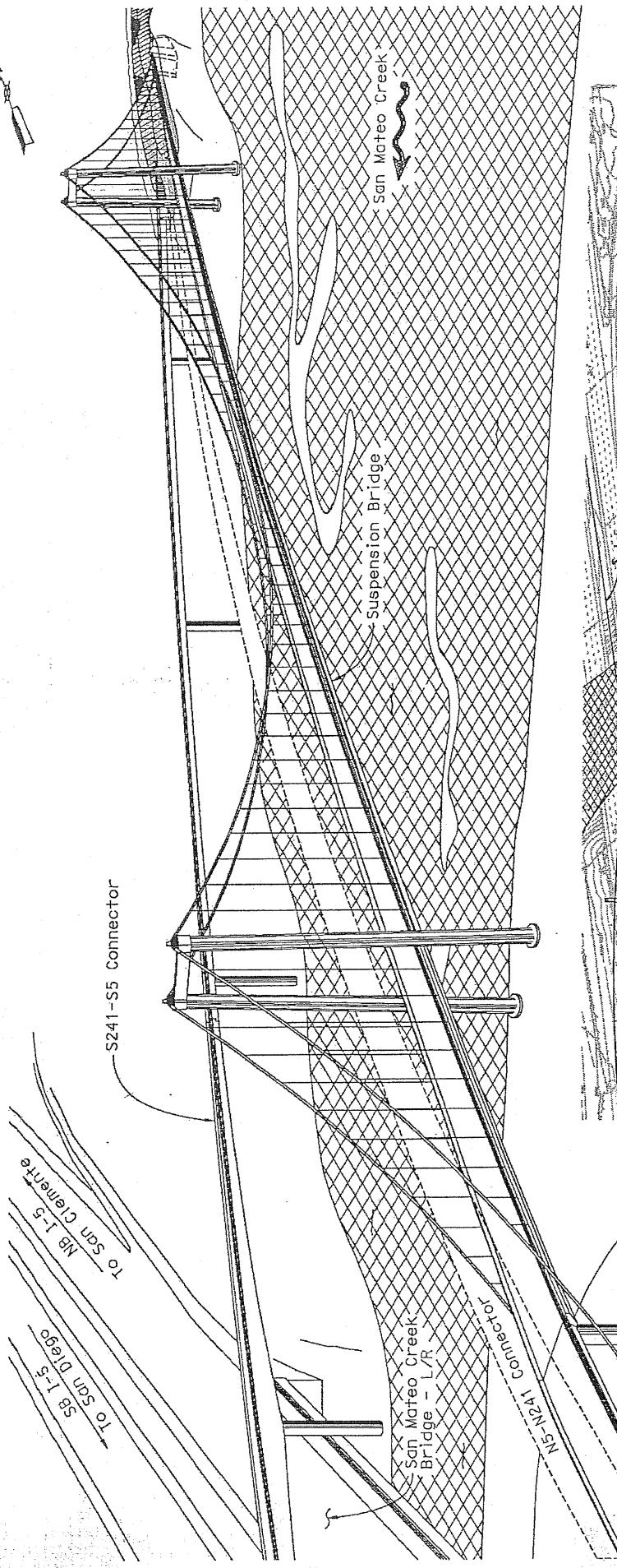
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Cable-Stayed Bridges

PLAN

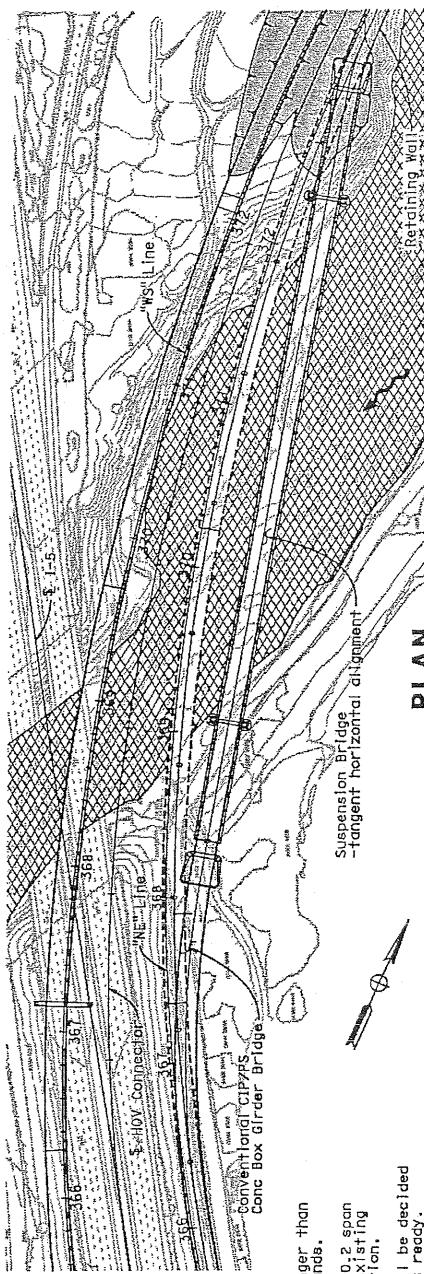
*Transportation Corridor Agencies*

## SUSPENSION BRIDGE - STEEL ORTHOTROPIC BOX GIRDERS SUPERSTRUCTURE



**Notes:**

1. Main span length of suspension bridge is estimated longer than 320 meters to have fewer legs not located within wetlands.
2. North abutment is located to incorporate greater than 0.2 span length ratio of side span to main span. Deep cut of existing hillsides will be required for north abutment construction.
3. The feasibility of suspension main cable anchorage will be decided when thorough foundation exploration/recommendation is ready.
4. The height of suspension towers above bridge deck is estimated to be more than 40 meters.



PLAN



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## INCLINED RIBS (BASKET HANDLE TYPE) THROUGH TIED-ARCH BRIDGE

