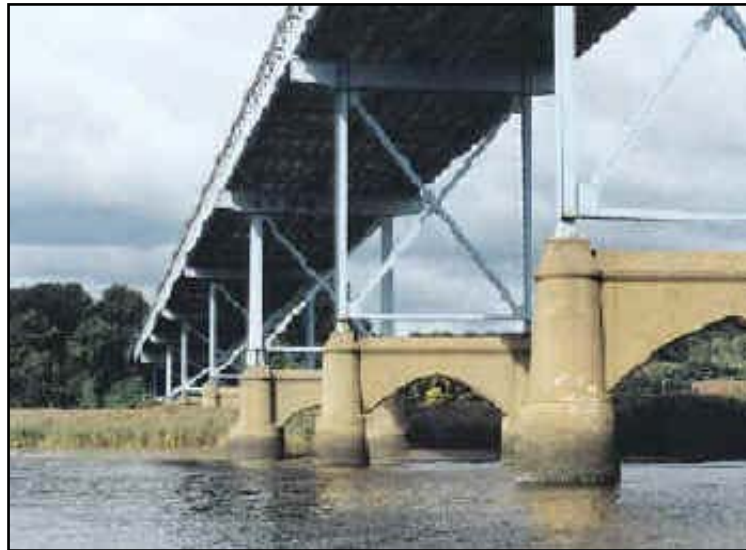


Route 15 (Sikorsky) Bridge Replacement Over the Housatonic River Stratford/Milford, Connecticut



Description

FHI prepared a Draft and Final Environmental Assessment, Section 4(f) Evaluation, Section 106 Historic Documentation, and all necessary environmental permit applications for the replacement of the Route 15 (Sikorsky) Bridge over the Housatonic River. FHI conducted existing conditions and impact analyses for the full range of National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and Connecticut Environmental Policy Act (CEPA) issues, including terrestrial and aquatic habitats, historic resources, hazardous/contamination risk, and others. Air quality and noise impact modeling were conducted, as was a visual impact assessment. Other special studies prepared during the Environmental Assessment process included Phase I and Phase II Archaeological Reconnaissance Surveys, inland and tidal wetland functional assessment, field surveys for Connecticut-listed sensitive plant species, and wetland mitigation planning/coordination. Subsequent to the completion of the NEPA process, working with the design engineers, FHI prepared applications for numerous state and federal permits, including Army Corps of Engineers (Section 10 and Section 404), Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection structures and dredging, tidal wetlands, flood plain management certification, stormwater discharge, coastal zone consistency, Section 401 water quality certification, and U.S. Coast Guard bridge permit. FHI also prepared an Essential Fish Habitat (EFH) Assessment report pursuant to the 1996 Amendments to the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act, outlining potential project impacts to critical fish habitat during various construction stages, including demolition of the existing bridge. Another step in the project's approval process was mitigation for adverse effects on the historic nature of the Sikorsky Bridge. As stipulated in the Memorandum of Agreement that came out of the Section 106 and Section 4(f) consultation processes, FHI prepared Historic American Engineering Record (HAER) documentation for the Sikorsky Bridge to the standards of the U.S. Department of Interior, National Park Service.

Client

Connecticut Department of Transportation

