



**Monday, September 20, 2021 at 7:00**

## **"White Mountain Forest Fires"**

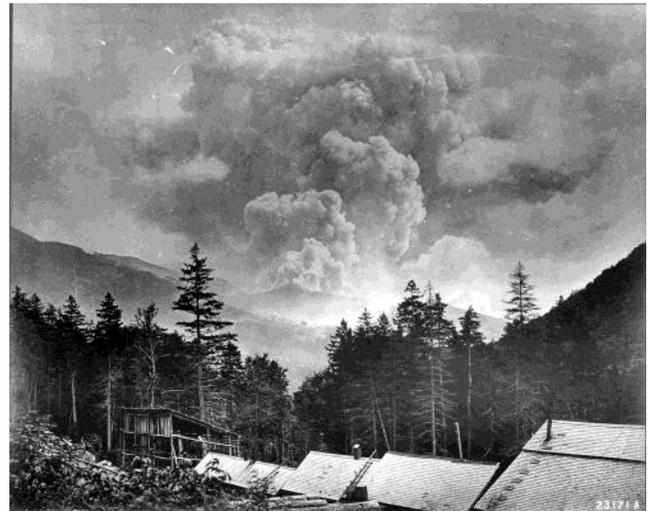
**Presented by: David Govatski**

Forest fires in the White Mountains are not frequent, but under the right conditions occur and are often difficult to suppress. In 1903 over 85,000 acres of the White Mountain region burned in an outbreak of multiple fires in logging slash and cut-over mountainsides. Forest fires threatened entire communities, and the lack of an organized suppression effort led to growing calls for forest protection and conservation and led to the creation of the White Mountain National Forest.

This program will look at historic fires from the 1800s and early 1900s and more recent forest fires such as the Lucy Brook, Covered Bridge, and Dilly Forest Fires. We will consider early leadership efforts by the NH Timberland Owners Association and the Society for the Protection of NH Forests along with the business community to work on protecting the forests from the danger of fires.

We will discuss the effects of forest fires in the ecosystem, prescribed burning, fire prevention and detection, fire weather, and more complex issues such as adequate funding at the national level to manage forest fires under a changing climate.

David Govatski is a naturalist and author. He retired after working for the US Forest Service for over 30 years. He served as a fire management officer and was on a national interagency incident management team for eight years. David's first job in the Forest Service was as a fire lookout on the Devil's Head Lookout on the Pike National Forest in Colorado. He also worked on the Redmond Hotshot firefighting crew on the Deschutes National Forest in Oregon and worked on numerous large forest fires, including the 1988 Yellowstone Fires. He has also worked on multiple prescribed fires in his career.



### **Special Events:**

- October 2 Heritage Day
- December 12 Holiday Concert and Cookie Swap



The presentation will be at the Old Town Hall in Campton, which is handicap accessible, and open to the public. Refreshments will be served. For information about the Society, check our web site at [www.camptonhistorical.org](http://www.camptonhistorical.org)

### **This event is made possible thanks in part to the following business sponsors:**

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