



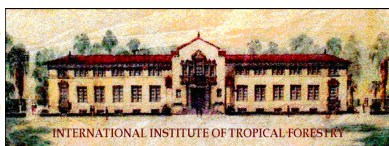
ST. Croix Hazard Tree Assessment Progress Report - Sept/Oct 2010

Completed Assessment Areas : St. Croix, U.S. Virgin Islands



Roadsides Assessed (Km)	# Trees Assessed	Poles Mapped
176 km	1380	636

September and October was a time of substantial project progress as well as extreme weather conditions. An additional 48 km of roads were surveyed and 380 trees assessed. Automated data analysis models were created to handle the large volume of data. Geographic Consulting employees attended the 2-day Hazard Tree Assessment Workshop organized by the St. Croix Environmental Association.



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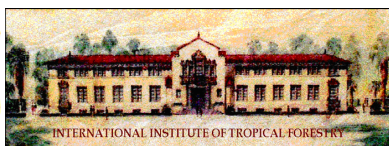


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On August 30, Hurricane Earl passed 100 miles north of St. Croix, bringing tropical storm winds, and heavy rain. Power was lost in many homes due to fallen trees and limbs. Earl tested the hazard tree assessment process by severely damaging trees that were already inventoried. Post-storm examination revealed 13 trees fell or lost major limbs. All of these trees were rated as hazardous and in need of pruning or removal, indicating the accuracy of our assessments.



As the inventory moves west, the roadside tree population is becoming more diverse. Some interesting trends are beginning to emerge from the preliminary analysis. Healthier trees tend to be further away from the road edge. Less healthy trees tend to have a higher occurrence of conflict with power lines and a higher percentage of impermeable surfaces at their roots.



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