

Johnson's Quality Tree Care & Logging

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LAKE COUNTY RESOURCE CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Hazardous Tree Risk Assessment

Summary Report | Cobb Area County Roadways

Project Purpose

The purpose of this assessment was to identify, document, and prioritize dead, dying, or structurally compromised trees that could affect public safety along designated County roadways. The evaluation was limited to trees within the County right-of-way and approximately 15 feet from the roadway. Trees located on private property were not assessed or included in this report. The resulting inventory is intended to support planning for future tree removal and limbing work.

Assessment Limits

All trees assessed, marked, and included in this report were located within the County right-of-way. Hazard trees observed on adjoining private property were outside the authorized project area and were not assessed, marked, or included in the inventory totals. Based on general field observations, the number of apparent hazard trees on adjacent private property may be approximately twice the number documented within the right-of-way. This is a field estimate only and should not be interpreted as a complete inventory of private-property trees.

Field Assessment Dates

Field assessments were conducted on August 29, August 30, August 31, and September 1, 2026.

Assessment Methodology

Ground-based visual assessments were conducted on trees located within the County right-of-way and within approximately 15 feet of the roadway. The trees were assessed using the Level 1 Tree Risk Assessment methodology outlined by the International Society of Arborists (Dunster, Smily, Matheny, & Lilly, 2017). Each tree was visually evaluated with the intent and focus on identifying hazardous trees. Tree height was measured using a laser and diameter at breast height (DBH) was measured using a diameter tape. The software TreePlotter™ was used to inventory each tree's identification number, species, GPS location, measurements, condition, observed defects, priority, and recommended work.

Tree Marking Protocol

All trees identified for removal or limbing were marked with purple tree-marking spray paint using a consistent system. Trees recommended for removal were marked with one horizontal line on the trunk and a dot at the base of the tree. Trees recommended for limbing or pruning were marked only with a dot at the base of the tree. This marking system allows field crews to distinguish the prescribed work while matching each marked tree to its TreePlotter inventory record.

General Conditions and Observations

The project area has experienced a major wildfire and prolonged drought conditions during approximately the past 10 years. Based on field observations, bark beetle activity did not appear to be the leading cause of death among the hazard trees identified along the roadway.

Trees determined to have bark beetle activity showed visible signs of attempted defense, including pitch tubes or clumps of resin along the trunk. When these indicators were absent and no other specific cause was evident, prolonged drought and environmental stress were identified as the likely contributing factors.

Required Summary Totals

19	132	141	9
Bark beetle or boring-insect impact	Other hazardous conditions	Recommended for removal	Recommended for limbing or pruning

Summary of Findings

A total of 151 hazard trees were inventoried. Nineteen trees showed evidence of bark beetle or boring-insect activity, while 132 trees were identified with other hazardous conditions. Of the total inventory, 141 trees were recommended for removal and nine were recommended for limbing or pruning. These results indicate that drought, wildfire effects, environmental stress, and other defects were more prevalent than visible bark beetle activity within the assessed right-of-way.

Species Distribution

Ponderosa pine and Douglas fir were the dominant species in the inventory and together accounted for 110 of the 151 assessed trees. The complete species distribution is shown below.

Species	Trees	Species	Trees
Ponderosa pine	58	California white oak	5
Douglas fir	52	Black walnut	3
California black oak	7	Pacific madrone	3
Gray pine	7	Blue oak	1
Oak	7	Coast redwood	1
Bigleaf maple	6	Western red cedar	1
Total	151		

Observed Trends

The inventory reflects the combined effects of prolonged drought, past wildfire exposure, insect activity, and declining tree condition. Bark beetle evidence was present in a limited portion of the inventory and did not appear to be the primary cause of mortality across the project area. However, trees with visible bark beetle or boring-insect indicators showed a geographic concentration along and near the Highway 175 corridor. Ponderosa pine and Douglas fir represented the majority of identified hazard trees, consistent with their prevalence within the assessed roadway corridors.

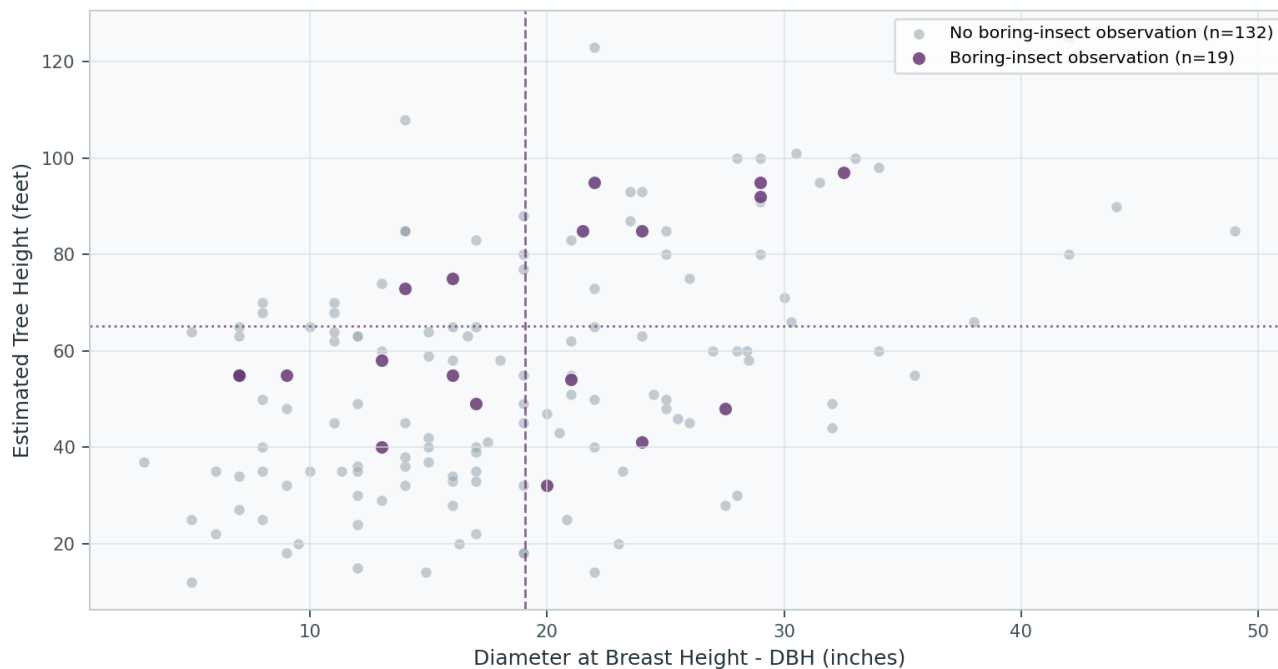
Recommendations

1. Prioritize trees presenting the greatest likelihood of failure or the highest potential impact to the traveled roadway.
2. Group removal and limbing work by road segment where practical to improve efficiency and reduce repeated mobilization.
3. Use qualified tree-service professionals and appropriate traffic-control measures during all future tree work.
4. Verify tree and site conditions immediately before work because defects and stability may change after the assessment date.

Boring Insect Trends

The chart below compares DBH and estimated height for every inventoried tree with complete measurement data. Purple points represent the 19 trees with a recorded boring-insect observation; gray points represent the remaining 132 trees with no boring-insect observation recorded. These are visual field observations and should not be interpreted as laboratory-confirmed causes of mortality.

Boring-Insect Observations by Tree DBH and Height



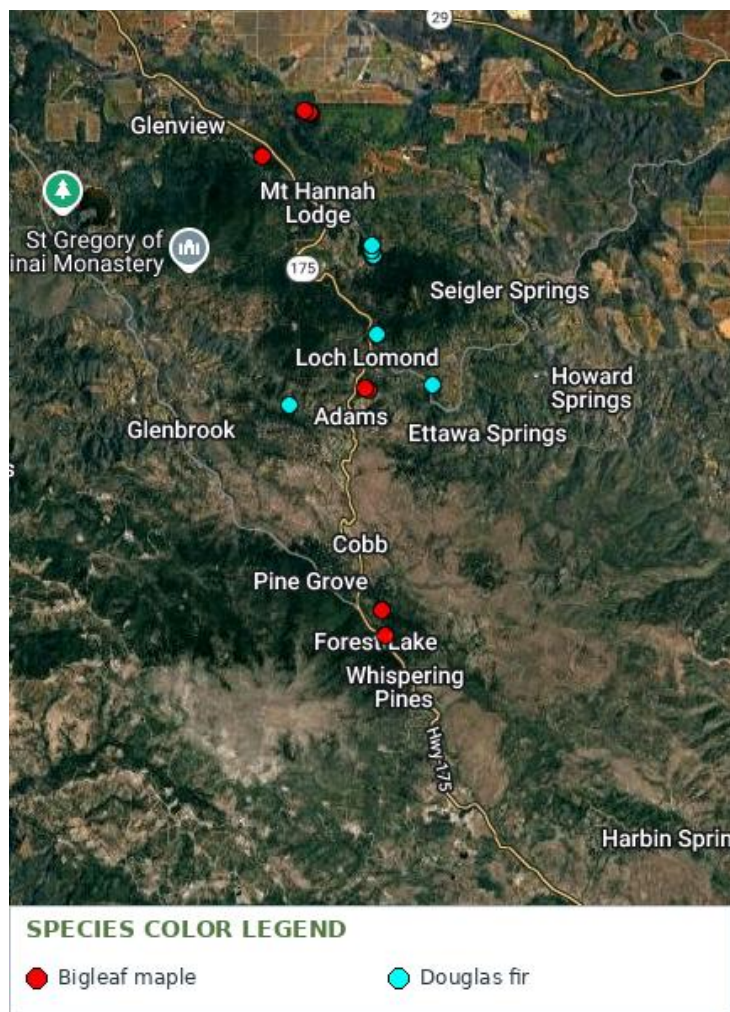
Group	Trees	Average DBH and height
Boring-insect observation	19	19.1 in DBH 65.2 ft high
No boring-insect observation	132	18.6 in DBH 54.7 ft high

Observed trend: Trees with recorded boring-insect observations were similar in average diameter but approximately 10.5 feet taller than trees without a boring-insect observation. The wide overlap between the groups indicates that boring-insect activity was observed across a broad range of DBH and height classes rather than being limited to one tree-size category.

Observed Bark Beetle Indicators

This map shows the locations of 19 inventoried trees with visible field signs consistent with bark beetle or boring-insect activity. Of these trees, 9 were Douglas fir (47.4%) and 10 were Ponderosa pine (52.6%). The 9 affected Douglas fir represent 17.3% of all 52 Douglas fir inventoried, while the 10 affected Ponderosa pine represent 17.2% of all 58 Ponderosa pine inventoried. The prevalence of bark beetles documented in this report among the assessed Ponderosa pine and Douglas-fir trees is consistent with the research indicating that declining conifers are more susceptible to bark beetle infestation. The mapped locations show a noticeable corridor pattern along and near Highway 175, beginning around the Glenview and Mt. Hannah Lodge area, continuing through Loch Lomond and Adams, and extending south toward Forest Lake and Whispering Pines.

The distribution indicates that observed insect activity was geographically concentrated rather than evenly dispersed throughout the entire assessment area. This pattern supports prioritizing removal work and continued monitoring along the Highway 175 corridor. The map documents field observations only and does not establish Highway 175, or any single environmental condition, as the cause of insect activity or tree mortality.

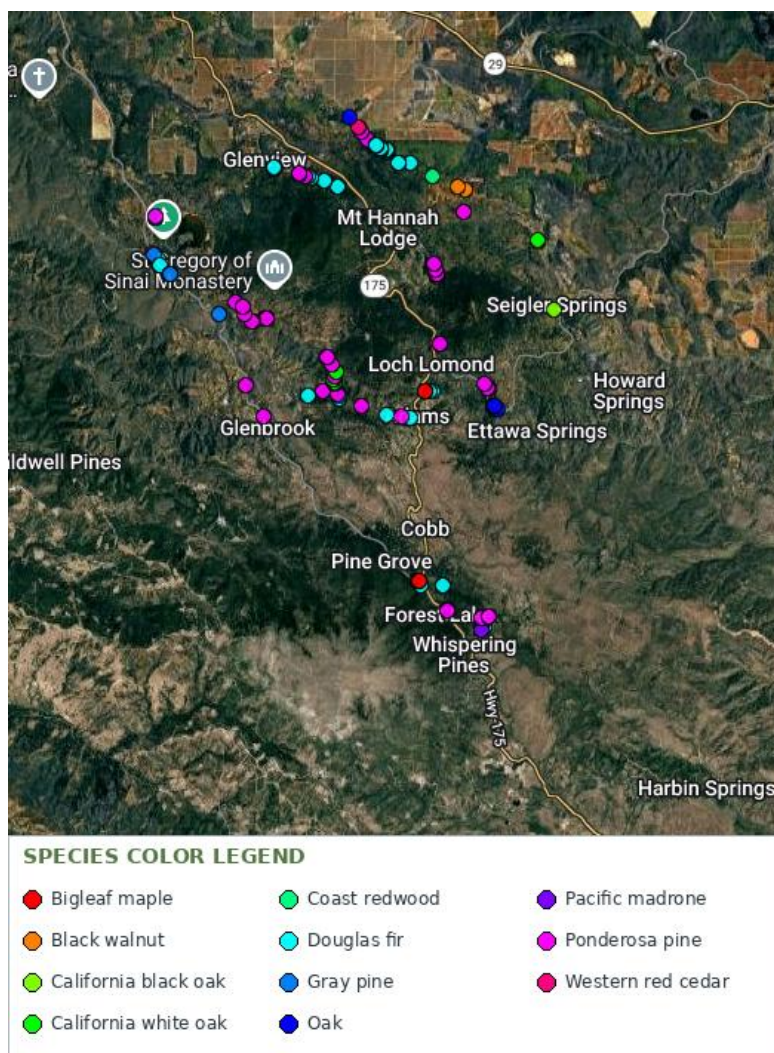


Map note: Marker colors identify tree species as shown in the attached legend; they do not represent separate levels of infestation, priority, or confirmed cause. Individual points may overlap at this map scale.

Trees Recommended for Removal

This map shows the locations of all 141 trees recommended for removal within the assessed County right-of-way. Each mapped location corresponds to a removal recommendation in the comprehensive TreePlotter inventory. Trees recommended for removal were marked in the field with purple tree-marking paint consisting of one horizontal line on the trunk and a dot at the base of the tree.

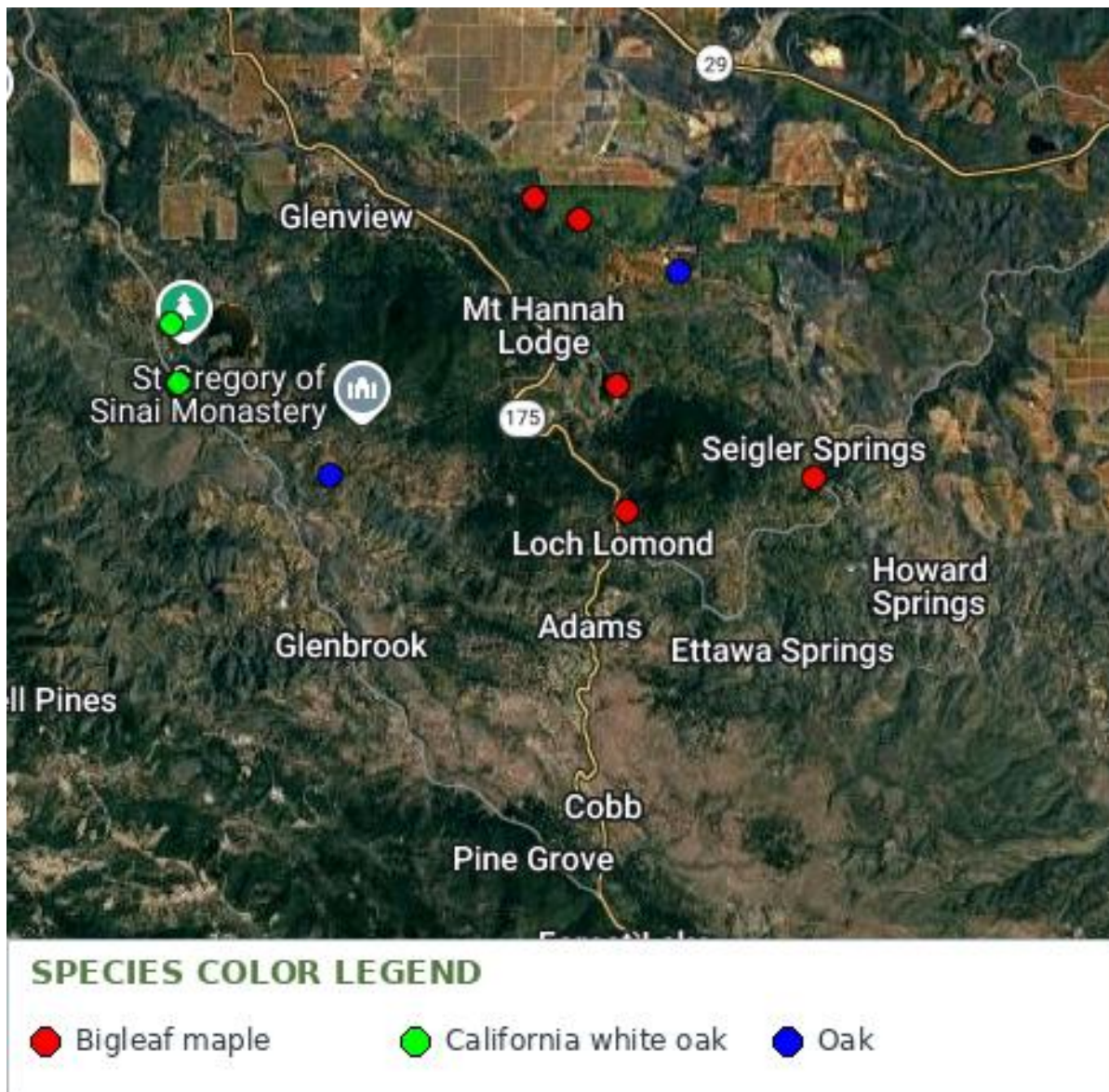
Removal locations are concentrated around Glenview, Mt. Hannah Lodge, the St. Gregory of Sinai Monastery area, Loch Lomond, Adams, and Forest Lake, with additional locations near Seigler Springs and Ettawa Springs. Multiple tree locations may overlap at this regional map scale.



Map note: Marker colors identify tree species as shown in the attached legend; they do not represent separate removal categories, priority levels, or causes of mortality in this report.

Trees Recommended for Trimming

This map shows the locations of all nine trees recommended for trimming or pruning within the assessed County right-of-way. Each plotted point corresponds to a tree in the comprehensive TreePlotter inventory. Trees recommended for trimming were marked in the field with a purple dot at the base of the tree.

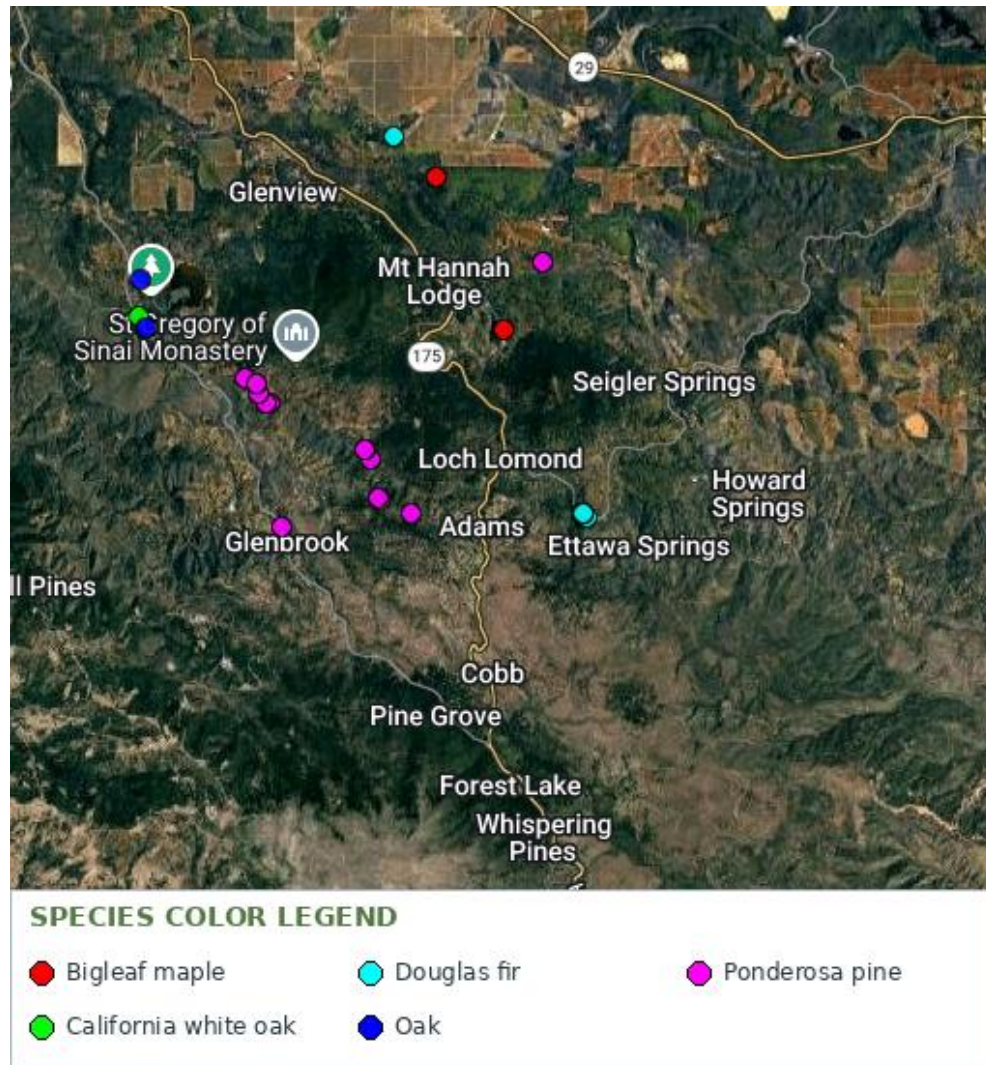


Map note: All colored tree-location points shown above represent trimming or pruning recommendations. Marker colors identify tree species as shown in the attached legend and do not indicate separate work categories.

Low Priority Trees

This map shows the locations of the 24 inventoried trees assessed as Low work priority. These trees remain part of the recommended scope of work but were determined to have a lower relative urgency than trees assigned Medium or High priority at the time of assessment.

Low-priority locations are distributed primarily around Glenview, Mt. Hannah Lodge, the St. Gregory of Sinai Monastery area, Glenbrook, Loch Lomond, Adams, and Ettawa Springs. Work may be grouped geographically with nearby higher-priority trees when practical, while maintaining the priority order established in the inventory.

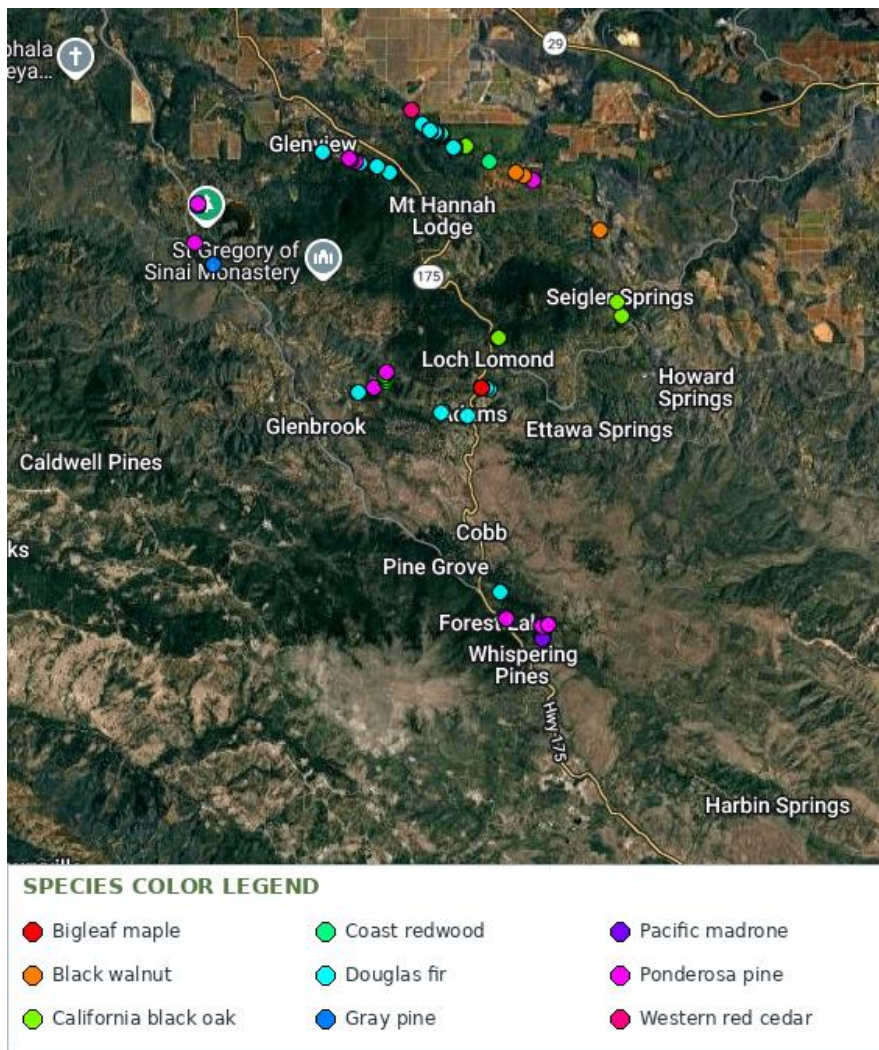


Priority note: Low priority indicates lower relative urgency within this inventory; it does not mean that no work is required. Marker colors identify tree species as shown in the attached legend.

Medium Priority Trees

This map shows the locations of the 86 inventoried trees assessed as Medium work priority. These trees require the recommended removal or trimming work but were determined to have a lower relative urgency than High-priority trees at the time of assessment.

Medium-priority trees occur throughout the assessed area, with visible concentrations around Glenview, Mt. Hannah Lodge, the St. Gregory of Sinai Monastery area, Loch Lomond, Adams, Seigler Springs, and Forest Lake. These trees should generally be scheduled after High-priority work, although geographic grouping with nearby High-priority trees may improve safe and efficient project delivery.

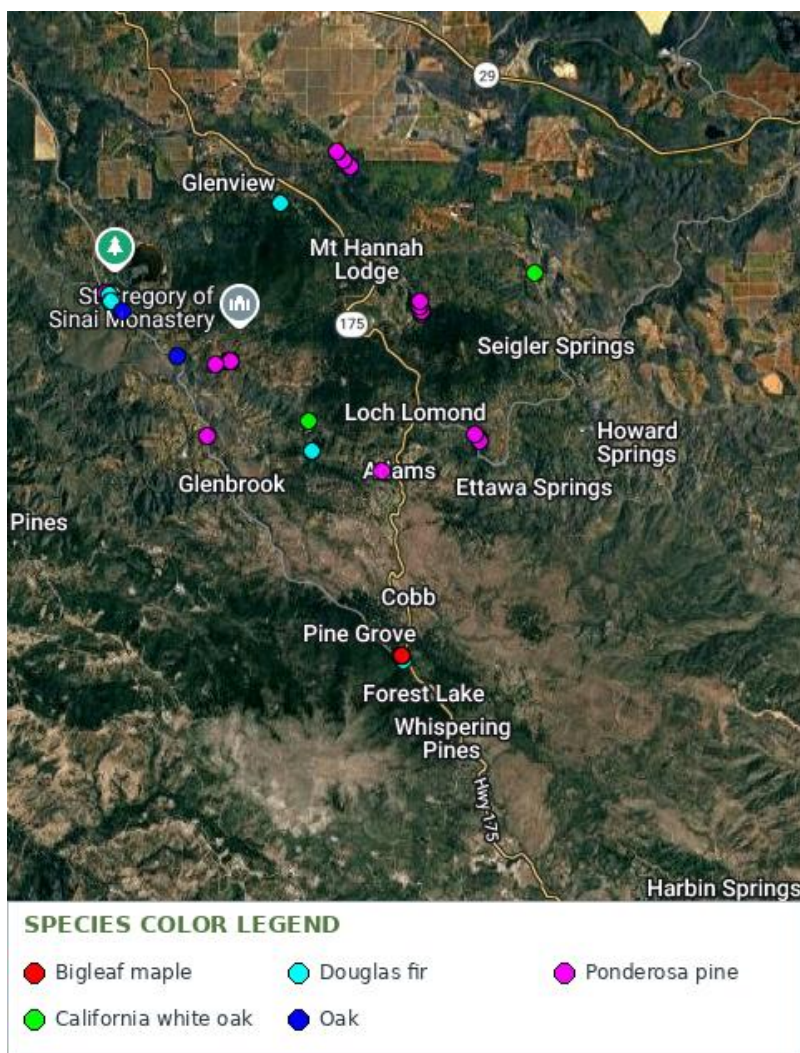


Priority note: Medium priority indicates an intermediate level of urgency within this inventory. Marker colors identify tree species as shown in the attached legend and do not represent separate work categories.

High Priority Trees

This map shows the locations of the 40 inventoried trees assessed as High work priority. These trees represent the most urgent work identified during the field assessment and should receive the earliest attention based on their observed condition, likelihood of failure, and potential impact on the roadway.

High-priority trees are distributed around Glenview, Mt. Hannah Lodge, the St. Gregory of Sinai Monastery area, Glenbrook, Loch Lomond, Adams, Seigler Springs, and Forest Lake. Removal and trimming operations should begin with these locations, subject to safe access, traffic control, and current field conditions at the time the work is performed.



Priority note: High priority identifies the most urgent work within this inventory. Field conditions should be confirmed before work begins. Marker colors identify tree species as shown in the attached legend.

References

Dunster, J. A., Smily, E. T., Matheny, N., & Lilly, S. (2017). *Tree Risk Assessment Manual* (2nd ed.). Champaign, Illinois: International Society of Arboriculture.