

TREE RISK ASSESSMENT: SYSTEMATIC EVALUATION PROCESS

Dr. Kim D. Coder, University of Georgia 1990

ZONE 1: STEM / ROOT BASE (4 feet up and out) -- Bottom four feet of main stem and zone of rapid taper (ZRT) in roots stretching out four feet.
NO COMPROMISE -- NO DOUBT

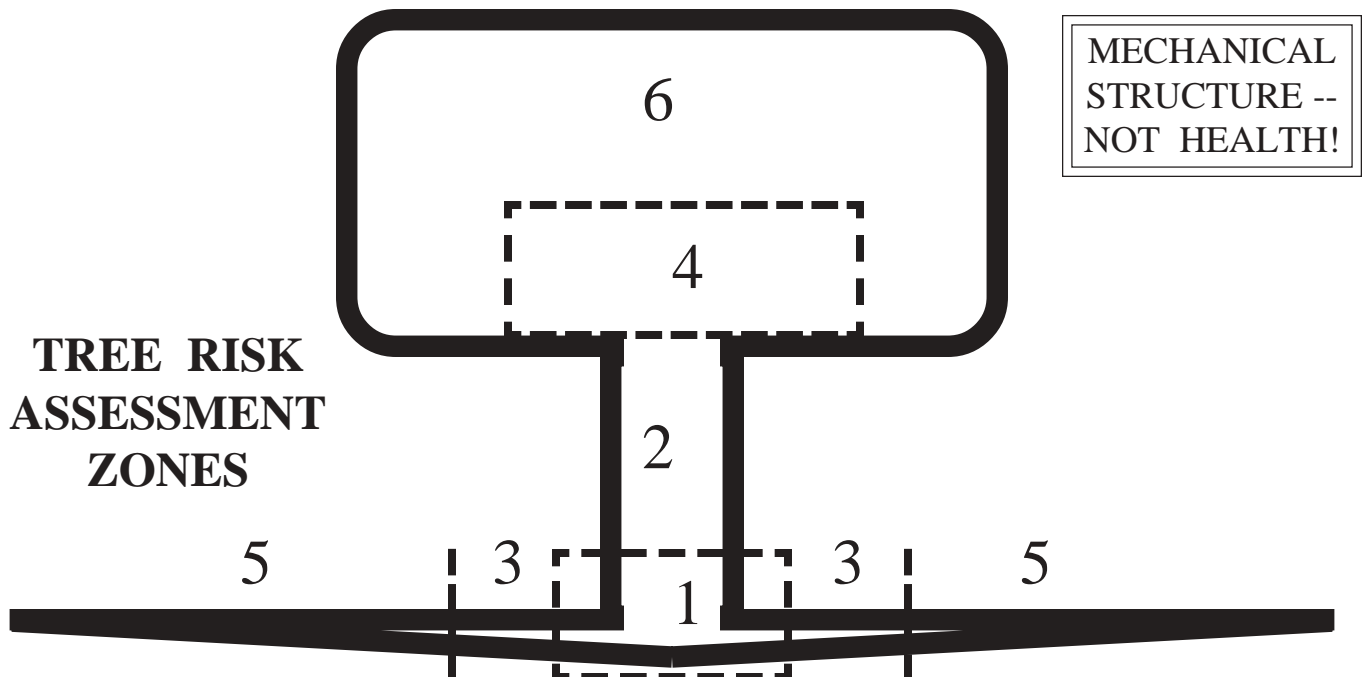
ZONE 2: MAIN STEM (up to live crown and base of scaffold branches)
ZONE 3: PRIMARY ROOT SUPPORT (out to 1/2 the drip line)
ZONE 4: PRIMARY BRANCH SUPPORT (major branch base area plus the basal 1/3 of their length)

Faults in zones two, three, and four are correctable with large inputs of time, money, materials and technical maintenance. Corrective measures may represent a notification of problems.

ZONE 5: REMAINDER OF WOODY ROOTS (out to 1.5 times the dripline)
ZONE 6: REMAINDER OF CROWN

Zones five and six are not of primary structural concern but any faults still represent significant risks

Criteria: When three significant simple faults that could lead to catastrophic loss are identified (in zone order), or one significant compound fault that could lead to catastrophic loss is identified, stop and assess targeting aspects of the area, and reexamine site management objectives to determine a hazard designation and removal priority. Examine tree from at least three sides.



TREE RISK ASSESSMENT FORM

TREE NUMBER:

DATE:

ASSESSOR'S NAME:

TREE SPECIES:

TREE DIAMETER:

SPECIFIC TREE LOCATION:

OWNERSHIP:

OWNER'S NAME & PHONE:

BOUNDARY LINE TREE _____

SINGLE OWNER TREE _____

FEET FROM BOUNDARY (falling in / falling out):

RISK ASSESSMENT:

MAJOR STRUCTURAL FAULTS (describe type and location):

FAULT #1 (ZONE=):

FAULT #2 (ZONE=):

FAULT #3 (ZONE=):

OTHER STRUCTURAL FAULTS:

MINOR RISKS:

TARGETING (people / property / resources over space and time):

RISK ACCEPTANCE GIVEN MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES (hazard thresholds):

ACTIONS:

_____ NO REMOVAL

_____ MANAGERIAL NOTICE OF RISKS

_____ MINOR FAULTS AND CORRECTIONS / RISK REDUCTION

_____ REMOVAL

** _____ PRIORITY REMOVAL **