

# WELCOME TO THE NASA WALLOPS FLIGHT FACILITY PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETING FOR THE CAUSEWAY BRIDGE REPLACEMENT PROJECT ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

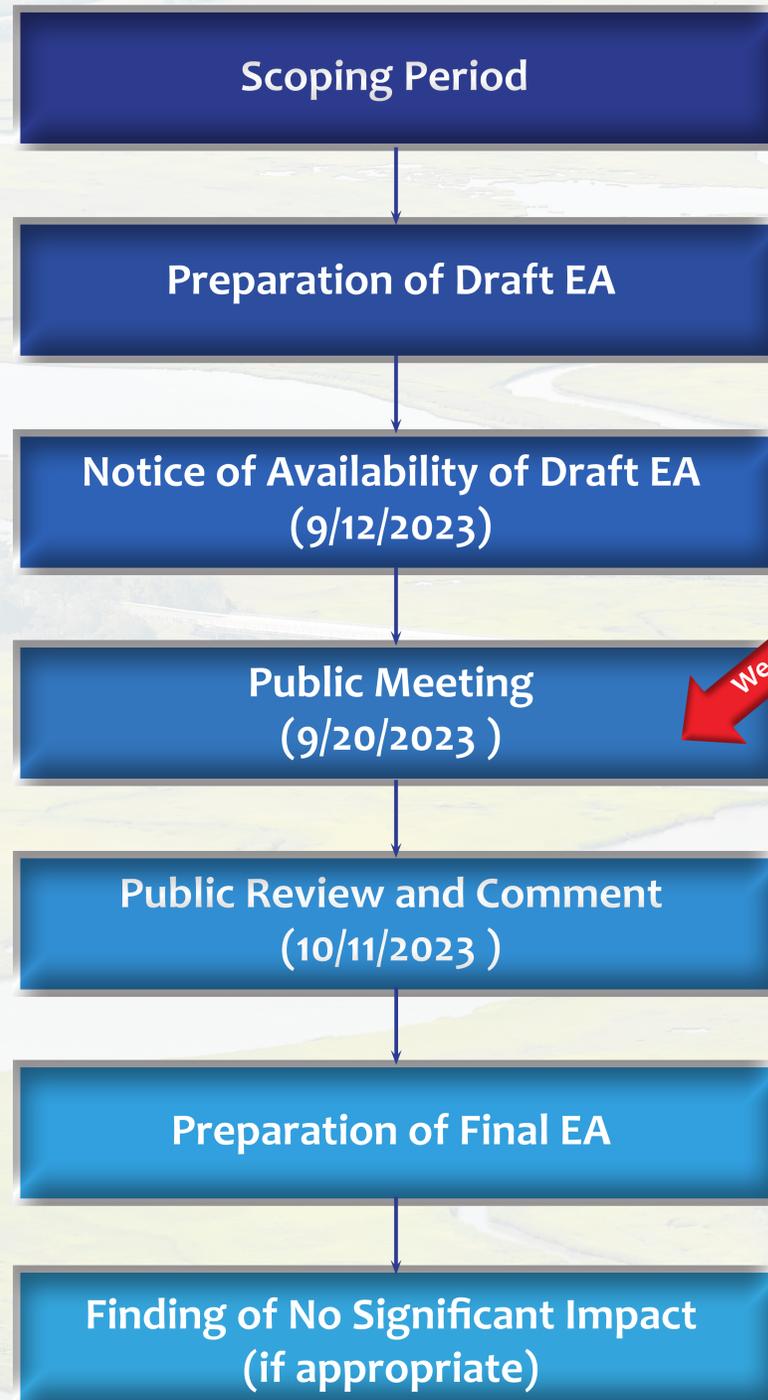


Please sign in and review the posters, which present an overview of the Causeway Bridge Replacement Project National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) process and Environmental Assessment.

- NASA personnel are available for discussion.
- Comment sheets are available at the the sign in table.
- Written comments may be given to a WFF representative this evening or mailed or emailed to the address on the comment sheet.



# CAUSEWAY BRIDGE REPLACEMENT PROJECT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ANALYSIS PROCESS



## How Can You Be Involved?

**Your involvement in the decision-making process is important to NASA. To submit a comment on the Draft EA:**

1. Fill out a comment sheet at the public meeting and give it to a NASA representative
2. Visit the project website: <https://code200-external.gsfc.nasa.gov/250-WFF/C-BREAs>
3. Mail or email your comments:

Shari Miller  
NASA Wallops Flight Facility  
Mailstop: 250. W  
Wallops Island, VA 23337  
Shari.A.Miller@nasa.gov

To ensure consideration in the Final EA, please provide comments no later than **10/11/2023**.

# CAUSEWAY BRIDGE REPLACEMENT PROJECT ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

## ***What is the Purpose and Need of the Causeway Bridge Replacement Project?***

**Need:** The current bridge is approaching the end of its service life and showing accelerated signs of deterioration. The Causeway Bridge provides the only vehicular access to and from Wallops Island.

**Purpose:** To support NASA's mission by providing safe, efficient, and reliable transportation while improving the sustainability of operations by incorporating climate change resilience in the new bridge design. The new bridge would provide cost-effective, environmentally responsible solutions for updating NASA's transportation infrastructure.

## ***What is Evaluated in the EA?***

The Draft EA evaluates the environmental consequences of NASA's Proposed Action to construct a new Causeway Bridge and demolish the existing bridge.

## ***What Alternatives Were Evaluated?***

NASA initially considered both the construction of a new bridge and the construction of a new causeway. Construction of a new causeway was dismissed from evaluation in the EA because it did not pass all screening criteria. NASA is evaluating the Proposed Action (construction of a new bridge) and the No Action Alternative in the EA.

## ***What is the Proposed Action Alternative?***

NASA would construct a new, lower-profile Causeway Bridge parallel to the existing bridge and demolish the existing bridge within 5 years after the new bridge is opened. The Proposed Action may be implemented in the approximate sequence:

1. Preparation of site and staging areas
2. Construction of temporary construction access
3. Construction of a new bridge including the installation of all superstructure and substructure elements such as abutments, piers, beams, and decks
4. Removal of temporary construction access
5. Construction of temporary access for demolition of existing bridge
6. Demolition of existing bridge
7. Removal of demolition temporary access
8. Maintenance and repair activities over the life of the new bridge (75+ years)



***Rendering of proposed low-profile bridge and existing bridge***



***Project Location***

# CAUSEWAY BRIDGE REPLACEMENT PROJECT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS AND PERMITTING

The EA analyzes the potential effects of the Proposed Action on the following resources:

Noise  
Air Quality  
Toxic Substances, Hazardous and Regulated Materials, and Waste  
Health and Safety  
Land Resources  
Water Resources  
Vegetation  
Wildlife  
Special Status Species  
Transportation  
Employment and Income  
Recreation  
Archaeological Resources

No significant impacts are anticipated to result from the Proposed Action. Cumulative impacts are also evaluated in the EA.

The following consultations and permits are required for the Proposed Action. Some have been completed and others are ongoing and will be completed before any action is taken.

- USACE:
  - Clean Water Act (CWA) Section 404 Dredge and Fill Permit
  - CWA Section 408 Authorization to Use or Alter a Federal Works Project
  - Rivers and Harbors Act Section 10 Navigable Waters Permit
- Virginia Department of Environmental Quality:
  - CWA Section 402 National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Permit
  - CWA Section 401 Water Quality Certification
  - Construction Site Stormwater Permit
  - Coastal Zone Management Act Consistency Determination coordination
- Virginia Marine Resources Commission:
  - Tidal Wetlands & Subaqueous Bottom Permit
  - Offshore Reef Program coordination
- USCG:
  - Preliminary Navigation Clearance Determination
  - Bridge Permit
- Accomack County:
  - Wetlands Board Permit
- National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Fisheries & U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service:
  - Endangered Species Act consultation
- NOAA Fisheries:
  - Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act Essential Fish Habitat consultation
- Virginia Department of Historic Resources:
  - National Historic Preservation Act consultation
- WFF's Stormwater, Erosion, and Environmental Development Program:
  - Construction Stormwater Permit