

## PREFACE

The **Montana Structures Manual** has been developed to provide uniform structural design practices for Department and consultant personnel preparing contract plans for Department projects. The bridge designer should attempt to meet all criteria presented in the **Manual**. However, the **Manual** should not be considered a "standard" which must be met regardless of impacts.

The **Manual** presents much of the information normally required for a structural project; however, it is impossible to address every situation which the bridge designer will encounter. Therefore, designers must exercise good judgment on individual projects and, frequently, they must be innovative in their approach to structural design. This may require, for example, additional research into the structural design literature.

The **Montana Structures Manual** was developed by the MDT Bridge Design Section with assistance from the engineering consulting firm of Roy Jorgensen Associates, Inc. and its subcontractor SRD Engineering. The **Manual** Review Committee consisted of:

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