

The Emerald Ash Borer and the Ash Protection Collaboration Across Wabanakik (APCAW)

John Daigle

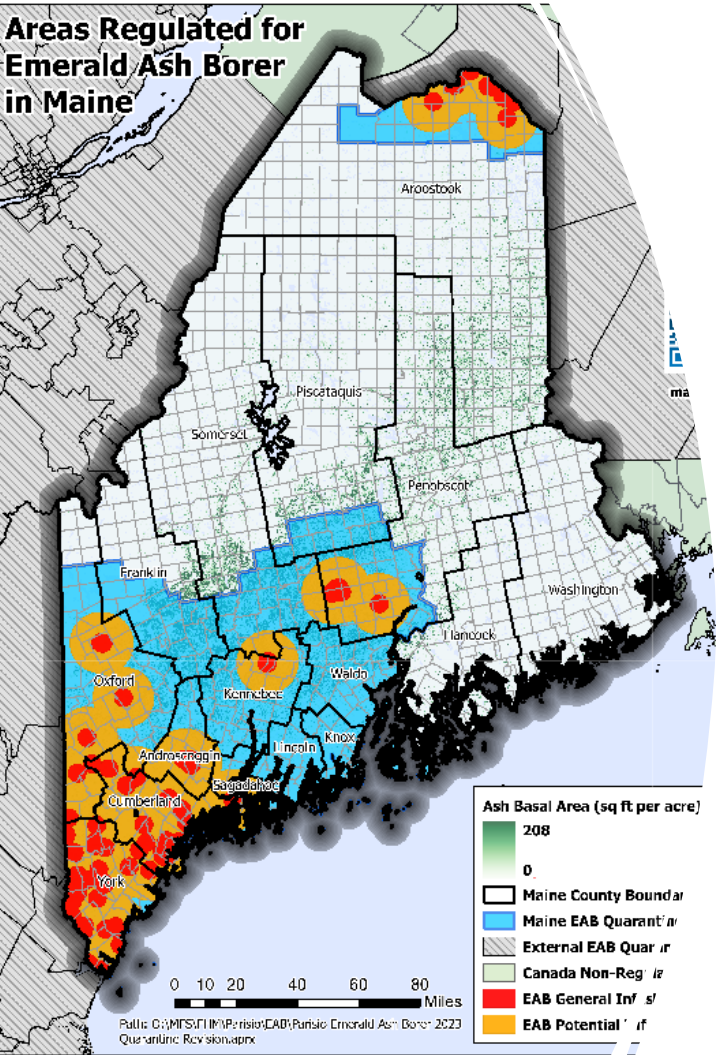
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Maine Lakes & Lake Stewards of Maine
Lake Conference 2024
June 21, 2024

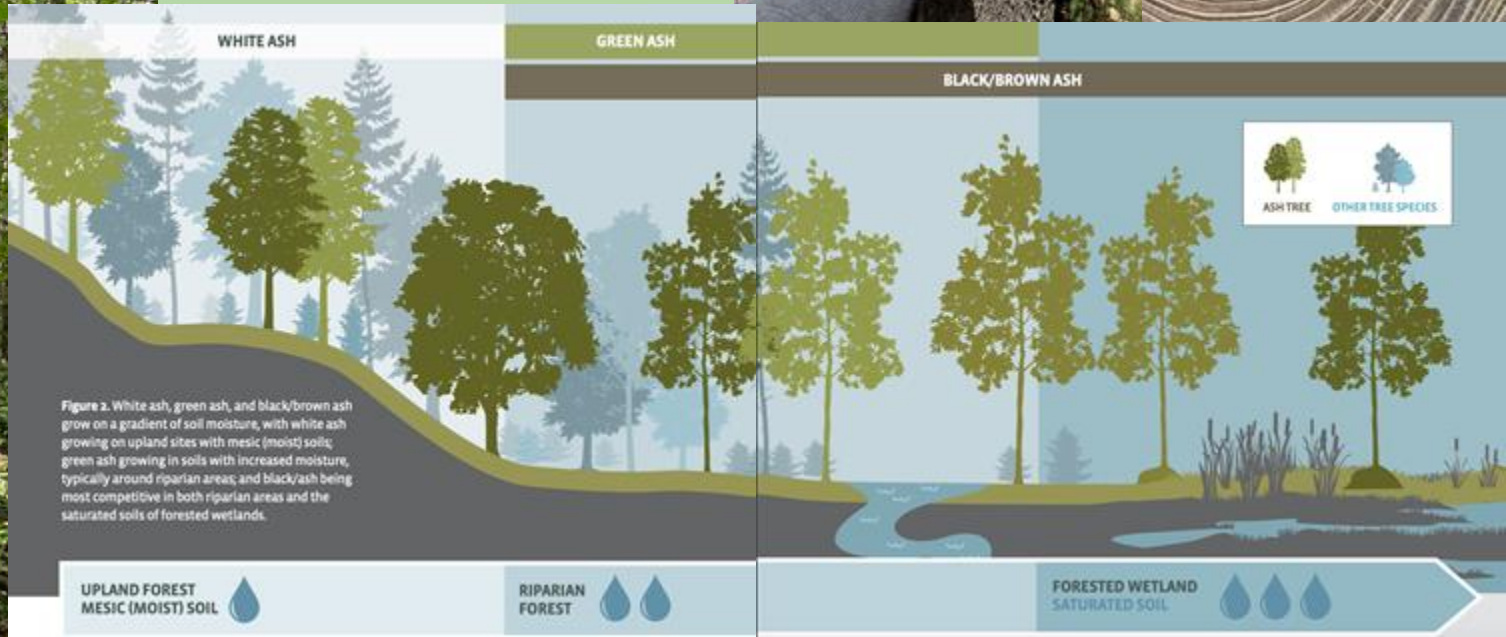


Areas Regulated for Emerald Ash Borer in Maine



Emerald Ash Borer in Maine

Why care for ash forests?



Cultural Significance



Gabe Frey
splitting



Richard
Silliboy
basket



Tyler
Everett
harvesting

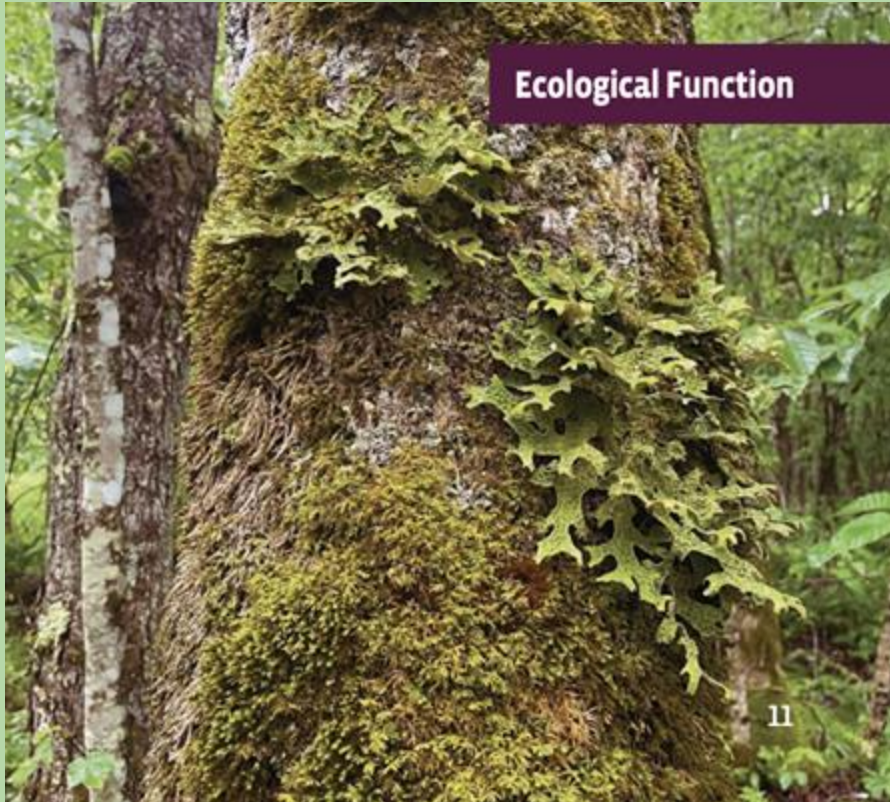


Richard
Silliboy
weaving



Gabe Frey
baskets

Ecological significance of ash forests



Our Collaborators



The University of Vermont



Ash Protection Collaboration Across Wabanakik

Named in 2023, APCAW is a group of Indigenous and non-Indigenous researchers and forest caretakers working together to organize actions to protect ash, based out of the University of Maine.



APCAW Programs and Website

- Held 10 events in 2023
- Reached 914 people
- Presented for other networks
 - RISCC, MLTN, GMRI, Forest Service
- Goal: To generate collective engagement in ash protection actions across the region
- Created APCAWE website in February 2023

<https://umaine.edu/apcaw/>



Ash Protection Collaboration Across Wabanakik

About Wabanaki and Brown Ash Research News Events Seed Collection and Growing Ash Tools for Monitoring and Managing Ash

Welcome to the Ash Protection Collaboration Across Wabanakik's (APCAW) website. The purpose of this website is to share practical knowledge with those who seek to protect the future of ash in the Downland, in ways informed by Wabanaki priorities and current research. Read on to find information about the cultural importance of ash, seed collection efforts, and emerald ash borer (EAB) management.

 Wabanaki & Ash

 Research

 Seed Collection & Ash Regeneration

 Tools for Monitoring and Managing Ash

Ash Inventory and Silvicultural Trials - Tyler



Listening to the Tribal Nation Communities

Brown ash & emerald ash borer Tribal Nation community meetings



Listening to the Tribal Nation Communities

Discussing Aspects of an Integrated Pest Management (IPM) Strategy

OR

More Holistic: A plan to take care of
and challenge new distant relatives

Mi'kmaq: IIsuteget ango'tg aq

gaqamutoq pilei gneg wetagutijig



Listening to the Tribal Nation Communities

Participants hear about considerations regarding:

- The cultural importance of brown ash and the threat of emerald ash borer
- The involvement of Tribal youth in emerald ash borer Response on Tribal lands
- Silvicultural Strategies for brown ash wetland forests
- Seed and other Genetic material collection initiatives



Listening to the Tribal Nation Communities

Participants hear about considerations regarding:

- The Biological control of emerald ash borer
- The Chemical treatment of emerald ash borer
- Data Sovereignty Concerns in Ash Preservation
- Integrating multiple approaches



Private Landowner Survey 2022: Adaptive Management Strategies

- a. Participate in monitoring programs to assist efforts with detections of EAB
- b. Plan to harvest all or majority of merchantable ash trees ahead of EAB
- c. Identify sites to reserve ash trees with different size classes ahead of EAB
- d. Allow for the collection of ash seed by seed collectors
- e. Consider practices for protecting certain ash trees using chemical treatments
- f. Consider practices to cooperate with the state in efforts to introduce and monitor biological control agents that kill EAB





Discussion Points: What we found

- 1- Only a portion of the respondents lived within the quarantine boundaries in 2022: **high interest, regardless of impact or county of ownership**
- 2- Landowners are interested in **keeping species found on their properties**, regardless of adaptive management strategies
- 3- Of the 6 adaptive management strategies, **allowing for ash seed collection** was the **most popular**, and plan to harvest all or majority of merchantable ash was the least
- 4- Influential factors for taking part in the management strategies were: **financial**, that landowners need cost-sharing and to know costs, and



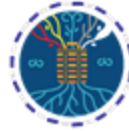
Discussion: Needs for the future

5- Need to **formally inventory private land** (does the landowner have ash?) to figure out what management strategies are **appropriate for each landowner** - if any

6- **Forestry community involvement** with these efforts: securing forester and logger interest or buy-in to **promote these strategies to landowners**

7- Next steps: studies to understand **more than landowner interest**. Are landowners **actually** going to take part in adaptive management strategies?

APCAW Partners:



WABANAKI
YOUTH IN SCIENCE



Wild Seed Project
RETURNING NATIVE PLANTS TO THE MAINE LANDSCAPE



The University of Vermont



Forest Stewards
Guild
putting the forest first

MLTN | MAINE LAND TRUST NETWORK



PennState

Thank you!

Brown Ash Meeting
Oct. 8-9, 2024 @ UMaine

umaine.edu/apcaw/
-> sign up for newsletter