

## More Look Park Goodies

by dbhguru » Thu Feb 23, 2012 9:40 am

NTS, on Tuesday, Bart Bouricius, Ed Fritz, and I explored the nooks and crannies of Look Park in our documentation of the biggest and tallest of each species. We're also out for the unusual. Take a look at this unusual pine. Arborist Bart is trying to divine the thinking on this one. Tree art? Attempt at pruning that was aborted? Theories? Maybe Bart can chime in and describe what he saw.

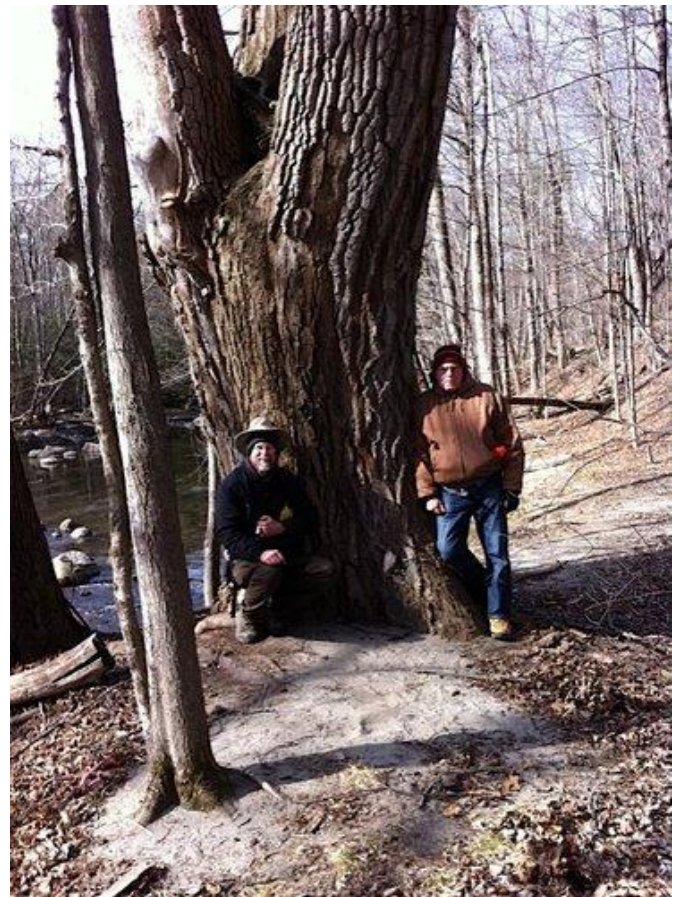


Look Park Weird Pine



Look Park Weird Pine

The largest single-stem tree we've identified is an eastern cottonwood. Here is a look at our 16.0-foot girth champ.



Look Park Whopper Cottonwood



Here is a look at a huge double. It measures 18.1 feet around and 119.0 feet tall.

Other neat trees include a black locust, and old cottonwood, and a rather striking crown of a white pine.



Look Park Black Locust



Look Park Old Cottonwood



Look Park Jellyfish Pine





Look Park Jelly Fish Pine (2)



Look Park Jelly Fish Pine (3)

After our walk through, we visited the maintenance headquarters and talked to the Director of Maintenance about the project. He's solidly behind it, which is gratifying. I think we're in for a long productive tree association with the Park's management.

Robert T. Leverett

## Harper Creek, NC

by **jamesrobertsmith** » Thu Feb 23, 2012 8:39 pm

Have any of you guys done any looking around on Harper Creek in the Wilson Creek area? I hiked in there today to see Harper Creek Falls which was on my list. Unfortunately, I had to be back in Charlotte by 4:30 so I had no extra time. And on the hike out I looked up on a slope to see a couple of really tall/big trees. Or at least they appeared to be especially big. Generally when I see a tree that catches my eye like that, I'll bushwhack up or down to it and take a closer look. I think I've gotten pretty good at picking out exceptional trees from a distance. But I really had to keep going. Bushwhacking up there and back would have taken about twenty minutes, at least. One was an oak--maybe a white oak--and the other was a white pine growing on the slope just above the oak.

Most of the forests in there are young, but there are almost always a few old trees mixed in when you hit those coves. Especially in an area as rugged as that.



Lots of young, but tall trees in the Harper Creek coves.

James Robert Smith

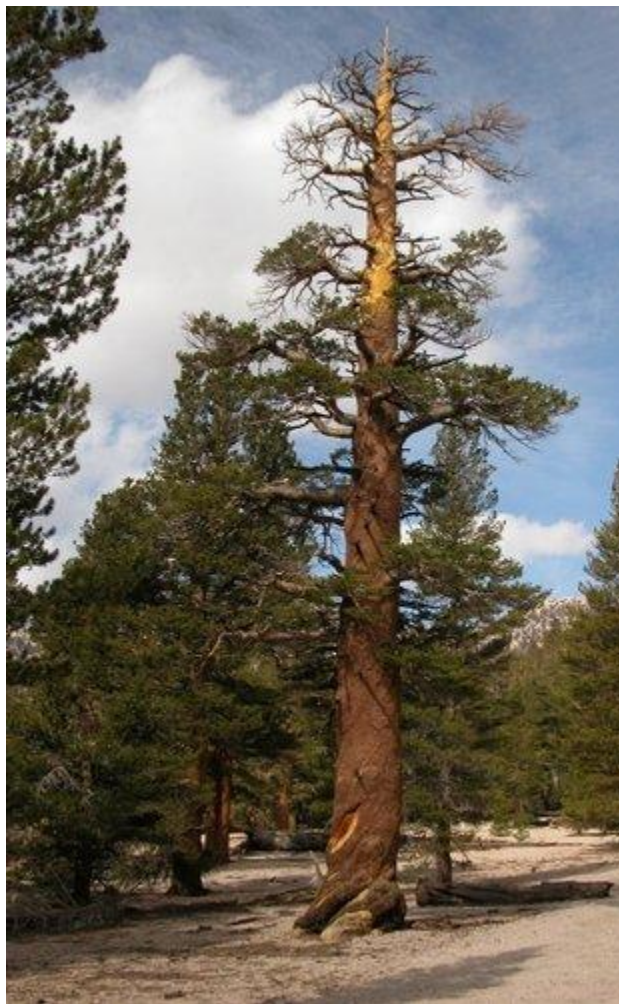


## [Re: Rogues Gallery of Great Basin trees](#)

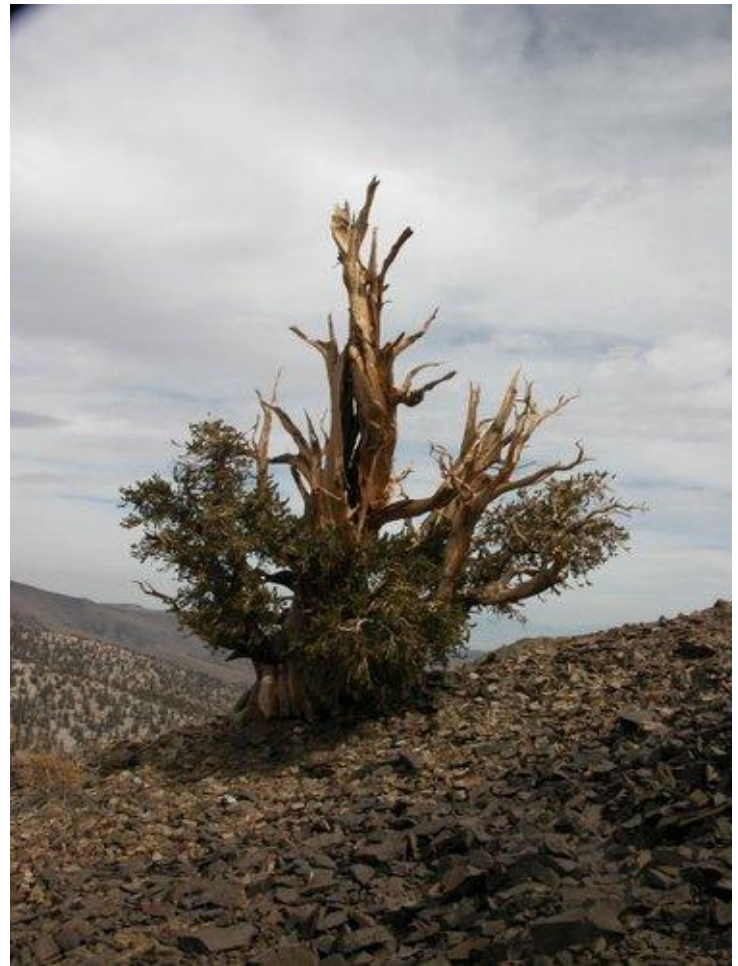
by **Don** » Thu Feb 23, 2012 4:41 am

Ed-

Of course I'm pleased to see the above post, thanks Scotty! I've been traipsing around peripheral parts of the Great Basin, at high elevation (10,000 to 12,000 feet) and noted PCT (pre-cambrial thinning) often, although I'd put them in the general category of spike tops. Attaching a couple of examples below:



PCT in Foxtail Pine ~ Horseshoe Meadows, Sierra Nevada



Long-term PCT ~ Bristlecone Pine, White Mtns, California

Don Bertollette - Moderator, WNTS BBS

## Costa Rica Trees & Natural history #1

by **Bart Bouricius** » Thu Feb 23, 2012 8:00 pm

I will be sending a series of posts in the next couple of weeks comprising photos and descriptions of trees and animals and narrations of experiences from one partial work trip to the Peruvian Amazon last September, and another trip with my wife to Costa Rica in December-January. Having learned the proper way to measure trees from Bob Leverett and having unusual and frequent access to Central and South America I figured NTS folks might enjoy these posts, as they are rare on the bulletin board.

My holy grail in Central and South America is to find a Neotropical emergent tree over 200 feet tall. My friend Phil Wittman did measure with proper protocol one Ceiba pentandra tree, that I had previously posted images for, at 180' height. It had been previously estimated at 220'. Though it is often said that Kapok trees (a common name which actually refers to two or more species) from which cottony seed floss is collected for stuffing life vests and mattresses, exceed 200' in height, I have not come across any that were clearly accurately measured, with a clearly described methodology, that achieved that height.

Instead it seems that there are several accounts, but the authors all seem to quote each other when you try to trace the origin of the actual figures.

I am optimistic that this goal will be realized because in these tropical forests, there is not one or two, but 10's of emergent species that may aspire to reach such a height. To date, with the standard caveat "as far as I know" no Neotropical tree has unequivocally achieved this stature and been reliably measured. If you have information to the contrary, please post it with the source, or let me know.

Before getting into the images and descriptions I would like to set the stage for what I have been trying to do and what it is like to pursue my goal in the Central and South American tropical forest environments. In Peru I build canopy walkways for a living and have been returning regularly for 22 years to inspect and maintain the systems that my

associates and I have designed and built. I have been visiting Peru and Ecuador off and on since 1984, having taken 25 trips to the Amazon Basin. I have also worked in Belize and Costa Rica and have been to Central America probably around 20 times for work, biological research, to bring groups of college students down for tropical ecology studies and to visit friends. My main study interest in the Neotropics was originally certain orders of arachnids (no, not all arachnids are spiders- think ticks and mites, scorpions, pseudoscorpions and harvestmen <daddy longlegs> as some examples of arachnid orders), but more recently, with the help of Andrew Joslin and Bob Leverett, I have developed a new obsession, and that is old growth emergent trees. Since folks such as Will Blozan and Bob Leverett know more about temperate trees than I can ever hope to learn, I figured I would take advantage of my access to the New World tropics to learn something about the Emergent trees to be found there. Unlike my home in the Eastern US, where only the White Pine and Tulip Tree tend to grow above the canopy and then spread out above the other trees, there are certainly well over 20 true emergent tree species in the Peruvian Amazon. In the Eastern US, other trees such as the Cotton Woods and Sycamores achieve impressive heights, but their pattern tends to be different and often they grow in a less dense flood plane environment where a tall straight growth architecture is less important in achieving dominance.

While visiting Costa Rica my wife Connie and I stayed at friends Ralph and Margarita in Alta del Monte west of the continental divide. For a few days we also stayed with Margarita's extended family and at the Tirimbina Research Center, both located in the state of Sarapiquí on the Caribbean side of the divide. We were able to get a discounted rate at Tirimbina as I provided a climbing seminar for some staff members at the center. I also spent time on a night climb with my friend Witold Lapinski and his girl friend who was visiting at the time.

Witold is a German doctoral student studying the behavior of wandering spiders, a behavioral group which includes spiders that hunt down their prey without making webs. On nights that are not too rainy he climbs one of the several trees he has rigged to observe these spiders for several hours using his



head lamp. He says he has collected enough data in the past year or so to publish probably around 20 papers. Among the trees he has rigged are 3 Kapoks (*Ceiba pentandra*), one of which exceeds 150 feet in height. Unfortunately I did not get photos of the largest Kapoks in the day time. I did however get a few shots of various creatures in the top of one of the taller trees he rigged. We had to be careful in this tree as there was apparently a Bullet Ant (*Paraponera clavata*) nest in the top of the tree in a crotch full of soil, and the beasts were quite actively foraging on the limbs. They are called bullet ants because their sting is said to feel like being shot with a bullet.

Though this description is a bit of an exaggeration, the sting is extremely painful and the pain can last for as long as 24 hours, though Witold says he seems to have developed an immunity to them such that it is more of an annoyance when he gets stung as opposed to the expected harrowing experience that some of my associates have been unfortunate enough to go through.

Fortunately I have only been stung by a member of the Bullet ants larger sister genus. This happened 2 years ago in the Peruvian Amazon. The name of this other ant genus is *Dinoponera*, probably because it is a quarter of an inch longer than the one inch long bullet ant and ,as such, is the dinosaur of the ants. Fortunately for me, this largest of new world ants, has a less potent sting than its smaller but more fearsome sister genus. The sting occurred two hours after I had been photographing these ants coming from a nest at the base of a tree in a reserve on the Río Marañón in Northern Peru. I was suddenly awakened when I rolled over during an afternoon siesta to find that one of these ants had crawled up my pants leg during the photo shoot and had now given me a wicked sting on my upper thigh just below my -- better not go there.

Any way, identifying giant trees in the Amazon or Central America can be a bit daunting. I thought it was quite an accomplishment when I ran my tree service in Chapel Hill North Carolina and learned the Latin names of 21 oak species, but compared to dealing with an environment where, according to some sources, there can be over 600 species of trees on a single hectare (about 2.5 acres), that was child's play. This is why I have limited my scope to only the

tall emergent trees, aside from the fact that they hold the most interest for me, and are the most exciting to climb. So now I guess it's time for the first image of trees in a Costa Rican ravine:



Forested ravine at Alta Del Monte

The deep light dappled ravine provided constant surprises such as gorgeous waterfalls and swimming holes to die for even though no one ever uses them.

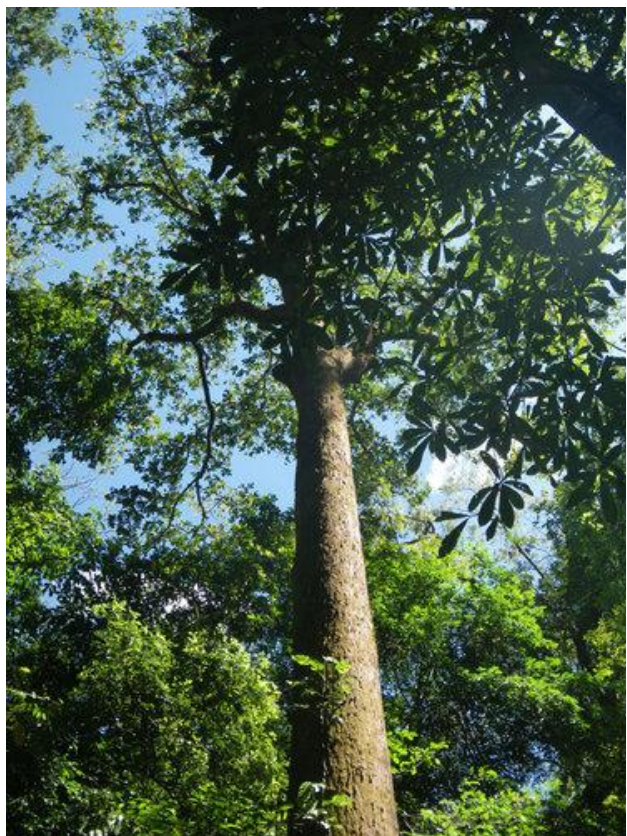
The steep cliffs and immense boulders gave my friend Bob Lucas and I a feeling of being small in this amazing place where the giant cashew trees grew so frequently that we did not bother with the dozens of big trees that appeared to be only 12' or less in circumference. There was always something awe inspiring around each curve and meander of the stream.



Bob next to one of the many waterfalls in the lower part of the ravine



Bob and I had to zig zag across the stream and boulder hop to find good walking space in and on the sides of the rocky stream bed. As we moved along we looked up at the long leaves which also coated much of the ground below with a thick crunchy layer from these Wild Cashew Trees. The large leaves (up to 16 inches long) from these trees create a layer of detritus and barely decomposed dry leaves a foot or more thick. Here is the view looking up.



View of Wild Cashew, Espave, from below  
(*Anacardium excelsum*)

Interestingly these trees which were quite large and tall were also the most common trees along the banks of the stream. This interesting tree species is in the Anacardiaceae family which also contains the Sumacs and poison Ivy. This relationship may explain why allergic reactions to the raw nuts and fruit of the cultivated species (*Anacardium occidentale*) are not uncommon. These "Espave" trees were clearly the dominant emergents in several pacific slope ravines that I visited. What follows is some of the images and data collected during one

excursion with my friend Bob Lucas, some of the images are from his own property.



Wild Cashew, (*A. excelsum*) 130.5' tall, 18'  
Circumference

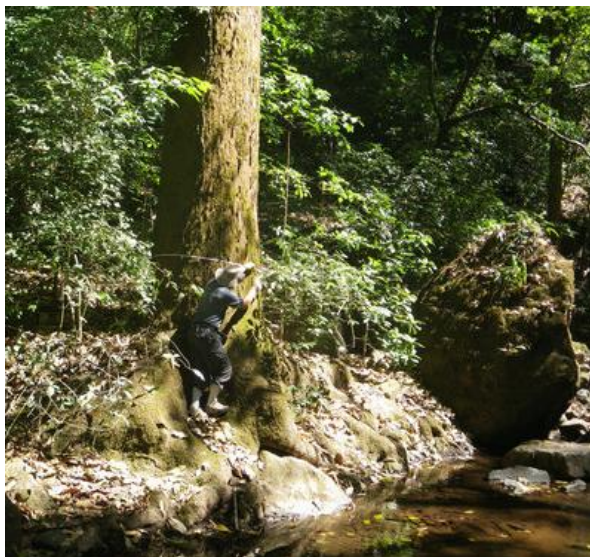
This was the first tree we measured on this particular hike. From here we wended our way down the river to our next tree.





Unidentified species mimosa like leaves 133.5' tall, 15.15' circumference

Unfortunately we had to make time in order to make it to a cut to get out of the ravine and to a road by nightfall, so many large species were not able to be identified in this exploratory trip. All height measurements were taken simply by pointing the Nikon 440 rangefinder straight up, so most of the trees were probably a couple of feet taller.



Wild Cashew, (*A. excelsum*) 153' tall, 15' circumference

Above was our tallest Wild Cashew, yet there is a more imposing one coming up in the next post of this series. Below is pictured a strange looking

unidentified species that required a photo nevertheless.



Interesting large multi trunked tree with beer guts

I will be doing 4 or 5 more posts including one about Tirimbina Research Center, another ravine hike including a report on a massive *Ceiba pentandra* (Kapok Tree) and a couple about trees and beasts in the Peruvian Amazon.

Bart Bouricius

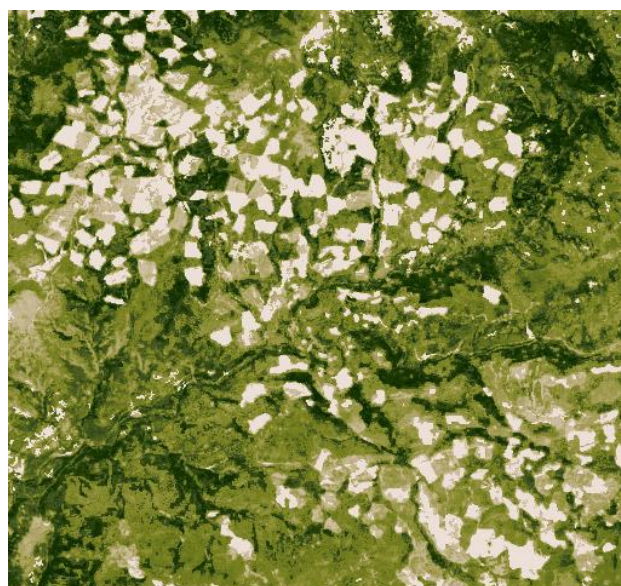


## [Closeup on Forests of the Pacific Northwest](#)

by **edfrank** » Tue Feb 21, 2012 7:45 pm

Closeup on Forests of the Pacific Northwest  
February 17, 2012

<http://earthobservatory.nasa.gov/IOTD/view.php?id=76699&src=eo-a-iotd>



The coastal Pacific Northwest of the United States has the tallest trees in North America, averaging as

much as 40 meters (131 feet) in height. It has the densest biomass—the total mass of organisms living within a given area—in the country. But for centuries, it also has been a much-tapped resource for lumber; land-clearing for agriculture and development have also trimmed the woodlands. Both the lumber companies and forest managers have an interest in measuring the health of these forests.

“Resource managers need to see forests down to the disturbance resolution—the scale at which parking lots or developments or farms are carved out,” says Josef Kellndorfer, an ecologist at the Woods Hole Research Center (WHRC). His research team recently took forest mapping down to that level when they released the National Biomass and Carbon Dataset (NBCD) in April 2011. “We are providing information on a management scale.” continued...

download large image (44 MB, JPEG, 13697x13449)

[http://eoimages.gsfc.nasa.gov/images/imagerecords/76000/76699/biomass\\_zone\\_1\\_lrg.jpg](http://eoimages.gsfc.nasa.gov/images/imagerecords/76000/76699/biomass_zone_1_lrg.jpg)

## [Re: Closeup on Forests of the Pacific Northwest](#)

by **Rand** » Thu Feb 23, 2012 8:58 pm

Another thing I noticed is how striking a difference there is in biomass between north and southward facing slopes, even in Olympic national park:



Rand Brown



## [Eno River Tulip Tree - Hillsborough, NC](#)

by **pdbbrandt** » Thu Feb 23, 2012 9:28 pm

About a week ago I was at the doctor's office for a follow up appointment to check on a nasty allergic reaction I had had to English Ivy (*Hedera helix*).

Four weeks ago I was trying to free a beautiful Sycamore tree of ivy vines that were clinging to its trunk, but in so doing I unknowingly showered myself with bits of allergenic bark and root hairs that caused my eyes to swell and my arms, neck, and face to break out in itchy blisters that tormented me for 4 weeks. Apparently I am one of the few unlucky soles who is highly allergic to English ivy.

Anyway - as I was leaving the doctor's office I looked up and beheld a beautiful tree I had never noticed before on the side of a steep hill near the Eno River in Hillsborough, NC. I unconsciously found myself walking toward the tree to get a closer look only to find that it was on the other side of the Eno from where I was. Before I knew it, I was crossing the river on an exposed water main in my business clothes and heading up the hill to the tree. Below is a picture of my first view of the full tree, which, not surprisingly, turned out to be a tulip poplar (*Liriodendron tulipifera*). I was a little dismayed by all the English Ivy in the area...

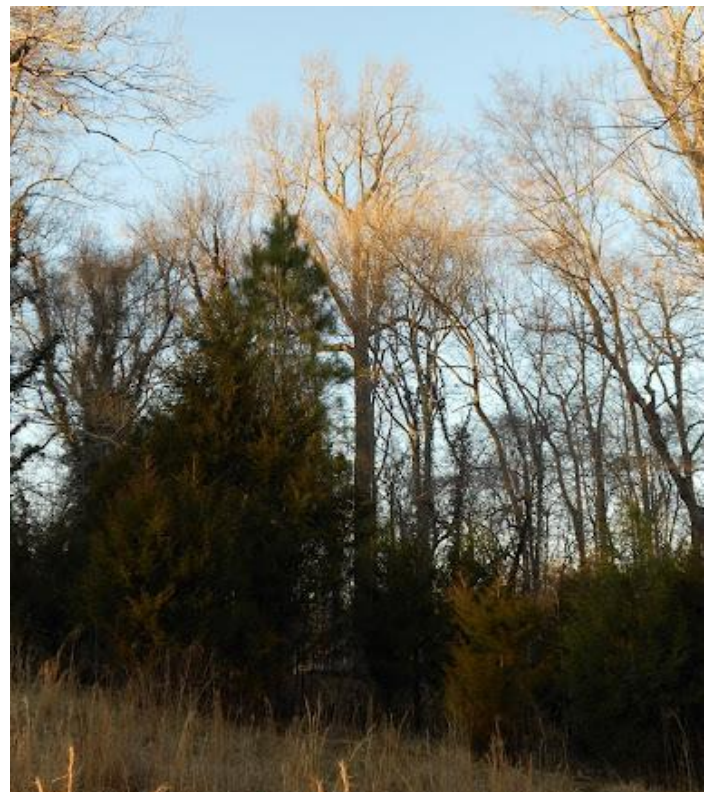
I took a few more pictures of the area and came back another morning on my way to work with my tape measure to determine the big tulip's CBH and crown spread as well as the CBH of some other prominent oaks and tulips in the area. The big tulip is half way up a 60 foot hillside that borders the Eno River. The area contains large rock outcroppings, lots of beech trees, and plenty of signs of wildlife, too. There is an old stone fence at the top of the hill, and on the other side of the fence is an old, unused farmer's field that is ceding to the gradual creep of the forest.







The big tulip trunk is in the middle of the picture just to the right of an ivy-laden trunk



view of the big tulip (directly in the center of the pic) from the field at the top of the hillside



The CBH of the big tulip is 13 feet even and the average crown spread (corrected for the steep angle of the hillside) is 71.5 feet. Other notable trees within a stone's throw include twin tulip trees at the crest of the hill (measuring 11', 2" and 11', 3" CBH), and a couple of nearby oaks measuring 11', 7" and 10', 6". The twin tulips are on par height-wise with the big tulip, but they are growing at the top of the hillside a good 20 feet above the base of the big tulip.



zooming in on the crown



the twin tulips at the top of the hill



crowns of the twin tulips

Last Monday, President's day, I returned on a rare (for NC) snowy day to climb the big tulip to measure



its height and total volume. There is some ivy growing on one side of the tree that I (carefully) clipped on an earlier visit to the area, but even without nutrients from the roots, the ivy still looked perfectly healthy (and allergenic) on the day of the climb. I decided to set my climbing line on the second-lowest branch of the tree so that I could climb on the side without the ivy. Unfortunately, that limb is 84 feet off the ground and I only have a 150 foot climbing line. Since I don't (yet) have gear for single rope technique (SRT) ascension, I am limited to doubled rope technique (DRT). That means that the rope, when doubled over the limb, was still about 6 feet off the ground on the uphill side.



great day for a climb!

Not to be deterred from measuring the tallest tree I have ever encountered, I created a foot strap I could stand in using some webbing and an accessory cord that I tied around the base of the tree. That allowed me to reach the ends of the rope and clip into my harness. I took trunk circumference measurements as I went up and was surprised to see that unlike other tulips I have seen in NC, there are very few moss and lichens growing on the big tulip's trunk. I did see what I'm assuming is woodpecker evidence. At 90 feet up, the circumference of the tree is still 9'7".



notice the orange climbing line in the upper third of the picture



woodpeckers? (ed.- Sapsuckers)



Once in the canopy, I took some time to catch my breath, take some pictures, and enjoy the view. I didn't have a whole lot of time to remain in the tree, so I took some limb measurements and made educated guesses on the stats of the limbs I didn't have time to visit. I advanced my tie in point a few times to where I could get an accurate pole reading to determine the height of the tallest branch. Adding a few measurements together (I only carry a 100 foot tape measure) I determined the height of the tulip to be 132', 2". That gives a big tree point value of 306.



my doctor's office is right in the middle of the picture



looking toward the north at downtown Hillsborough



looking toward the northeast

I crunched the volume calculations in Excel using the spreadsheet linked here: [The volume of the trunk from ground level to 91.5' where it splits into twin leaders is a respectable 906 cubic feet. As mentioned above, I relied on a fair number of assumptions to calculate the canopy limb volume, but I tried to err on the side of under-representation rather than exaggeration. There are 21 primary limbs with an combined estimated volume of 104 cubes. The secondary branches \(those less than 2" in diameter\) only add about 8.5 cubes. I think it is very safe to say that the volume of this tree exceeds 1000 cubes but not by too much.](#)

I don't know if other climbers experience what I call "land legs" when they get back on terra firme, but when reaching the ground after a few hours in a tree I always stumble around and trip over myself until my legs get used to being under me again. For this reason, I was not really looking forward to unclipping from my rope while balancing on the foot strap I had tied around the lower section of the trunk. I decided instead to lower my initial tie in point to a slightly lower limb that would allow me to descend all the way to the ground on rope. The only problem was that that side of the big tulip is covered with English ivy. I did my best to avoid touching the ivy on my way down, but the only way to do that was to "walk" down the trunk with my feet kicking the ivy out of the way.





Once on the ground, in my haste to remove my cambium saver and climbing line from my 75-foot tie in point, I decided not to lower the rope to the ground with a 2mm-diameter throw line as I should have (hind sight is 20-20). Instead, I just tied a stopper knot in one end of the climbing line and pulled on the other end until the knot dislodged the cambium saver and both came careering wildly toward the ground from 75 feet up. As luck would have it the end of the rope and the cambium saver became hopelessly lodged in a nearby beech tree, and... you guessed it... the trunk of the beech tree was absolutely covered with English ivy.

The cambium saver and rope became stuck in the ivy-infested beech on the right. The rope would not budge and my only option was to climb the stuck rope and attach a mini grapnel hook onto the cambium saver. When back on the ground I could pull down on the hook with a throw line attached to

the grapnel and dislodge the cambium saver. I climbed SRT-style about 30 feet up the rope using two prusik cords trying my best to avoid the ivy. The rescue was successful and in short order I was packing up my ropes and gear. When I got back to the car I gave my exposed skin a thorough washing with powder-scented baby wipes I had in the car and hoped for the best.

That was 3 days ago and I'm happy to say that my English ivy exposure seems to be minimal and well-worth the experience of climbing my first 1000+ cuber and first 300+ point tulip with an unbeatable view of my doctor's office.

Patrick Brandt



## Sapsuckers (Re: Eno River Tulip Tree - Hillsborough, NC)

by **Andrew Joslin** » Fri Feb 24, 2012 9:05 am

Patrick, excellent report on a superfine tree. Believe me I've learned my lessons about the the potential problems resulting from dropping a a rope out of a tree with a rope sleeve or knot on the end. Even a free rope with nothing on the end can wrap a limb and hang up on the way down, less probable but it happens. For woods situations I either tie the rope in a continuous loop, send the knot up and drop the sleeve, then take the knot out and drop the clean rope, or even better, lower the rope and sleeve with a throwline.

Yellow-bellied sapsucker in the east drills in a variety of tree species, including conifers and broadleafs. They have favorite species, for example in the Boston area they reliably drill on mature Nikko firs (non-native) in the Arnold Arboretum and Mt. Auburn Cemetery. It is suspected that some trees that are stressed give off chemical signals that attract sapsuckers to drill. For example you might see one tree in a same species stand that is drilled year in and year out, the rest are untouched.



Sapsucker drillings on pitch pine, this kind of extensive damage indicates the tree is being visited

by sapsuckers year in and year out. Yellow-bellied sapsuckers do not nest in the woods where this pitch pine grows so they are only utilizing it when they pass though during spring and fall migration, most likely drilling in the spring when the sap flow is stronger.



Minimal sapsucker damage near the top of a white ash

-AJ



## [World's Tallest Known Sugar Pine Grows In Oregon](#)

by **M.W.Taylor** » Thu Feb 23, 2012 10:25 pm

I just got back from Umpqua National Forest where I measured a well known tall sugar pine along Black Canyon Creek with Steve Colburn, equipment engineer from Laser Technologies, using the Impulse200LR mounted on a tripod and prism/pole survey to base. Our result was 255' which was the same measurement I got last Fall...handheld Impulse200LR. Nearby is another sugar pine that stands 246' tall. The only other sugar pines documented over 250' are a 265', 13' basal diameter specimen near Prospect, Oregon that was illegally logged in the early 1980s. Another 269.2' specimen, "Yosemite Giant", grew in Hodgson Meadow Yosemite National Park, but recently in 2008 from bark beetle attack. I measured a 253' sugar pine this Summer in the Siskiyous while exploring with Mario Vaden. In Calaveras Big Tree State park there is one sugar pine that stands 253.0' and two other 246'.

There are also some 247' sugar pines found by Will Blozan in Giant Forest. These are the tallest sugar pines I know of. I can't believe ponderosa has sugar pine beat by over 13 feet !

Michael Taylor

## [Re: World's Tallest Known Sugar Pine Grows In Oregon](#)

by **mdvaden** » Fri Feb 24, 2012 1:54 pm

I'd imagine that the LTI folks appreciate hearing feedback like Ascending the Giants' tape drop measure differing from Taylor's laser measure by just millimeters, for the world's tallest pine last year.

Because results like that practically eliminate the need to climb a tree to ascertain it's height.

If we are talking millimeters, it's realistic than even a climber could make that much error aligning the middle point of a telescoping rod and the tape.

Although the tapes are said not to stretch, there are at least 3 points for a climber to introduce human error.

1. Alignment of the top
2. The middle convergence of rod and tape
3. The ground level

M. D. Vaden

## [Re: World's Tallest Known Sugar Pine Grows In Oregon](#)

by **dbhguru** » Fri Feb 24, 2012 9:25 am

Michael, great job as usual. It is always comforting to confirm a hand-held measurement and find that you were right on the money. I was very pleased that Steve Colburn went to Oregon with you. For the rest of you, Steve Colburn is LTI's Director of Sales for North America - no small player. Michael Taylor and I regularly communicate with Steve and other officials of LTI. They all support what NTS is doing and want to see us push the envelope. There is a good probability that a future model of the TruPulse line will incorporate capabilities that we recommend.

LTI will be at Cook Forest on April 18-19 supporting the NTS-DCNR tree measuring program, and again in the fall at MTSE, if we have a second such program. This informal partnership, i.e. NTS and LTI is extremely gratifying and a confirmation of what we are doing. Our success with LTI is a direct consequence of what Michael has been doing. LTI is naturally interested in our measuring of the charismatic West Coast conifers - the world's tallest trees. Who wouldn't be interested? However, their interest extends to how we get the results that we get for complex measuring situations. There are lots of chapters left to be written.

Bob Leverett



## [Gulfport MS Cottonwood \(Re: More Look Park Goodies\)](#)

by **Larry Tucei** » Thu Feb 23, 2012 10:36 pm

Bob, What unusual looking trees. That Cottonwood really shows its age. I measured a Cottonwood back in 08. One Cottonwood stands alone as the only one I know of this far south in Ms., growing approx., 1 mile from the Gulf of Mexico, 10' from a blacktop road. CBH-7'7" Height-59.32' and Spread-55.5' This tree was planted, when this area was known as Ms. City, it's now Gulfport.



Larry Tucei

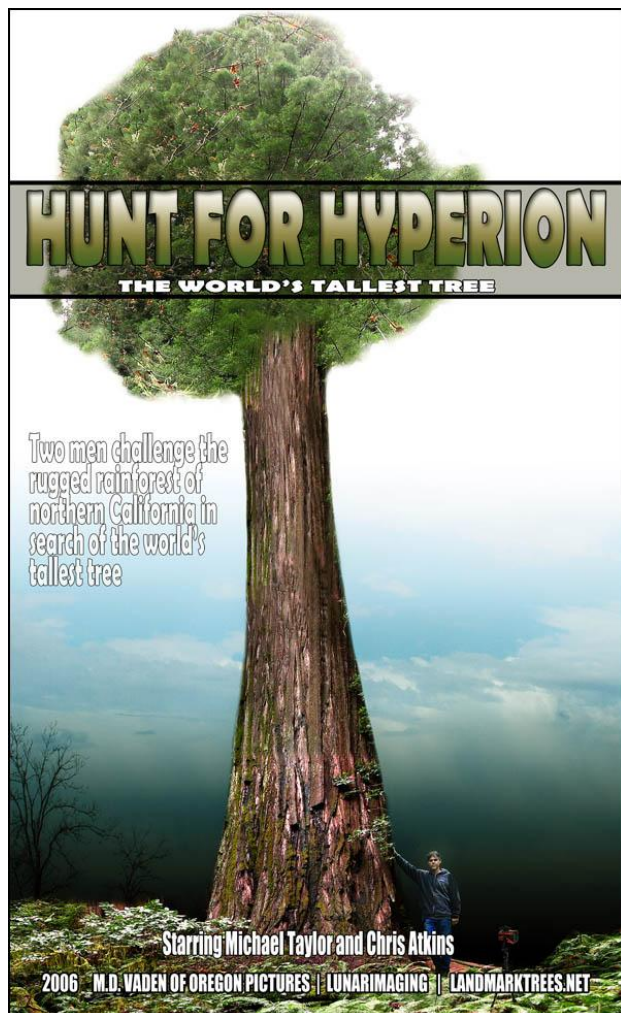


## THE HUNT FOR HYPERION

by **mdvaden** » Fri Feb 24, 2012 1:10 am

So ... I've been experimenting lately, submitting photos to a photo retoucher, for models. I like the results so much, that I asked him to make a hypothetical movie poster, as if there was a movie about the discovery of the world's tallest tree: the redwood Hyperion. Discovered by Atkins and Taylor.

I submitted a winter top to bottom image of Hyperion, and a shot of Taylor, which the retoucher used for the project. You many need to click to enlarge up to the 600x980 pixel size.



M. D. Vaden

## Re: More Pequonnock Trees

by **RyanLeClair** » Sun Feb 26, 2012 5:16 pm

Some more finds:

The new Pequonnock Valley girth champion. A gnarly, ancient red oak 15'11" in circumference. It surpasses the 15'10" turnip sycamore. In third place is a white oak at 13'10". All three of these trees appear to be farm trees leftover from Connecticut's days of yore.

Next was an impressive tulip tree: 134.1 ft x 10'8". Surprisingly, it's growing on a steep slope, and far away from the river, at that.

A 132.1 ft x 10'3" tulip tree grows a little farther down the way. It's basically on the trail. There are a lot of 120+ tt's in this immediate area. At this point the trail is fairly far from the river (100+ ft).

Lastly I measured a TT growing about 50' from the 135.7' tulip. It came in at 126'. Not bad.

So far it seems that tulip tree dominates wherever it grows, and it grows everywhere--floodplains, rocky outcrops, slopes. The second-tallest tree is sycamore, coming in in the 120s (tallest one measured by Bart--125'). The sycamores almost exclusively grow along the river. Sycamore groves here are usually 105-120', it seems. Some of these trees are ridiculously skinny--less than a foot DBH.



## Costa Rica Tree Measurement & Natural history #2

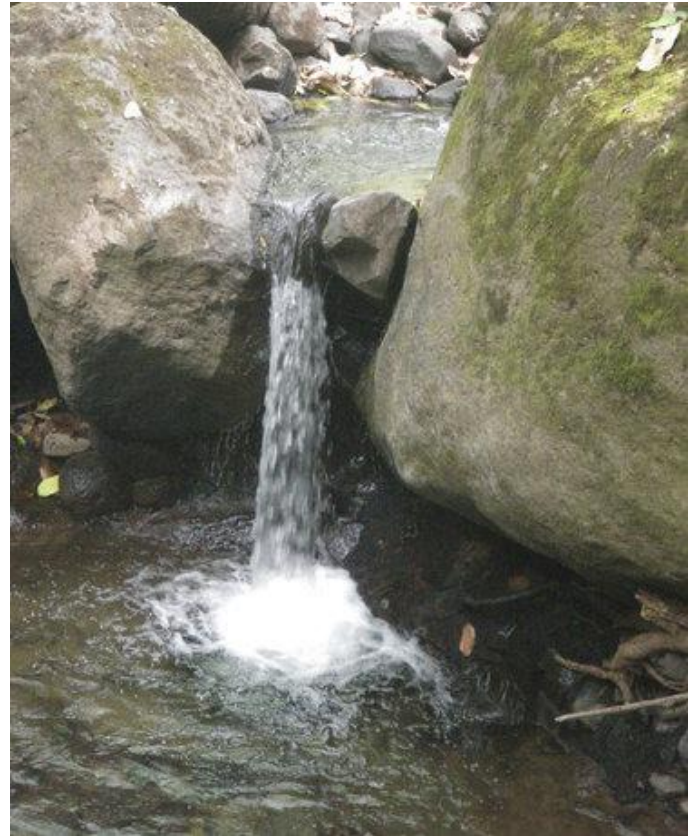
by **Bart Bouricius** » Fri Feb 24, 2012 3:47 pm

Though the title name is changed a little, this is the second installment of the previous Costa Rican Trees & Natural History. It includes a second part of a ravine on the pacific slope and ends with a nice Kapok (*Ceiba pentandra*) too bad we don't have italics here. I'll plunge right in. The tree below is the first of a few substantial Wild Cashews we encountered on this hike:



Wild Cashew (*Anacardium excelsum*) on my left 141' tall by 17.1' circumference

Below is one of the several waterfalls that Bob Lucas and I encountered in this section of the ravine.



12' waterfall



ants live in hollow thorns of a Bull Thorn Acacia Tree (*Acacia cornigera*)

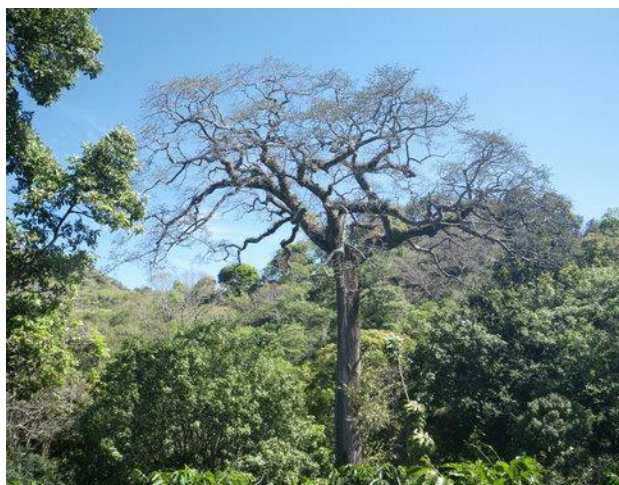
This next image shows another impressive fat but not too tall Wild cashew:





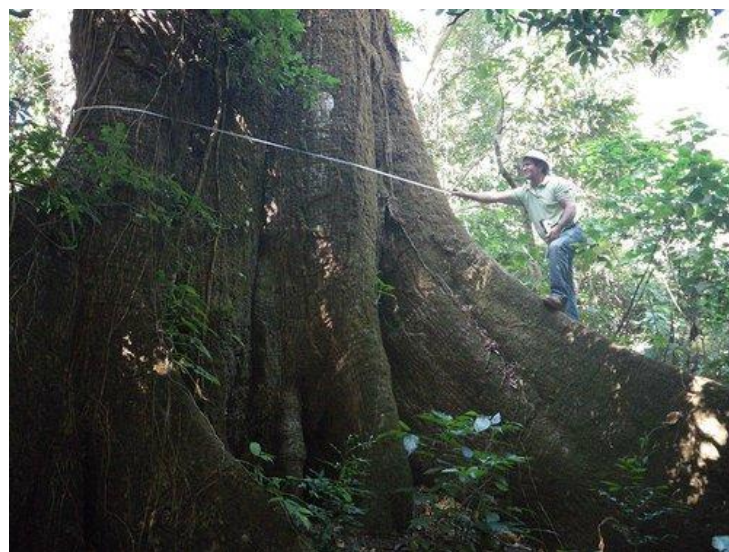
(*Anacardium excelsum*) 117' tall by 23' circumference

Now for something really impressive:



Kapok (*Ceiba pentandra*) 151.5' tall by 33',4" circ.

This Kapok tree was in a depression at the edge of a coffee farm in Camino barrio San Jose Norte about a 30 minute drive from the Cashew Ravine. The forrester who showed this tree to me plans to take me to a national park where he knows of Kapoks in a primary (old growth) forest that are "at least 30 meters taller" and "much wider" in my next trip to Costa Rica. He got this one right, so I am cautiously optimistic. By the way, in case you are wondering, for the actual measurement Alphonso did have the tape higher than what you see in the posed picture where it is not level. The spread in one direction was 127'. This was not necessarily the longest spread we could have obtained in a different direction and these trees often have a crown spread as great or greater than the height.



Alphonso measuring the Kapok at 33' 4" circumference

The next images are of animals and plants related to or living in trees and a couple more interesting trees from the ravine. The first image is of an Acacia tree a little up hill from the ravine. These small trees provide the ants with both food and a space for shelter which in turn protect the tree from insects and competing plants. Just recently a species of spider living in these trees was discovered to have a primarily vegetarian diet, as it has evolved to eat the highly nutritious protein-lipid Beltian bodies which



the tree produces on its leaf tips to help attract the ants.

Next are two more ravine Trees:

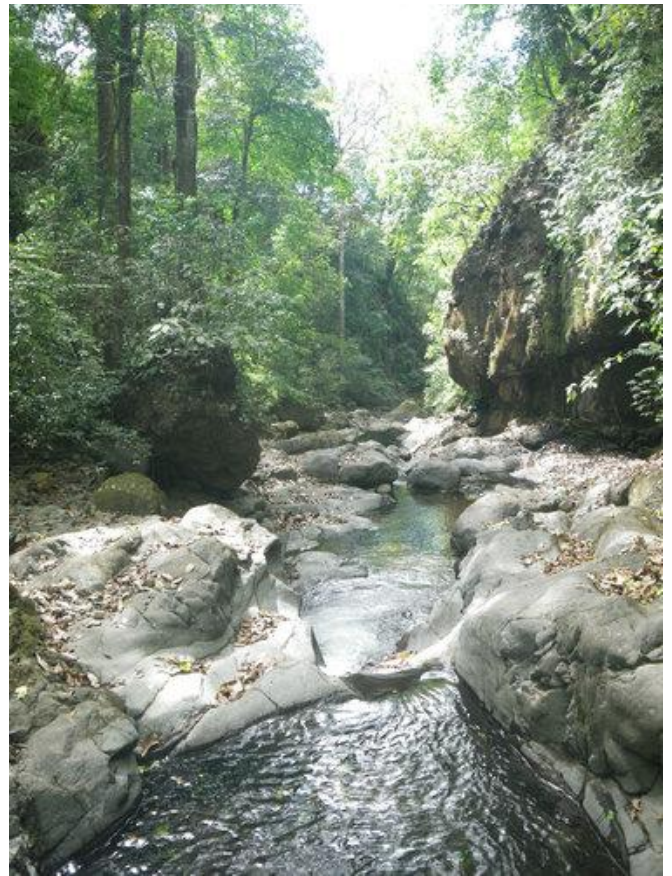


Bob sitting in front of an unidentified fig?



Wild roots on unidentified tree

The ravine:



ravine stream

two images from a tree climb up slope from the ravine:



canopy view of epiphytes: cactus, bromeliads, orchids among others





canopy dwelling ants in the Cephalotes genus

These ants are noted for using their peculiarly flattened heads for defensively blocking the entrance to their colony and for being able to control their glide back to the tree if they fall off or are dropped off by a scientist studying this behavior.

below a last image of a part of the ravine we have yet to hike. Bob and I are thinking about camping for a couple of days in the ravine in this area since there are no roads there and we could get further in that way.



up hill view of ravine as it turns left into older forest

Bart Bouricius

## [Re: Costa Rica Tree Measurement & Natural history #2](#)

by **Bart Bouricius** » Fri Feb 24, 2012 6:11 pm

*Patrick Brandt wrote: That Kapok is amazing. How old do you suppose it is? I have been to Puerto Rico and lived in Honduras for a couple of years, and in neither place have I ever heard of such tall trees. Is it that Costa Rica didn't have the rampant deforestation that other Latin American countries did, or is there something unique about Costa Rica's climate and topography that allows the trees to grow so tall?*

If you search, Honduras does have comparable trees, but Puerto Rico keeps getting hit by hurricanes, and that has quite an impact on tall trees even in the ravines. Regarding deforestation, actually Costa Rica was deforested faster than any other Latin American Country until the mid 1990's read Breakfast of Biodiversity: the political ecology of rain forest destruction by John H. Vandermeer, Ivette Perfecto.

Anyway, in more recent years Costa Ricans have done quite well preserving what they have left which is quite substantial, though there are continuing battles to prevent illegal logging in some of the parks and mining of riverbeds for road building materials.

What you see in my images is not old growth forests but trees that were spared because it was more trouble to pull them up from the steep ravines than the wood of the Wild Cashew is worth. Still, the people realize how important the environment is to their tourist based economy, and this helps a lot.

I hope to get larger Kapoks in Peru this July, and in Costa Rica when it is feasible to go back.

Bart Bouricius



## Ramsay Cascades, GSMNP

by **bbeduhn** » Sat Feb 25, 2012 10:34 pm

I went to visit one of my favorite trees, a large tulip that is still growing vigorously. Ramsay Cascades is in the Greenbrier area of the park. It's mostly old growth forest and is extremely lush and mossy. The giant hemlocks were mostly dead. One 3' diameter one was still alive with a dead crown.



Healthy hemlocks



Craggy, slanted tuliptree



Old, productive stump, likely chestnut

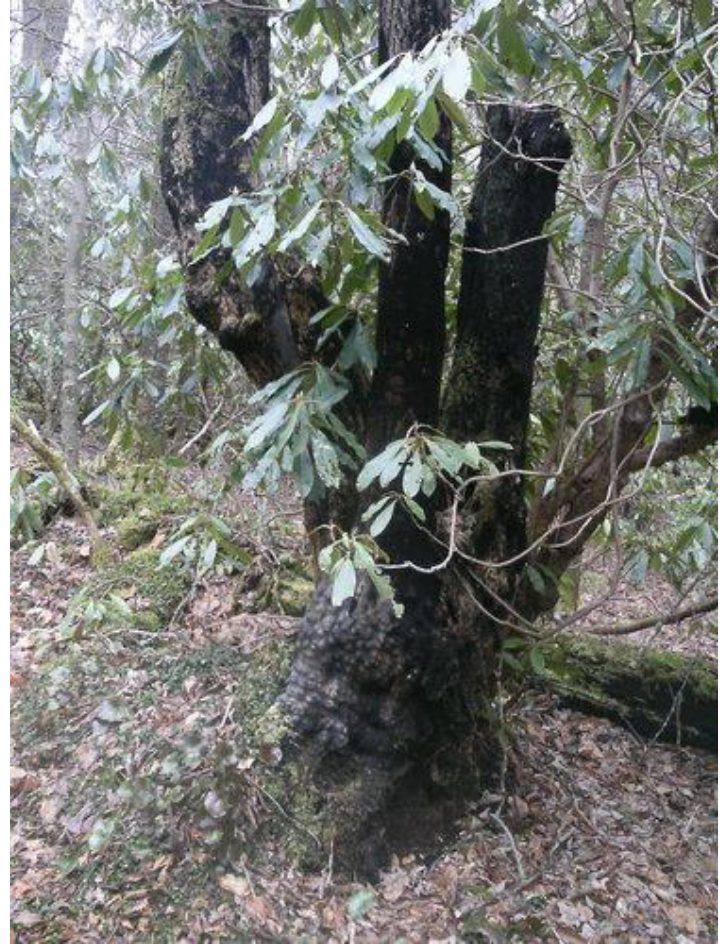




Rhododendron growing out of old stump



Red maple with large protrusion



Healthy sourwood





Craggy tulip crown



Twin tulip crowns



Twin tulips



199' Tulip, 10 yards from the twins





Hershey tree (mountain silverbell)

red hickory	116.5'	
beech	103.4'	
chestnut oak	110.4'	
black birch	111.1'	
black locust	112.5'	
red maple	106'	
black gum	95.5'	
sugar maple	114'	
Fraser Mag	117.5'	Shooting straight up.
	117.4'	with good sight of the top but may top 119'.
	Near record	
sycamore	126'	
white ash	112'	
hemlock	119.5'	117.2' 117' 116.1'
tuliptree	157.5' (16'10")	
	156.5' (15'7") (twins)	150' 139.5'
		139.5' (19'9")

No need for a Rucker. I didn't hit enough trees.  
There are taller ones I didn't get to measure. The trail  
has been measured in the past but quite a few years  
ago, I believe.

Brian Beduhn



Fairly healthy 3' hemlock



## Meigs Mountain, GSMNP

by **bbeduhn** » Mon Feb 27, 2012 10:06 am

After reading about the super forest, I decided to try out an area adjacent to it, and then check out Burnt Mtn if time permitted. I'd just done Ramsey Cascades, so after Meigs it was almost dark. Burnt Mtn. will have to wait for another trip.

I parked at Elkmont and walked amongst the old cabins. They were certainly very nice in their day. Hopefully, the park will restore at least a portion of them. Meigs Mountain Trail starts off through very young forest at an old home site. A few mature trees are present but most are quite young. The tulips are about 100-110' at this point. This trail is all about tulips for its first mile and a half. They get bigger in the next cove and then are hitting 140's. The next cove has some serious height, not super cove height, but they are substantial and still quite young. After a couple of good coves, the trees get smaller and then the trail enters some old growth. It's not true old growth as the only really old trees are hemlocks and yellow birch, with some mature beech and red maple.

The surprise on this trail is that there are almost no oaks of any kind. I saw just one red oak on Meigs and then some on the 100 yards of Jake's Creek Trail between Meigs and Elkmont. Mountain Silverbell outnumbered all oaks by about 30 to 1.

### Meigs Mtn/Jake's Creek

Beech	108.2'
Black locust	139.6' 121'
sourwood	80.5'
cherry	123'
red maple	127.8' 120' 114.5'
Fraser mag	105.5'
Cucumber	110'
hemlock	106.4'
white ash	107.9'
sugar maple	107.9'
black birch	104.9' 99.4'
Va pine	92.3'
pitch pine	95.9'
red oak	108.8' 108'
yellow birch	65'
sassafras	107' 93.5'

tuliptree	166.6' 164.1' 163.8' 156' 155.6' 154.5'
	153.5' 153' 150' 149.9'

R10 120.67'

R5 133.38'

### Elkmont

hemlock 120.4'

white pine 120.7'

ash 121' may be green ash-located in a bottomland next to a stream

yel buckeye 102.4'

red oak 115.5'

sycamore 128'

pitch pine 114.4' Huge

Pictures to follow

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Meigs\\_Mountain\\_Trail](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Meigs_Mountain_Trail)

Brian Beduhn



## Montreat Trail System, NC

by **bbeduhn** » Mon Feb 27, 2012 10:19 am

Montreat is a former resort town near Black Mountain, in the Asheville area. Its watershed has been protected and contains very mature forest. Some consider it to be old growth and it certainly is at higher altitudes. It appears so at the lower altitudes as well but is conspicuously absent of any large hardwoods. Black and yellow birch are everywhere. Old, large hemlock skeletons dot all of the streams. The town of Montreat didn't treat the hemlocks. Fortunately, residents did and there is an abundance of healthy hemlocks in the town itself. I'll measure in town as well. It's necessary because the Rucker for the trails is a bit anemic. I saw just a few mature tulips, all above 3,000 feet. They have no reason to get very tall due in part to lack of competition. It appears the big hardwoods were taken out but they apparently didn't dominate before as it looks like a very natural old growth forest minus large hardwoods.

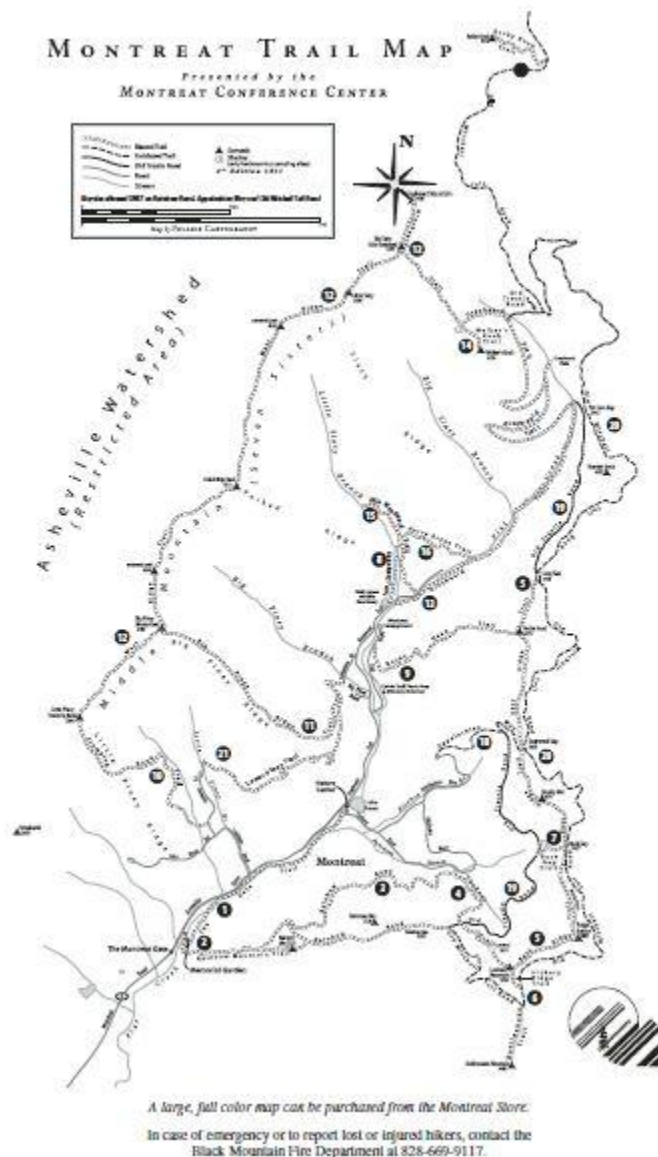
red oak	104'
sourwood	81.5'
Faser mag	90.5'
black birch	86.4'
tulip	117'
chestnut oak	93'
red maple	93'
blk oak	99.1'
white oak	102.2'
blk gum	84.5'
red hickory	97'
white ash	78'
blk locust	98.2'
yellow buckeye	99'
white pine	95.3'

White pines and hemlocks grow very tall in town, as do sycamores and tulips.

I counted rings on a hemlock, cut about 65' up--114 @18" diameter, +/-5 rings. 64 rings on a 5" diameter hemlock stump. It started out growing very slowly, then picked up the pace a bit.

On a yellow birch, the outer four inches contained 190 rings +/- 10 rings. They were tiny so it'll be a bit off. I got a pic and will post. The tree diameter was 2'4". It was hollow and twisted so the true diameter may have been a couple of inches smaller.

Brian Beduhn



<http://www.montreat.org/programs/wildernes>

Other maps:

<http://mappery.com/Montreat-trail-map>

[http://www.polarismaps.com/prtpub\\_mtrt.shtml](http://www.polarismaps.com/prtpub_mtrt.shtml)



## Whitewater Corridor (Bad Creek), SC

by **bbeduhn** » Mon Feb 27, 2012 10:42 am

This land is owned by Duke Power, which maintains a reservoir and power station. They obtained an easement so the property could be used for the Foothills Trail, Coon Branch Trail and the lower Whitewater Falls overlook trail.

I'd been through this area many times doing long trail runs but hadn't been there to measure. I noticed some tall trees and thought I'd find a contender for the tallest black birch. That didn't work out but I still found plenty of quality trees and a near record VA pine.

It was tough figuring out species on some of the pines. I often have issues between shortleaf and pitch but at this site the VA pines looked like shortleaf. I think I got them correct but there is a chance there is an error. Will treated hemlocks in the Coon Branch area. Most of the young and intermediate aged trees look healthy. The large ones are all dead. There's an almost pure stand of young, vibrant sweet gum just after the bridge to the Foothills Trail.

shortleaf pine	118.1'	115.1'	114.6'
VA pine	120.1'	118.1'	110.4'
pitch pine	118.5'	110.7'	108.6'
white pine	156.4'	149.1'	147.4'
	137.7'	137.3'	137.3'
hemlock	111.6'	100.4'	
white oak	132.2'	May have been measured higher in the past	
red oak	116.1'		
red maple	107'		
mockernut hickory	125.9'	114.8'	
persimmon	94.5'		
sweet gum	119.2'	114.7'	112.8'
black birch	107.5'	102.4'	
black locust	112.5'	105.1'	
cucumber	120.8'	110.7'	
tulip	133'	119.8'	
chestnut oak	102'		

RI 10 126.03'

RI 5 133.66'

Check out the report on the Coon Branch pine. I saw a large tree fitting the description but it was dead.

Hopefully, it was not the Coon Branch pine. I didn't see any live big hemlocks. Hopefully, I simply didn't notice it but I'm not too confident that it's alive.

[http://groups.google.com/group/entstrees/browse\\_thread/thread/cea43ab22aa60c0b?hl=en](http://groups.google.com/group/entstrees/browse_thread/thread/cea43ab22aa60c0b?hl=en)

This post is also reproduced on the NTS website:

[http://www.nativetreesociety.org/fieldtrips/south\\_carolina/coonbranch/coon\\_branch\\_white\\_pines.htm](http://www.nativetreesociety.org/fieldtrips/south_carolina/coonbranch/coon_branch_white_pines.htm)

Brian Beduhn



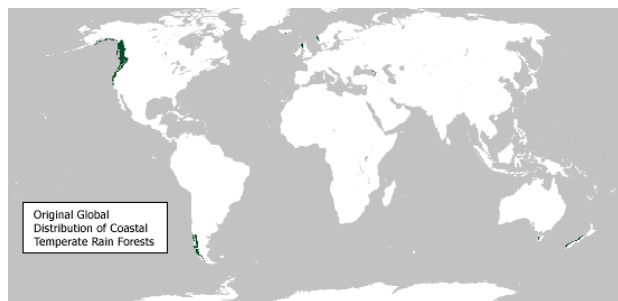
Coon Branch Pine 09- 25-2008. Photo by Will Blozan



## **Re: Tall trees in Chile and Argentina?**

by **PAwildernessadvocate** » Mon Feb 27, 2012 4:16 pm

Maybe a good place to look would be the west coast of southern Chile:



If Chile's temperate rainforests are anything like North America's temperate rainforests, their native trees might reach some impressive sizes. The temperate rainforests on the west coast of the south island of New Zealand are pretty impressive too.

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Valdivian\\_temperate\\_rain\\_forest](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Valdivian_temperate_rain_forest)

Kirk Johnson

## **Re: Tall trees in Chile and Argentina?**

by **Kouta Räsänen** » Tue Feb 28, 2012 10:05 am

Those world maps of temperate rainforest are usually strongly biased towards English speaking countries, and for obvious reason: they show temperate areas where the vegetation is locally called "rainforest". For example, in large parts of Japan the climate is wetter than, say, in Tasmania. But Japanese forests are not called "rainforest", because it is an English word and English is not spoken in Japan. Chile is an exception.

The temperate rainforest of western North America are unique in that they are conifer dominated from sea level upwards.

Kouta Räsänen

## **Re: Tall trees in Chile and Argentina?**

by **PAwildernessadvocate** » Tue Feb 28, 2012 11:06 am

If anyone is interested, the source for the above image is a book called "The Rainforests of Home." Here is a portion how the the range of temperate rainforests is characterized:

<http://www.inforain.org/rainforestatlas>

The largest contiguous coastal temperate rain forest traces the northwestern maritime margin of North America, from Kodiak Island in Alaska south through British Columbia and the U.S. Pacific Northwest to California's "fogbelt" redwoods. Elsewhere in the north, Norway contains small fragments of coastal rain forest, and scientists speculate that Japan may have some areas of rain forest as well. The forests formerly found along the west coasts of Ireland and Scotland, parts of Iceland, and in a narrow crescent along the eastern shore of the Black Sea are long gone. Chile contains the Southern Hemisphere's largest remaining coastal temperate rain forest. Significant areas of coastal rain forest also stand on the west coast of New Zealand's South Island and on the Australian island of Tasmania, where broadleaved rain forests harbor the most ancient constituents of the Australian flora.

Kirk Johnson



## [New Member/ Michigan area users?](#)

by **dham81793** » Mon Feb 27, 2012 10:06 pm

I am new to the Native Tree Society, and am just wondering if anyone is residing in the lower peninsula of Michigan? I have been looking for someone to collaborate with on hikes, and tree measuring expeditions. I am eager to begin researching, mapping, and finding the ratios of "big" to "small" trees in a region. Next year, I will begin studying biology at the University of Michigan and I will begin research there as well. After that I plan to move to the north coast of Cali where I can study the redwoods more intensely. Any help on measuring trees with accuracy would be much appreciated! I am looking into buying a Nikon ProStaff 440 and a Suunto clinometer, any suggestions other than that?

If anyone would like to help out I would be very grateful!

Doug Ham III

## [Re: new user, any help?](#)

by **edfrank** » Mon Feb 27, 2012 10:33 pm

Doug, buy the Nikon on eBay. It may take you awhile, but you should be able to get one \$100 - \$110. A Brunton would work as a clinometer also.

Get a tape big enough to measure the girth of the trees you are measuring, and await until you go to California to get a giant one. The only thing that will help with accuracy is practice in finding the real top of the tree. Read our tree measuring guideline and my really, really basic guide to measuring tree heights. Get a GPS to record the location of your trees. Take a camera to get photos. I always encourage new measurers to try to get crown spreads and other crown information, but it rarely works and I am slack on doing it myself.

Ed Frank

## [Re: new user, any help?](#)

by **Steve Galehouse** » Tue Feb 28, 2012 12:24 am

Doug- Welcome aboard! As Ed said a Nikon 440 and either a Suunto or Brunton clinometer are preferred---the rangefinders are often listed used on E-Bay or other sites, the clinometers less so. I bought a Brunton because it did the same as a Suunto but was a little less expensive. For tape measure, I would suggest looking at Arbor Scientific---they offer a 30' fiberglass tape that is a lot lighter and more flexible than what you'll find at a box store, and weight becomes a factor while measuring trees all day---should be big enough to measure any tree in the Midwest for cbh. Branch greater than 30' can be measured utilizing the rangefinder

Hope we'll get some (accurate) measurements from Michigan soon:)

Steve

## [Re: new user, any help?](#)

by **dbhguru** » Tue Feb 28, 2012 11:03 am

Doug, I applaud the course you've chosen. It is a most interesting one. Let me add to what has already been said with some further recommendations.

1. I urge you to develop a broad repertoire of measurement tools. The Bulletin of the Eastern Native Tree Society, available at the NTS website, contains many articles on tree measuring. I encourage you to read those articles, and feel free to discuss them with us. Also the posts on the BBS under the category of Dendromorphometry provide several advanced methods for tree measuring, which can come into play when the standard ones can't be successfully applied. In challenging situations, you need all the flexibility you can get. With your chosen course, the extra mathematics needed for the more advanced techniques shouldn't be a problem for you.



2. If you plan to eventually work in northern California, get to know Michael Taylor. He is the VP of the western arm of NTS - the Western Native Tree Society (WNTS). Michael will be your best teacher when it comes to tackling the West Coast behemoths, but there are also other topnotch tree measurers out there who are part of NTS, e.g. Mario Vaden. Get to know Mario. When you go to California, let Michael and Mario take you under their wing, so you start off right on the right foot out there. Remember, there are people on the West Coast with excellent academic/professional credentials who mis-measure the redwoods, sequoias, Douglas firs, etc., making height errors of 20 feet or more.

3. If you get into crown measurements, talk to our Mississippi buddy Larry Tucei Jr. He measures the wide-crowned live oaks and is starting to do crown area calculations.

4. If you get a chance, attend one of the NTS workshops on tree measuring. This year we will have them in Pennsylvania and Massachusetts. There will be others, but we have infrastructures in Cook Forest SP, PA, and Mohawk Trail State Forest, MA.

5. If you plan to become a tree climber, get to know Will Blozan, President of ENTS. Will is an arborist and scientific researcher of immense accomplishment. Will climbs professionally, but is also one of the top tree measurers at ground level on the planet. He can give you measuring insights that few others can match.

6. Stay on top of what NTS measurers are confirming for all the species that interest you. This will help you build a knowledge and understanding of what to expect of a species across its full geographical range, and put other sources of measurement into perspective. This area of knowledge is where NTS excels. Many tree hunters really don't know what to expect in terms of girths and heights for a species in varying parts of its range. They rely on state champion tree lists, which while getting better, still have a long way to go. the same can be said of the National Register.

7. Get to know the top tree measurers in NTS. Know who they are and maintain communications with

them. I can start you off with an alphabetized list of the names you may encounter on the NTS BBS. These are tree measurers with varying levels of activity. You'll soon become acquainted with those of us who are driven, but all are important.

Name	State
Beduhn, Brian	North Carolina
Beluzo, Gary	Massachusetts
Bertolette, Don	Alaska
Bidlack, Doug	Massachusetts
Blozan, Will	North Carolina
Bouricius, Bart	Massachusetts
Bragg, Don	Arkansas
Brown, Rand	Ohio
Copiz, Darin	Maryland
Davie, Michael	Tennessee
Dickerson, Eli	Georgia
Eichholz, John	Massachusetts
Fieo, George	Pennsylvania
Fooman (Matt)	New Zealand
Frank, Edward	Pennsylvania
Frelich, Lee	Minnesota
Galehouse, Steve	Ohio
Goodwin, Sam	Massachusetts
Harting, Carl	Pennsylvania
Hallow, Steve	Pennsylvania
Joslin, Andrew	Massachusetts
Jost, Paul	Wisconsin
Kelly, Josh	North Carolina
LeClair, Ryan	Connecticut
Leverett, Robert	Massachusetts
Luthringer, Dale	Pennsylvania
Philippona, Jeroen	Netherlands
Rasanen, Kouta	Germany
Riddle, Jess	Georgia
Rouw, Mark	Iowa
Sharp, Turner	West Virginia
Taylor, Michael	California
Van Pelt, Robert	Washington
Vaden, Mario	Oregon
Wade, Scott	Pennsylvania

To all on the BBS, I apologize if I've omitted anyone. But regardless, Doug, please feel free to call on any of us, your brother and sister Ents.

Bob Leverett



## **Re: Whitewater Corridor (Bad Creek), SC**

by **jamesrobertsmith** » Wed Feb 29, 2012 9:33 pm

My late father-in-law was an engineer for Duke Power and he was often sent to the Bad Creek Station to check on things. It was where he first saw vultures on opposite sides of the canyon creating an electric arc that killed both birds. They would sit on lines on either side of the creek and apparently using some kind of communication would begin to take flight at the same moment. As their wings pointed toward one another across the distance of the creek, this was enough to create a connection. Electricity would arc between them, killing both birds. The first time he saw it he thought it was a freak accident, but later saw it repeated a number of times. Engineers on site told him that it would happen from time to time.

James Robert Smith



## **Tanglewood Park, NC revisited**

by **pdbbrandt** » Wed Feb 29, 2012 10:31 pm

I found myself in Clemmons, NC earlier this week and remembered that Will had suggested Tanglewood Park as a place of interest for tree lovers. Will was nice enough to point me to an area with tall tulip poplars between the cottages and Mallard Lake (see [http://www.forsyth.cc/parks/tanglewood/Documents/park\\_map.pdf](http://www.forsyth.cc/parks/tanglewood/Documents/park_map.pdf)). I only had about 45 minutes to explore the park, but I went straight to the shore of Mallard Lake and found the tulip forest Will mentioned. There are at least 10 tulips with CBHs of 8-10 feet. I would say they are all about 120-150 feet tall. The notable trees are all marked with numbered tags.



In the same area are plenty of beech trees and a tall tree along the shoreline with darker bark than a tulip. It had mistletoe in its upper-most branches. Here are a few pictures. Can anyone tell me what it is?





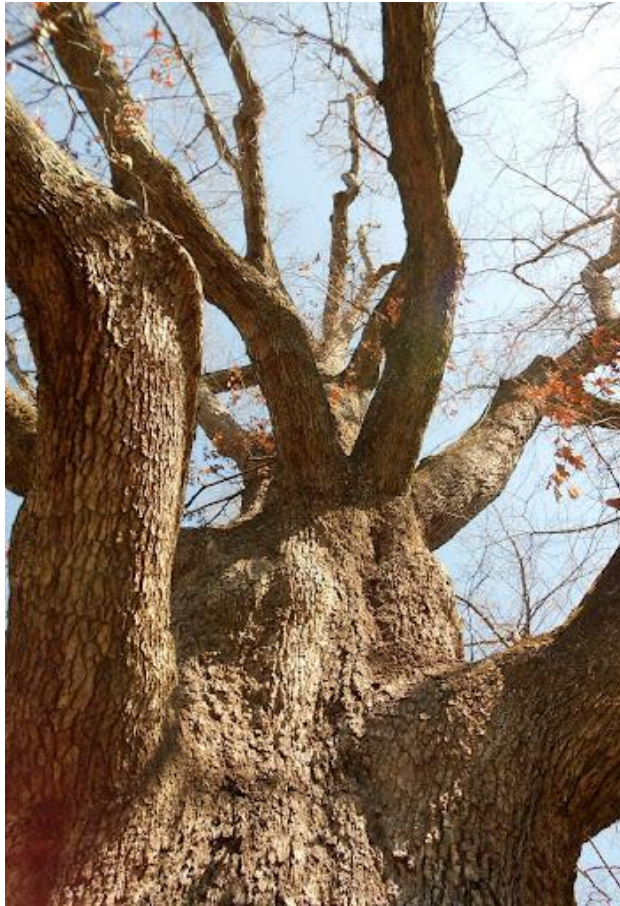
On my way out of the park I checked on an amazing 20.5" CBH oak that I couldn't help but notice on my way in. Here's the plaque in front of the tree. The pictures will speak for themselves.











Here are some past posts on tanglewood park:

Will Blozan 2004

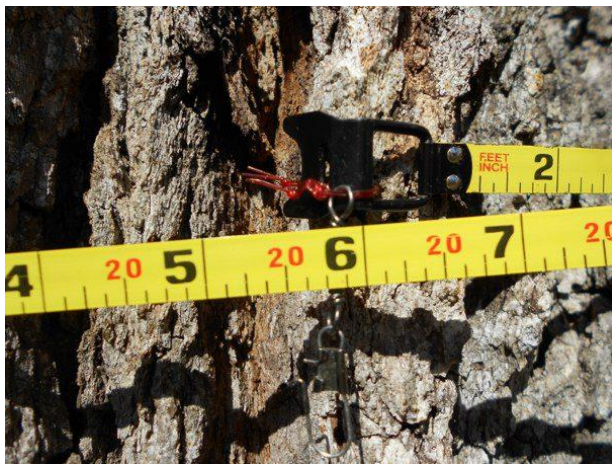
[http://www.nativetreesociety.org/fieldtrips/north\\_carolina/tanglewood\\_park.htm](http://www.nativetreesociety.org/fieldtrips/north_carolina/tanglewood_park.htm)

Jess Riddle 2007

[http://www.nativetreesociety.org/fieldtrips/north\\_carolina/tanglewood\\_park2.htm](http://www.nativetreesociety.org/fieldtrips/north_carolina/tanglewood_park2.htm)

I hope I didn't leave any out.

Patrick Brandt



Tanglewood park also has a restored steam engine on display. There are more pictures of the engine and the trees at:

<https://picasaweb.google.com/1041699910...directlink>



## External Links:

### **In the Eye of His Storms - 'Van Gogh Up Close' at Philadelphia Museum of Art**

[http://www.nytimes.com/2012/02/03/arts/design/van-gogh-up-close-at-philadelphia-museum-of-art.html?\\_r=1&hp=&adxnnl=1&adxnnlx=1328296061-YQnx2uGqbM9zwLNwr7JKmQ](http://www.nytimes.com/2012/02/03/arts/design/van-gogh-up-close-at-philadelphia-museum-of-art.html?_r=1&hp=&adxnnl=1&adxnnlx=1328296061-YQnx2uGqbM9zwLNwr7JKmQ)

### **Yellow-cedar are dying in Alaska: scientists now know why**

[http://www.fs.fed.us/pnw/research/climate-change/yellow-cedar/yellow-cedar\\_and\\_climate\\_change.pdf](http://www.fs.fed.us/pnw/research/climate-change/yellow-cedar/yellow-cedar_and_climate_change.pdf)

[http://www.aibs.org/bioscience/current\\_issue.html](http://www.aibs.org/bioscience/current_issue.html)

### **Rescuing the Birds Many Hate** “Jennifer Dudley of New York City Pigeon Rescue Central brought a bird to be X-rayed by Karen Heidgerd last month.”

[http://www.nytimes.com/2012/02/05/nyregion/rescuing-the-birds-many-love-to-hate.html?pagewanted=2&\\_r=2&ref=nyregionspecial](http://www.nytimes.com/2012/02/05/nyregion/rescuing-the-birds-many-love-to-hate.html?pagewanted=2&_r=2&ref=nyregionspecial)

### **A Cypress in the Sahara** - Written By Louis Werner Photographed By Kevin Bubriski. "There are only 233 of them on Earth growing in their native soil. Some are as young as 30 years old; others may date back two millennia"

<http://www.saudiaramcoworld.com/issue/200705/a.cypress.in.the.sahara.htm>

### **New York City Has Its Pigeon Protectors – Jennifer Dudley**

[http://blogs.villagevoice.com/runninscared/2012/02/new\\_york\\_city\\_h\\_2.php](http://blogs.villagevoice.com/runninscared/2012/02/new_york_city_h_2.php)

### **Canada's Mossiest Rainforest aka "Fangorn Forest"**

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FzOefJnAENI>

### **Lake Vostok, Antarctica's Largest Subglacial Body Of Water, Reportedly Drilled By Russians**

[http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2012/02/06/lake-vostok-antarctica-russians-penetrated\\_n\\_1258440.html](http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2012/02/06/lake-vostok-antarctica-russians-penetrated_n_1258440.html)

### **Free Nature Sounds album: a quiet position: wildeye edition**

<http://engravedglass.bandcamp.com/album/a-quiet-position-wildeye-edition?autoplay=true>

### **A Smartphone App Provides New Way to Access Soil Survey Information**

<http://blogs.usda.gov/2012/02/03/a-smartphone-app-provides-new-way-to-access-soil-survey-information/>

### **Soundscape ecologists spawn new field**

<http://www.physorg.com/news/2012-02-soundscape-ecologists-spawn-field.html>

### **Yale Environment 360: Early Humans Played Role In Central African Deforestation, Study Says**

<http://bit.ly/wFhuEe>

### **The Atlantic: How to Get High on Soil**

<http://www.theatlantic.com/health/archive/2012/01/how-to-get-high-on-soil/251935/>

### **Trees in an Urban Jungle** Photographs by Mitch Epstein –Slideshow

[http://www.nytimes.com/slideshow/2012/02/12/magazine/Trees\\_Voyages.html](http://www.nytimes.com/slideshow/2012/02/12/magazine/Trees_Voyages.html)

### **A conversation on TED: Why don't we have more "Kitchen" scientists?** This conversation will close on February 15, 2012 at 2:18:15 PM.

[https://www.ted.com/conversations/9237/why\\_don\\_t\\_we\\_have\\_more\\_kitche.html](https://www.ted.com/conversations/9237/why_don_t_we_have_more_kitche.html)

### **The beauty of pollination**

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xHkq1edcbk4>

### **Louie Schwartzberg: Nature. Beauty. Gratitude.**

[http://www.ted.com/talks/louie\\_schwartzberg\\_nature\\_beauty\\_gratitude.html](http://www.ted.com/talks/louie_schwartzberg_nature_beauty_gratitude.html)

### **Phenology is a way of \*seeing\* the earth** Aldo

Leopold's daughter Nina narrates this powerful #phenology video piece. "Phenology is a way of \*seeing\* the earth." <http://vimeo.com/17612530>

### **NASA Map Sees Earth's Trees in a New Light**

<http://www.jpl.nasa.gov/news/news.cfm?release=2012-044>

### **Ancient plants back to life after 30,000 frozen years**

by Richard Black Environment correspondent, BBC News

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/science-environment-17100574>



**Just What is Sharp? (Photography)**

<http://www.bhphotovideo.com/insights/blogs/bh-insights/just-what-sharp.html>

**Closeup on Forests of the Pacific Northwest**

<http://earthobservatory.nasa.gov/IOTD/view.php?id=76699&src=eoaiotd>

**Path of tsunami debris mapped out**

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/science-environment-17122155>

**Tree and impervious cover change in U.S. cities**

David J. Nowak\*, Eric J. Greenfield

USDA Forest Service, Northern Research Station

[http://nrs.fs.fed.us/pubs/jrnl/2012/nrs\\_2012\\_Nowak\\_001.pdf](http://nrs.fs.fed.us/pubs/jrnl/2012/nrs_2012_Nowak_001.pdf)

**U.S. Urban Forests Losing Ground**

<http://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2012/02/120223104023.htm>

**Sabot Wooden Clog Maker Video**

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=71-tudJM51o&feature=share>

**Uniting Church and Science for Conservation**

CATHERINE L. CARDELÚS, MARGARET D. LOWMAN, ALEMAHEYU WASSIE ESHETE

Published in Science on February 24, 2012:

<http://canopymeg.com/wp/wp-content/uploads/2012/02/2012-Cardelus-et-al-Science.pdf>

**Canopy Connections Documentary**

The benefits of getting middle school kids out into the woods and into the tops of trees.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qdPFNQhWmdA>

**Documentary- A Silent Forest. The Growing Threat, Genetically Engineered Trees- Full Movie**

[http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=w437uQf\\_A7c](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=w437uQf_A7c)

**North American Dendroecological Fieldweek: Info and registration form**

<https://docs.google.com/open?id=0B7UCzXuQXUCDUm5ZVUstVzhTYUtMYWhuUnZ5UINGUQ>

**Top 10 Strange and Unique Forests**

<http://listverse.com/2012/02/28/top-10-strange-and-unique-forests/>

**Planting a Meadow - NYTimes.com**

**The Natural Look, With Much Effort**

[http://www.nytimes.com/2008/09/11/garden/11meadow.html?\\_r=1&scp=8&sq=the+nature+look+with+much+effort&st=cse](http://www.nytimes.com/2008/09/11/garden/11meadow.html?_r=1&scp=8&sq=the+nature+look+with+much+effort&st=cse)

**Into the woods: Seattle plants a public food forest**

<http://grist.org/urban-agriculture/into-the-woods-seattle-plants-a-public-food-forest/>

**California wolf trek shows importance of wilderness**

<http://www.latimes.com/news/local/environment/la-me-gs-california-wolf-trek-shows-wilderness-20120228,0,523741.story>

**This woman may have set fire to the Senator**

<http://www.clickorlando.com/news/Arrest-made-in-The-Senator-tree-fire/-/1637132/9146402/-/v3we2h/-/index.html>

**Breaking: Maple Bats ... And Why Rookies Must Use Higher Density Bats This Season**

<http://mlb.sbnation.com/2012/2/29/2829452/new-rule-rookies-maple-bat-density>

**Crypto & Zombie Tales With Author, James**

**Robert Smith** by Garret Marks February 28, 2012

<http://fortmillmagazine.com/articles/crypto-&-zombie-tales-with-author-james-robert-smith/index.html>



## **About: eNTS: The Magazine of the Native Tree Society**

This magazine is published monthly and contain materials that are compiled from posts made to the NTS BBS <http://www.ents-bbs.org>. It features notable trip reports, site descriptions and essays posted to the BBS by NTS members. The purpose of the magazine is to have an easily readable and distributable magazine of posts available for download for those interested in the Native Tree Society and in the work that is being conducted by its members.

This magazine serves as a companion to the more formal science-oriented *Bulletin of the Eastern Native Tree Society* and will help the group reach potential new members. To submit materials for inclusion in the next issue, post to the BBS. Members are welcome to suggest specific articles that you might want to see included in future issues of the magazine, or point out materials that were left from a particular month's compilation that should have been included. Older articles can always be added as necessary to the magazine. The magazine will focus on the first post on a subject and provide a link to the discussion on the website. Where warranted later posts in a thread may also be selected for inclusion.

Edward Frank – Editor-in-Chief