

OFFICE OF

## **KITTERY WATER DISTRICT**

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### **Kittery Water District Notice:**

#### **Scheduling a Selective Timber Harvest**

The Kittery Water District is notifying our watershed neighbors and Town Officials of a selective timber harvesting project, scheduled on approximately 200 acres in the area to the north and west of Folly Pond, being a portion of Tax Map 93, Lot 14. This area is identified on the KWD Forestry Management Plan as Compartment #1. The harvest is expected to take place in early October. This will be the first timber harvest based on a newly created Forestry Management Plan, which in its entirety, will encompass multiple Compartments covering nearly 2,400 forested acres. Our forestry objectives are to maintain clean water for our customers in Kittery, York and Eliot, by managing the watershed as a healthy growing forest for the commercial production of timber and wildlife habitat, while maintain its aesthetic beauty and biological diversity.

The District's Forester, Brian Reader of Reader Forest Management Services (RFMS) of 55 Oak Street, North Waterboro, ME 04061, has completed marking the trees to be removed, skid trails to be used and setbacks from wetlands, streams, historic sites, protected plants, etc. The District also contracted with Certified Wildlife Biologist, Professional Wetland Scientist and Professional Forester Steve Pelletier of Spear Stream Consulting to perform a third-party review of the proposed harvest area.

This project begins approximately 2.0 miles in from Scituate Road. The District will be using Mark Cressy Logging of 797 Spec Pond Road, Porter, ME 04068. Mark has a good working history with Brian Reader, and has been used by the York Water District for its logging operations since 2014, and most recently completing a selective cut in the Welchs Pond area in York. Mark Cressy Logging will access the area by entering York Water District's Access Gate #6-Y on Scituate Road, which is off Chases Pond Road, then following the District's Blue and Yellow Management Roads to an established harvest landing site. This site was recently used to perform the above-mentioned selective cut in the Welchs Pond area. Timber harvesting and processing equipment will be set up at the landing, all harvested trees will be skidded to the processing equipment where, after processing, the logs and woodchips will be loaded on 18-wheel trailer trucks and trucked to the nearest markets. An agreement was reached between the Kittery Water District and the York Water District allowing Kittery to perform a selective harvest using York's Management Trails and landing area, as a means of greatly reducing the time, money and environmental impact which may have been associated with building new roads and a landing area.

The area comprising Compartment #1 shows no signs of previous harvesting or management. The lack of physical access to the area, until quite recently, made harvesting in this area entirely impractical. The resulting stand of trees is well stocked, though health-wise it is decadent, and some of the trees are going by. Most of the mortality is hemlock, which has had several years of Woolly Adelgid damage. This Compartment should yield some decent quality logs, but more importantly, it will be thinned out, removing diseased and deformed trees, making room for younger and healthier mixed growth to thrive. Skid trails will soon recover, filling in with a new growth of young trees, among the older growth, creating an uneven aged forest which will be far less prone to disease, pest infestation and wildfire.

KEY POINTS:

- RMFS has notified the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry and we have received our Forest Operations Notification Number 2202367.
- RFMS has completed marking, Spear Stream Consulting has completed a site visit and a pre-harvest evaluation, double checking sensitive habitats and ensure all setbacks are correct.
- Harvesting should begin in early October and should take 3 to 4 weeks to complete.
- Trails and Management Roads in this area were previously closed to the public during York Water District's harvest and will remain closed for the duration of Kittery's harvest.
- "TRUCKS ENTERING" signs were installed on Chases Pond Road during York Water District's harvest and will remain posted for the duration of Kittery's harvest.
- KWD will ensure that Best Management Practices are met or exceeded.
- KWD is notifying immediate abutters.
- KWD will work with the YWD to repair any existing trail or management road damaged during the harvest.

If you interested in viewing the project area either before or after the harvest, arrangements may be made with KWD Assistant Superintendent Carl Palm at (207) 439-1128 or email at

[Carlpkwd@comcast.net](mailto:Carlpkwd@comcast.net).

Thank You,

Carl Palm

Assistant Superintendent

Kittery Water District