

SILENT ALDER, GIBBS LAKE COUNTY PARK

Management Concerns

This area is at the right window for thinning to have the highest impact on forest health improvement. Forest is an even aged stand acquired through DNR, which was previously managed for timber harvesting. As a result, the stand is very uniform, lacks biological or structural diversity. The canopy here has just fully closed and trees are starting to show signs of stress. The goal of this harvest is to improve diversity and encourage new trees and understory species. **This will be an example of when to thin for the best results.**

HARVEST DESIGN: has been planned with Jefferson County Parks & Rec staff and volunteers and Camp Beausite staff to meet multiple needs. The harvest will create a new parking lot overlook in an area with new trails and currently limited vehicle access. It will also create new trails for recreational use within the area. One section of the stand (furthest West) will be left out of harvest for now to respect staff housing and to give a control stand to measure the effects of thinning through monitoring.



Figure 4. Taking a tree core sample at Silent Alder

DOMINANT SPECIES: Douglas-fir, Bigleaf maple, Red alder

PRE-THINNING CONDITIONS

Trees per Acre (TPA)	Relative Density	Quadratic Mean Diameter	Age	Avg Spacing
220	50	10.6"	35-40	13'

DESIRED FUTURE CONDITIONS

Trees per Acre (TPA)	Relative Density	Avg Spacing
150	35	18'