

Appendix B - Damage Codes

Suckers were tallied based on the damage (if any) that was most likely to affect the future vigor of the tree. For example, if a sucker has an uninfected stem wound (damage 6) and the terminal leader is browsed (damage 1), then code the stem as browsed (damage 1). If the wound is infected, code the stem wound instead (damage 6).

Damage Code 0 - No Damage



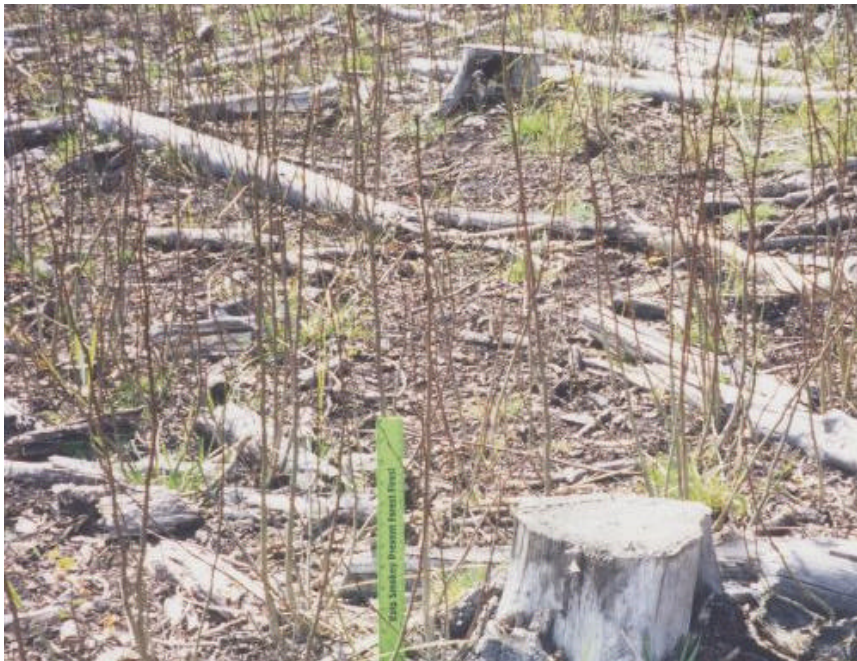
This would be a healthy, undamaged stem, which was just emerging in early summer (June 2001) following the Oldroyd Fire that burned the area in July and August 2000.

Damage Code 1 - Browsing



Stems lack a terminal bud and end bluntly. Notice also that the bark is frayed at the wound.

Damage Code 2 - Branches Stripped



Notice that all of the leaves are missing and that there aren't any leaves on the ground. If this had

been fall, there would have been many yellow, gold or reddish leaves on the ground. The ruler in the picture shows that most of the stems were nearly 3 feet tall.

Damage Code 3 - Basal Stem Wound, and Damage Code 6 - Stem Wound



This stem wound was actually a damage code 6 stem wound, damage code 6. Notice that this wound has scarred over to nearly cover the place where the damage occurred. Basal stem wounds usually occur as a result of animals stepping on the stem and scraping the stem's thin bark.

Damage Code 4 - Frost



Notice how most of the leaves are brown, but the stem is predominately green. This frost damage was due to an unseasonable snowstorm that occurred in early July 2001.

Damage Code 5 - Disease



The orange-ish colored region along the stem is disease. If you look on the tip of the little-finger, you can see a dot of orange, which wiped of as I was trying to handle the stem. Although it is difficult to see, the wound was actively weeping the orange-ish discharge.

Damage Code 7 - Dead Leader



Notice that the top ends, or leaders, of these stems are brown. All of the dead leaders also showed browsing signs on their tips. This photo was taken in late October 2001 in the middle of the Oldroyd Fire scar. These stems had regenerated from the dead aspens' root system, which is why they are called suckers.

Damage Code 8 - Mortality



This stem was dead when I found it. Most stems coded "8" are found standing and usually lack leaves. This one probably died from the July 2001 snowstorm that blanketed Monroe Mountain and much of the rest of the Fishlake National Forest.

Damage Code 9 - Insects



Notice that some of the leaves have holes in them. There were lots of grasshoppers jumping and flying around this site, so the damage was probably due to them.

Damage Codes 10 - Snow Break, and 11 - Rodents

I didn't see either of these two damage types. Presumably, snow break would break the main stem, or leader, of the aspen. Rodent damage would probably be partially identifiable by a nearby animal hole, or lifted up/disturbed soil under the stem.

Photo Credits:

Damage0.jpg, damage1.jpg, damage3.jpg, damage4.jpg, damage8.jpg, and damage9.jpg, were taken by the author. Damage2.jpg was taken by Ronald Sanden, Silviculturist, Fishlake National Forest. Damage5.jpg and damage7.jpg were taken by Robert B. Campbell, Forest Ecologist, Fishlake National Forest.