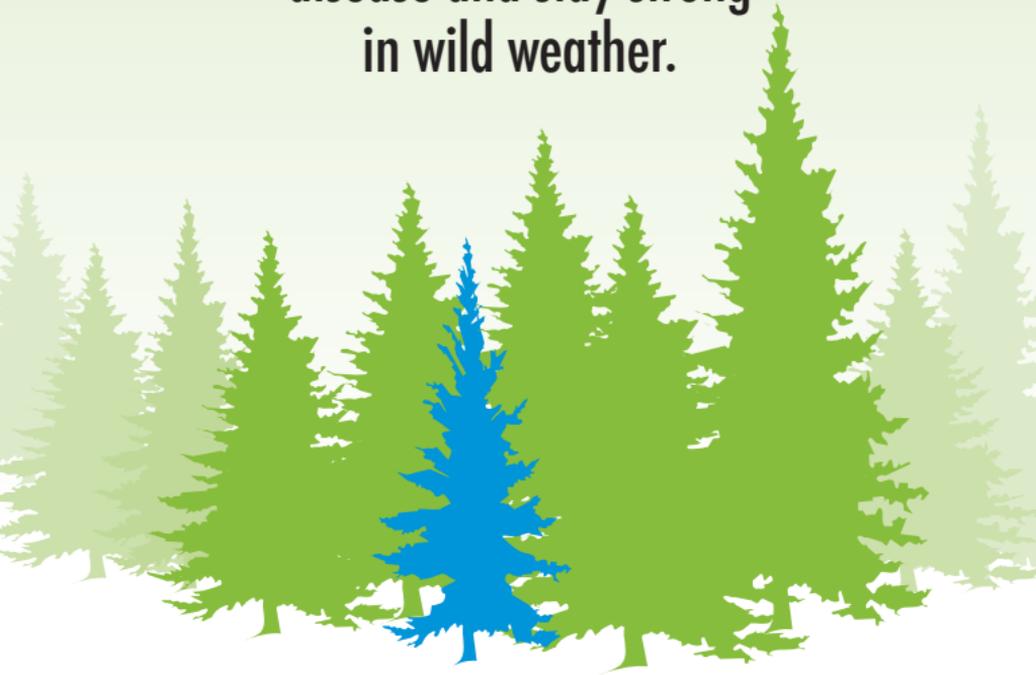


Making Room For Trees

Trees need enough room to grow into healthy, mature stands that can resist disease and stay strong in wild weather.



Blue paint
on the
trees?

That means they're coming out.

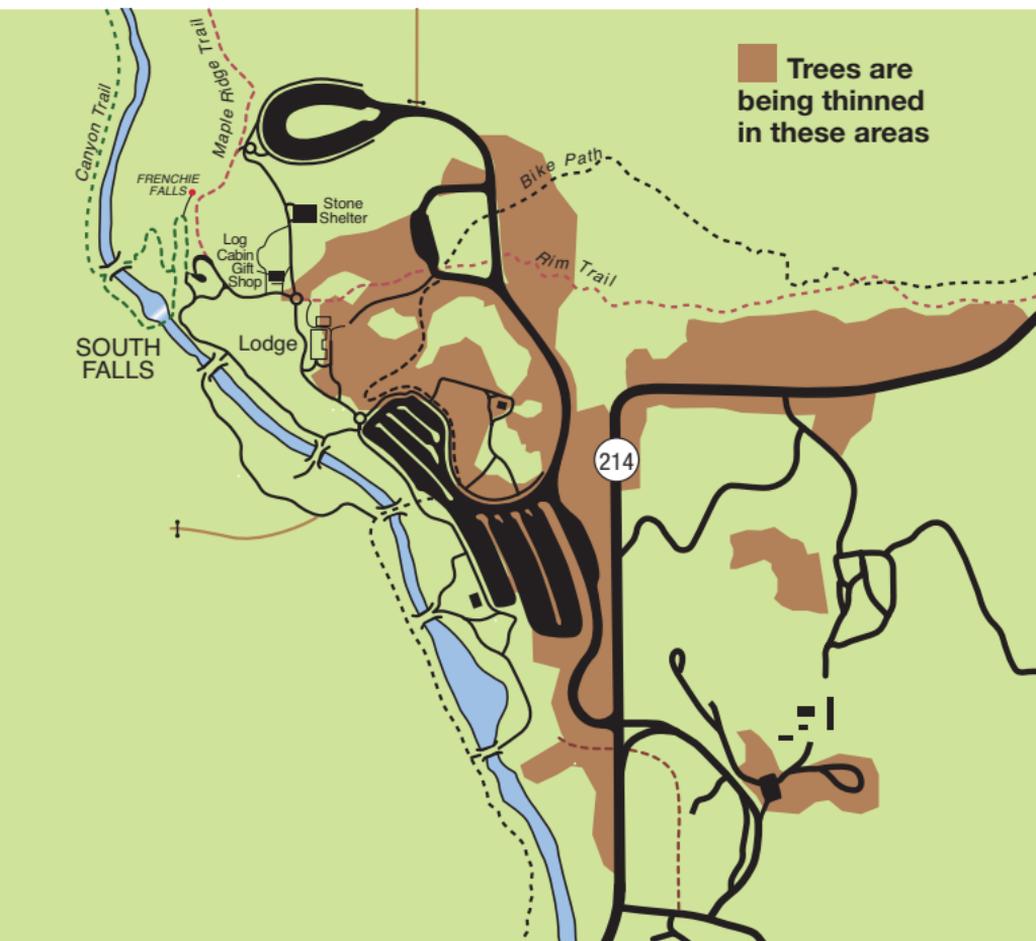


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Fast Facts:

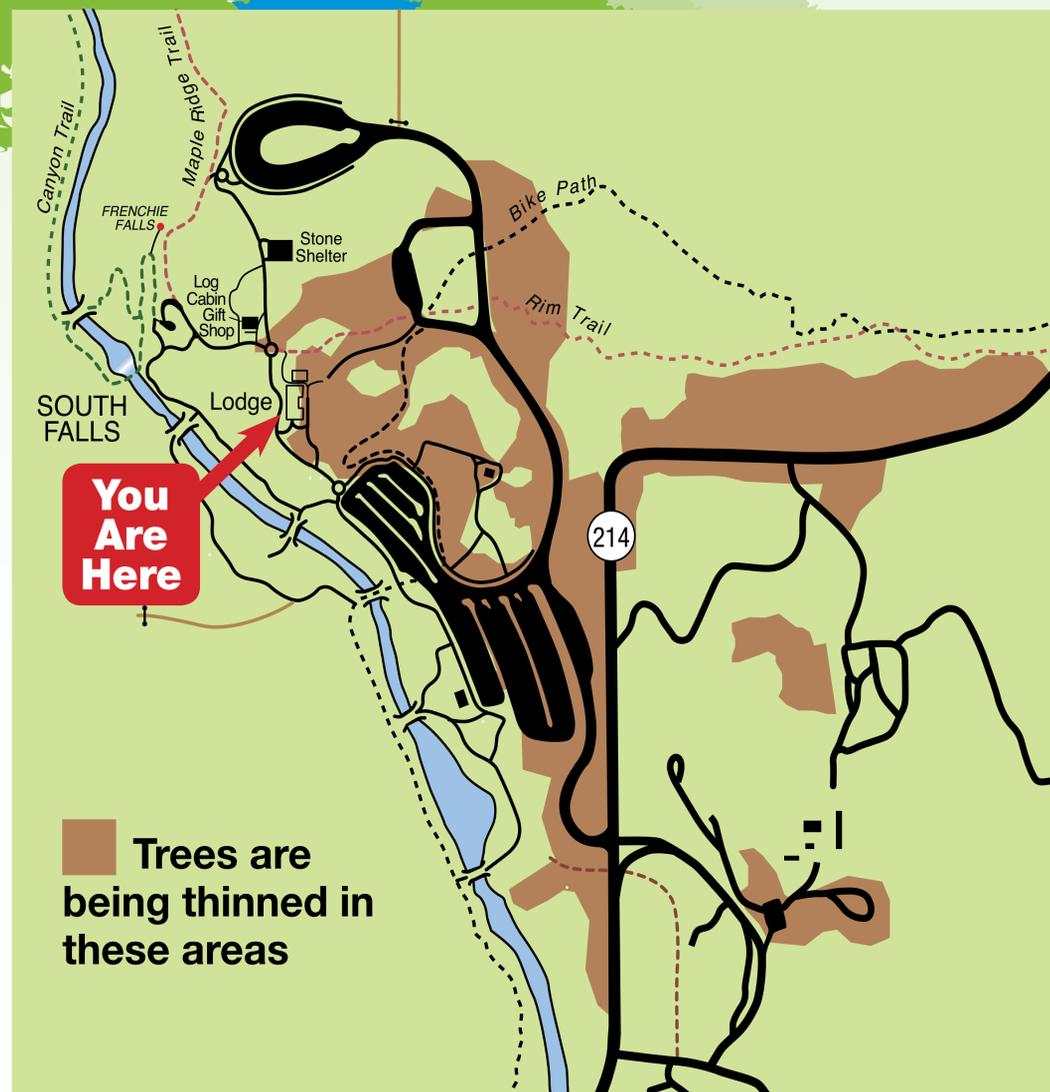
- This summer and fall, park staff are marking trees that will come out this winter. In total, dense stands in about 50 acres of the park will be thinned (see map). Almost all are Douglas-fir.
- Most of the trees are about 70 years old, and were planted very close together. Today's practice would be to thin these stands much earlier in their lifecycle, and avoid the problem of overcrowding altogether. That did not happen, and the result is the dense, overcrowded stands we have today.
- Crowded trees are weak trees: they're more susceptible to storm damage and bark beetle infestation. At some point, they become hazardous to visitors, buildings and property.
- The timber coming out makes room for a healthy, vigorous renewal of the trees that remain.
- Any revenue from timber sales goes directly to natural resource projects in the parks.
- The work should be finished by spring, 2013.



Making Room For Trees

Tree Thinning Fall 2012–Spring 2013

Like a crowded city where people compete for space, many trees you see within the South Falls Day Use Area are also competing for space and sunlight. Planted in the early 20th century, most of this forest is now overcrowded. This in turn stresses the trees and makes them more vulnerable to damage from storms and bark beetles. Careful thinning removes weak trees and allows more space for the remaining trees to “relax.”



Before A Thinning



After A Thinning



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