



BC whitebark pine status and policy update

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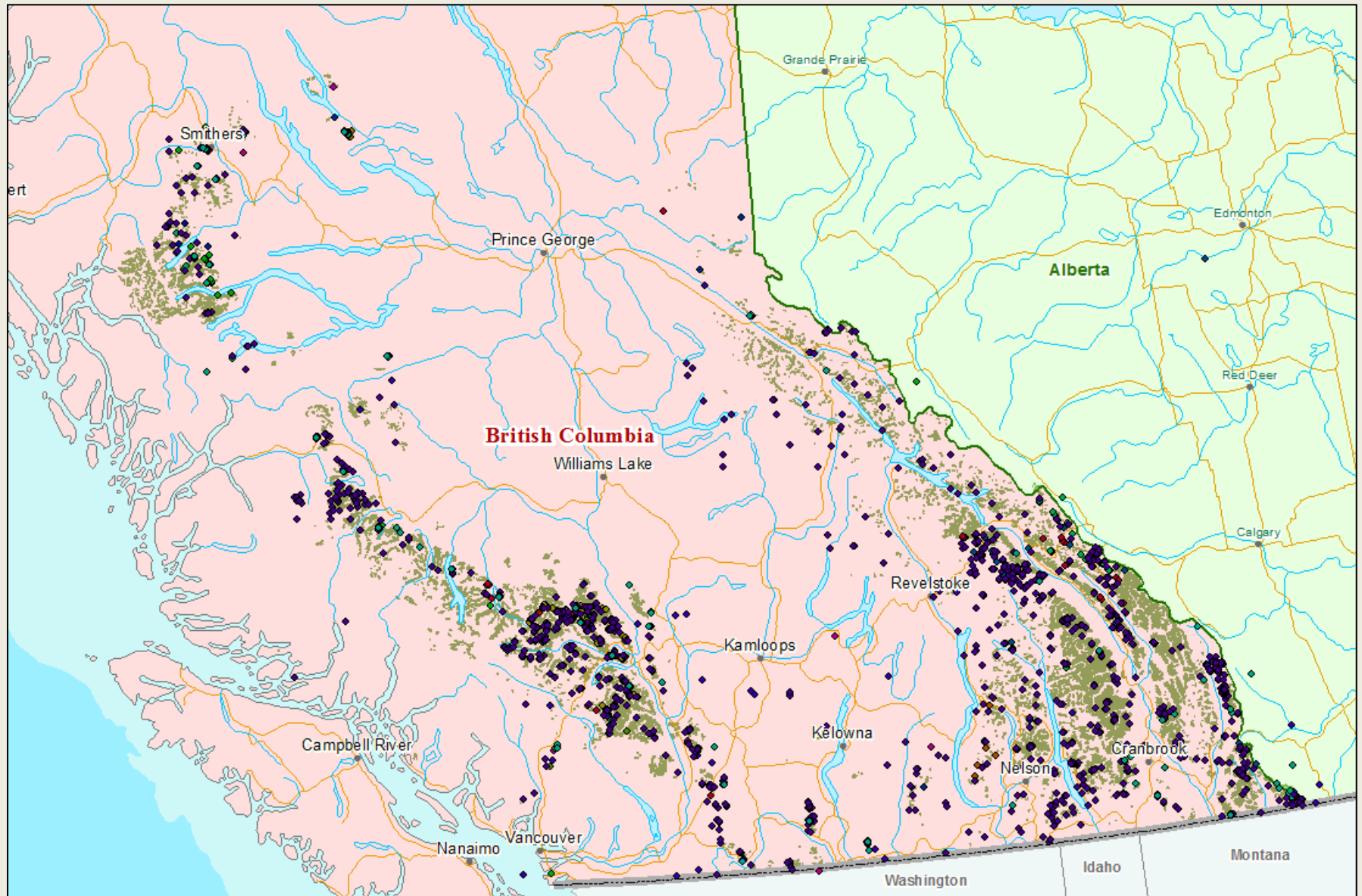
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Current status in BC

- Federally listed as Endangered
 - recovery strategy was due to be posted during 2015-16
 - Blue-listed provincially (Special Concern - formerly Vulnerable)
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- No current legal protection on provincial Crown Land.
 - Currently looking at revision to the Identified Wildlife Management Strategy
 - New Government – new Minister of Environment mandate:
 - *Enact an endangered species law and harmonize other laws to ensure they are all working towards the goal of protecting our beautiful province*

Whitebark pine distribution map



Revised through 2016 data capture contract

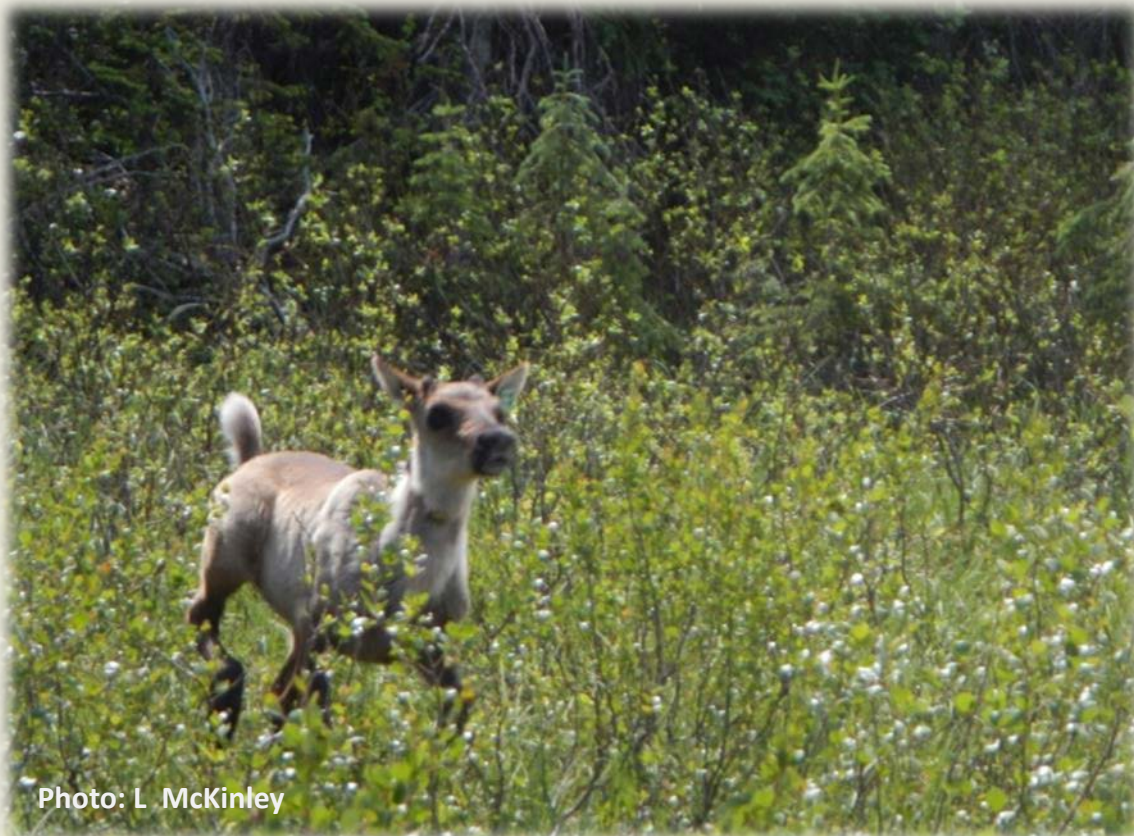
Challenges in future management

- Lack of resources and bodies
 - Reflective of lack of legal protection
- Government Executive support
 - Critical Habitat definition still a concern
- No government-level recovery team or effective communication and coordination
- Raising the profile of whitebark pine has been difficult



Overlapping Species at Risk Recovery Planning

- Caribou Critical Habitat overlaps significantly with range of whitebark pine
- Must identify and articulate compatible and incompatible strategies to collaborate recovery efforts



High elevation critical caribou habitat:

- managing subalpine fir competition
- fire management
- no access or harvesting

Photo: L. McKinley

What can we still do?

- Leverage compatibilities eg. grizzly bear management
 - Build on relationship between whitebark pine, Clark's nutcrackers, grizzly bears and Douglas-fir
- Elevate acceptability within stocking standards and in light of climate change
- Environmental Mitigation Policy
 - Helps define mitigation and compensation under Environmental Assessment Act
- Can use Lands Act to define areas of interest
- Chief Forester has agreed to consider release of BMP
- Some funding to support health monitoring, cone collections and other work



Blister Rust Screening: field trials

Logging in Whitebark Pine:
keys to success

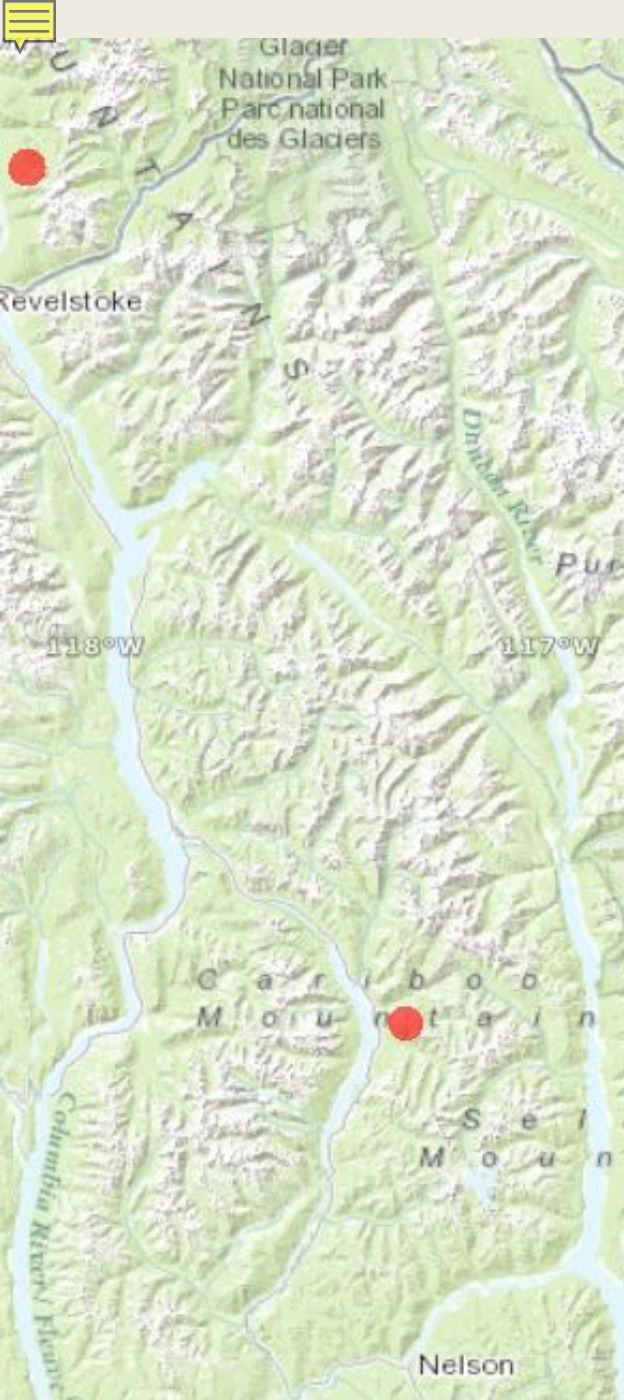
A photograph of a white pine tree trunk with several irregular, yellowish-orange lesions characteristic of White Pine Blister Rust. The tree is set against a backdrop of a mountain range under a blue sky with light clouds. The text 'White Pine Blister Rust (Cronartium ribicola)' is overlaid in yellow. Two cartoon eyes are drawn on the trunk to the left of the text.

White Pine Blister Rust
(*Cronartium ribicola*)





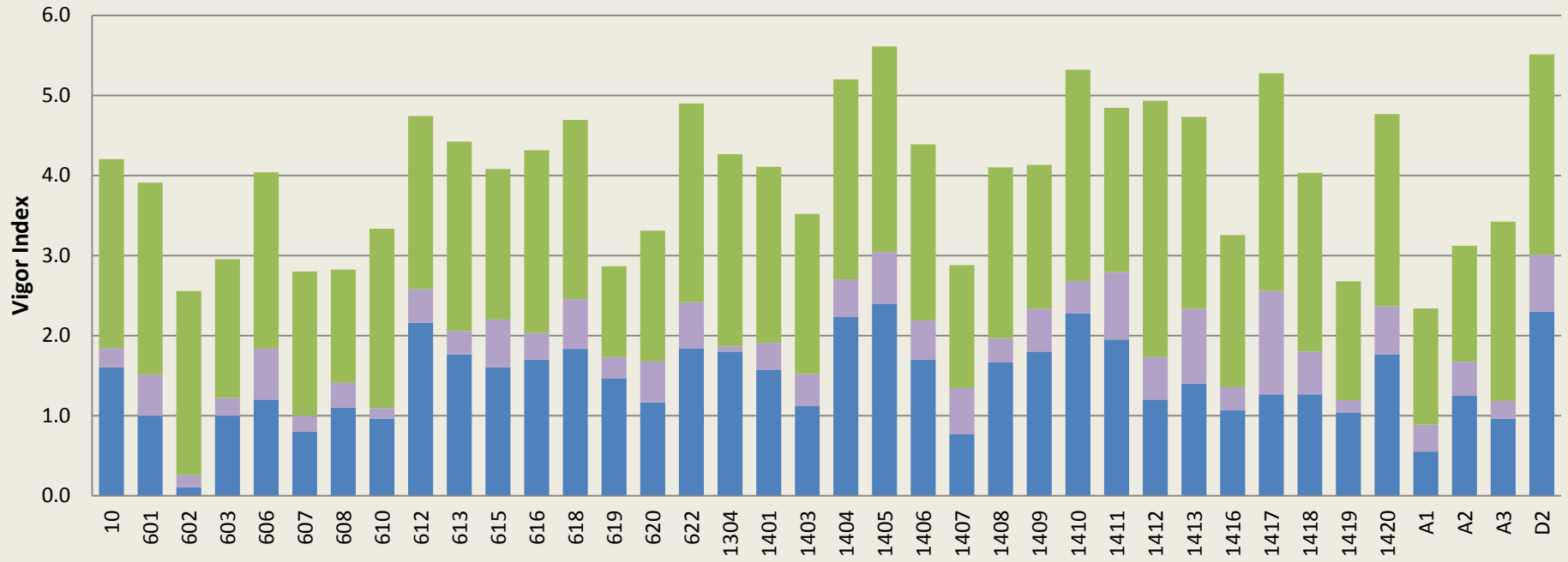








Vigor 2017



Family



Logging in Whitebark Pine: keys to success



Harvest Retention











Thank You

Charlie Cartwright (FLNRO)

Tara DeCourcy (FLNRO)

Katy Fraser (FLNRO)

Stephanie Keightley (CanFor)

Kevin LaVelle (FLNRO)

Richard Sniezko (USFS)

Peter Vandenberg (BCTS)