

# Promoting Whitebark Pine Recovery in British Columbia



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sern

Society for Ecosystem Restoration

in North Central British Columbia



Ministry of  
Forests, Lands and  
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- BMP's reviewed by FLNRO, MoE, Pipeline and Mines Consultants, silviculture staff from Forest Companies.
- Presentations at SISCO and Parks and Protected Areas forum



## Best Management Practices for Whitebark Pine (*Pinus albicaulis*)



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# Executive Summary

This document outlines possible means to alleviate the decline of whitebark pine, including biological, economic, policy and practice options including;

- Deploying a greater number of seedlings, namely rust resistant stock.
- Select and test parent trees for white pine blister rust resistance.
- Develop a blister rust screening facility.
- Recommendations to create legislation, guidelines, and practices to protect whitebark pine in a collaborative manner.
- Suggest possible funding mechanisms to support whitebark pine recovery.

Jan. 2018 - Kendra Bennett (Resource Stewardship Division) will lead the Provincial Recovery Team. (**based on the SARA assessment for Pa**)



## Who is this document for?

This document was written for resource users and practitioners who may encounter whitebark pine during field-based activities but are not fully engaged in whitebark pine recovery, including personnel working in forestry, mining, pipeline development, ski area management, recreation management, and range management.



# Extension



SISCO 2017

Canfor  
field day





Next steps...

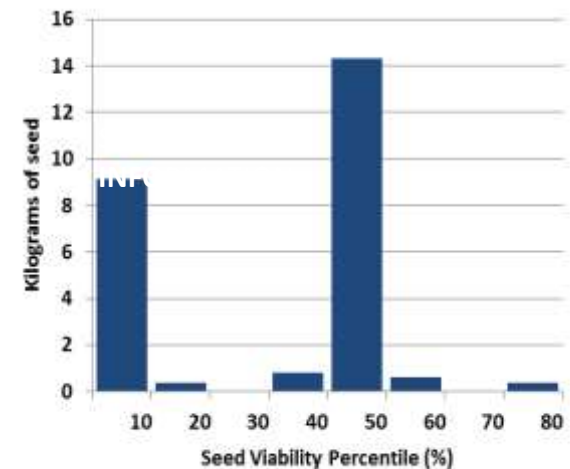
- Consult with all stakeholders to refine guidelines.
- Encourage government to clarify regulations, guidelines, and legal obligations about seed registration, seed transfer, and deployment.
- Secure seed for planting from the best possible sources as it becomes available. (rust resistance)
- Encourage the ongoing development of a blister rust screening and selection program

# BC Seed Inventory



- **Provincial Seed Bank**
  - genetic conservation and research
  - 563 individual tree collections from 55 populations representing over **34 kg** of seed
- **Private Seed** *(there is also seed stored elsewhere)*
  - Crown land reforestation / restoration
  - 14 seedlots with a total of **24.0 kg** of seed.
  - 101 families with a total of **14.6 kg**
- **Deployment**
  - @5000 trees planted this summer
  - Mostly by BCTS

**74 kg** (167 lbs) **of seed in total**





# Seed Availability

- Resistant Seed orchard seed - 2030 -2035 ?
- Seed collected from tested parents \* – 2023 ?
- Seed from plus trees (untested) -2019 ?
- Seed from good stands - 2019.

\* Seed in quantities for operational use.



# Conclusion



- Although there is a total of total of seed 24.0 Kg of registered seed available at the Tree Seed Centre for sowing, many are older collection of poor quality. (27.6 K seedlings)
- Seed should be collected from the best available sources when possible
- Although not ideal, planting seed from untested parents on low height sites **now** is likely a good strategy...for the next few years.



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# Species At Risk - WBP

Genetic Conservation Technical Advisory  
Commission of BC









