



Arborist Report Addendum

*Original Report Dated August 14, 2024
Subsequent Report Dated December 17, 2024*

Date: February 1, 2025
Project Arborist: Kevin J. Carlson

Anderson Residence
99 Edwards Lane
Atherton, California 94027

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Urban Tree Management

ISA Board Certified Master Arborist #WE-7475B

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ISA Tree Risk Assessment Qualified

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Assignment

Address specific tree protection and preservation concerns related to the *Tree Protection Zone Exemption Request* prepared by Schwanke Architecture for 99 Edwards Lane, Atherton, California. Provide an opinion on the exemption request's feasibility and additional recommendations related thereto.

Discussion and Recommendations

Item #1: Detached Garage Building (Exhibit 'B')

Coast Redwoods #41, #42, #43, and #44 occur on the neighboring property at 80 Edwards Lane within 15 feet of the property line. A *Tree Protection Zone Exemption Request* prepared by Schwanke Architecture on January 28, 2025, indicates a maximum "root zone encroachment" of 15.6% based on the standard (10 x DBH radius) among this group of trees. The documents and companion drawings provided by Schwanke Architecture appear accurate with respect to this finding. The TPZ exemption request is supported by the Project Arborist based on site conditions, tree health, and species characteristics with respect to root loss.

Additional recommendations or those refined from previous reports are as follows:

1. The Project Arborist should be on hand during excavation for the foundation and the deepened edge footing for the concrete flatwork. Excavations should be performed carefully and dug by hand where necessary to avoid tearing or pulling roots. The Project Arborist or his designee should cut all roots larger than 1 inch in diameter with a sharp saw on the side of the excavation closest to the tree (s).
2. Roots exposed at the edges of any foundation/footing trenches should be covered with a double layer of #7 burlap (pinned to the top of the trench and draped over the cut root ends) and kept moist until the concrete is formed and poured.
3. **Optional:** Consider notifying the 80 Edwards Lane property owner of the possible impacts to their trees and ask if they would be interested in having them treated with *Cambistat* before the start of construction.

Cambistat inhibits the plant hormone *gibberellin*, responsible for cell elongation in leaves and stems, and redirects the plant food energy to fine root production, storage, and defense. We use it extensively on construction projects with very good results in terms of tree preservation and post-construction tree health. See attached literature.

Cambistat works best if applied 3-6 months before construction starts and can only be applied at 3-year intervals, meaning that a single application is usually sufficient for most projects.

Item #2: Detached Pool House Building (Exhibit ‘C’)

Coast Live Oak #29 occurs on the subject property, and Valley Oak #47 is located on the adjacent property at 93 Edwards Lane within 15 feet of the property line. A *Tree Protection Zone Exemption Request* prepared by Schwanke Architecture on January 28, 2025, indicates a maximum “root zone encroachment” of 5.2% for tree #29 and 16.2% for tree #47 based on the standard 10 x DBH radius. The documents and companion drawings provided by Schwanke Architecture appear accurate with respect to this finding. The TPZ exemption request is supported by the Project Arborist based on site conditions, tree health, and species characteristics with respect to root loss.

Additional recommendations or those refined from previous reports are as follows:

1. The Project Arborist should be on hand during excavation for the foundation and the deepened edge footing for the concrete flatwork. Excavations should be performed carefully and dug by hand where necessary to avoid tearing or pulling roots. The Project Arborist or his designee should cut all roots larger than 1 inch in diameter with a sharp saw on the side of the excavation closest to the tree (s).
2. Roots exposed at the edges of any foundation/footing trenches should be covered with a double layer of #7 burlap (pinned to the top of the trench and draped over the cut root ends) and kept moist until the concrete is formed and poured.
3. Treat on-site Coast Live Oak #29 with *Cambistat* 3-6 months before site mobilization.
4. **Optional:** Consider notifying the 93 Edwards Lane property owner of the possible impacts to their tree and ask if they would be interested in having it treated with *Cambistat* before the start of construction.

Item #3: Pool Equipment Building (Exhibit ‘D’)

Coast Live Oak #19 occurs on the subject property. A *Tree Protection Zone Exemption Request* prepared by Schwanke Architecture on January 28, 2025, indicates a maximum “root zone encroachment” of 11.7% based on the standard 10 x DBH radius. The documents and companion drawings provided by Schwanke Architecture appear accurate with respect to this finding. The TPZ exemption request is supported by the Project Arborist based on site conditions, tree health, and species characteristics with respect to root loss.

Additional recommendations or those refined from previous reports are as follows:

1. The Project Arborist should be on hand during excavation for the foundation and the deepened edge footing for the concrete flatwork. Excavations should be performed carefully and dug by hand where necessary to avoid tearing or pulling roots. The Project Arborist or his designee should cut all roots larger than 1 inch in diameter with a sharp saw on the side of the excavation closest to the tree (s).

2. Roots exposed at the edges of any foundation/footing trenches should be covered with a double layer of #7 burlap (pinned to the top of the trench and draped over the cut root ends) and kept moist until the concrete is formed and poured.
3. Treat on-site Coast Live Oak #19 with *Cambistat* 3-6 months before site mobilization.

Afterword

Mature Coast Redwood trees have a rather high tolerance for construction-related impacts and should fare well on this project under the TPZ exemption, providing adequate adherence to the protection measures indicated in Item #1 and previous reports.

Mature Valley Oaks and Coast Live Oaks are notorious for their intolerance to site disruptions caused by construction. Root damage, root loss, soil compaction, drought during construction, and washout pollution are all common causes of oak tree decline that can manifest themselves as long as 5-10 years post-construction.

While the TPZ exemption would likely not lead to any significant root loss in the trees indicated in Items # 2 and #3, strict adherence to the enhanced recommendations and those in previous reports will be essential to success. Most of the post-construction decline in mature oaks results from poor execution rather than poor planning, so effective, consistent monitoring and remediation are essential.

In light of this, it is recommended that the Project Arborist inspect the trees subject to the TPZ exemption request on a **monthly** basis.

Sincerely,

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