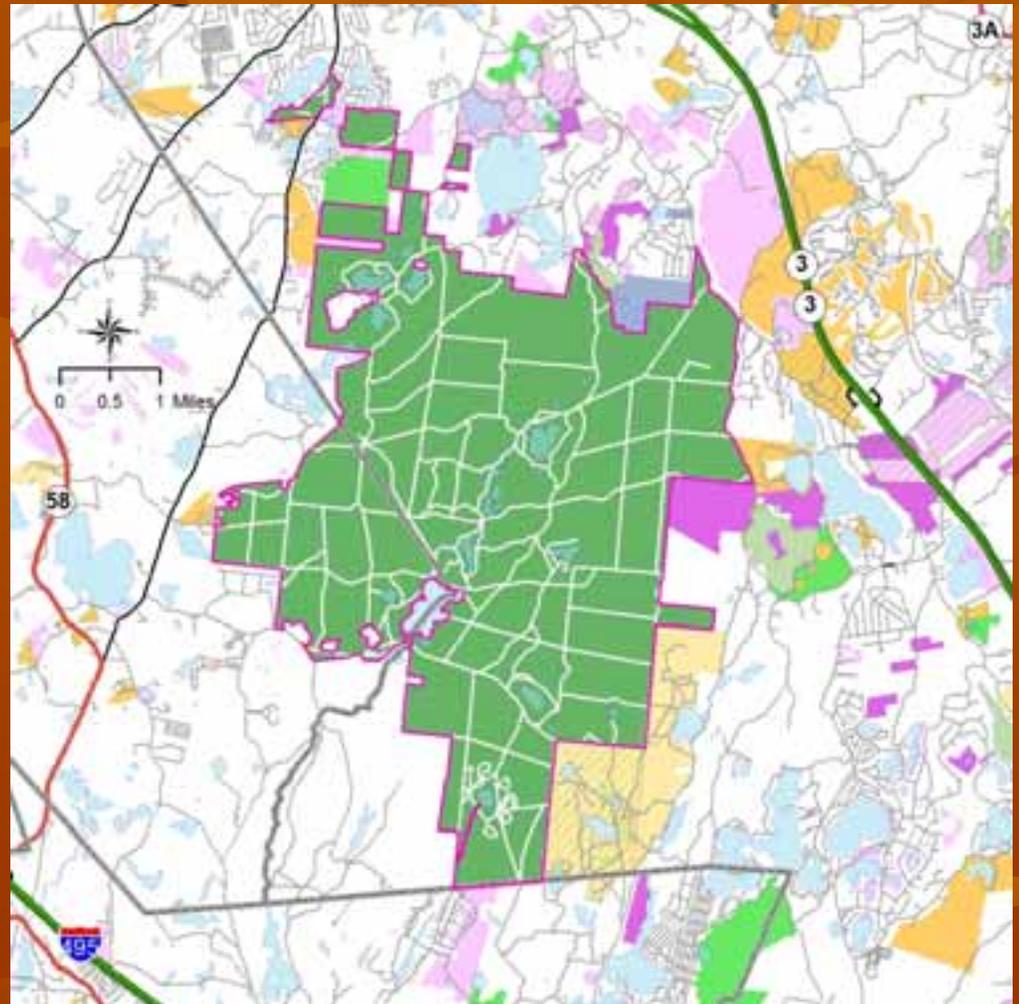


Myles Standish State Forest

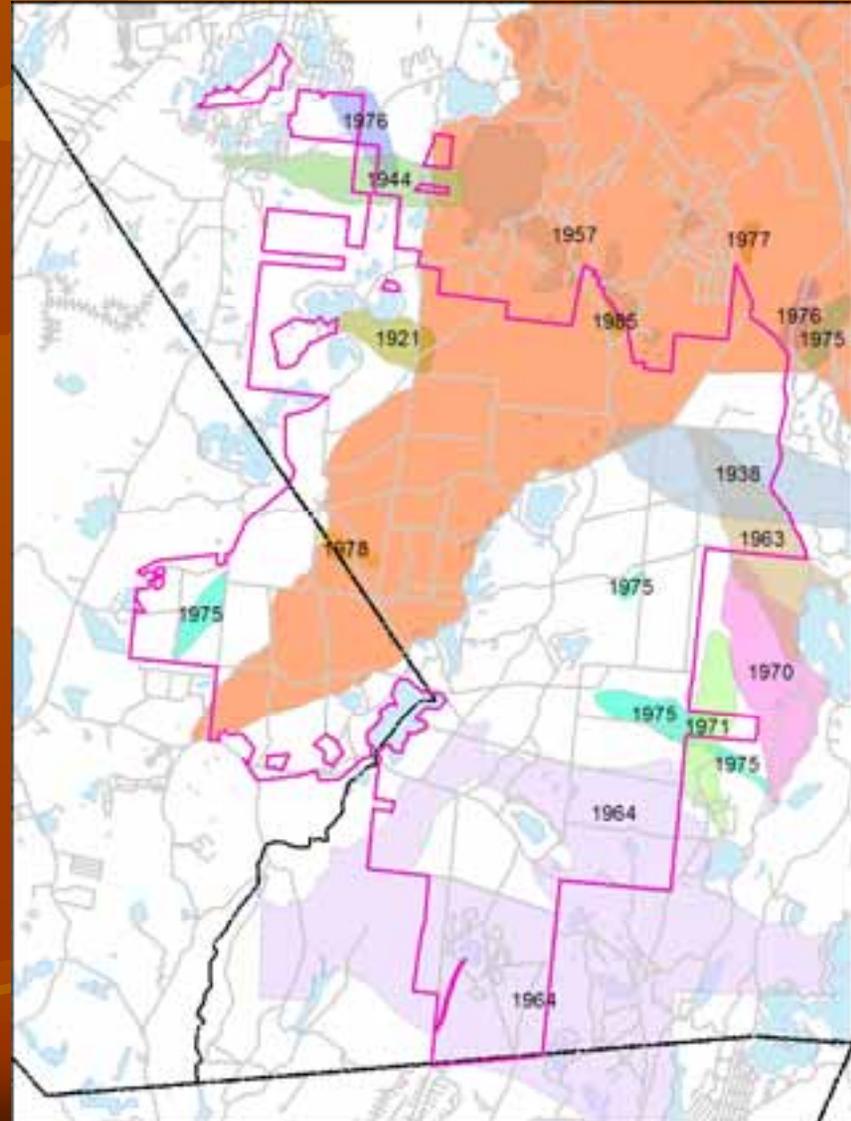
- Began in 1916
- \approx 12,400 acres
- Largest public open space in SE Mass
- Reserve designation



Myles Standish State Forest

Wildfire History

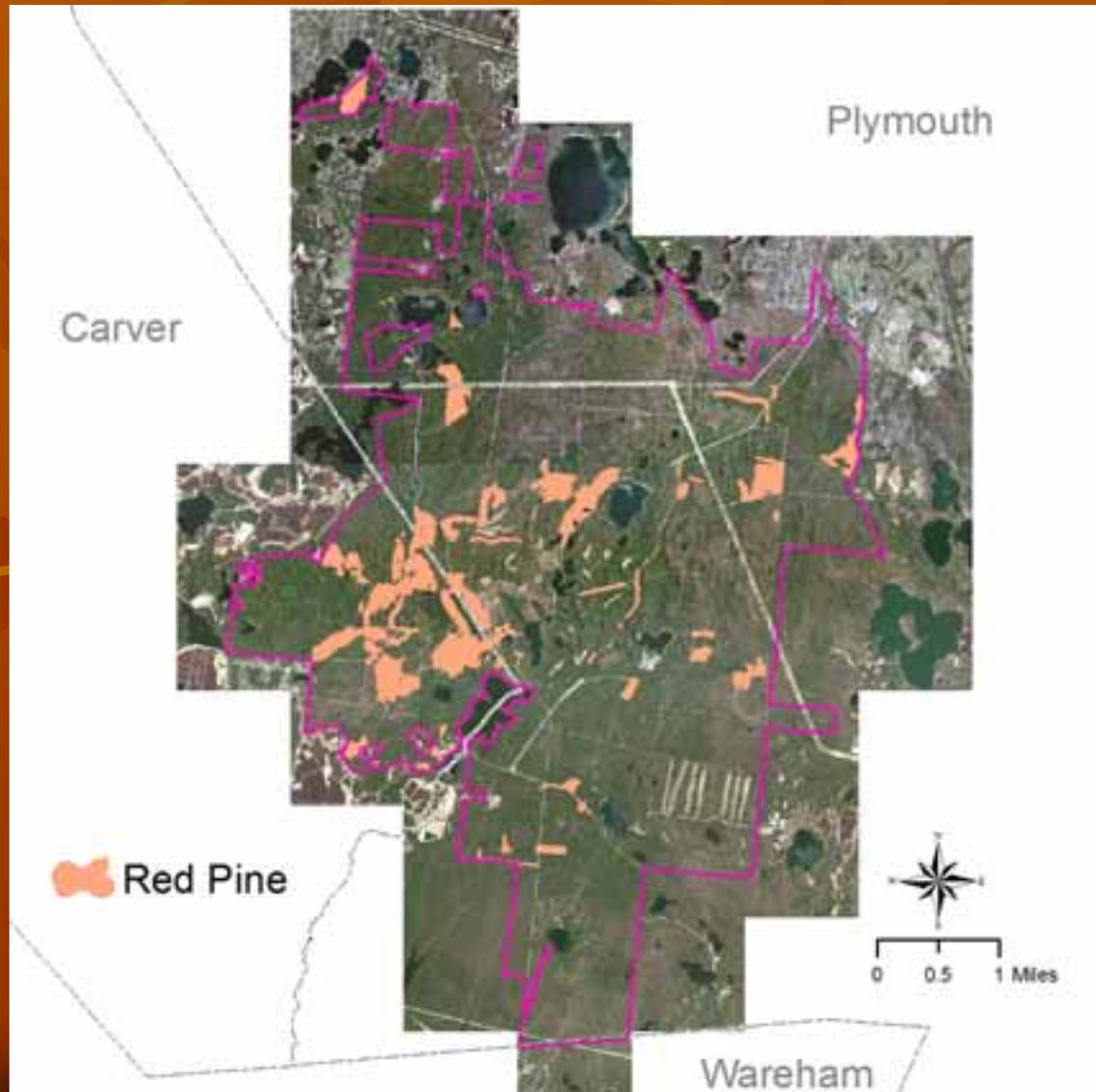
Year	Acres in Forest	Total Acres
1921	144	144
1938	504	714
1944	54	334
1957	3,673	15,000
1963	294	530
1964	1,845	6,300
1970	-	520
1971	43	253
1975	223	333
1976	54	325
1977	-	21
1978	48	48
1985	18	20



Myles Standish State Forest

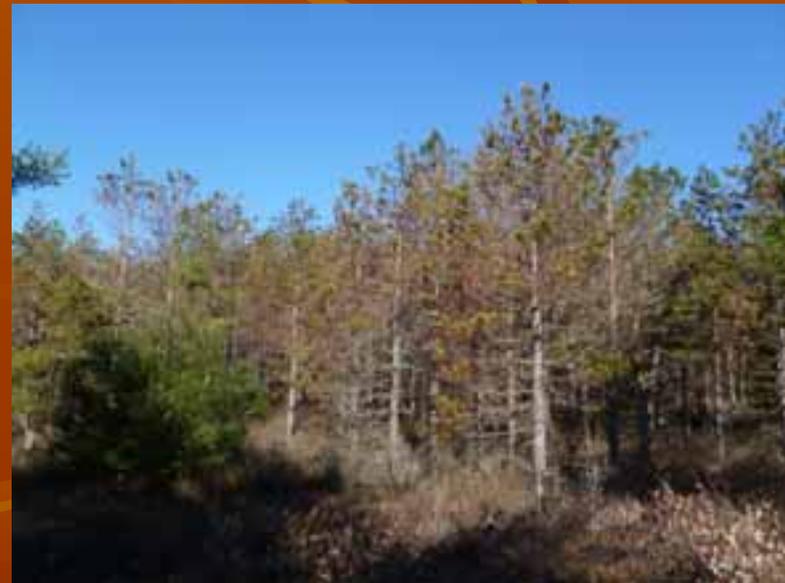
Red Pine Plantations

- ≈ 576 acres
- Planted after wildfires for the most part



Existing Conditions of Red Pine Plantations

- Discolored and brown needles
- Red pine scale (*Matsucoccus resinosa*)
- Diplodia blight (*Diplodia pinea*)
- Weakened trees attacked by bark beetles
- Rapid tree mortality



Existing Conditions of Red Pine Plantations

September 2013 survey of red pine trees

- 10% - no signs of infection
- 68% - dying
- 22% - dead



Goals

- Protect public safety - removal along roads, forest roads, hiking trails, and paved bike paths.
- Reduce wildfire danger - safe access to firefighters and fire apparatus.
- Restore native pitch pine-scrub oak barrens to provide habitat for a diversity of endangered species.

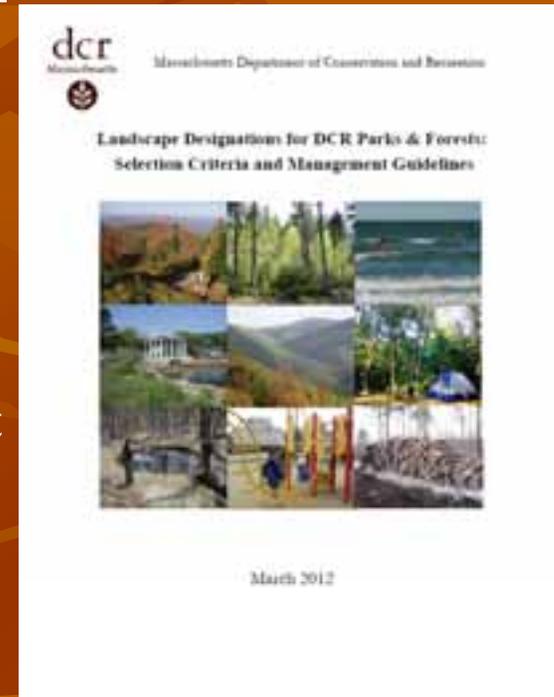


References

2012 Landscape Designations for DCR Parks & Forests: Selection Criteria and Management Guidelines

- Allowed exceptions in Reserves:
 - a) Implementation of NHESP recommendations to restore, maintain or enhance habitat for rare and endangered species and exemplary natural or rare communities.
 - b) Removing plantations would not be permitted except to restore important wildlife habitat such as pitch pine barrens or other habitats and after consultation with DFW and FRSAC.

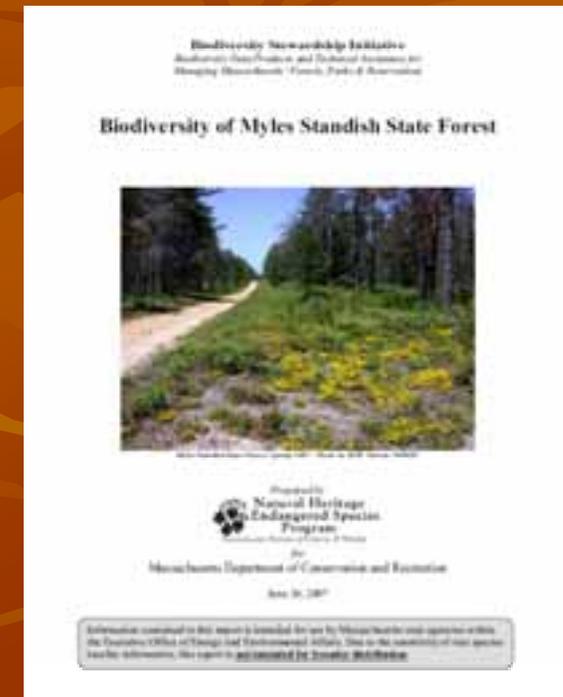
FRSAC = Forest Reserves Science Advisory Committee



References

2007 NHESP Biodiversity of Myles Standish State Forest

- Highest Priority Recommendation:
 - Remove tree plantations consisting of non-native species and thin tree plantations consisting of even-aged monocultures of native species.



References

2011 Resource Management Plan - Myles Standish Planning Unit

- High Priority Recommendation:
 - Develop and implement a plan to remove tree plantations consisting of non-native species in consultation with the Forest Reserves Science Advisory Committee to reduce fire danger and improve Pine Barrens habitat.



Timber Harvest

Landscape Designations: “On DCR harvests this tool [Whole Tree Harvesting and Woody Biomass Removal] may be used in limited circumstances in order to... Intentionally impoverish site conditions and reduce fuel loads when converting plantations on sand-plain ecosystems to native scrub oak, tree oak and pitch pine vegetation communities.”

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9bJcJG7GfL8>



New Hampshire Project



What's Happening

Calendar of Events

Discover the Forces of Nature

News Stories

Improving State Parks

North Hampton Beach
Redevelopment

Greenfield Forest Health
Improvement

SCA Park Improvement Project

Somersville Improvement Project

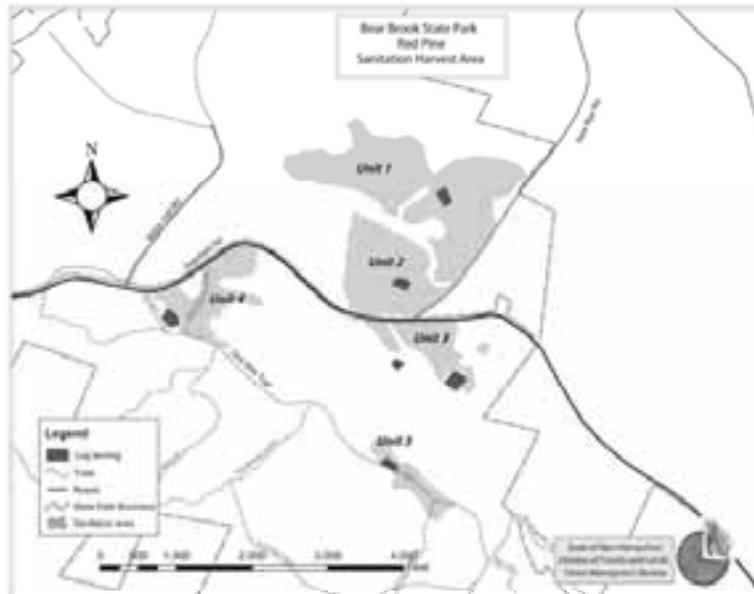
Sea Stack Trailway/Marion

White Lake Improvement Project

Bear Brook Sanitation Timber Harvest

April 11, 2013 Update

The Red Pine Scale Sanitation Harvest is approximately 75% complete. The contractor has finished cutting and skidding in units 1, 2 and 4 (see map) and will complete the remaining units in the Fall of 2013. Trucking and harvest disposal will continue through the spring. Toll South Trail and One Mile Trail are cleared and open.



Desired Results

Short Term

- To restore these stands to native shrublands or woodlands characterized by pitch pine, scrub oak and associated native shrubs.

Long Term

- Prescribed burning and mowing to stimulate sprouting and growth of native shrubs.
- Variable frequencies and intensities to encourage a mosaic of pine barrens, shrublands, and woodland communities.



Questions and Answers