



Folsom City Council Staff Report

MEETING DATE:	3/8/2022
AGENDA SECTION:	Consent Calendar
SUBJECT:	Resolution No. 10804 – A Resolution Establishing a Landmark Tree Designation for an Interior Live Oak Tree on the California Independent System Operator Corporation Property, Immediately South of the Iron Point Road/Outcropping Way Intersection
FROM:	Community Development Department

RECOMMENDATION / CITY COUNCIL ACTION

Adopt Resolution No. 10804 – A Resolution Establishing a Landmark Tree Designation for an Interior Live Oak Tree on the California Independent System Operator Corporation Property, Immediately South of the Iron Point Road/Outcropping Way Intersection

BACKGROUND / ISSUE

Trees are both community and environmental assets, unique in their ability to provide a multitude of benefits that appreciate over time. Longstanding trees also contribute to the City of Folsom’s character and “Distinctive by Nature” adage. One of the ways in which the City of Folsom shows recognition for particularly noteworthy specimens is through a Landmark Tree Registry.

The California Independent System Operator Corporation (California ISO) has requested a landmark tree designation for a single interior live oak (*Quercus wislizeni*) on their property at 250 Outcropping Way. The parcel is owned by California ISO and has both M-1 (Light Industrial) and BP (Business and Professional Office) zoning and general plan designations. The subject oak has four main stems that measure 23”, 23”, 26”, 29” in diameter at standard height, totaling an aggregate trunk diameter of 101 inches and qualifying it as a heritage tree as defined in Section 12.16.020 of the Folsom Municipal Code. The tree stands approximately 40 feet tall and possesses a canopy spread of more than 75 feet. The arborist report included with the application estimates the age of the tree to be 150 years.

Due to the subject tree's age and remarkable size, the applicant believes this native oak is worthy of the City of Folsom Landmark Tree Registry and is deserving of the inspections and potential care that have been established for landmark trees in the City of Folsom Tree Preservation Ordinance.



The subject tree is located on the northern tip of the California ISO property, immediately south of the intersection of Iron Point Road and Outcropping Way.



Photograph of the subject tree dated October 14, 2020.

POLICY / RULE

Section 12.16.170 of the Folsom Municipal Code gives a private property owner or interested party the right to submit an application to the Community Development Department, requesting that the City Council establish by Resolution a tree or group of trees as a landmark tree(s). In order to designate a tree as a landmark tree, the City Council must find that the tree is a significant community benefit because it possesses one or more of the following attributes:

- 1) historical value,
- 2) outstanding habitat value,
- 3) unusual species, or
- 4) superior beauty.

ANALYSIS

Native oaks over six inches in diameter at standard height (54" above grade) are protected but are not required to receive regular inspections or care in Folsom. However, Section 12.16.170(B) of the FMC allows for landmark trees to receive annual evaluations by the City Arborist upon the request of the property owner as well as maintenance services if the City Arborist deems such actions appropriate. The City Arborist has determined that three of the four findings in Section 12.16.170(A)(2) apply to the California ISO interior live oak tree. The tree's applicability for each attribute is summarized below:

Historical Value

'Historical value' is a clear factor to consider for a mature native oak. With a trunk diameter of more than double the qualifying measurement required to achieve Heritage Tree status, the subject oak tree is likely in excess of 150 years old and existed long before the establishment of the City of Folsom. The City Arborist believes this tree is among the oldest of its species in Folsom and the applicants would like to celebrate this arboricultural monument through the designation of Landmark Tree Status.

Outstanding Habitat Value

The design of the California ISO facility includes an undisturbed natural area immediately surrounding the subject oak, allowing for many of Folsom's wildlife residents to take refuge in this tree. Interior live oak is a great food source, nesting site, and shelter for wildlife year-round. Additionally, this species is a host to several beneficial butterfly species such as California Sister (*Adelpha bredowii californica*), Dusky-Wing species (*Erynnis*), and Gold-Hunter's Hairstreak (*Satyrium auretorum*), which play key roles as pollinators in the greater Sacramento region.

Unusual Species

Interior live oak is a common species in Folsom. However, very few members of this species have reached the size of the subject tree

Superior Beauty

The subject tree sports an open, picturesque crown when viewed from under the shade of its multiple large codominant stems. Higher up in the canopy, scaffold limbs extend out and divide into intricate branchlets that contribute to the trees rounded, dense silhouette. This form is typical of interior live oak; however, the exceptional size of this tree makes it a striking specimen in comparison to others of its species.

CONCLUSION

Given the attributes summarized herein of the subject tree, the City Arborist has determined that findings for a Landmark Tree designation have been met. As such, staff recommends that the City Council adopt resolution 10804 – A Resolution Establishing a Landmark Tree Designation for an Interior Live Oak Tree on the California Independent System Operator Corporation Property, Immediately South of the Iron Point Road/Outcropping Way Intersection.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

Upon the request of the property owner, the City Arborist may inspect a landmark tree and prepare a report on the health and recommendations for necessary maintenance. Maintenance activities for Landmark trees shall be funded by the City's Tree Planting and Replacement fund in accordance with FMC 12.16.160. There is no impact to the City's General Fund.

ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW

Landmark Tree Classification is an administrative action and not considered a project under the California Environment Quality Act (CEQA) in accordance with CEQA Guidelines Section 15061(b)(3). As a result, the action is exempt from environmental review.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Resolution No. 10804 – A Resolution Establishing a Landmark Tree Designation for an Interior Live Oak Tree on the California Independent System Operator Corporation Property, Immediately South of the Iron Point Road/Outcropping Way Intersection
2. Application for Nomination of Landmark Tree
3. Arborist Report
4. Photographs
5. Tree Species Specifications
6. Landmark Tree Map

Submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Pam Johns", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

PAM JOHNS
Community Development Director

ATTACHMENT 1

**RESOLUTION NO. 10804 - A RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING A
LANDMARK TREE DESIGNATION FOR AN INTERIOR LIVE OAK
TREE ON THE CALIFORNIA INDEPENDENT SYSTEM
OPERATOR CORPORATION PROPERTY, IMMEDIATELY
SOUTH OF THE IRON POINT ROAD/OUTCROPPING WAY
INTERSECTION**

RESOLUTION NO. 10804

A RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING A LANDMARK TREE DESIGNATION FOR AN INTERIOR LIVE OAK TREE ON THE CALIFORNIA INDEPENDENT SYSTEM OPERATOR CORPORATION PROPERTY, IMMEDIATELY SOUTH OF THE IRON POINT ROAD/OUTCROPPING WAY INTERSECTION

WHEREAS, Chapter 12.16 of the Folsom Municipal Code establishes standards and procedures for the protection of trees in Folsom; and

WHEREAS, Community Development has recommended that the interior live oak on the California ISO property on the southeast intersection of Iron Point Road and Outcropping Way qualifies for landmark tree status based on historical value, outstanding habitat, and superior beauty; and

WHEREAS, notice has been given at the time and in the manner required by City Code; and

WHEREAS, this project is exempt from environmental review pursuant to Section 15307 of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)

WHEREAS, trees are both community and environmental assets, unique in their ability to provide a multitude of benefits that appreciate over time including oxygen, filtration of air pollutants, essential shade, energy savings, reduced urban heat island effect, habitat for wildlife, and carbon sequestration; and

WHEREAS, the City Council on January 14, 2020 introduced and conducted first reading of the new Tree Preservation Ordinance, which emphasizes tree protection and preservation.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Folsom adopts Resolution No. 10804 to establish a Landmark Tree Designation for an Interior Live Oak Tree on the CalISO Property, Immediately South of the Iron Point Road/Outcropping Way Intersection.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 8th day of March, 2022, by the following roll-call vote:

AYES: Councilmember(s):
NOES: Councilmember(s):
ABSENT: Councilmember(s):
ABSTAIN: Councilmember(s):

Kerri M. Howell, MAYOR

ATTEST:

Christa Freemantle, CITY CLERK

ATTACHMENT 2

APPLICATION FOR NOMINATION OF A LANDMARK TREE

ATTACHMENT 3

ARBORIST REPORT

Interior Live Oak at CalISO

**Prepared for:
Mike Hayword
California Independent System Operators**

**Prepared by:
Jodi Carlson
Consulting Arborist
IL-9195AM
124 Ponderosa Ct
Folsom, CA**

December 29th, 2020

Jodi Carlson , Consulting Arborist
IL-9196AM

124 Ponderosa Ct, Folsom, CA 95630
email: jodianncarlson@gmail.com

December 29, 2020

Mike Hayward
California Independent System Operators
250 Outcropping Circle
Folsom, CA 95630

Subject: Interior Live Oak consider for Landmark Tree Status

Mr. Hayward:

Enclosed is a report based on my field investigation of the Interior live oak located at the southeast corner of Outcropping Drive and Iron Point Road. This report summarizes my observation and opinions pertaining to the condition of this tree as it is being considered for Landmark status

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or if I may be of further service on this or other matters.

Sincerely,

Jodi Carlson
Certified Arborist
IL-9195AM
Consulting Arborist, Inc.

December 13, 2020

Jodi Carlson, Consulting Arborist, Inc.

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SUMMARY

I was contacted by Mike Hayword from CalISO to provide a report to be submitted to the City of Folsom for the purpose of having a tree on the property declared a Landmark tree. The City of Folsom requires an arborist report that provides an independent, objective opinion regarding the condition of the tree.

I visited the site on November 11th, 2020 and after an inspection I concluded that the tree does qualify for Landmark status based on its size, age, condition and species.

INTRODUCTION

Background

In early November, 2020 I was contacted by Mike Hayword to provide a report that would be used to submit an application for Landmark status of the subject tree. No history was given for the tree other than there has been occasional maintenance pruning.

Assignment

I was asked to provide an arborist report for the purpose of having the tree considered for Landmark status.

Limits of the assignment

This assignment was limited to a ground based visual inspection.

OBSERVATIONS

Site Visit

I visited the site on November 11, 2020 and met with Mike Hayward. I observed the conditions described below.

Site Location and Condition

The site is in Folsom, CA at the southeast corner of Outcropping Drive and Iron Point Road in front of CallISO a landscape area. The tree is located in a large planter with irrigated shrubs at the edge and outside the dripline of the tree. The surrounding groundcover is woodchip mulch and leaf litter. There is subsurface irrigation within the dripline of the tree.

Tree Description

The tree's scientific name is *Quercus wislizeni*. Its common name is interior live oak. The species is native to Folsom and is protected under Folsom Municipal Code 12.16 - Tree Preservation Ordinance.

The tree has four large main stems with diameters of 23", 23", 26" and 29". It is about 35-40 feet high. The canopy radius is 35 feet. The four stems spreading out make this an unusually large canopy.

There is one 12" burl on the southwest stem. Old cuts have minor decay. There is minor decay at the base where the four stems meet. There are remnants of a tree house. None of these things pose a significant risk.

The canopy of the tree appears healthy and vigorous. The tree's structure is very good without any significant defects. It appears to have been professionally pruned by qualified individuals.

DISCUSSION

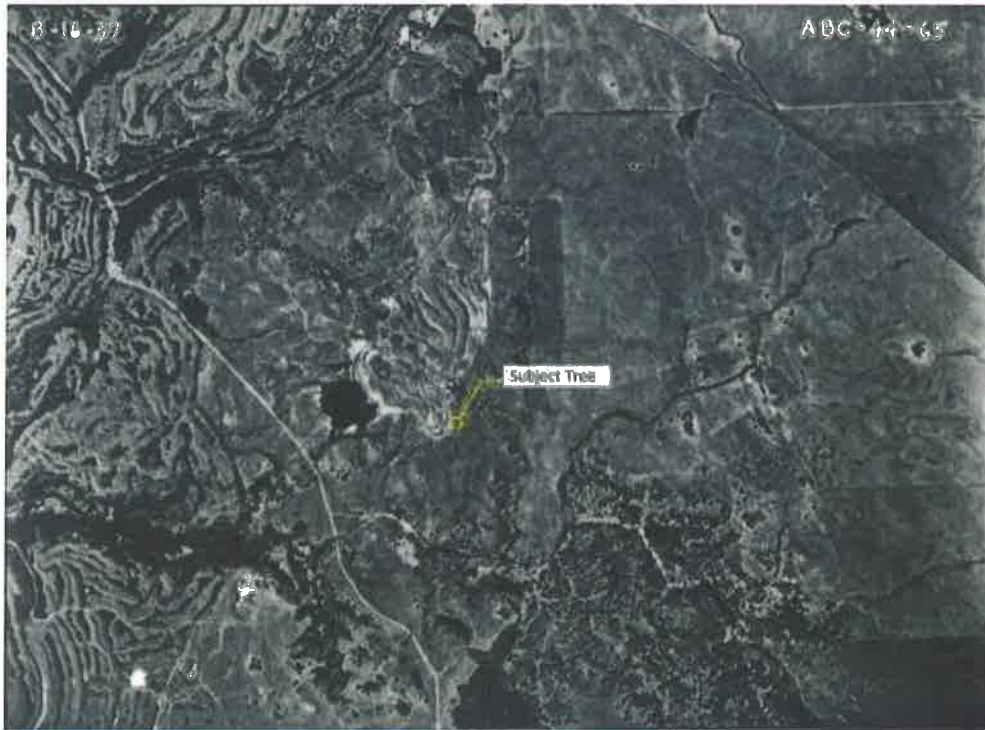
This tree was well preserved when the land around it was developed and it has been well maintained since then. The condition in general is excellent. It is very large for its species making it a significant specimen. While there is little information available about how to determine the age of this species, it is probably around 125-150 years old. The tree's historical value and outstanding size are worth recognizing with the status of Landmark Tree.

APPENDIX A



ATTACHMENT 4

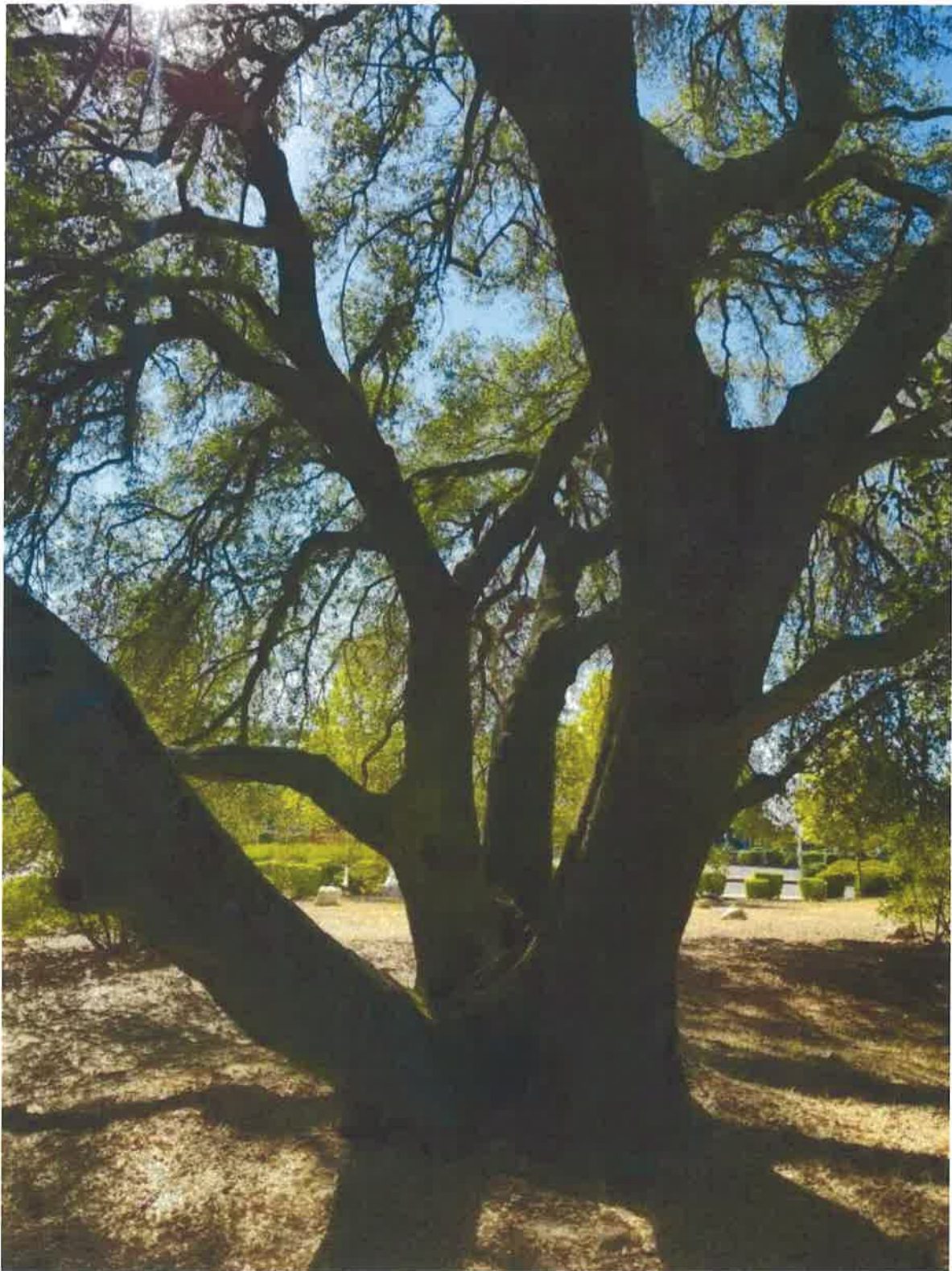
PHOTOGRAPHS



Historic aerial photograph, dated August 16, 1937



Historic aerial photograph, taken in 2016



Subject tree facing southeast



Subject tree facing west.



Subject tree facing southeast

ATTACHMENT 5
TREE SPECIFICATIONS



CALIFORNIA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY

Calscape

Restore Nature One Garden at a Time

Interior Live Oak (*Quercus wislizeni*) is a native tree or shrub in the Fagaceae (Beech) family. Despite the common name it grows near the coast as well as in the Coast Ranges, central valley, and Sierra foothills. It tends to grow at elevations from sea level to 5,000 feet and is a major component of foothill woodland. This is a tall, broad tree with evergreen leaves. The leaves are thick, leathery, and may have either toothed or smooth margins. The long, narrow, pointed acorns sit deep in the cap; the take two years to mature. There are two recognized Varieties: Var. *frutescens* is a shrub form and is more common in the southern portion of the species' range, while var. *wislizeni* is the tree form. Due to its ultimate size, it requires a large garden but is a very rewarding tree to grow.

Plant Type

Tree, Shrub

Size

15 - 50 ft tall

10 - 50 ft wide

Growth Rate

Moderate

Dormancy

Evergreen

Flower Color

Cream, Green



Flowering Season

Winter, Spring

Wildlife Supported

Many insects are attracted to Oaks generally, including the following butterflies which use Oaks as host plant: California Sister, Propertius Duskywing, Mournful Duskywing, Golden Hairstreak, and Gold-Hunter's Hairstreak.

Butterflies & moths hosted (14 [confirmed](#) , 158 [likely](#) *)

- Mournful Duskywing (*Erynnis tristis*)
- Gold Hunter's Hairstreak (*Satyrrium auretteum*)
- Fruit-Tree Leafroller Moth (*Archips argyrospila*)
- Pacific Tent Caterpillar (*Malacosoma constricta*)
- Andromache Underwing moth (*Catocala Andromache*)
- *Caloptilia reticulata*
- *Chionodes chrysopyla*
- *Dyseriocrania auricyanea*

Landscaping Information

Sun

Full Sun, Part Shade

Moisture

Very Low, Low

Summer Irrigation

Max 1x / month once established

Cold Tolerance

Tolerates cold to 10° F

Soil Drainage

Fast, Medium, Slow

Soil Description

Tolerant of a variety of soils. Soil PH: 5.0 - 7.0

Common uses

Bank Stabilization, Deer Resistant, Bird Gardens, Butterfly Gardens

Companion Plants

This oak is compatible with a very wide ranges of native trees, shrubs, vines, perennial herbs and annuals wildflowers.

Propagation?

For propagating by seed: Fresh seeds sow in fall outdoors or stratify to hold for spring sowing. (USDA Forest Service 1974).

Natural Setting

Site Type

Hillsides, canyons and floodplains across most of California in locations where winters are wet but not freezing and summers are hot and dry.

Climate

Annual Precipitation: 5.0" - 91.9", Summer Precipitation: 0.15" - 3.16", Coldest Month: 24.6" - 55.2", Hottest Month: 45.5" - 84.1", Humidity: 0.10" - 35.01", Elevation: 7" - 11310"

ATTACHMENT 6

CURRENT LANDMARK TREE MAP

Folsom Landmark Tree Map

Reso No. 5485
Arizona Cypress at 409 Coloma Street

Reso No. 5487
Strawberry Tree at 606 Figueroa Street

Reso No. 5911
Oak grove along Folsom Boulevard

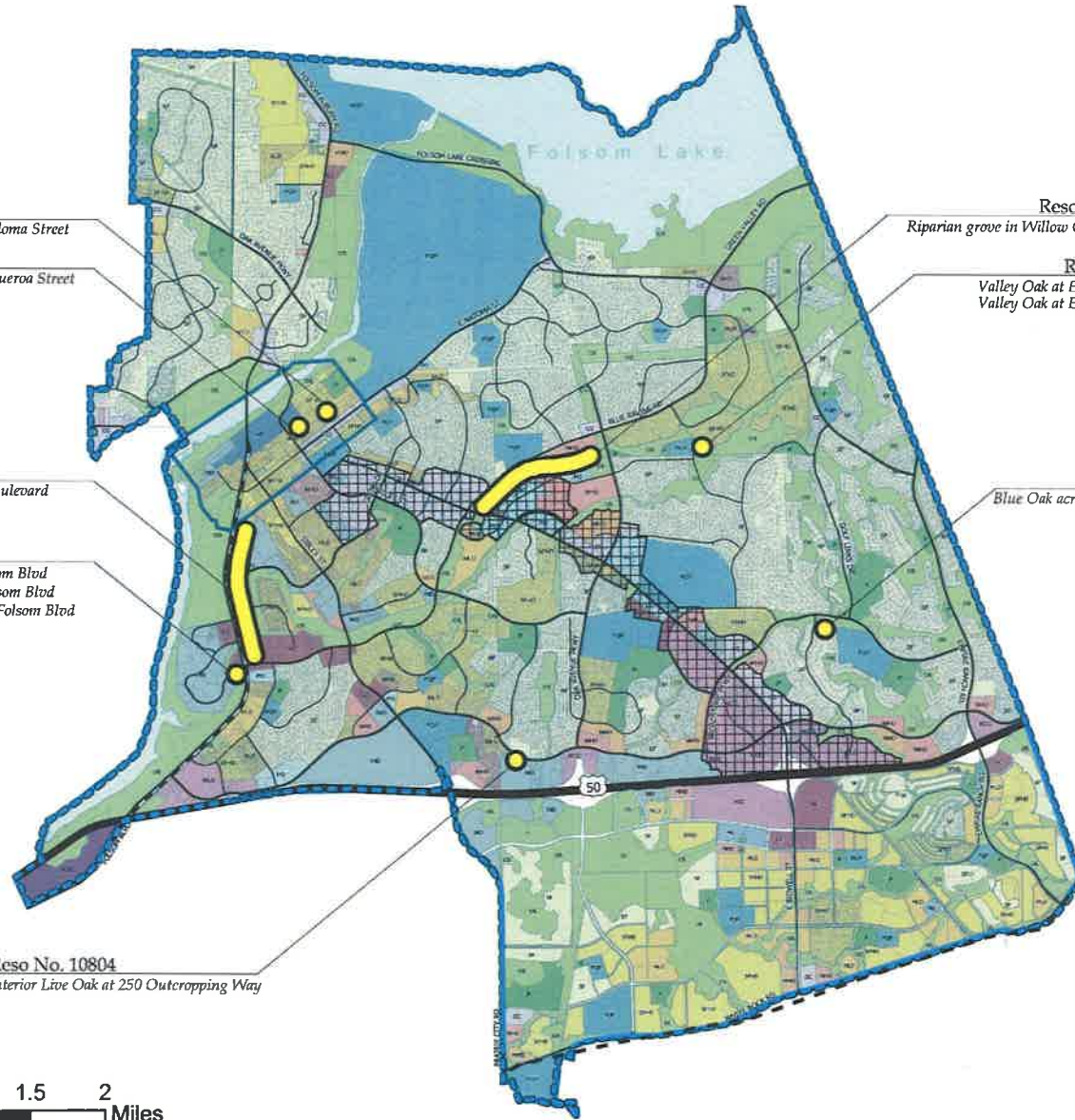
Reso No. 5062
Tulip Poplar at 13389 Folsom Blvd
London Plane at 13389 Folsom Blvd
Coastal Redwood at 13389 Folsom Blvd

Reso No. 10804
Interior Live Oak at 250 Outcropping Way

Reso No. 5910
Riparian grove in Willow Creek, Lot 10

Reso No. 5486
Valley Oak at East Prewett Park
Valley Oak at East Prewett Park

Reso No. 5909
Blue Oak across from 1782 Caversham Wy



0 0.5 1 1.5 2 Miles

Updated 2/25/2022