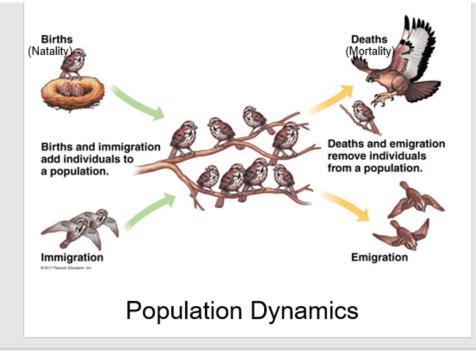
# Wildlife Terminology



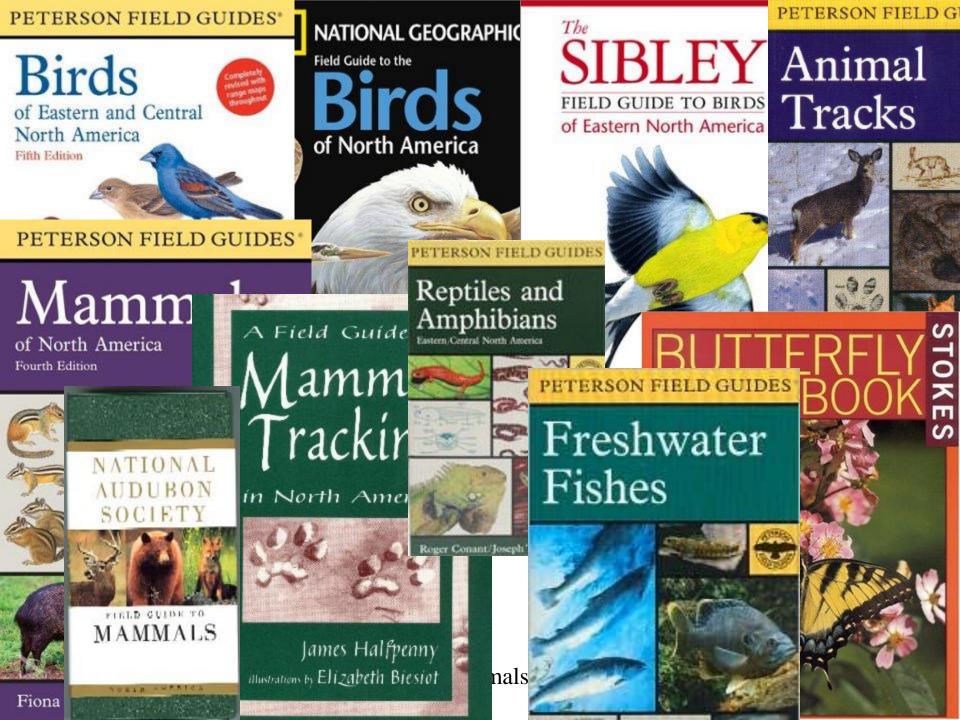
# **2021 Wildlife Learning Series**

# Wildlife Presentation contains notes with each slide. View using "<u>Notes Page</u>"



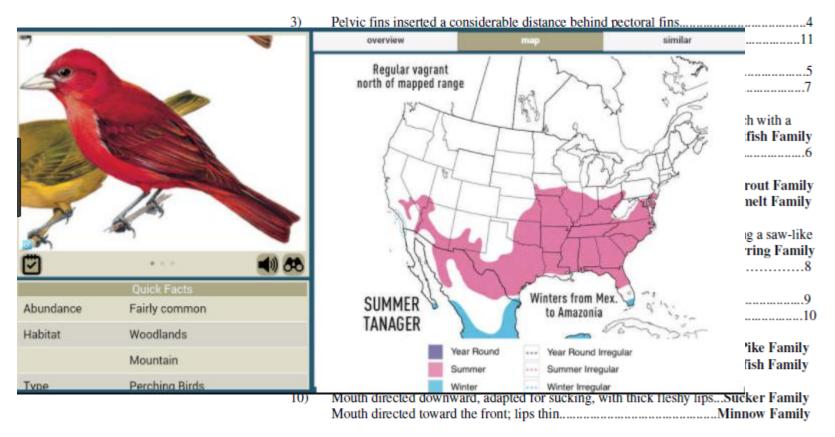
This constant ebb and flow in the number of individuals, and the age structure of the local community, is known by wildlife biologists as **population dynamics**. **Recruitment** refers to juveniles who survive into adulthood and become permanent members of the population.

**Immigration and emigration** are essential for the long-term survival of a local population. It may mean better access to mates, less competition for resources, a decrease in predators, or a number of other things. What is important about immigration and emigration is that as individuals move between populations they increase gene flow. Gene flow is the transfer of genes from one population to another. As gene flow increases, so does the genetic diversity of the population, and genetically diverse populations are more capable of withstanding environmental change (drought, for example).



# Using Field Guide Keys

#### Key to the families of freshwater fishes of New Hampshire

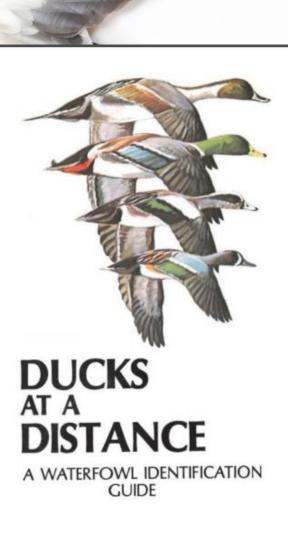


- 12) Opercle with a small, sharp spine, anal fin with only 3 spines..Temperate Bass Family Opercle without a spine; anal fin with 3 or more spines.....Sunfish Family



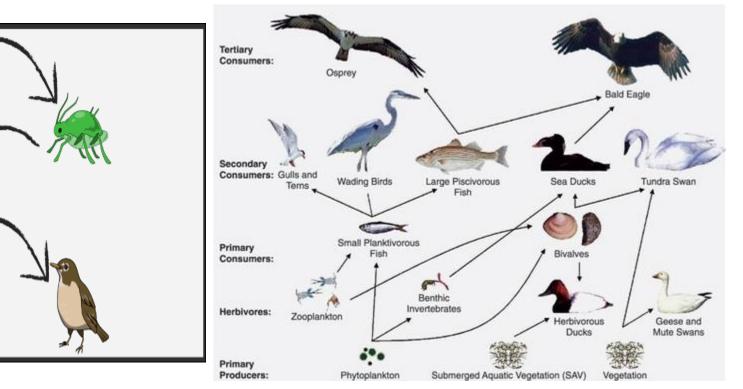
## Waterfowl ID (thru mounts or wings only)

https://medium.com/usfws/winging-it-learnducks-from-their-wings-43d91a19aa8a



# Food Chains

## **Food Webs**

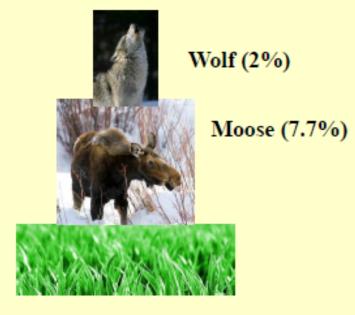


Site specific examples and well labelled for best marks

VS

#### Important Ecological Concepts

• Trophic Level - The position an organism occupies in a food chain. Food chains generally start with Primary Producers (plants, or other autotrophs), then progress to Primary Consumers (herbivores), Secondary Consumers (carnivores), and typically end with Top Predators. Most food chains are 4-5 links.

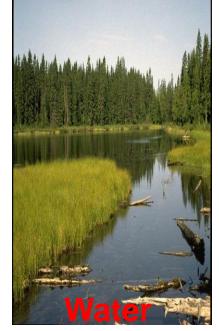


As energy and nutrients move up the food chain, less energy is available at each successive trophic level.

Example: a moose only converts 7.7% of the total energy found at the Primary Producer trophic level. Similarly, a wolf that eats the moose only converts ~2% of the available energy. This is why there are typically only 4 or 5 trophic levels: the length is constrained by energy.

Food chains are over simplifications of communities. How many biological communities can you think of that are made up entirely of predator/prey interactions? Food webs include not only predator and prey relationships, but competitors and mutualisms. Food webs, however, can get complicated fast.





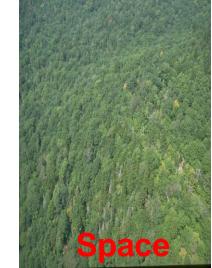
# Habitat Requirements



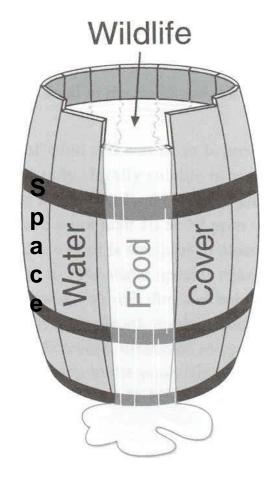




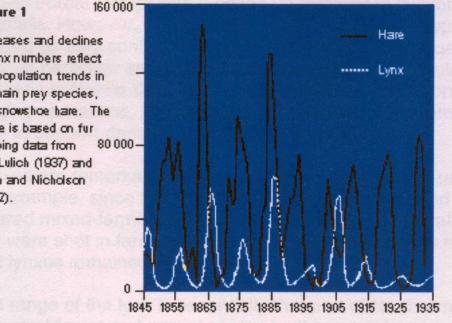








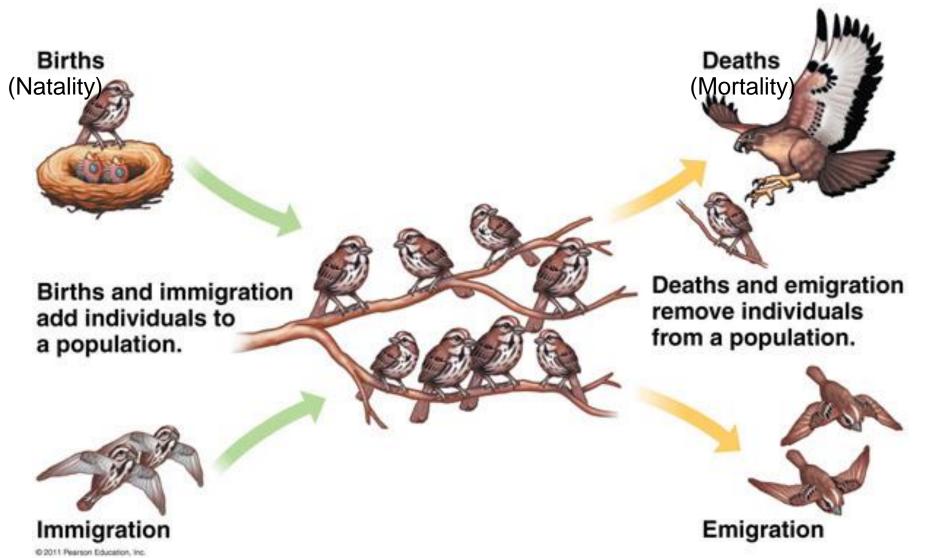
### Carrying Capacity



Carrying Capacity: # of animals a habitat can support over time. Not a constant over time.

#### **Figure 1**

Increases and declines in lynx numbers reflect the population trends in its main prey species, the snowshoe hare. The figure is based on fur trapping data from MacLulich (1937) and Bton and Nicholson (1942).



# **Population Dynamics**

#### Habitat Generalists vs Specialists

nt Stage																			I-Value itats	Preferred Habitat Features											
Development Stage	Proving and Proving 1		Aspen-Birch R   S     M				Northern Hardwoods R S I M L					Oak-Pine R S I M L					emi	lock	_	Spruce-Fir				C	N. White Cedar			Riparian and Wetland	Vernal Pool	Extensive Forest	Snags, Cavity Trees, or Deadwood
	Species and Region <sup>1</sup> Snowshoe Hare		·		Mx					_				-	_	x U	44 349		100		1004		-	-	-	-	-		11		11
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	Magnolia Warbler	11	11	11	1	Mx	Mx	Mx	Mx	Mx	12	14	***	- 1	1	1	JL	JU				UI	J	U					11	11	11
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	White-tailed Deer (N)																		1								1:: ,		11	11	×
	Northern Goshawk	- 03																			4								11	X	#
	Pileated Woodpecker	11	14	11		4	1				-	11							1	41	V						2		4	11	X
	Black-backed Woodpecker (N)	14	11	4	4	13	1	4	1	4	4	4	1	1	. 11	1	4 5	1		31	1								11	?	X
	Barred Owl	14	19	11	1	3					4	1	,							11	11						1		11	X	X
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	Pine Warbler	11	3	1	. 4	15	4	1	11	11	3	111	W	PW	P	1	1 4	1 1		11	1	4	4 1			1	4.	WP	11	11	11
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	Brook Trout	4	_	3	10	4	1	1	1		-	-		-	, ,	_		10 11	-	-+	-				-	*	20		11	11	11
	Wood Frog	Ť	ť	ť		f		T										ťť												11	39
٩	Spotted Salamander	14	1			1	1				1	3								10	1									11	30

#### **Development Stage**

- R Regeneration
- S Saplings and Small Poles
- I Intermediate-aged Forest
- M Mature
- L Late Successional

#### **Habitat Modifers**

- Mx Mixed deciduous-conifer
- WP White pine required
- U Understory present
- ? More research needed

#### Habitat Use and Region

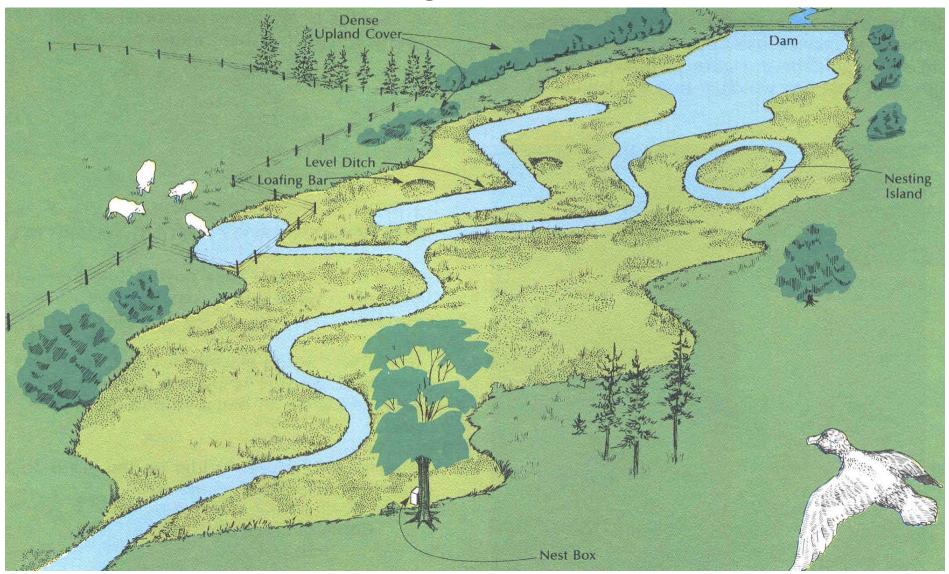
- Focus species for this habitat type
- Utilizes these habitats
- Low frequency use or absent from this habitat

# Habitat Management



## **Cover Mgmt**

## Habitat Management - Waterfowl











## Space Mgmt

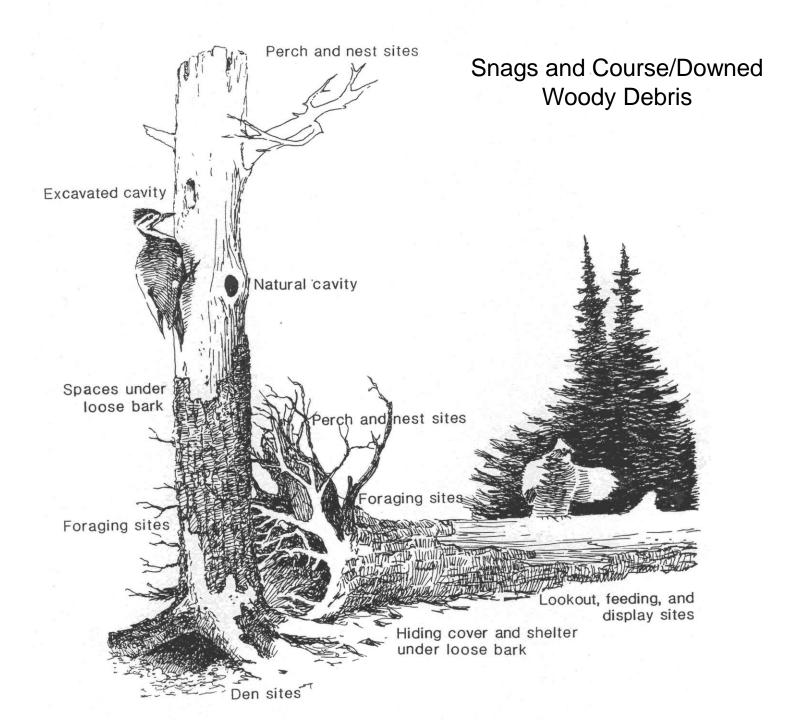


istruction of boulder cluster habitat enhancement structures at the Indintosh Brook site, Little Main Restigouche River



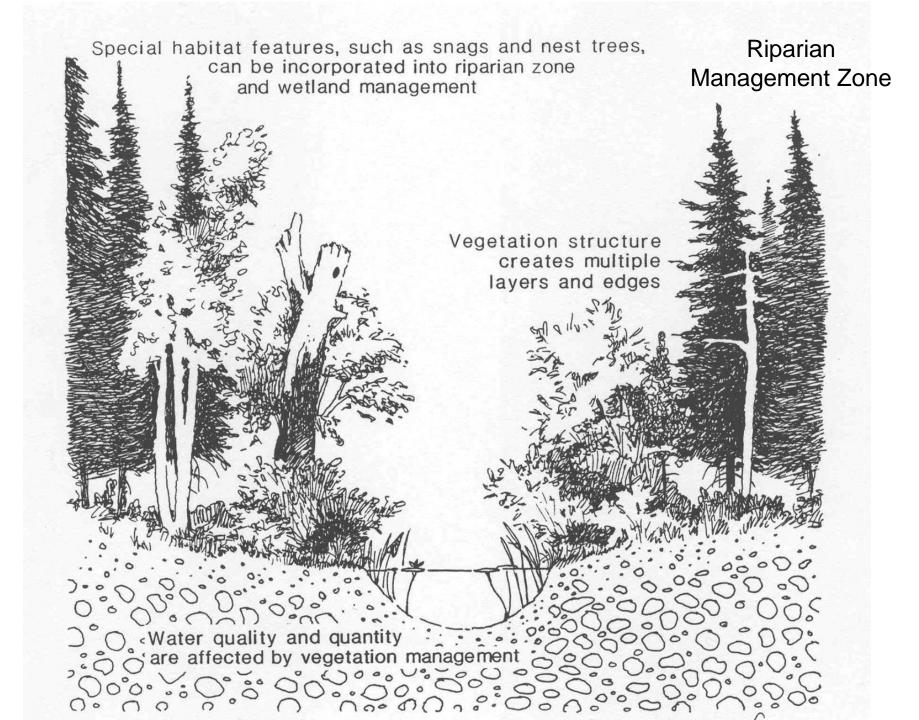
onstruction of boulder cluster habitat enhancement structures at the McIntosh Brook site, Little Main Restigouche River



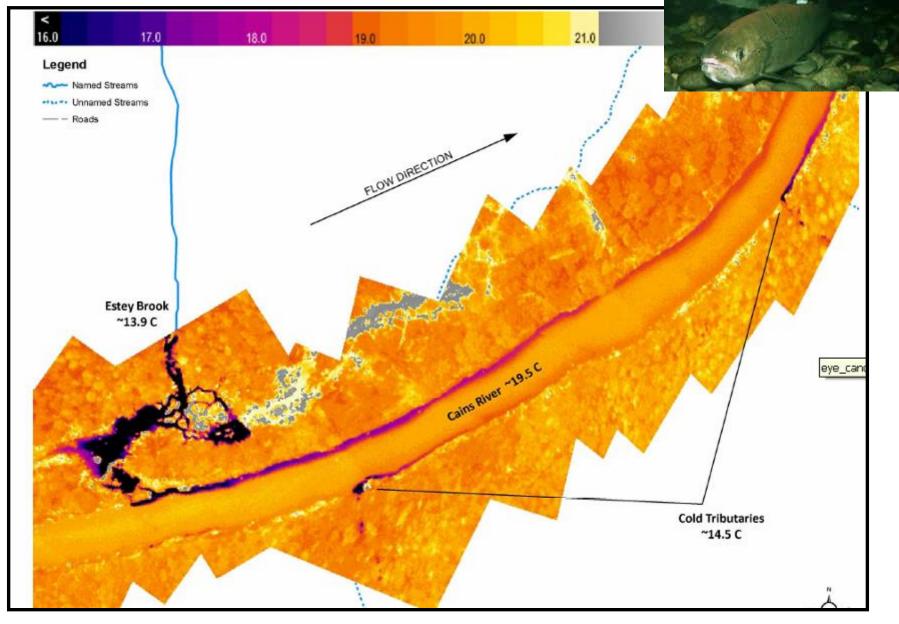


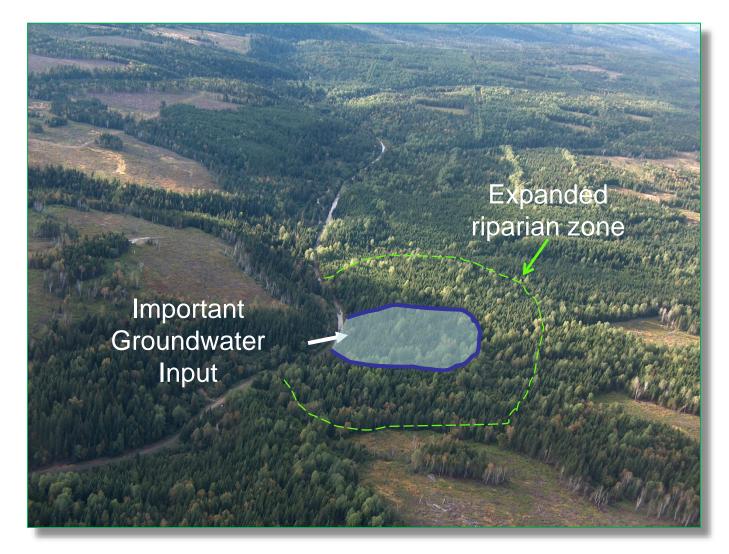


#### Establishing or Maintaining Vernal Pools



Using thermal imaging cameras to detect salmon and trout cold water **refugia** 





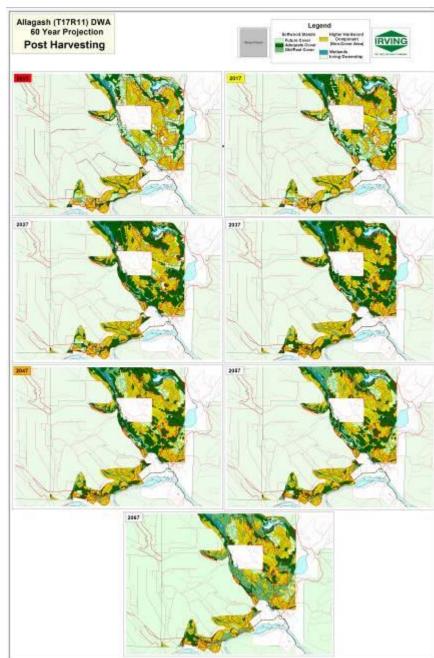
Identified cold, groundwater sources can be protected with expanded riparian zones.

## Deer Wintering Areas (DWA's)

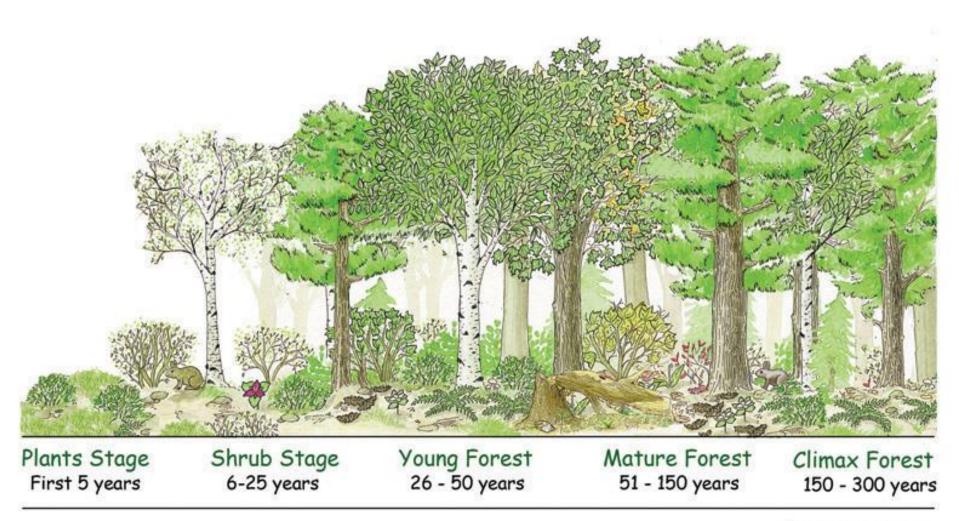


#### DWA:

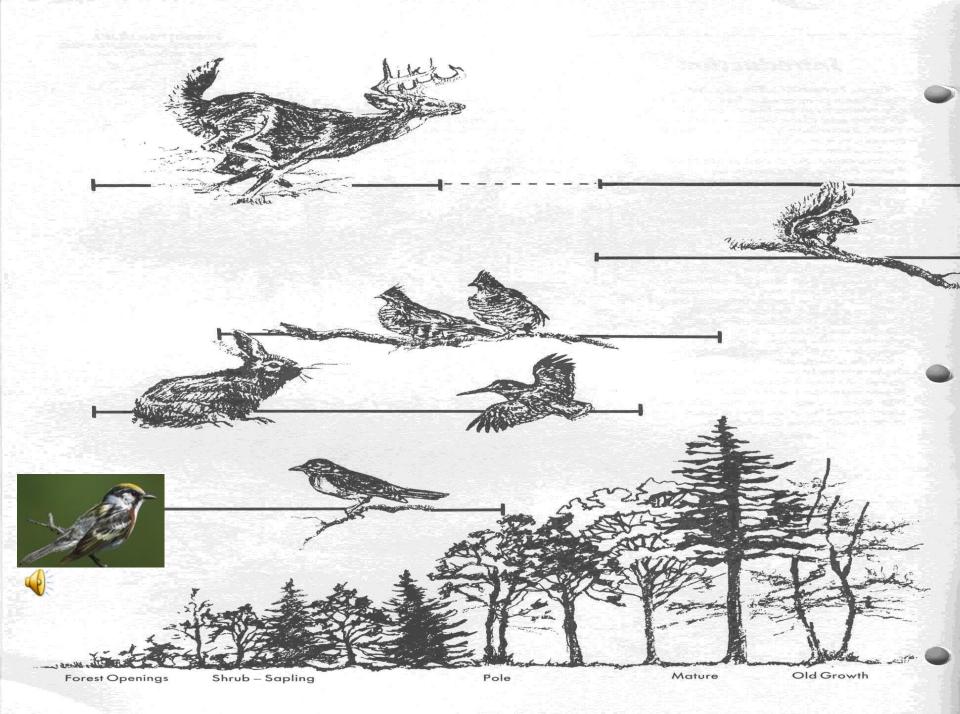
- Sp/bF mix with some eC and hardwood browse (15+cm trees, 11+m tall
- Min of 50-70% crown closure



### **Forest Succession**



©Sheri Amsel



## Examples of "hard mast"











More Terms:

**Crepuscular** – appearing or becoming active at twilight or dawn. Typically they sleep at night and lay low during the day (examples- WT deer, snowshoe hare, skunks, moose, woodcock)

Nocturnal - most active at night (examples - deer mice, coyote, barred owl, little brown bat, raccoon, red fox, porcupine

**Diurnal** – most active during the day (examples – red squirrels, grey squirrels, most songbirds and hawks, wood turtle, snapping turtle, beaver)

**Guard Hairs** – long, course hairs that forms a protective coating over and animals under fur

**Neotropical migrant** – a species that breeds in North America but migrates to central and South America for the non-breeding season (swallows, thrushes, warblers, shorebirds, flycatchers, hummingbirds)

**COSEWIC** – Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada - The Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada is an independent committee of wildlife experts and scientists who recommend to the federal government which species are at risk in Canada.

**SARA** - *Species at Risk Act* is a federal law that is designed to <u>endangered</u> or <u>threatened</u> organisms and their habitats. It also manages species which are not yet threatened, but whose existence or habitat is in jeopardy (ie <u>Special Concern</u>)

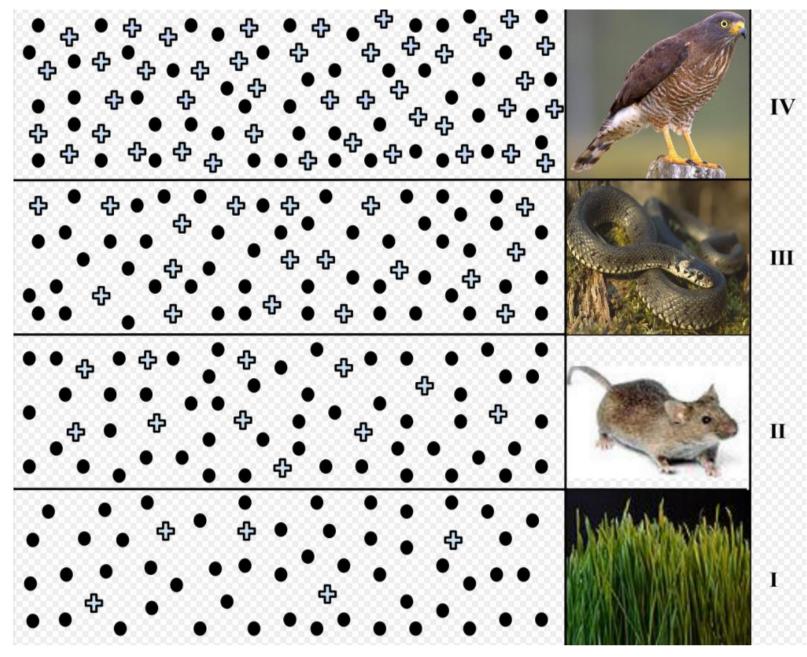
**Molt** – the process of shedding or replacing feathers. There are four general types of molting in a bird's life cycle: •Juvenile to Adult: Young birds have down feathers or subadult plumages that must be shed as the birds reach maturity and develop their adult colouration. In larger species, such as gulls and raptors, there may be several molt cycles to reach adult plumage.

•<u>Breeding to Non-Breeding</u>: Many birds with bright breeding plumage molt into more camolflaged colours after the breeding season ends, and non-breeding plumage may also feature more feathers for better insulation during the winter.

•<u>Non-Breeding to Breeding</u>: After a winter in dull plumage, fresh, brightly coloured feathers are part of many birds' preparation for attracting a mate. Studies have shown that many birds with brighter plumage have better breeding success.

• <u>General Feather Replacement</u>: Even if feathers do not change colour for breeding and non-breeding plumages, general replacement of worn feathers is an essential molt that birds must undergo to maintain healthy plumage.

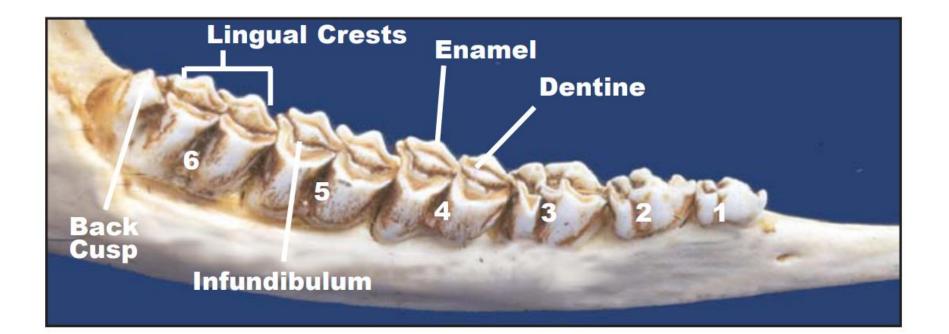
#### **Biomagnification**



# Aging Techniques



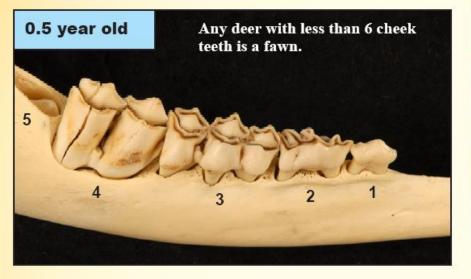
Cusp: a point or projection on a tooth Back Cusp: very last cusp on tooth 6 on cheek-side of the jaw Lingual Crest: tooth ridge adjacent to the tongue Enamel: hard, white, outer coating of a tooth Dentine: soft inner core of a tooth, dark brown color Infundibulum: crescent-shaped depression in the central crown of a tooth between the enamel ridge or crest



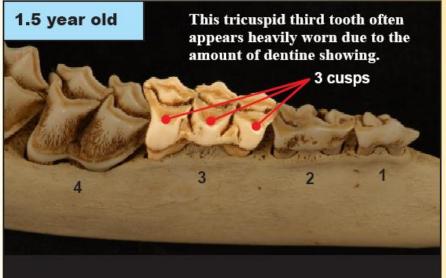


#### **Field Guide to Aging White-Tailed Deer Indiana Department of Natural Resources**



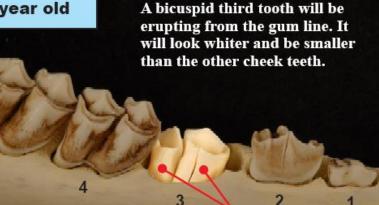


Depending on exact age, 1.5 year olds may look like any one of these three 1.5 year old examples.

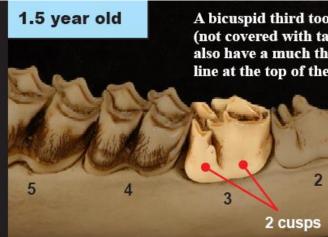


1.5 year old

5



2 cusps



A bicuspid third tooth is white (not covered with tartar) and will also have a much thinner dentine line at the top of the tooth.

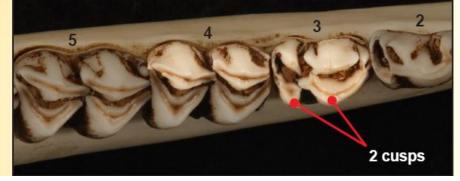


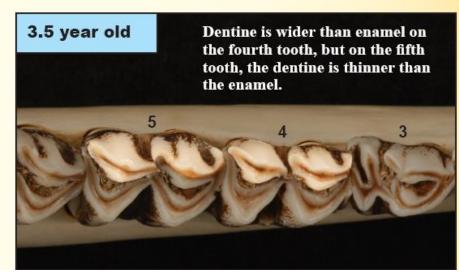
#### Field Guide to Aging White-Tailed Deer Indiana Department of Natural Resources



#### 2.5 year old

The bicuspid third tooth is now stained, while the fourth tooth has thinner dentine than enamel, while the ridges remain sharp.





#### 4.5 year old

Dentine is now wider than enamel on the fifth tooth, but thinner than the enamel on the last tooth.



