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Tree Health Assessment

Level II

For

Angela Barret

Located at

15302 Salmonberry Ave

Sandy, OR 97055



Angela Barrett
 15302 Salmonberry Ave
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Project: 2 Douglas firs

General Information and Assignment

SavATree was contacted with a concern about potential risk posed by two Douglas firs (*Pseudotsuga menziesii*) located in the backyard at 15302 Salmonberry Ave, Sandy. The client retained us to perform a tree health and risk assessment on the subject trees to provide recommendations on tree risk, tree risk mitigation, and residual risk following mitigation.

Tree Assessment

I visited the site and assessed the trees on January 11th, 2023. I performed a Level II Tree Risk Assessment. This involves assessing the visible tree roots, trunk, and crown for defects and potential targets for risk. The limitation of this assessment is due to the assessment taking place from the ground only. The potential targets are anyone located in the backyard or neighbor’s yard, the house, the shed, and anyone located in the bedrooms of the house. This assessment is only for the trees specified and only for the level of assessment specified.

The tree risk assessment formula is: Probability x Consequences = Risk. That is, the probability of a tree or tree part failing and striking a potential target, and the consequences of that occurrence equals the risk rating. This risk assessment matrix is shown below. The risk assessment matrix is shown below.

Matrix 1. Likelihood matrix.

Likelihood of Failure	Likelihood of Impact			
	Very low	Low	Medium	High
Imminent	Unlikely	Somewhat likely	Likely	Very likely
Probable	Unlikely	Unlikely	Somewhat likely	Likely
Possible	Unlikely	Unlikely	Unlikely	Somewhat likely
Improbable	Unlikely	Unlikely	Unlikely	Unlikely

Matrix 2. Risk rating matrix.

Likelihood of Failure & Impact	Consequences of Failure			
	Negligible	Minor	Significant	Severe
Very likely	Low	Moderate	High	Extreme
Likely	Low	Moderate	High	High
Somewhat likely	Low	Low	Moderate	Moderate
Unlikely	Low	Low	Low	Low

Observations

There are two large Douglas-firs (*Pseudotsuga menziesii*) located in the northwest corner of the property in the backyard of 15302 Salmonberry Ave, Sandy. Their diameter at breast height are 34" and 24" with a height of approximately 65-80 feet. Their canopies are sparse with a lot of dead branches, and they have dropped a large number of branches. I noticed that there were Doug fir beetle exit holes on the main stem and aphids on the foliage. The client mentioned that during the summers the trees dropped a lot of sap which is likely honeydew from the aphid population. The client mentioned that they had their trees pruned in the past year and a half. The next-door neighbors, 15296 Salmonberry Ave, had three Douglas-firs removed in the past 3-4 year and have one 24" Douglas-fir. The trees removed and the one still standing are in the same small grove as our client's two Douglas-firs. The trees removed were consistently failing and hitting the neighbor's house.

Risk Assessment

Tree 1 34" DBH Douglas-fir

The probability of the 34" Douglas-fir striking a target is: **Very likely**. The consequence of the 34" Douglas-fir tree or part striking a target would be: **Significant**. The tree risk of the 34" Douglas-fir is consequently categorized as: **High**.

Tree 2 24" DBH Douglas-fir

The probability of the 24" Douglas-fir striking a target is: **Very likely**. The consequence of the 24" Douglas-fir tree or part striking a target would be: **Significant**. The tree risk of the 24" Douglas-fir is consequently categorized as: **High**.

The timeframe for this risk assessment is within one year of the date of the assessment and is valid under normal (non-extreme) weather conditions.

Conclusion

Tree risk can be eliminated by removing the trees or the targets. My recommendation for risk mitigation is to remove both of the Douglas-firs and replant with native species though the homeowner has planted multiple native species on the property. Both trees have drastically dropped their branches which is most likely due to new exposure to wind loads from the neighboring tree removals. In addition, both trees have Doug-fir beetle and aphids which increases the likelihood of failures in the future and negatively impacts the health of the trees. There is too much irreversible damage that even with a plant health care program the trees would likely not improve. The removal recommendation will eliminate the risk factor. I am also working with the next-door neighbor to assess the damage/risk of the trees on their property.

Trees can be managed but they cannot be controlled. Not all risk associated with standing trees can be eliminated. Even intact trees can be expected to fail all or in part under extreme weather conditions. The trees owners are responsible for selecting and implementing mitigation, scheduling of repeat assessments, and scheduling future monitoring and maintenance.

- Appendix A** *Site Map*
- Appendix B** *Images*
- Appendix C** *Assumptions and Limitations*
- Appendix D** *Certification of Performance*

Appendix A – Site Map



Client's trees are marked as a red dot, neighbor's trees that were removed are red

Appendix B- Images



Image 1: Client's trees and neighbor's last standing tree



Image 2: Failing branches



Image 3: Aphid honeydew



Image 4: Doug-fir beetle exit holes



Image 5: Failed branch on client's house



Image 6: Evidence of Doug-fir beetle and aphids

Appendix C *Assumptions and Limitations*

1. A field examination of the site was made. My observations and conclusions are as of that date.
2. Care has been taken to obtain all information from a reliable source, however the Arborist can neither guarantee nor be responsible for accuracy of information provided by others.
3. Unless stated otherwise, information contained in this report covers only those trees that were examined and reflects the condition of those trees at the time of inspection. The inspection is limited to visual examination of the subject trees without dissection, excavation, probing, or coring. There is no warranty or guarantee that problems or deficiencies of the subject tree may not arise in the future.
4. All trees possess the risk of failure. Trees can fail at any time, with or without obvious defects or applied stress. Trees are living biological organisms, and I cannot predict nor guarantee their stability or failure.
5. Sketches or drawings in this report are intended as visual aids and are not necessarily to scale and should not be used as engineering or architectural reports or surveys.
6. This report and any values/opinions expressed herein represents my opinion as an arborist. Inaction on the part of those receiving the report is not the responsibility of the Arborist.
7. Loss or alteration of this report invalidates the entire report.
8. *It is the contractor's/ owner's responsibility to contact us in a timely matter to ensure that a project arborist is available when inspections and/ or observations are required. Please allow two weeks for scheduling purposes.*
9. Any legal description provided to the consultant/ appraiser is assumed to be correct. Any titles and ownerships to any property are assumed to be good and marketable. No responsibility is assumed for matters legal in character. Any and all property is appraised or evaluated as free and clear, under responsible ownership and competent management.
10. The consultant/ appraiser shall not be required to give testimony or attend court by reason of this report unless subsequent contractual arrangements are made, including payment for such services.
11. Possession of this report does not imply right of publication or use for any other purpose by any other than the person to whom it is addressed, without the prior expressed written consent of the consultant/ appraiser.

Appendix D - Certification of Performance

I, Sibyl Weise, certify that:

- I have personally inspected the trees and the property referred to in this report and have stated my findings accurately. The extent of the evaluation or appraisal is stated in the attached report and the Terms of the Assignment.
- I have no current or prospective interest in the vegetation or the property that is subject of this report and have no personal interest or bias with respect to the parties involved.
- The analysis, opinions and conclusions stated herein are my own and are based on current scientific procedures and facts.
- My analysis, opinions and conclusions were developed, and this report has been prepared according to commonly accepted arboricultural practices.
- No one provided significant professional assistance to me, except as indicated in the report.
- My compensation is not contingent upon reporting of a predetermined conclusion that favors the cause of the client or any other party nor upon the results of the assessment, the attainment of stipulated results, or the occurrence of any subsequent events.

I further certify that I am an ISA Certified Arborist with TRAQ qualifications. I have been involved in the arboricultural field for 7 years.

Sincerely,



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