

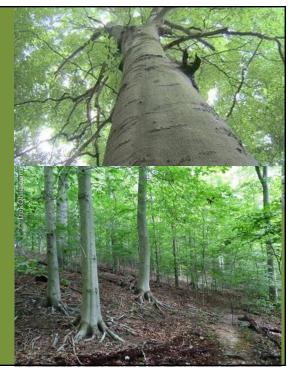




All kinds of ideas to manage beech have been tried.

Assuming that reducing the amount of beech regeneration and basal area volume is your goal:

- 1. Even age management to encourage more species to compete
- 2. Cut in the winter to reduce logging damage in attempt to limit sprouting
- 3. Cut in the summer when the root reserves are at their lowest.
- 4. Leave all the partially resistant heech
- 5. Don't cut any beech in the harvest area
- 6. Leave seemingly resistant beech, cut all of the severely diseased trees AND stump treat with herbicide

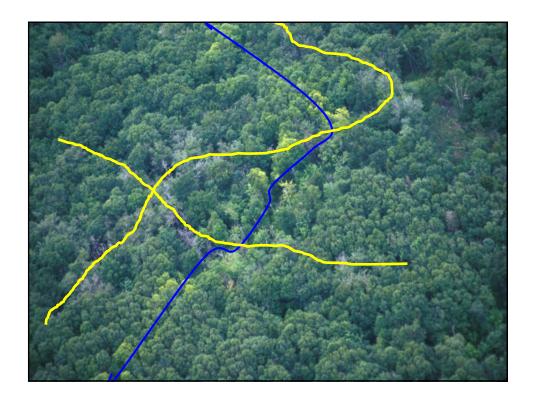


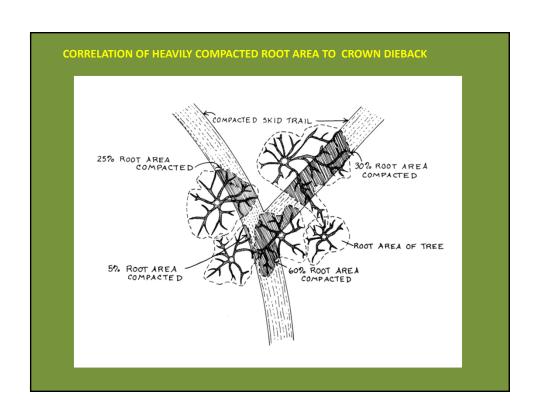


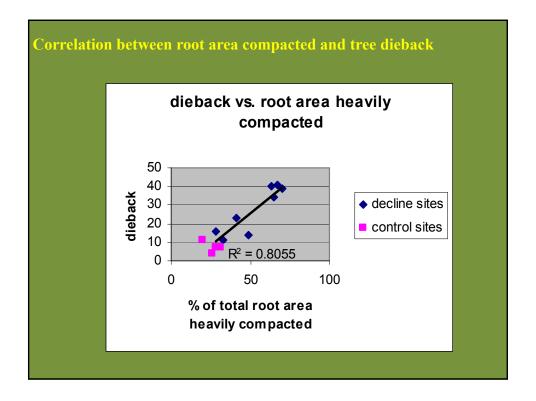












Thoughts

Even aged or unevenaged is fine but getting caught in the middle ends up causing too much RSD.

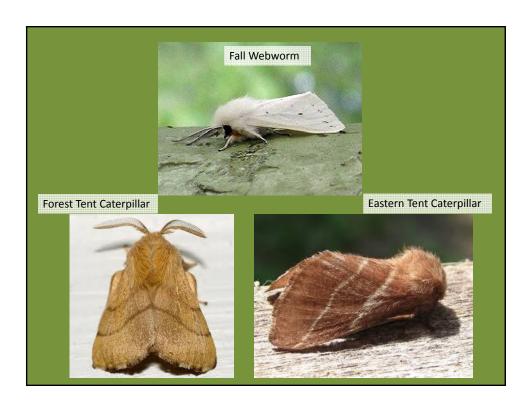
lay out skid trails, work back to front, and encourage smaller equipment, especially chainsaw loggers and cable skidders

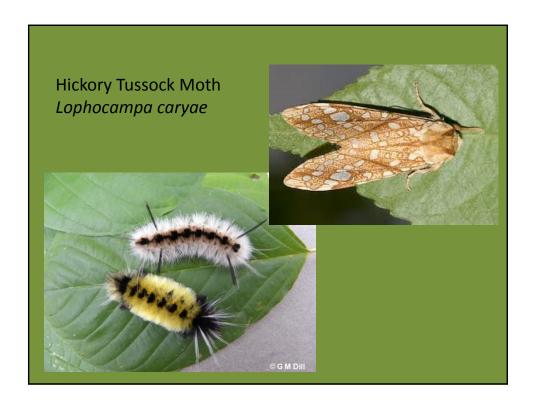
Encourage less skid steer equipment if the terrain allows it

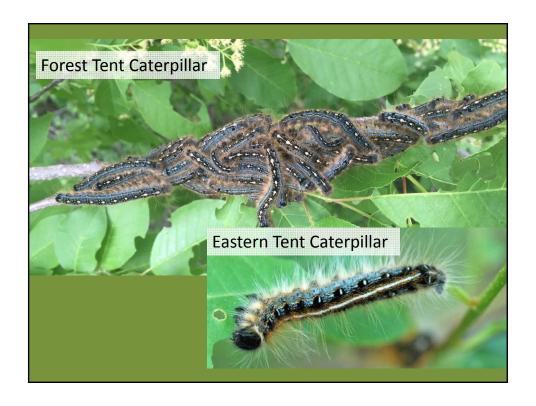
Be diligent about getting off the harvest area before spring break up. Don't let a good idea go bad.

If RSD is evident don't go back in to remove declining trees. Mortality of trees with 30% dieback is not high. You'll likely just be dealing with a decade of sluggish growth

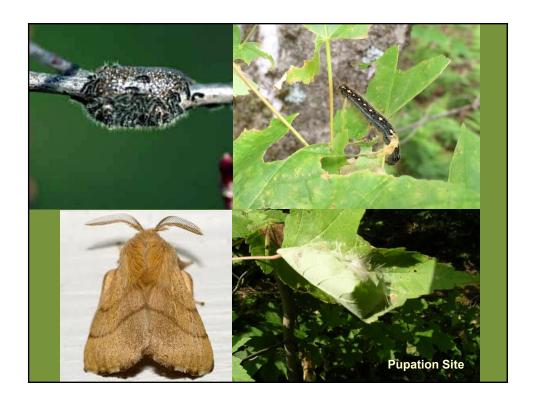


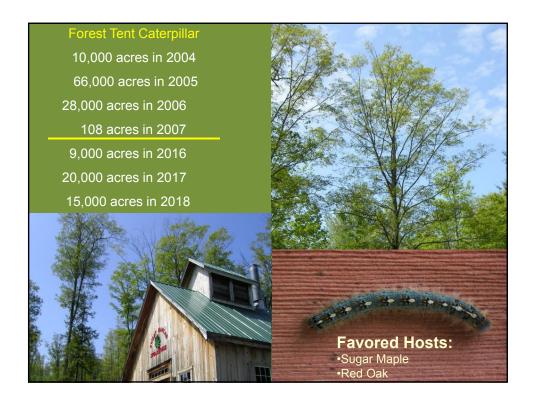


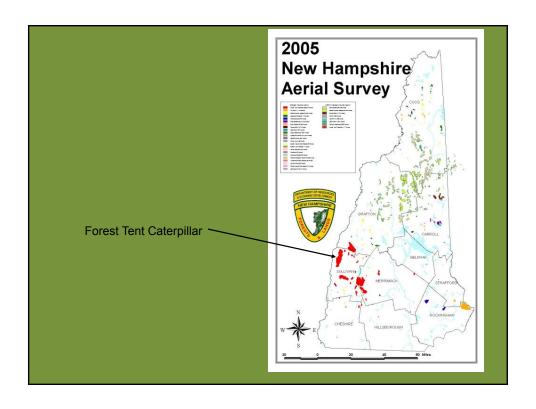


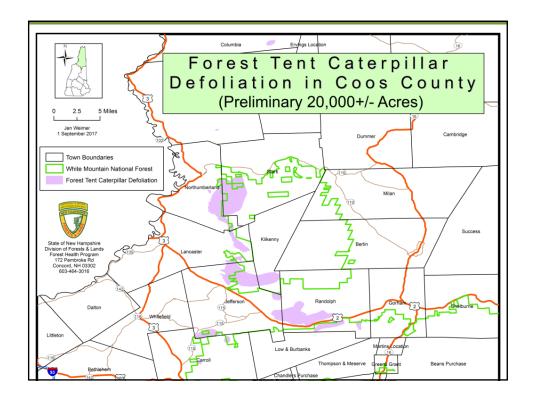






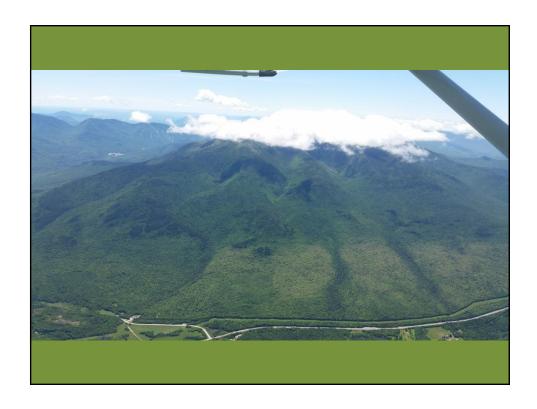






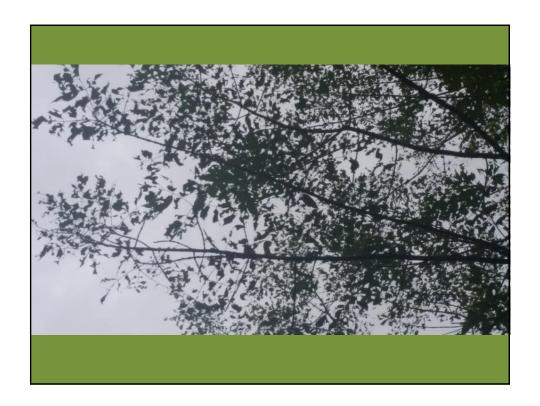












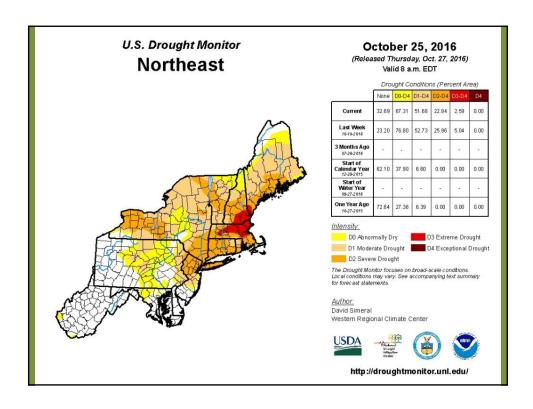








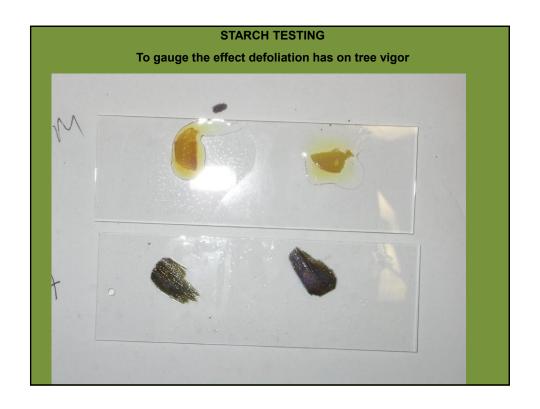


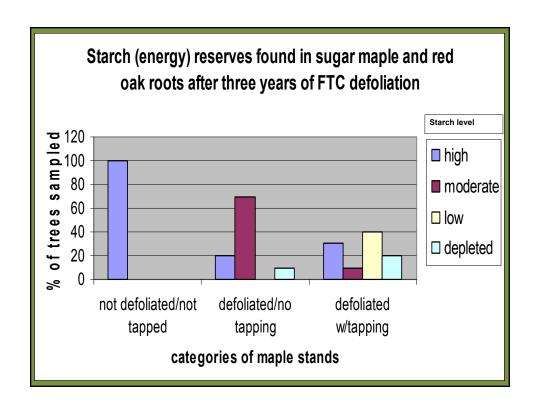








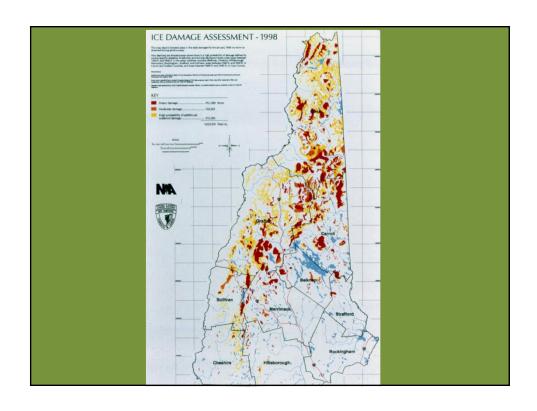




Recommendations for timber management of defoliated stands

Postpone harvesting until two years post outbreak.

- 1. current outbreak will concentrate on residual trees
- 2. don't add soil compaction, root damage and basal wounding to already stressed trees
- 3. some trees will seriously decline or die from the outbreak. You don't want to leave those and take trees that resisted the outbreak



ICE STORMS

Softwood trees are designed far better to handle heavy ice loads. The branches collapse on each other helping to distribute the weight.

Sugar maple does not grow like that and must rely on shedding its leaves as defense of winter snow and ice build up.

The ice storm of 1998 in NH broke 20-90 % of branches in most hardwoods found on south aspects between 1200' elevation and 3000' elevation. Today the mortality rate in those areas has been low and the trees have recovered well in most cases. (Poor birches)







Conclusions:

"Ice storms are a natural feature of forests of the northeastern United States and will surely occur again. Trees that are healthy and responsive before the storm are more likely to survive and will recover more quickly from storm injury. Timber stand improvement to enhance tree health may be a prudent preventative treatment.

Reduced residual logging damage may decrease the chance of root infection and spread of infection within the tree."

