Hiking to the Red Pine

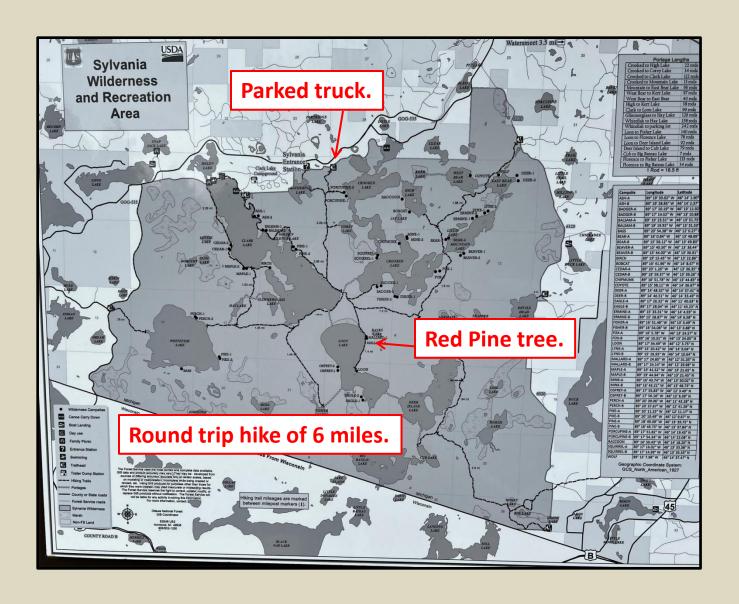
(Largest Red Pine in Michigan)





Susan and John Crumrine - 2022

The pine is in "Sylvania" north of the Michigan/Wisconsin state line.



We hiked the trail (old road) south to the Red Pine.



Giant White Pine are common in this old growth forest.



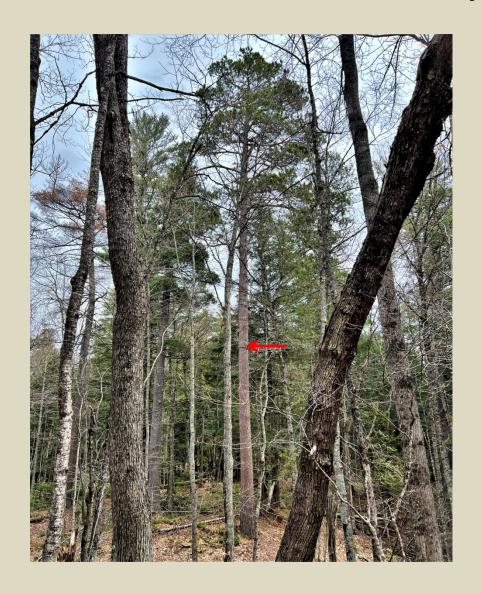


Many of these giant White Pine may be over 300 years old!

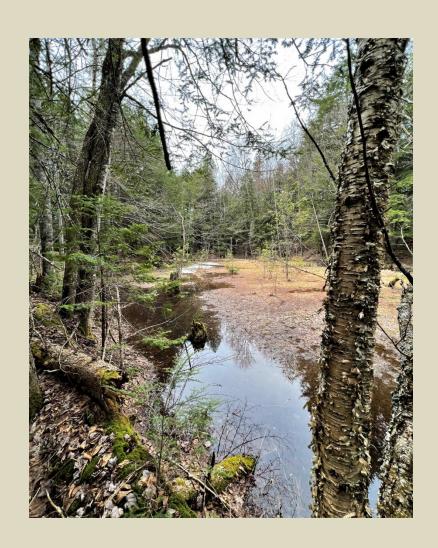


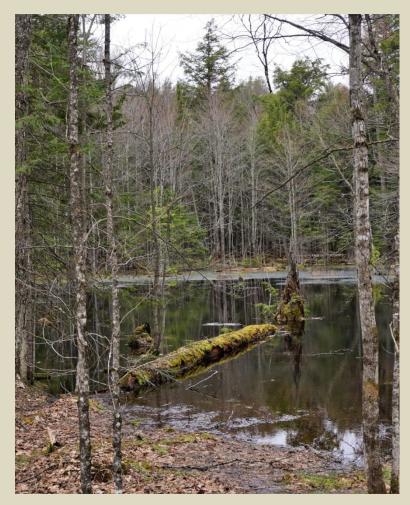


Giant Red Pine exist, too – this one over 200 years of age.

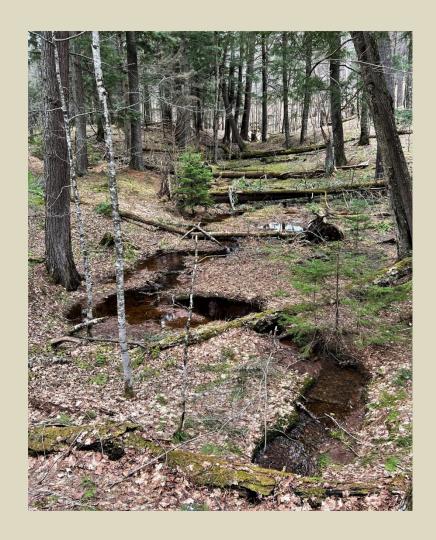


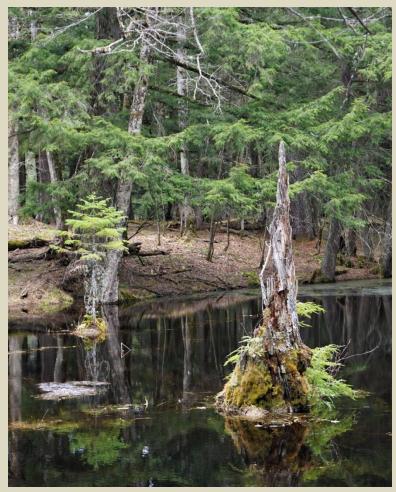
Small ponds or vernal pools exist along the trail.



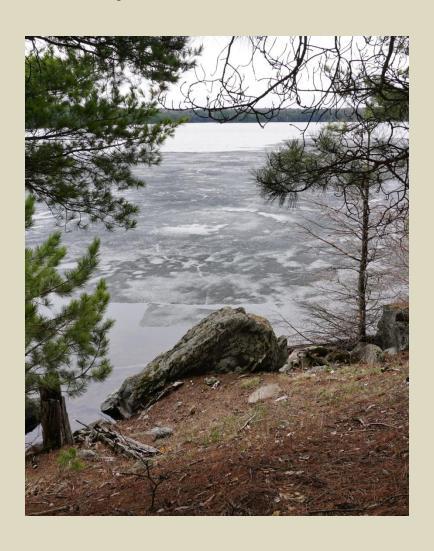


Small streams often drain ponds formed by road fills

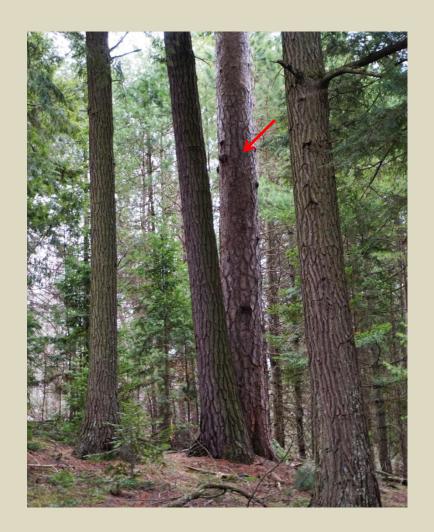




After about 2 miles we reach the south eastern part of Clark Lake. Ice was still present and wind off the lake was cold.

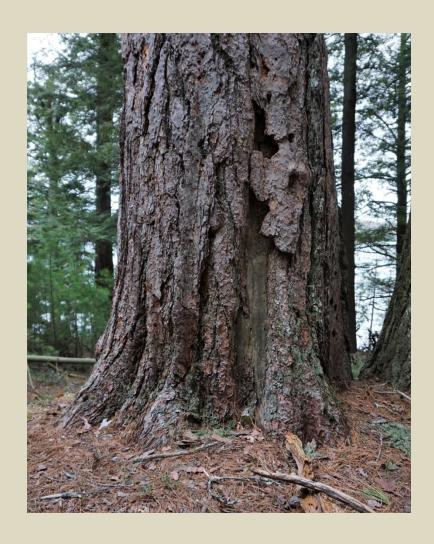


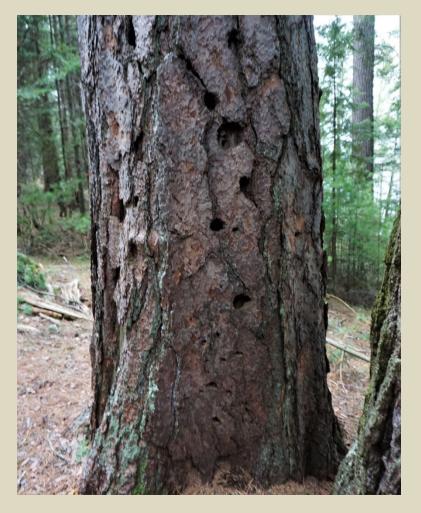
Just after reaching Loon Lake, we spot the large pine at the top of a rise just east of the lake. It is among smaller White Pine.





Lower trunk damage by insects, birds and possible lightening.





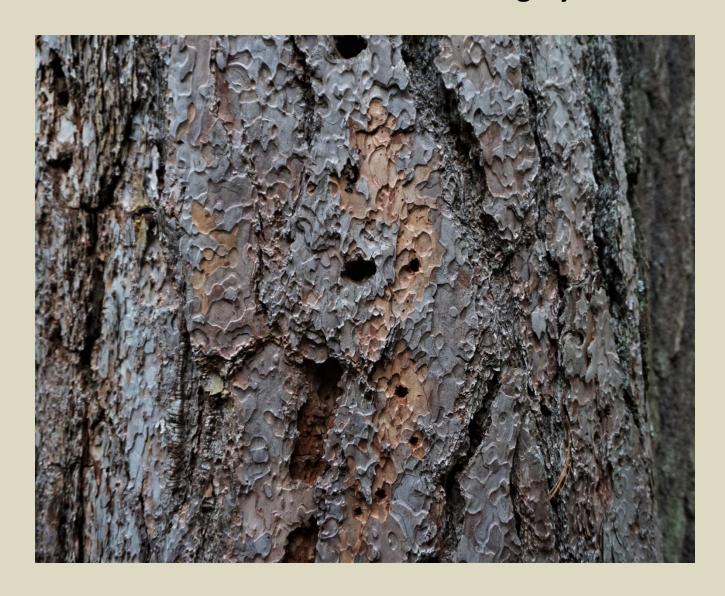
A small Hemlock grows below woodpecker holes in the tree base.



About 120 feet tall; needle density in the crown is low.

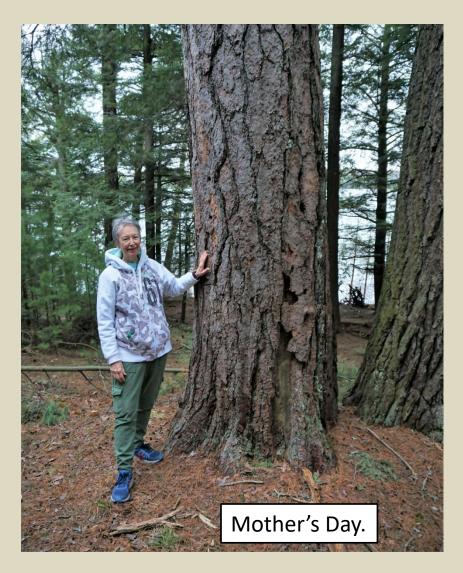


Bark above 6 feet shows little "red" and gray dominates.



Susan and Smokey beside the pine in 1971; Susan in 2022.





A White Pine neighbor is equally tall and of greater vigor.



White Pine trunk is in excellent condition and shows no damage.



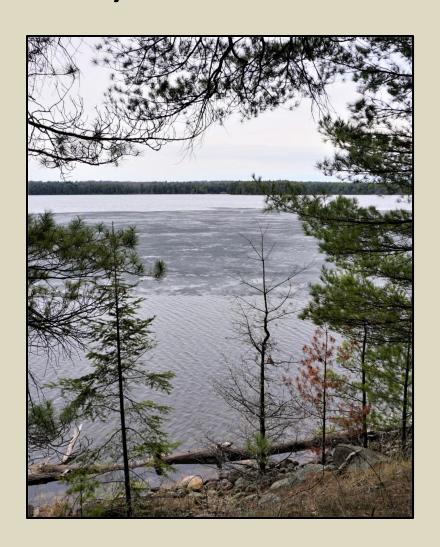
White Pine bark is tight on the trunk and without damage.



We finally hiked north again past this fringe area of Loon Lake.



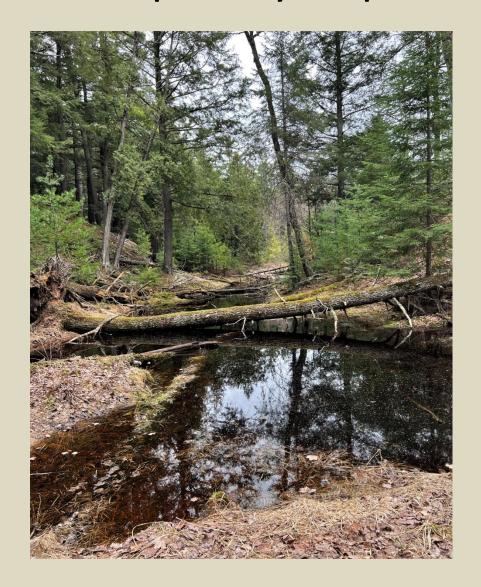
In a mile we again passed the southeast side of Clark Lake. The ice had moved away from shore but the wind was still cool.



Near Clark Lake we saw this giant White Pine with a damaged top and branches gone from one section.



Took a short side trip to Corey Lake past this wetland.



Looking north from west side of Corey Lake.



One White Pine succumbs to age and now rests in Corey Lake.



Hike to the Red Pine

- We began our hike on Mother's Day, May 8, 2022. We started about 8:30 in the morning and finished at 2:00 in the early afternoon, a total time of 5.5 hours. With the 0.6 mile side trip to Corey Lake, we walked about 6.6 miles. Susan's Fit-Bit and my iPhone pedometer both recorded 18,000 steps. These were steps both on the trail and those exploring around Loon and Corey Lakes. Our first visit to the Red Pine site was on January 1, 1971.
- Susan and John Crumrine