

## Visualization of Four Alternative Strategies for Managing Garry Oak

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### (Abstract)

A 3000-ha area near Tacoma, Washington, was used to model four management strategies for their impact on Garry oak stands and associated prairies. This area is a mosaic of conifer and moist-site hardwood stands, prairies, and Garry oak savannas and woodlands. The four scenarios selected were a) continuation of current activities in conifer stands and prairies; oak will not be cut nor will it be actively managed; b) select five existing oak areas to manage and expand for future oak savanna or woodland; continue existing management of conifer and prairie in rest of area; c) aggressively manage existing (20+) oak areas by cutting conifers and introducing prescribed burning; establish new oak areas by planting; and continue existing conifer and prairie management in rest of area; d) use 1850/1870 General Land Office Surveys to restore historic proportions of area to prairie, oak savanna, oak woodland, Douglas-fir savanna, Douglas-fir woodland, and moist forest conditions.

We used EnVision, a landscape visualization program that represents each stand polygon using associated inventory data, to view the results from the four scenarios. The inventory system for the area uses forest stands as the basic unit with small inclusions of non-typical areas in most stands and coding to indicate large areas in non-forest condition. To better represent the conditions of interest, we first modified the stand polygon layer in a GIS system to include small oak and oak-conifer polygons and then linked various types of inventory information to the stand polygons. Modelling these four strategies is complex as many polygons must be divided into smaller units to represent different stands and management activities, but this approach allows each strategy to be adequately represented in a visual model.

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## The Saanich Garry Oak Restoration Project

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### (Abstract)

The Garry Oak Restoration Project (GORP) is a progressive and diverse public education program designed to introduce and educate the local residents of Saanich about the value of Garry oak ecosystems and ecological restoration. Following a "living laboratory" approach, parcels of local Garry oak ecosystems owned by the Municipality of Saanich are selected to develop and maintain restoration demonstration sites. All the sites are highly visible and accessible to the public and the involvement of as many community and school groups as possible is encouraged. GORP is a partnership program with representation on the committee by the Municipality of Saanich (Parks and Environmental Services), the University of Victoria, the Garry Oak Meadows Preservation Society (GOMPS) and Environment Canada. GORP is also supported by the Garry Oak Ecosystems Recovery Team (GOERT) and financially supported by BC Hydro-Tree Canada Foundation, Georgia Basin Ecosystem Initiative, Habitat Stewardship Program and the Municipality of Saanich.



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