

Protecting Ash for the Future: A Preservation Focused Inventory Project

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Project Description:

Ash trees, and brown ash in particular, are critical to forest ecosystem health and to the cultural lifeways of Wabanaki people who have been stewarding this species for thousands of years. The impacts of climate change and the emerald ash borer have the potential to eliminate ash from our region if we don't act quickly. This project aims to preserve ash trees and the ecosystems and cultural traditions that rely on them by:

- spotting early signs and symptoms of emerald ash borer so that foresters and land managers can respond quickly;
- identifying seed trees to collect seed for future generations of ash;
- locating potential basket trees for Wabanaki basketmakers to continue practicing their tradition as healthy ash trees grow scarce.

Data collection will help the Maine Forest Service monitor emerald ash borer outbreaks. With permission from the data collectors, information about potential seed trees will be shared with volunteers who are ready to help with seed collection. Location data collected about brown ash will not be shared publicly but will be shared privately with Tribal Nations to assess basket quality brown ash and share with Wabanaki basketmakers.

Project Notices



Biocultural Notice

The BC (Biocultural) Notice is a visible notification that there are accompanying cultural rights and responsibilities that need further attention for any future sharing and use of this material or data. The BC Notice recognizes the rights of Indigenous Peoples to permission the use of information, collections, data and digital sequence information (DSI) generated from the biodiversity or genetic resources associated with traditional lands, waters, and territories. The BC Notice may indicate that BC Labels are in development and their implementation is being negotiated.

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Notificación BC (Biocultural) (Spanish)

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