

A person wearing an orange shirt, a yellow helmet, and safety harness is climbing a large, thick tree trunk. The person is positioned in the upper center of the frame, surrounded by dense green foliage and branches. The background shows a hazy, overcast sky and more trees in the distance. The overall scene is a lush, green forest.

# State of the Urban Forest

Update from Parks





# Seattle Parks & Recreation

**GREEN  
SEATTLE**  
PARTNERSHIP

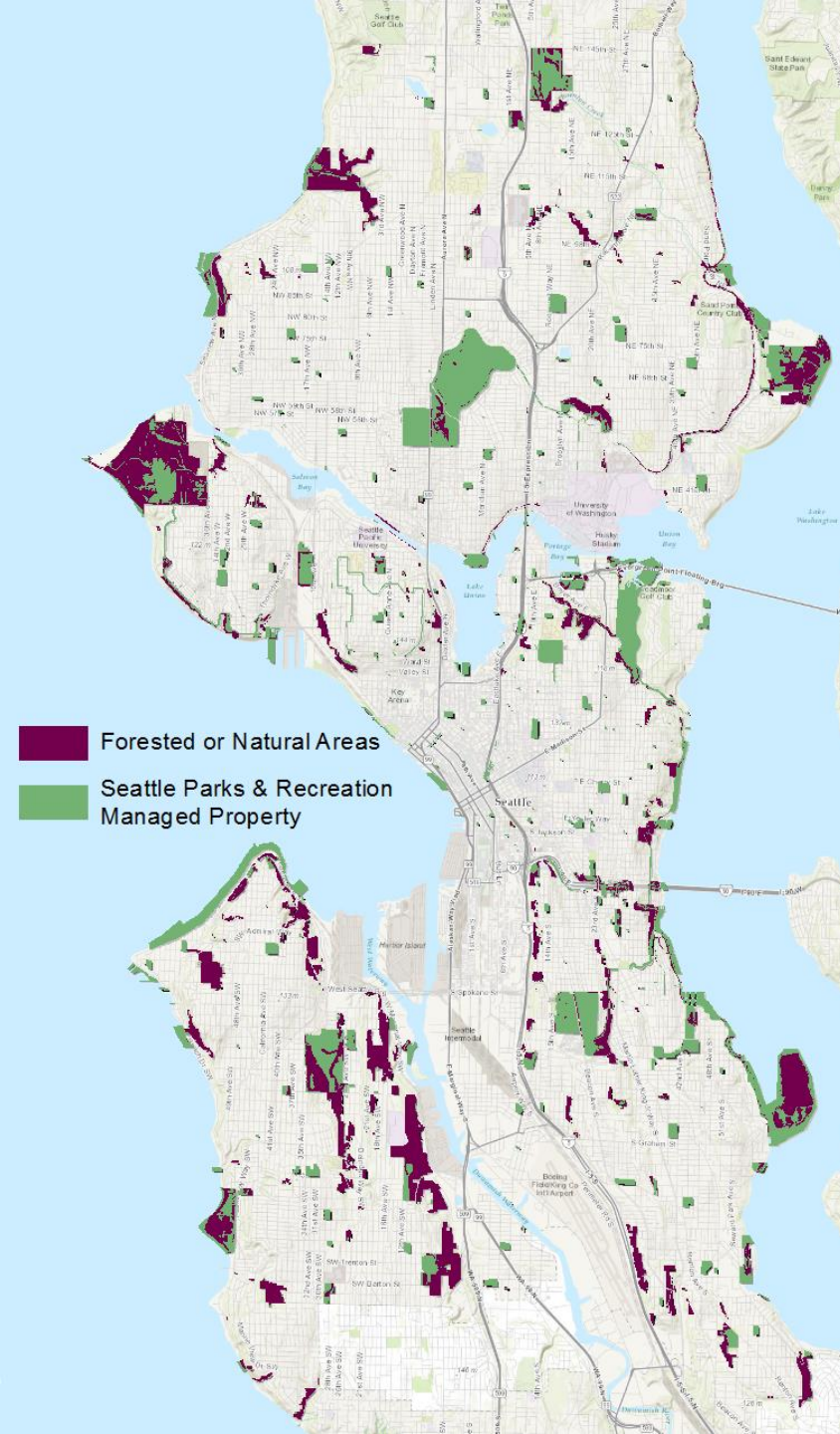


# 6,410

acres acquired by Parks  
(11% of City's land mass)

# 2,750

acres of forested natural area





# frontline impacts

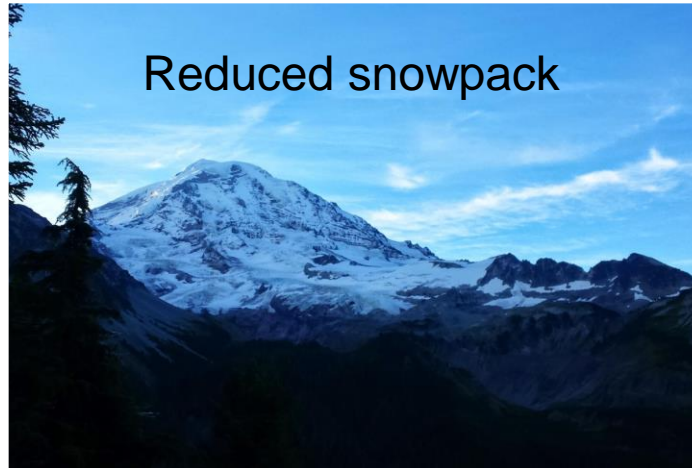
Increasing frequency  
extreme heat events,  
warmer days/nights



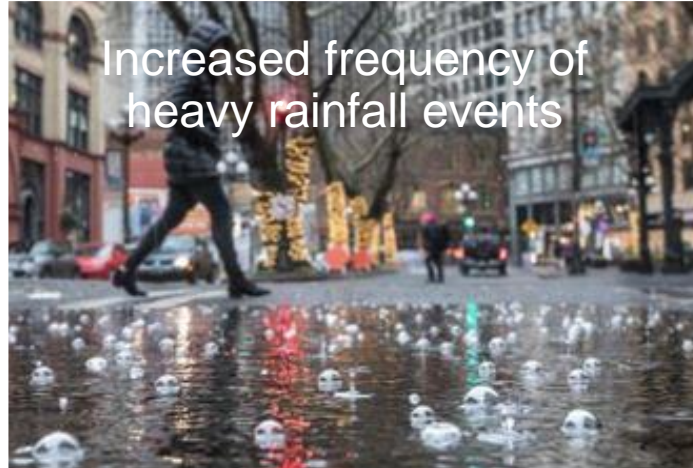
Increasing frequency  
and size of wildfires



Reduced snowpack



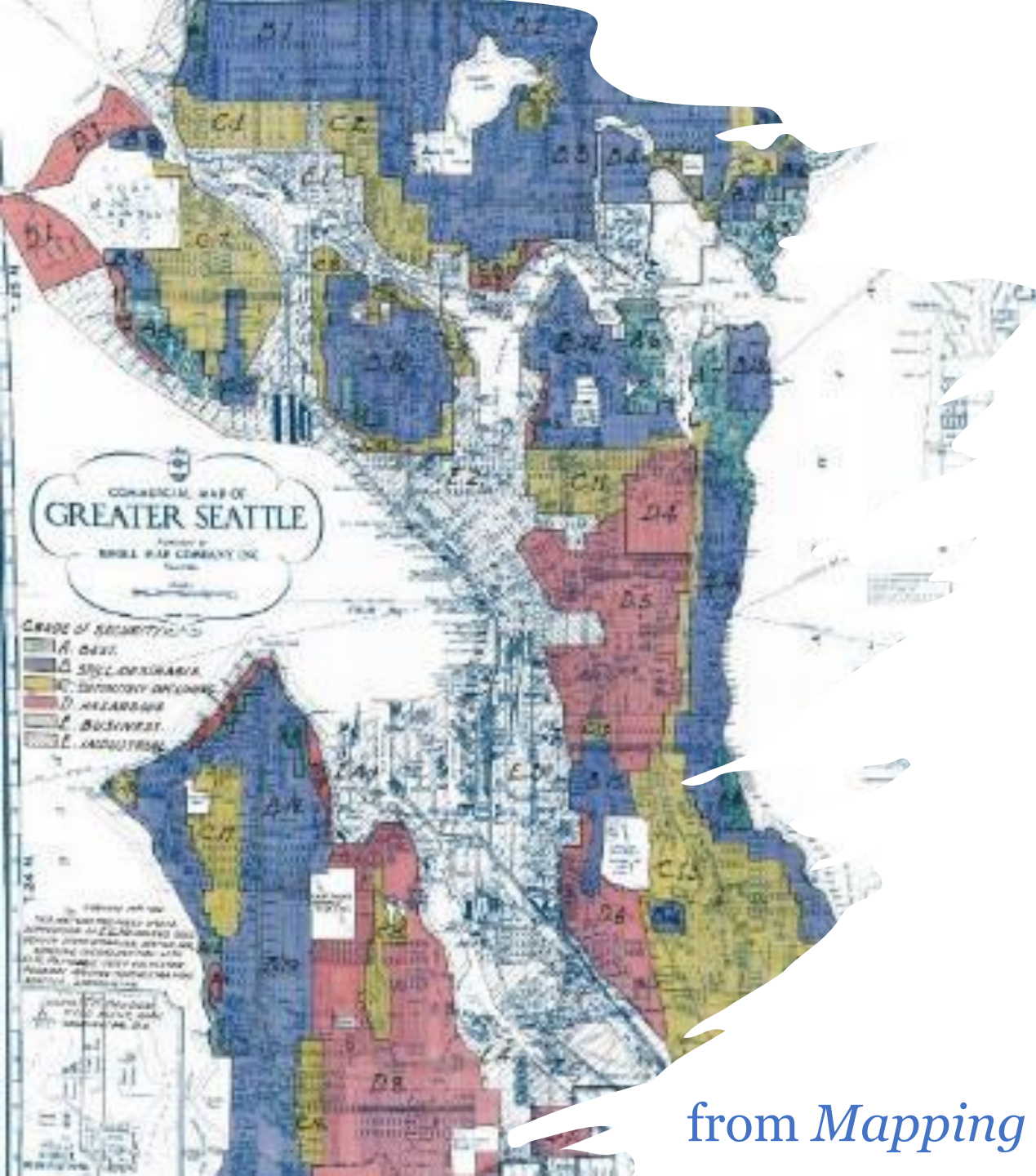
Increased frequency of  
heavy rainfall events



Western redcedar decline





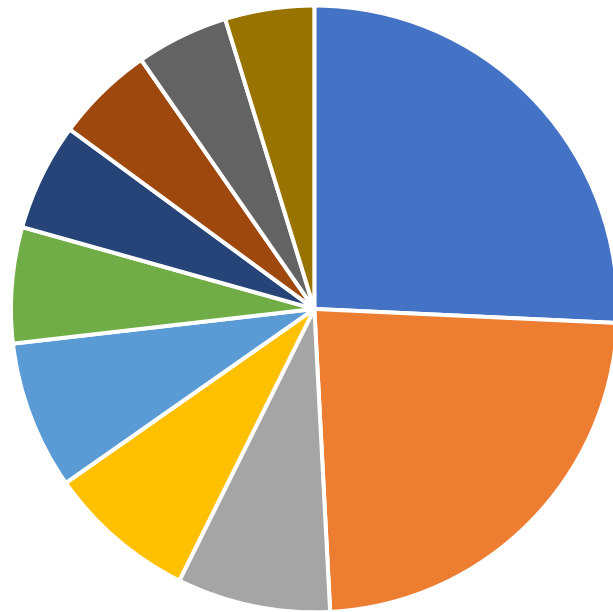


**GSP climate change vulnerability assessment (2018)** indicates 49% of Seattle Parks forested natural areas have multiple risk factors:

- low tree species diversity
- vulnerable tree species
- underrepresented forest types
- position on the landscape vulnerable to drought
- forest patch size and edge effect
- shifting to drought tolerant species

from *Mapping Inequality*, University of Richmond

Most common trees removed



- Alnus rubra
- Populus nigra 'Italica'
- Ulmus sp
- Populus trichocarpa
- Chamaecyparis lawsoniana
- Acer macrophyllum
- Arbutus menziesii
- Pseudotsuga menziesii
- Thuja plicata
- Prunus sp

ROW LABELS	COUNT OF TREE SPECIES
Acer macrophyllum	1691
Alnus rubra	534
Pseudotsuga menziesii	465
Fraxinus sp	357
Thuja plicata	277
Populus trichocarpa	254
Quercus garryana	156
Calocedrus decurrens	144
Arbutus menziesii	131
Acer platanoides	129

# Tree Inventory



# Tree pests and diseases

- Dutch Elm Disease
- Treated 28
- 381 Elms inventoried

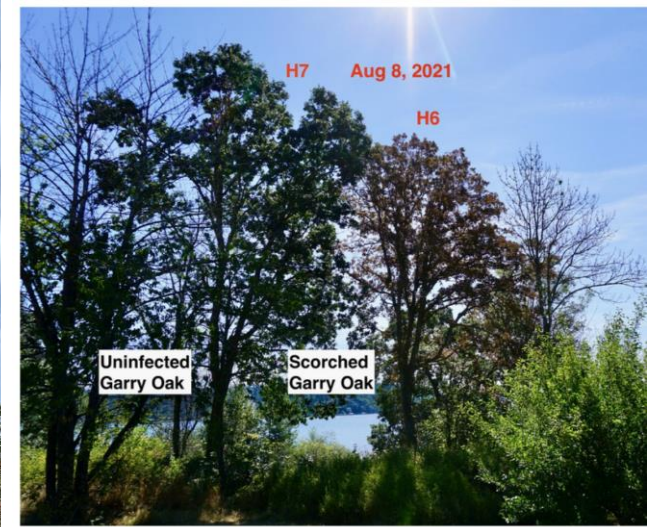




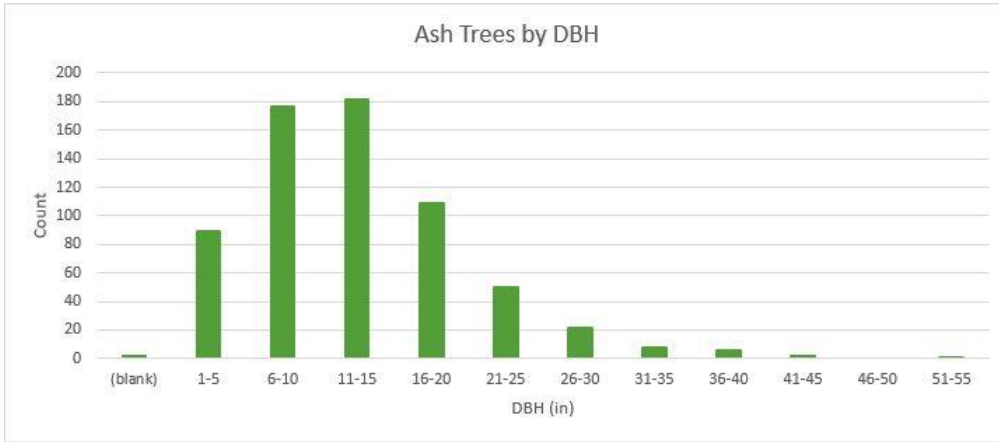
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# Tree pests and diseases

- Sooty Bark Disease
- Blue stain fungus
- Western Red Cedar decline
- Hemlock decline
- Oak Leaf Phylloxera
- Bronze Birch Borer

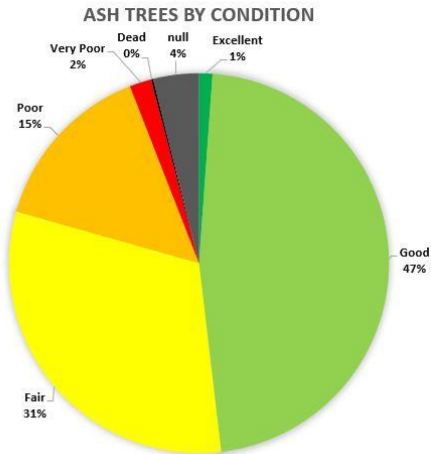






# Intern Work

Scientific Name	Common Name	Total Count	DBH > 12	Eligible for Treatment
<i>Fraxinus americana</i>	American Ash	85	37	24
<i>Fraxinus angustifolia</i>	Narrow leafed Ash	76	43	38
<i>Fraxinus angustifolia</i>	Flame Ash	6	4	4
<i>Fraxinus angustifolia</i>	Raywood Ash	7	6	6
<i>Fraxinus latifolia</i>	Oregon Ash	200	136	106
<i>Fraxinus pennsylvan</i>	Red Ash	59	42	26
<i>Fraxinus sp</i>	Ash	386	161	134
<b>Grand Total</b>		<b>819</b>	<b>429</b>	<b>338</b>



- Added 401 ash trees to the inventory and updated the info for the 418 that were already there
- Collected and organized data to find out how many and which of our ash trees can be treated for the Emerald Ash Borer
- Visited 300+ parks and counting





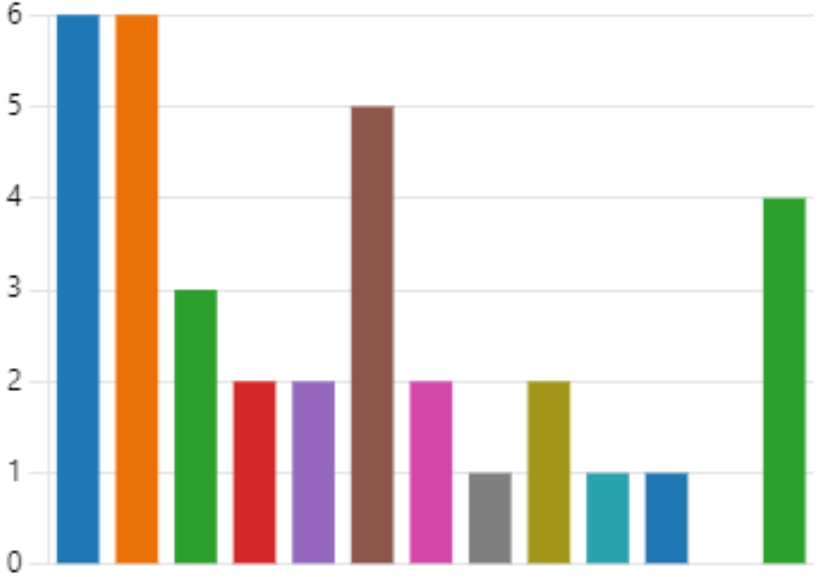
- Increase tree replacement planting and stewardship of young tree care
- adjust planting season for high precipitation years or over multiple years
- monitor the increasing risk of pests and diseases
- enhance and widen riparian zones in refugia and shoreline protection
- provide training and capacity-building opportunities for various communities
- form relationships with seed co-ops and nurseries to provide high-quality, diverse or adapted plant material

Coping & adapting



# top trees we are actively helping to adapt

Douglas fir	6
Western redcedar	6
Western hemlock	3
Sitka spruce	2
incense cedar	2
Garry oak	5
Ponderosa pine	2
coast redwood	1
Western white pine	2
giant sequoia	1
Puget Sound juniper	1
Pacific madrone	0
Other	4





# ecological thinning

## Llandover Woods bigleaf maple thinning

**Before**



**After**



decrease density within stands and increase structural diversity





Thank you!