

NEWS RELEASE

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE, DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

George N. Campbell, Commissioner

For Immediate Release

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WEIGHT POSTING FOR SARAH LONG BRIDGE IN PORTSMOUTH
20-TON LIMIT IN EFFECT ON JUNE 27 UNTIL REPAIRS MADE

The New Hampshire Department of Transportation (NHDOT) announces the Sarah Mildred Long Bridge carrying the US Route 1 Bypass over the Piscataqua River between Portsmouth, New Hampshire and Kittery, Maine will be posted for a 20-ton weight capacity, effective Saturday, June 27, 2009.

This weight posting is necessary following evaluation of a recent detailed inspection of the bridge, which determined the extent of severe deterioration on several steel deck support members on the approach spans.

NHDOT Bridge Maintenance crews will begin work as soon as possible to make necessary repairs to the Long Bridge. The repairs are expected to take up to three weeks to complete. The bridge is expected to remain open to vehicular traffic and marine operations will not be affected by the repair work.

During the weight posting period, trucks exceeding the 20-ton limit will have to cross between Maine and New Hampshire on the Interstate 95 "high level" bridge as the Memorial Bridge (US Route 1) is also posted at 20 tons.

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