









Be careful now;
you are standing on air!

UNDERCUT EDGE





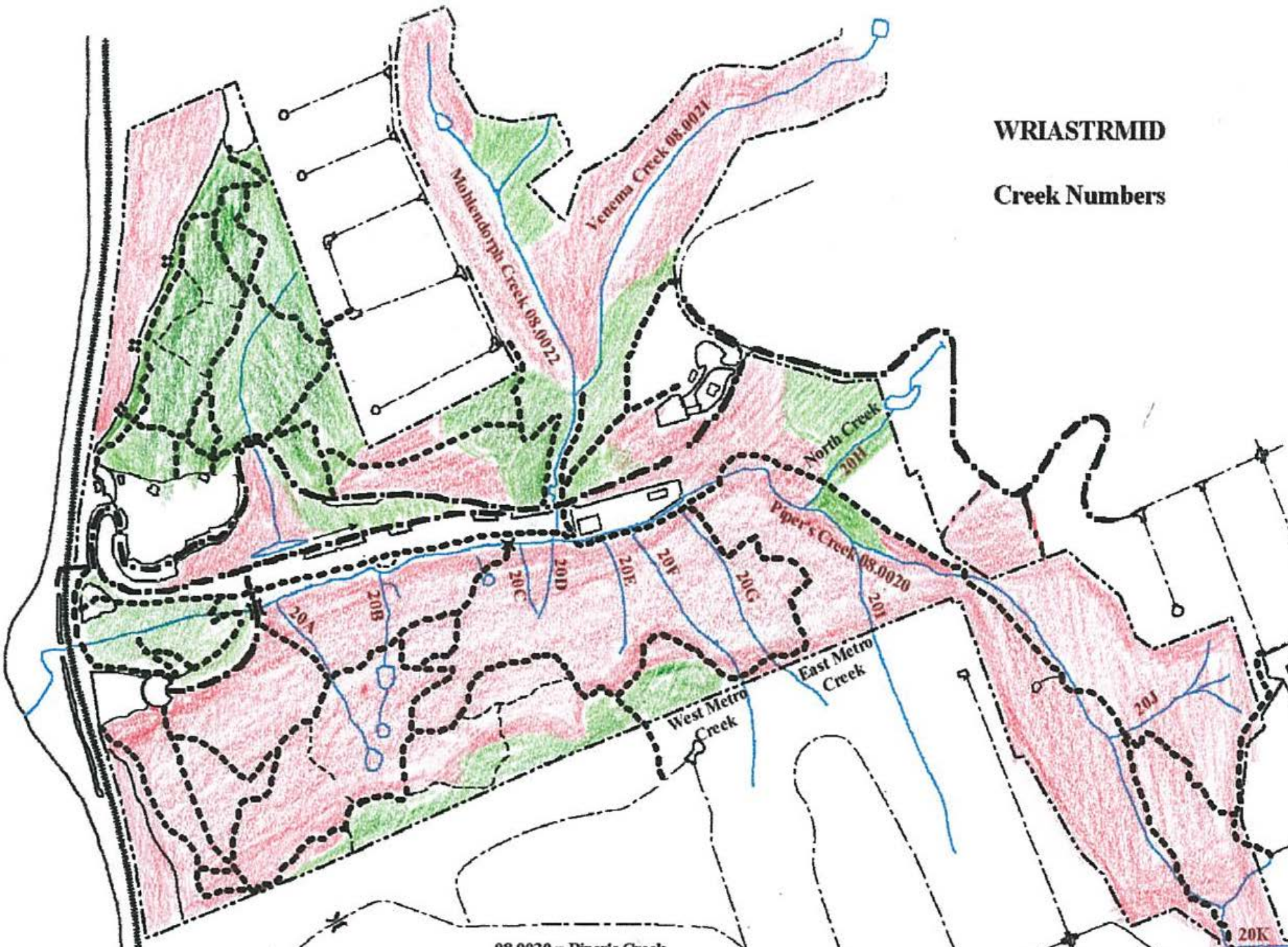




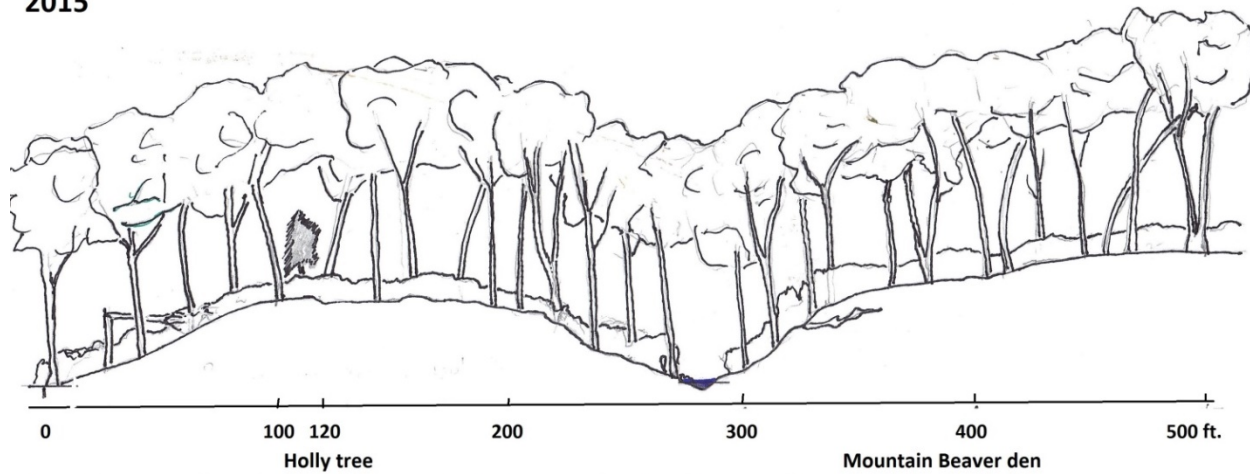


WRIASTRMID

Creek Numbers

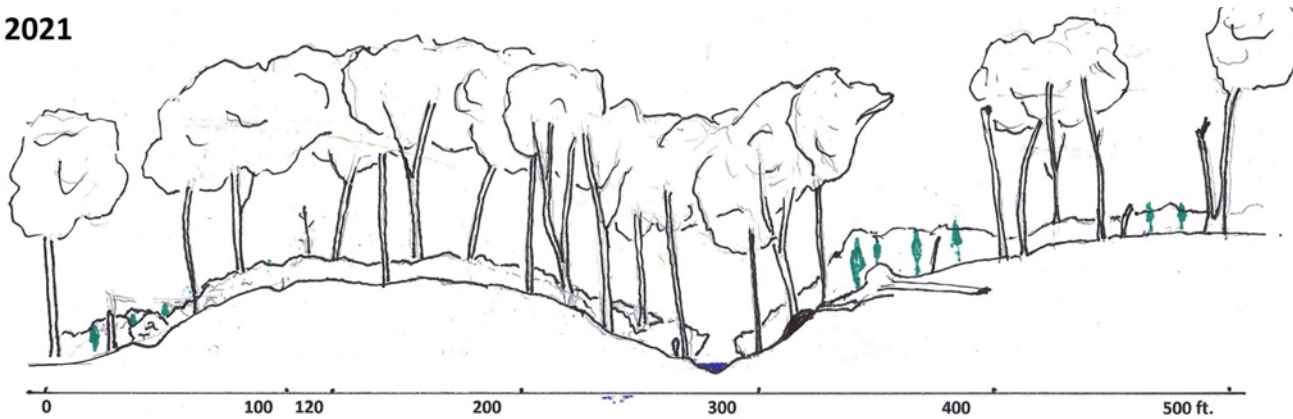


2015



2015 - still a closed forest but many trees with defects. The Holly will be 'shot' shortly.

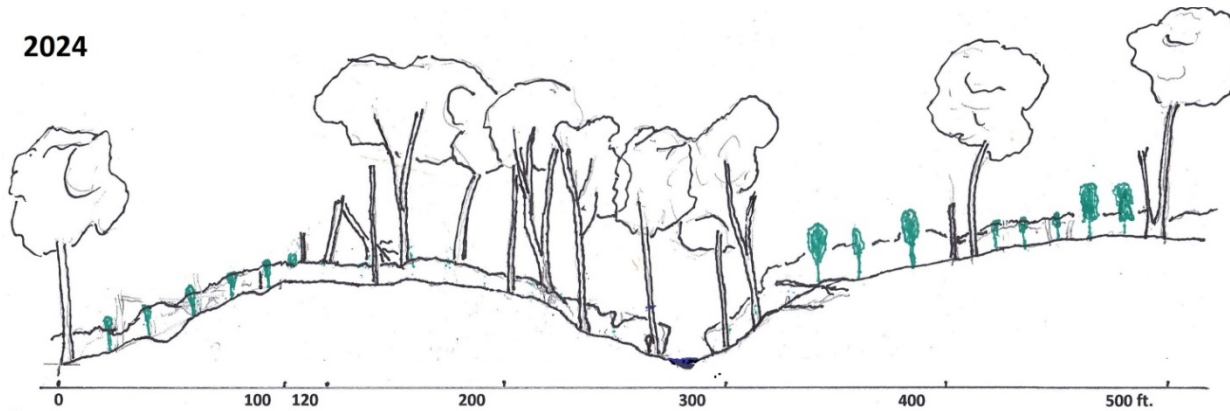
2021



The Holly is now just a skeleton The Mountain Beaver pushes out more dirt to be washed away

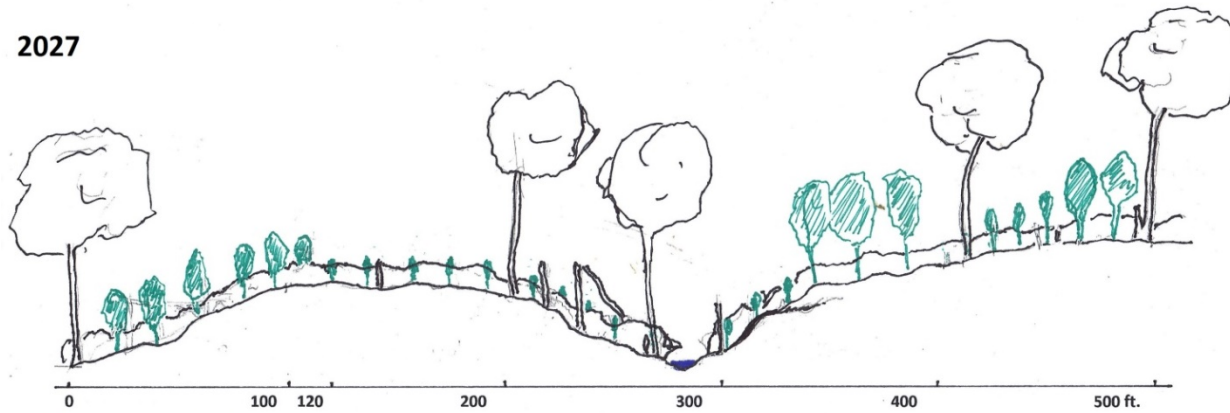
2021 - new gaps are forming to the left and the right; they are planted with Red alder and Willow. The Red Alder in the 2018 gap is growing, but so is the Salmonberry.

2024

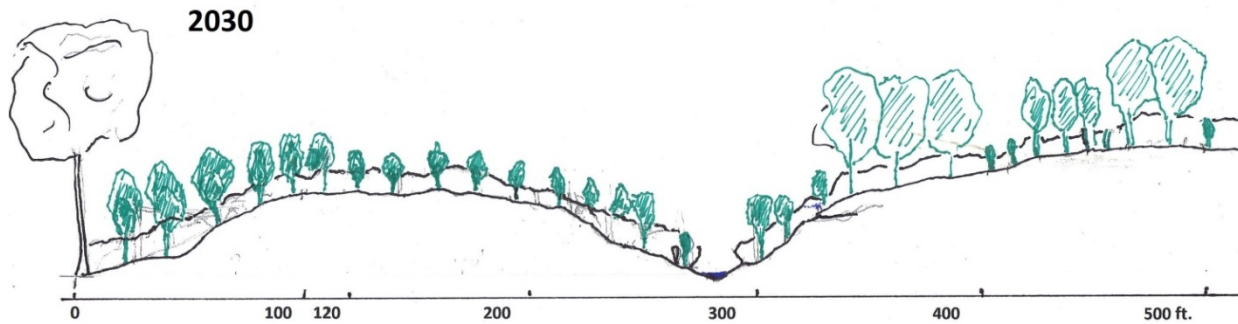


2024 - the gap to the left has widened; it is planted with additional weed trees. The interim forest to the right is growing above the Salmonberry; new zones of weed trees are added. The Mountain Beaver seems to have left too much unrest.

2027



2027 Not much is left of the original forest. The older gaps now start presenting an interim canopy while new open space is filled in with new weed trees. The gap to the left is big enough to start planting permanent forest - if so desired.



2030 Practically the whole Red alder/Bigleaf maple forest is gone; an interim forest is taking its place, composed of different age groups, which creates diversity. For the public there still is a forest. The interim forest protects the soil from eroding - especially since the Mountain Beavers are now limited in number. An all-out effort from 2016 - 2018 to take Ivy out results in a "clean" forest.



Conclusion

- the Carkeek Park A/M forest is overmature and declining
- 30 years from now it may be gone altogether, leaving a chaotic jungle
- What needs to be done now to ultimately have a new, vibrant urban forest?

Recognize the chaos that is going to happen

Decide to be pro-activeor not

Doing nothing is also a management strategy

If we choose to be pro-active, then:

1. Define the future forest, what we are aiming at?

- a “natural forest” or an “urban forest”?**
- natural regeneration or planting?**

2. Assuming we opt for an Urban Forest, what do we expect the forest to deliver:

- diversity in age and composition,
presenting a diverse nature experience to
the public**
- diversity in habitats for flora and fauna**
- safety and accessibility**

3. Develop a long-term forest restoration plan for the next 60 years

(planning the complex logistics for a 100 acres forest restoration, in time and space)

- find the money to do this**
- find an agency to do this**

4. Include in the plan:

- rigorous restoration practices like creating gaps and clearcut**
- unusual approaches like creating an interim forest**
- place GSP activities in the context of the long-term plan**
- local forest restoration classes to sustain a permanent body of volunteers**

What I hope to achieve today is:

- that you are aware of the impending catastrophe**
- that you will support a citizens (read: WEWO) initiative to develop a long-term forest restoration plan**
- that with your help we can obtain the necessary funding**