

To those interested in the York River and activities of the York River Study Committee:

It's been a busy end to the year. Please see information below and attached for news and updates.

Designation recommendation:

The York River Study Committee recommends designation of the York River and its major tributaries in the national Wild and Scenic Rivers System as a Partnership Wild and Scenic River, subject to community approvals and additional Congressional action. At its November 28, 2017 meeting, the Committee endorsed pursuing designation for eight watershed rivers, including the York River from the outlet of York Pond in Eliot to the Route 103 bridge in York, Cutts Ridge Brook, Rogers Brook, Smelt Brook, Bass Cove Creek, Dolly Gordon Brook, Libby Brook, and Cider Hill Creek. For more information:

- [Designation Recommendation Outreach December 2017](#) (also attached)
- Maps of rivers recommended for PWSR designation: [Proposed Stream Reaches Poster Dec2017](#) (poster sized map, best for on-line viewing) and [Proposed Stream Reaches Letter Dec2017](#) (letter sized map, best for printing).

Historic resources surveys - project reports and upcoming presentation:

The York River Study Committee hired Northeast Archaeology Research Center and Groundroot Preservation Group to conduct archaeology surveys and architectural surveys, respectively, for the upper portions of the York River. Final project reports for both surveys are now complete and are available on the York River Study website - www.YorkRiverMaine.org

The researchers will present their findings described in the reports at the **January 8 meeting of the Eliot Historical Society**, starting at 7:00 pm, at the John F. Hill Grange Hall (1412 State Road, Eliot). This meeting is free and open to the public.

Beginning with Habitat maps for the York River watershed:

Five watershed maps showing various natural resource features were added to the "[maps](#)" page of the website. Maps were produced by Bill Hancock, Beginning with Wildlife Program, Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife, for the YRSC's November meeting on fish, wildlife and habitats.

Thanks for your continued interest in the York River watershed. We look forward to learning more, sharing ideas, and further developing the local watershed stewardship plan in 2018.

All York River Study meetings, events, and reports are posted on the website. Please check the home page regularly for updates: www.YorkRiverMaine.org

Regards,
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