

# Level 1 Tree Risk Assessment Report



**Prepared  
For:**

**Chestnut Trails HOA**

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## Notice of Disclaimer

*Assessment data provided by Davey Resource Group is based on visual recording at the time of inspection. Visual records do not include testing or analysis and do not include aerial or subterranean inspection unless indicated. Davey Resource Group is not responsible for discovery or identification of hidden or otherwise non-observable risks. Records may not remain accurate after inspection due to variable deterioration of surveyed material. Risk ratings are based on observable defects and mitigation recommendations do not reduce potential liability to the owner. Davey Resource Group provides no warranty with respect to the fitness of the trees for any use or purpose whatsoever.*

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# Introduction

Davey Resource Group Inc. (DRG) was contracted by Ashley Rider to perform a Level 1 Tree Risk Assessment of the trees that exist in the Native Growth Protection Area (NGPA) within Chestnut Trails residential community of Bothell. An initial Level 1 Tree Risk Assessment was performed by DRG in November of 2021. The details of this current report are intended to support the additional trees that have been identified as hazardous. On December 5 and 6, 2022, an International Society of Arboriculture (ISA) Certified Arborist (WE-11849AU) and Qualified Tree Risk Assessor from DRG conducted an assessment of the trees. The trees were assessed by their location, size, current condition, and overall health. The data was then used to determine a risk rating. The current edition of the Tree Risk Assessment Manual (ISA, 2013) was used to guide the risk rating of the tree as well as the potential strategies for care and risk abatement.

The purpose of this report is to provide the details of the risk assessment results. The findings in this report can be used to decide whether trees may need to be removed, or retained with restorative pruning and plant health care.

## Methods

Data was collected by an ISA Certified Arborist (Marc Leonard - WE-11849AU) on December 5 and 6, 2022. A limited visual inspection was used to develop the findings, conclusions, and recommendations found in this report. This level 1 assessment method is intended as a rapid assessment in order to identify trees with obvious defects or conditions of concern that could impact HOA properties. Only trees with imminent and/or probable likelihood of failure in a **2-year timeframe** had data collected. As a Level 1 Risk Assessment, no risk rating was developed for any tree. No physical inspection of the upper canopy, root crown excavation, use of a resistograph, or other technologies were used in the evaluation of the trees.

The following attributes were collected for each site:

**Condition:** Condition ratings were based on but not limited to: (1) the condition and environment of the tree's root crown; (2) the condition of the trunk, including decay, injury, callusing, or presence of fungus sporophore; (3) the condition of the limbs, including the strength of crotches, amount of deadwood, hollow areas, and whether there was excessive weight borne by them; (4) the condition and growth rate history of the twigs, including pest damage and diseases; (5) the leaf appearance, including abnormal size and density as well as pest and disease damage. Using an average of the above factors together with the arborist's best judgment, the general condition of the tree was recorded in one of the following categories adapted from the rating system established by the International Society of Arboriculture:

- **Good:** A fully branched and leafed canopy; branches over 2 inches in diameter exhibit little to no dieback; little to no epicormic growth (i.e., sprouting from the trunk, limbs, or roots); and little to no aesthetic damage from insects or disease. The tree displays a growth habit characteristic of the species. The wood has no major structural problems and no significant mechanical damage. The tree exhibits good overall vigor.

- **Fair:** The canopy is thinning and there is less than average new growth present, or there is noticeable dead wood over 2" diameter or dieback throughout the majority of the crown, or there is significant mechanical damage to the trunk or root system, or the tree is otherwise exhibiting significant signs of stress and potential decline. The following signs or symptoms may be present in the tree: significant damage from non-fatal or disfiguring diseases, minor crown imbalance or thin crown, and/or stunted growth compared to adjacent trees. This condition also includes trees that have been topped but show reasonable vitality and no obvious signs of decay.
- **Poor:** The tree is in obvious decline or poses a significant risk that requires immediate mitigation. There are significant amounts of dieback or dead/dying limbs greater than 2" in diameter; there is minimal to no growth; or there is extensive decay to the trunk or root system, raising concerns of structural integrity. A tree in this category may also have severe mechanical damage or poor vigor threatening its ability to thrive.
- **Critical:** The tree is dying and/or presents an unacceptable risk that necessitates immediate removal.
- **Dead**

**Tree Number:** The tree ID number was assigned.

**Location and Unique ID:** An X and Y coordinate was generated for each tree site.

**Species:** Trees were identified by genus and species, cultivar if evident, and by common name.

**Diameter at Breast Height (DBH):** Trunk diameter was recorded to the nearest inch at 4.5 feet (standard height) above grade except where noted. When limbs or deformities occurred at standard height, measurement was taken below 4.5 ft.

**Height:** Tree Height estimated to the nearest <5ft.

**Avg. Canopy Radius:** Average dripline distance was measured.

## Limits of the Assignment

There are many factors that can limit specific and accurate data when performing evaluations of trees, their conditions, and values. The determinations and recommendations presented here are based on current data and conditions that existed at the time of the evaluation and cannot be a predictor of the ultimate outcomes for the trees. A limited visual inspection was used to develop the findings, conclusions, and recommendations found in this report. Values were assigned to grade the attributes of the trees, including structure and canopy health, and to obtain an overall condition rating. No physical inspection of the upper canopy, root crown excavation, and resistograph, or other technologies, were used in the evaluation of the trees.

# Level 1 Tree Risk Assessment

## Observations & Recommendations

A total of six (6) trees were inspected and underwent a Level 1 Tree Risk Assessment.

**Tree ID# 8368** and **Tree ID# 8371** are dead. **Removal** is recommended.

**Tree ID# 8370** is in critical condition. The root plate of the tree is lifting, has a significant lean and is resting on a nearby tree. **Removal** is recommended.

**Tree ID# 8369** and **Tree ID# 8372** are in very poor condition and have significant trunk decay. **Removal** is recommended.

### Additional Considerations

In 2021, **Tree ID# 4966** was identified as being in excellent condition. The recommendation from that report is repeated here for reference:

**“Tree ID# 4966** has large deadwood that overhangs the community trail in the NGPA. The **pruning of the deadwood** is recommended to effectively eliminate the risk of tree part failure.”

Subsequent to this recommendation the whole tree was removed to a snag that stands roughly 20ft. The snag has multiple locations of decay and fruiting bodies. The snag is now in critical condition and more likely to fail. The snag should remain as a wildlife habitat unless the risk that it now poses is deemed unacceptable for the infrequent use of the community trail nearby.

## Recommendations for Dead Trees

There are two options to mitigate the risk of the trees determined to be dead:

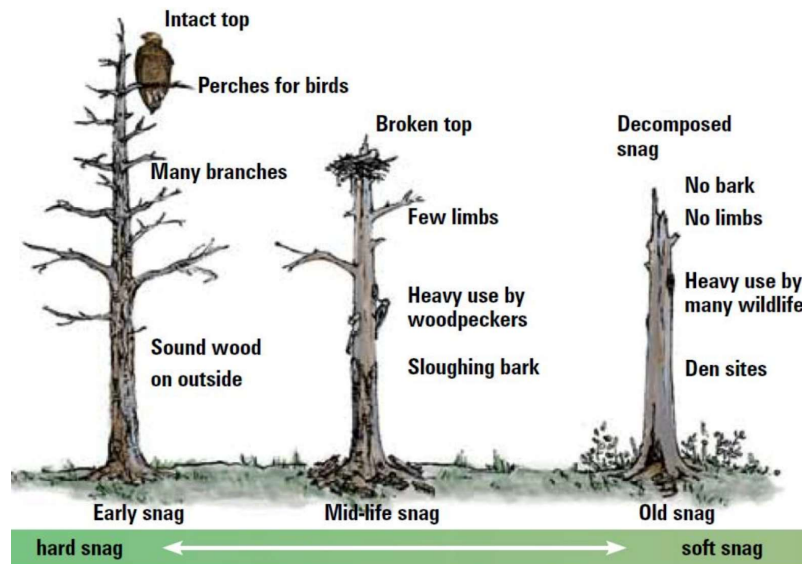
Option #1 - Remove the tree and all tree parts.

Option #2 - Leave 'snag' as a wildlife habitat. Remove the crown and cut the trunk down to 15 feet. As the remaining trunk decays over years, it will provide valuable habitat to many species of native fauna, such as Northern Flickers and Pileated Woodpeckers. This option is only recommended if the client is willing to accept the level of risk from the failing snag.

## Habitat Snags

Trees to be removed at the project site may be topped at a safe height and left as habitat snags for wildlife food, nesting, or shelter. Standing or downed deadwood plays an important role in the landscape. Tree removals at the site present an opportunity to promote and increase wildlife activity and diversity at the site. The arborist performing the removals will be consulted to decide the potential for a habitat snag designation on a tree-by-tree basis. In some cases, guy wires may be attached to the tree and anchored in the ground to create a safe snag out of a taller tree.

*An example image of habitat snag life stages and wildlife potential.*



# Appendix A: Maps

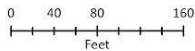
Map 1 - Overall site map showing tree ID number. Aerial photos are only used for reference. Map projections may distort tree canopy size and locations.



## Tree Inventory

3124 201st Street SE  
Bothell, WA  
December 2022

- No Maintenance Required
- ✕ Priority 1 Removal
- Parcel Boundaries



\*Aerial imagery is from 2021  
\*Aerial imagery can distort size and locations of trees and structures and is intended for reference only



# Appendix B: Tree Inventory Table

Tree ID#	Species	DBH (in)	Height (ft)	Avg. Canopy Radius (ft)	Condition	Observations	Recommendation
8368	Western hemlock ( <i>Tsuga heterophylla</i> )	7	50	10	Dead	Dead	Remove
8369	Douglas fir ( <i>Pseudotsuga menziesii</i> )	27	110	15	Very Poor	Trunk Decay	Remove
8370	Douglas fir ( <i>Pseudotsuga menziesii</i> )	15	95	10	Critical	Root Plate Lifting	Remove
8371	Scouler willow ( <i>Salix scouleriana</i> )	6	30	10	Dead	Trunk Decay	Remove
8372	Scouler willow ( <i>Salix scouleriana</i> )	14	35	15	Very Poor	Trunk Decay, Codominant Stem, Included Bark	Remove
4966	Douglas fir ( <i>Pseudotsuga menziesii</i> )	30	20	0	Dead	Trunk Decay	Remain as Snag