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Subject: Wollemi vid shows your point about spreading pathogens

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CB

Jason -

I was unaware that exotic *Phytophthora* had very recently found its way into the grove of wild *Wollemia*. One of our Michigan *Torreya* Guardians, Paul Camire, just alerted me to this excellent 7-minute vid that shows the *Phytophthora* problem, and which thus could be a nice add-on to show at the symposium to make your point.

VID: Ancient future - Saving the Wollemi pine <https://youtu.be/LQuhXLDXI-0>

After watching this vid, I realized I can no longer claim that *Torreya taxifolia* is the most endangered conifer in the world. At least *T. tax* has 2 disease-free, reproducing and naturalizing groves (one of which is in truly "wild" forest habitat): Highlands NC and Biltmore near Asheville.

In prep for the *Torreya* Symposium, I am getting our *Torreya* Guardians website as complete and useful as possible. There are several new sections that are important for you to be aware of. All are within the [HISTORY OF TORREYA GUARDIANS WEBPAGE](#):

- Pictures and links to VIDEO documentaiton of **both mature groves: Highlands and Biltmore**
- Pictures and links to the PHOTO-rich webpages documenting my own **site visits in 2005 to wild California *Torreya* groves**.

The **California site visit** is crucial reference for (a) ascertaining **microsite conditions** our own species might do best in when moved into mountainous terrain and (b) beginning to evaluate my question (which has its own photo-rich webpage):

- ["Could Florida *Torreya* take the place of Eastern Hemlock?"](#)
- **ARCHIVE of early communications** (most are prior to the formation of *Torreya* Guardians) is at the bottom of the History page. Scan the names that I list for some of the entries, and you will see we had some "greats" involved in early discussions, prior to publication of the pro- and anti- assisted migration papers in the 2004/5 Winter issue of *Wild Earth* (which pretty much polarized future discussions).

Finally, you will see a **new graphic** I added to the history page (and on some other pages too), as it is a visual way for folks to quickly grasp the extent of our seed distribution to private individuals and to botanical gardens during the last 13 years. I also show a smaller **map of seed sources** we are aware of (there are probably more out there; it would be useful for the team to make an effort to visit and tally them all). I'll paste in that illustration at bottom.

For *Torreya*,
Connie Barlow



