

Frank J. Wood Bridge Posted at a 25-Ton Limit



The Frank J. Wood Bridge, spanning the Androscoggin River between Topsham and Brunswick, is being posted at a **25-Ton Limit** as a result of recent inspections. The 1937, three-span bridge has an average daily traffic count of 19,256 with approximately 5% of that being heavy commercial trucks.

A regularly scheduled bridge inspection was conducted in June and the findings prompted a more detailed inspection in August. The inspection team of bridge engineers found rapid deterioration of structural steel which triggered a drop in the ranking of the bridge deck and superstructure from fair condition to poor condition. The ongoing and fast deterioration of the structural steel, particularly in the vicinity of floor beam ends and connection plates, requires immediate repairs and the posting is expected to last for several years.

The bridge is 815 feet long, 30 feet wide and was rehabilitated in 1985. More recently, the substructure was rehabilitated and the bridge rail and curbs were improved in 2006. **The unplanned posting does not affect most noncommercial vehicles.** However, five axle trucks and other commercial vehicles will follow a bypass detour of one mile. The bridge carries US Route 201 and Maine Route 24B.

MaineDOT will continue to monitor the bridge to protect the public's safety.



Holes in the floor beam.



Severe corrosion to a beam near span one of the non-sidewalk truss.



Severe corrosion to the rivets as well as corrosion and rust between the floor beams and the cover plate.



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