



Hudson Highlands Fjord  
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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT:**

**New York State Department of Conservation Shares Notice of HHFT Completion of Breakneck Connector & Bridge Application**

***Action moves process forward in anticipation of project commencement in Winter 2023***

On July 19, 2023 NYS Department of Conservation (DEC) provided notice in the [Poughkeepsie Journal](#) that the agency has accepted Hudson Highlands Fjord Trail, Inc.'s permit application for work on Phase 1: Breakneck Connector & Bridge of the Fjord Trail project. Specifically, the project will entail temporary shoreline stabilization associated with the construction of an expanded trail and a bridge over the Metro-North Railroad tracks at Breakneck Ridge. The project will also be covered by the DEC's Blanket Water Quality Certification for Nationwide Permits.

The Breakneck Connector & Bridge project was subject to a separate SEQR process from the overall Fjord Trail project. DEC found that there is good cause to process applications, based on the project having independent utility, separate from the larger trail proposal. HHFT, Inc. is currently preparing the submission of a Draft Generic Environmental Impact Statement for review by Lead Agency NYS Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation and other involved agencies for the overall 7.5-mile project.

The acceptance of this application by NYS DEC is another critical step in a lengthy process of approval before the project breaks ground at the end of 2023.

HHFT, Inc. will continue to update the public on this process in the coming months.

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The Hudson Highlands Fjord Trail offers a community-driven solution for managing tourism in the region and will make the beauty that surrounds us more accessible to people of all ages and abilities. HHFT's mission is to create and steward a 7.5-mile linear park along the Hudson River that solves existing safety concerns around visitation, provides welcoming access to people of all abilities, restores and protects natural resources, and enhances quality of life for local communities. The Fjord Trail will add organized parking, public restrooms, trash/recycling collection, and distribute users of the park along a 7.5-mile route with six main access points. Hudson Highlands Fjord Trail is a subsidiary nonprofit of Scenic Hudson, Inc.