

HABITAT TECHNOLOGIES

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Mr. Tres Kirkebo, Principal
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Preliminary Oregon White Oak Woodland Restoration Program Oakview Preliminary Plat Parcel 0217036009 - 29401 SR 507 City of Roy, Pierce County, Washington

Dear Mr. Kirkebo,

The following *Oregon White Oak Woodland Restoration Program* is provided as an attachment to the *Preliminary Tree Protection Plan* prepared by Washington Forestry Consultants, Inc. dated March 10, 2022. This *Preliminary Tree Protection Plan* has identified that through project planning and impact avoidance/minimization process, two (2) tracts would be established within the Oakview Residential Community where existing trees - primarily Oregon white oak (*Quercus garryana*), Douglas fir (*Pseudotsuga menziesii*) and a few big leaf maple (*Acer macrophyllum*) - would be preserved. In addition, site planning has also identified the potential to save healthy, mature Oregon white oak trees within the proposed residential lots.

This *Preliminary Tree Protection Plan* would retain and protect a total of 384 healthy trees within two (2) established tracts totaling 10.01-acres, and retain and protect an additional 11 healthy mature Oregon white oak trees within proposed residential lots, throughout this 38.36-area Oakview Residential Community. Further identified within the *Preliminary Tree Protection Plan* is that the Roy City Code (RCC 11-24) requires the retention of all healthy significant health evergreen and deciduous trees that have a minimum caliper of 12-inches DBH (diameter at breast height), and Oregon white oak (Garry oak) with a minimum caliper of 9-inches. For new development overall actions shall be designed and constructed to retain existing significant trees to the extent practicable.

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Significant trees that do not interfere with proposed development shall be retained (RCC 11-24-10).

The Roy City Code also requires that replacement trees be provided for those healthy trees unavoidably removed from the buildable areas within the residential community. As calculated in the *Preliminary Tree Protection Plan*, a total of 456 trees would be unavoidably removed resulting in the need to provide a total of 1,919 replacement trees in accordance with RCC 11-24-10, Table 4. The *Preliminary Tree Protection Plan* also outlines additional tree protection measures and pruning/thinning actions to be implemented to ensure the short-term and long-term protection of the onsite trees.

OREGON WHITE OAK WOODLAND RESTORATION PROGRAM

In addition to the replacement of the trees to be unavoidably removed from the project site to allow site development an *Oregon White Oak Woodland Restoration Program* would be implemented during initial site development actions and then adopted by the homeowner's association to ensure the long-term survival of the Oregon white oak woodland plant community and associated available habitats. Such Oregon white oak woodland plant communities have been documented to provide a variety of feeding, resting, cover, breeding, and juvenile rearing habitats for many wildlife species (*Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife Management Recommendations for Washington's Priority Habitats: Oregon White Oak Woodlands* - WDFW 1998).

The *Oregon White Oak Woodland Restoration Program* would implement the following:

- Prior to any onsite earth movements, the outer boundary of the established tree protection tracts would be clearly defined by professional survey. Protective orange construction fence and appropriate silt fencing would then be installed along this outer boundary. Care would be taken to remain outside of the drip line of significant trees adjacent to this outer boundary. The protective fencing would remain in place and functional throughout the initial construction through the completion of the individual homesites.
- Prior to any onsite earth movements, the significant Oregon white oak trees identified for retention within the created homesite lots would be defined and protected through the placement of protective orange construction fence and appropriate silt fencing located outside of the drip line of each tree. The protective fencing would remain in place and

functional throughout the initial construction through the completion of the individual homesites.

- The project site had been managed as a homesite and associated livestock pasture for several decades. Upon the cessation of the homesite and livestock utilization activities (approximately late 1970s) the understory throughout the forested areas had been overgrown with often very dense thickets and blackberries (*Rubus* spp.) and Scots broom (*Cytisus scoparius*). These dense thickets had limited the development of a desirable native plant community within the understory along with the re-generation of tree species. To address this adverse impact the existing blackberry and Scots broom thickets would be removed from the understory through initial moving and subsequent selected pulling of canes and rootballs. These actions are designed to remove these invasive species while also not adversely impacting the soil profile and also not adversely impacting the re-establishment of a desirable understory plant community. During the removal of the invasive species existing onsite debris and old fencing would also be removed and taken offsite for disposal.
- Following the removal of the invasive species the understory areas would be planted with desirable native species. The selected species would include young Oregon white oak trees as identified within the required replacement trees and those shrubs species more typical of an undisturbed Oregon white oak woodland understory. Such shrub species include snowberry (*Symphoricarpus albus*), tall Oregon grape (*Berberis aquifolium*), wild rose (*Rosa gymnocarpa*), hazelnut (*Corylus cornuta*), flowering currant (*Ribes sanguineum*), and serviceberry (*Amelanchier alnifolia*). The planting of the selected native shrubs would be completed in diverse clusters and ensure a minimum of 50% open area for grass and herb establishment (shrubs density of 0.01 shrubs per square foot).
- The enhancement program would not plant any non-native species within the established tree protection tracts.
- The larger limbs and trunks removed from retained healthy trees as a part of the selected pruning within the established tree protection tracts would be configured to create habitat features for wildlife cover and breeding areas. Where practical, Oregon white oak trees removed from the defined development areas would be added to the established tree protection tracts and configured to create habitat features for wildlife cover and breeding areas.

- The project proponent and then the homeowner's association would undertake an initial three-year monitoring and maintenance program within the established tree protection tracts. The actions undertaken would include the removal of invasive species and the irrigation of recently planted young Oregon white oak trees and native shrubs. A performance letter report would also be prepared at the completion of the implementation actions and then annual in the fall for three years following the completion of the implementation actions. Each letter report would describe the general character of the established tree protection tracts, utilization of the areas by wildlife, the general survival of the young Oregon white oak trees, the actions undertaken to managed invasive species, and photo documentation of the established tree protection tracts. Each letter report would be provided to the City of Roy by October 15th of each annual monitoring.
- Following the completion of the initial three-year monitoring and maintenance program the homeowner's association would be responsible for stewardship of the established tree preservation tracts. Such actions may include the removal of invasive species as needed, the maintenance of the internal recreational pathway, the removal of windblown debris as needed, and community education about the importance of a viable Oregon white oak woodland habitat.
- All actions associated with the *Oregon White Oak Woodland Restoration Program* would be completed at the oversight of the onsite arborist, the onsite landscape architect, or the onsite biologist.

Thank you for allowing Habitat Technologies to assist with your project planning. Please contact us with the need for additional assistance or in the implementation of the *Oregon White Oak Woodland Restoration Program*.

Sincerely,

Thomas D. Deming, SPWS
Habitat Technologies