

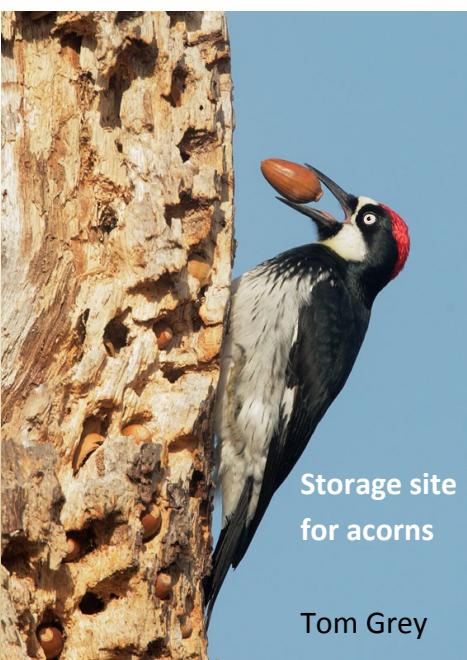
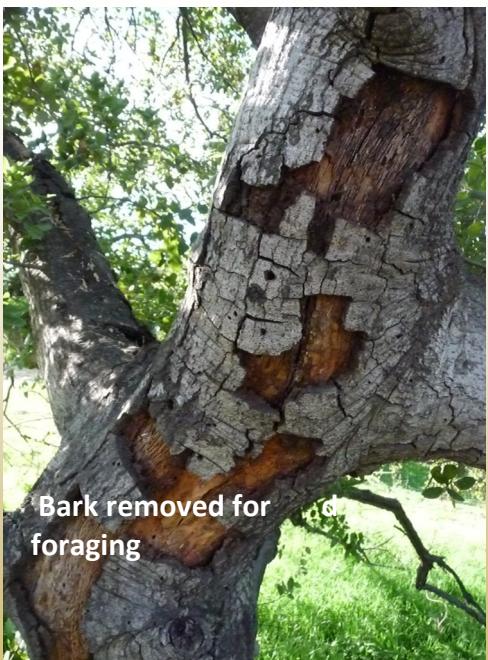


HOW TO SELECT WILDLIFE TREES

When managing dead trees or sections of dead wood in live trees remove only as much as is necessary for safety or aesthetics.

Woodpeckers leave signs that a tree is of value to them and other species. Freshly exposed wood suggests recent use by wildlife. Look for evidence as is illustrated here. Consider these trees for retention and careful management. Continue to monitor regularly.

The unseen world of a dying tree reveals nature's master plan to keep habitats in balance.



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Shorten and reduce limbs for safety.
Monitor regularly.



Even a 6' tree stump is useful.

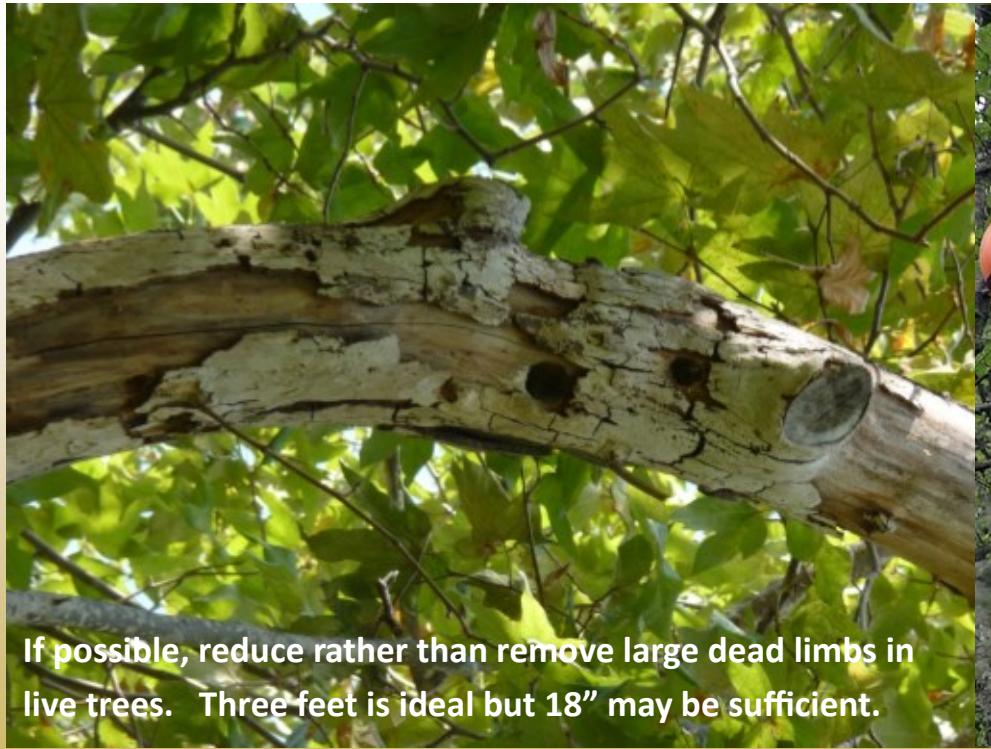


Standing snags along creeks are
of great value.



A hollow trunk provides shelter
for small mammals.

Decaying trees and limbs provide vital habitat for wildlife. Trunks and branches as small as 12" and 4" in diameter respectively are sufficient for cavity excavation. Very short or small dead sections on otherwise live trees also offer shelter, nesting habitat and prey for wildlife.



If possible, reduce rather than remove large dead limbs in live trees. Three feet is ideal but 18" may be sufficient.



Create jagged cuts at tops
and end of limbs

A dying tree with most of its bark intact is preferable. The bark increases nest-cavity safety. Such trees may also remain standing longer and offer extended usefulness to wildlife. Habitat edges and riparian areas are preferred by many species. To ensure a long-term supply of habitat for wildlife, leave trees in different stages of decay. Some species prefer clusters of trees that have rotting wood. Others accept dead trees that are widely distributed. Retain both conditions as often as you can.