
rotton reds

Posted by bareroots - 07/11/2006 06:53pm

been away for a while

become a climber and am working for a few firms and picking up some of my own work.

it's a whole new realm learning how a tree comes to bits. it's been kind of difficult for me on a (i don't mean to be flakey) spiritual level. it's almost harder to see the tree purely for what it is. a beautiful creature reaching for the sun. it gets crowded out with safety, risk assessment, dollar signs, etc. it's trouble me... is it only an acclimatization / readjustment... will it pass??? how has it been for you others that climb both recreationally and professionally.

I was also wondering if any of you west coast climber might be able to help.

Part of a job i'm on with right now involves a sequoia. It's only small by your standards. Only 30m. But when dead wooding it for the owners public liability requirements the lowest live limb broke suddenly. it was 20 cm and should of been able to hold my weight easily. it had no signs of decay on the foliage or bark.

On reflection I decided to trim the other branches at a similar height (the tree was being made safe for the owner because a ropes course was being installed nearby), five of the six branches had decayed wood in their cores with only a cm of healthy lignified tissue on the periphery.

could this be a sign of more seroius decay in the trunk. there was possibly a healed over fissure on one side (that might also be grove in the bark) from .5 - 3m height) or is this just a process the lower limbs of a red wood go through as the upper part of the tree reaches for the sky. ???

if any of you with a familiarity of the species could help out with this i would be grateful. Sequoia's are few and far between in this country.

PS any idea how old a tree of this height would be and are there any technical tips on how to climb the invariably downward sloping branches?

cheers for now

=====

Tree Decay Question

Posted by Oldtimer - 07/12/2006 10:25am

Bareroots, you may post your question in the Treebuzz and see what the "Profesional Tree Workers" advise. Just another couple of ideas.

You can also contact the guys with this group in England;
<http://www.mighty-oak.co.uk/contact.php>

A third option Paolo with Tree Climbing
Italy is a good Profesional Tree Climber and very involved in European activities.

<http://www.treeclimbing.it/>

Good luck

=====

Posted by moss - 07/12/2006 01:51pm

Originally posted by bareroots

it's a whole new realm learning how a tree comes to bits. it's been kind of difficult for me on a (i don't mean to be flakey) spiritual level. it's almost harder to see the tree purely for what it is. a beautiful creature reaching for the sun. it gets crowded out with safety, risk assessment, dollar signs, etc. it's trouble me... is it only an acclimatization / readjustment... will it pass??? how has it been for you others that climb both recreationally and professionally.

Great question! I think when you internalize all that stuff a little more you'll go back to seeing the tree for what it is. And you'll find new unexpected ways to relate to trees. I go through the same thing once in a while and then it passes. Tree time (non-working) is always available, you can go into it to refresh your spirit. Maybe a couple solo climbs are in order?

I've just been cutting down a couple of small trees in my yard, a dead standing Mountain Ash (still in progress) and a Choke Cherry that was causing trouble. I just don't like cutting down a live tree no matter what. Haven't figured out how to deal with that yet, I'll follow my own prescription and do some climbs with no saw on the saddle.

-moss

=====