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**York River Study Committee hosts maritime history speaker**

The York River Study Committee invites students and community members to a talk by UNH professor and prize-winning author Jeff Bolster titled, "*A Watery Kingdom Transformed – York River and the Piscataqua Region Through Time.*" In this richly illustrated talk, Professor Bolster reconstructs centuries of the human and ecological history of our region, providing context for many of the issues we face today.

The chance to organize this community-oriented presentation seemed well-timed to marine sciences teacher and York River Study Committee member Mike Masi. "We have a great opportunity now to help safeguard what's valuable about the York River. I anticipate Jeff Bolster's insights will add value to our ongoing discussions and build even greater appreciation for our local river," notes Masi.

Warrant Article #2 on York's November ballot enables community endorsement of a Partnership Wild and Scenic River designation for the York River – which is the final step for the Study Committee in demonstrating community suitability for such a designation. "In considering designation for the York River, Congress wants to know that there is community support for continued river protection efforts since it's the communities, not the federal government, that lead river stewardship for Partnership Wild and Scenic Rivers," said Masi.

This free public event is Thursday, October 4, 6:30 p.m. at the York Community Auditorium at York High School, 1 Robert Stevens Drive. For more information, visit the York River Study Committee's website: [www.YorkRiverMaine.org](http://www.YorkRiverMaine.org).