

And one final image that looks westward to Elk Mountain on the horizon in the center of the photograph. Elk Mountain is an outlier to the main body of the Medicine Bow. At 11,156 feet elevation, the peak is a prominent landmark for anyone crossing the high plains. It is clearly visible for many miles to travelers on Interstate 80. Elk Mountain was originally called Medicine Butte.



There is a small town named Elk Mountain that was on the Overland Stage Trail Route. The route was moved from Medicine Bow to Elk Mountain when trouble with the Plains Indians led to a rerouting of the stage path. When it came time to route the Lincoln Highway (U.S. Route 30), Elk Mountain lost the battle for the route to Medicine Bow.

People We Met on the Trail

I'll close the article with a brief description of some of the folks and animals we met. Most memorable may have been the three-legged dog that didn't seem hampered at all. He/she hopped onto and over rocks as though they weren't there. Second on the list is the young woman who climbed Medicine Bow Peak in flip-flops. If she experienced any discomfort, it wasn't apparent. We were amazed. But then there was the unfortunate group of ten from Baltimore who had to give up. They really tried. I felt their pain, but the leader made the right decision. One of their junior members had to sit down on the way up because of altitude symptoms, and others were having problems as well.

At one point, I got too far ahead of Monica. She needed help getting over some rocks and a gentleman gave her a hand. Monica explained that she wasn't a mountaineer, but he good-naturedly assured her that "You are now." Young people often paused to give us the right-of-way. Some were impressed at seeing us climbing the peak. Monica and I felt good, as though we were part of a community of like souls, all of whom deserved to be on that mountain, a summit sacred to the Indians.

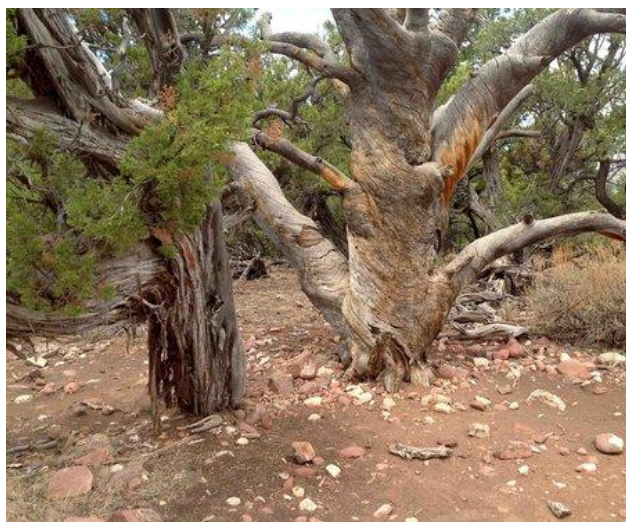
I am convinced that Medicine Bow Peak attracts quality folks. It is a place of high vibration. I expect that the spiritually advanced attribute the energy of the mountain to its predominance of high-grade quartz. We felt it, and I expect that somewhere around June 2013, the mountain will call us back. We will return.

Robert T. Leverett

Dinosaur Tree Treasures

by dbhguru » Tue Aug 21, 2012 8:51 am

NTS, I've been scanning my western trip photos for tree images. Here are some that highlight the junipers and pinyons Monica and I saw. Dinosaur NM was a treasure trove of old junipers and pinyons. Here is the first of two images of what we saw. Please be sure to double click on the images to get their full effect.



Here is a sample of the junipers



Larry Tucei wrote: Bob, Wow those are ancient Junipers. How old would you estimate them to be? I may buy a Coring tool before I come out with you next year. I've been wanting one ever since I joined NTS back in 06.

Larry, it is really difficult to say. The extremely old ones grow where the rock formation contains magnesium. I don't know if that is the case in Dinosaur. I plan to consult Dave Stahle. He'll likely know.

Another increment bore would be most useful. We could apply for a coring permit from the San Juan and Rio Grande NFs. Also, ggod news. Lee Frelich will be going out in June to be with us. Now if brother Will from North Carolina can also join us along with Don from Alaska, we'll really have a time. Here's another Dinosaur NM image.



Robert T. Leverett

Re: 222 Confirmed Redwoods Over 350 ft.

by **gnmcmartin** » Tue Aug 21, 2012 10:47 am

Michael: Many many years ago, first in 1958, I visited the redwood country many times, and I may have visited the Humboldt Redwood State Park more often than the others. Way, way back, the tallest redwood was supposed to be a tree in the Founders Grove--I think it was called the Founders Tree, and initially was supposed to be 364 feet tall. Then the story was that a storm blew off a part of the top, and it was measured to be 346. Another report said that the initial measurement was recorded with transposed digits. Did you measure this one? And if so, what was the height? And was there evidence of a damaged top?

Another question: A bit out of the way, is a less often visited section of the park, which includes the Pepperwood Grove. In my memory--I was probably last there in 1970 or so--the trees there did not seem to rival those in other parts of the park. But, did you measure any there? Were there any in the 140 class?

Anyway, what an amazing piece of work you have done. I can only imagine the challenges involved in measuring these trees. Yes, the LiDAR helps you locate trees to measure, but that doesn't make the actual measurement any easier. I am stunned and amazed by what you, and others, have accomplished.

Thanks! My wife and I have not given up hope of getting out there to see these trees one last time, and your list only adds motivation. My love affair with redwoods started when I was 7 or 8 years old, and I saw the picture of two very graceful tall redwoods in G.H. Collingwoods book, Knowing Your Trees.

I have another question. Where is Harper Flat, exactly? I have no memory of any place called Harper Flat from my visits to Humboldt Redwood State Park, and looking at a map of the park on-line, I can't find Harper Flat. I also searched for a possible Harper Creek. Am I having a senior moment? If so, forgive me. I noted a good number of very tall trees listed for Harper Flat.

--Gaines McMartin

Hopes for Chestnut Revival Growing

by **Joe** » Tue Aug 21, 2012 12:38 pm

In today's Wall Street Journal:

"Hopes for Chestnut Revival Growing Engineered Versions of the Once-Common Species, Long Ago Wiped Out by a Fungus, Take Root"

<http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10000872396390444233104577593571278706402.html>

<http://investing.businessweek.com/research/stocks/news/article.asp?docKey=600-201208192006DOWJONESENERGYSVC000432-1¶ms=timestamp||08/19/2012%208:06%20PM%20ET||headline||WSJ%3A%20Hopes%20for%20Chestnut%20Revival%20Growing||docSource||Dow%20Jones%20and%20Company%2C%20Inc.||provider||ACQUIREMEDIA||bridgesymbol||US:ANR&ticker=ANR>

Joe Zorzin

Re: Hopes for Chestnut Revival Growing

by **gnmcmartin** » Tue Aug 21, 2012 2:24 pm

Joe: Thanks for the update. I have been interested in this for many years, and had, until recently, more or less kept in touch.

I remember the first approach--it was to introduce a hypovirulent strain of the fungus, which once it entered a tree, could block the virulent strain. I think this worked to save the European chestnuts, but it never really worked here, unless inoculations were made all around the canker. Of course there were many cankers on most trees, and it was entirely impractical. So that was the end of that. At the time I had my eye on a piece of land to buy--it was literally covered with chestnut sprouts. I could buy this, introduce the hypovirulent fungus, and voila! an instant chestnut forest. But no.

Actually, about 20 years ago I had a tour and detailed explanation of the methodology being used at SUNY Syracuse from Professor Charles Maynard, who at the time, and maybe still today, was working as a tree geneticist there. As it happens, I came to know him because of his interest in Norway spruce. I have not been in contact with him for years now.

Then, again a number of years ago, there was a planting of chestnut seedlings in Rock Creek Park in Washington D.C. These were hybrids with the Chinese chestnut, but apparently did not have the gene for resistance to the blight, and the last time I saw those plantings, they did not seem to be doing well. Maybe some survived, but I never went back to look.

And now there is a planting--really I think two plantings--at the Virginia Arboretum--actually more properly, the Blandy Experimental Farm. Over the years my hopes and interest in these projects has waned, and I have become rather pessimistic. So pessimistic that when I saw the plantings at Blandy, my reaction was just Ho-hum, and I didn't even check with anyone to see exactly what chestnuts they had planted. I think there was a sign that said they were the hybrids, and it was a part of an experiment to backcross to try to isolate the resistance gene, but select for other American chestnut characteristics.

Reference was made in the article to a planting of the SUNY seedlings in VA. The Blandy Farm would be a logical place for that to have happened--I will inquire. Maybe I can observe the progress. If so, I will try to contact Professor Maynard to follow up.

Professor Maynard had high belief in the method he was working on as SUNY, and not so much in the hybrids. If there is new hope, he will be proven right.


And, as of last year, I had a rather nice 30 foot tall chestnut sprout on my timberland. I have seen a few over the years, but they all died. This one is the best yet. But, because I have a stress fracture in my foot, I have not been able to walk around much at my timberland this summer. Maybe next time I get up there I will check on this sprout. But I see no chance that it will survive for much longer--it is of sprout origin, so it can't be of any chance resistant strain.

But it is nice to see. Soon no one will see any more sprouts in Garrett county, MD. They are becoming more and more scarce.

When I first bought my timberland, there were two very large old 20 or 30 foot high "remnants" of the giant chestnuts that once grew on my property. They fell over years ago and have mostly returned to the soil. The wood is rot resistant, but eventually they give way and rejoin the soil.

Gaines McMartin

[Re: Hopes for Chestnut Revival Growing](#)

 by **Joe** » Tue Aug 21, 2012 3:27 pm

Gaines, a year ago, I attended a Forest Guild event here in central Mass. where a rep from the American Chestnut Foundation gave out 3 chestnuts from back crossed trees to those who wanted them. I have them planted in my lawn. So far so good. I'll be reporting on them as the years go by. The foundation retains rights to any chestnuts these trees produce for further research and dissemination.

Joe Zorzin

[Re: Hopes for Chestnut Revival Growing](#)

 by **Rand** » Tue Aug 21, 2012 3:33 pm

Northern Michigan seems to have had better luck with hypovirulence than the rest of the chestnut's native range:

We waded through the bracken ferns that were taller than my 4-year old daughter Clare as Dr. Fulbright explained that he had been monitoring the progress of this stand for nearly 30 years. He explained that the stand had gone through a very significant decline

when the blight finally caught up to it, but now many of the trees had recovered dramatically. To the untrained eye, it looked very much like a healthy stand of trees now. Dr. Fulbright also noted that I was probably overly pessimistic in my reaction to the West Salem stand, which I described farther down on this page after my visit to it in June. That stand, Dr. Fulbright suggested, was going through the same stage of decline that the County Line stand did, but was just beginning to show signs of recovery. If that's true, then that is extremely good news.

<http://livingchestnuts.wordpress.com/2011/08/19/north-michigan-chestnuts-sharpens-vision-of-future-recovery/>

It'd be interesting to know why.

Here's a couple of his other posts that I found interesting:

<http://livingchestnuts.wordpress.com/2011/08/19/majestic-stand-of-chestnuts-stand-in-shadow-of-grand-traverse-bay/>

<http://livingchestnuts.wordpress.com/2011/07/14/west-salem-wisconsin-ghosts-of-chestnuts-past-and-future/>

<http://livingchestnuts.wordpress.com/2011/07/14/tiogata-county-pa/>

Suny-ESF has a couple of nice introductory pages on their chestnut program. First more info on the oxalate oxidase enzyme they are introducing:

<http://www.esf.edu/chestnut/resistance-enhancing%20genes.htm>

Next they describe the propagation process. It's just eye wateringly difficult:

<http://www.esf.edu/chestnut/tissue-culture.htm>

Rand Brown

Re: Hopes for Chestnut Revival Growing

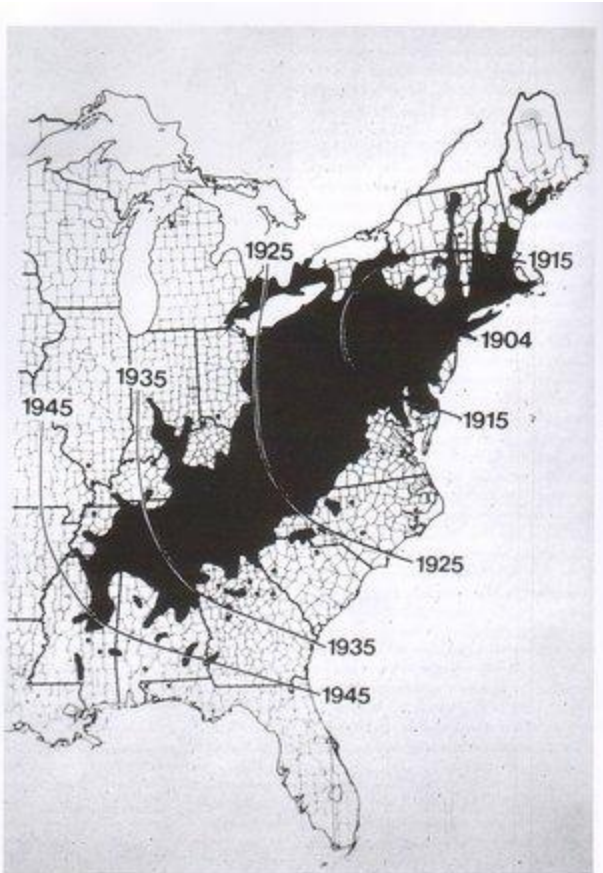
by **Larry Tucei** » Wed Aug 22, 2012 12:03 pm

Joe, Gaines, Randy, all, I would really enjoy helping getting the Chestnut re-established. I wish I could have been around years ago to see the giant Chestnuts throughout North America. I was lucky enough to visit a large one in Northern Wisconsin thanks to directions for Paul Jost back in 09. So far it has escaped the blight and had lots of Chestnut Hulls on the ground. It may be possible to have some of those collected for growing in the future. From the posting back in 09 on ENTS,

"Thanks to Paul Jost for giving me directions to one of the largest Chestnut trees in Wisconsin and in the U.S. The tree had been trimmed by a local Arborist recently and may be declining with a hollowing core. Still a magnificent specimen and the first Chestnut I'd ever seen. My friend Joe and I drove about 90 miles to enjoy and measure this beauty. It was cold in the 30's that day for the high. We stayed with the tree for about an hour and it was a thrill for me to finally see a Chestnut. Paul had reported on this tree in the past and again my thanks to him for sharing this with me. The trees Measurements were CBH-12' 7", Height-48' and Spread-52' x 30'. It is located on the corner of Manypenny and 7th Ave., Bayfield Wi. Some photos of the tree."

Larry Tucei





Progression of the chestnut blight

16 *Tipularia* • 2008



[Re: Rothkugel Plantation, WV](#)

by **tkhackney** » Tue Aug 21, 2012 6:07 pm

There is an on-going project to interpret the loop trail at Rothkugel Plantation, as well as develop a roadside pull-off at the trailhead location. Mapping and measurement are part of the overall project. I have been working on the pull-off through the Staunton-Parkersburg Turnpike Alliance and Appalachian Forest Heritage Area (AFHA). A new AmeriCorps member with AFHA will continue the interpretive and mapping part of the project when they arrive in late September. If anyone would like further information, or wishes to help with the project, I will put you in touch.

T. K.Hackney

[Bridge of Flowers, MA](#)

by **dbhguru** » Wed Aug 22, 2012 5:21 pm

NTS, About 10 miles west of Greenfield Mass is the little town of Shelburne Falls, cite of the famous Salmon Falls of the Deerfield River. Native peoples fished there for centuries.

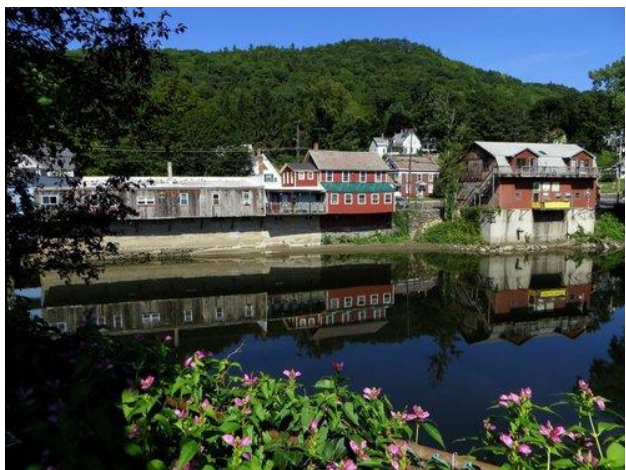
Today Shelburne Falls has become more prosperous because of the vision of its citizens. One vision started long ago. In 1928 and abandoned Trolly Bridge was transformed into a work of beauty. I never paid much attention to the Bridge of Flowers in past years, but Monica and I revisited it today. I'd like to share some images with everyone.

Here's what you see at the start.



Then the beauty unfolds.





If you Google Bridge of Flowers, Shelburne Falls, you can get the history of the bridge.

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bridge_of_Flowers_%28bridge%29

<http://www.bridgeofflowersmass.org/#>

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Bridge-of-Flowers/130369333692022>

Robert T. Leverett

[Re: Bridge of Flowers, MA](#)

by **dbhguru** » Thu Aug 23, 2012 8:29 am

After leaving the Bridge of Flowers, we went to Mohawk to begin inventorying hemlocks in need of treatment that grow along the Mahican-Mohawk Trail corridor. I always get a lift when entering the upper meadow. Here are two images. The first is the entry into the meadow and the second is a shot of the big bluestem growing in the meadow. Big bluestem is way cool, although this year's patch isn't very tall due to the drought.



BTW, I got word that American Forests wants me to write an article about Cook Forest and Mohawk. I have to give them an outline first. It will be big publicity for both forests, but especially Mohawk, which is much less well known.

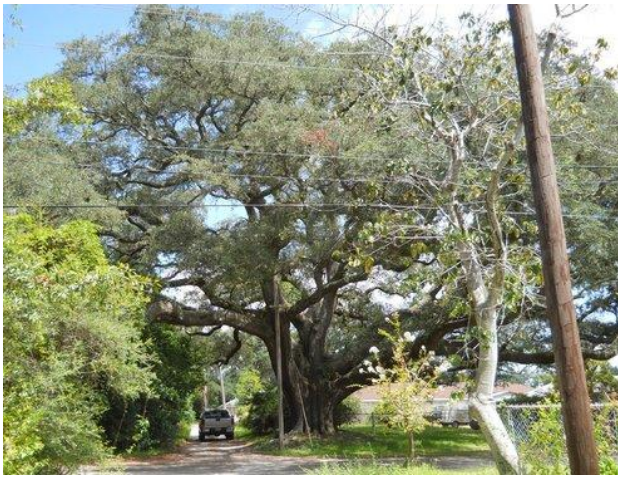
Robert T. Leverett

[Ramon and Winnie Morse Oak, MS](#)

by **Larry Tucei** » Fri Aug 24, 2012 4:19 pm

NTS, Another nice Live Oak for your viewing pleasure that I measured in Gulfport Ms. The Ramon Winnie Morse Oak measured CBH- 20' 8", Height- 60' and Crown Spread- 138' x 132'. The great tree had some huge limbs and is one of four larger Live Oaks in this section of the city. I have measured one of the four others back in 08 the Nora Fulton Oak CBH-24' 3" and will get to the other two in the near future. The listing is now at 202 trees.





Larry Tucei

Re: Ramon and Winnie Morse Oak

by **dbhguru** » Sat Aug 25, 2012 8:16 am

Larry, The race is on. You must find as many 20-foot girth live oaks as Michael find 350-foot tall redwoods. The ENTS pride and reputation is on the line. Don't want you to feel any pressure. If you don't find another 21 live oaks that reach 20 feet in girth, somehow the rest of us will survive the unbearable humiliation. We'll banish any thoughts of committing Well, dare I say. Nope, don't feel any pressure. Uh, when did you say you'd make 223?

Robert T. Leverett

Our Changing Forests: An 88-Year Time Lapse, MT

by **edfrank** » Thu Aug 23, 2012 11:36 pm

Our Changing Forests: An 88-Year Time Lapse
by Andrew Prince, August 23, 2012

<http://www.npr.org/blogs/pictureshow/2012/08/23/159614784/our-changing-forests-an-88-year-time-lapse?ft=1&f=1025>

In trying to tell the story of our changing forests, we turned to the U.S. Forest Service for some historical context. Buried in the back of General Technical Report No. 23 was the pay dirt: a stack of 13 series of photos, more than 88 years in the making.



Photo 87357/U.S. Forest Service

1909. Facing nearly due west from ridge northeast of Como Lake. Light selection cut in open ponderosa pine. Ground cover is comprised of perennial grasses and forbs, including basalmroot. A few low-growing bitterbrush plants can be seen in the vicinity of horses and in distance on left. A group of willows can be seen behind horsemen at left center. (Original captions) Photo 87357/U.S. Forest Service, 1 of 9,

The photographs document the life of the Bitterroot National Forest in west-central Montana, from 1909 to 1997, though the project is still ongoing. Every 10 to 15 years, photographers return to the same 13 spots in the forest.

It's important to note that the first images in each series, from 1909, are not the "original" state of the forest. The project was started when photographer W.J. Lubkin was sent from Washington, D.C., to document logging activity on the land after it was sold and selectively cut in 1906.

Re: Our Changing Forests: An 88-Year Time Lapse, MT

by **Don** » Sat Aug 25, 2012 1:15 am

Ed- The Montana study reminded me much of the collaborative effort we at Grand Canyon National Park Science Center made to obtain reference conditions for The Park. We weren't able to put a decadal repeat photo series together, but what a fine thing for the Montana folks to find. We did obtain a wealth of photos from the turn of the century on, across a wide spectrum of the Park's forests and woodlands.

At the onset, we had little idea how much material we were going to find. After extensive searching we did uncover vegetation classifications from 1906-1910 (Lang and Stewart, for expansion of the railroad), 1935 (NPS's own "Bureau of Forestry", now defunct), vegetation studies by VanKat and White (1984), and a vegetation classification performed by myself and Spotskey (2002). See "The Colorado Plateau II: Biophysical, Socioeconomic, and Cultural Research, By Charles van Riper, David J. Mattson (Editors); *Indications of Large Changes in Mixed Conifer Forests of Grand Canyon National Park*", VanKat, Crocker-Bedford, Bertolette, Leatherbury, and Sipes. This was one of several preliminary studies leading up to a more comprehensive examination under the aegis of the Science Center's Forest Ecosystem Landscape Analysis (FELA) and more thorough report.

A major difference between the Montana study and ours was the initial condition of the two areas.

Montana's study was after significant post-harvest activities. Grand Canyon was, and still remains one

of the primary research sources for a relatively undisturbed old-growth ponderosa pine forest ecosystem, across much of its 150,000 forested acres.

Don Bertolette - President/Moderator, WNTS BBS

Re: Our Changing Forests: An 88-Year Time Lapse, MT

by **jamesrobertsmith** » Sat Aug 25, 2012 12:23 pm

This used to be one of my favorite pieces of art (still is). However, it used to end with the twelfth panel and since then Crumb has added three more panels for a more optimistic end:

http://deniskitchen.com/Merchant2/merchant.mvc?Screen=PROD&Product_Code=SP_RC.shorthist&Category_Code=SP

James Robert Smith

Re: Tallest known Bigleaf Maple (s) ??

by **KoutaR** » Sat Aug 25, 2012 1:46 pm

Mario, The tallest laser-measured maple in Europe, we are aware of, is a 40.6-meter (133 ft) sycamore maple (*A. pseudoplatanus*). I have read velvet maple (*A. velutinum*) of Caucasus and northern Iran could reach 50 m (164 ft), but that is probably more an estimate than a measurement. I don't remember the source. I saw some really big velvet maples in Iran in 2003 but I cannot estimate their heights. Here is the base of one:

<http://www.monumentaltrees.com/en/photos/6633/>

Another candidate for the tallest maple species is *A. laurinum* from the tropical forests of southeast Asia. Tree Flora of Sabah and Sarawak (Vol. 1) gives its max. height as 50 m (164 ft). Probably more an estimate than a measurement, again.

Kouta Rasanen

Re: Redwood Books

by **Larry Tucei** » Thu Aug 23, 2012 9:21 pm

I have to get out to Calif. in the near future. I have a great book about the trees called Redwoods The World's Largest Trees by Jeremy Joan Hewes. The book is loaded with fantastic information about the great trees from past to present. It also contains many photos and drawings throughout. Its copyright is 1981 mine is a 93 edition and I purchased it back in the late 90's. I've read it 2 times and have learned much from it. Most if not all of the places in the listing are described in the book. Thanks for sharing it with us it is truly the most spectacular listing of trees in the world! Larry

Re: Redwood Books

by **Don** » Fri Aug 24, 2012 12:56 am

Larry,

And others in the Southeast interested in the redwoods, feast your eyes on this:

REDWOODS, The World's Largest Trees
by Jeremy Joan Hewes

One of the best redwood books that we have found for general information is: Redwoods, The World's Largest Trees by Jeremy Joan Hewes. This hardcover book has 192 pages, is printed in a 9.5"x12.5" format, and contains more than 300 photographs, with over 100 in full color, including several that are 18"x11.75". The price is \$16.00 ppd.

Special Sale: As a result of a publisher buy out we can now offer the REDWOODS book for \$9.98 (40% off list) plus \$3.00 shipping or a total ppd price of \$12.98 for this extraordinary book.

The books, booklets and other documents listed on this page are available from:

Redwood Technology, P.O. Box 1006, Huntsville, AL 35807

Don Bertollette - President/Moderator, WNTS BBS

Re: Redwood Books

by **gnmcmartin** » Fri Aug 24, 2012 3:13 pm

Folks: I bought this book when it was first published. I am glad it is still in print. This is a good book about redwoods, and has some really nice pictures. When I say it is about "redwoods," it is equally about the Sierra Redwoods, or Giant Sequoias.

I am sure one could find a some limitations with this book, but as far as I can remember--I haven't had this book out to look at for some time, until right now--

there are no gross inaccuracies or other off-putting issues, except, perhaps, its leaving some photos not precisely identified as to place or specific trees. For example, one picture includes what for all the world looks like the General Sherman tree, but it is not so identified (there is a picture of the General Sherman elsewhere in the book), and one or more of the pictures of close growing giant Sequoias may be of the Senate and House groups on the Congress Grove trail, but I can't be sure.

One thing that frequently irritates me in tree books is pictures that have the wrong caption. This book has at least two harmless ones. One of a man standing on a Douglas fir stump, implying it was a redwood, and another that mentions redwood regeneration, where the picture shows no such thing. Really, just quibbles.

It includes pictures of the logging of both redwoods and Giant Sequoias, and has other historic photos, including one of John Muir and Teddy Roosevelt standing with others at the base of the Grizzly Giant Tree. The tree is not identified in the photo as the Grizzly Giant--as in my earlier complaint--, but it clearly is. This photo was also the basis of the painting done by Albert Beirstadt, which could have been mentioned. There is, as with the General Sherman Tree, a color picture of the Grizzly Giant elsewhere in the book. But these are nit-picks. Anyone who is as nuts about Redwoods and Sequoias, as I am, would order this book before doing another solitary thing.

Of course, I could imagine someone doing a better book--any of you up for that? And want an advisor, editor--for free??

Gaines McMartin

[Neil Armstrong passes away at 82, August 25, 2012](#)

by **edfrank** » Sat Aug 25, 2012 3:57 pm

Farewell to one of humanity's greatest explorers.
Neil Armstrong, 1930-2012.



Neil Armstrong's first step on the moon and his historic speech.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Z9WDsgCIroE>

The landing on the surface of the moon occurred at 20:17:39 UTC on July 20, 1969. The first words Armstrong intentionally spoke to Mission Control and the world from the lunar surface were, "Houston, Tranquility Base here. The Eagle has landed." Aldrin and Armstrong celebrated with a brisk handshake and pat on the back before quickly returning to the checklist of tasks needed to ready the lunar module for liftoff from the Moon should an emergency unfold during the first moments on the lunar surface.

Although the official NASA flight plan called for a crew rest period before extra-vehicular activity, Armstrong requested that the EVA be moved to earlier in the evening, Houston time. Once Armstrong and Aldrin were ready to go outside, Eagle was depressurized, the hatch was opened and Armstrong made his way down the ladder first.

At the bottom of the ladder, Armstrong said "I'm going to step off the LEM now" (referring to the Apollo Lunar Module). He then turned and set his left boot on the surface at 2:56 UTC July 21, 1969, then spoke the famous words "That's one small step for [a] man, one giant leap for mankind."



Neil Alden Armstrong (August 5, 1930 – August 25, 2012) was an American NASA astronaut, test pilot, aerospace engineer, university professor, United States Naval Aviator, and the first person to set foot upon the Moon. Armstrong joined the NASA Astronaut Corps in 1962. His first spaceflight was the NASA Gemini 8 mission in 1966, for which he was the command pilot, becoming one of the first U.S. civilians to fly in space. On this mission, he performed the first manned docking of two spacecraft with pilot David Scott. Armstrong's second and last spaceflight was as mission commander of the Apollo 11 moon landing mission on July 20, 1969. On this mission, Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin descended to the lunar surface and spent 2½ hours exploring while Michael Collins remained in orbit in the Command Module. Armstrong was awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom by Richard Nixon along with Collins and Aldrin, the Congressional Space Medal of Honor by President Jimmy Carter in 1978, and the Congressional Gold Medal in 2009.

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Neil_Armstrong

The cause of his death has not been released, but he is known to have been recovering from heart surgery.

[Facebook Tree Pages and Groups](#)

by **edfrank** » Sat Aug 25, 2012 9:04 pm

NTS, I have created a "list" on Facebook consisting of pages which commonly feature trees:

Tree Related Pages



<http://www.facebook.com/lists/10151039626131958>

Here is a list of Tree Groups on Facebook. (Groups and Friends are different from Pages). For many of these you need to join the group or send a Friend Request.

Tree Related Groups

Worldwide news about ancient trees

<http://www.facebook.com/groups/121872367897220/>

Trees!

<http://www.facebook.com/groups/2338448459/>

Sveriges Arboristförbund SAF

<http://www.facebook.com/groups/55063427199/>

The Tree-Ring Times

<http://www.facebook.com/groups/112766132098263/>

TREES

<http://www.facebook.com/groups/227642585597/>

The Sisters Olive Trees of Noah

<http://www.facebook.com/groups/215243588563980/>

Tree Climbing Yogyakarta (INDONESIA)

<http://www.facebook.com/groups/treeclimbingyogyakarta/>

Groene Monumenten

<http://www.facebook.com/groups/305809972768801/>

The Pontfadog Oak

<http://www.facebook.com/groups/141024142642382/>

Sacred Land

<http://www.facebook.com/groups/266865041283/>

Oak at the Gate of the Dead

<http://www.facebook.com/groups/112373675444220/>

Shropshire's Ancient Trees (SATS)

<http://www.facebook.com/groups/362470993779326/>

Longleaf Pine Ecosystems

<http://www.facebook.com/groups/2218061737/>

Tree Ring Laboratory, Lamont-Doherty Earth
Observatory

<http://www.facebook.com/groups/104945492901048/>

Edward Frank



[Linden in Charlottesville, VA](#)

by **RyanLeClair** » Sun Aug 26, 2012 2:09 pm

Hey NTS, I was in Charlottesville, Virginia a couple of weeks ago...found this linden growing in what I guess is the town square. It's either a *T. platyphyllos*, *x europa*, or *T. americana*...definitely not *heterophylla* or *cordata*. The circumference was 19'0". The height was very unremarkable, as main trunk broke up a long time ago. It's probably 65' tall. I say probably because it started pouring just when I was about to measure the height...oh, well. The tree seems to be mostly hollow, and it's sending up a lot of sprouts from the base (the leaf in the picture was on a basal sprout).

--Ryan





My brother in front of the tree

Ryan LeClair

Central Sierra Expedition - Big Sugar Pines Down, CA, USA

by **M.W.Taylor** » Mon Aug 27, 2012 11:33 pm

I just got back from the central Sierra with Mario Vaden and Mike Hanuschik. The 3Ms on a mission to photograph champion trees for American Forests. There was some dispute whether Whelan Pine or Pickering Pine was the true champion sugar pine. Pickering indeed did have a larger base and 2 more feet of height...slightly more points. Whelan however is a much larger tree by volume. At 50 feet above the ground is the first branch which is 3 feet in diameter. At this point the trunk is still over 9 feet in diameter.

We ventured into the Pickering Pine grove and found the Pickering to be lying sideways. See attached. One Armed Bandit just above it in a flat bench area was lying sideways too...see attached. 2nd and 4th largest sugar pines likely blew over in the huge December 2011 storm. Some of the needles still show a little green on the fallen foliage. Pickering Pine's base collapsed and One Arm Bandit snapped in half at 35-40 feet above the ground.

Too bad the forest service is allowing clearcutting around the entire area leaving virtually no protective buffer zone. Additionally the area has hoards of free range cattle that trample everything in sight and leave the place a dusty, smelly mess. The springs and streams are being trashed by the cattle. The 4 roads that lead into this place are either gated or blocked with rock piles. Why does the USFS block access to this area ? To protect it ?

On a more positive note:

Whelan Rules !

The consensus seems to be *Tilia Americana*



Fallen Pickering Pine with shattered fence that once protected it



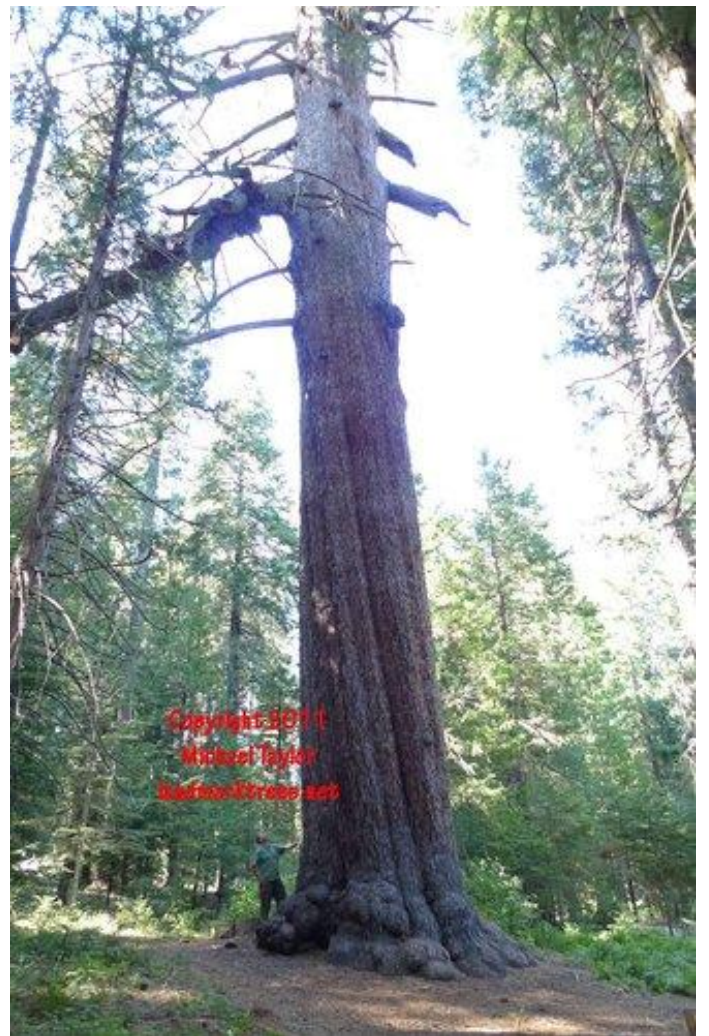
One armed bandit with snapped bole



Fallen Pickering Pine with collapsed base



One armed bandit's big branch that gave name to the tree



American Forests Champion Sugar Pine



Mario underneath the giant 9,000 cubic foot behemoth

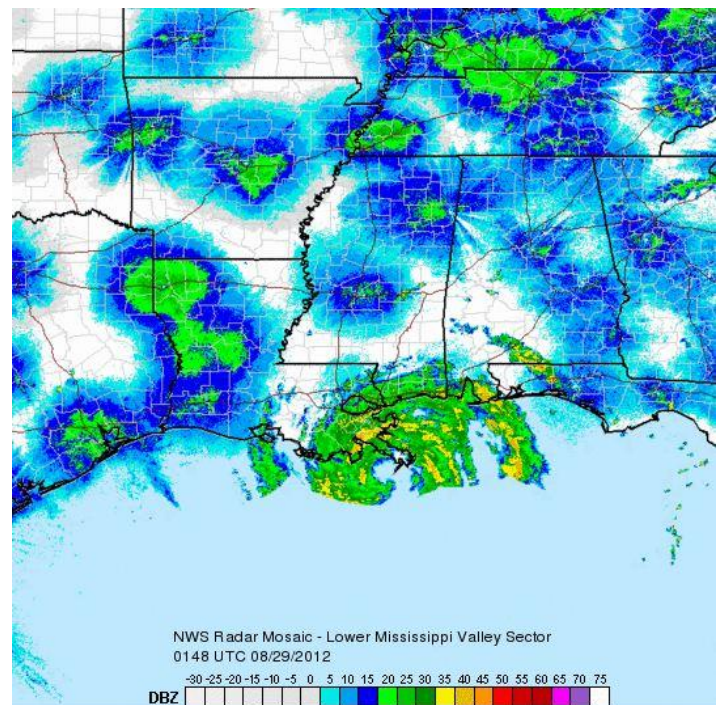
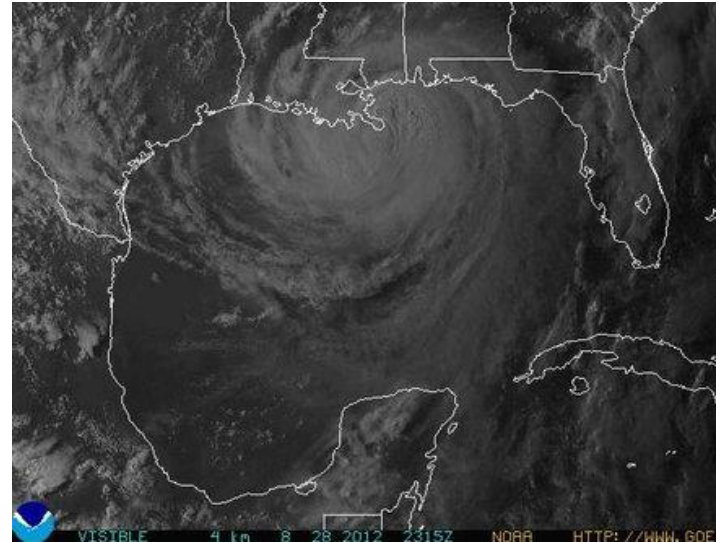
Hurricane Isaac

by **Larry Tucei** » Tue Aug 28, 2012 8:16 pm

NTS, Another Gulf Coast Hurricane is just about making landfall now near the mouth of the Ms River.

We in South Ms are in the Northeast quadrant but since this is just a Category 1 storm it's not too bad. We are receiving a 6-10' surge with winds at 39 mph with gusts to 60. The storm's eye has about 80 mph winds. We are all glad it could have been a lot stronger storm. I'll let you know more tomorrow.

<http://radar.weather.gov/Conus/southmissvly.php>



Larry Tucei

Re: Hurricane Isaac

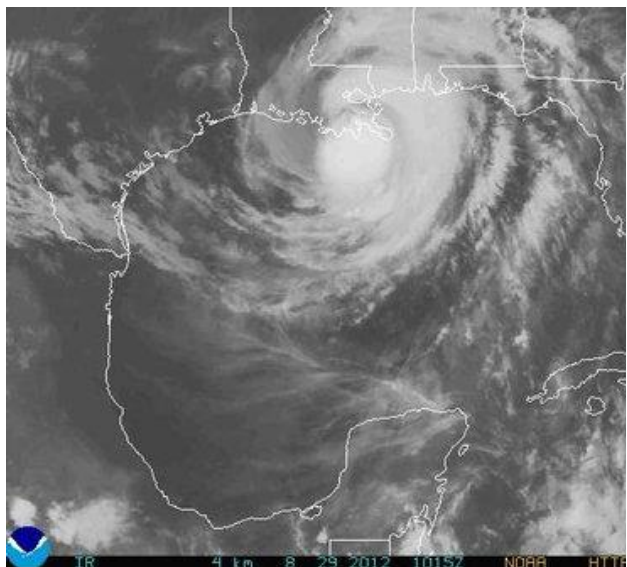
by **edfrank** » Tue Aug 28, 2012 9:50 pm

The answer my friend, is blowin in the wind, the answer is blowin' in the wind.

[Re: Hurricane Isaac](#)

by **Larry Tucei** » Wed Aug 29, 2012 6:52 am

Ed, That's good! I loved that song. Its 530 am and the wind is gusting to 50-60. The storm is slowing down now moving at 6 mph. We will have these conditions all day. The worst thing is the rotation in the thunderstorms produce tornados during the banding. At night its hard to sleep soundly you hear the howling of the winds in the distance. We are good so far with minor damage here and there- some trees down in the area. Lets go surfin now everybody surfin now come on come with meeeee!!!!



Larry Tucei

[Re: Hurricane Isaac](#)

by **Larry Tucei** » Wed Aug 29, 2012 6:38 pm

NTS, 10" rain so far here in Gulfport with 40-50 mph sustained winds gusts to 70. Flooding in low lying areas in Ms is starting to get worse as the copius amounts of rain are expected to continue throughout tonight and tomorrow. La is fairing much worse with up to 16" of rain in some places as of 600 PM. I'm 1/2 mile from the Gulf of Mexico but on high ground. The normal tranquil Gulf is a raging Ocean thanks to Isaac.



 [MOV05399.MPG](#)

Larry Tucei

[News footage from Gulfport, MS](#)

<http://video.insider.foxnews.com/v/1814701843001/>



Phil Keating, reporting live in Gulfport, MS, said that since the rain finally seems to be letting up in that area you can see the damage it has left. He is standing in front of a two-story house that was under construction and now has turned into just a pile of lumber.

[Re: Central Sierra Expedition - Big Sugar Pines Down](#)

by **mdvaden** » Wed Aug 29, 2012 10:19 pm

Here's a few more photos from the weekend.

One is Michael Taylor by the Whelan Sugar Pine, the prostrate shot is Michael on top of the Pickering Pine. And another with some blue sky is the Ponderosa Pine Ruby at El Dorado NF.





M. D. Vaden of Oregon

Tons of Redwood stuff ... Use the bottom menu at:

<http://www.mdvaden.com>

Re: Romainia - Mountain Forests

by **KoutaR** » Thu Aug 30, 2012 8:19 am

Note that I have never been to Romania. I have only done some "research" for a possible trip in the future.

Izvoarele Nerei Reserve is located in Semenice - Cheile Carașului National Park. It is said to be the largest (5012 ha) virgin beech forest in Europe

(though Uholka - Shyrokyi Luh Reserve in Ukraine is also said to be the largest with 11 860 ha). The reserve can be visited only on a marked trail called Borloveni Old Lake Secu. Beeches up to 54 m tall have been claimed to exist in the reserve. There is also a big wych elm (*U. glabra*) which is claimed to be 43 m tall. I have seen it in a TV document, it is called erroneously *Ulmus montana*. As this is deciduous forest, a measuring trip would be best to organize in spring or autumn. The park has a website here:

<http://www.pnscc.ro>

It is only in Romanian, but readable with the Google Translator.

Another 43 m tall wych elm has been reported from Calafat, Dolj.

62.5 m tall Norway spruce has been reported from Gosmanu-Tarcu Reserve. The location can be seen here:

<http://www.panoramio.com/photo/46474808>

62 m tall silver fir (*Abies alba*) has been reported near the village of Cheia, Prahova County. The only tip for its exact location, I have found on the Internet, is "snappish river valley" translated by Google.

All these trees have probably been measured with tangent method and should be verified with laser or climbing. They would be European records if true.

For a listing of Romanian virgin forests, see:

[http://www.scribd.com/doc/14777048/FORE ... ST-EUROPE-](http://www.scribd.com/doc/14777048/FORE...ST-EUROPE-)

See pages 67-86.

Retezat National Park with 38 047 ha is one of the largest "virgin" areas in southern Europe. It is mostly at higher elevations with coniferous forests and alpine areas; thus, there are perhaps no height records. The park has a website here:

<http://retezat.ro/>

Kouta Rasanen

Long Live Jake, MTSE, MA

by dbhguru » Thu Aug 30, 2012 10:01 am

NTS, Yesterday I went to Mohawk to do some pre-workshop planning. It is my intention that the workshop be thoroughly planned out with worksheets for measuring exercises on trees that have been measured to very high levels of accuracy. There's more work involved than just standing back and shooting a tree. We'll be computing offsets and resolving differences between results from different techniques.

Afterwards I went to do the post season measurement of the Jake Swamp tree. I exclusively used my TruPulse 360, setting it on my tripod. I began the measuring process by putting an orange disk at 4.5 feet above mid-slope using Will Blozan's thumbtack at 4.5 feet so that measurements stay consistent. I usually can't see the spot from where I see the crown, but managed to shift around until I did find a whole through the foliage to the marker and simultaneously to the crown. The image below shows the highest point of Jake's crown.



With good lines of sight and a steady measurement platform established, I went to work. The attached Excel spreadsheet speaks for itself. How do I resolve pre-season measurements with the latest results? The difference lies mostly in getting the base measurement consistent. If you can see the base very well, that becomes a source of difference and/or

error. Having cleared a few limbs on diseased beeches, so that I have a clear sight to the marker, I'm set on the base for the future.

It is always interesting, if not entertaining when I tell others about Jake's status. Some believe me immediately. Others have their doubts, and on still others, the information doesn't seem to register. It is that way across the groups I speak to. One question that can be legitimately asked is: How do you know Jake is number one in New England? I always explain, that we can't absolutely know that unless we measure every legitimate contender. So, I say Jake is the tallest accurately measured tree of any species in New England. That can lead to questions about accuracy and who can achieve it. As we know, this can be a touchy topic. Usually, I handle it fairly diplomatically, but on occasion, my real view point shows through. I've become rather intolerant of timber professionals and big tree hunters who just don't get it, and don't seem to want to get it. But attitude from me won't win support from those who have open minds. So, I plan to be on my best behavior for the upcoming Advanced Tree Measuring Workshop. If the people who choose to participate in the measuring exercises go through all the steps, it will become apparent what conditions must be met when using a measuring technique, and the consequences if conditions are not met. I'll include trees for which the tangent method works well from any direction, trees for which the method works for only some directions, and trees for which the method fails no matter where the measurer is positioned. Since we'll have American Forests present as well as LTI, we have an opportunity to really demonstrate the art and science of tree measuring as it needs to be done unless the measurer is playing games.

I realize that western Massachusetts is a long way away from many of you. However, if you can make it here and need support either knowing where to stay or having help with accommodations the sooner you can let me know that you plan to come, the better the position I'll be in to help you.

 [JakeSwampMeasurements.xlsx](#)

Robert T. Leverett

Martha's Vineyard

by **bbeduhn** » Thu Aug 30, 2012 12:05 pm

I just got back from Martha's Vineyard (Earlier report December 2011: <http://www.ents-bbs.org/viewtopic.php?f=86&t=2848>) and got to measure some trees. I also visited the Polly Hill Arboretum, which was far more impressive than I'd imagined. <http://www.pollyhillarboretum.org/>

Pagoda Tree *Sophora japonica* 19'9" cbh
79.5' height x ~70' avg spread

This is the oldest of its kind in North America and I would assume the largest in all respects. It was brought over by a whaling captain in 1833.



The arboretum has years listed for all of its exotic specimens. Heights are not particularly impressive but virtually all are less than 50 years old. It's interesting to see how fast exotics can grow in a northeast island habitat. The arboretum will very likely harbor the tallest tree on the island in another 20 years. Currently, white pine and Norway spruce are the tallest species on the island. I found a grove of white pines that might eclipse 100' but didn't get back to measure them. Most whites have angled tops due to wind. They generally angle to the east, the wind preventing them from getting very tall. In a grove, they may well top 100'.

The Japanese cedars are truly impressive. I'd only seen 20-30 footers before. This tree is very closely related to the Giant Sequoia, and can top 200' in its native habitat. The Dawn redwood is an early specimen. This was my first experience with Monkey puzzle trees. They are extremely exotic but very slow growing. There were six, all from 1968, ranging from 7' to 18.4'.

Brian Beduhn

Common	Latin	Height	Year planted
Nordmann fir	<i>Abies nordmanniana</i>	48.3'	1962
Nordmann fir	<i>Abies nordmanniana</i>	50.9'	1962
Nordmann fir	<i>Abies nordmanniana</i>	58.8'	1962
Nordmann fir	<i>Abies nordmanniana</i>	77.0'	1962
Alpine fir var	<i>Abies Lasiocarpa</i> Martha's Vineyard	42.8'	1959
Cedar of Lebanon	<i>Cedrus Libani</i>	56.5'	1962
Cedar of Lebanon	<i>Cedrus Libani</i>	57.1'	1962
Monkey puzzle	<i>Araucaria araucana</i>	18.4'	1968
Japanese umbrella pine	<i>Sciadaptytis verticillata</i>	35.6'	1962
Sugar pine	<i>Pinus lambertiana</i>	44.2'	1970
Korean pine	<i>Pinus koraiensis</i>	44.6'	1963
Noble fir	<i>Abies procera</i>	52.8'	1967
Noble fir	<i>Abies procera</i>	55.9'	1962
Hinoki cypress	<i>Chamaecyparis obtusa</i>	56.1'	1960
Hinoki cypress	<i>Chamaecyparis obtusa</i>	33.6'	1975
Asunaro	<i>Thujopsis dolabrata hondai</i>	33.8'	1968
Japanese white pine	<i>Pinus parviflora</i>	30.2'	1962
Japanese white pine Kitagoyo	<i>Pinus parviflora pentaphylla</i>	36.2'	1966
Suwara cypress var.	<i>Chamaecyparis pisifera squarrosa</i>	45.3'	1983
Algerian fir	<i>Abies numidica</i>	52.4'	1962
Mexican white pine	<i>Pinus ayacahuite</i>	68.1'	1961
White fir	<i>Abies concolor</i>	25.1'	1993
Weeping Norway spruce	<i>Picea abies pendula</i>	36.6'	1966
Twisted white pine	<i>Pinus strobus torolosa</i>	44.8'	1968
Weeping Alaska cypress/Nootka	<i>Xanthocyparis nootkatensis pendula</i>	23.9'	1974
Pond cypress prairie sentinel	<i>Taxodium ascendens</i>	24.1'	1985
Lawson cypress/Port Orford	<i>Chamaecyparis lawsonia</i>	45.1'	1972
Western redcedar var.	<i>Thuja plicata zebrina</i>	35.7'	1982
Western redcedar	<i>Thuja plicata</i>	54.0'	1982
Oriental spruce	<i>Picea orientalis</i>	45.1'	
Golden larch	<i>Pseudolarix amabilis</i>	12'	1969
Dawn redwood	<i>Metasequoia Glyptostrobooides</i>	74.2'	1959
Japanese cedar	<i>Cryptomeria japonica</i>	56.3'	1961
Japanese cedar	<i>Cryptomeria japonica</i>	60.1'	1961
Japanese cedar	<i>Cryptomeria japonica</i>	49.6'	1967
Japanese cedar	<i>Cryptomeria japonica</i>	57.1'	1967
Japanese cedar	<i>Cryptomeria japonica</i>	58.3'	1967
Japanese cedar	<i>Cryptomeria japonica</i>	62.6'	1967
Japanese cedar yoshino	<i>Cryptomeria japonica yoshino</i>	55.3'	1978
Japanese cedar yoshino	<i>Cryptomeria japonica yoshino</i>	59.0'	1978
Japanese cedar yoshino	<i>Cryptomeria japonica yoshino</i>	59.1'	1978
Japanese cedar yoshino	<i>Cryptomeria japonica yoshino</i>	65.8'	1978
Japanese cedar yoshino	<i>Cryptomeria japonica yoshino</i>	70.4'	1978
Chinese cork oak	<i>Quercus variabilis</i>	68.3'	1963
Chinese chestnut	<i>Castanea mollissima</i>	45.1'	

Wiltshire oak tree declared UK's tallest

29 August 2012 Last updated at 14:20 ET
<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-wiltshire-19402113>

Re: Wiltshire oak tree declared UK's tallest

by **Jeroen Philippona** » Thu Aug 30, 2012

Larry, This oak seems not to be very tall to you, compared to the up to 160 ft oaks in Congaree, but that is an old growth area much more to the south. The UK has no old growth forests left (the nearest old growth oak forest is the Bialowieza forest in Eastern Poland), and, unlike France and Germany, it has no tradition of old planted oak forests for high quality wood production.

In the Bialowieza old growth forest there are many oaks of 40 - 42 m (131 - 138 ft) and the laser record is 43.6 m (143 ft), which is till now the laser record for Europe for that species. In the Netherlands the two tallest measured oaks are a *Quercus robur* of 41.8 m and one of 40.0 m (137.14 and 131 ft). In Belgium the record is 40.6 m (133.2 ft).

In France the tallest laser measured oaks are *Quercus petraea*, in the Forest of Bercé 48.4 m (158.8 ft), in the Forest of Tronçais 43.4 m (142.4 ft). Those are all planted forests, with a known planting history from the time of King Louis XIV, 1680 - 1700.

In Germany Kouta measured 44.6 m (146.3 ft) for the same species.

The two species are very related, there are some ecological differences but *Q. petraea* indeed tends to grow taller, with longer trunks.

The tallest American northern red oak (*Q. rubra*) we measured in Europe till now is 39.6 m (130 ft) in the Netherlands.

Jeroen Philippona

Re: Wiltshire oak tree declared UK's tallest

by **Jeroen Philippona** » Fri Aug 31, 2012 7:01 am

Larry Tucei wrote: What I find interesting is that I've measured some Oaks in Central Ms that are reaching that height but are not yet 100 years old. I wonder how tall would you think the old Forests of England might have been. I guess the northern climate keeps the trees from reaching heights of 150?

Larry, I think that in the best locations, sheltered like the Stourhead location, with good soil and watersupply, *Q. robur* in old growth forests in England could grow to 140 ft and *Q. petraea* perhaps to 150 ft. The forest with the tallest *Q. petraea* is in Western France, latitude 47° 48' 23.19" N and 0° 23' 17.63" E, whereas Stourhead is near Coordinates: 51.090°N 2.266°W (see website <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Stourhead> and a page I made on trees of Stourhead: <http://www.monumentaltrees.com/en/gbr/e...stourhead/>).

Perhaps the old growth forests in France had taller oaks than in England, because of the longer, warmer growing season, but only in sheltered locations with optimum watersupply. Your MS location has another climate at latitude 30 - 35 N. Mid France is the same latitude as Seattle or northern Maine and the UK lies more to the north than Vancouver. Indeed we should have a world NTS meeting!

In Europe there is a European Champion Tree Forum but it is still in its childhood, because of the many countries and languages.

Jeroen Philippona

Why do we find trees so rapturous?

by **RyanLeClair** » Thu Aug 30, 2012 5:08 pm

This is an excerpt from a Sam Harris article:
<http://www.samharris.org/blog/item/drugs-and-the-meaning-of-life/>

"The mere existence of psychedelics would seem to establish the material basis of mental and spiritual life beyond any doubt... Aldous Huxley ...in his classic essay, The Doors of Perception ...thought that if the brain were a kind of "reducing valve" for "Mind at Large," this would explain the efficacy of psychedelics: They could simply be a material means of opening the tap."

I want to pose this question: why do tree-lovers like us find trees so stunning? Are our "taps" open even without the use of mind-enhancing drugs? (Although, I'm sure at least one of us here has "experimented" a bit ;)

Re: Why do we find trees so rapturous?

by **gnmcmartin** » Fri Aug 31, 2012 3:05 pm

Ryan: Thanks for this--I find it very profound. I think the cause of a love of trees can be connected to some very important things about the human mind and how it functions on various levels. I like Huxley's idea that if people, some maybe more than others, didn't have the ability to use a "reducing valve," or close some gates or paths into the mind, we might not be able to function for our survival.

I have often thought about how more primitive man, who had to work so hard at survival, might have looked at trees-- whether they may have, from time to time, stopped to glory in their beauty. Not everyone, in fact, I think very few people, really look at trees and see what some other people see. Trees are very, very complex visual things--their forms, their color,

their textures, all requiring a special depth and subtlety of perception needed to see them in all their three-dimensional aspects. Then there is the "idea" of trees which can overlay our visual perception, including all that we know about their growth and how they live in their environment, interact with other trees, etc., etc. We, today, maybe have more opportunities to open up the "valve" to let more in. But not all of us do.

Sometimes when I am in the woods doing some TSI thinning, I am distracted and have to remind myself to get back to work. But, on the other hand, all the complex "perception" of trees I am involved in can, on another level, help with that work, or at least provide more motivation for it. I bet Joe understands what I mean here.

Anyway, maybe at least some people in more primitive times, even when under more survival pressure, or when they had breaks from that pressure, were able to really "see" trees. In some cultures they were objects of reverence and/or worship. I don't suppose we could ever get in touch with what a tree might have meant to primitive people--or some of them.

This topic reminds me of a time when I went back to visit some friends in CA. I had spent an overly long time getting my Ph. D. at UCLA, and had spent some of that time in a common form of "recreation." I told them about the timberland I had recently bought. It had a lot of tall, straight close-growing sugar maples about 100 feet tall. I described how beautiful the woodland was, and told them about how one time on a windy winter day with little clouds blowing fast across the sky, looking up into the trees I could get completely lost in a kind of visual "rolling" sensation caused by the shadows of the clouds, and the returning sun coming through the trees at something like a 45% angle. It was amazing and hard to describe. But my friends understood immediately and said things like, "wow! psychedelic!" The valves were open, and I was understood. But in a way what I saw was something that I think was a bit different from a psychedelic experience--somehow finer, more subtle. Or so I thought at the time.

Anyway, the mind is a fascinating and wonderful thing--and we keep learning more about it. I saw on the NIH health news site this morning an article about self-awareness in the mind. There had been a theory developed, and apparently somewhat widely accepted, about where that self-awareness resides in the mind. Well, recently some neurologists had a chance to study a person who had these parts of the brain either destroyed, or disconnected from the rest of the brain. But, what amazed the researchers was that the man had perfectly normal self-awareness.

This follows other studies that have shown that the brain functions more as a whole, and/or is more flexible and resilient than we have thought. It is less like a machine, and more like some more fully "organic" structure than imagined.

I am not sure I can explain exactly how this relates to the perception and enjoyment of trees, except to say that I think the whole brain is involved--that the process of perceiving, understanding, and appreciating--yes, "loving" trees, is fully distributed in our brain. The valves must be fully open, not just to let the full perception of a tree in, in all its visual complexity, but also the valves "in" the mind, opening one part into all the others and vice versa.

I think this is true also in the appreciation of music, dance, literature, etc. also.

Thanks Ryan,

--Gaines McMartin

[The Charles Ives Acoustic](#)

by **michael gatonska** » Fri Aug 31, 2012 4:31 pm

On a muggy and hot day in August, I recorded three soundscapes outside of the studio of Charles Ives (1874-1951). Each soundscape was captured during a different time of the day; Part I: Morning, Part II: Noon, and lastly Part III: Evening.

My goal was to record examples of the biophony and surrounding acoustic that Ives would have heard while composing in his studio on a typical summer's

day or evening. His music was intimately linked to the landscape, history, philosophy and literature of Connecticut and Massachusetts, and he held the conviction that the whole world of sounds was open for experiment and use. Many of his compositions reveal his imitation of nature, his taste for experimentation to represent, his ability to see beyond, and his reverence for God.

The future of the Ives property is currently unknown. Concerned that I may not have an opportunity to visit the homestead in the future, I decided to make my visit, to honor the man and composer with whom music history did not catch up with until the 1960's.

Here is an article from the Wall Street Journal "Seeking to Save Composer's Retreat"

<http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10000872396390444327204577618130286523936.html?KEYWORDS=charles+ives+house>

Part I: Morning

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NFViBhkRuSI>



Part II: Noon

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MS2EecQgRhI>



Part II: Evening

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KtaCCL0Xe_0



Set-up for Evening Recording

Michael Gatonska

"What is essential, is invisible to the eye" –Antoine de Saint-Exupery

http://www.youtube.com/user/EcoEarSoundscapes?o=b=0&feature=results_main

How high is Mount Mitchell, NC?

by dbhguru » Fri Aug 31, 2012 5:38 pm

NTS, If we think we have a time keeping people honest about tree numbers, well, elevations of mountains are presenting the U.S. Geodetic Survey with the supreme challenges. Throughout the Internet, in books, magazines, articles, on signs, etc. elevations are cited based on the vertical datum NAVD29. But now there is a new one, NAVD88, which is more accurate in terms of the shape of the Earth, local magnetic fields/anomalies, and sea level. The U.S. Geodetic Survey has converted to NAVD88, which changes elevations of most mountains in the U.S.

One commonly sees 14,433 feet listed for Mount Elbert, CO. That is from NAVD29. However, NAVD88 raises Elbert to 14,440. We see some sources showing the updated elevation, but many do not. What about eastern mountains? Say Mount Mitchell, N.C. You'll find thousands of references to Mitchell as having an elevation of 6,684 feet above mean sea level. That is from NAVD29. But get a load of the Data Sheet for Mount Mitchell.

The NGS Data Sheet

See file [dadata.txt](#) for more information about the datasheet.

```
PROGRAM = datasheet95, VERSION = 7.89.3.1
1 National Geodetic Survey, Retrieval Date = AUGUST 31, 2012
FB2736 *****
FB2736 DESIGNATION - MITCHELL
FB2736 PID - FB2736
FB2736 STATE/COUNTRY- NC/YANCEY
FB2736 COUNTRY - US
FB2736 USGS QUAD - MT MITCHELL (1946)
FB2736
FB2736 *CURRENT SURVEY CONTROL
FB2736
FB2736* NAD 83(2001) POSITION- 35 45 53.38481(N) 082 15 54.11662(W) ADJUSTED
FB2736* NAVD 88 ORTHO HEIGHT - 2042. (meters) 6699. (feet) SCALED
FB2736
FB2736 GEOID HEIGHT - -29.84 (meters) GEOID12
FB2736 LAPLACE CORR - -7.00 (seconds) DEFLEC09
FB2736 HORE ORDER - FIRST
FB2736
FB2736 The horizontal coordinates were established by classical geodetic methods
FB2736 and adjusted by the National Geodetic Survey in August 2005.
FB2736
FB2736 The orthometric height was scaled from a topographic map.
FB2736
FB2736 The Laplace correction was computed from DEFLEC09 derived deflections.
FB2736
FB2736 The following values were computed from the NAD 83(2001) position.
FB2736
FB2736:
FB2736:SPC NC - North East Units Scale Factor Converg.
FB2736:SPC NC - 228,363.353 314,421.346 MT 0.99991259 -1 53 04.1
FB2736:SPC NC - 749,222.10 1,031,564.03 sFT 0.99991259 -1 53 04.1
FB2736:UTM 17 - 3,958,602.980 385,645.123 MT 0.99976114 -0 44 22.0
FB2736
FB2736! - Elev Factor x Scale Factor = Combined Factor
FB2736!SPC NC - 0.99968428 x 0.99991259 = 0.99959690
FB2736!UTM 17 - 0.99968428 x 0.99976114 = 0.99944550
FB2736
FB2736: Primary Azimuth Mark Grid Az
FB2736:SPC NC - MITCHELL AZ MK 126 56 01.7
FB2736:UTM 17 - MITCHELL AZ MK 125 47 19.6
FB2736
FB2736|-----|
```


Notice the elevation 6699 feet. That is 15 feet more than the old elevation. In addition, there is another data sheet that gives the elevation from the top of the viewing structure - on its floor. That elevation is 6,719 feet. According to the explanation in the data sheet, GPS readings were observed for the embedded marker. So, there is plenty of backup for the new elevation of the tower, and projecting vertically down to ground level gives 6,699 feet.

So, please, everyone, send good thoughts to Mount Mitchell. It is 15 feet higher than we thought. Dang, I do wish the elevation had come out to exactly 6,700. That has such a nice sound to it.

It will be a very slow process to get correct elevations on maps, in articles, on signs, for our mountains. So, I guess I shouldn't complain about old tree measurements floating around.

Robert T. Leverett

Re: Why Aren't Women More Active in ENTS?

by **Megan Ulrich** » Fri Aug 31, 2012 4:22 pm

Hello; I just joined ENTS today. I stumbled across this site on accident looking up MN Elms on Google. I had no previous knowledge of it.

I'm not really one to share via such a website, but I felt compelled to do so today. I am very passionate about Nature, native plants and ecosystems, having grown up in the Native Elm forest of Kandiyohi. Perhaps if more women knew about your site and had the time to post you would have more female involvement. I look forward to learning more about how to preserve what little native habitat we have left. I am extremely passionate about the environment and it is due to the extreme fortune of growing up where I did.

Many people today are out of touch with nature. I

think we can do a great service to our communities by encouraging folks to explore the natural areas where they live in order to understand ecology and just plain appreciate nature. Some folks don't have access to 'wild places' or experience with the outdoor lifestyle. They are afraid of nature and intimidated (speaking from experience in Environmental Education). In today's society we are just spread too thin-so many distractions, mis-placed priorities and commitments, that we are missing out on the enjoyment and purpose of life. Nature can reconnect us to the Earth, each other and our true selves!

Glad I got that out of my system... I look forward to discussions that lead to action in preserving and sharing our knowledge.

Megan Ulrich

Re: Hurricane Isaac

by **Rand** » Fri Aug 31, 2012 5:54 pm

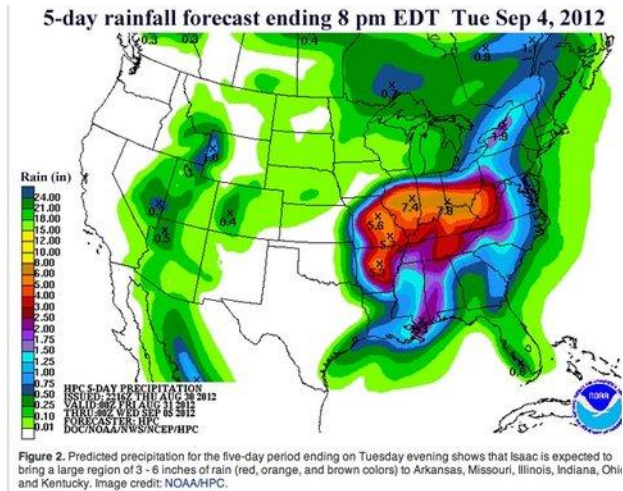
Weather Underground has a list of some of the horrifically high rainfall totals:

A few notable rainfall totals from Isaac, through 11 am EDT on Friday:

20.08" New Orleans, LA
15.02" Marion, MS
13.99" Pascagoula, MS
13.27" Hattiesburg, MS
10.85" Gulfport, MS
10.39" Slidell, LA
10.17" Biloxi, MS
9.85" Mobile, AL
7.38" Pine Bluff, AR
5.95" Baton Rouge, LA

<http://www.wunderground.com/blog/JeffMasters/comment.html?entrynum=2216>

Looks like it's going to dump on us in Ohio too. The first batch of storms rolled through Columbus about 5 PM today.



Rand Brown

Re: Hurricane Isaac

by **edfrank** » Fri Aug 31, 2012 8:16 pm

Hurricane Isaac Pictures: Photos Document The 2012 Storms That Hit Louisiana And Mississippi
Posted: 08/30/2012 3:36 pm Updated: 08/31/2012 1:31 am

http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2012/08/30/hurricane-isaac-pictures-photos_n_1844124.html

As Gulf Coast states began to assess the damage from Hurricane Isaac, photos and video started to trickle in of the devastation.

Although the death toll has been minimal compared to Hurricane Katrina, fatalities have occurred, and damage was extensive in some regions.

What Species ID?

by **TN_Tree_Man** » Fri Aug 31, 2012 2:07 pm

NTS, I recently found 2 of these trees and am trying to pin point the species identification. I am suspecting a cultivar of Mulberry (*Morus*) but am not sure. Both trees have been planted within a mountain chalet property. What do you think?



Left image is backside, right is topside



Alternate leaf arrangement; notice that juvenile and mature leaves are shaped the same



Orange-brownish fissured bark

Steve Springer

[Re: What Species ID?](#)

by **Will Blozan** » Fri Aug 31, 2012 2:20 pm

Looks like some freak-show *Morus alba* to me...

Will Blozan

[Re: What Species ID?](#)

by **lucager1483** » Fri Aug 31, 2012 2:32 pm

Steve, I'm guessing you're right about mulberry. I think it's white mulberry; it's a pretty common species in upstate NY, normally growing among "waste" or "hedgerow" species like boxelder, black willow, and cottonwood. I've seen a lot of variation in leaf shape (lobed & non-lobed; toothed and non-toothed) even on the same tree. The bark seems to stay pretty consistent, though, and seems to be dead-on from what's in your photo. I sometimes confuse mulberry with osage orange, which has similar bark but more consistently formed non-lobed leaves (and thorns, of course). If your tree is mulberry, hopefully it gets some kind of care or at least avoids the saw, because they make a good shade tree and the berries are edible. There's my two cents-hope it helps.

Will seems to have beaten me to the punch. Oh well, at least we're in agreement.

Elijah Whitcomb

[Re: What Species ID?](#)

by **Chris** » Fri Aug 31, 2012 10:58 pm

IIRC, the various mulberries hybridize a lot [both in wild and through humans].

Chris Morris

[Re: Hurricane Isaac](#)

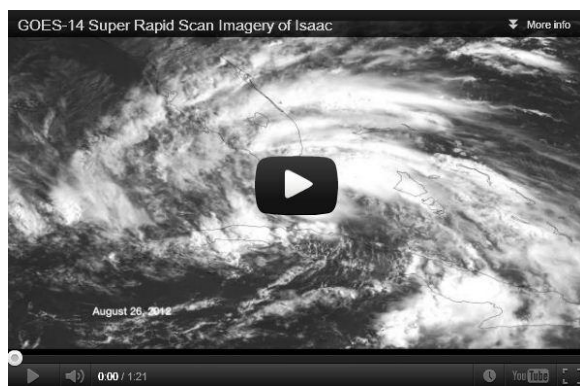
by **Rand** » Fri Aug 31, 2012 9:19 pm

Found some satellite animations of the storm on YouTube:



<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ix3OIxCHDK8>

Really detailed (1080P is worth loading)



<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=O7oJvwY4Rik>



http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=N4SCe_YCw_s

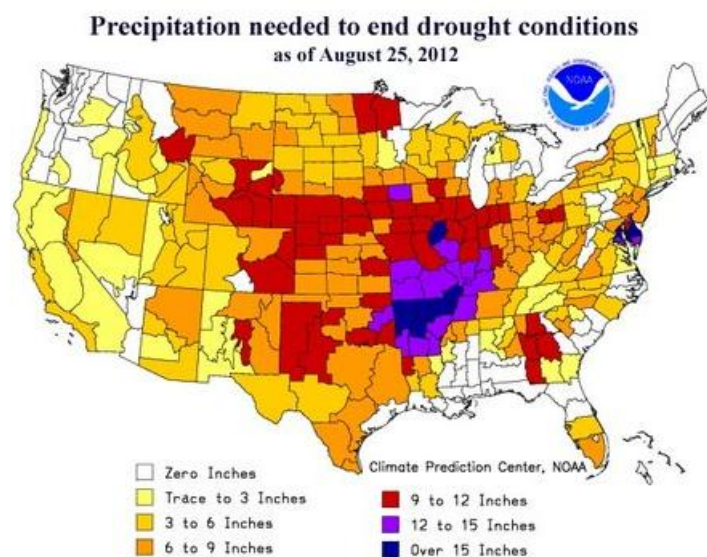
Rand Brown

[Re: Hurricane Isaac](#)

by **Rand** » Fri Aug 31, 2012 9:22 pm

PAwildernessadvocate wrote: Rats it looks like NW PA is probably not going to get all that much rain out of this. I know hurricanes are dangerous down south, but I was hoping the remnants of Isaac would have passed directly over us here. Sometimes those hurricane remnants can really drop a lot of rain! Boy do we ever need it.

I think you got out-voted by the people who really suffered this summer:

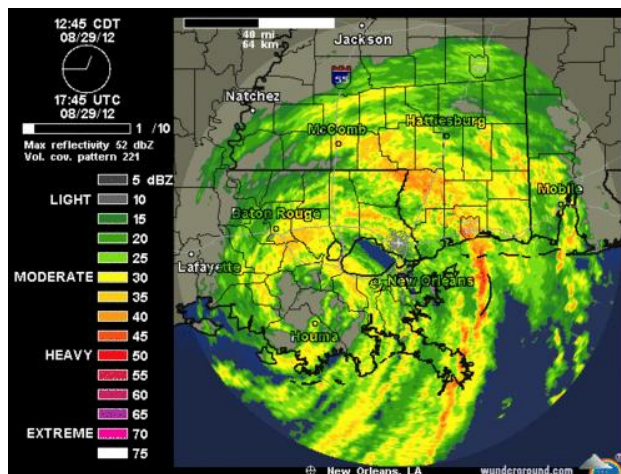


Rand Brown

Re: Hurricane Isaac

by **Larry Tucei** » Fri Aug 31, 2012 9:34 pm

NTS, Glad it's over. The storm made landfall at 600 pm on Tuesday just west of the Ms River. Movement slowed down to 6-8 mph for the next 24 hours. We had peak winds of 70 MPH and 6 hours of 45 mph with gusts to 59. The other 24 hours were steady winds of 35-45 with gust to 60. Although the storm was nothing like the major Hurricanes that I have remained in the past such as Hurricanes Frederick 130 mph, Elena 120 mph and Georges 115 it was still an experience. The flooding in Louisiana has been really bad and we in Ms had our share also. The Cat 1 storm was so large and very slow moving that it had a massive effect. I lost no trees on my property but they sure were rocking. The funny thing was that I never lost power during the whole storm which is a first for me. Even in much smaller Tropical systems you usually lose power. I was able to watch the storm on my computer and cable for the duration.



(see this image as animated gif on BBS website)

Larry Tucei

External Links:

Visit Your Pacific Northwest National Forest

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=w2DIzeIqX-A>

Watch the Behind the Scenes "Making-of" video here:

<http://www.uncagethesoul.com/uncategorized/visit-your-pacific-northwest-national-forest/>

NTS Discussion: <http://www.ents-bbs.org/viewtopic.php?f=129&t=4377>

Talk by Meg Lowman at Marine Lab Seminar Series [VIDEO] Meg Lowman - 7-30-2012

<http://nsoe.capture.duke.edu/Panopto/Pages/Viewer/Default.aspx?id=751711ff-c8d2-417b-b063-e4940375e746>

Antarctica's tropical past is revealed

From: Marion O'Sullivan, Planet Earth Online

Published August 2, 2012 08:17 AM

<http://planetearth.nerc.ac.uk/news/story.aspx?id=1262&cookieConsent=A>

Antarctica Was Once Home To Rainforest, Say Scientists

Posted: 08/02/2012 2:52 pm Updated:

08/02/2012 2:52 pm

http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2012/08/02/antarctica-was-once-a-rai_n_1733597.html?ncid=txtlnkushpmg00000040

Naturavet (Sweden) Come into the woods!

<http://naturavet.se/>

Diseased Trees New Source of Climate Gas

<http://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2012/08/120807151309.htm>

What is Missing? The mission of the What is Missing? Foundation is to create, through science-based artworks, an awareness about the current crisis surrounding the mass extinction of species that is now underway. <http://whatismissing.net/>

Diseased Trees New Source of Climate Gas

<http://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2012/08/120807151309.htm>

Blog- Birch seeds (Finland)

<http://borealexpat.blogspot.com/2012/08/tiny-seeds-of-summer.html?showComment=1344465159008#c3550391100349007922>

Biodiversity hotspots – a world at risk

published June 25, 2012

<http://www.viewsoftheworld.net/?p=2330>

State's grandest white oak felled by arsonist

New Braintree's Gentle Giamt (MA) by Kim Ring
TELEGRAM & GAZETTE STAFF

Wednesday, August 8, 2012

<http://www.telegram.com/article/20120808/NEWS/108089940/0/FRONTPAGE>

E.O. Wilson at TEDMED 2012

http://www.tedmed.com/videos-info?name=E.O._Wilson_at_TEDMED_2012&q=updated&year=all&sid=191&vid=235

First evidence for photosynthesis in insects

Aphids may have a rudimentary sunlight-harvesting system, Kathryn Loughed, 17 August 2012

<http://www.nature.com/news/first-evidence-for-photosynthesis-in-insects-1.11214>

How the first plant came to be

A genetic analysis reveals the ancient, complex — and symbiotic — roots of photosynthesis in plants. by David Biello, 16 February 2012

<http://www.nature.com/news/how-the-first-plant-came-to-be-1.10048>

Bridging the Gap Between Math and Art [Slide Show]

Annual conference shines a spotlight on mathematical art and artistic mathematics

<http://www.scientificamerican.com/slideshow.cfm>

Critical Thinking Series You can download the entire series free from iTunes:

<http://itunes.apple.com/au/podcast/technyou/id516187436>

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iSZ3BUru59A>

Wiltshire oak tree declared UK's tallest

29 August 2012 <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-wiltshire-19402113> The 132.5ft (40.4m) English oak is on the grounds of the National Trust Stourhead estate.

ECCB2012 PRESS RELEASE: **Where the rain never ends – rainforests in Europe**
<http://euroconbio.blogspot.com/2012/08/eccb2012-press-release-where-rain-never.html>

Landmark ancient oak comes down, Warren, Pa,
August 31, 2012 by Jacob Perryman
<http://www.timesobserver.com/page/content.detail/id/559331/It-Was-Time.html>

About: eNTS: The Magazine of the Native Tree Society

This magazine is published monthly and contain materials that are compiled from posts made to the NTS BBS <http://www.ents-bbs.org> It features notable trip reports, site descriptions and essays posted to the BBS by NTS members. The purpose of the magazine to have an easily readable and distributable magazine of posts available for download for those interested in the Native Tree Society and in the work that is being conducted by its members.

This magazine serves as a companion to the more formal science-oriented *Bulletin of the Eastern Native Tree Society* and will help the group reach potential new members. To submit materials for inclusion in the next issue, post to the BBS. Members are welcome to suggest specific articles that you might want to see included in future issues of the magazine, or point out materials that were left from a particular month's compilation that should have been included. Older articles can always be added as necessary to the magazine. The magazine will focus on the first post on a subject and provide a link to the discussion on the website. Where warranted later posts in a thread may also be selected for inclusion.

Edward Frank – Editor-in-Chief