

# Preparing for the Climate of Tomorrow

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## Background

- Climate change presents many unknowns for the future.
- Changes to the hydrological cycle could increase drought and harm forest restoration
- Inadequate preparation and restoration techniques could lead to devastation in our forests

## Research Question

Will drought caused by climate change in the future have negative effects on forest restoration? And how can we mitigate these effects?

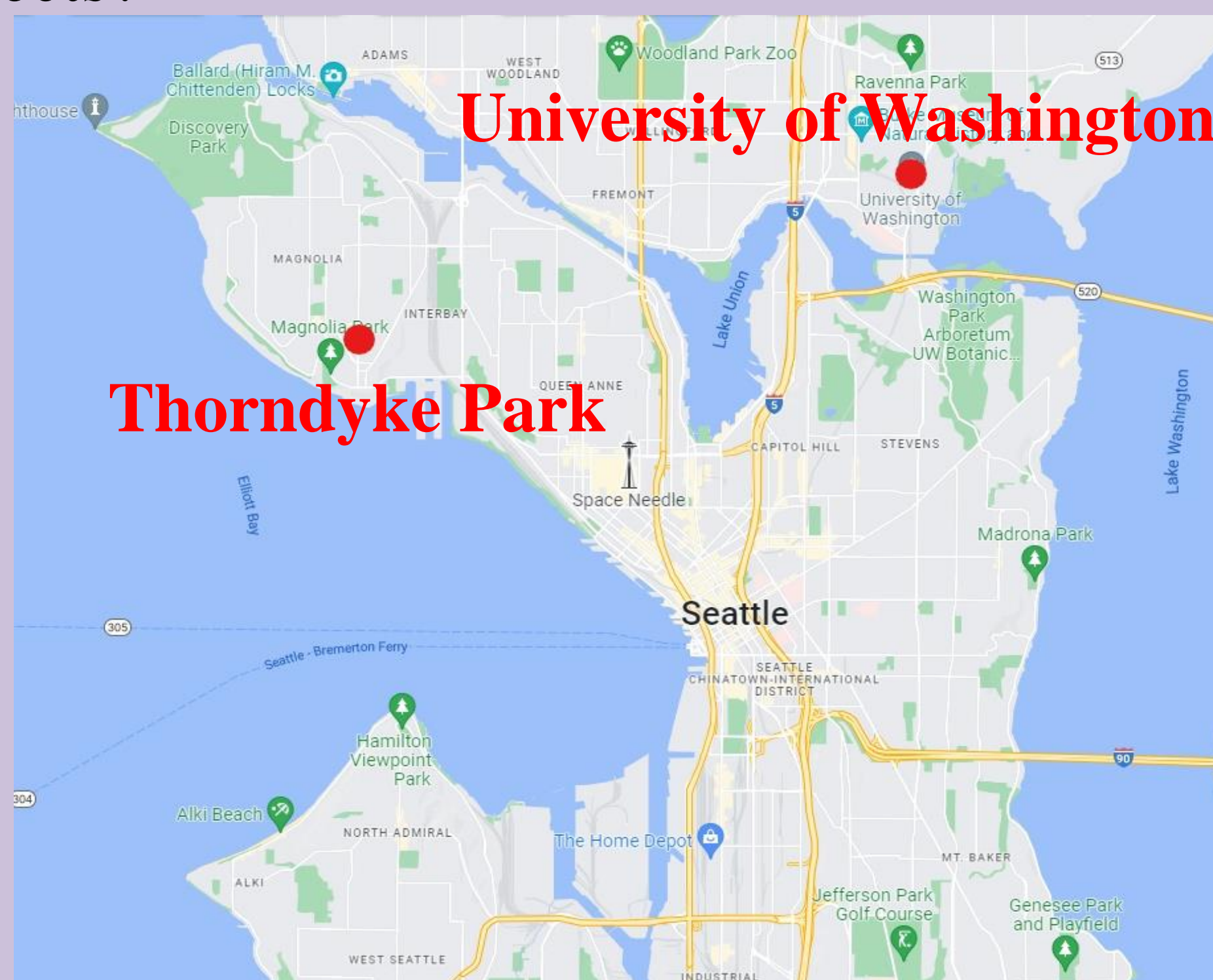


Figure 1: Google map showing the location of Thorndyke park where the internship took place.

## Internship

- I interned with Green Seattle Partnership as an assistant forest steward.
- During the internship I performed forest restoration throughout the park alone while also leading groups of people as well.

## Methods

- Acquired catalogue of plants my site supervisor could use.
- Identified noxious weeds using the King County Noxious Weeds List.
- Compared drought tolerance between noxious weeds and native plants.

## Results

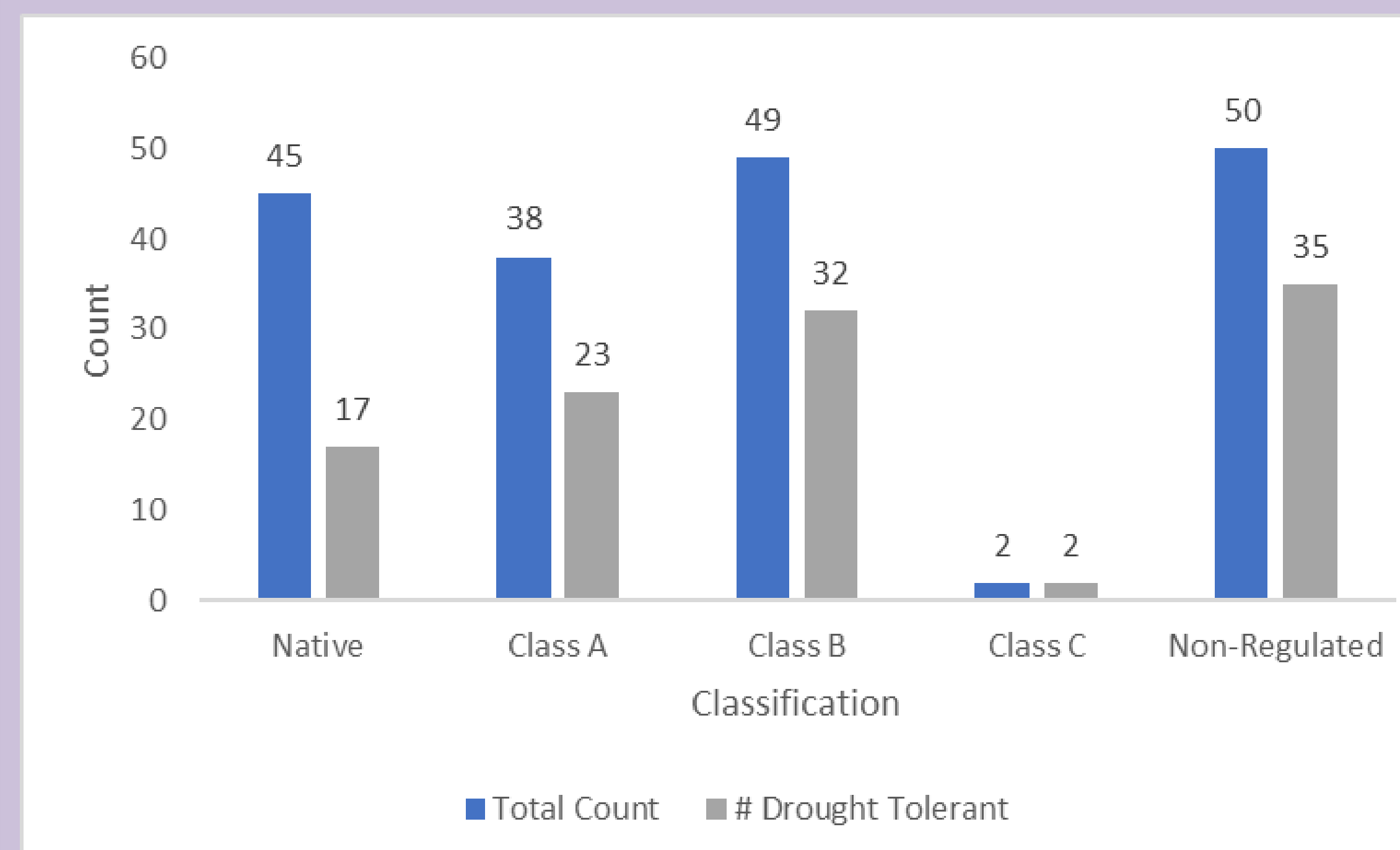


Figure 2: Bar chart showing the King County classification of plants with their total count compared to the number of plants that were drought tolerant in each category.

- 38% of native plants are drought tolerant.
- 66% of noxious weeds are drought tolerant.
- 45 native plants that are allowed to be planted.
- 139 non-native noxious weeds that are considered problems in King County.

## Significance

- Clear difference in drought tolerance between native plants and noxious weeds.
- Native plant's struggle could be magnified because of high drought tolerance in noxious weeds.

## Implications

- Restoration practices need to change.
- Keep inventory of plants in order to make better plants choices.
- Create new framework to help people make more informed and rational decisions.

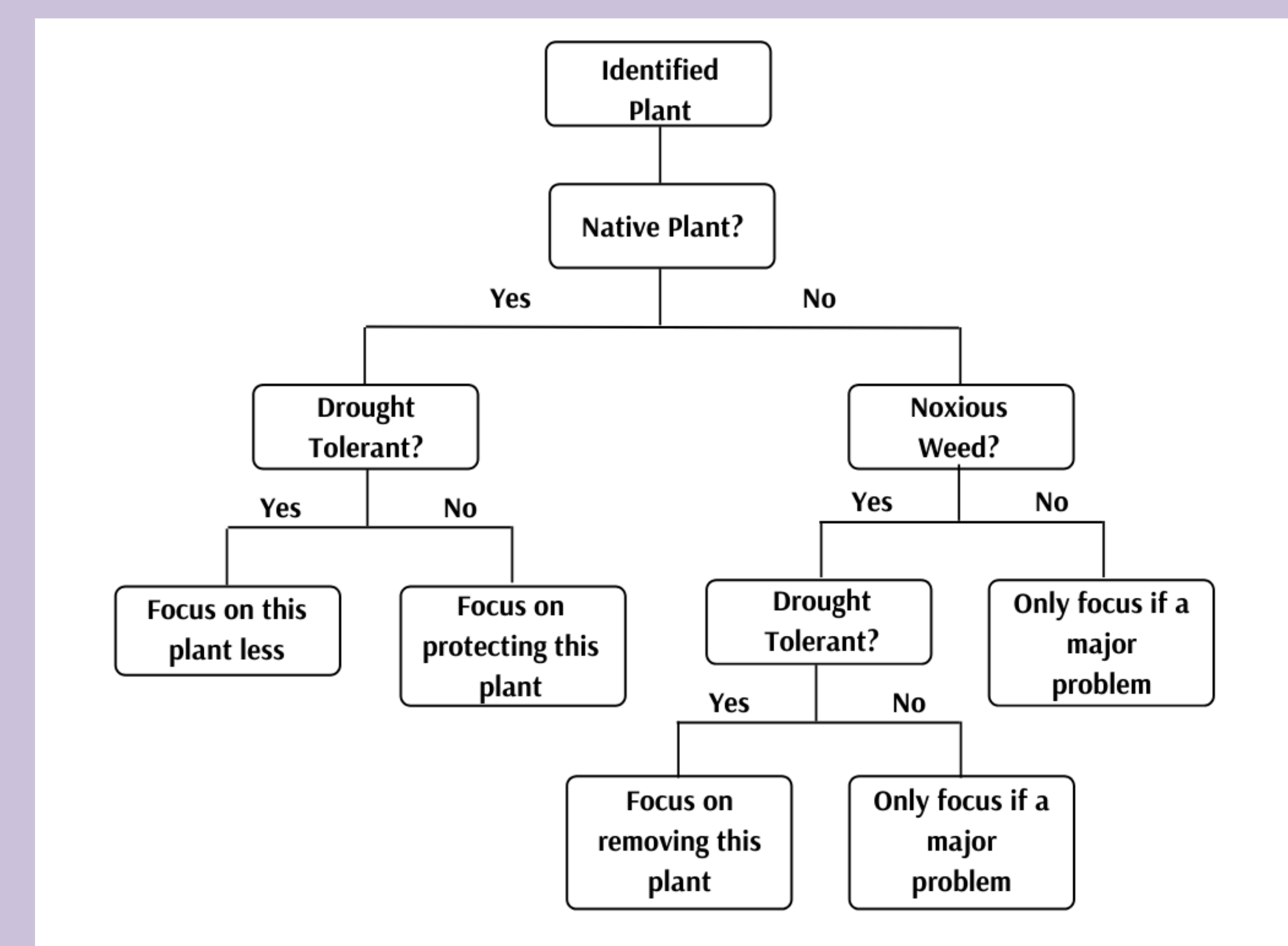


Figure 3: Flowchart showing potential framework for dealing with forest restoration in the future when considering drought as a major factor.

## Acknowledgements

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