Red Birch

1. Planted itself
2. Natural Seedling (even though he would value pine even more if it were a natural seedling he is admits his bias and amongst his distaste)
3. Abundant
4. 50 years

White Pine

1. Leopold planted himself
2. Scarce
3. 100 years

Leopold doesn’t reflect on the benefits of preserving birch trees. Leopold reflects on possible situations that create a hindrance’s on pine trees. For example, Leopold considers the situation where a birch tree is blocking light from reaching the pine. The alternative however, would be to consider when a birch tree reflects light upon the pine tree, thus bolstering it’s growth.