

# New Castle-Rye Bridge Project 16127

Public Meeting – February 5, 2015

## Next Steps in the Bridge Project



- A Fixed Bridge is the NH Department of Transportation's (NHDOT's) preferred alternative. With this selection, NHDOT will review public comment received at this meeting, through letter and via email.
- To move forward with the bridge project, the following permits and approvals will be required:
  - US Coast Guard Bridge Permit
  - US Army Corps Permit
    - Section 404 (Clean Water Act)
    - Section 408 (Modification to existing Army Corps properties)
  - NH Department of Environmental Services:
    - Shoreland Permit
    - Wetlands Permit
    - Coastal Consistency Determination
  - National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)
    - Essential Fish Habitat (EFH) Consultation
    - Section 7 Consultation (Endangered Species Act)
- In addition to permits, the Project Team will coordinate with FHWA and NH Division of Historic Resources (DHR) per Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act
  - Execute a Determination of Effect Memo
  - Execute a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with NH DHR
- Perform a Section 4(f) Evaluation per the US Department of Transportation Act of 1996
- Final Design phase to commence Summer 2015
- The New Castle-Rye Bridge Project is to be advertised in 2017



Proposed Fixed Bridge Looking East



Existing Bridge Looking East



Proposed Fixed Bridge Looking East



# WHERE DO YOU LIVE?

Please place a red dot to show where you live and a blue dot where you moor your vessel



Thank you for attending tonight's meeting.

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Conceptual Design Alternatives

## Replacement with Bascule Bridge



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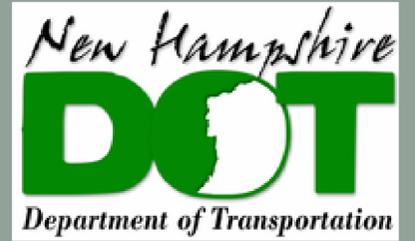
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Conceptual Design Alternatives

## Replacement with Fixed Bridge

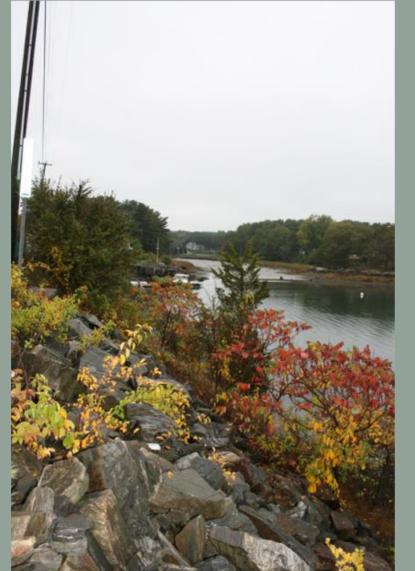
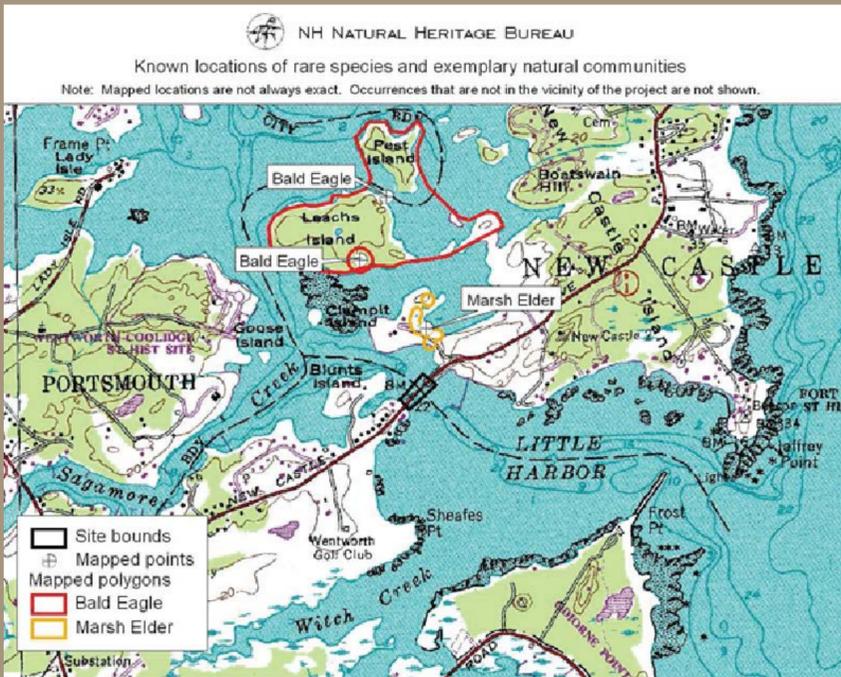


# Natural and Cultural Resources



## Natural Resources

- Little Harbor
- Wetland Delineation identified tidal wetlands northeast, southeast and northwest of bridge
- Field survey documented eelgrass beds southeast and southwest of bridge
- Threatened and endangered species:
  - Atlantic and shortnose sturgeon
  - Marsh elder & bald eagle outside project area



## Cultural Resources

- Ongoing consultation with NH State Historic Preservation Office
- Defined Area of Potential Effect (APE)
- Identified historic properties within the APE
  - Wentworth-Coolidge National Historic Site
  - Wentworth by the Sea Hotel
- Determined New Castle-Rye Bridge eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places
- Completed Phase 1A Archaeological Assessment
- Prepared Draft Determination of Effect for Replacement Alternative
- Will be preparing Memorandum of Agreement and Section 4(f) evaluation for the project

