

Attachment B
Decay Classes
Mohawk Valley Wildfire Resilience

DECAY CLASSES

Class 1: Sound, freshly fallen, intact logs with no rot, no conks present indicating a lack of decay, original color of wood, no invading roots, fine twigs attached with tight bark.

Class 2: Sound log sapwood partly soft but can't be pulled apart by hand, original color of wood, no invading roots, many fine twigs are gone and remaining fine twigs have peeling bark.

Class 3: Heartwood is still sound with piece supporting its own weight, sapwood can be pulled apart by hand or is missing, wood color is reddish-brown or original color, roots may be invading sapwood, only branch stubs are remaining which can't be pulled out of log.

Class 4: Heartwood is rotten with piece unable to support own weight, rotten portions of piece are soft and/or blocky in appearance, a metal pin can be pushed into heartwood, wood color is reddish or light brown, invading roots may be found throughout the log, branch stubs can be pulled out.

Class 5: There is no remaining structural integrity to the piece with a lack of shape as rot spreads out across ground, rotten texture is soft and can become dry powder when dry, wood color is red-brown to dark brown, invading roots are present throughout, branch stubs and pitch pockets have usually rotten down.

Characteristic	DECAY CLASSES				
	1	2	3	4	5
Bark	Intact	Mostly intact	Partially intact to sloughing	Absent	Absent
Twigs 3 cm	Present	Absent	Absent	Absent	Absent
Large branches	Present	Present	Present	Present	Absent
Exposed wood texture	Intact	Intact to partly soft	Large, hard pieces	Small soft blocky pieces	Soft and powder (when dry)
Portion of log on ground	Support points	Support points and slight sagging	Log is sagging	All	All
Exposed wood color	Original	Original	Original to red-brown	Light brown to reddish	Red-brown to dark brown
Invading roots	None	None	Conifer seedlings	In sapwood only	In sapwood and heartwood
Log shape	Round	Round	Round	Round	Oval