# White Pine in New Hampshire

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## New Hampshire—The White Pine State

MAST TREE RIOT OF 1734 Local lumbermen illegally cut Mast Trees reserved for the King's Royal Navy. When David Dunbar, Surveyor General, visited nearbur Conveyor General, visited nearby Copyhold Mill to inspect fallen lumber, local citizens assembled, discharged firearms and convinced Dunbar to leave. Returning with 10 men, Dunbar's group was attacked and dispersed at a local tavern by citizens disguised

1982

## 250th Anniversary **Pine** Tree Riot WEARE, NH. Be Part of History! Weare Historical Society



## Important to the forest economy

#### **10 TOP TREE SPECIES BY VOLUME - NH 2019**



From: NE Wood Markets Retention & New Market Recruitment Initiative for NH, NY, VT produced by the NEFA for Northern Forest Center, U.S. Dept. of Commerce Economic Development Administrations & U.S. Endowment for Forestry & Communities, 2021 Charlie Levesque, INRS LLC



White Pine Harvest Volumes Tax Years 2000-2020





Thanks to: NH DRA, NH DFL & INRS LLC and Andy Fast, UNH Cooperative Extension



## **FIA** data



Figure 23.—Number of growing-stock trees on timberland by species and inventory year, New Hampshire. Percentages indicate change from 2012 to 2017.



**Figure 36.**—Board-foot volume of sawtimber on timberland by species and inventory year, New Hampshire. Error bars represent a 68 percent confidence interval around the mean.



## FIA data



Figure 24.—Number of saplings (1 to 4.9 inches in diameter) on timberland by species and inventory year, New Hampshire. Percentages indicate change from 2012 to 2017.



## More FIA data





## Pine historically



6 C	omposition
	0.1-1
	1–5
	5-10
	10-20
	20-30
	30-40
1	40-50
	50-60
	60-70
-	70-80
	80-90
	90-100
	Below detection
$\wedge$	Range limit

Cogbill et al., 2002

#### *Tinus Strobus*, L.

White Pine. The largest, most useful, and having the greatest range of distribution of our conifers, being everywhere common, from the sea to 2,500 feet alitude. Originally two great belts occupied the valleys of the Merrimack and Connecticut, which contained some of the finest timber in New England; but this magnificent forest has long since disappeared, a few seattered remnants only remaining. Specimens have been known which were more than two hundred feet high and six or eight feet in diameter. The white pine seeds very freely, and the site of the ancient forest is indicated by tracts of vigorous saplings which in twenty or thirty years are good to cut for pail and fish-barrel staves, laths,

#### Report of the NH Forestry Commission, 1894



Report of the NH Forestry Commission, 1894





NH Wildlife Action Plan, 2015



## Soils









## NH Important Forest Soil Groups

#### Group IC

- Glacial Outwash Sand & Gravel
- Excessively Drained
- Coarse Textured
- Nutrient and Moisture Limitations

 Soil data does not include the WMNF ~740,000 acres.



## Agricultural legacy = Off-site legacy





## Off-site legacy poses management challenges

- Invasives
- Hardwood regeneration
- Physical site limitations from wetter soils
  - Limit scarification
  - Logistical issues with logging
- Increased risk from wind and other stressors (e.g., root damage during logging on wet soils)





#### "BLOWDOWN" TIMBER AND FOREST FIRE HAZARD

CAUSED BY THE SEPT. 1938 HURRICANE







**Figure 4.**—Area of forest land for the five most abundant forest-type groups by stand-size class, New Hampshire, 2017. Error bars represent a 68 percent confidence interval around the mean.







## Expectations

- Losing pure pine stands and that's ok
- Closer to what we would have naturally
- A few well-tended pines can add a lot of volume and value per acre
- Working with an "accidental" resource
  - won't have the same accident
  - if want to keep need silviculture



## Can we keep white pine in NH

Field observations convinced me that with planning, proper timing, appropriate silviculture, and some luck, white pine can be perpetuated. Peter Pohl, retired Carroll County Forester

- Establish regen on first commercial entry
- Time with seed year
- Scarification or advance regeneration
- Monitor height growth of regen to time release
- Denser for less weevil, minimize branching
- Low density—fast growth, low disease





Pine soils increase chance of successful regeneration

## Off-site legacy poses management benefits





#### Pine health

Needle disease Caliciopsis Weevil Age WPBR Southern pine beetle Climate





## State forest nursery grows white pine!







## Questions? Complaints? steven.roberge@unh.edu

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#### Natural Resource Network

Connecting Research, Teaching and Outreach

White Pine Silviculture for Timber and Wildlife Habitat in New England



## Thanks for listening

Eastern White Pine Managememt Institute



