

A new online database of tree-ring and ecological information for scientists and managers

Paul Schaberg¹, Shelly Rayback², James Duncan^{3,4}, Alexandra Kosiba^{3,4}, Paula Murakami¹, Christopher Hansen⁴, Gary Hawley⁴

¹USDA Forest Service, Northern Research Station, Burlington, VT

²The University of Vermont, Department of Geography, Burlington, VT

³Forest Ecosystem Monitoring Cooperative, South Burlington, VT

⁴The University of Vermont, Rubenstein School of Environment and Natural Resources, Burlington, VT

BACKGROUND

The study of tree rings (dendrochronology) provides a powerful tool to understand tree growth and the response of trees to a range of environmental influences (e.g., stand suppression and release, stress response to drought and other disturbances). Although useful, collecting and analyzing tree rings can be time consuming and involve the use of highly specialized equipment (e.g., microscopes, electronic micrometers, etc.) for accurate measurement and interpretation. Foresters and ecologists are often interested in understanding tree growth for many species across varied landscapes – a difficult and expensive undertaking for any one person or group. To overcome these limitations, we created the DendroEcological Network (DEN) (<https://www.uvm.edu/femc/dendro>) - an easily searchable online database of tree ring and associated ecological data from sites across the northeastern forest. On it users can explore, locate and download dendroecological data by scrolling through regional maps depicting sample plot locations, or toggling through links for data organized by species, states, and projects. Through its user-friendly interface, the DEN provides an open access repository for the discovery, exploration and *sharing* (consider adding your work) of dendroecological data by ecologists, conservationists and managers for evaluations of forest health and productivity.

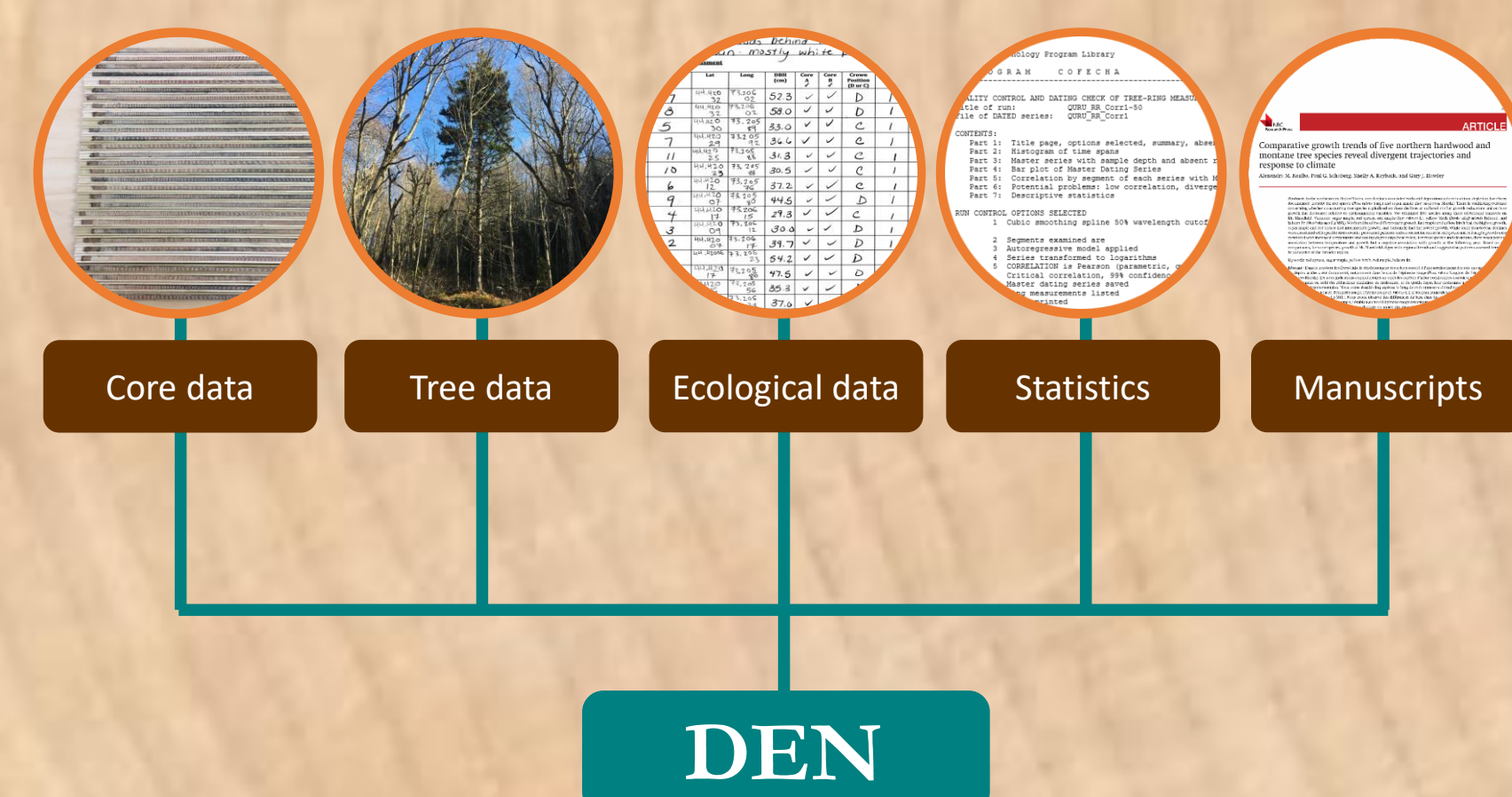
USE BY SCIENTISTS AND MANAGERS

Allows users to compare growth:

- among species (e.g., which are growing best/worst)
- among sites (e.g., your site versus others nearby or regionally)
- for spatial patterns (e.g., where is growth best/worst)
- for temporal patterns (e.g., when was growth best/worst)
- with potential environmental drivers (e.g., temperature and precipitation)

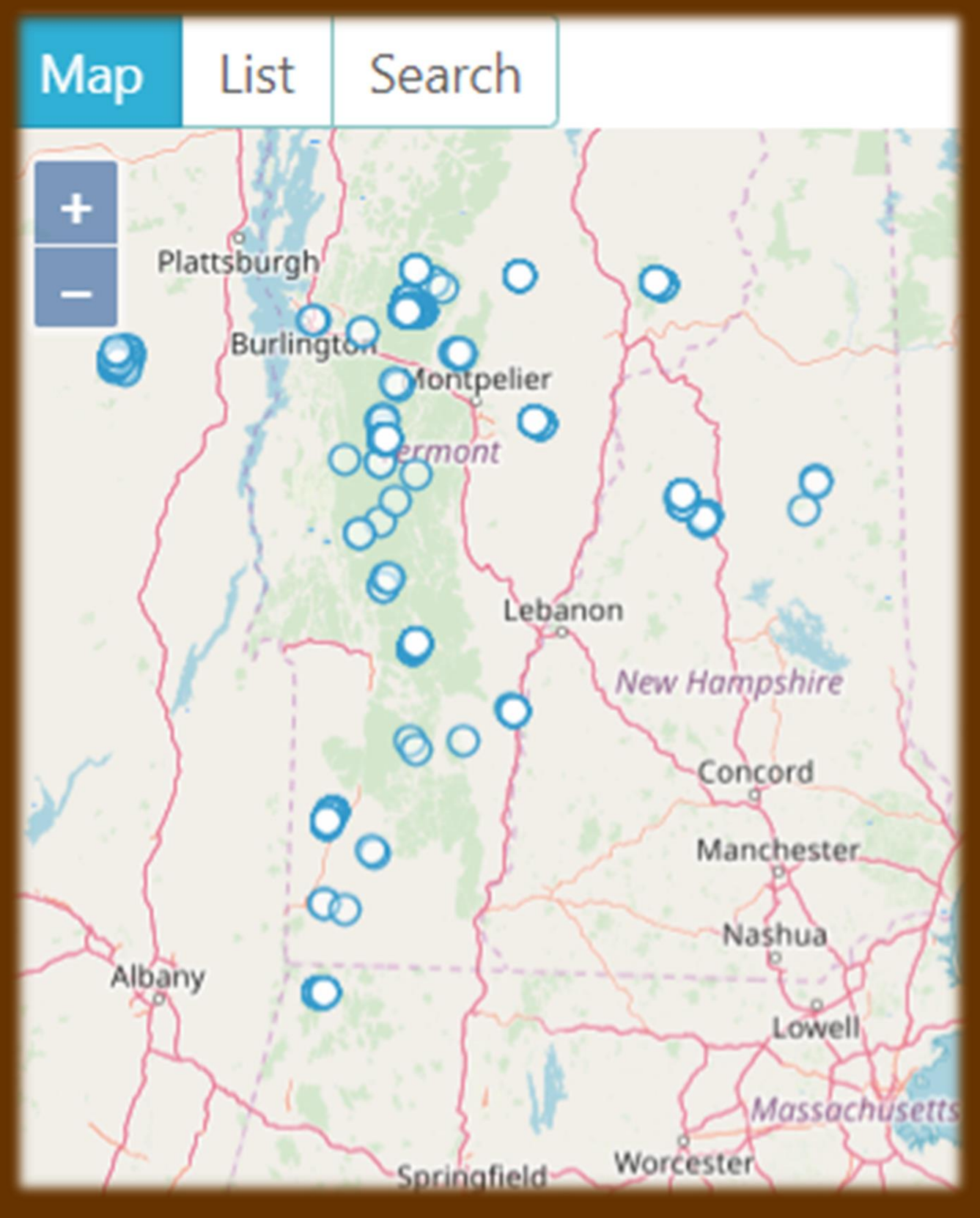
WHY CONTRIBUTE YOUR DATA TO THE DEN?

- Long-term archiving of dendrochronological and ecological metadata
- Meet granting agency requirements
- Facilitate comparison with other large datasets (e.g., ITRDB, FIA)
- Data sharing with ecology, conservation and management, silviculture, modeling, dendrochronology and environmental science communities

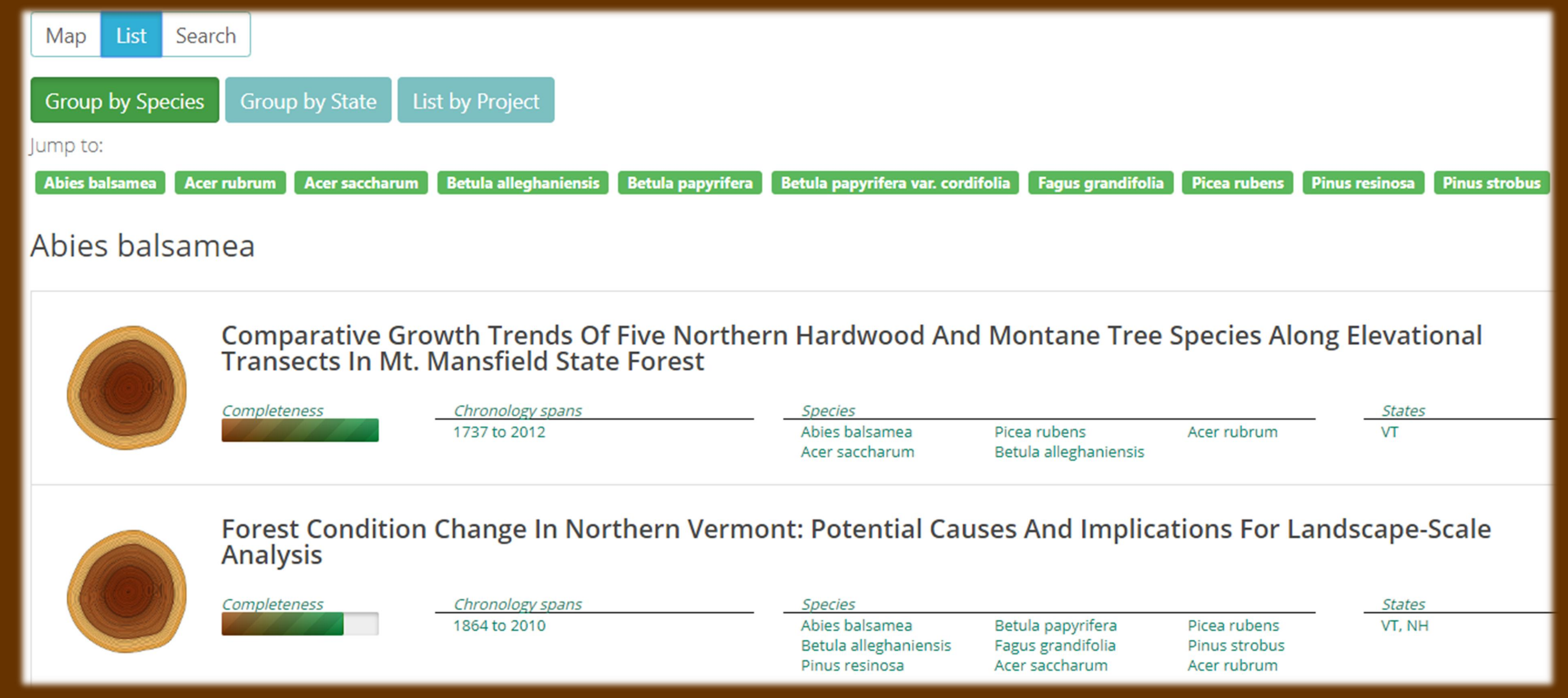


EXPLORE AND DOWNLOAD DATA WITH A USER-FRIENDLY INTERFACE

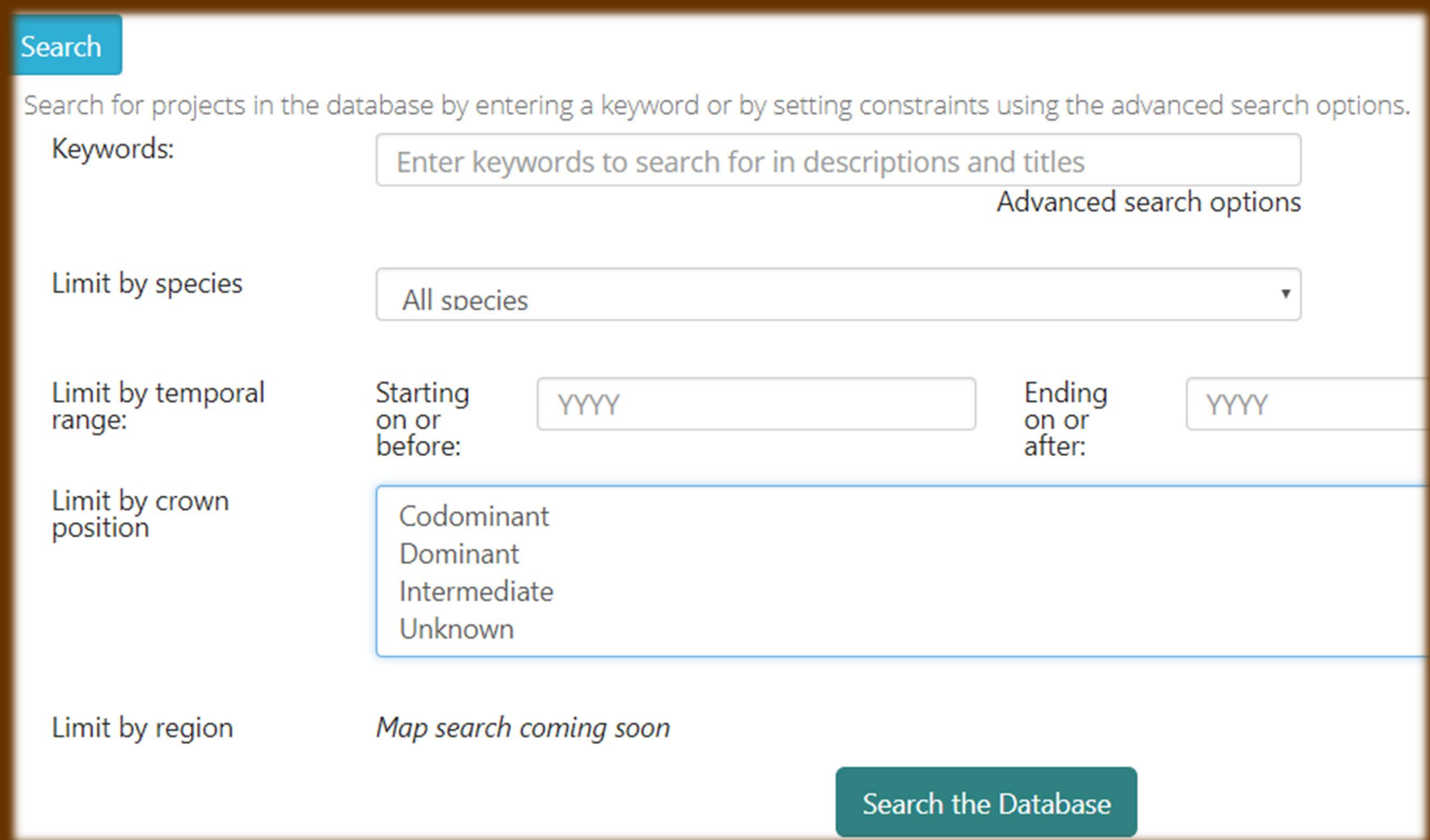
Search projects via interactive map



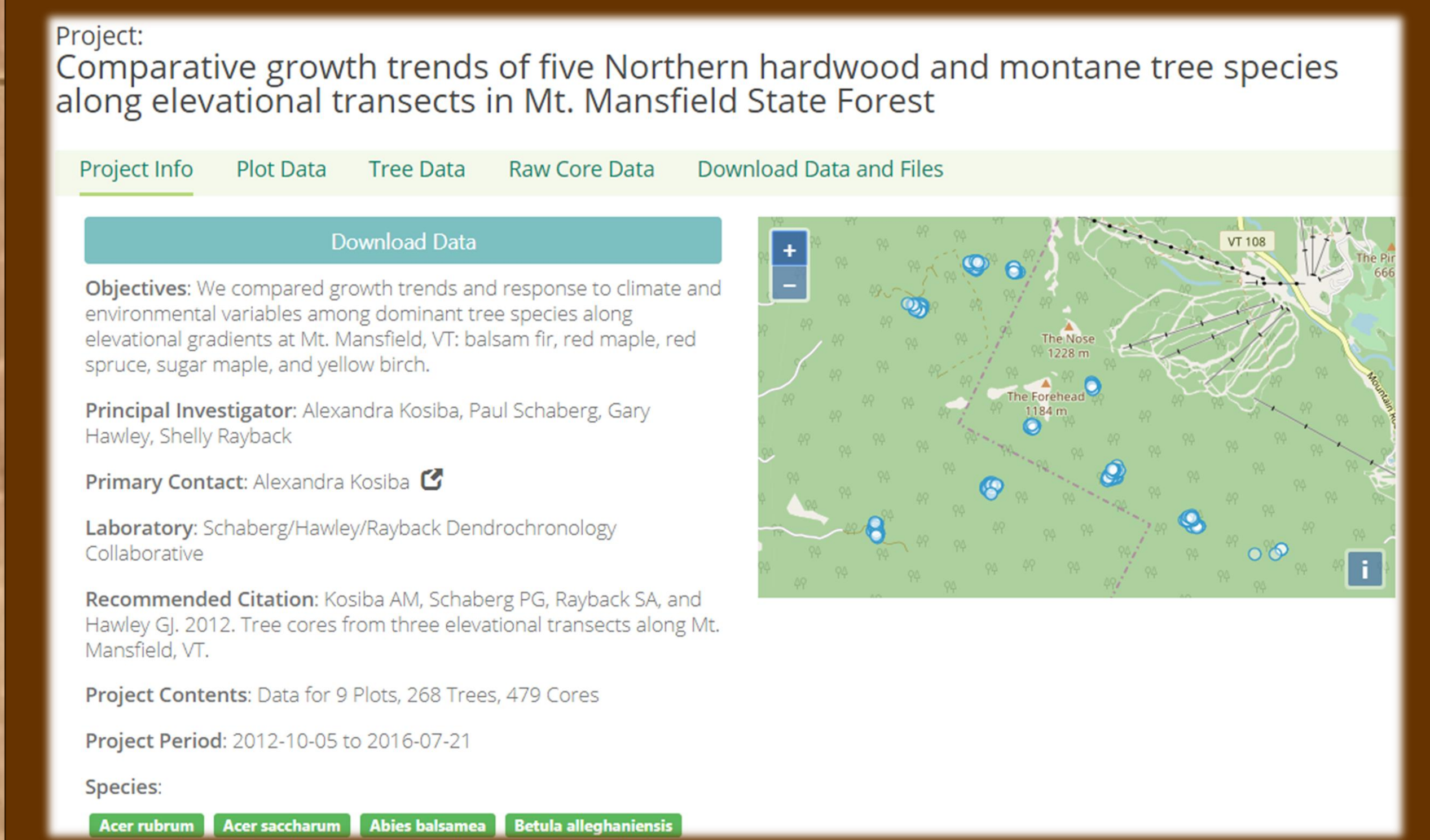
Investigate data by species, location, project




Explore database by keyword, species, temporal range, crown class




Access detailed project data: methods, plot and tree data, statistical files (COFECHA, R), metadata, completeness record



 www.uvm.edu/femc/dendro

 femc@uvm.edu

 802.656.2975