

### **White Pine Question 1.**

Local Land Trust has received a gift of land consisting of 40 acres of old pasture land. The donation stipulates that the Trust must convert the land to “a natural state of forest.” A substantial endowment comes with the land to support the conversion and future management.

The land is in southern Maine, and the soils are sandy-loam and well drained. Neighboring woodlots have a mixture of red maple, birch, beech, and white pine. Local Land Trust wants you to submit a prospectus indicating how you would convert the old fields to a healthy, natural forest. Start developing a prospectus that focuses on establishing a white pine dominated forest that will not have a problem with white pine weevil (don't have to deal with other problems at this time). Be sure to include how to establish the forest, what needs to be monitored, and what reactive measures should be taken if needed.

### **White Pine Question 2.**

It's happening again. The Grow Currants NOW! group has successfully introduced legislation in the Maine legislature that would allow the planting of European *Ribes* that are advertised as being resistant to white pine blister rust infections. In their testimony you hear:

“The Federal Government gave-up on *Ribes* eradication 40 years ago; Maine should catch up to modern times and do the same.”

“We will be planting *Ribes* that breeders have shown to be resistant to infection by *Cronartium ribicola*, the fungus that causes the blister rust cankers.”

“New York and Vermont now allow the planting of resistant *Ribes*, Maine should do the same.”

“How can blister rust still be such a major concern even though so few trees die from it each year”?

What would you include in your testimony to convince politicians that the existing regulations that prohibit *Ribes* planting and assist in *Ribes* removal should remain in effect.

### **White Pine Question 3.**

How could this happen? You have white pine weevil and white pine decline resulting in more economic loss and mortality than white pine blister rust, but only white pine blister rust involves an exotic species. Try and explain this one to the Small Woodland Owners Association of Maine.