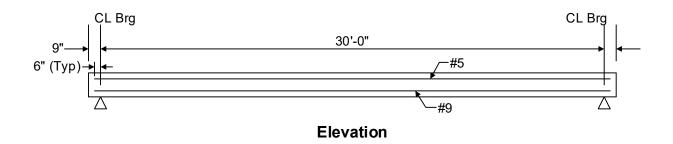
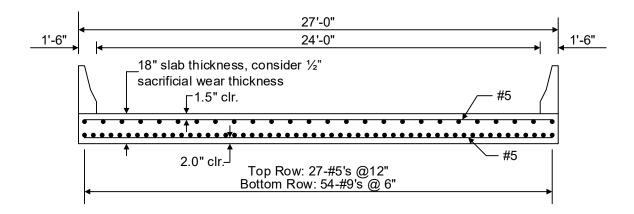
AASHTOWare BrDR 7.7.0

Reinforced Concrete Structure Tutorial RC2 – Reinforced Concrete Slab Example Introduction – Elevation and Typical section

RC2 - Reinforced Concrete Slab Example





Typical Section

Material Properties

Slab Concrete: Class A (US) f'c = 4.0 ksi, modular ratio n = 8 Slab Reinforcing Steel: AASHTO M31, Grade 60 with Fy = 60 ksi

Parapets

Weigh 300 lb/ft each. If slab cross section entered as 12" wide strip, member load due to parapets will be (2*300 lb/ft)/27' = 22 lb/ft.

1

Last Modified: 6/4/2025

BrDR Training

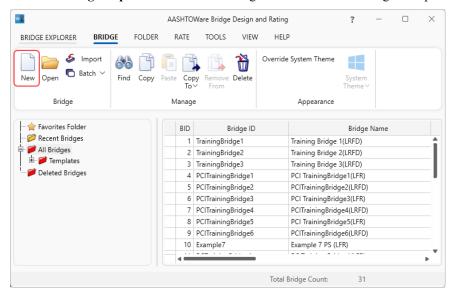
RC2 - Reinforced Concrete Slab Example

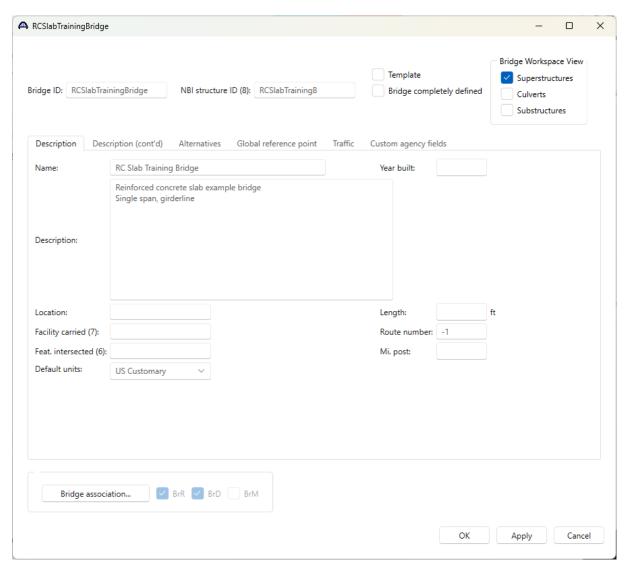
Topics Covered

- Single span reinforced concrete slab description
- Sacrificial wear thickness for a slab
- Cross-section based member alternative
- Schedule based member alternative

Single span reinforced concrete slab description.

From the **Bridge Explorer** create a new bridge and enter the following description data:

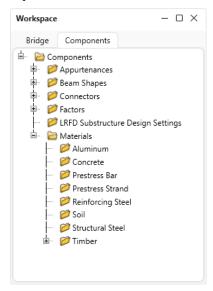




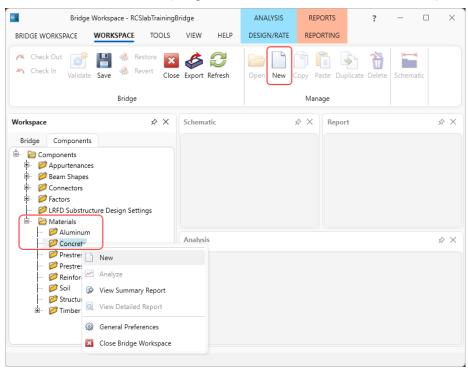
Close the window by clicking **OK**. This applies the data and closes the window.

Bridge Materials

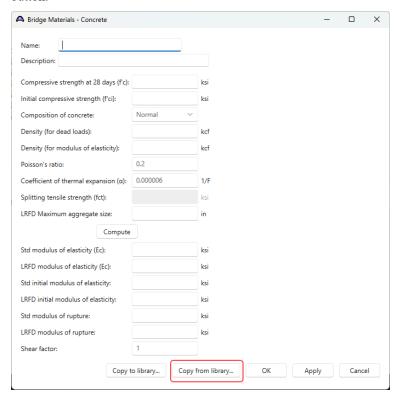
To enter the materials to be used by members of the bridge, click on the **Components** tab of **Bridge Workspace**, and expand the tree for Materials. The tree with the expanded **Materials** branch is shown below:



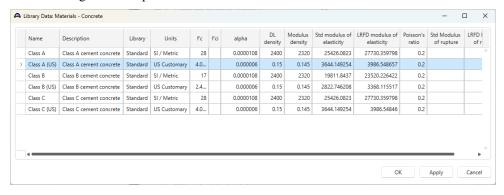
To add a new concrete material, click on **Concrete** in the **Components** tree and select **New** from the **Manage** group of the **WORKSPACE** ribbon (or right mouse click on **Concrete** and select **New**).



Add the concrete material by selecting from the Concrete Materials Library by clicking the Copy from Library button.

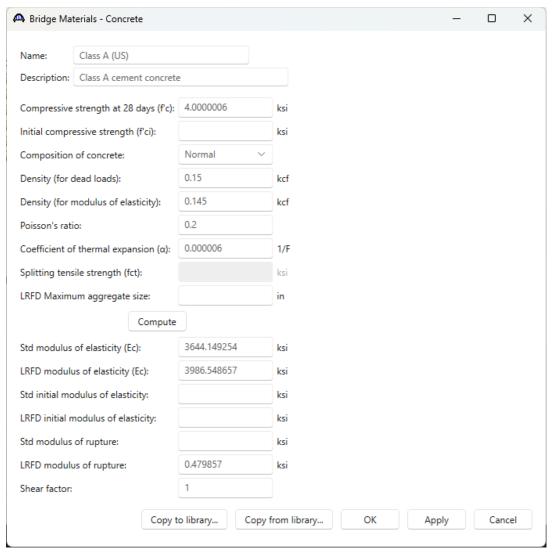


The following window opens:



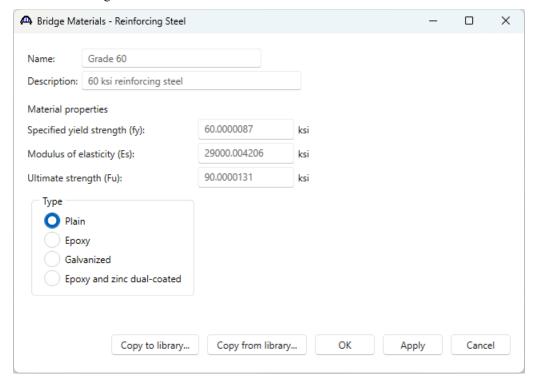
Select the Class A (US) material and click OK.

The selected material properties are copied to the **Bridge Materials – Concrete** window as shown below.



Click **OK** to apply the data and close the window.

Add the following reinforcement steel in the same manner.



Since a reinforced concrete slab is used, beam shapes need not be defined. The slab will be entered later using two different methods, as a cross section and as a schedule based member alternative.

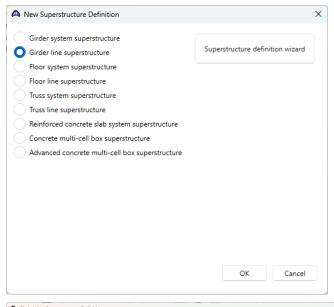
Reinforced concrete slabs may be entered as Girderline Superstructure Definitions in BrDR or as slab systems. This example uses the girderline option. Since a Structure Typical Section is not defined for girderline structures, appurtenances are not defined. The dead load due for the appurtenances will be entered later as member loads.

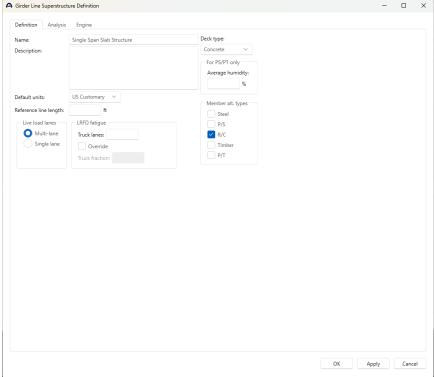
The default impact factors, standard LRFD and LFD factors will be used so the next step will be to define a Superstructure. Bridge Alternatives will be added after a superstructure is defined.

Superstructure Definition

Navigate back to the **Bridge** tab of the **Bridge Workspace**. Double click on **SUPERSTRUCTURE DEFINITIONS** (or click on **SUPERSTRUCTURE DEFINITIONS** and select **New** from the **Manage** group of the **WORKSPACE** ribbon or right mouse click on **SUPERSTRUCTURE DEFINITIONS** and select **New** from the popup menu) to create a new structure definition.

Select **Girder line superstructure** and click **OK**. The **Girder Line Superstructure Definition** window will open. Enter the data as shown below:

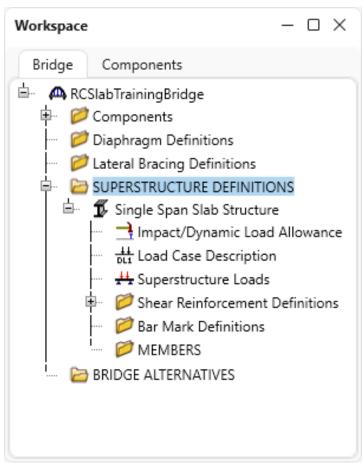




Click **OK** to apply the data and close the window.

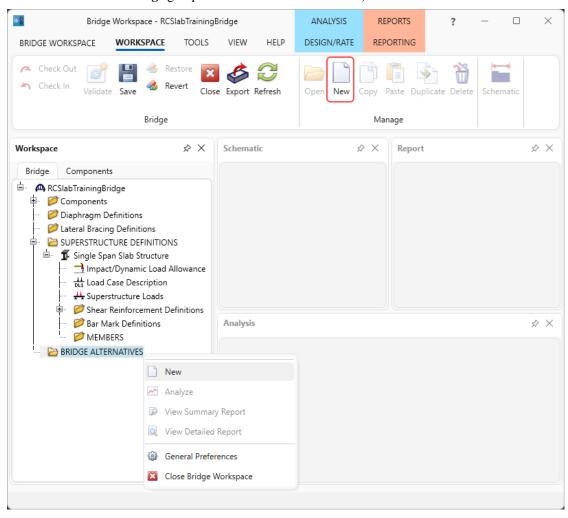
Last Modified: 6/4/2025

The partially expanded **Bridge Workspace** tree is shown below:

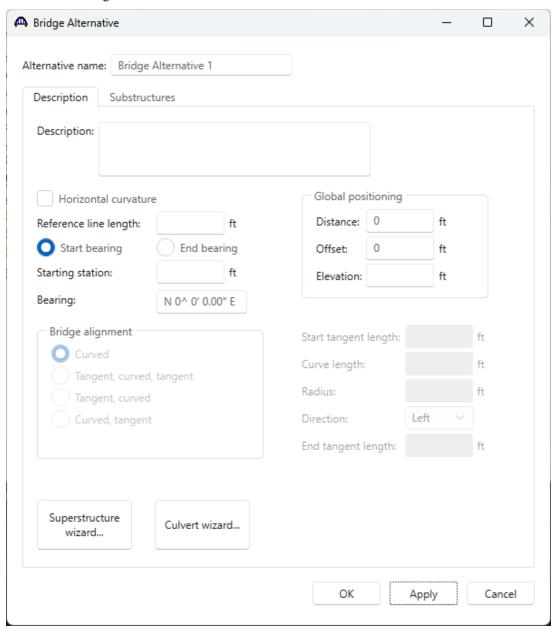


BRIDGE ALTERNATIVES

Navigate to the BRIDGE ALTERNATIVES node in the Bridge Workspace tree and create a new bridge alternative by double-clicking on BRIDGE ALTERNATIVES (or click on BRIDGE ALTERNATIVES and select New from the Manage group of the WORKSPACE ribbon).

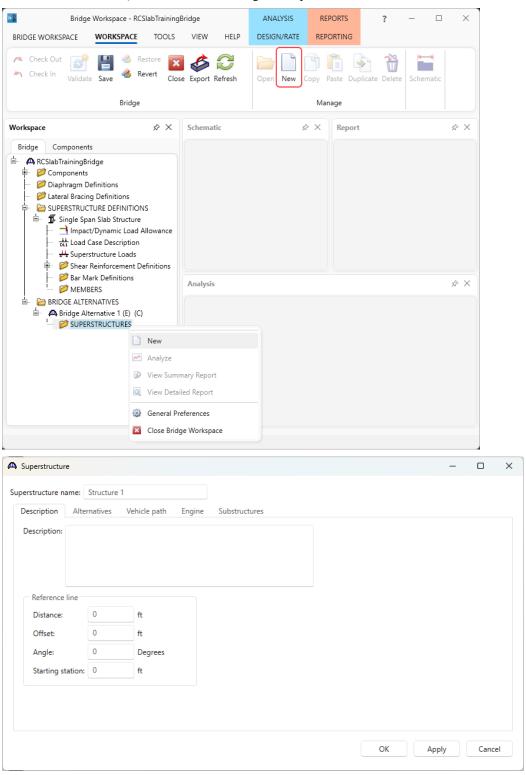


Enter the following data.



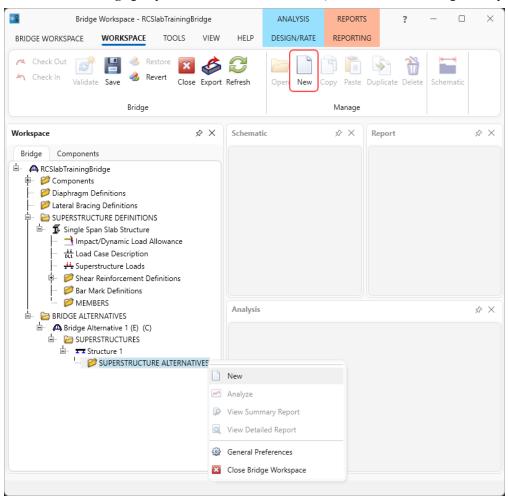
Click **OK** to apply the data and close the window.

Expand the Bridge Alternative 1 node in the Bridge Workspace tree by clicking the \oplus button. Double-click on the SUPERSTRUCTURES node (or select SUPERSTRUCTURES, click New from the Manage group of the WORKSPACE ribbon) and enter the following new superstructure.

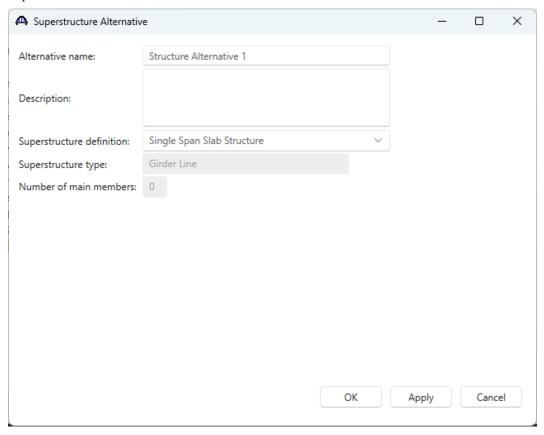


Click **OK** to apply the data and close the window.

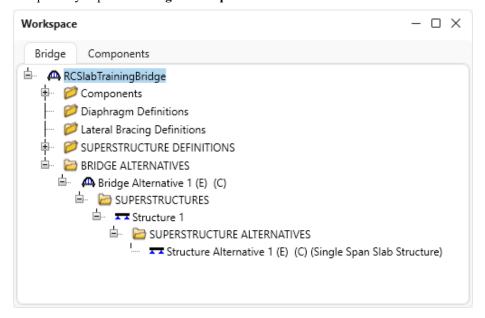
Expand the Structure 1 node in the Bridge Workspace tree by clicking the 🛨 button. Double-click on the SUPERSTRUCTURE ALTERNATIVES node (or select SUPERSTRUCTURE ALTERNATIVES and click New from the Manage group of the WORKSPACE ribbon) and enter the following new superstructure alternative.



Select the **Superstructure definition Single Span Slab Structure** as the current superstructure definition for this Superstructure Alternative.

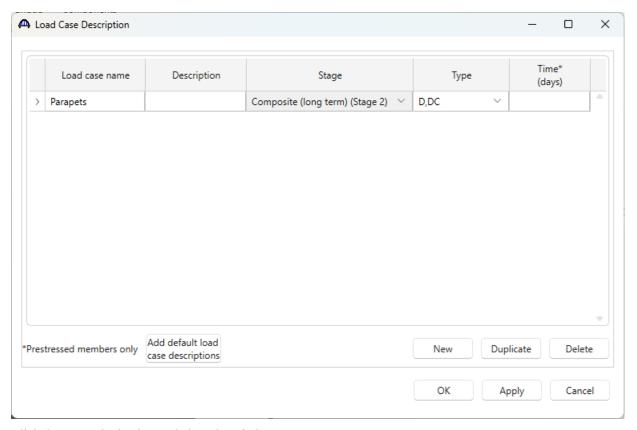


The partially expanded **Bridge Workspace tree** is shown below.



Load Case Description

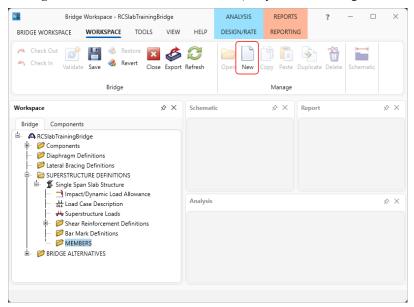
Navigate back to the superstructure definition **Single Span Slab Structure**. Double click on the **Load Case Description** node in the Bridge Workspace tree to open the **Load Case Description** window and define the dead load case as shown below. The completed **Load Case Description** window is shown below.



Click **OK** to apply the data and close the window.

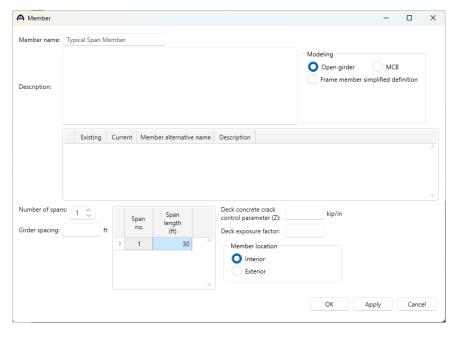
Member

Open the **Member** window by selecting **Member** in the **Bridge Workspace** tree and clicking on **New** from the **Manage** tab of the **WORKSPACE** ribbon (or by double clicking on **Member** in bridge workspace tree).



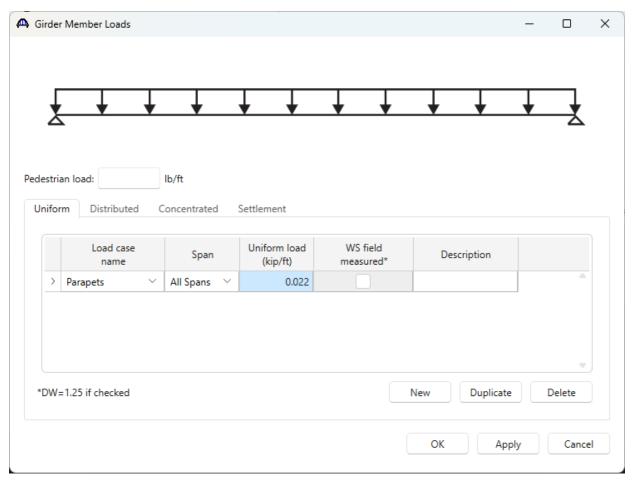
Fill in the window with the following information. If F1 is selected while this window is active, the Help topic for the **Member** window will be displayed. This help topic describes that the girder spacing, and member location are not required for a slab member so no data will be entered for those items.

The first **Member Alternative** that is created will automatically be assigned as the **Existing** and **Current** member alternative for this member.



Member Loads

Expand the newly added member node. Double-click on **Member Loads** in the **Bridge Workspace** tree to open the **Girder Member Loads** window. This structure has 2 parapets each weighing 300 lb/ft. A 12" wide strip of slab is defined as the member, and the width of the bridge cross section is 27 ft. So, the parapet load applied to this member will be (2*300 lb/ft)/27' = 22 lb/ft.



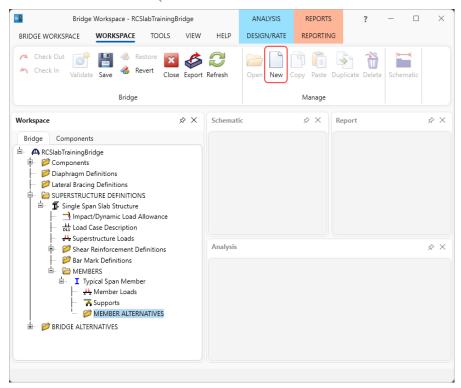
Click **OK** to apply the data and close the window.

Cross Section Based Member Alternative

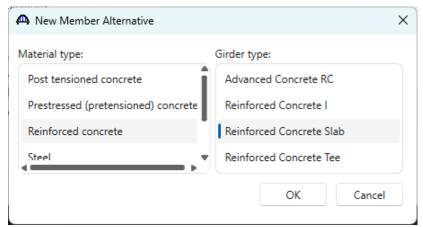
This portion of the example describes the creation of a cross-section based member alternative.

Defining a Member Alternative:

Select MEMBER ALTERNATIVES in the Bridge Workspace tree and click on New from the Manage group of the WORKSPACE ribbon (or double-click MEMBER ALTERNATIVES in the tree) to create a new alternative.

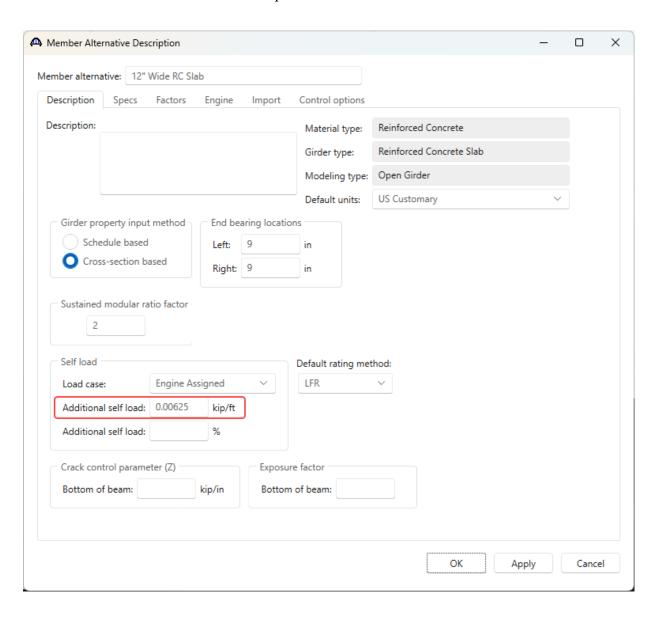


The New Member Alternative window shown below will open. Select Reinforced Concrete for the Material type and Reinforced Concrete Slab for the Girder type.



Click **OK** to close the window and create a new member alternative.

The **Member Alternative Description** window will open. Enter the data as shown below.

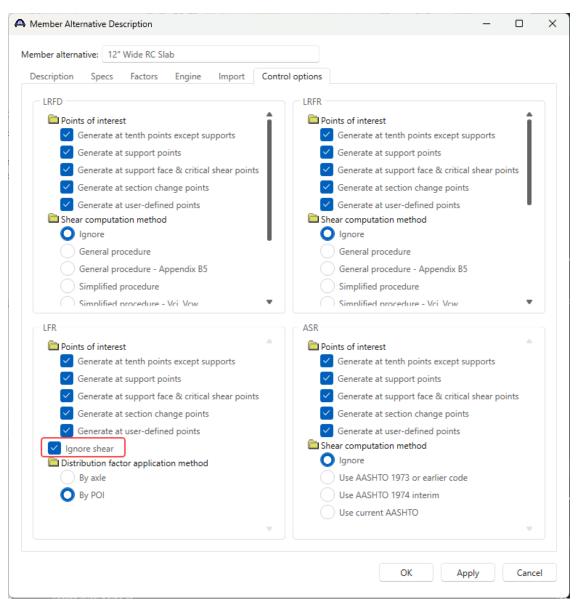


Sacrificial wear thickness for a slab

In this example, ½" of the slab is to be a sacrificial wear thickness. When the cross-section properties are entered later, the effective slab thickness will be entered. An **Additional self load** is entered here on the member alternative window to account for the ½" sacrificial wear.

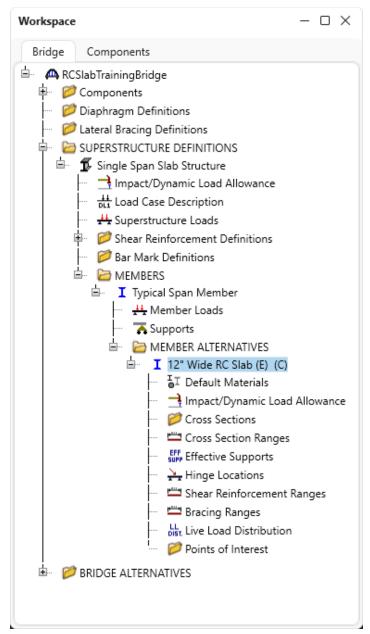
 $(\frac{1}{2})$ /12 x 0.150 kcf = 0.0063 k/ft

AASHTO Article 3.24.4 states that concrete slabs designed in accordance with AASHTO Article 3.24.3 shall be considered satisfactory in bond and shear so navigate to the **Control options** tab select the **Ignore shear** checkbox under the **LFR** group of the **Control options** tab.



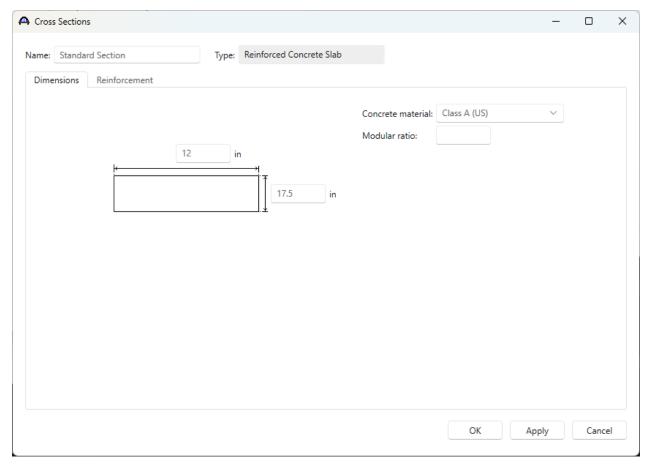
Click **OK** to apply the data and close the window.

Expand the newly added member alternative. The partially expanded **Bridge Workspace** tree is shown below.

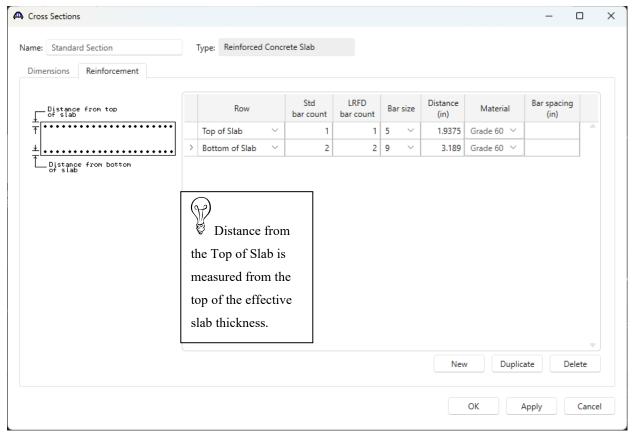


Cross Sections

New cross section can be defined by double-clicking on **Cross Sections** in the **Bridge Workspace** tree. Enter the data as shown below. The completed **Cross Sections** window is as follows. Note that the effective slab thickness is entered here.



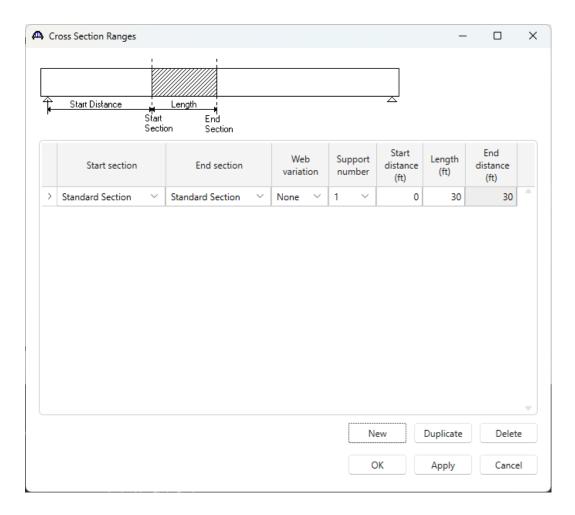
Switch to the **Reinforcement** tab of this window. The **reinforcement** for the section is shown below.



Click **OK** to apply the data and close the window.

Cross Section Ranges

Open the **Cross Section Ranges** window from the **Bridge Workspace** tree. The cross section defined in the previous step is now applied over the length of the member as shown below.



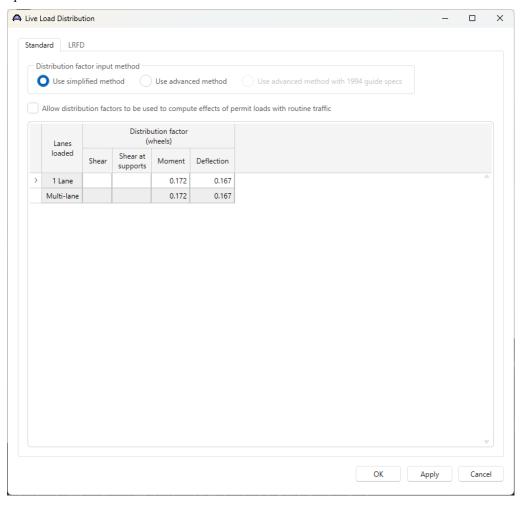
Shear Reinforcement Ranges and **Bracing Ranges** are not applicable to this member so no data will be entered in these windows.

Live Load Distribution

Double click on Live Load Distribution on the Bridge Workspace tree to open the Live Load Distribution window.

Standard:

Enter values as shown below and Click **Apply** to apply the standard live load distribution factors and keep the window open.



The Standard distribution factor for a slab member is computed as follows:

AASHTO Article 3.24.3.2

Distribution width, E, for a wheel is 4 + 0.06S but shall not exceed 7'.

$$S = span length = 30$$

$$E = 4 + 0.06 * 30' = 5.8' \le 7'$$

Moment DF =
$$\frac{1 \text{ wheel}}{5.8'}$$
 = 0.1724 wheel/ft

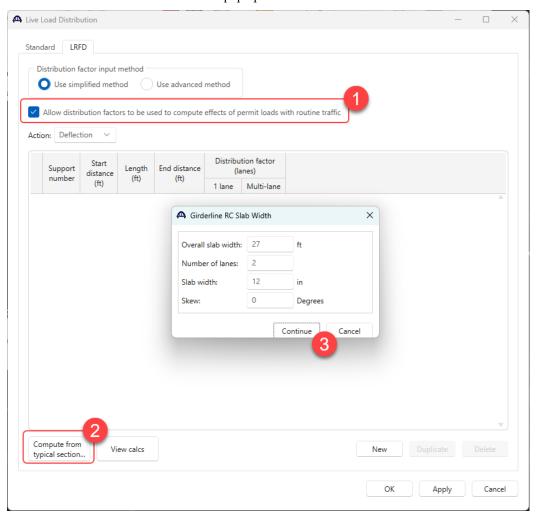
The cross section that will be entered for this member alternative is 12" wide so the wheel distribution factor is per foot. If the cross section were 24" wide, the distribution factor would be computed as 2*0.1724=0.3448.

The deflection distribution factor is calculated as the number of lanes divided by the number of girders. For a reinforced concrete slab bridge, the number of girders is taken as the lane width divided by the strip width. Our lane width is 12 feet, and our strip width is 12" or 1 foot.

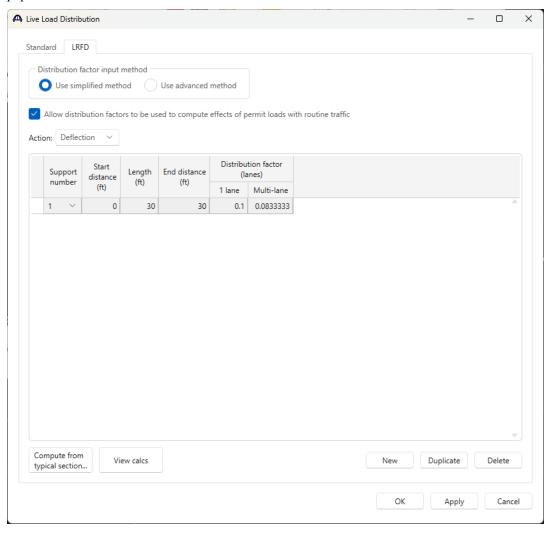
$$Deflection DF = \frac{1 \ lane * 2 \ wheels/lane}{(12'/1')} = 0.1667 \ wheel \ / \ ft$$

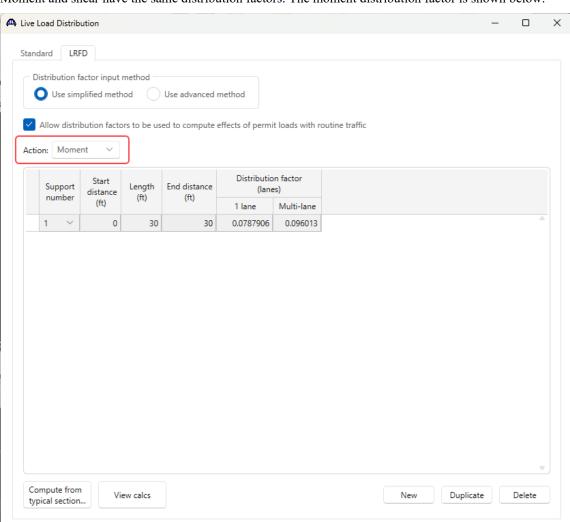
LRFD:

Navigate to the LRFD tab of the Live Load Distribution window and check the Allow distribution factors to be used to compute effects of permit loads with routine traffic box. Click the Compute from typical section button and enter the values shown below in the pop up window.



Click the **Continue** button, BrDR will compute LRFD live load distribution factors. Click **OK** on the **LRFD Distribution Factor Progress** window to close this progress window. The **Live Load Distribution** window will be populated as shown below.





Moment and shear have the same distribution factors. The moment distribution factor is shown below.

Drop down options for **Action** can be used to verify the computed distribution factors for each action (Deflection, Moment, and Shear). Click **OK** to apply the data and close the window.

Apply

Cancel

The live load distribution factors for LRFD analysis are calculated as shown below.

AASHTO Article 4.6.2.3

Equivalent width of strip per lane, E, for both shear and moment single lane:

Single lane

$$E = 10.0 + 5.0 \sqrt{L_1 W_1}$$

$$L_1 = span \ length \le 60' = 30'$$

$$W_1 = modified\ edge - edge\ width\ of\ bridge\ \le 30' for\ single\ lane\ = 27'$$

$$E = 10 + 5.0 * \sqrt{(30)(27)} = 152.302$$
"

Moment and Shear
$$DF = \frac{1 \text{ lane}}{152,302} = 0.0066 \text{ lane/inch}$$

For single lane, the moment and shear distribution factor = 12" member * 0.0066 lanes/inch = 0.079 lanes.

Multi lane

$$E = 84.0 + 1.44\sqrt{L_1W_1} \le \frac{12.0W}{N_L}$$

$$L_1 = span \ length \le 60' = 30'$$

 $W_1 = modified\ edge - edge\ width\ of\ bridge\ \leq 60' for\ multi\ lane\ = 27'$

$$W = width \ edge - edge \ of \ bridge = 27'$$

 $N_L = number \ of \ lanes$

$$E = 84.0 + 1.44\sqrt{(30)(27)} = 124.983 \le \frac{12(27)}{2} = 162$$
"

Moment and Shear
$$DF = \frac{1 \, lane}{124.983} = 0.008 \, lane/inch$$

For multi lane, the moment and shear distribution factor = 12" member * 0.008 lanes/inch = 0.096 lanes.

Deflection distribution factor:

$$Deflection DF = \frac{\# lanes}{(Lane \ width \ / \ Strip \ width)} * Multiple \ Presence \ Factor$$

Single lane Deflection DF =
$$\frac{1 \text{ lane}}{(12'/1')}(1.2) = 0.100 \text{ lanes}$$

Multi lane Deflection DF =
$$\frac{2 \text{ lanes}}{(12'*2/1')}(1.0) = 0.0833 \text{ lanes}$$

There is no requirement to define any **points of interest** since none of the information entered will be overridden in this example.

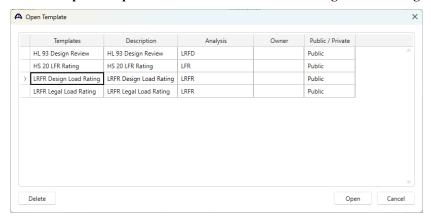
The description of this structure is complete.

LRFR Analysis

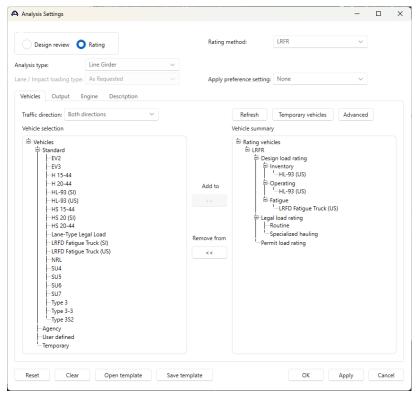
The member alternative created can now be analyzed. To perform an LRFR rating, select the Analysis Settings button on the Analysis group of the DESIGN/RATE ribbon to open the window shown below.



Click the Open Template button and select the LRFR Design Load Rating to be used in the rating and click OK.



The Analysis Settings window will be updated as shown below.

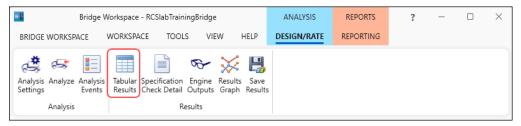


Tabular Results

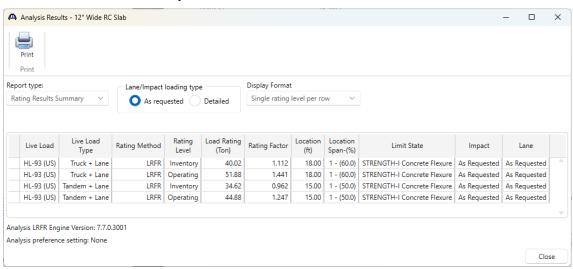
Next with the member alternative selected, click the **Analyze** button on the **Analysis** group of the **DESIGN/RATE** ribbon to perform the rating.



When the rating is finished results can be reviewed by clicking the **Tabular Results** button on the **Results** group of the ribbon.

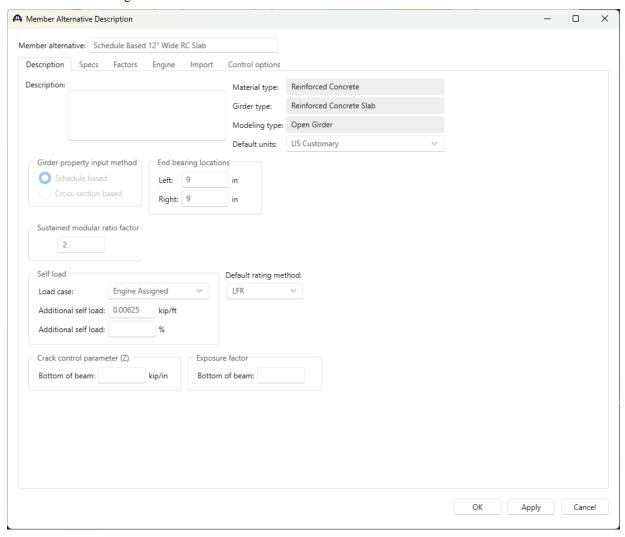


The window shown below will open.



Schedule Based Member Alternative

This portion of the example describes the creation of a schedule based member alternative. Create a new reinforced concrete member alternative (as per the steps shown in the previous section) for the member **Typical Slab Member** and enter the following data.



Since a slab member is described and since shear will be ignored using a control option, ignoring the shear in the slab in the following discussion does not affect this example. However, it is an important item to be aware of when considering shear in the member so it will be reviewed now.



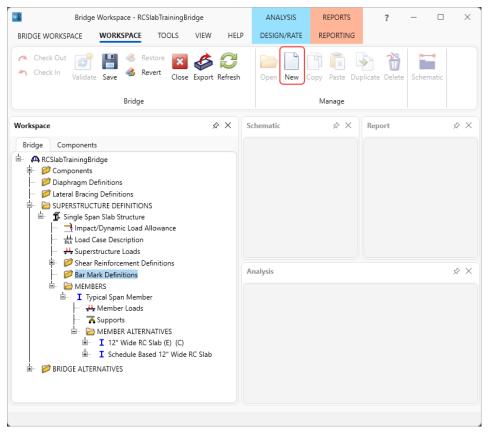
For a schedule based reinforced concrete member, it is important to enter a value for the **End Bearing Locations** in the **Member Alternative Description** window shown above. This data describes the distance from the physical end of the beam to the centerline of the end bearings. It is important to enter this value here so that when assigning bar mark definitions to the reinforcement profile, we can start our bars to the left of the first support line and to the right of the last support line.

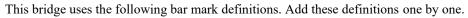
Last Modified: 6/4/2025

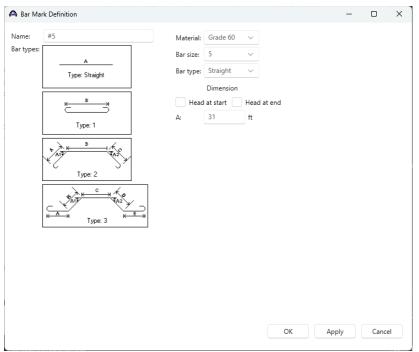
If the bars start to the left of the first support line and to the right of the last support line, BrDR will consider the bars to be partially developed at the centerline of the bearing. Then the analysis engine will be able to compute the **d** distance from the extreme compression fiber to the centroid of the tension reinforcement. This **d** value is required to compute the shear capacity of the section. If the rebar starts at the centerline of the bearing, it will be considered as zero percent developed at this point so a **d** distance cannot be computed, and the shear capacity of the beam will be zero.

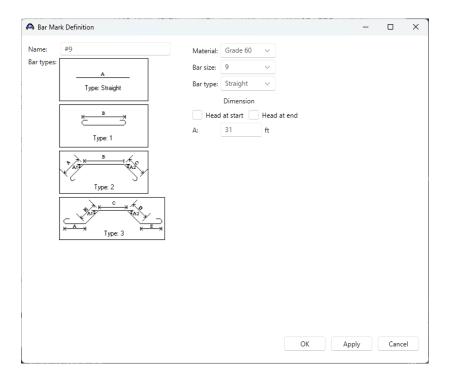
Bar Mark Definitions

Before defining the girder and reinforcement profile for the member alternative, **Bar Mark Definitions** need to be defined. **Bar Mark Definitions** are used to define the longitudinal flexural reinforcement in schedule based reinforced concrete members. Select **Bar Mark Definitions** from the Bridge Workspace tree and click the **New** button from the **Manage** group of the **WORKSPACE** ribbon.



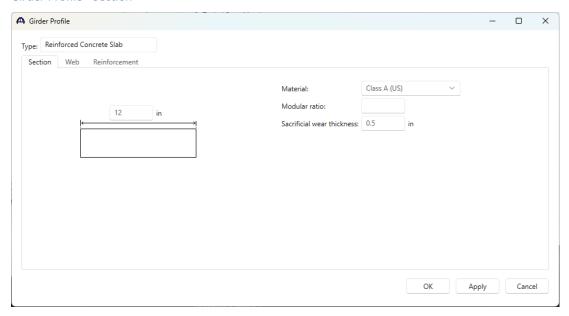




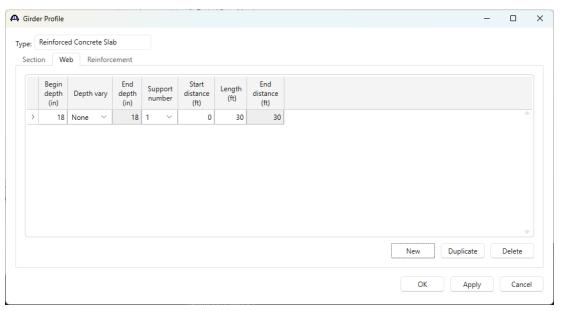


The Girder Profile can now be defined. Expand the Schedule Based 12" Wide RC Slab member alternative on the Bridge Workspace tree, double click on Girder Profile to open the Girder Profile window and enter the data on each tab as shown below:

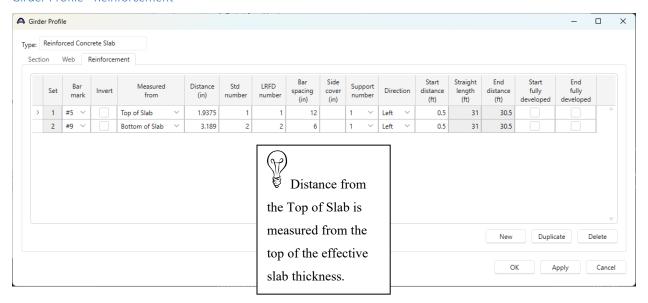
Girder Profile - Section



Girder Profile - Web



Girder Profile - Reinforcement

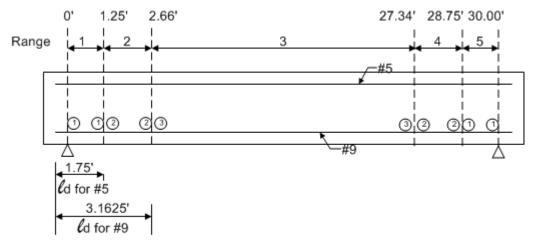


The BrDR export to the analysis engine will compute the required development lengths for the reinforcing steel based on the data entered in this window. These required development lengths are considered when the girder profile is exported to the analysis engine. In the export, BrDR transforms the schedule-based definition of the concrete member into a list of cross sections and assigns these cross sections to ranges along the length of the member. Cross sections are **cut** where the reinforcing steel is developed.

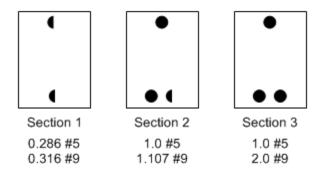
BrDR assumes that the user has described the schedule of reinforcement as it physically exists in the bridge. BrDR considers the required development length of the reinforcement when it exports cross sections for use by an analysis engine. If the user does not want BrDR to consider the required development length, either the Fully Developed box for the range of reinforcement on the Girder Profile: Reinforcement tab should be checked or the Fully Developed box on the Point of Interest: Development tab needs to be checked. Checking either of these Fully Developed boxes means that the reinforcement as entered is fully developed and the full length of the bar will be included in the generated cross sections.

The following shows the cross sections and cross section ranges that are generated for this example when the member alternative is analyzed.

BrDR computes the development length of the bars as ℓ_d . The bars are fully developed at the ℓ_d distance from the end of the bar.



Exported Cross Section Ranges



Exported Cross Sections

BrDR assumes the reinforcement develops in the bar in a linear fashion, starting with 0% development at the bar end and 100% development at the point of full development (l_d)

Three cross sections are generated in this example. At 0.0', the #5 bar is 28.6% developed and the #9 bars are 15.8% developed. These percentages are found as follows (note that the bars start 6" to the left of the centerline of the bearing):

```
#5 bar 0.5'/1.75' = 0.286* 1 bar = 0.286 bar
#9 bar 0.5'/3.1625' = 0.158 * 2 bars = 0.316 bars
```

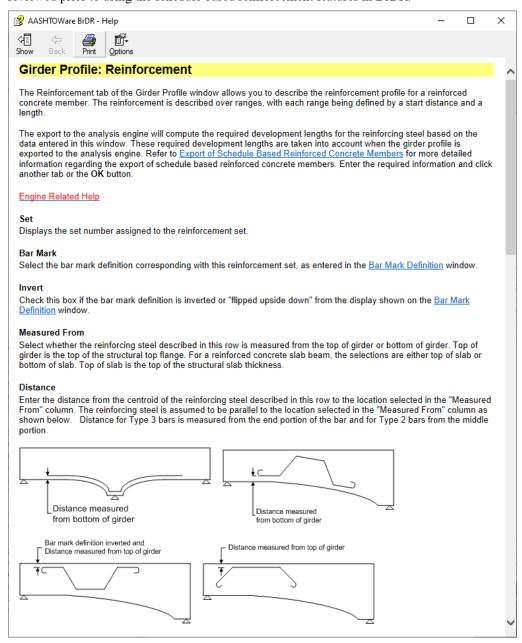
This cross section is applied from the 0.0' start of the member alternative to 1.25' where the #5 bar is fully developed.

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A similar procedure is followed at 1.25' which is where the #5 bar is fully developed and at 2.66' which is where the #9 bars are fully developed.

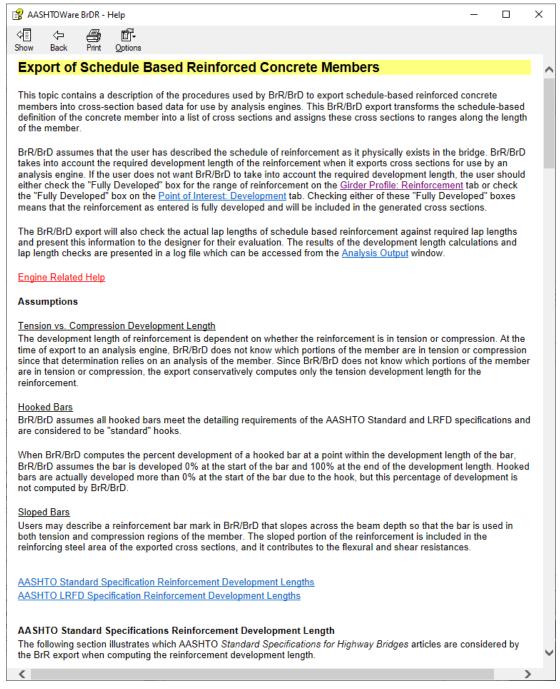


If **F1** is selected while the **Reinforcement** tab is open, the BrDR help topic for this window will open as shown below. This help topic contains important information regarding the data on this window and it should be thoroughly reviewed prior to using the schedule based reinforcement features in BrDR.



This help topic contains links to several other useful topics that should be reviewed prior to defining schedule-based reinforcement in BrDR.

The **Export of Schedule Based Reinforced Concrete Members** topic contains the rules and assumptions BrDR uses when exporting schedule based reinforced concrete members to the analysis engine.





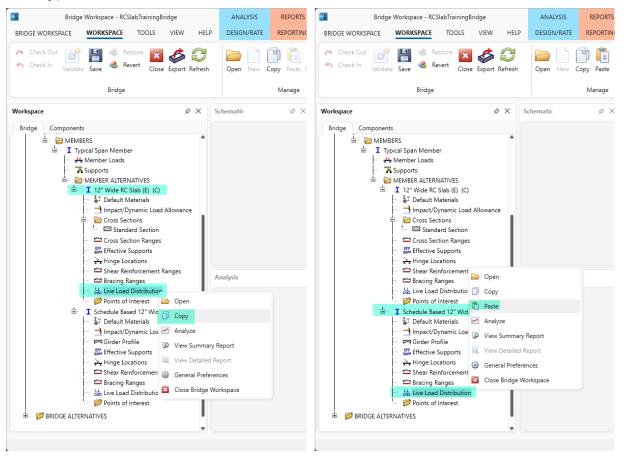
The BrDR export will also check the actual lap lengths of schedule-based reinforcement against required lap lengths and present this information to the designer for their evaluation. BrDR considers bars to be lapped if the vertical distance to their centroids is equal or if their clear cover is equal and the bars overlap along the length of the member. This example does not have any lapped bars.

Last Modified: 6/4/2025

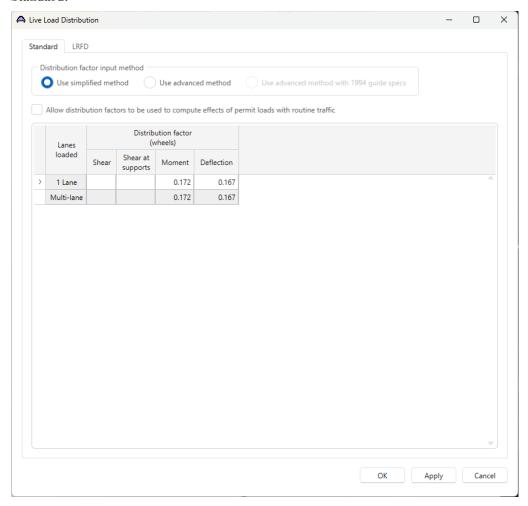
Live Load Distribution

Double click on **Live Load Distribution** on the Bridge Workspace tree to open the **Live Load Distribution** window. Enter data on each tab as shown below:

(Note: In **Standard** tab of this window, if the standard live load distribution factors are not entered, the values can be copied from the cross-section member alternative to the schedule-based member alternative. To copy, right click the **Live Load Distribution** label under the cross-section member alternative and select **Copy** from the menu. Then right click the **Live Load Distribution** label under the schedule-based member alternative and select **Paste**. If the Standard factors are not entered for the cross-section based member alternative, then, enter the following distribution factors manually.)



Standard:



Enter values as shown above and Click Apply to apply the data and keep the window open.

The Standard distribution factor for a slab member is computed as follows:

AASHTO Article 3.24.3.2

Distribution width, E, for a wheel is 4 + 0.06S but shall not exceed 7'.

$$S = span length = 30$$

$$E = 4 + 0.06 * 30' = 5.8' \le 7'$$

$$\textit{Moment DF} = \frac{1 \textit{ wheel}}{5.8'} = 0.1724 \textit{ wheel/ft}$$

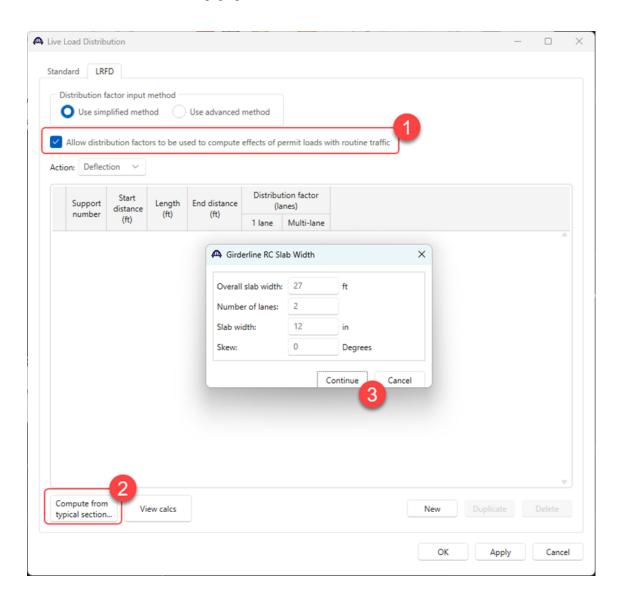
The cross section that will be entered for this member alternative is 12" wide so the wheel distribution factor is per foot. If the cross section were 24" wide, the distribution factor would be computed as 2*0.1724=0.3448.

The deflection distribution factor is calculated as the number of lanes divided by the number of girders. For a reinforced concrete slab bridge, the number of girders is taken as the lane width divided by the strip width. Our lane width is 12 feet, and our strip width is 12" or 1 foot.

$$Deflection DF = \frac{1 \ lane * 2 \ wheels/lane}{(12'/1')} = 0.1667 \ wheel \ / \ ft$$

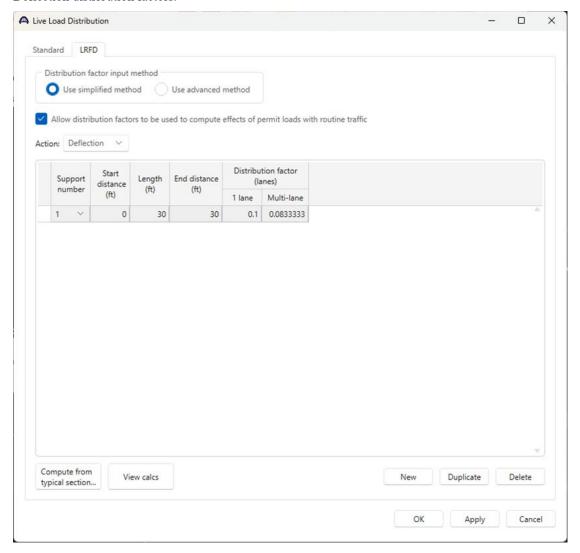
LRFD:

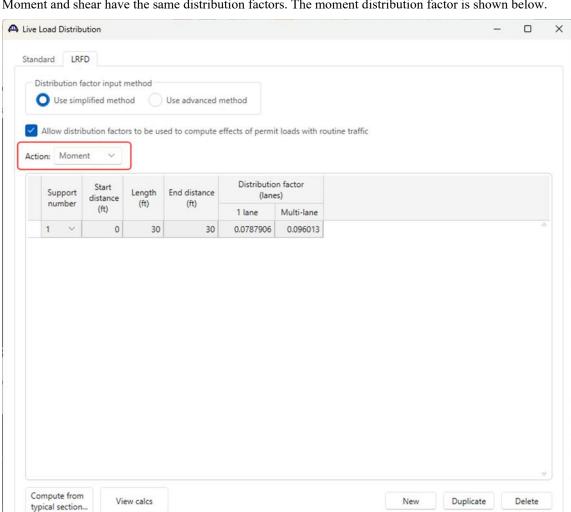
Open the Live Load Distribution window, LRFD tab. Click the Compute from Typical Section button and enter the values as shown below in the pop up window.



Click the **Continue** button, BrDR will compute the LRFD live load distribution factors. Click **OK** to close the analysis window. Live load distribution factors will be calculated as shown below.

Deflection distribution factors.





Moment and shear have the same distribution factors. The moment distribution factor is shown below.

The live load distribution factors for LRFD analysis are calculated as shown below.

AASHTO Article 4.6.2.3

Equivalent width of strip per lane, E, for both shear and moment single lane:

Single lane

$$E = 10.0 + 5.0 \sqrt{L_1 W_1}$$

$$L_1 = span \ length \leq 60' = 30'$$

$$W_1 = modified\ edge - edge\ width\ of\ bridge\ \le 30' for\ single\ lane\ = 27'$$

$$E = 10 + 5.0 * \sqrt{(30)(27)} = 152.302$$
"

Moment and Shear
$$DF = \frac{1 \text{ lane}}{152.302} = 0.0066 \text{ lane/inch}$$

OK

Apply

Cancel

For single lane, the moment and shear distribution factor = 12" member * 0.0066 lanes/inch = 0.079 lanes.

Multi lane

$$E = 84.0 + 1.44\sqrt{L_1W_1} \le \frac{12.0W}{N_L}$$

$$L_1 = span \ length \leq 60' = 30'$$

 $W_1 = modified\ edge - edge\ width\ of\ bridge\ \leq 60' for\ multi\ lane = 27'$

$$W = width \ edge - edge \ of \ bridge = 27'$$

 $N_L = number \ of \ lanes$

$$E = 84.0 + 1.44\sqrt{(30)(27)} = 124.983 \le \frac{12(27)}{2} = 162$$
"

Moment and Shear
$$DF = \frac{1 \, lane}{124.983} = 0.008 \, lane/inch$$

For multi lane, the moment and shear distribution factor = 12" member * 0.008 lanes/inch = 0.096 lanes.

<u>Deflection distribution factor:</u>

$$Deflection DF = \frac{\# lanes}{(Lane width / Strip width)} * Multiple Presence Factor$$

Single lane Deflection DF =
$$\frac{1 \text{ lane}}{(12'/1')}(1.2) = 0.100 \text{ lanes}$$

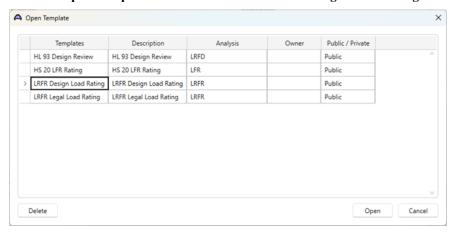
Multi lane Deflection DF =
$$\frac{2 \text{ lanes}}{(12'*2/1')}(1.0) = 0.0833 \text{ lanes}$$

LRFR Analysis

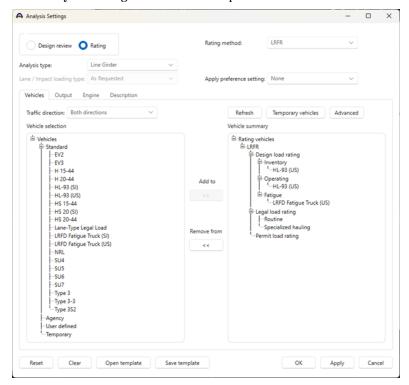
The member alternative can now be analyzed. To perform an LRFR rating, select the Analysis Settings button from the Analysis group of the DESIGN/RATE ribbon to open the Analysis Settings window as shown below.



Click the Open Template button and select the LRFR Design Load Rating to be used in the rating and click OK.



The **Analysis Settings** window will be updated as shown below.

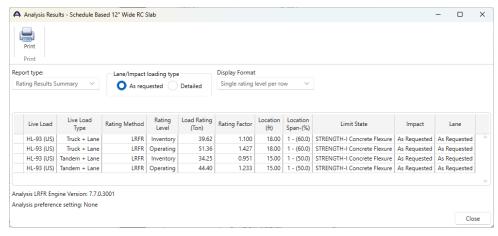


Tabular Results

With the schedule based member alternative – **Schedule Based 12**" **Wide RC Slab** selected, click the **Analyze** button from the **Analysis** group of the **DESIGN/RATE** ribbon to perform the rating.



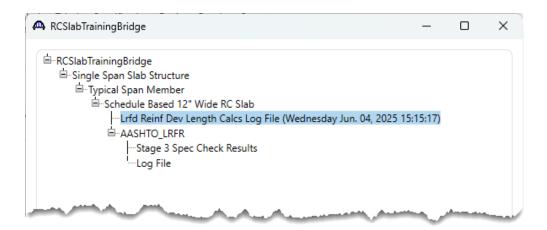
When the rating is finished the results can be reviewed by clicking the **Tabular Results** button on the **Results** group of the ribbon. The window shown below will open.



Engine Outputs

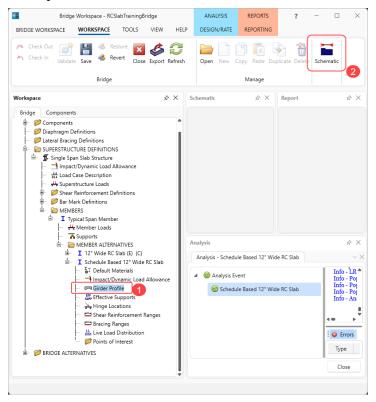


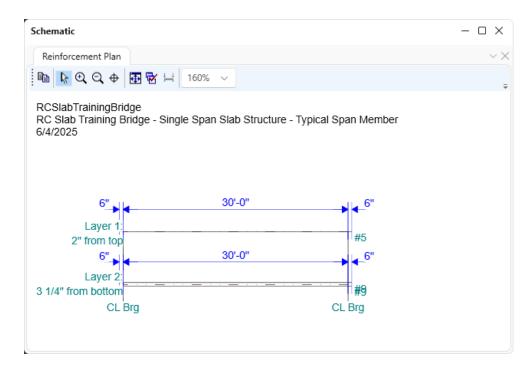
When an analysis or design review is run, a file is created that contains the input and output of the calculations BrDR performed to compute the required development lengths and to check the lap lengths. This file can be accessed from the **Engine Outputs** button on the **DESIGN/RATE** ribbon.



Schematic

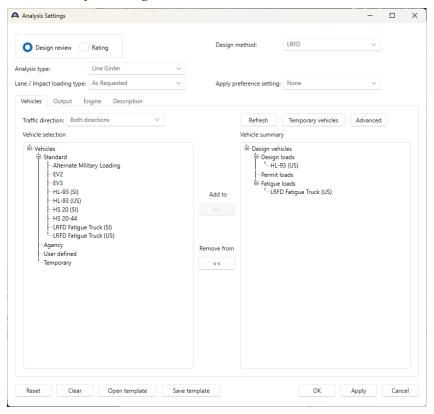
A schematic view of the reinforcement profile is available while the **Girder Profile** label is selected on the **Bridge Workspace** tree.





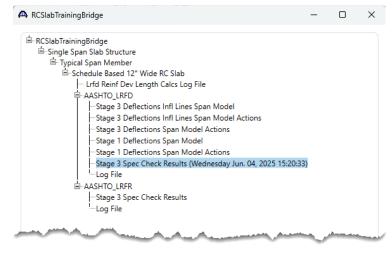
LRFD Design review

An **LRFD design review** of this girder for **HL93** loading can be performed. To perform an LRFD design review, enter the **Analysis Settings** window as shown below.



Engine Outputs

LRFD analysis will generate a spec check results file. Click on the **Engine Outputs** button on the **Results** group of the **Design/Rate** ribbon to open the following window. To view the spec check results, double click on the **Stage 3 Spec Check Results** in this window.



The Spec Check Results match the following results from the cross section based member alternative.

