Evaluation of Unpainted Weathering-Steel Highway-Bridge Performance

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While unpainted weathering steel (UWS) can be a favorable material choice for many highway bridges due to its short- and long-term cost effectiveness and environmental advantages, the performance of UWS has been less than desirable in some cases. In response to this situation, the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) issued Technical Advisory (TA) 5140.22 in 1989. The goal of this project is to provide a better understanding of the performance of UWS and assist in revising the 1989 TA with quantified data obtained from field sampling of UWS bridges, surveys of owners in all 50 states, and review of a large number of bridge inspection reports from UWS bridges throughout the US.