

News Release



For Immediate Release

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**Kirtland Landing to Get Upgrade Courtesy of
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Town of Westbrook, Federal Highway Administration**
Site to be closed to public Oct. 12-22

Kirtland Landing, in Westbrook, Conn., will be improved this fall, thanks to a \$170,000 Federal Lands Transportation Program grant from the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA). The boat launch, off Old Clinton Road (State Route 145), will be closed during construction, from October 12-22, 2021, for safety and efficiency reasons.

Owned by the Town of Westbrook, the landing is an important access point to the Menunketsuck River, Stewart B. McKinney National Wildlife Refuge, and Long Island Sound. It is listed on the state's official coastal access guide and website and popular with kayakers, crabbers, anglers, and other recreationists. Just 2,000 feet upstream of McKinney Refuge, it is an ideal starting point for exploring the refuge's salt marshes and enjoying wildlife-dependent recreation.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, which manages the refuge, partnered with the Town and the Eastern Federal Lands Highway Division of the FHWA to restore the landing. The project will expand parking, replace and modernize the boat ramp, stabilize about 2,000 square feet of riverbank, create a streamside buffer, and install park-like landscaping.

Service staff will post project updates to the refuge's [website](#) and [Facebook page](#).

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