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Date of Site visit: February 15, 2024

Contact:

Mason Wolfe - 360-907-9588

Location:

Vineyard Vista 2103 NE North Fork Ave La Center WA 98629

Arborist Observations:

Regarding two Oregon white oaks on the property:

Tree #1 - 14" DBH

This Oregon white oak is generally healthy.

Its canopy has been suppressed by surrounding trees in the green space. The tree has developed a trunk lean as it has had to reach for sunlight as it competes with the surrounding trees (mainly larger Douglas firs). It has developed an unbalanced canopy with the majority of the branches growing in the direction of the lean. The tree also has a co-dominate stem that emerges from approximately halfway up the trunk. Co-dominate stems tend to have poor longevity and are prone to splitting when under load (heavy canopy, heavy winds, or heavy ice.)

The oak is surrounded in the green space with other trees, particularly Douglas firs (some large and mature and others relatively young and still vigorously growing). The Douglas firs in the green space will continue to increase in height and girth and will continue to compete with the oaks in the green space. The Douglas firs will have some advantages in growth since they can monopolize the sunlight and cause the oaks to struggle and grow less ideally as they lean for light or have sparse canopy cover from lack of light.

This oak will continue to have to reach and lean for light since the surrounding forest will continue growing and monopolizing the light due to them being generally taller than the oak. This could potentially lead to major failure where the oak heaves over due to its naturally unbalanced canopy and lean. The suppression created by the taller Douglas firs could also cause the oak to decline in health and vigor causing it to die out over time.

This oak is a good candidate for removal and replacement.



Tree #2: 21"DBH

This Oregon white oak is in poor health.

There is significant die back and deadwood throughout the canopy. This oak is dying and the remaining live canopy will likely decline further over the years and will not produce new canopy. The tree also has multiple co-dominant stems that are prone to failure due to weaker attachments to the main trunk.

This tree is a good candidate for removal and replacement.



Additional general information:

The Oregon white oaks to be retained in the forested area should be given space for healthy growth. They could benefit from having some selective removal of the nearby trees in the green space to allow them more space to expand their canopies and to have less competition for light. This will help them grow more balanced and improve their overall health and shape.

Arborist: ChannahButtrell - ISA: PN-8266a