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Humboldt County Planning Department
3015 H Street
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3/24/2026

Subject; Robert Scarlett – Residential Hazard Tree

On Friday, March 20, 2026, an ISA certified arborist, from Omyr Arborcare and I completed a site visit at 20 Oak Ridge Drive, Redway CA 95560, APN 077-072-007 on March 20th, 2026. We were retained by landowner Robert Scalett to determine if an existing redwood tree present on the residential property is a high-risk tree that has a structural defect that makes it likely that the tree or a significant part of it will fail and fall on someone or damage property.

Tree Identification

The tree was identified by the landowner on site. We examined a 118” diameter, 252’ tall redwood tree located within the southeast corner of the property. The tree is estimated to be between 350 to 370 years old. The lower portion of the bole is open with no significant branches present on the lower 1/3 of the tree. The tree maintains a 50% + tree crown with multiple forks present at the top. The tree leans to the east roughly 10 to 12 percent. It appears that one moderate size redwood tree located on the same stump was recently removed to the west leaving an exposed cambium layer. The exact diameter was unknown, but it is estimated to have been 24” + in diameter. One other smaller diameter tree, approximately 16” in diameter was also removed from the south side.

Tree Targets

For a tree to be a hazard, a “target” must be within the falling distance of a part of the tree (or entire tree) that has a high potential of falling. A “target” means people, vehicles, and structures. Present within striking distance of the tree include the following.

- Existing single story ~1200 square foot residence located approximately 20 feet north of the tree.
- Oak Ridge Drive, County Road Open to the public 30’ east of the tree.
- Existing single story ~1500 square foot residence located approximately 209 feet northeast of the tree.
- Existing single story ~1800 square foot residence located approximately 115 feet east of the tree.
- Briceland-Thorne Rd, County Road Open to the public 40’ south of the tree.

- Existing single story ~1200 square foot residence located approximately 220 feet southeast of the tree.
- Existing single story ~1200 square foot residence located approximately 231 feet northwest of the tree.

Tree Examination

The tree was systematically examined for high-risk conditions. Visual and drone scanning occurred from the crown, downward along the trunk, and then a careful examination of the root zone.

- During visual scanning by the use of a drone, it was identified that a portion of the tree has a significant cavity with rot present within a 15-foot portion of the tree at about 200' up the tree. The cavity is significant and is a structural defect.
- Due to the past tree removal at the base of the tree, portions of the bole have now been exposed to elements and can be considered a vector for disease to enter the cambium layer. This is not significant by itself but is considered a hazard in relation to the health of the remaining portion of the tree.
- During examination of the root system, it is noted that several tree roots are present on the surface within the original driveway between the house and the tree. The roots range from 2" to 8" in diameter and are pushing up the asphalt driveway and the adjacent residence foundation. Several appeared to have been cut during years of roadway maintenance, structurally degrading the foundation of the tree. The poor health of the root system is a significant structural defect.

Recommendation

After examination of the redwood tree by myself and the arborist, we declare the tree to have significant structural defect and recommend that this tree is a hazard to the landowner, adjacent owners and general public. Please see Arborist report attached for further findings.

Sincerely



Stephen Hohman, RPF 2652
Hohman and Associates Forestry Consulting, Inc.