



Overview

Oregon White Oak has a large and variable range along the West Coast with the ability to grow in many different site conditions, but it is often confined to valley bottoms and inland slopes. Its growth form is highly variable and is influenced by the local site conditions. Oregon White Oak is both a pioneer and a disturbance climax species. Individuals are very fire adapted. Trees can reach ages of up to 500 years and heights of over 100 feet.

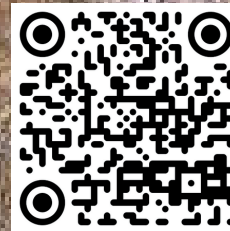
Importance

Oregon White Oak is an extremely important species throughout its range, with many species depending on its acorn production for food. In Washington state alone over 200 vertebrates and scores of invertebrate species use oak woodlands. This includes multiple threatened and endangered species. Oregon White Oaks are also the primary canopy trees in oak woodlands and savannas, an important and diverse habitat type in the PNW.

Oregon White Oak

Quercus garryana

Links to the National Champion Tree Program website and the references used



NATIONAL CHAMPION TREE PROGRAM

Threats

Habitat loss and fire suppression have been the primary drivers in the drastic reduction of Oregon White Oak. The conversion of oak savanna habitat into agricultural fields and urban development has left the Willamette Valley with less than 5 percent of its historic oak woodlands.

Additionally, Oregon White Oak is dependent on low severity fires to prevent conifer species from encroaching and eventually taking over. However, in the last century the Willamette Valley has seen a drastic decline in fires. This has been correlated with the establishment and ultimately the dominance of Douglas Fir in many parts of the White Oak's range in Oregon.



A potential emerging threat to Oregon White Oaks is the Mediterranean Oak Borer (MOB) (*Xyleborus monographus*). This is a tiny brown wood boring insect called an “ambrosia” beetle that made its way here from Europe and western Asia. MOB has been killing oaks in California for the last decade and in recent years it has turned up in Oregon, infesting Oregon White Oak trees. Non-native forest pests, like MOB, can pose real threats to our native forests. They are the primary reason why biosecurity measures, such as not moving firewood, are extremely important.

Current Champion Tree Statistics

- Nominated in 2015
- Circumference: 288 inches
- Height: 97 feet
- Crown Spread: 91 feet
- Located in Multnomah County, OR

