

Michigan Jack Pine

a heritage worth understanding



Produced by the Nongame Wildlife Fund, Natural Heritage Program, Wildlife Division, in cooperation with the Press Office, Michigan Department of Natural Resources.

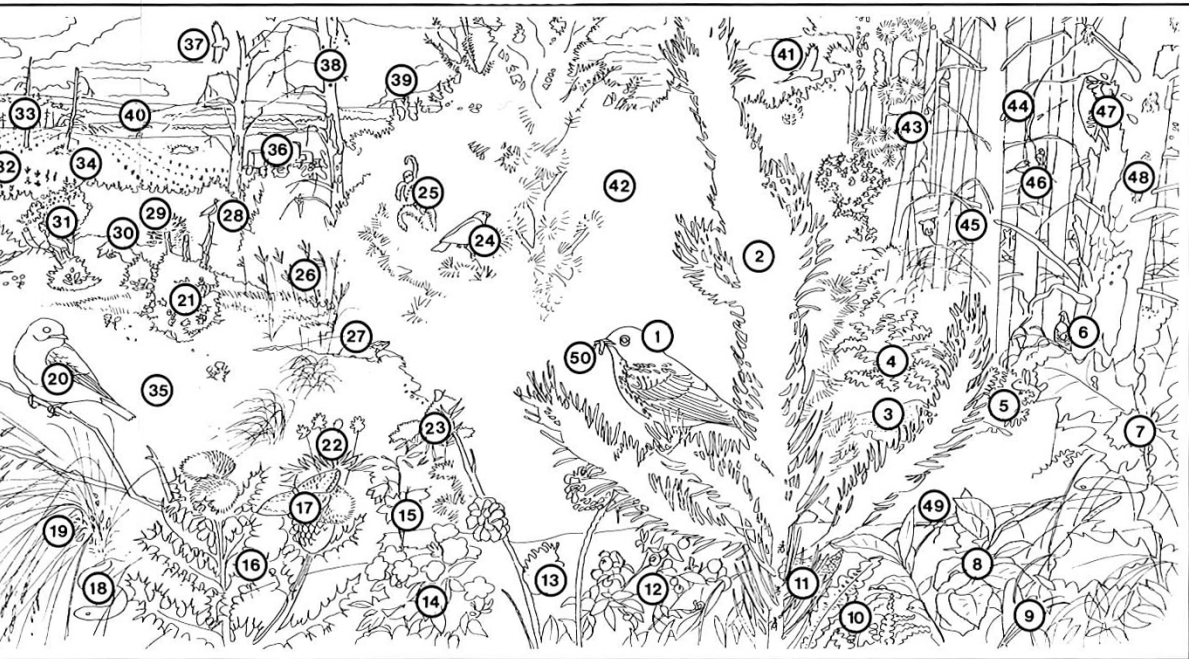
Painting by Gijsbert van Frankenhuyzen

We often think of forests as stable, mature communities of very large, old trees, rich with life. We may think of other natural communities which lack the towering trees and thick green mantle of the mature forest as less rich or less productive. But this is not the case.

In both the northern Lower and Upper peninsulas of Michigan, you can find a forest ecosystem which has always contained few large trees and little or no old growth. A forest where soils are dry and the vegetation sparse, it is called a *barrens*. A forest periodically swept by raging fires, only to spring back, fresh and revitalized. A forest which is amazingly productive and biologically diverse, providing homes for numerous plants and animals, many of them nowhere else on Earth. That is the **jack pine** ecosystem.

Today, more than ever, we are part of the jack pine ecosystem, seeking to extract its resources, enjoy its beauty, explore its secrets, and preserve its life. The jack pine forests can exist, only if we care. This poster has been produced toward achieving that goal.

Animals and Plants in a Jack Pine Ecosystem



1. Kirtland's Warbler
2. Jack Pine Branch
3. Ant Hill
4. Bracken Ferns
5. Snowshoe Hare, Summer Pelt
6. Spruce Grouse
7. Northern Pin Oak (Hill's Oak)
8. Black Cherry
9. Stinkhorn Fungus
10. Sweet Fern
11. Closed Jack Pine Cone
12. Blueberries
13. Fire-opened Jack Pine Cone
14. Hoary Puccoon
15. Harebells
16. Hill's Thistle
17. Fritillary
18. Green Snake
19. Rough Fescue
20. Bluebird, Male
21. Northern Pin Oak (Hill's Oak)
22. Pale Agoseris
23. Butterfly-weed
24. Cowbird, Male
25. White Pine Weevil, Dead Tops
26. Big Bluestem
27. Badger
28. Upland Sandpiper
29. Willow
30. Coyote, Mousing
31. Alleghany Plum
32. Jack Pine Seedlings
33. Fire-charred Stumps
34. Barrens Opening
35. Dry Sand Prairie
36. Tree Planter
37. Red-tailed Hawk
38. Nest Cavities
39. Fire
40. White-tailed Deer
41. Raven
42. Jack Pine, Kirtland's Warbler Nesting Site
43. Red Pine
44. Mature Jack Pine
45. Black Bear and Cubs
46. Chickadee
47. Black-backed Woodpecker
48. Lichens
49. Whitespotted Sawyer
50. Spruce Bud Worm

Michigan's wildlife needs your help

Your contributions to the Nongame Wildlife Fund on the Michigan income tax form support important work on Michigan's endangered animals and plants and nongame wildlife, including jack pine forest species such as the endangered Kirtland's warbler, bluebird, Alleghany plum, black-backed woodpecker, and prairie, or pale, agoseris.

The Nongame Wildlife Fund also produces educational materials, such as this poster, to promote understanding, enjoyment, and stewardship of our rich natural heritage.

