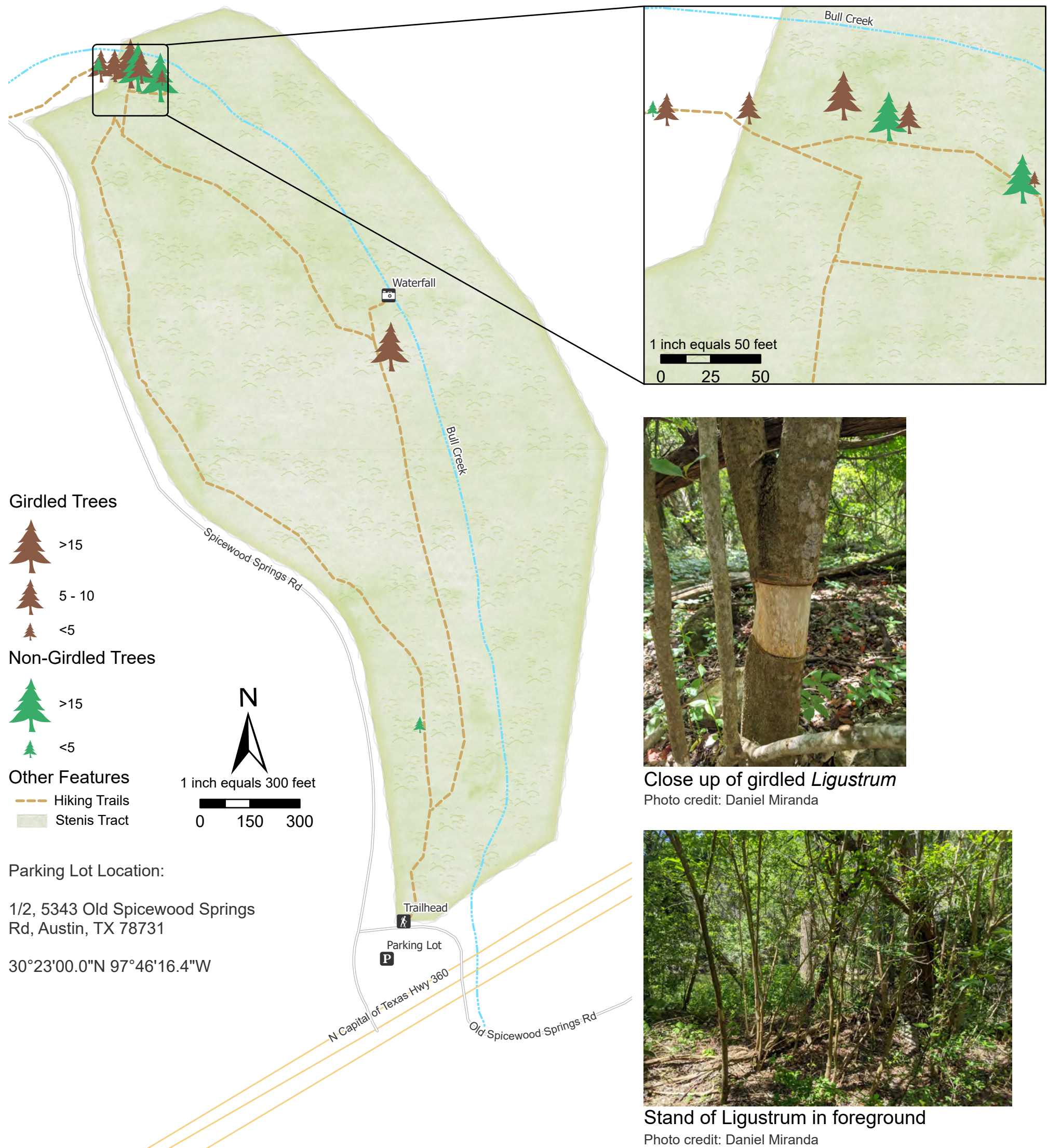


What's Going on with the Trees at Stenis?

The Austin Water Wildlands Conservation Division manages *Ligustrum lucidum*, an invasive tree species, via a technique called girdling

These trees crowd out native species and block other small plants from receiving sunlight



Why do trees near Bull Creek have missing bark? Austin, TX city biologists and volunteers have girdled the *Ligustrum* trees, thereby removing the trunk layers responsible for transporting food from the leaves to the roots. By causing the roots to starve and die, this kills entire trees without the use of toxic chemicals.

Why can't we just cut the trees down? *Ligustrum* will re-sprout from its roots. Though smaller trees can be pulled out of the ground, larger trees are best managed by girdling.

Want to see some of these trees yourself? This map shows you places where you can find girdled and non-girdled *Ligustrum* near the hiking trails at Stenis. This survey was conducted in June 2021, so more trees may be girdled by the time you investigate!

Source: Girdling Status, Hiking Trails, and Landmarks: field data by Daniel Miranda, 6/30/21; Land Boundary: Land Parcels 2019 from TNRI.org; Bull Creek: InlandWaters_Creek_Lines from City of Austin; Roads: TxDOT Roadway Inventory; Information on girdling *Ligustrum*: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=R-L1RJn095w>; Austin Water Wildlands Conservation Division: <https://www.austintexas.gov/department/wildlands-conservation>