

Approved 2013

Points of Interest

Owner: Marge Stewart

Location: SE Wildcat Mountain Rd

Species: American Chestnut (*Castanea dentata*)

Age: 100-150 years

Height: 35 feet, 60 feet

Canopy: 32 feet, 40 feet

Diameter: 10 feet 1 inch, 10 feet 6 inches

Health: Fair

Decision: Approval for a stand of two American Chestnut trees.

Significant Features

The tree stand of two trees were planted by eastern settlers traveling west.

Stewart Property

American Chestnut

This stand of two eligible trees is located on Wildcat Mountain Road in unincorporated Clackamas County, south-east of the City of Sandy. The owner has nominated this stand under the Heritage Tree historic category.

The American Chestnut species is a rapidly growing deciduous tree native to eastern North American and can reach up to 98 feet in height and 9.8 feet in diameter. Both trees have a diameter of over 10 feet.

After 1904 over three billion American Chestnut trees in eastern North America succumbed to Asian bark fungus that was accidentally introduced into North American by some Asiatic Chestnut Trees. In the west the American Chestnut species fared better from the blight and today some of the largest American Chestnut trees brought by 19th century eastern settlers can be found in Sherwood, Oregon.

This stand of American Chestnut trees is assumed to have been planted by a member of the Kitzmiller family, the first settlers in the area traveling by way of the Barlow Trail. It is said that other plantings by the Kitzmiller family can be found along the Barlow Trail at the "Cook" Ranch on Marmot Road in the Brightwood area and possibly on Boitano Road near Sandy.

The stand of two trees are eligible and approved under the Heritage Tree historic category.



Upper Right: South tree

Lower Right: North tree

Left: Picture of the stand of American Chestnut trees.