

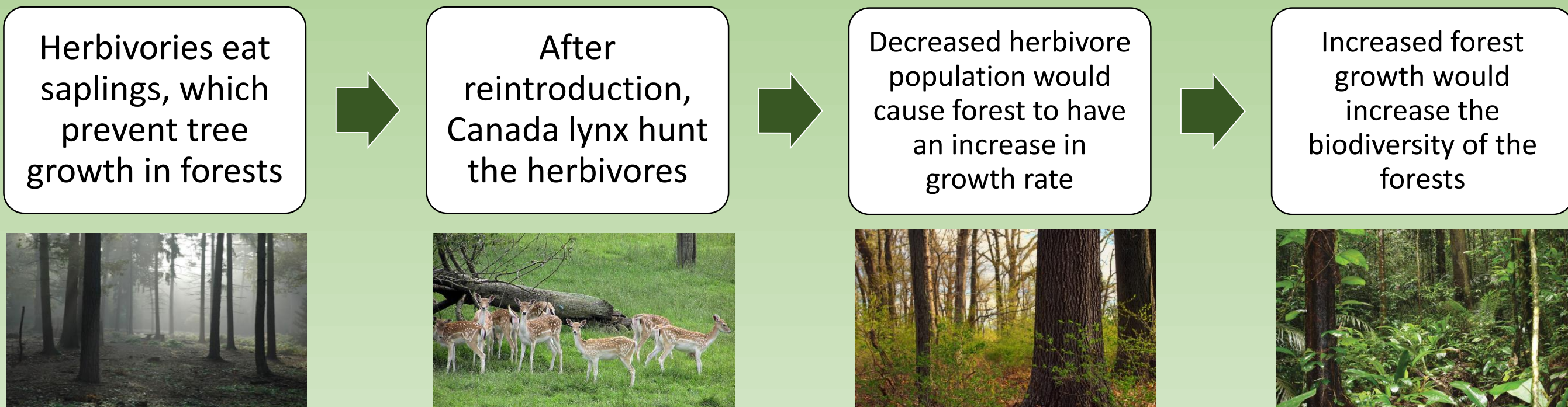
THE MISSING LYNX

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Trophic Cascade

- A trophic cascade is defined as the process of introducing a predator into an ecosystem in the hopes of suppressing the secondary consumers.
- This decreases the effect of consumers on forest growth
- Wolves reintroduced to Yellowstone National Park
- Below is an example of a possible cause and effect relationship

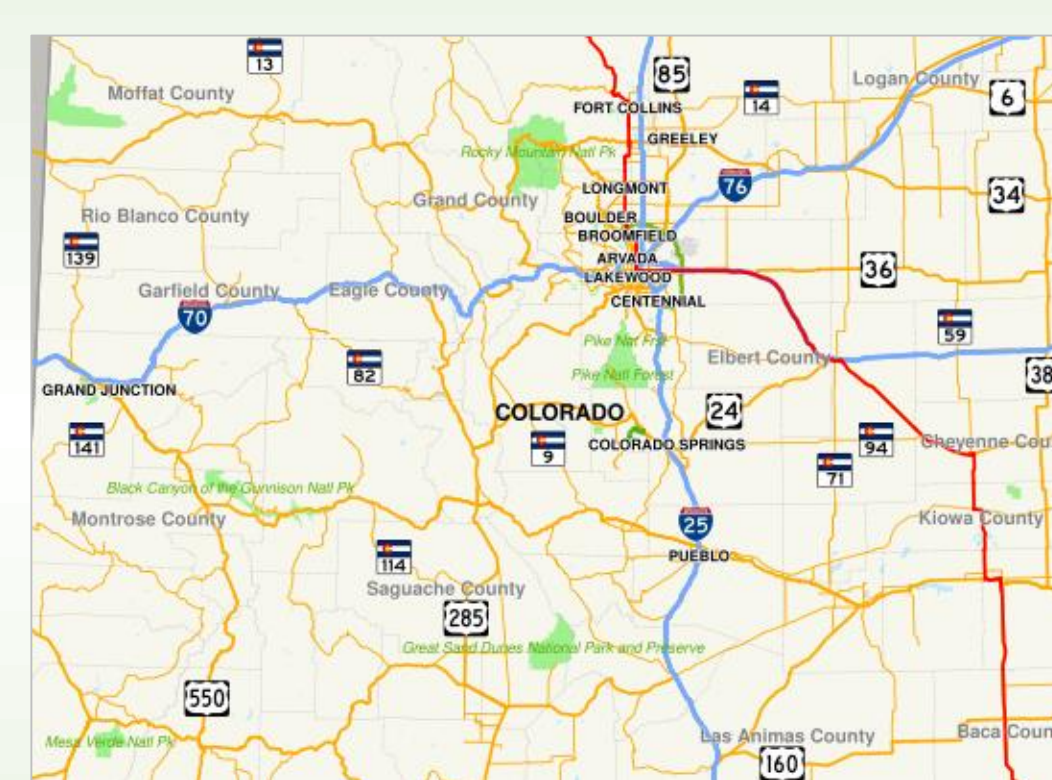


Other Reintroductions

The Canada Lynx was extirpated from the lower 48 states and now remain in low numbers in Minnesota and Maine. With this in mind they have been successfully reintroduced in:



Michigan



Colorado

Prey



Snowshoe Hare



Birds



Fawns



Squirrels

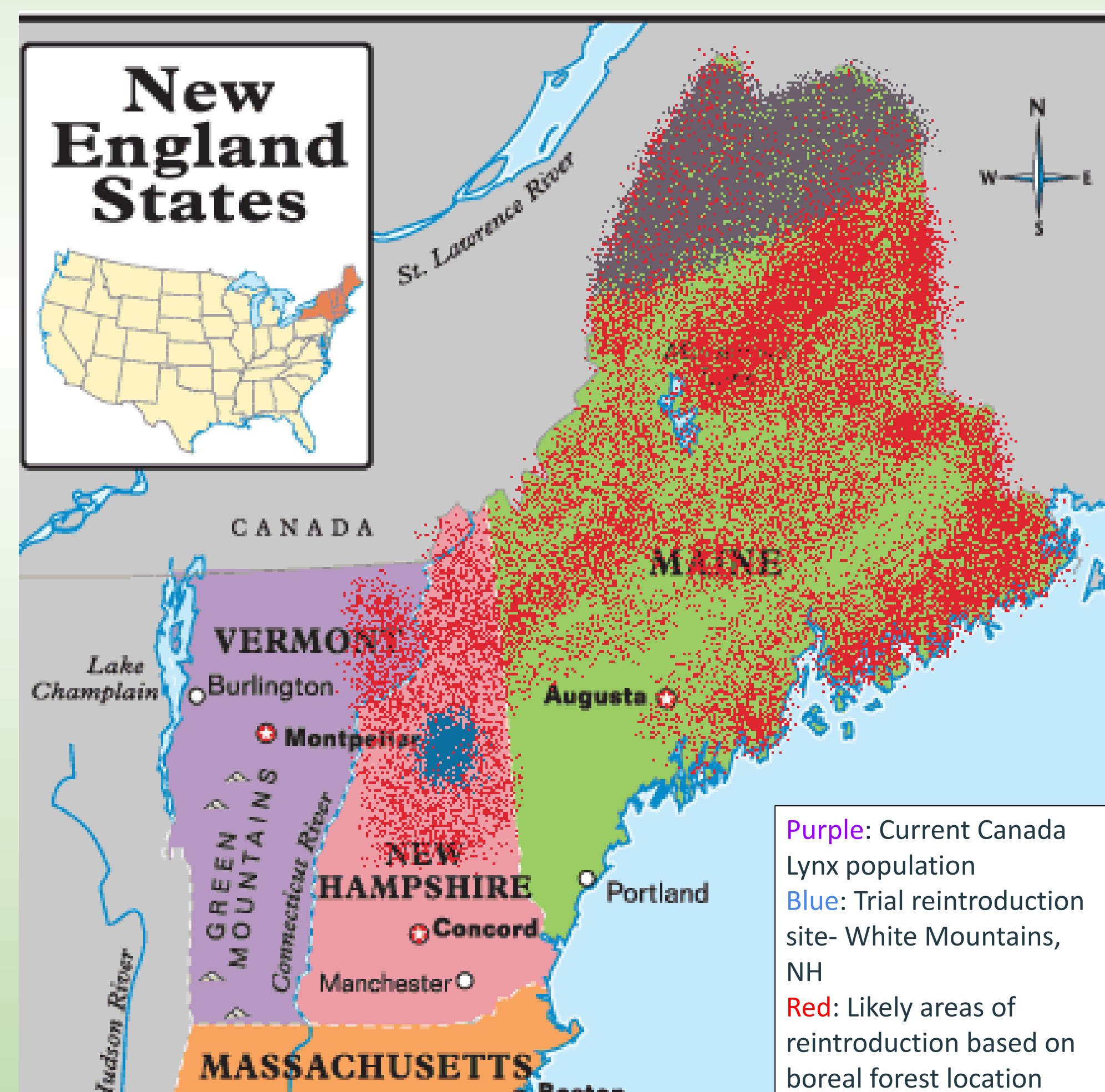


Reintroduction of the Canada Lynx into the White Mountains, a place where the species was previously extirpated, will benefit the ecosystem.



Trial Reintroduction

- White Mountains in New Hampshire.
- Contains high altitudes, boreal forests, limited human contact, state owned and operated land, and it snows



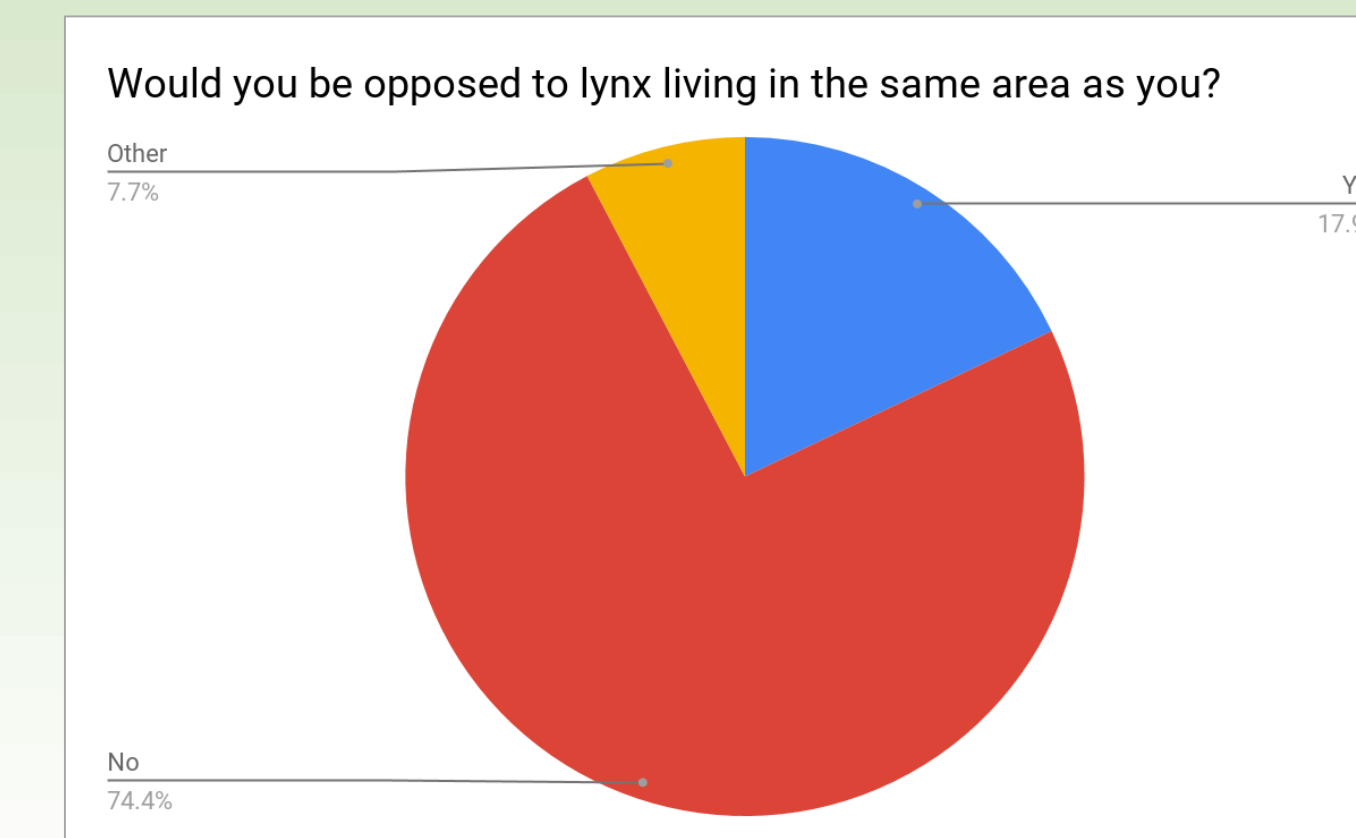
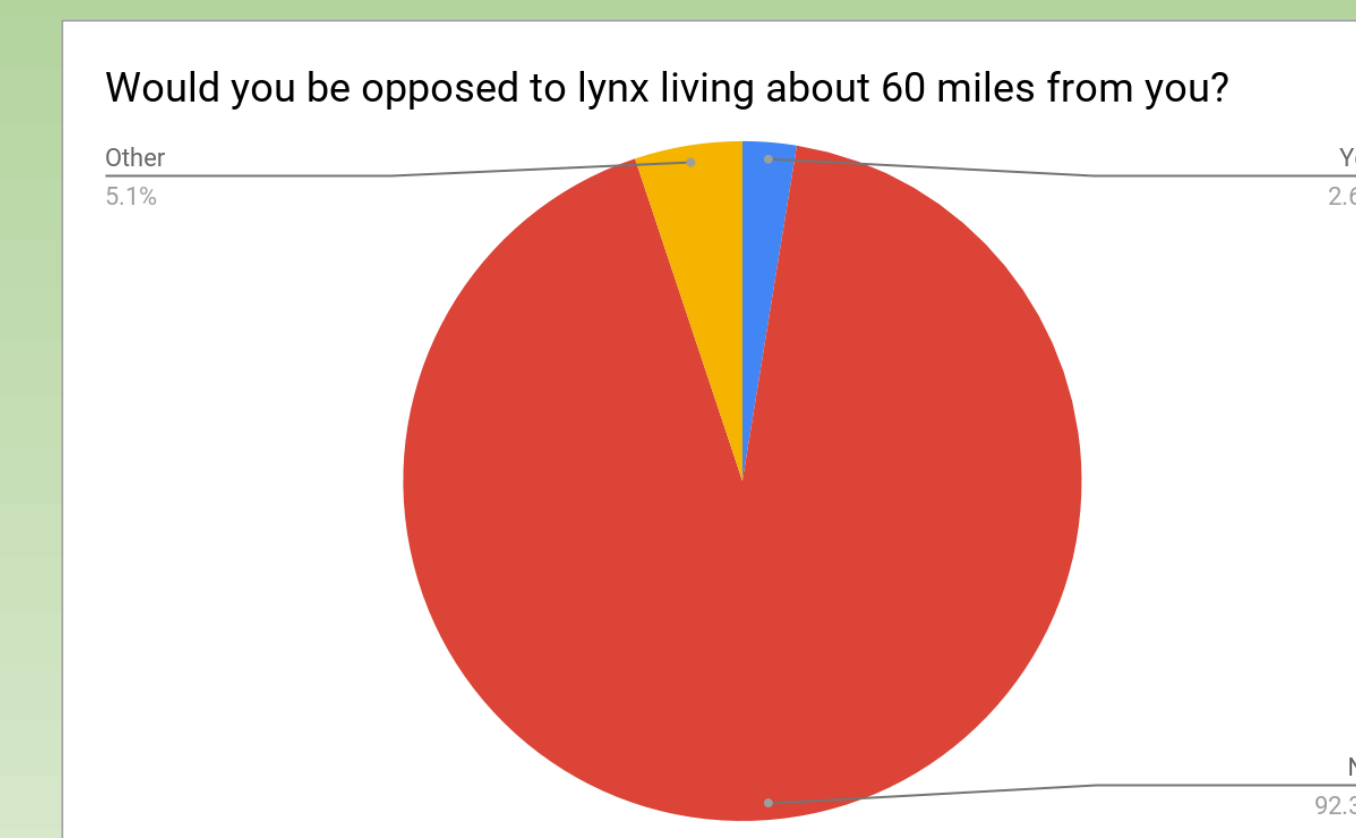
- Blue area represents the trial reintroduction site in the White Mountains
- Purple area represents the current lynx populations in Maine
- Red areas represent areas with boreal forests
- Once the trial reintroduction occurs, there is a possibility that the lynx can be reintroduced into more of these red areas.

- The lynx would likely be brought from Canada into the United States
- Lynx's would be imported from Maine if the population grows
- Smallest distance traveled and similar climate improve chances of lynx survival

Public Opinion

Due to wide spread fear of predators many people are afraid of the Canada Lynx, although there have been no recorded attacks on a human. This fear would be a major obstacle in lynx reintroduction into New Hampshire. Ways to combat this would be:

- Educating the public
- Publicity



Cost

- Benefits would likely outweigh the costs
- The project would likely cost three to four million dollars
- These funds could be raised by the public, but the majority of the money would be spent by the government

Policy



The government has legislation in place to aid in the reintroduction of species, but there are still many permits and regulations in place. Since the proposed location of reintroduction is on state land, it would likely decrease the amount of permits needed. The many regulations in place, have already been followed in Colorado, so the group reintroducing in New Hampshire could easily follow their bureaucratic process. The New Hampshire reintroduction group will need permits from the state and federal levels to bring lynx across state and even international borders.

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