



PAUL R. LEPAGE
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MAINE
DEPARTMENT OF
INLAND FISHERIES & WILDLIFE
284 STATE STREET
41 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA, ME 04333-0041
TEL: 207-287-8000

CHANDLER E. WOODCOCK
COMMISSIONER

David Peterson
Kleinfelder
215 First St, Suite 320
Cambridge, MA 02142

Dear Mr. Peterson,

As you know, I've been reviewing the Kittery Sewer Extension project for potential impacts to wildlife, particularly on the state endangered New England cottontail (NEC). During a site visit in summer 2014, I observed habitat potentially suitable for NEC, and browse from a lagomorph (either snowshoe hare or NEC) on the portion of the project along and adjacent to the power utility easement/ former railroad west of Route 236. As a result, we originally agreed upon a timing restriction, where no construction activity would occur between March 20 and June 20 in that portion of the project area. Since, I have conducted three winter tracking surveys in that area. I documented additional browse, however no lagomorph tracks were present immediately adjacent to the corridor. However, I did find a snowshoe hare track on an adjacent property. Because NEC have not been confirmed in the immediate vicinity of the power utility easement, I do not anticipate an impact to the species if work is conducted within the previously restricted time period (3/20-6/20).

Please contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Cory R. Stearns
Wildlife Biologist
Maine Dept. of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife
358 Shaker Rd.
Gray, ME 04039
(207) 657-2345 Ext 108
cory.r.stearns@maine.gov