
THE RUFFED GROUSE SOCIETY
ESTABLISHED
1961

Why Ruffed Grouse?

- Forest dependent
- Thrive in healthy, diverse forests
- Non-migratory

Ruffed Grouse are a bellwether!

RGS AWS

RUFFED GROUSE SOCIETY | AMERICAN WOODCOCK SOCIETY

× – *Have identified grouse and woodcock as a species of concern*

RUFFED GROUSE

WOODCOCK

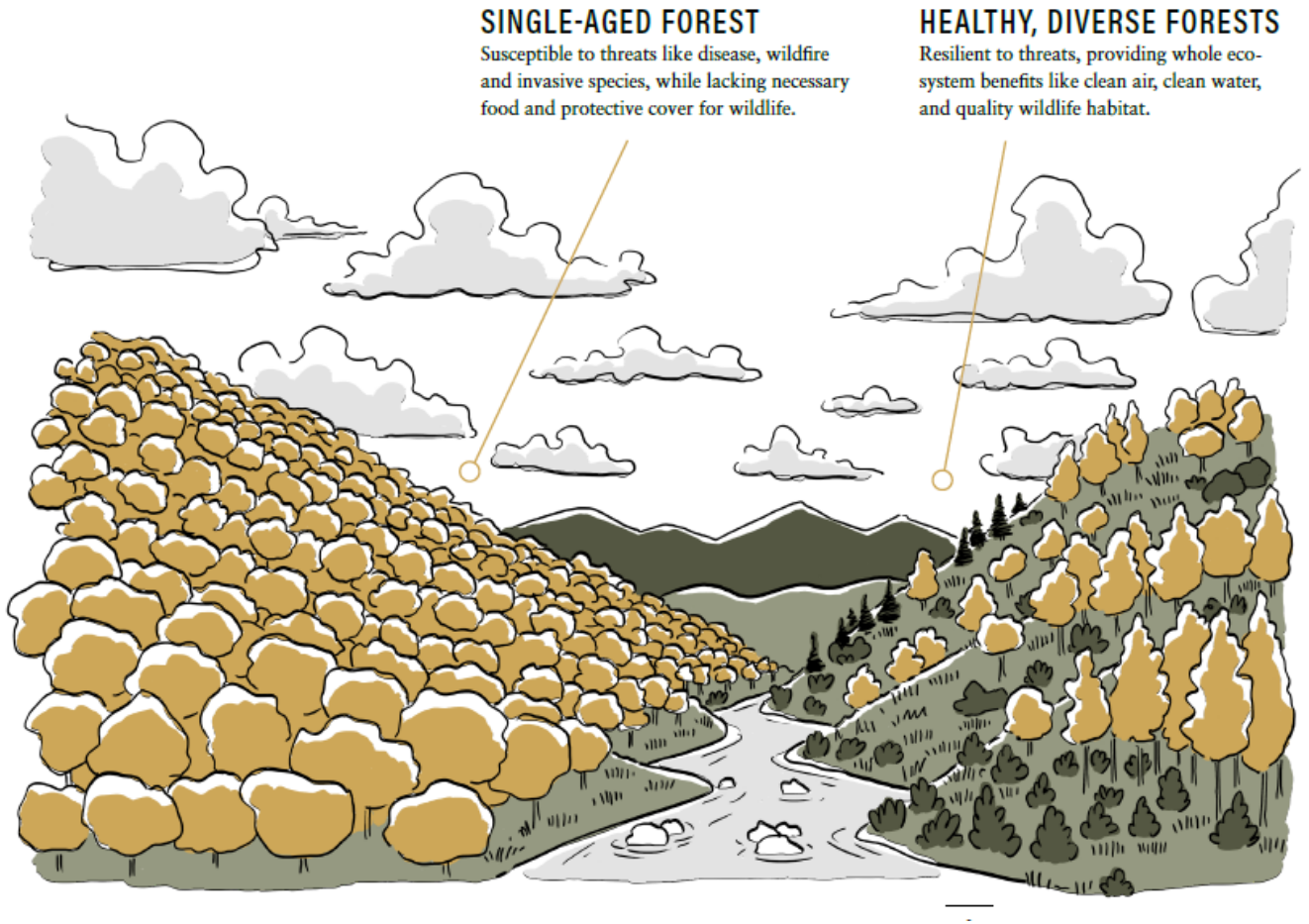
"Ruffed grouse seem destined for extirpation…unless immediate habitat restoration is initiated."

Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies
Working Group *– December 2020*
Ruffed Grouse Population Declines in the Eastern United States

The Bigger Picture

The problem is lack of structural and age diversity (disturbance).

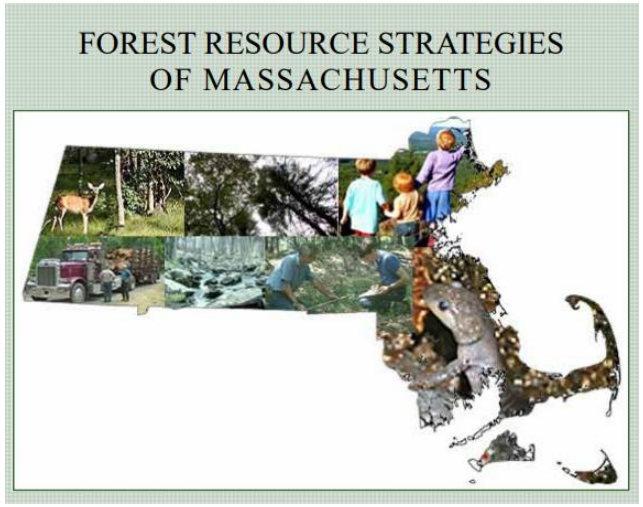
A healthy forest sequesters carbon, filters water, cleans the air, and provides wildlife habitat.



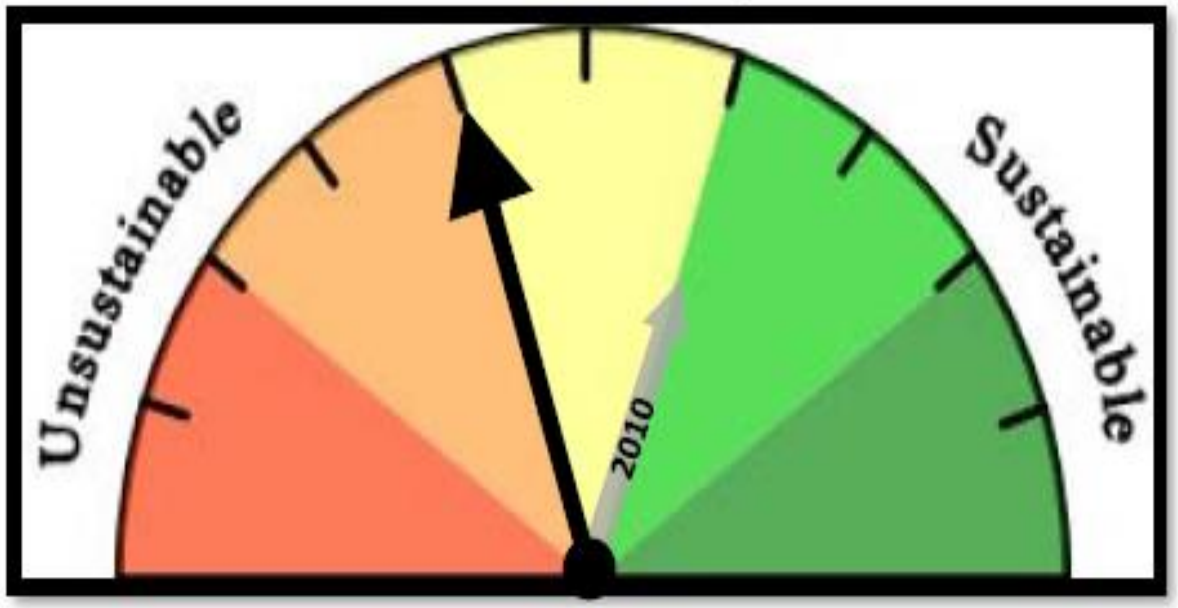
"**State Wildlife Action Plans** serve as the blueprints for conserving our nation's fish and wildlife and preventing endangered species."
-U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

PENNSYLVANIA
WILDLIFE ACTION PLAN

"Your state's **Forest Action Plan** includes in-depth analysis of forest conditions and trends in your area. Collectively, the states' Forest Action Plans make up a roadmap for forest management on a national scale."
-Association of State Foresters



Indicator 4. Status of forest/woodland communities and associated species of concern



Sustainability Meter

Grey arrow=2010 reading


299D CAT
YANCEY
CAT

Scale Up!

Fire and forest habitat diversification

1. Preparatory Treatment

2. Primary Driver

Photo ©Thomas Waldrop

Preparatory Treatment

United States Department of Agriculture
Forest Service
Southeastern Forest Experiment Station
General Technical Report SE-84

Oak Regen
Practical Re

SYMPOSIUM PROCEEDINGS
Knoxville, Tennessee
September 8-10, 1992

Responses of hardwood advance regeneration to seasonal prescribed fires in oak-dominated shelterwood stands

Patrick H. Brose and David H. Van Lear

Introduction

REVIEW ARTICLE

silviculture

Development of Prescribed Fire as a Silvicultural Tool for the Upland Oak Forests of the Eastern United States

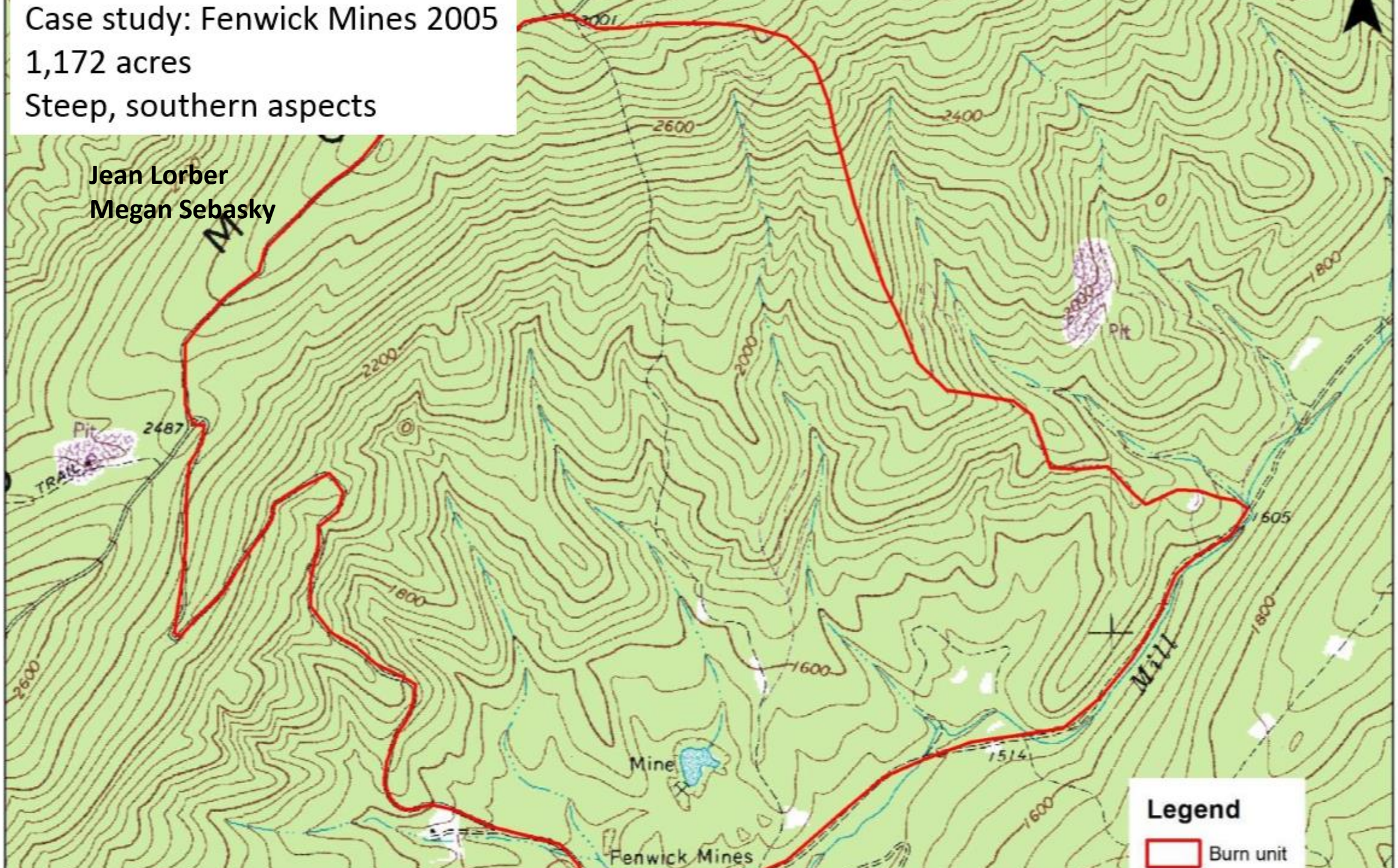
Patrick H. Brose

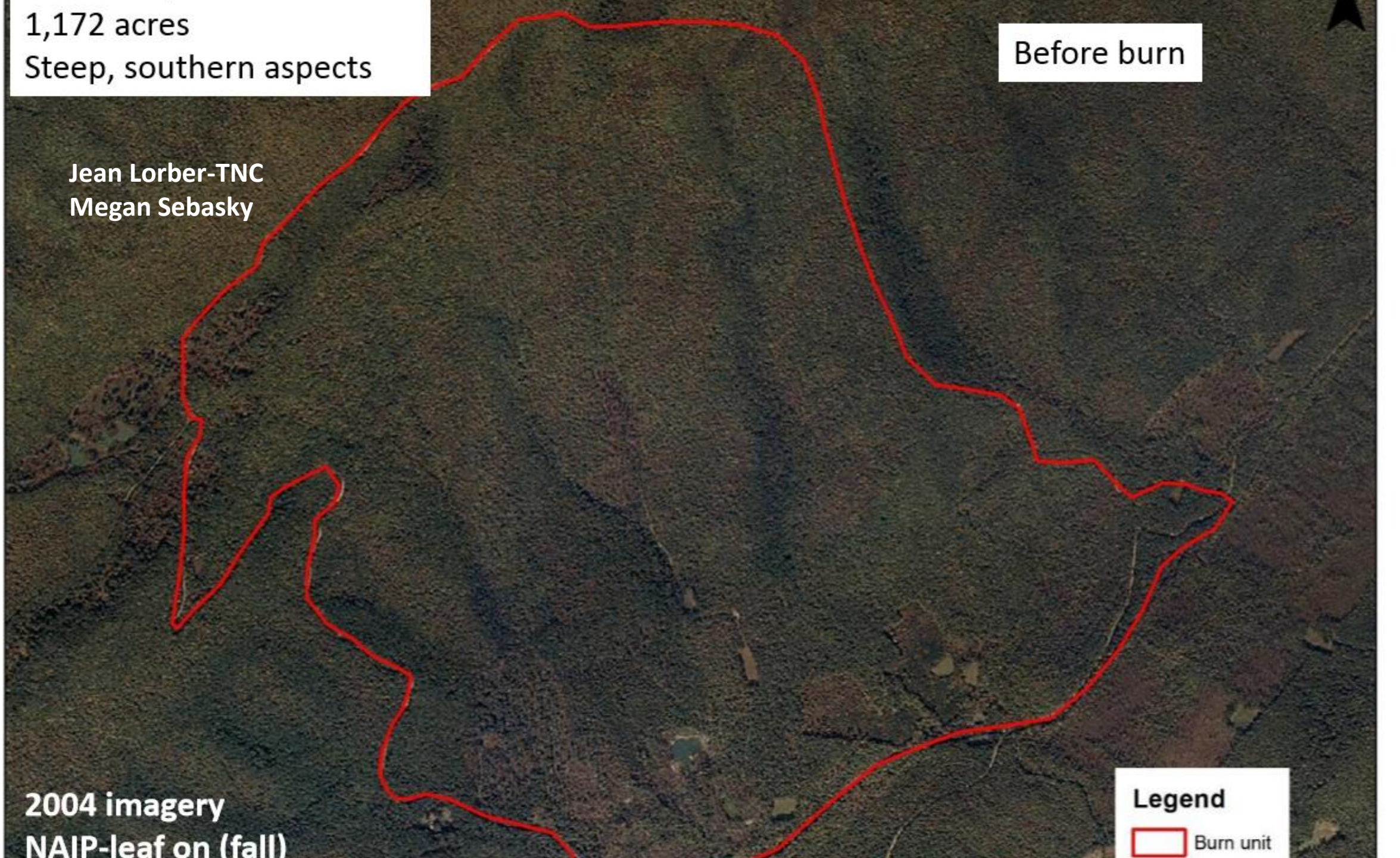
Keywords: fire effects, hardwoods, *Quercus* spp., shelterwood, woodland restoration

Primary Driver

Case study: Fenwick Mines 2005
1,172 acres
Steep, southern aspects

Jean Lorber
Megan Sebasky




1,172 acres
Steep, southern aspects
Before burn
Jean Lorber-TNC
Megan Sebasky
2004 imagery
NAIP-leaf on (fall)
Legend
Burn unit

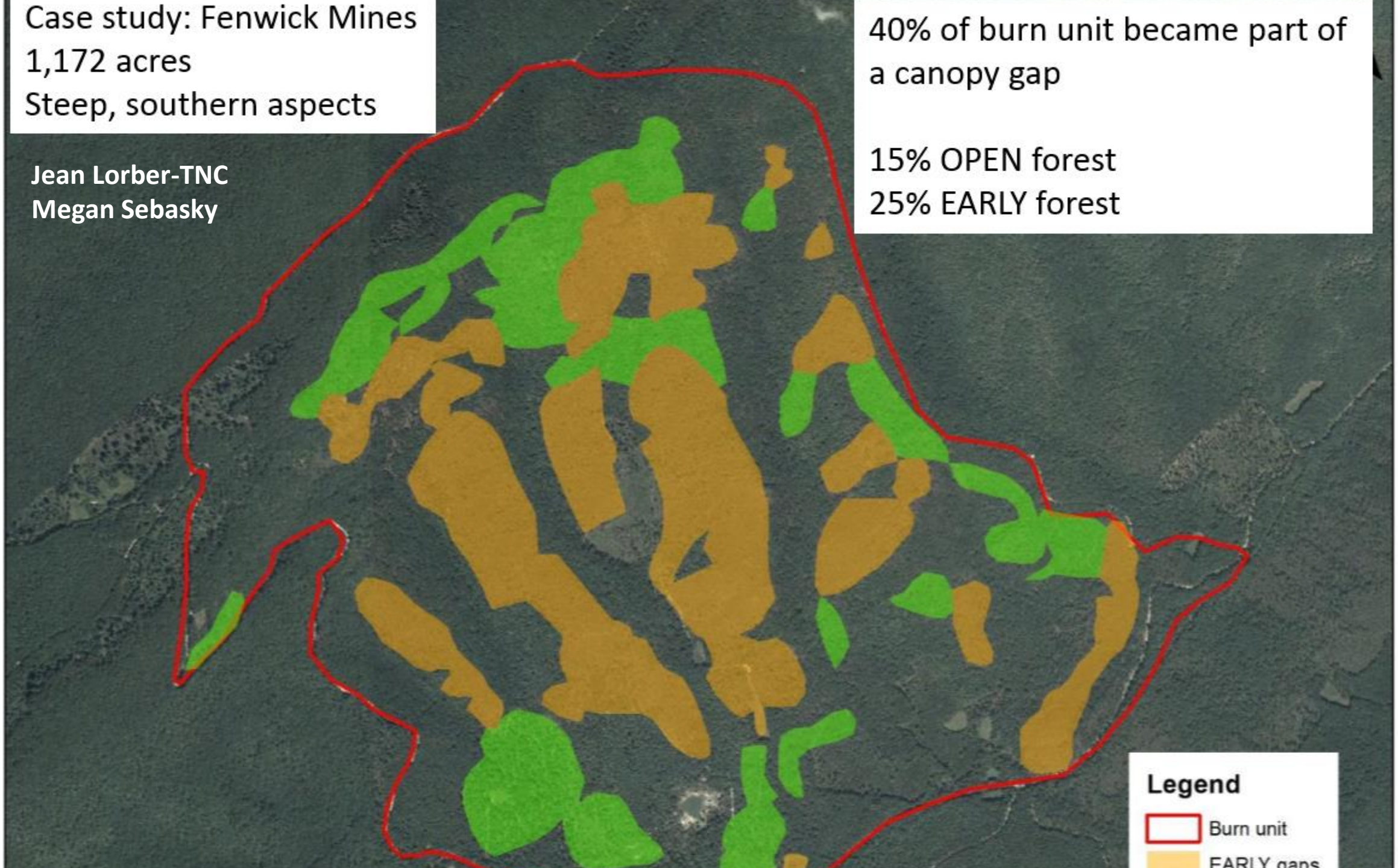

1,172 acres
Steep, southern aspects
After burn
Jean Lorber-TNC
Megan Sebasky
2005 imagery
Legend
Burn unit

Case study: Fenwick Mines
1,172 acres
Steep, southern aspects

Jean Lorber-TNC
Megan Sebasky

40% of burn unit became part of a canopy gap

15% OPEN forest
25% EARLY forest



The Need

Nantahala and Pisgah National Forests Plan Revision

Draft Plan recommendations for forest structure (1,040,000 acres total):

- Young forests, 60-90k acres
- Open woodlands, 360-480k acres

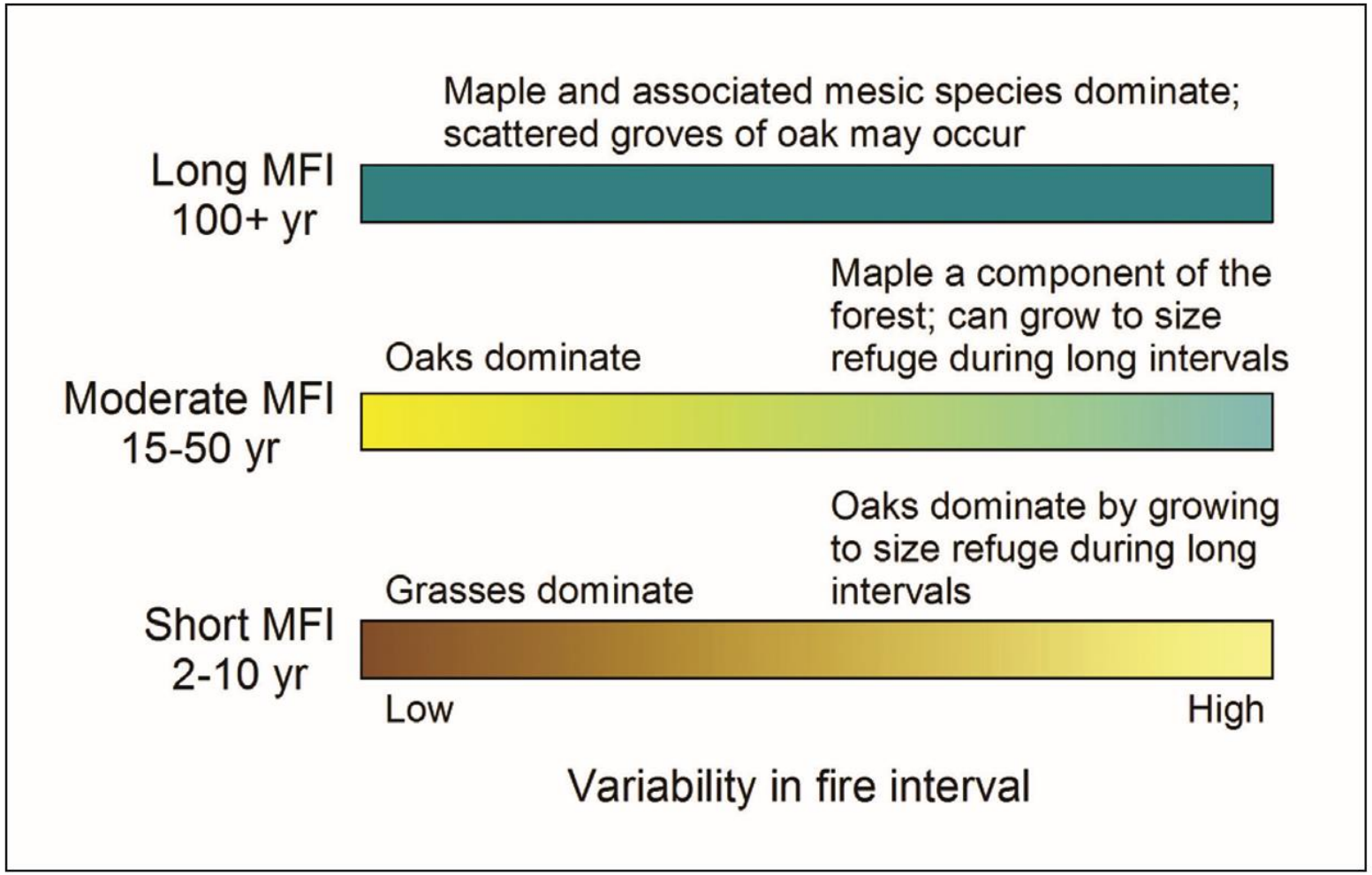
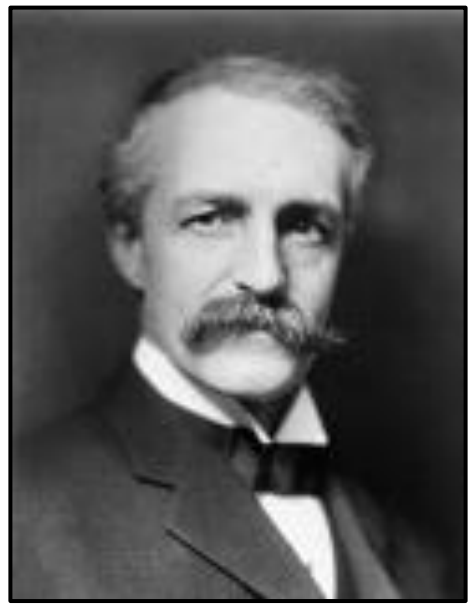
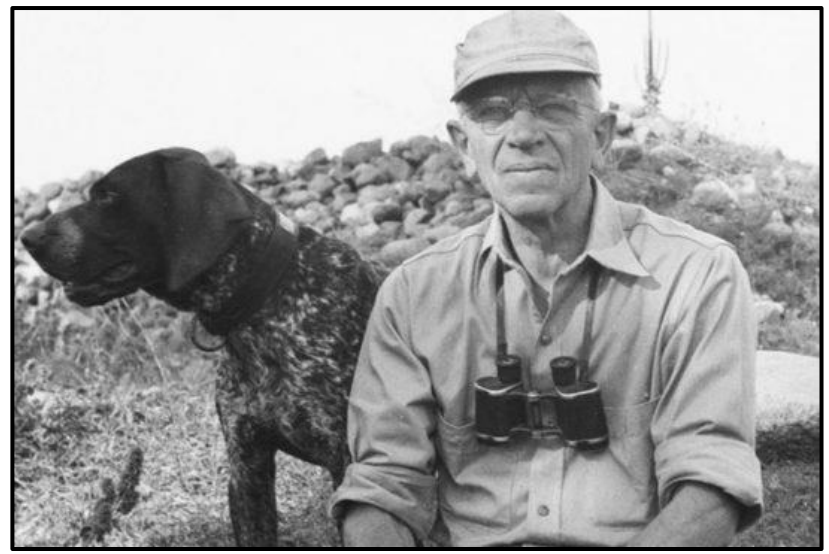


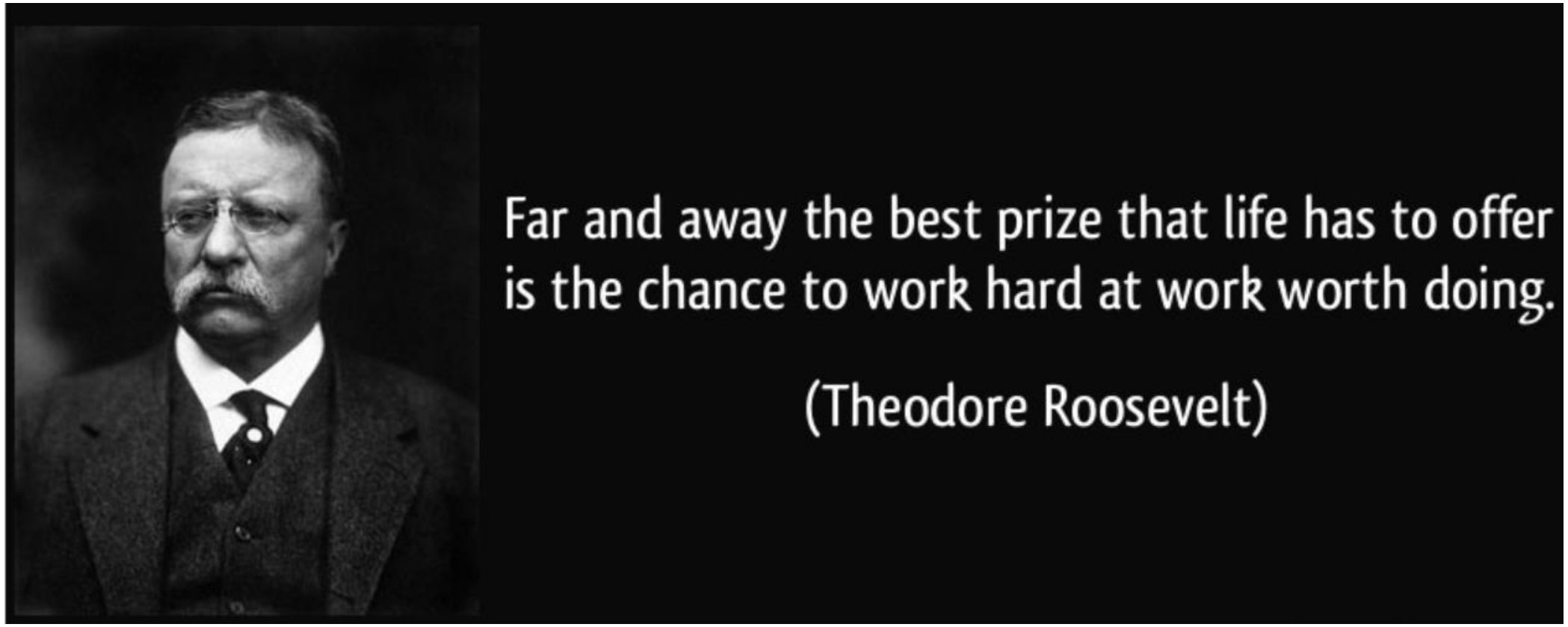
Figure 4—Relationship of mean fire interval (MFI) and its variability to oak.

Frelich et al.
General Technical Report PNW-GTR-914
September 2015





Building a fire program is hard work!



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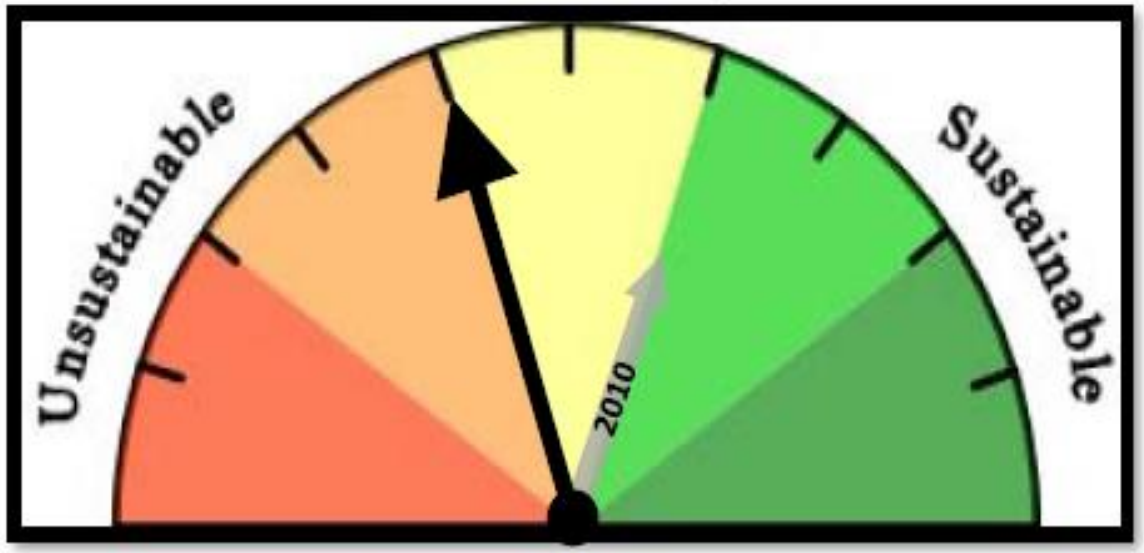

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