



TreePAC Newsletter – February 2021

Hello again everyone! As always, we hope this newsletter finds everyone safe and healthy.

For newcomers to our cause, TreePAC are focused first and foremost on getting the **2009 Interim Seattle Tree Ordinance** made into a full-fledged (and uniformly enforced) law across the City of Seattle. We are trying to make sure that urban, suburban and tree/habitat forest resources *are not ignored* by local City, County and the WA state government(s). Our state is still undergoing a turbulent time, especially from a climate, wildlife and natural resources perspective – **it is essential to make sure trees and all the related ecosystems that depend on them will survive and thrive** in the future of our localities, state, the Pacific Northwest and beyond.

You can truly make a difference for trees, habitat and climate change by supporting these initiatives at a state and local level.

Continued effort - 2021 priorities:

1) **Statewide:** [HB 1216](#) (*Concerning urban and community forestry*)

This effort – being led by [TreePAC](#), [Don't Clearcut Seattle](#) and others seeks to provide input to many key cities and urban areas statewide who are currently finalizing 10-year comprehensive plans – in the case of King, Pierce and Snohomish County for example, these are due starting in 2024.

The details of HB 1216 can be seen at the link above:- If you review and agree, make sure to let your legislators know **asap** so the bill can continue its progress to the WA Senate and eventual passage: [HB 1216 Comment input](#)

2) **Statewide:** - [HB 1099](#) (*Improving the state's climate response through updates to the state's comprehensive planning framework*).

This second bill is the focus of the [WA Can't Wait](#) effort being led by [Futurewise](#) and [other groups](#), seeks to provide input to many key cities and urban areas statewide who are currently finalizing 10-year comprehensive plans – in the case of King, Pierce and Snohomish County for example, these are due starting in 2024. The Washington Can't Wait Campaign is urging the Legislature to update the requirements in plans to include Climate Resilience, Equity and Affordable Housing as goals.

Please review the bill and then provide input/support via [Don't Clearcut Seattle: HB 1099](#).

3) **TreePAC's central focus** to improve and pass an **updated 2009 Interim Seattle Tree Ordinance** – PLEASE submit input and suggested changes to the City, City Council and Mayor: [input to Seattle City Council & Mayor](#); Sandra.Pinto_de_Bader@seattle.gov (Seattle Urban Forestry Commission); and Maketa.Brazier@seattle.gov (Office of Sustainability & Environment). You can also submit comments through the Don't Clearcut Seattle site: [submit comments to the Mayor and City Council](#) – in addition to our regular, longstanding request: If you see something in your neighborhood, i) ask, ii) document/photograph it and iii) submit it, please.

Latest: The *Seattle Urban Forestry Commission* presents to the Land Use & Neighborhoods Committee 2/24/21 – Hear Weston Brinkley, Chair of the Urban Forestry Commission, make the eloquent and effective case for **why updating the ordinance is more important than ever** for Seattle (42:38 min mark of the meeting): [Land Use & Neighborhoods Committee 2/24/21 | seattlechannel.org](#)

Older 2020/2021 Land Use & Neighborhoods Committee meeting videos can be viewed here: [2020/2021 Land Use & Neighborhoods Committee | seattlechannel.org](#)

4) **Statewide:** [WA State Forest Plan](#).

This [plan](#), initially released by DNR in late October 2020, will govern how WA manages and protects/enhances its various [forest and related resources for the next ten years](#). Input and updates to the state's forest plans should be regular, ongoing, and with **a strong presumption of protection first - the same as that of the urban forest**. Please continue to support this plan.

5) **County and local City forest plans** – Several major counties also have tree protection/planting programs already well underway, including [King](#), [Snohomish](#), [Spokane](#), and [Clark](#) among others, and cities within same. These programs need to continue and expand, as *protecting* trees at the local level requires constant vigilance and monitoring/data collection; *planting* trees and *expanding tree canopy* is nowhere near as simple as 'plant and move on' - new trees require care and nurture or they will simply not survive.

Contact your County or City govt and let them know you want them to **protect** existing and **plant** more new, native PNW trees! If your city doesn't have a tree canopy plan in place – here's a great resource for finding some examples you might propose!

WA State/City Tree Ordinances – [click here](#).

Tree Ordinances by State – [click here](#) (of particular interest may be OR's – scroll down – especially that of Portland, OR)

Vancouver BC's tree ordinance parameters can be seen [linked here](#)

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How to Help:

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1) There has been recent activity on the part of **Seattle's Department of Construction and Inspection (DCI)** as to tree protection. Let DCI know you care about trees and want them to PROTECT private trees on construction sites and citywide!. From their site:

- The 'make a complaint' area is [here](#):
- The 'research a project' area is [here](#):
- Finally, to reference the existing Director's Rule as to Tree Protection – read it [here](#).

2) **Yard Signs:** We still have several left, if you are interested and would like to make a donation to obtain one, email us: info@DontClearcutSeattle.org

3) **Apps:**

[iSeaTree](#) - **iSeaTree V2 is out!** iSeaTree is a free, intuitive mobile app that helps you identify and record tree species anywhere – and designed in Seattle to boot!

Davey Tree Group: [What's new with i-Tree](#) – includes the variations for homeowners, foresters, etc.

[Trees for Seattle](#) has published the Seattle Tree Walk app: [Android](#) [Apple](#)

Other PNW & Tree Apps: [Trees Pacific NW](#) [More info](#)
[USFS PNW Forests](#) (Apple only)

How to Help (cont.)

vTree (from Virginia Tech)

[Android](#)

[Apple](#)

and of course check out our [Tree App page](#) at TreePAC.org

4) **Know of exceptional or even potentially Heritage Trees** in your neighborhood? Submit them to [The Last 6,000](#) (also linked below) and the [Seattle Heritage Tree Program](#)!

5) **Want to save a neighborhood tree at risk?** David Moehring of the TreePAC Board has put together a great step by step guide on how – [click here](#).

6) **Get a shirt, mug, sticker, pin or banner!** Besides putting up a Don't Clearcut Seattle yard sign, you can show your tree spirit by wearing a shirt, using a mug, posting stickers and banners! - [check them all out here](#) and [here](#) – all proceeds after costs support TreePAC and Don't Clearcut Seattle – Have ideas or designs? [Please let us know](#).

7) **Any or all of the articles** linked below in our News section(s) are fair game for supplying to the City Council, Mayor and your Legislators re tree protection – please remember when writing to the city that ***protecting existing trees is usually even more effective than mass plantings***, given they are already big and doing the lion's share of carbon capture. – we need BOTH.

Feature: Native Trees of the PNW (a continuing series) [\(return to top\)](#)

We at TreePAC talk a lot about *protecting* the trees of Seattle, but for those of us who aren't arborists, what *are* the trees of the greater Seattle area and PNW?

Here's two more (last issue was [Pacific Silver Fir and Pacific Madrona](#)) – the **Red Alder** and **Yellow Cedar**:

Red Alder ([Alnus rubra](#)) Largest alder in North America, a deciduous broadleaf that can reach heights of 60-100 ft. Grows from SE Alaska all the way down the coast to central/coastal California. It is also an important early colonizer of disturbed forests and riparian areas mainly because of its ability to fix nitrogen in the soil. This self-fertilizing trait allows red alder to grow rapidly, and makes it effective in helping restore disturbed and/or degraded land, such as mining sites.

PNW Native Trees (cont.)



The **Yellow Cedar** ([Callitropsis nootkatensis](#)) is an evergreen, commonly growing up to 130 ft tall – some of the oldest examples seen are in the Caren Range of BC's west coast – one is even thought to be 1,830+ years old(!). In Alaska some large die-offs of these trees have been observed, increasingly thought caused by climate change to less snow in recent years that fails to insulate their shallow roots, meaning they freeze easier in turn and cause tree mortality. This tree is currently under review by USFWS for threatened or endangered status.



More reading and pictures:

[Trees of the PNW: A Geographic Guide](#)

Common Trees of the Pacific Northwest (OSU) – [Red Alder](#)

Trees of the Pacific Northwest (OSU) – [\(Yellow Cedar\) Callitropsis nootkatensis](#)

Local Tree Activist Groups and Social Media: [\(return to top\)](#)

NOTE: these are tree-supporting area groups and social media feeds, including links to their event calendar(s). If you have some not seen here, please let us know so we can add them – TreePAC

TreePAC: [FaceBook](#) [Twitter](#)

If you wish to become involved in working on an updated Seattle Tree Ordinance, please reach out! You can securely donate to the cause by clicking here: [DONATE](#)

[Don't Clearcut Seattle](#) (action network/yard signs) [Facebook](#) [Instagram](#) [Events](#)

Friends of Seattle's Urban Forest: [Facebook](#) [Twitter](#) [Instagram](#)
[Coalition](#) [News](#) [Other Tree Ordinances](#)

Seattle Urban Forestry Commission:

Meetings are posted at the link immediately below, usually 1st and 2nd Wed each month from 3-5pm. Next meetings are **Mar 3, Mar 10, Apr 7, Apr 14, and May 5, 2021**. [Due to CV19, meetings will be held over Webex conference call instead of in person - please click through for the current number/login.](#)

Plant Amnesty (Seattle area): [Facebook](#) [Twitter](#) [Instagram](#)
[Urban Forest Gateway](#) [Events](#) [Classes-Workshops](#) [Adopt-a-Plant](#)

(New!) [300 Trees](#) - Our name, 300 Trees, is a tribute to hundreds of trees that were needlessly cut down in East Bellevue by Puget Sound Energy for a redundant power line in 2020. [Facebook](#)

[Bloedel Reserve](#) (Bainbridge Is.) [Now re-opened w/limited onsite visits]
[Events](#) [Facebook](#) [Instagram](#)

Local Tree Activist Groups (cont.)

[DIRT Corps](#) (Duwamish Infrastructure Restoration Training) [Facebook](#) [Instagram](#)

[E3 WA](#) (Environment, Equity, Economy): [Events](#) [Facebook](#) [Twitter](#) [Instagram](#)

[Earth Corps](#) (events across Greater Seattle): [Facebook](#) [Twitter](#) [Instagram](#)
[Volunteer Calendar](#) (all events canceled for immediate future due to CV19)

[Eco Lógica magazine](#) [Newsletter signup](#)

[Forterra](#) (Greater Seattle area): [Facebook](#) [Twitter](#) [Instagram](#)
[Events and local Work Parties, restoration](#) – (many events getting canceled due to CV)

[Friends of Seward Park](#): [Facebook](#) Monthly Meeting/activities - [2nd Sat of most months](#) (NOTE: due to CV19 situation, email ahead to confirm event not canceled)

[Green Seattle Partnership](#): [Facebook](#) [Instagram](#)
(NOTE: due to CV19 situation, all volunteer events canceled until further notice)

Keep Ballard Trees Standing: [Facebook](#)

King County: [We're Planting 1 Million Trees by 2020](#) [Events](#)

[Nature Conservancy WA](#): [Facebook](#) [Twitter](#) [Instagram](#)

[Nature Consortium](#): [Facebook](#)

[Save Shoreline Trees](#): [Facebook](#)

[Seattle Audubon](#): [Facebook](#) [Instagram](#) [Events](#)

Local Tree Activist Groups (cont.)

[Seattle Green Spaces Coalition](#) [Facebook](#)

[Seattle Nature Alliance:](#) [Facebook](#) [Instagram](#)

[Seattle Neighborhood Greenways](#) [Facebook](#) [Twitter](#) [Events](#)

[SER Northwest:](#) [Facebook](#) [Events Calendar](#)

[Seward Park Audubon Center:](#) [Facebook](#) [Instagram](#) [Events](#)

[Sierra Club of WA:](#) [Facebook](#) [Twitter](#) [Instagram](#)

[Sustainable Seattle:](#) [Facebook](#) [Instagram](#) [Twitter](#) [Pinterest](#) - [Events](#)

[The Last 6,000:](#) [Instagram](#) - [Latest Newsletter](#)

[The Seattle Lorax:](#) [Twitter](#)

[Thornton Creek Alliance:](#) [Facebook](#) [Events Calendar](#) [YouTube](#)

[350 Seattle](#) [Facebook](#) [Instagram](#)

[350 Tacoma](#) [Facebook](#)

[350 Eastside](#) [Facebook](#) [Instagram](#)

[Tree Keepers Alliance:](#) [Facebook](#)

[Trees for Seattle:](#) [Facebook](#) [Events](#)

Local Tree Activist Groups (cont.)

Vanishing Seattle: [Facebook](#) [Instagram](#)

[WA Native Plant Society](#) [Facebook](#) [Instagram](#)

Local/PNW Tree News: *(right-click link to open in new tab)* [\(return to top\)](#)

[2020-2021 Tacoma Tree Coupon \(planting\) Program! \(10/1/20 - 3/31/21\)](#)

[Trees for Seattle Arbor Week](#) is over, but some archives are online [here](#) and [here](#).

Lynnwood Tree Voucher program – [click here for more information and to apply](#).

[The misguided spotted owl shell game](#) – **Register-Guard**, 2/27

[Bring back timber severance tax in Oregon](#) – **Statesman-Journal**, 2/26

[ArtSEA: Saving the Weyerhaeuser campus from development](#) – **Crosscut**, 2/25

[Jefferson Park: Spirit of rediscovery](#) – **UW Daily**, 2/22

[Bring renewed rigor to our forest management](#) – **Statesman-Journal**, 2/21

[Armed with shears as weapons, volunteers battle invasive plants in a King County park](#)
– **SeaTimes**, 2/21

[Biden must quickly reinstate protections for ‘America’s salmon forest’](#) - **SeaTimes**, 2/18

[Letter to the editor: What city staff should consider when rewriting draft Edmonds tree code](#) – **MyEdmondsNews**, 2/17

[Community Forest Program will benefit Kitsap](#) – **Kitsap Sun**, 2/16

[Innovation, Not Trees. How Bill Gates Plans to Save the Planet.](#) (Crock o’ S*** - KO) - **NY Times**, 2/15

[Eugene moves to slow decline of citywide tree canopy cover](#) – **Register-Guard**, 2/14

[Good trees for urban gardens: Evergreens can add interest to winter landscapes](#) – **MyEdmondsNews**, 2/14

Local/PNW Tree News (cont.)

[A Fight to Save a Corporate Campus Intertwined With Nature](#) – **NY Times**, 2/12

[A zero-carbon footprint | Greener Edmonds](#) – **Edmonds Beacon** – 2/11

[Quiet Heart partners with district for scholarships](#) – **Edmonds Beacon** – 2/11

[Seward Park: A solid, beautiful reprieve](#) – **UW Daily**, 2/8

[For the Birds: Trees Are the View—Just Ask a Bird](#) - **Shoreline Area News**, 2/8

[Be a champion for preserving historic sites | Guest column](#) – **Federal Way Mirror**, 2/6

[Vancouver environmentalist Nicole Rycroft wins \\$3 million Climate Breakthrough Award](#)
– **The Province**, 2/6

[Professor releases history on School of Env. and Forestry Sciences](#)- **UW Daily**, 2/5

[Plans for Ridgetop forest parcel moving slowly while COVID-19 has county's attention](#)
– **Kitsap Sun**, 2/3

[Gallery North to feature Washington Wild exhibit in February](#) – **Mukilteo Beacon**, 2/3

[Clearcutting makes climate-change risks worse, argues report from conservationists](#) –
The Province, 2/2

[Residents weigh in on draft tree code; council agrees to more discussion next week](#) –
MyEdmondsNews, 2/2

[Democrats urge investigation into removal of owl protections](#) – **SeaPI**, 2/2

[Wildfire smoke may carry 'mind-bending' amounts of fungi and bacteria, scientists say](#)
– **SeaTimes**, 2/1

[Opponents appeal gravel mine expansion near Anacortes](#) – **SeaPI**, 2/1

[Nature Conservancy's 'Human/Nature' explores our connections — and responsibilities
— to Washington's outstanding surroundings](#) – **SeaTimes**, 1/31

[Letter to the editor: Tree canopy in Seaview area is at risk](#) – **MyEdmondsNews**, 1/28

[Weyerhaeuser campus clash continues over warehouse](#) – **Federal Way Mirror**, 1/28

Local/PNW Tree News (cont.)

[Magnolia man appointed to Urban Forestry Commission](#) – **Queen Anne & Magnolia News**, 1/27

[Torrance Coste: No better time than to protect old-growth forests](#) – **The Province**, 1/26

[To build up urban forests, WA cities could get help from the state](#) – **Crosscut**, 2/16

[Illahee State Park loses 400-year-old tree](#) – **Kitsap Sun**, 1/25

[Dylan Plummer: Nothing recovers from massive timber grab](#) – **Register-Guard**, 1/23

[Guest View: Oregon needs clear carbon accounting](#) – **Register-Guard**, 1/23

[Spotted owl forest protection rollbacks reconsidered](#) – **The Olympian**, 1/22

[The return of the spotted-owl wars?](#) - **SeaTimes**, 1/22

[Madrone tree to make way for bigger McD's in Oak Harbor](#) – **Everett Herald**, 1/20

[Washington hosts first climate assembly in the United States](#) – **Crosscut**, 1/19

[Volunteers needed to serve on the Shoreline Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services/Tree Board](#) - **Shoreline Area News**, 1/18

[Council authorizes city manager to negotiate contract for new city attorney, hears report on forest restoration](#) – **MLT News**, 1/17

[Bloedel Reserve helps Strolls for Well-Being participants discover the healing power of nature closer to home](#) – **SeaTimes**, 1/16

[Surprise attack on spotted owl is Trump team's parting shot at PNW](#) – **SeaTimes**, 1/15

[Managing for future old-growth: The worth of our choices may be beyond calculating today](#) – **The Olympian**, 1/15

[Letter to the editor: Tree code should prioritize keeping as many trees as possible](#) – **MyEdmondsNews**, 1/14

[Letter to the editor: Proposed tree code is too little, too late](#) – **MyEdmondsNews**, 1/13

[Trump opens habitat of northern spotted owl to timber harvesting](#) – **SeaTimes**, 1/13

Local/PNW Tree News (cont.)

[Washington state's public lands chief tries new tactic in push for \\$125 million to fight, prevent fires](#) – **SeaTimes**, 1/12

[How Cascadia has faltered in addressing climate change](#) – **Crosscut**, 1/11

[Rainforest in Washington is the wettest in the continental US, officials say](#) – **The Olympian**, 1/6

[Here Are Washington's Top Environmental Priorities for 2021](#) – **TheStranger**, 1/5

Tree News elsewhere: [\(right-click links to open in new tab\)](#) [\(return to top\)](#)

Arbor Day Foundation – [Blog \(regularly updated with Tree News everywhere\)](#)

[Tree of the week - Guardian readers on the leafy wonders that make their world a better place](#) – **Guardian**, (updated weekly)

[Miami Beach to cut back on palm trees over climate concerns](#) – **Guardian**, 2/28

[The Fight for Franklin Canyon](#) – **NY Times**, 2/26

[Wildfires may have unexpected climate impacts](#) – **HCN**, 2/26

[House votes to protect millions of acres of wilderness and other public lands in sweeping legislation](#) – **The Wilderness Society**, 2/26

[Carbon offsets gird for lift-off as big money gets close to nature](#) – **Reuters**, 2/25

[One of nation's most iconic trees was destroyed by ice storm, Tennessee park says](#) – **Idaho Statesman**, 2/25

[Fiercer, more frequent fires may reduce carbon capture by forests](#) – **Guardian**, 2/25

[Insect that kills hemlocks detected in NW Michigan county](#) – **SeaPI**, 2/21

[San Francisco Bay Area redwood forest preserved in \\$25M deal](#) – **SeaPI**, 2/20

[Showcasing the DNR: Under the spell of the Wintermaker \(MI\)](#) – **SeaPI**, 2/19

Tree News Elsewhere (cont.)

[Vintage photos that show the beauty of America's national parks](#) – **SeaPI**, 2/19

[Country diary: uprooting a tree is the ultimate assault on nature](#) – **Guardian**, 2/19

[Forester recognized for 'innovative' conservation efforts \(MI\)](#) – **SeaPI**, 2/17

[France on hunt for centuries-old oaks to rebuild spire of Notre Dame](#) – **Guardian**, 2/16

[France's BNP to stop financing farming deforested land in the Amazon](#) – **Reuters**, 2/15

[Maine pols fear new forest rules could hurt conservation](#) – **SeaPI**, 2/14

[Digging in: a million trees planted as villages and schools join climate battle](#) – **Guardian**, 2/13

[The New Alliance Shaping the Middle East Is Against a Tiny Bug](#) – **NY Times**, 2/10

[Glacier at forefront of whitebark pine tree conservation \(MT\)](#) – **SeaPI**, 2/6

[Invasive Insects and Diseases Are Killing Our Forests](#) – **NY Times**, 2/6

[Trail lawsuit divides advocates for the Adirondacks](#) – **SeaPI**, 2/3

[Bob Brown loses legal challenge to native forest logging in Tasmania](#) – **Guardian**, 2/2

[Scotch pine is Hamden's January Notable Tree \(CT\)](#) – **SeaPI**, 2/1

[Rio shelves plan to build new F1 track in forest area](#) – **SeaTimes**, 2/1

[3 Sierra sugar pines added to list of 6 biggest in world](#) – **SeaTimes**, 1/31

[Former U.S. Climate Leaders Press Biden on Amazon Deforestation](#) – **NY Times**, 1/29

[Brazil to end military-led program against Amazon logging](#) – **SeaPI**, 1/27

[New River Gorge: West Virginia betting on newest national park](#) – **SeaPI**, 1/26

[The rivers run through it, and Jon Tester wants them protected for Montana](#) – **SeaTimes**, 1/25

[Michigan adds Beech leaf disease to invasive species list](#) – **SeaPI**, 1/25

Books & Media (cont.)

USFS Urban Forest Connections Webinars Series (Second Wednesdays of each month, 1-2:15pm EST, archive of past webinars also linked here):

[Upcoming: Mar 10, Apr 14, May 12](#)

Conservation NW – **[webinars](#)** (past and most recent)

The Aspen Institute: Public Lands, We the People (**[recording archives here](#)**).

Davey Tree Group – next: *URBAN FOREST MASTER PLANS: WHERE DO WE BEGIN?* (Apr 6, 12pm EST) and webinar archive – **[browse and register here](#)**.

The Nature Conservancy: upcoming and past webinars – **[browse here](#)**.

Columbia Land Trust: **[The Witness Tree](#)**

Timber Wars (OPB podcast re the 1990s and the Northern Spotted Owl): **[here](#)**.

Treehugger's Podcast: **[latest here](#)**.

Heritage Tree Podcasts (Portland, OR): **[latest here](#)**.

Trees are Key podcast (TX A&M Forestry): **[series here](#)**.

TreePAC organization info:

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“Are you tired of pleading, asking, arguing and proving that trees have public value? Join TreePAC and make change happen. Together we will be a lobby as powerful as the sports lobby.” **[Cass Turnbull, TreePAC founder](#)**.

Mission: The TreePAC mission is to influence local government to protect, maintain and increase the Seattle-area urban forest.

Website: **<https://www.treepac.org/>**

Facebook: **<https://www.facebook.com/TreePAC.org/>**

Twitter: **<https://twitter.com/TreepacO>**

How to join (or donate) to TreePAC: **<https://treepac.org/join/>**

Who we are: **<https://treepac.org/board/>**

Mailing List: send an **[email](#)** to us to be added.