

August 2, 2023

Hi Liz,

As promised here are my notes and a summary of our discussion.

1. The river bank near Ron Adkins property with the basswood tree with roots exposed on the bank is causing no harm and there is no evidence that this tree will fall now or in the future.

While the roots are exposed, surveying the bank across the river and down there are many trees with exposed roots. This is typical of a riverine system as water and soil move with the current. As woody debris builds up the movement of water is hindered and will change course as a result. The basswood tree can be trimmed carefully by an arborist with knowledge of proper pruning techniques. If an arborist is unavailable I would be able to assist in the recommendation of which branch(s) can be removed without harming the tree.

2. The assessment and ultimate treatment of invasive species along the bluff would be very costly. There are many species of invasives that exist today and the treatment can vary depending on the species. If the invasives are treated and die off then there would be a void on the bluff that could cause sloughing of soil and possible erosion. I would recommend no treatment at this time.

3. Trimming of vegetation on the bluff: Trimming is a great option to manage vegetation as long as there is a plan in place to do selective pruning of both trees and shrubs. Clear cutting is a terrible method for the health of the vegetation. Keeping the stairs clear of vegetation and debris should be done for safety and visibility. The bluff and the slope toe must be kept intact for the preservation of the beach. The top of the bluff must be managed properly to prevent sloughing and road deterioration. I would recommend adding more trees to the top of the bluff. Using a certified arborist is recommended for the proper pruning of trees and shrubs.

Let me know if there is anything else you need.

Anne Vaara