

A topographic map of the Rocky Mountain Region, showing contour lines and a vertical yellow strip indicating a study area. The map is overlaid on a dark teal background with a wavy, contour-like pattern. A horizontal arrow points from the yellow strip towards the right, and a small circle with a diagonal arrow points from the strip towards the bottom-left.

Hazard Trees of the Rocky Mountain Region.

Dead trees are an obvious hazard in high-use areas, and should be removed.



This leaning tree has a damaged root system and is threatening this picnic site.



Trees weakened by root rot fungi are susceptible to windthrow. Note the conk at the base.



Injury to roots, and soil compaction can result from pedestrian traffic along trails.



Cankers infected with decay fungi indicate substantial structural defect.



Conks on Aspen indicate extensive structural damage and should be checked with an increment bore.



Cytospora canker of Aspen. Infection is a result of tree injury by visitors in a developed site.



Sooty bark canker of aspen. The fungus entered wounds caused by recreation area visitors.



Trunk wounds on Englemann Spruce and Subalpine Fir often indicate decay. This large catface indicates a column of decay in this tree.



Conks on Englemann Spruce indicate advanced decay.



Conks of the Indian Paint fungus indicate advanced decay in this true fir tree.



Cottonwood that has fallen because of decay.



Defective trees adjacent to permanent structures, such as a ski lift, should be removed.



Engelmann Spruce that has failed, and caused damage to the ski lift at Vail Colorado.

