

Riparian Plant Reference Guide

Field Guide for Identifying Riparian Plants



Karie Pappani
Idaho Soil and Water Conservation Commission
May 2014, 3rd edition

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Acknowledgments

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Introduction

In this most recent edition of the guide, there are descriptions and photographs for 50 new plants. A total of 243 plants are described in everyday terms for use by professionals, amateurs, and layman alike. For the most part technical terms have been avoided but those that are used can be found in the glossary. Important characteristics of stems, leaves, flowers, and fruits are described for each plant so that anyone interested in learning about plants will be able to. This guide is intended to be used to quickly identify common plants found along riparian areas—that area between land and streams or rivers. These plants may also be found along the edges of lakes and near wetlands. The plants highlighted in this guide were chosen because of their common occurrence in wet areas.



Many of the plants in this guide can be found in that zone extending from water's edge out into the floodplain.

This guide is organized by Plant Type (grasses, ferns and allies, forbs, rushes, sedges, shrubs, and trees). After plant type has been determined, you can quickly go to that section of the guide. Wetland Indicator Status, Location in Idaho, and General are specific subheadings given for each plant. Wetland Indicator Status indicates a plant's suitability to a range of dry to wet conditions. Location in Idaho gives a broad classification of regions across Idaho. Because many of the plants listed in this guide inhabit more than one region across the State; the same plant can be found in different topographies and climates. General describes the stature of the plant and its status in Idaho (native or introduced). Some of the plants in this guide are upland plants, which may or may not be native, but that have encroached upon the riparian zone. Other plants are noxious weeds that have spread into the riparian zone.

The most current scientific names to date are recorded in this guide. Scientific names were derived from the USDA Plants Database and the Jepson Herbarium. There may be future changes to scientific names based on advancements made in plant taxonomy.

A given plant may have more than one common name in this guide.

This guide does not contain a systematic key, so further study using a manual and/or consultation with a botanist may be needed to correctly identify some plants. This guide is not all inclusive. There are many more plants that could be added to this guide.

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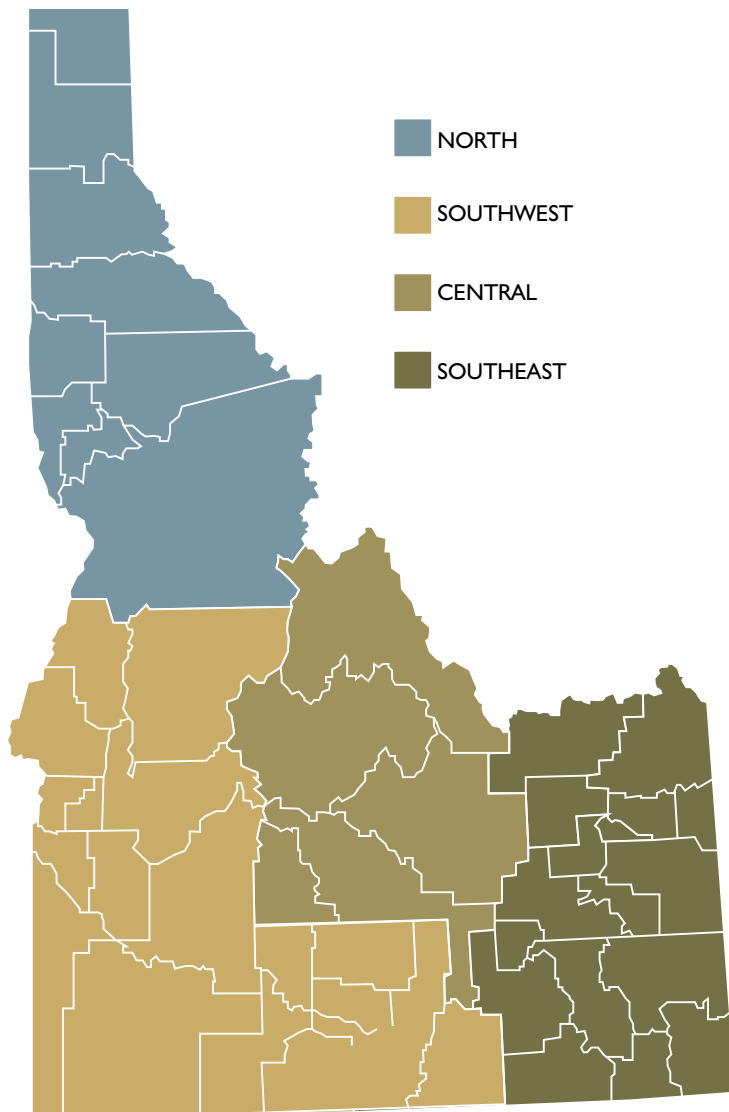


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Common Name:

bladderwort

Scientific Name:

Utricularia macrorhiza Leconte



Plant Type: aquatic

Wetland Indicator Status: obligate wetland

General: perennial; floating; native to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N C SE SW

Stems: leafy; dense clusters; floating

Leaves: alternate; very thin; linear to oblong; divided;
hairy; inflated pods

Flowers: yellow with reddish lines; snapdragon-like;
loose flower clusters on emerging flower stalks

Fruits: capsules; downward curving

Common Name:

buckbean

Scientific Name:

Menyanthes trifoliata L.



Plant Type: aquatic

Wetland Indicator Status: obligate wetland

General: perennial; rhizomatous; up to 1 ft tall;
native to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N C SE SW

Stems: spreading; curving upward; smooth;
greenish-brown

Leaves: elliptical; three leaflets; thick; leathery;
near base

Flowers: white to purplish; white, fluffy hairs; five petals;
bell-shaped; long clusters

Fruits: capsules

Common Name:

bur-reed

Scientific Name:

Sparganium emersum Rehmann



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Plant Type: aquatic

Wetland Indicator Status: obligate wetland

General: perennial; floating; introduced to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N C SE SW

Stems: submerged

Leaves: alternate; green; narrow; floating

Flowers: green; small; round heads

Fruits: achene with slightly curved beak

Common Name:

common cattail

Scientific Name:

Typha latifolia L.



Plant Type: aquatic

Wetland Indicator Status: obligate wetland

General: perennial; rhizomatous; up to 6 ft tall;
native to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N C SE SW

Stems: round; pithy or spongy; green

Leaves: alternate; flat; stiff; grass-like; green

Flowers: brown; dense cylindrical spike at tip of flower
stalk; male spikelet above female spikelet;
no petals

Fruits: elliptical-shaped achenes surrounded by hairs

Common Name:

coon's tail

Scientific Name:

Ceratophyllum demersum L.



Plant Type: aquatic

Wetland Indicator Status: obligate wetland

General: perennial; floating; native to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N C SE SW

Stems: slender; linear; submerged; up to 13 ft long

Leaves: linear; whorled; green

Flowers: small; green

Fruits: small; inflated and oval-shaped

Common Name:

curly pondweed

Scientific Name:

Potamogeton crispus L.



Plant Type: aquatic

Wetland Indicator Status: obligate wetland

General: annual; floating; introduced to Idaho; noxious weed

Location in Idaho: N SE SW

Stems: submerged; flat; branched

Leaves: simple; entire; green; narrow; floating

Flowers: brownish; very small

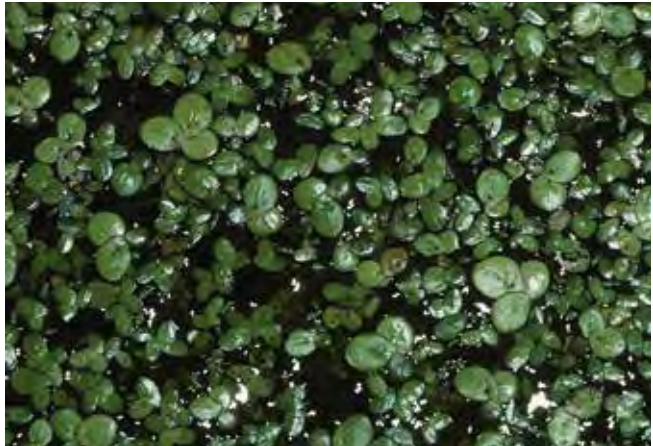
Fruits: greenish; shiny; achene with a beak

Common Name:

duckweed

Scientific Name:

Lemna minor L.



Plant Type: aquatic

Wetland Indicator Status: obligate wetland

General: perennial; floating; native to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N SE SW

Stems: none

Leaves: oval-shaped; dark green; veined

Flowers: small; no petals

Fruits: small; inflated and oval-shaped

Common Name:

Eurasian water milfoil

Scientific Name:

Myriophyllum spicatum L.



Plant Type: aquatic

Wetland Indicator Status: obligate wetland

General: perennial; up to 3 ft long; introduced to Idaho;
noxious weed

Location in Idaho: N C SE SW

Stems: flimsy; long; trailing; reddish-purple;
bottlebrush-like

Leaves: whorls of three to five; fine; divided; green;
feather-like

Flowers: greenish; long; sparse spikes; male flowers
above; female flowers underneath

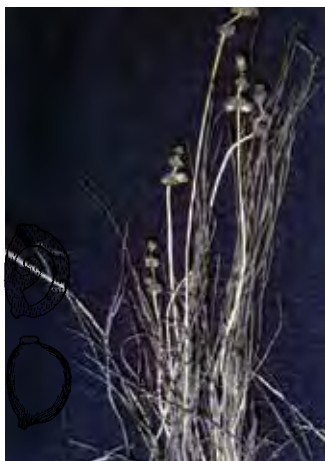
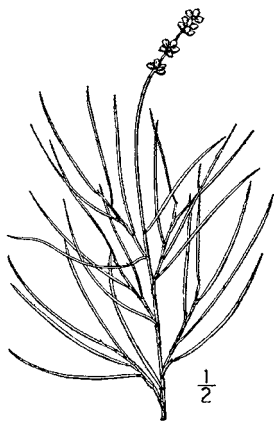
Fruits: four clustered achenes

Common Name:

fine-leaved pondweed

Scientific Name:

Stuckenia filiformis (Pers.) Borner ssp.
filiformis



Plant Type: aquatic

Wetland Indicator Status: obligate wetland

General: perennial; rhizomatous; native to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N C SE SW

Stems: submerged; slender; branched rhizomes with tuber

Leaves: alternate; submerged; linear; very thin; leathery

Flowers: greenish; four petals; very small; many; whorls of flower clusters on emerging stalk

Fruits: egg-shaped; greenish; shiny; short beaked; dry achenes

Common Name:

floating-leaved pondweed

Scientific Name:

Potamogeton natans L.



Plant Type: aquatic

Wetland Indicator Status: obligate wetland

General: perennial; rhizomatous; up to 1.5 ft long;
native to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N C SE SW

Stems: submerged; long; slender; unbranched

Leaves: alternate; floating leaves (flat; elliptical to egg-shaped); submerged leaves (long, linear, and leathery)

Flowers: greenish; four petals; very small; many;
spikes of flower clusters on emerging stalk

Fruits: greenish; shiny; short beaked; elliptical to egg-shaped; dry achenes

Common Name:

mare's tail

Scientific Name:

Hippuris vulgaris Ledeb.



Plant Type: aquatic

Wetland Indicator Status: obligate wetland

General: perennial; rhizomatous; aquatic; up to 1 ft tall;
native to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N C SE SW

Stems: smooth; upright; bottlebrush-like

Leaves: entire; linear; stiff; pointed; in whorls of five to
eight around stem; green

Flowers: greenish; single flowers in upper whorls;
no petals

Fruits: nut-like

Common Name:

various-leaved pondweed

Scientific Name:

Potamogeton gramineus L.



Plant Type: aquatic

Wetland Indicator Status: obligate wetland

General: perennial; rhizomatous; native to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N C SE SW

Stems: submerged; long; slender

Leaves: alternate; floating and flat and lance-shaped as well as submerged and well-developed leaves; leathery

Flowers: greenish; four petals; very small; many; spikes of flower clusters on emerging stalk

Fruits: greenish; shiny; short beaked; dry achenes

Common Name:

water knotweed

Scientific Name:

Polygonum amphibium L.



Plant Type: aquatic

Wetland Indicator Status: obligate wetland

General: perennial; floating; native to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N C SE SW

Stems: multiple; branched; submerged

Leaves: alternate; dark green; glossy; large

Flowers: pink; clustered; upright

Fruits: dark brown; circular; flat; shiny

Common Name:

watercress

Scientific Name:

Nasturtium officinale W.T. Aiton



Plant Type: aquatic

Wetland Indicator Status: obligate wetland

General: annual or biennial; floating; introduced to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N C SE SW

Stems: upright or flat; branched

Leaves: bright green; divided into three to thirteen leaflets; elliptical to oblong to oval-shaped

Flowers: white; four petals; clustered at top of flower stalk

Fruits: elongated; dry; pod-like

Common Name:

white water-buttercup; water crowfoot

Scientific Name:

Ranunculus aquatilis L.



Plant Type: aquatic

Wetland Indicator Status: obligate wetland

General: perennial; floating; native to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N C SE SW

Stems: limp; fine; branched

Leaves: alternate; kidney-shaped; floating and submerged leaves; divided into three main lobes

Flowers: white; five petals; saucer-shaped; single flowered on emerging flower stalk

Fruits: flat; egg-shaped; achenes

Common Name:

yellow water-buttercup

Scientific Name:

Ranunculus gmelinii DC.



Plant Type: aquatic

Wetland Indicator Status: facultative wetland

General: perennial; floating; native to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N C SE SW

Stems: limp; fine; branched

Leaves: alternate; round-shaped; floating and submerged leaves; divided into many thin segments

Flowers: yellow; five petals; saucer-shaped; single flower on emerging flower stalk

Fruits: flat; egg-shaped; achenes

Common Name:

deer fern

Scientific Name:

Blechnum spicant (L.) Sm.



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Saint Mary's College of California

Plant Type: ferns and allies

Wetland Indicator Status: facultative

General: perennial; creeping; native to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N

Stems: short brownish stalk; slender

Leaves: bright green; erect; divided in many leaflets;
linear; pointed tip; toothed

Flowers: none

Fruits: reproduction by spores on underside of leaf

Common Name:

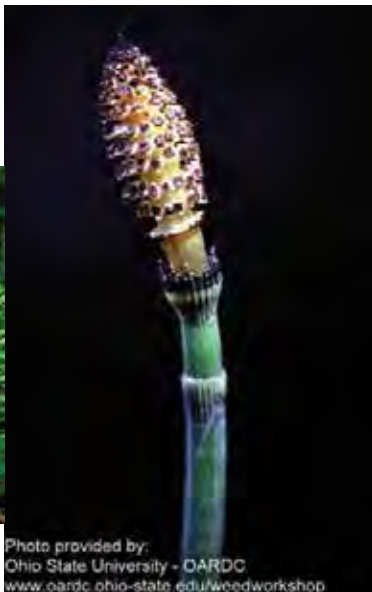
field horsetail

Scientific Name:

Equisetum arvense L.



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Plant Type: ferns and allies

Wetland Indicator Status: facultative

General: annual; rhizomatous (dark rhizomes); up to 2 ft tall; native to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N C SE SW

Stems: rough; silica-like; small, hollow cavity; jointed; slender; toothed; four to twelve ridges; whorled branches

Leaves: scales not leaves; long; pointed

Flowers: fertile plants brownish and stout and unbranched; sterile plants green and bottlebrush-like

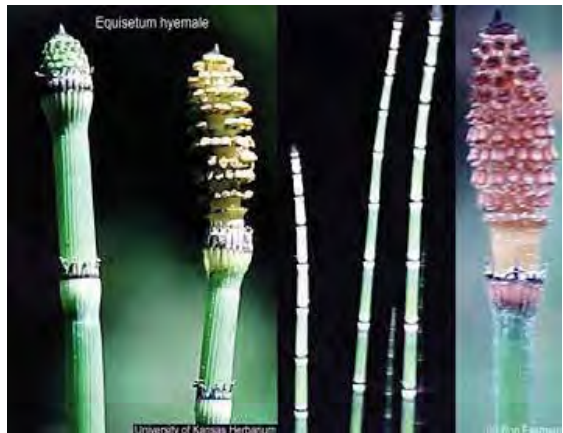
Fruits: spore clusters; long stalk; black; blunt tipped cones

Common Name:

scouring rush horsetail

Scientific Name:

Equisetum hyemale L.



Plant Type: ferns and allies

Wetland Indicator Status: facultative wetland

General: perennial; evergreen; rhizomatous; up to 3.5 ft tall; native to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N C SE SW

Stems: rough; silica-like; large hollow cavity; toothed; blackened bands; six to forty vertical ridges; unbranched

Leaves: scales not leaves; fringed; blackened bands

Flowers: fertile and sterile plants similar

Fruits: spore clusters; very short stalk; black; pointed cones

Common Name:

water horsetail

Scientific Name:

Equisetum fluviatile L.



Plant Type: ferns and allies

Wetland Indicator Status: obligate wetland

General: annual; rhizomatous; up to 1.5 ft tall; native to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N C SW

Stems: rough; silica-like; large hollow cavity; black toothed; nine to twenty-five vertical ridges; whorled branches

Leaves: scales not leaves; short; pointed

Flowers: fertile and sterile plants similar

Fruits: spore clusters; short stalk; black; blunt tipped cones

Common Name:

western swordfern

Scientific Name:

Polystichum munitum (Kaulf.) C. Presl



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Arcata Field Office

Plant Type: ferns and allies

Wetland Indicator Status: facultative upland

General: perennial; creeping; native to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N C SW

Stems: short stalk

Leaves: bright green; arching; divided in many leaflets;
linear; pointed tip; toothed

Flowers: none

Fruits: reproduction by spores on underside of leaf

Common Name:

ballhead waterleaf

Scientific Name:

Hydrophyllum capitatum Douglas ex Benth.



Plant Type: forb

Wetland Indicator Status: facultative

General: perennial; up to 8 inches tall; native to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N C SE SW

Stems: short; greenish-brown

Leaves: green; divided into five to seven leaflets; two to three lobed; hairy; near the ground

Flowers: purple; showy; five petals; stamens sticking out; flowers cup-shaped; clusters of flowers in a ball-shape

Fruits: brown; round, fluffy capsule

Common Name:

bedstraw

Scientific Name:

Galium aparine L.



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Plant Type: forb

Wetland Indicator Status: facultative upland

General: annual; up to 2 ft tall; native to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N C SE SW

Stems: light green; erect; slender; square-shaped; bristles

Leaves: narrow; whorled; light green; linear; hairy

Flowers: white; four petals; near where the leaf joins the stems

Fruits: nutlet; hooked hairs

Common Name:

bistort

Scientific Name:

Polygonum bistortoides Pursh



Plant Type: forb

Wetland Indicator Status: facultative wetland

General: perennial; rhizomatous; up to 2.5 ft tall; native to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N C SE SW

Stems: erect; greenish-brown

Leaves: alternate; entire; elliptic to lance-shaped; larger near the base

Flowers: no petals; five sepals white to pinkish; dense cluster at tip of flower stalk

Fruits: triangular; yellowish-brown; shiny

Common Name:

black henbane

Scientific Name:

Hyoscyamus niger L.



Plant Type: forb

Wetland Indicator Status: facultative

General: annual or biennial; up to 3 ft tall; introduced to Idaho; noxious weed

Location in Idaho: N C SE SW

Stems: coarse; erect; thick; green

Leaves: alternate; many; large and coarsely toothed; greyish-green; sometimes sticky hairy

Flowers: five petals; funnel-shaped; brownish-yellow with a purple center; long rows of flower clusters

Fruits: egg-shaped; capsule

Common Name:

broadleaved pepperweed

Scientific Name:

Lepidium latifolium L.



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Plant Type: forb

Wetland Indicator Status: facultative

General: perennial; up to 3 ft tall; introduced to Idaho;
noxious weed

Location in Idaho: N C SE SW

Stems: erect; branched

Leaves: larger, oval to elliptical-shaped at the base; smaller,
oval to elliptical to lance-shaped above; wedge-
shaped near the stem and pointed at the tip

Flowers: clusters of flowers; white; four petals

Fruits: oval to elliptical to circular-shaped

Common Name:

burdock

Scientific Name:

Arctium minus Bernh.



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Plant Type: forb

Wetland Indicator Status: facultative

General: biennial; up to 10 ft tall; introduced to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N C SE SW

Stems: erect; branched

Leaves: alternate; large; greenish-purple; heart-shaped; greyish hairs; toothed or wavy

Flowers: small; purple; tubular; at the end of branches; clustered in the bur

Fruits: round; bur with hooked spines; achene with bristles; ribbed margins

Common Name:

Canada thistle

Scientific Name:

Cirsium arvense (L.) Scop.



Plant Type: forb

Wetland Indicator Status: facultative upland

General: perennial; rhizomatous; up to 4 ft tall; introduced to Idaho; noxious weed

Location in Idaho: N C SE SW

Stems: erect; stiff; clumped; ridged; branched near tip; green

Leaves: oblong to lance-shaped; spiny toothed; lobed; green

Flowers: male and female flowers on separate plants; purple or white; tight egg-shaped flower clusters at tip of flower stalks

Fruits: flat; brownish; hairy

Common Name:

chicory

Scientific Name:

Cichorium intybus L.



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Plant Type: forb

Wetland Indicator Status: facultative upland

General: biennial or perennial; up to 6 ft tall; introduced to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N C SE SW

Stems: green; tall; upright to slightly curved; spreading; milky

Leaves: alternate; green; lance-shaped; widest near the middle; toothed; milky

Flowers: light bluish-purple; multiple petals; petals five toothed, one to three flowers per stalk

Fruits: achene; smooth; ribbed

Common Name:

climbing nightshade

Scientific Name:

Solanum dulcamara L.



Plant Type: forb

Wetland Indicator Status: facultative

General: annual; taproot; introduced to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N C SE SW

Stems: smooth or short-hairy; long; branched; green

Leaves: alternate; egg-shaped to oblong; pointed lobes

Flowers: five purple petals; star-shaped; slender; curved backward; flat-topped clusters

Fruits: round; greenish; clusters of drooping berries

Common Name:

cocklebur

Scientific Name:

Xanthium strumarium L.



© Br. Alfred Brousseau,
1995 Saint Mary's College
of California



Plant Type: forb

Wetland Indicator Status: facultative

General: annual; rhizomatous; up to 4 ft tall; native to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N C SE SW

Stems: purplish-green; branched; purplish-spotted;
ridged; rough

Leaves: large; green; palm-shaped; three to five lobed;
toothed edges; rough texture

Flowers: small; no petals

Fruits: oval to elliptical-shaped; bur with hooked prickles;
achene with bristles; ribbed margins

Common Name:

common camas

Scientific Name:

Camassia quamash (Pursh) Greene



Plant Type: forb

Wetland Indicator Status: facultative wetland

General: perennial; bulbs; up to 2 ft tall; native to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N C SE SW

Stems: erect; green

Leaves: grass-like; long; linear; green; near base

Flowers: six petals; showy; bluish or purplish; flower cluster along top half of flower stalk

Fruits: egg-shaped; capsules

Common Name:

cow-parsnip

Scientific Name:

Heracleum maximum W. Bartram



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Plant Type: forb

Wetland Indicator Status: facultative

General: perennial; up to 8 ft tall; native to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N C SE SW

Stems: single; erect; thick; green; hairy; grooved

Leaves: alternate; very large; green; hairy or smooth; toothed

Flowers: five cream to whitish petals; flower clusters flat at top

Fruits: flat; two-winged; papery

Common Name:

creeping spearwort

Scientific Name:

Ranunculus flammula L.



Plant Type: forb

Wetland Indicator Status: obligate wetland

General: perennial; native to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N C SE SW

Stems: green; erect to flat; mostly smooth

Leaves: green; lance-shaped

Flowers: yellow; five petals; smooth; shiny

Fruits: small; achene

Common Name:

curly dock

Scientific Name:

Rumex crispus L.



© 2005 Luigi Rignanese

Plant Type: forb

Wetland Indicator Status: facultative

General: perennial; up to 5 ft tall; introduced to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N C SE SW

Stems: smooth; erect; branched

Leaves: dark green; wedge-shaped base and blunt tipped, long; wavy

Flowers: reddish; no petals; sepals; whorled on long flower stalks; jointed; circular to oval-shaped

Fruits: reddish-brown achene

Common Name:

dalmation toadflax

Scientific Name:

Linaria dalmatica (L.) P. Mill. ssp.
dalmatica



Plant Type: forb

Wetland Indicator Status: facultative upland

General: perennial; up to 3 ft tall; introduced to Idaho;
noxious weed

Location in Idaho: N C SE SW

Stems: erect; stiff; green; many stems

Leaves: alternate; entire; pale green; broad near base;
pointed at tip; waxy

Flowers: bright yellow with orange throat;
snapdragon-like; long spur

Fruits: capsule

Common Name:

dwarf purple monkeyflower

Scientific Name:

Mimulus nanus Hook. & Arn.



© 2007 Dianne Fristrom



Plant Type: forb

Wetland Indicator Status: facultative upland

General: annual; up to 3 inches tall; native to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N C SE SW

Stems: very short; upright

Leaves: few; near the base; bluish-green; pointed toward the tip

Flowers: purple or yellow; showy; five fused petals

Fruits: capsule

Common Name:

dyer's woad

Scientific Name:

Isatis tinctoria L.



Plant Type: forb

Wetland Indicator Status: facultative

General: annual, biennial, or perennial; up to 4 ft tall;
introduced to Idaho; noxious weed

Location in Idaho: N C SE SW

Stems: erect; tall; light brown; many stems

Leaves: alternate; entire; bluish-green with white midvein

Flowers: four yellow petals; flower clusters flat-topped

Fruits: dry; brown to blackish; pear-shaped pod

Common Name:

elephant's head

Scientific Name:

Pedicularis groenlandica Retz.



Plant Type: forb

Wetland Indicator Status: obligate wetland

General: perennial; up to 2.5 ft tall; native to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N C SE SW

Stems: stout; reddish-purple; many stems

Leaves: alternate; fern-like; toothed; green; near base

Flowers: elephant's head shaped; dense flower cluster
along length of flower stalk; reddish-purple

Fruits: flat; curved; smooth; capsules

Common Name:

fireweed

Scientific Name:

Chamerion angustifolium (L.) Holub



© 2006 Steven Thorsted

© 2004 Robert Sivinski



Plant Type: forb

Wetland Indicator Status: facultative upland

General: perennial; rhizomatous; up to 10 ft tall; native to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N C SE SW

Stems: tall; erect; dark green; clumped

Leaves: alternate; green turning to red in fall; lance-shaped; veined

Flowers: pink to purple; showy; saucer-shaped; four petals; cluster of flowers along flower stalk

Fruits: green to red; erect; linear; pods

Common Name:

forget me not

Scientific Name:

Myosotis asiatica (Vesterg.) Schischkin & Sergievskaja



Plant Type: forb

Wetland Indicator Status: facultative

General: perennial; up to 1 ft tall; introduced to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N SW

Stems: upright; hairy; cluster of few

Leaves: alternate; spoon-shaped; smaller above

Flowers: bright blue with yellow center; open; five petals

Fruits: black; shiny; nutlets

Common Name:

golden banner

Scientific Name:

Thermopsis montana Nutt. var. *montana*



Plant Type: forb

Wetland Indicator Status: facultative wetland

General: perennial; rhizomatous; up to 2.5 ft tall; native to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N C SE SW

Stems: tall; upright; green; clumped

Leaves: alternate; green; divided into three leaflets; leaflets elliptical to lance-shaped; leaf palm-shaped

Flowers: yellow; showy; five fused petals; pea-like; spike of flowers along flower stalk

Fruits: elongated pod; flattened; straight; black

Common Name:

goldenrod

Scientific Name:

Solidago canadensis L.



Plant Type: forb

Wetland Indicator Status: facultative upland

General: perennial; up to 4 ft tall; native to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N C SE SW

Stems: single; erect; stout; hairy; green

Leaves: alternate; entire; lance-shaped; mostly toothed;
narrow; green

Flowers: yellow; many flowered; loose, drooping flower
clusters near tip of flower stalk

Fruits: hairy; achenes

Common Name:

grand collomia

Scientific Name:

Collomia grandiflora Douglas ex Lindl.



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Plant Type: forb

Wetland Indicator Status: facultative

General: annual; under 1.5 ft tall; native to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N C SE SW

Stems: tall; slender; upright; green

Leaves: alternate; green; lance-shaped; attached directly to the stem; sticky

Flowers: yellow to orangish; showy; five petals; trumpet-shaped; tight cluster surrounded by leaves

Fruits: capsule

Common Name:

heartleaf bittercress

Scientific Name:

Cardamine cordifolia Gray



Plant Type: forb

Wetland Indicator Status: facultative wetland

General: perennial; up to 2 ft tall; native to Idaho

Location in Idaho: C SE

Stems: short; stout; dark green

Leaves: alternate; heart-shaped; smooth; toothed; green

Flowers: four white petals; showy flower clusters

Fruits: pods

Common Name:

hellebore; false hellebore; corn lily

Scientific Name:

Veratrum viride Ait.



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Plant Type: forb

Wetland Indicator Status: obligate wetland

General: perennial; rhizomatous; up to 6 ft tall; native to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N C SE SW

Stems: erect; unbranched; hairy; green

Leaves: alternate; elliptical-shaped; large green ribbed leaves

Flowers: yellowish-green; dark green center; star-shaped; six petals; large drooping flower clusters

Fruits: yellowish to dark brown capsules; oval-shaped

Common Name:

hoary cress

Scientific Name:

Cardaria draba (L.) Desv.



Plant Type: forb

Wetland Indicator Status:

General: perennial; up to 2 ft tall; introduced to Idaho;
noxious weed

Location in Idaho: N C SE SW

Stems: short; branched; dark green

Leaves: alternate; lance-shaped; upper leaves clasp
around stem; bluish-green

Flowers: four white petals; flower clusters flat at top

Fruits: heart-shaped capsules

Common Name:

hounds tongue

Scientific Name:

Cynoglossum officinale L.



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Plant Type: forb

Wetland Indicator Status: facultative wetland

General: biennial; up to 4 ft tall; introduced to Idaho;
noxious weed

Location in Idaho: N C SE SW

Stems: erect; unbranched; robust; white hairy; green
with prominent veins

Leaves: alternate; lance-shaped; large; green; white
midvein; rough-textured; hairy

Flowers: reddish-purple; long flower clusters; drooping;
near tip of plant

Fruits: four nutlets; tear-drop shaped; prickly;
center projection

Common Name:

Jacob's ladder

Scientific Name:

Polemonium pulcherrimum Hook.



Plant Type: forb

Wetland Indicator Status: facultative wetland

General: perennial; rhizomatous; up to 3 ft tall; native to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N C SW

Stems: single; erect; slender; green; glandular hairy

Leaves: alternate; divided into many leaflets; smooth

Flowers: five bluish-purple petals; showy; open; at tip of flower stalk

Fruits: capsules

Common Name:

Japanese knotweed

Scientific Name:

Polygonum cuspidatum Sieb. & Zucc.



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Plant Type: forb

Wetland Indicator Status: facultative wetland

General: perennial; rhizomatous; up to 9 ft tall; introduced to Idaho; noxious weed

Location in Idaho: N C SE SW

Stems: stout; woody; reddish-brown

Leaves: egg-shaped; green; prominent veins

Flowers: greenish-white to cream; dense clusters of small clusters

Fruits: three-sided; black; shiny

Common Name:

leafy spurge

Scientific Name:

Euphorbia esula L.



Plant Type: forb

Wetland Indicator Status: facultative

General: perennial; up to 3 ft tall; introduced to Idaho;
noxious weed

Location in Idaho: N C SE SW

Stems: erect; smooth; green; many clustered stems; contains milky juice inside

Leaves: alternate; narrow; linear; green

Flowers: yellowish-green; very small; surrounded by yellow flower-like bracts

Fruits: oblong; greyish-purple; capsule

Common Name:

marsh cudweed

Scientific Name:

Gnaphalium palustre Nutt.



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Plant Type: forb

Wetland Indicator Status: facultative wetland

General: annual; up to 12 inches tall; native to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N C SE SW

Stems: light green; white woolly; upright; spreading

Leaves: alternate; light green; entire; widest near the middle; white woolly

Flowers: white or yellowish; multiple petals

Fruits: achene; small

Common Name:

meadow buttercup

Scientific Name:

Ranunculus acris L.



Plant Type: forb

Wetland Indicator Status: facultative wetland

General: perennial; up to 5 ft tall; introduced to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N C SE SW

Stems: tall; erect; branched

Leaves: alternate; from the base; green; palm-shaped; three to five lobed; lobes divided two to three times

Flowers: bright yellow; glossy; saucer-shaped; five petals

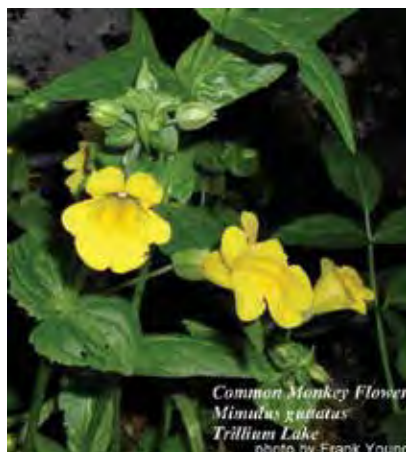
Fruits: achene with a curved beak

Common Name:

monkeyflower

Scientific Name:

Mimulus guttatus DC.



Plant Type: forb

Wetland Indicator Status: obligate wetland

General: annual or perennial; up to 1.5 ft tall; native to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N C SE SW

Stems: erect or trailing; reddish-brown

Leaves: opposite; small; oval; toothed

Flowers: five fused, yellow petals; hairy; red markings on throat; snap-dragon-like

Fruits: swollen capsules

Common Name:

musk thistle

Scientific Name:

Carduus nutans L.



Plant Type: forb

Wetland Indicator Status: facultative

General: annual or biennial; up to 6 ft tall; introduced to Idaho; noxious weed

Location in Idaho: N C SE SW

Stems: erect; stout; spiny winged; many branches; dark green

Leaves: alternate; lobed; spiny; dark green; white midvein

Flowers: single pinkish-purple flower cluster at tip of flower stalk; large; drooping

Fruits: long; shiny; small; yellowish brown; white cluster of hairs

Common Name:

oxeye daisy

Scientific Name:

Leucanthemum vulgare Lam.



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Plant Type: forb

Wetland Indicator Status: obligate upland

General: perennial; rhizomatous; up to 2 ft tall; introduced to Idaho; noxious weed

Location in Idaho: N C SE SW

Stems: green; erect

Leaves: alternate; green; lance-shaped; narrower near the stem; larger near the base; lobed

Flowers: white with yellow eye; multiple petals; one flower at the end of the flowering stalk

Fruits: achene; smooth; 10 ribs

Common Name:

poison hemlock

Scientific Name:

Conium maculatum L.



Plant Type: forb

Wetland Indicator Status: facultative wetland

General: perennial; chambered, hollow taproot; up to 10 ft tall; introduced to Idaho; noxious weed

Location in Idaho: N C SE SW

Stems: thick; branched; purple-spotted near base

Leaves: alternate; large; green; divided into three to four leaflets

Flowers: white; rounded clusters at top of flower stalk

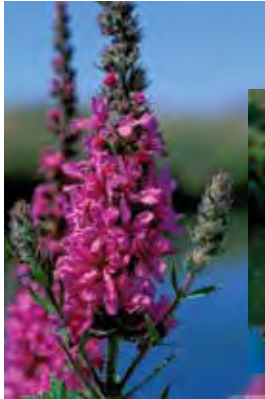
Fruits: smooth; shiny; oval-shaped; ribbed

Common Name:

purple loosestrife

Scientific Name:

Lythrum salicaria L.



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Plant Type: forb

Wetland Indicator Status: obligate wetland

General: perennial; rhizomatous; up to 8 ft tall; introduced to Idaho; noxious weed

Location in Idaho: N C SE SW

Stems: smooth; many stems; yellowish-brown

Leaves: opposite; simple; entire; dark green

Flowers: five to seven petals; pinkish-purple; long flower clusters; showy

Fruits: capsule

Common Name:

purple marshlocks

Scientific Name:

Comarum palustre L.



Plant Type: forbs

Wetland Indicator Status: obligate wetland

General: perennial; creeping; up to 2 ft tall; native to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N SE SW

Stems: reddish; upright

Leaves: alternate; green; divided into five to seven leaflets; toothed; blunt-tipped; larger near the base

Flowers: reddish-purple; five petals; star-shaped

Fruits: brown; egg-shaped achene

Common Name:

rannoch-rush; pod-grass

Scientific Name:

Scheuchzeria palustris L.



Plant Type: forb

Wetland Indicator Status: obligate wetland

General: perennial; rhizomatous; up to 1.5 ft tall; rush-like; native to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N C

Stems: thin; elongate; green

Leaves: linear; erect; mostly near base; reduced on upper stem

Flowers: few-flowered; at tip of flower stalk; three greenish-white petals

Fruits: dry; light greenish-brown; oval pod

Common Name:

red baneberry

Scientific Name:

Actaea rubra (Ait.) Willd.



Plant Type: forb

Wetland Indicator Status: facultative

General: perennial; up to 3 ft tall; native to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N C SE SW

Stems: erect; branched

Leaves: alternate; few; divided into two to three leaflets; sharply toothed

Flowers: white rounded clusters

Fruits: bright; shiny red berries

Common Name:

Rocky Mountain iris; western blue flag

Scientific Name:

Iris missouriensis Nutt.



Plant Type: forb

Wetland Indicator Status: facultative wetland

General: perennial; rhizomatous; up to 1.5 ft tall; native to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N C SE SW

Stems: erect; waxy; many clumped stems; green

Leaves: long; linear; grass-like; green; waxy; near base

Flowers: three petals; three sepals; bluish-purple; showy; yellowish markings

Fruits: capsule

Common Name:

sheep sorrel

Scientific Name:

Rumex acetosella L.



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Plant Type: forb

Wetland Indicator Status: facultative upland

General: perennial; rhizomatous; up to 2.5 ft tall; introduced to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N C SE SW

Stems: multiple; slender; reddish

Leaves: alternate; greenish-blue; arrowhead-shaped; larger near the base

Flowers: greenish to brownish-red; no petals; sepals; clustered along flowering stalk

Fruits: red to brown; winged; circular shaped

Common Name:

shooting star (dark throat)

Scientific Name:

Dodecatheon pulchellum (Raf.) Merr.



Plant Type: forb

Wetland Indicator Status: facultative wetland

General: perennial; up to 1.5 ft tall; native to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N C SE SW

Stems: single; smooth; without leaves

Leaves: oblong; smooth; green; only at base

Flowers: five fused, curved backward petals; pinkish-purple; yellow projection at front of flower; purplish markings on yellow throat

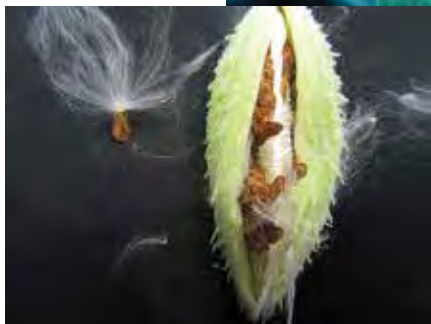
Fruits: cylindrical to egg-shaped; smooth; capsules

Common Name:

showy milkweed

Scientific Name:

Asclepias speciosa Torr.



© BLM NM930N,
Seeds of Success



Plant Type: forb

Wetland Indicator Status: facultative

General: perennial; rhizomatous; up to 5 ft tall; native to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N C SE SW

Stems: thick; upright; pale green; milky sap

Leaves: opposite; greyish-green; oblong to oval-shaped; veined; fine hairs; pinkish midrib; milky sap

Flowers: pale pinkish-purple; showy; five petals bent backward; clustered at the top of the flowering stalk

Fruits: round; smooth; capsule elongated, thick, white hairs; fleshy pod with reddish-brown fluffy seeds

Common Name:

speedwell

Scientific Name:

Veronica americana Schwein.



Plant Type: forb

Wetland Indicator Status: obligate wetland

General: perennial; rhizomatous; up to 1.5 ft tall; native to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N C SE SW

Stems: flimsy; trailing; smooth or with glandular hairs; green

Leaves: opposite; egg-shaped; toothed; smooth or glandular hairy

Flowers: light bluish-purple; four petals (three large and one small); very small flower clusters at tips of flower stalks

Fruits: round; smooth; capsule

Common Name:

star flowered false Solomon's seal

Scientific Name:

Maianthemum stellatum (L.) Link



© 2007 Dianne Fristrom

Plant Type: forb

Wetland Indicator Status: facultative

General: perennial; up to 2 ft tall; native to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N C SE SW

Stems: thick; erect to arching; single

Leaves: alternate; bluish-green; thick; glossy; lance-shaped; pointed

Flowers: white; showy; star-like; six petals; spike of flowers

Fruits: reddish-brown to black berry; red to purple striped

Common Name:

stinging nettle

Scientific Name:

Urtica dioica L.



Plant Type: forb

Wetland Indicator Status: facultative

General: perennial; rhizomatous; up to 10 ft tall; native to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N C SE SW

Stems: erect; square stem; stinging hairs; dark green

Leaves: opposite; lance-shaped to heart-shaped; green toothed; stinging hairs

Flowers: greenish; no petals; male and female flowers on separate plants or separated on the same plant; drooping clusters

Fruits: lens-shaped; small; dry

Common Name:

sweetclover

Scientific Name:

Melilotus officinalis (L.) Lam.



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Plant Type: forb

Wetland Indicator Status: facultative upland

General: annual or biennial; up to 6 ft tall; introduced to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N C SE SW

Stems: tall; upright; green; branched

Leaves: green; divided into three leaflets; upper half toothed

Flowers: white or yellow; small; five fused petals; pea-like; multiple flowers along flower stalk

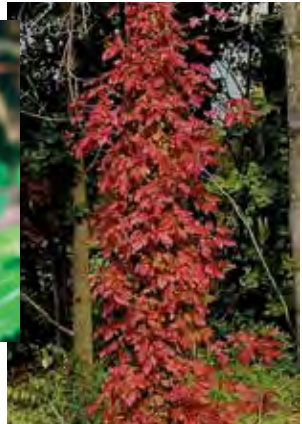
Fruits: pod

Common Name:

Virginia creeper

Scientific Name:

Parthenocissus quinquefolia (L.) Planch



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Plant Type: forb

Wetland Indicator Status: facultative

General: perennial; woody vine; orangish-red foliage in the fall; introduced to Idaho

Location in Idaho: SW; possibly other locations

Stems: orangish-brown; hairy; climbing

Leaves: alternate; large; green; prominently veined; divided into three to five leaflets; pointed; toothed

Flowers: small; green; clustered

Fruits: bluish-black berry

Common Name:

water miner's lettuce

Scientific Name:

Montia chamissoi (Ledeb. ex Spreng.)
Greene



Plant Type: forb

Wetland Indicator Status: obligate wetland

General: perennial; rhizomatous; under 2 ft tall; native to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N C SE SW

Stems: short; green; fleshy

Leaves: opposite; bright green; spatula-shaped; fleshy

Flowers: white; five petals; funnel-shaped

Fruits: egg-shaped capsule

Common Name:

western water hemlock

Scientific Name:

Cicuta douglasii (DC.) Coult. & Rose



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Plant Type: forb

Wetland Indicator Status: obligate wetland

General: perennial; chambered taproot; up to 6 ft tall;
native to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N C SE SW

Stems: erect; single to few; thick; green

Leaves: alternate; divided into three leaflets; veined
leaves; toothed

Flowers: white to greenish; small; rounded clusters at tip
of flower stalk

Fruits: flattened; egg-shaped to round; ribbed

Common Name:

white bryony

Scientific Name:

Bryonia alba L.



© Richard Old www.xidservices.com



Plant Type: forb

Wetland Indicator Status: facultative upland

General: perennial; vine; noxious weed; introduced to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N C SE SW

Stems: green; climbing

Leaves: alternate; five lobed; triangular; palm-shaped

Flowers: greenish to white

Fruits: black berry

Common Name:

wild bergamot

Scientific Name:

Monarda fistulosa L.



Photo provided by:
Dan Tenaglia
www.missouriplants.com

Plant Type: forb

Wetland Indicator Status: facultative upland

General: perennial; rhizomatous; up to 2.5 ft tall;
native to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N C SE SW

Stems: erect; square stem; unbranched; somewhat hairy;
many stems

Leaves: opposite; triangular-shaped; narrow; toothed;
green

Flowers: four petals (one lobe above and three lobes
underneath); pinkish-purple; fused; dense flower
clusters at tip of flower stalk

Fruits: four nutlets; smooth

Common Name:

wild strawberry

Scientific Name:

Fragaria virginia Duchesne



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Plant Type: forb

Wetland Indicator Status: facultative upland

General: perennial; rhizomatous; up to 6 inches tall; native to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N C SE SW

Stems: very short; erect; brownish

Leaves: bluish-green; divided into three leaflets; shiny; toothed

Flowers: white; saucer-shaped; five petals

Fruits: red, fleshy; strawberry

Common Name:

yellow flag iris

Scientific Name:

Iris pseudacorus L.



Plant Type: forb

Wetland Indicator Status: obligate wetland

General: perennial; rhizomatous; up to 2 ft tall; introduced to Idaho; noxious weed

Location in Idaho: N SW

Stems: thick; upright

Leaves: thick; waxy; bluish-green; glossy; sword-shaped; pointed

Flowers: yellow; showy; three petals; three sepals; single

Fruits: elongated pod

Common Name:

alkali cordgrass

Scientific Name:

Spartina gracilis Trin. Mem. Acad. St.
Petersb.



Plant Type: grass

Wetland Indicator Status: facultative upland

General: perennial; rhizomatous; up to 3.5 ft tall;
native to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N C SE SW

Stems: hollow; upright; unbranched; smooth

Leaves: elongate; narrow; broadest at base; flat or rolled;
rough-textured on upper side; not hairy

Flowers: four to eight spikes; dense; two rows; tan

Fruits: egg-shaped; smooth; grain

Common Name:

American mannagrass

Scientific Name:

Glyceria grandis S. Wats.



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Plant Type: grass

Wetland Indicator Status: obligate wetland

General: perennial; rhizomatous; up to 6 ft tall; native to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N C SE SW

Stems: many; spreading

Leaves: flat; firm; smooth

Flowers: loose; open; flattened spikelets; purplish

Fruits: grain

Common Name:

basin wildrye

Scientific Name:

Leymus cinereus (Scribn. & Merr.) A. Love



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Plant Type: grass

Wetland Indicator Status: facultative

General: perennial; bunched; up to 6 ft tall; native to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N C SE SW

Stems: upright; unbranched; stout; hollow; smooth or rough-textured

Leaves: narrow; elongated; flat or rolled; rough-textured

Flowers: five to fifteen flowers in spikelet; hair-like projection or no hair-like projection

Fruits: oblong grain; hairy at tip

Common Name:

blue wildrye; smooth wildrye

Scientific Name:

Elymus glaucus Buckley



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Plant Type: grass

Wetland Indicator Status: facultative upland

General: perennial; bunched; up to 3 ft tall; native to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N C SE SW

Stems: erect; thin; green

Leaves: flat; limp; rough-textured

Flowers: three to five flowered; more than ten spikelets;
green to light yellowish-brown or purplish; long;
slender; spike

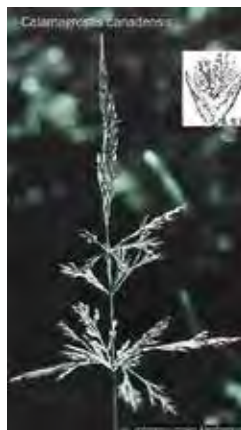
Fruits: grain

Common Name:

bluejoint; marsh reedgrass

Scientific Name:

Calamagrostis canadensis (Michx.) Beauv.



Plant Type: grass

Wetland Indicator Status: facultative wetland

General: perennial; rhizomatous; up to 5 ft tall; native to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N C SE SW

Stems: stout; many

Leaves: flat; limp; rough-textured

Flowers: open and spreading flower clusters; sometimes narrow; greenish to purplish-tinged; hair-like projection; hairy

Fruits: grain

Common Name:

boreal foxtail; mountain foxtail

Scientific Name:

Alopecurus magellanicus Lam.



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Plant Type: grass

Wetland Indicator Status: facultative wetland

General: perennial; short rhizomes; up to 2.5 ft tall; native to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N C SE SW

Stems: upright; unbranched; smooth; light green

Leaves: elongated; narrow; rough-textured on both sides; not hairy

Flowers: short; rounded spike at the tip of the stalk; fuzzy; long hair-like projections

Fruits: smooth; elliptical-shaped grain

Common Name:

California oatgrass

Scientific Name:

Danthonia californica Boland.



Plant Type: grass

Wetland Indicator Status: facultative

General: perennial; up to 2.5 ft tall; native to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N C SE SW

Stems: upright; hollow; smooth

Leaves: elongated; flat or rolled; rough-textured; hairy

Flowers: five to eight flowered; two to four spikelets;
purplish; hairy; twisted hair-like projection

Fruits: elliptical; smooth grain

Common Name:

cheatgrass

Scientific Name:

Bromus tectorum L.



Plant Type: grass

Wetland Indicator Status: facultative upland

General: annual; up to 20 inches tall; introduced to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N C SE SW

Stems: smooth; green

Leaves: green; hairy

Flowers: green to purplish at maturity; drooping; with a bristle or hair-like projection

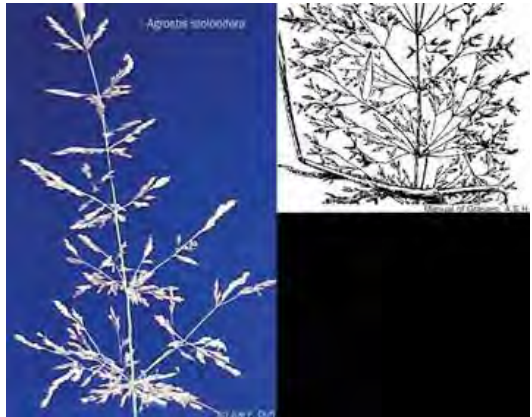
Fruits: achene

Common Name:

creeping bentgrass; redtop bentgrass

Scientific Name:

Agrostis gigantea Roth



Plant Type: grass

Wetland Indicator Status: facultative wetland

General: perennial; rhizomatous; up to 3 ft tall; introduced to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N C SE SW

Stems: upright; slender; hollow; not hairy; spreading

Leaves: broad; flat

Flowers: open; slender and branched flower cluster

Fruits: very small; oblong grain

Common Name:

creeping wild rye

Scientific Name:

Leymus triticoides (Buckl.) Pilger



Plant Type: grass

Wetland Indicator Status: facultative

General: perennial; rhizomatous; up to 3.5 ft tall; native to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N C SE SW

Stems: upright; unbranched; stout; hollow; smooth or rough-textured

Leaves: elongated; flat or rolled; rough-textured

Flowers: three to eight flowered spikelet; no hair-like projection; long; slender spike

Fruits: oblong grain; hairy at tip

Common Name:

fowl mannagrass

Scientific Name:

Glyceria striata (Lam.) A.S. Hitchc.



Plant Type: grass

Wetland Indicator Status: obligate wetland

General: perennial; rhizomatous; up to 4 ft tall; native to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N C SE SW

Stems: erect; smooth

Leaves: flat or rolled; smooth or rough-textured

Flowers: flattened; oblong-shaped; narrow flower cluster; many flowers; male spikelets above female spikelets

Fruits: oval; tan to brown; smooth grain

Common Name:

fowl meadow grass; fowl bluegrass

Scientific Name:

Poa palustris L. Syst. Nat.



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Plant Type: grass

Wetland Indicator Status: facultative

General: perennial; with stolons; up to 5 ft tall; introduced to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N C SE SW

Stems: somewhat upright; smooth; many; green

Leaves: broad; soft; flat or folded; rough-textured; prow-shaped at tip

Flowers: open; loose; elongate; green to bronze flower cluster

Fruits: grain

Common Name:

foxtail barley

Scientific Name:

Hordeum jubatum L.



Plant Type: grass

Wetland Indicator Status: facultative wetland

General: perennial; bunched; up to 2.5 ft tall; native to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N C SE SW

Stems: erect or curved at base; hollow; smooth or slightly hairy

Leaves: greyish-green; flat; hairy; rough-textured

Flowers: green to purplish flower clusters of three spikelets; long drooping spike; hairlike projection; breaks off in threes

Fruits: oblong; hairy tipped grain

Common Name:

Idaho bentgrass

Scientific Name:

Agrostis idahoensis Nash



Plant Type: grass

Wetland Indicator Status: facultative wetland

General: perennial; up to 2 ft tall; native to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N C SE SW

Stems: upright; slender; hollow; not hairy

Leaves: elongated; narrow; flat or rolled; not hairy

Flowers: open; slender flower cluster; greenish to purplish;
sometimes hairlike projection tipped

Fruits: very small; oblong grain

Common Name:

Idaho fescue

Scientific Name:

Festuca idahoensis Elmer



Plant Type: grass

Wetland Indicator Status: facultative upland

General: perennial; dense; low bunches; up to 4 inches tall;
native to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N C SE SW

Stems: erect; stiff

Leaves: green; mostly basal; stiff; folded or rolled

Flowers: narrow; loosely compressed flower cluster;
hair-like projection

Fruits: grain

Common Name:

Kentucky bluegrass

Scientific Name:

Poa pratensis L.



Plant Type: grass

Wetland Indicator Status: facultative upland

General: perennial; rhizomatous; up to 3 ft tall; introduced to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N C SE SW

Stems: slender; short; smooth; green

Leaves: soft; flat or folded; green; smooth; near base; prow-shaped at tip

Flowers: green to purplish-tinged; three to five flowered; many spikelets; fine hairy

Fruits: grain

Common Name:

meadow barley

Scientific Name:

Hordeum brachyantherum
Nevski



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Plant Type: grass

Wetland Indicator Status: facultative wetland

General: perennial; bunched; up to 2 ft tall; native to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N C SE SW

Stems: upright or spreading; hollow; smooth or slightly hairy

Leaves: elongated; flat; hairy; rough-textured

Flowers: flower clusters of three spikelets; long terminal spike

Fruits: oblong; hairy tipped grain

Common Name:

meadow foxtail

Scientific Name:

Alopecurus pratensis L.



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Plant Type: grass

Wetland Indicator Status: facultative wetland

General: perennial; up to 3.5 ft tall; introduced to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N C SE SW

Stems: weak-stemmed; clumped; smooth; light green

Leaves: elongated; narrow; rough-textured on both sides; not hairy

Flowers: cylindrical spike at tip of flower stalk; bent hairlike projections

Fruits: smooth; elliptical-shaped grain

Common Name:

muhly; scratch grass

Scientific Name:

Muhlenbergia asperifolia (Nees & Meyer
ex Trin.)



Plant Type: grass

Wetland Indicator Status: facultative wetland

General: perennial; rhizomatous; up to 1.5 ft tall; native to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N C SE

Stems: upright; branched; flat; smooth

Leaves: narrow; elongated; flat; rough-textured

Flowers: open; delicate flower cluster; many; one flowered spikelets; no hair-like projection

Fruits: smooth grain

Common Name:

Nevada bluegrass

Scientific Name:

Poa secunda J. Presl



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Plant Type: grass

Wetland Indicator Status: facultative

General: perennial; bunched; up to 1.5 ft tall;
native to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N C SE SW

Stems: upright; unbranched; many; not hairy

Leaves: elongated; narrow; flat or folded or rolled;
not hairy

Flowers: two to six flowered spikelets; not hairy

Fruits: elliptical; smooth grain

Common Name:

orchardgrass

Scientific Name:

Dactylis glomerata L.



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Plant Type: grass

Wetland Indicator Status: facultative upland

General: perennial; bunched; up to 3 ft tall; introduced to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N C SE SW

Stems: coarse; short branched; green

Leaves: flat; bluish-green

Flowers: three to six flowered clusters on one side; rounded; sharply pointed or hair-like projection; rough-textured

Fruits: grain

Common Name:

reed canarygrass

Scientific Name:

Phalaris arundinacea L.



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Plant Type: grass

Wetland Indicator Status: facultative wetland

General: perennial; rhizomatous; up to 7 ft tall;
introduced to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N C SE SW

Stems: short; many; clumped; colonies

Leaves: broad; flat to rolled; green

Flowers: many; compact turning to loose branches; hairy;
green to purplish turning to tan

Fruits: grain

Common Name:

reed grass

Scientific Name:

Phragmites australis (Cav.) Trin. Ex Steud.



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Plant Type: grass

Wetland Indicator Status: facultative wetland

General: perennial; rhizomatous; up to 13 ft tall;
native to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N C SE SW

Stems: coarse; hollow

Leaves: stiff; wide; green

Flowers: large; fluffy flower cluster; purplish

Fruits: grain

Common Name:

rough bentgrass; ticklegrass

Scientific Name:

Agrostis scabra Willd.



Plant Type: grass

Wetland Indicator Status: facultative

General: perennial; occasionally rhizomatous;
up to 3 ft tall; native to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N C SE SW

Stems: hollow; many; clumped; green

Leaves: narrow; flat or folded; rough-textured; at base

Flowers: wide; spreading or erect; long; delicate; shiny;
small purplish-tinged flower clusters

Fruits: grain

Common Name:

saltgrass

Scientific Name:

Distichlis spicata (L.) Greene (Torr.) Rydb.



Plant Type: grass

Wetland Indicator Status: facultative

General: perennial; rhizomatous; up to 1.25 ft tall;
native to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N C SE SW

Stems: mat-forming; smooth; stiff

Leaves: narrow; elongated; flat or rolled;
long tapering tip; rough-textured

Flowers: five to fifteen flowered spikelets; male and female
flowers on separate plants; no hairlike projection

Fruits: smooth grain

Common Name:

shortawn foxtail

Scientific Name:

Alopecurus aequalis Sobol.



Plant Type: grass

Wetland Indicator Status: obligate wetland

General: perennial; up to 1.5 ft tall; native to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N C SE SW

Stems: spreading to ascending; smooth; light green

Leaves: elongated; rough-textured on both sides; not hairy

Flowers: dense; cylindrical-shaped spike at the tip of the stalk; not fuzzy; one hairlike projection

Fruits: smooth; elliptical-shaped grain

Common Name:

short-leaved muhly; mat muhly

Scientific Name:

Muhlenbergia richardsonis (Trin.) Rydb.



Plant Type: grass

Wetland Indicator Status: facultative wetland

General: perennial; rhizomatous; up to 2 ft tall;
native to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N C SE SW

Stems: solid; slightly flattened; rough-textured

Leaves: broad; rolled; somewhat rough-textured

Flowers: cylindrical; upright; spikelike

Fruits: grain; hair-like projection

Common Name:

slender wheatgrass

Scientific Name:

Elymus trachycaulus (Link) Gould ex Shinnars



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Plant Type: grass

Wetland Indicator Status: facultative

General: perennial; not rhizomatous; up to 4 ft tall;
native to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N C SE SW

Stems: upright; unbranched; smooth

Leaves: elongated; flat

Flowers: narrow; tall flower cluster; spike; hairy;
with or without short hairlike projection

Fruits: oblong to elliptical; grain

Common Name:

slimstem reedgrass

Scientific Name:

Calamagrostis stricta (Timm) Koeler



Plant Type: grass

Wetland Indicator Status: facultative wetland

General: perennial; rhizomatous; up to 4 ft tall;
native to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N C SE SW

Stems: upright; unbranched; hollow; smooth or
rough-textured

Leaves: elongate; rolled ; rarely flat or folded; smooth or
hairy or rough-textured

Flowers: dense; spike-like flower clusters; purplish-tinged;
short hair-like projection; smooth or
rough-textured

Fruits: elliptical-shaped; smooth grain

Common Name:

small-floating mannagrass

Scientific Name:

Glyceria borealis (Nash) Batchelder



Plant Type: grass

Wetland Indicator Status: obligate wetland

General: perennial; rhizomatous; up to 4.5 ft tall;
native to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N C SE SW

Stems: mostly upright; unbranched; hollow; not hairy

Leaves: elongated; flat or rolled; smooth or rough-textured

Flowers: narrow flower cluster of several spikelets; smooth;
not hairy

Fruits: elliptical; smooth grain

Common Name:

smooth brome

Scientific Name:

Bromus inermis Leyss.



Plant Type: grass

Wetland Indicator Status: facultative upland

General: perennial; rhizomatous; up to 24 inches tall;
introduced to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N C SE SW

Stems: smooth; light green

Leaves: light green; w-shape constriction; flat; smooth

Flowers: purplish-brown, cluster of flowers; no hair-like
projections

Fruits: achene

Common Name:

spike bentgrass

Scientific Name:

Agrostis exarata Trin.



Plant Type: grass

Wetland Indicator Status: facultative wetland

General: perennial; rhizomatous; up to 3 ft tall;
native to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N C SE SW

Stems: upright; unbranched; hollow; not hairy

Leaves: elongated; flat; rough-textured; sparsely hairy

Flowers: narrow; long flower cluster; greenish to purplish;
sometimes hairlike projection tipped

Fruits: oblong grain

Common Name:

timber oatgrass

Scientific Name:

Danthonia intermedia Vasey



Plant Type: grass

Wetland Indicator Status: facultative upland

General: perennial; tufted; up to 1.5 ft tall; native to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N C SE SW

Stems: upright; hollow; smooth

Leaves: elongated; flat or rolled; rough-textured; hairy;
dried leaves at base

Flowers: erect; three to eight flowered; five to ten spikelets;
purplish; hairy; twisted hair-like projection

Fruits: elliptical; smooth grain

Common Name:

timothy

Scientific Name:

Phleum pratense L.



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Plant Type: grass

Wetland Indicator Status: facultative upland

General: perennial; bunched; up to 2 ft tall; introduced to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N C SE SW

Stems: upright; unbranched; hollow; swollen at base; not hairy

Leaves: elongated; flat; rough-textured; jagged at tip

Flowers: slender; dense; cylindrical-shaped spike; two points at tip; one flowered

Fruits: smooth; elliptical-shaped grain

Common Name:

tufted hairgrass

Scientific Name:

Deschampsia caespitosa (L.) Beauv.



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Plant Type: grass

Wetland Indicator Status: facultative wetland

General: perennial; rhizomatous; up to 3.5 ft tall; native to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N C SE SW

Stems: upright; stout; smooth

Leaves: alternate; elongated; narrow; clustered near base; flat or folded or rolled; rough-textured; green to blue

Flowers: open, delicate flower clusters; nodding; bronze or purplish-tinged and shiny; delicate hair-like projection

Fruits: smooth grain

Common Name:

water whorlgrass; brookgrass

Scientific Name:

Catabrosa aquatica (L.) Beauv.



Plant Type: grass

Wetland Indicator Status: obligate wetland

General: perennial; rhizomatous; up to 2 ft tall; aquatic;
native to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N C SE SW

Stems: spreading to upright; branched or unbranched;
hollow; smooth

Leaves: alternate; elongate; flat; smooth

Flowers: long; open flower clusters

Fruits: oval; flat; brown grain

Common Name:

baltic rush; wire rush

Scientific Name:

Juncus arcticus Willd. ssp.
littoralis (Englem.) Hulten



Plant Type: rush

Wetland Indicator Status: obligate wetland

General: perennial; rhizomatous; up to 3 ft tall; aquatic;
native to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N C SE SW

Stems: slender; stiff; wiry; single stems or few clustered
stems or single stems spaced closely together;
dark green; round

Leaves: light to dark brown reduced leaves near base

Flowers: many flowered; greenish to purplish-brown;
dense or loose flower clusters; appearing
one-sided on stem

Fruits: egg-shaped capsules; pointed

Common Name:

common rush

Scientific Name:

Juncus effusus (L.)



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Plant Type: rush

Wetland Indicator Status: facultative wetland

General: perennial; rhizomatous; up to 4 ft tall; native to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N SW

Stems: green; slender; stiff; round; stems bunched together

Leaves: brown; large; reduced leaves near the base

Flowers: many flowered near the tip; dense or loose; appearing one-sided on the stem

Fruits: light brown to brownish; egg-shaped capsule; rounded at the base

Common Name:

Coville's rush

Scientific Name:

Juncus covillei Piper



Plant Type: rush

Wetland Indicator Status: facultative wetland

General: annual; fibrous rooted; up to 1 ft tall; native to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N C SE SW

Stems: slender; slightly flattened; single stems or few bunched together

Leaves: short; thin; green; no reduced leaves

Flowers: pale to dark brown with green stripe; erect; flower clusters (three to seven); appearing one-sided on stem

Fruits: oblong to egg-shaped capsules; dark brown

Common Name:

Drummond's rush

Scientific Name:

Juncus drummondii E. Mey.



Plant Type: rush

Wetland Indicator Status: facultative wetland

General: perennial; bunched; up to 1 ft tall; native to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N C SE SW

Stems: slender; stiff; wiry; many spaced closely together

Leaves: short reduced leaves on lower portion of plant; yellowish-brown

Flowers: one to three flowered only at the tip; greenish to purplish-brown; dense or loose flower clusters; appearing one-sided on stem

Fruits: egg-shaped capsules; light to medium brown; long slender point

Common Name:

Merten's rush; slender-stemmed rush

Scientific Name:

Juncus mertensianus Bong.



Plant Type: rush

Wetland Indicator Status: obligate wetland

General: perennial; rhizomatous; up to 1 ft tall; native to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N C SE SW

Stems: slightly flattened; stiff; wiry; single stems or many spaced closely together

Leaves: alternate; rounded; mostly at base; shorter than flower stalks

Flowers: mostly one flowered at tip; brown to purplish-black; dense; rounded flower clusters; appearing one-sided on stem

Fruits: oblong to egg-shaped capsules; dark brown to purplish-brown; rounded at tip

Common Name:

northern rush

Scientific Name:

Juncus alpinoarticulatus Chaix



Plant Type: rush

Wetland Indicator Status: obligate wetland

General: perennial; rhizomatous; up to 1.5 ft tall; native to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N C SE SW

Stems: slender; stiff; wiry; many single stems spaced closely together

Leaves: shorter than flower stalk; one to three; mostly near the base; round

Flowers: many flowered (five to thirty); light to dark purplish-brown; erect flower clusters; appearing one-sided on stem

Fruits: egg-shaped to oblong capsules; pale to dark brown

Common Name:

poverty rush

Scientific Name:

Juncus tenuis (Willd.)

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Plant Type: rush

Wetland Indicator Status: facultative wetland

General: perennial; less than 2.5 ft tall; native to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N C SE SW

Stems: green; slender; stiff; round; stems bunched together

Leaves: dark green; slender; located near the base and along the stem

Flowers: multiple flowers near the tip; spreading; green midrib

Fruits: egg-shaped capsule; blunt or squared off base

Common Name:

small-flowered wood rush

Scientific Name:

Luzula parviflora (Ehrh.) Desv.



Plant Type: rush

Wetland Indicator Status: facultative

General: perennial; not rhizomatous; up to 2 ft tall; native to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N C SE SW

Stems: green; stiff; wiry; round

Leaves: alternate; long; flat blade; four to many; mostly near base; mostly hairless

Flowers: green to purplish-brown; nodding; loose; branched flower clusters; single flowered

Fruits: green to purplish-brown; egg-shaped

Common Name:

toad rush

Scientific Name:

Juncus bufonius L.



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Plant Type: rush

Wetland Indicator Status: facultative wetland

General: annual; fibrous rooted; up to 1 ft tall; native to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N C SE SW

Stems: slender; wiry; branched (starting half way down the plant); few to many

Leaves: short; thin; green; no reduced leaves

Flowers: blackish-brown; very large; flower clusters (one to twenty); appearing one-sided on stem; from base to tip

Fruits: oblong to egg-shaped capsules; greenish to light brown; dark brown at tip

Common Name:

analogue sedge; short-beaked sedge

Scientific Name:

Carex simulata Mackenzie



Plant Type: sedge

Wetland Indicator Status: obligate wetland

General: perennial; rhizomatous (light brown to brown rhizomes); up to 1.5 ft tall; native to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N C SE SW

Stems: single to few clumped together; upright; triangular-shaped; longer than leaves

Leaves: two to five; alternate; flat; narrow; elongated; near base; not hairy

Flowers: many; short; male spikelets above female spikelets; or on separate plants; flower clusters at tip; medium to dark brown

Fruits: very short beak; smooth; yellowish-brown; oval; reduced leaves enclosing egg-shaped achenes

Common Name:

beaked sedge; bladder sedge

Scientific Name:

Carex rostrata Stokes



Plant Type: sedge

Wetland Indicator Status: obligate wetland

General: perennial; rhizomatous; up to 3.5 ft tall; native to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N C SE SW

Stems: smooth; upright; stout; single or few clumped together; triangular; light brown or reddish at spongy-inflated base

Leaves: alternate; four to ten; flat; elongated; not clustered; yellowish-green; not hairy

Flowers: yellowish-green turning to reddish-purple; two to four male spikelets at tip; many wider female spikelets below

Fruits: crowded and inflated; long; two-pointed beak; yellowish-brown; egg-shaped; three-angled; achenes

Common Name:

beaked spikerush

Scientific Name:

Eleocharis rostellata (Torr.) Torr.



Plant Type: sedge

Wetland Indicator Status: obligate wetland

General: perennial; rhizomatous (short and stout); up to 3.5 ft tall; native to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N C SE SW

Stems: upright; flat; coarse-textured; many; near base

Leaves: none

Flowers: many spikelets at tip of flower stalk

Fruits: triangular-shaped; brown achenes

Common Name:

bigleaf sedge

Scientific Name:

Carex amplifolia Boott



Plant Type: sedge

Wetland Indicator Status: facultative wetland

General: perennial; rhizomatous; up to 3 ft tall; native to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N C SE SW

Stems: single stems or few clumped together; stout; erect; triangular-shaped; dark red at base

Leaves: six to twelve; arranged along the stem; firm; short; flat; broad; light whitish to bluish, waxy coating; green

Flowers: several long cylindrical flower clusters separated along flower stalk; greenish-brown

Fruits: egg-shaped; three-angled achenes; brown

Common Name:

black and white sedge

Scientific Name:

Carex albonigra Mackenzie



Plant Type: sedge

Wetland Indicator Status: facultative upland

General: perennial; rhizomatous; up to 1 ft tall; native to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N C SE SW

Stems: stiff; erect; reddish at base

Leaves: six to twelve; clustered near base; firm; short; flat; greyish-green

Flowers: dense flower cluster of three at the tip; dark reddish-black or blackish-purple with white edges

Fruits: oval; three-angled achenes

Common Name:

blackroot sedge

Scientific Name:

Carex elynoides Holm



Plant Type: sedge

Wetland Indicator Status: facultative upland

General: perennial; not rhizomatous; up to 0.5 ft tall;
grows in clumps; native to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N C SE SW

Stems: very thin; wiry; as long as leaves

Leaves: stiff; needle-shaped; smooth or slightly coarse
along margins; bright green; near base

Flowers: erect; linear; tan to reddish-brown; male spikelets
above female spikelets; one flower cluster
per stalk

Fruits: brownish-black; three-angled; oblong to
egg-shaped

Common Name:

brownish sedge

Scientific Name:

Carex brunnescens
(Pers.) Poir.



Plant Type: sedge

Wetland Indicator Status: obligate wetland

General: perennial; rhizomatous; up to 2 ft tall; native to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N C SE SW

Stems: slender; nodding; longer than leaves

Leaves: flat; thin; dark green; near base

Flowers: four to ten; pale to golden brown; female spikelets above male spikelets

Fruits: yellowish to brownish; egg-shaped to oval-shaped achenes

Common Name:

Buxbaum's sedge; brown bog sedge

Scientific Name:

Carex buxbaumii Wahlenb.



Plant Type: sedge

Wetland Indicator Status: obligate wetland

General: perennial; rhizomatous; up to 3 ft tall; native to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N C SE SW

Stems: slender; erect; unbranched; triangular-shaped; not hairy; rough-textured

Leaves: two to four on lower portion of stem; elongated; thin; flat; grooved; bluish-green; not hairy

Flowers: two to five; reddish-black, with green and brown; female spikelets above male spikelets on same stalk; or only female spikelets

Fruits: brown to purplish-black; hair-like projection; reduced leaves; smooth; triangular achenes

Common Name:

clustered field sedge; silver sedge

Scientific Name:

Carex praegracilis W. Boott



Plant Type: sedge

Wetland Indicator Status: facultative wetland

General: perennial; rhizomatous (black; scaly rhizomes);
up to 2 ft tall; native to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N C SE SW

Stems: single or few clumped together; elongate; upright;
smooth; triangular-shaped

Leaves: flat or grooved; alternate; elongated; not hairy;
mostly at base

Flowers: five to fifteen; cylindrical; male spikelets above
female spikelets; many short spikelets at tip

Fruits: short; toothed beak; pale brown to black reduced
leaves enclosing egg-shaped achenes; light to dark
brown achene

Common Name:

common spikerush; creeping spikerush

Scientific Name:

Eleocharis palustris (L.) Roem. & Schult.



Plant Type: sedge

Wetland Indicator Status: obligate wetland

General: perennial; rhizomatous (reddish rhizomes); up to 3.5 ft tall; native to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N C SE SW

Stems: stiff; round; few; clustered; dark green

Leaves: reduced; small; reddish outer covering

Flowers: one spikelet at tip of stalk with male and female flowers

Fruits: shiny; yellowish-brown achenes surrounded by bristles

Common Name:

Cusick's sedge

Scientific Name:

Carex cusickii Mackenzie ex
Piper & Beattie



Plant Type: sedge

Wetland Indicator Status: obligate wetland

General: perennial; rhizomatous; up to 3.5 ft tall; native to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N C SE SW

Stems: erect; triangular-shaped; rough-textured along edges; longer than leaves

Leaves: flat with rolled edges; loosely clustered near the base

Flowers: brown; small; many; male spikelets (dense) above female spikelets (separated)

Fruits: brownish; egg-shaped

Common Name:

Douglas' sedge

Scientific Name:

Carex douglasii Boott



Plant Type: sedge

Wetland Indicator Status: facultative

General: perennial; rhizomatous (brownish to blackish; slender); up to 1.5 ft tall; native to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N C SE SW

Stems: upright; slender; stiff; smooth; triangular-shaped; single stems spaced apart; unbranched; not hairy

Leaves: three to eight; near base; rolled or flat

Flowers: egg-shaped at tip; male and female spikelets on separate plants

Fruits: glossy brown; hair-like projection or pointed tipped reduced leaves enclosing egg-shaped achenes

Common Name:

few-flowered spikerush

Scientific Name:

Eleocharis quinqueflora (Hartmann)

O. Schwarz



Plant Type: sedge

Wetland Indicator Status: obligate wetland

General: perennial; rhizomatous (short and stout); up to 1.5 ft tall; native to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N C SE SW

Stems: upright; slender; angular; thread-like; many; near base

Leaves: none

Flowers: one oval-shaped spikelet at tip of flower stalk

Fruits: triangular-shaped; brown achenes with beak

Common Name:

golden sedge

Scientific Name:

Carex aurea Nutt.



Plant Type: sedge

Wetland Indicator Status: facultative wetland

General: perennial; rhizomatous; up to 0.5 ft tall; native to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N C SE SW

Stems: shorter than leaves

Leaves: four to seven; near base; flat; grooved; yellowish-green to bright green

Flowers: four to six; loose; irregular-shaped flower clusters; yellow to brownish; mostly female spikelets above male spikelets

Fruits: oblong and lens-shaped achenes

Common Name:

hardstem bulrush

Scientific Name:

Schoenoplectus acutus (Muhl. Ex Bigelow) A.
& D. Love



Plant Type: sedge

Wetland Indicator Status: obligate wetland

General: perennial; rhizomatous; up to 9 ft tall; native to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N C SE SW

Stems: stout; firm; dense clusters; round; thick; dark green

Leaves: short; reduced leaves; near base

Flowers: compact; flower cluster at tip of flower stalk; greyish-brown to reddish-brown

Fruits: large lens-shaped achenes; light green to dark brown

Common Name:

Hood's sedge

Scientific Name:

Carex hoodii Boott



Plant Type: sedge

Wetland Indicator Status: facultative

General: perennial; fibrous rooted; up to 3 ft tall; native to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N C SE SW

Stems: slender; triangular-shaped; longer than leaves

Leaves: two to three; on lower portion of plant; flat; not clustered

Flowers: four to eight; male spikelets above female spikelets; dense egg-shaped flower cluster; green to brown

Fruits: yellowish-brown

Common Name:

Kellogg's sedge; lakeshore sedge

Scientific Name:

Carex lenticularis Michx. var.
lipocarpa (T. Holm) L.A. Standl



Plant Type: sedge

Wetland Indicator Status: facultative wetland

General: perennial; up to 1.5 ft tall; clump-forming; native to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N C SE SW

Stems: upright; shorter than leaf stalks; rough-textured

Leaves: smooth; elongated; flat

Flowers: male spikelets at tip; female spikelets below

Fruits: short dark-colored beak; purplish-brown to black reduced leaves enclosing achenes

Common Name:

lesser panicled sedge

Scientific Name:

Carex diandra Schrank



Plant Type: sedge

Wetland Indicator Status: obligate wetland

General: perennial; rhizomatous; up to 3 ft tall; native to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N C SE SW

Stems: upright; rough-textured along edges; triangular-shaped; equal to or longer than leaves

Leaves: elongate; folds or grooves in leaves; lower third of plant

Flowers: many; small flowered, cylindrical; male spikelets above female spikelets on the same flower stalk

Fruits: brown; broad; egg-shaped; tapered tip; achene

Common Name:

livid sedge; pale sedge

Scientific Name:

Carex livida (Wahlenb.) Willd.



Plant Type: sedge

Wetland Indicator Status: obligate wetland

General: perennial; rhizomatous; up to 2 ft tall; native to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N

Stems: few; single or few clumped together; slender; triangular-shaped

Leaves: six to twelve; firm; narrow; channeled; bluish to whitish waxy covering; mostly near base

Flowers: two to four; green to yellowish-green; erect; linear; short flower clusters near flower stalk

Fruits: dark brown; egg-shaped; three-angled

Common Name:

mud sedge; shore sedge

Scientific Name:

Carex limosa L.



Plant Type: sedge

Wetland Indicator Status: obligate wetland

General: perennial; rhizomatous (slender and scaly rhizomes with a yellowish-brown coating); up to 2 ft tall; native to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N C SE SW

Stems: few; single or few clumped together; slender; triangular-shaped; reddish at base; longer than leaves

Leaves: one to three; greyish-green; deeply folded or channeled; bluish to whitish waxy covering

Flowers: two to four; reddish to yellowish-brown; long; hanging flower stalks

Fruits: light brown turning to dark brown; broad; egg-shaped

Common Name:

nearly black sedge

Scientific Name:

Carex subnigricans Stacey



Plant Type: sedge

Wetland Indicator Status: facultative

General: perennial; rhizomatous; under 2 ft tall; native to Idaho

Location in Idaho: C SE SW

Stems: flat; slender; wiry; single stems or few clustered together

Leaves: thin; elongate; green

Flowers: one spikelet at tip of flower cluster; long; slender; cylindrical

Fruits: small; two pointed beak; dark brown-blackish; achene

Common Name:

Nebraska sedge

Scientific Name:

Carex nebrascensis Dewey



Plant Type: sedge

Wetland Indicator Status: obligate wetland

General: perennial; rhizomatous; up to 3 ft tall; native to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N C SE SW

Stems: single stems or dense clumps; stout; upright; triangular; scaly; brown to reddish-tinged at base

Leaves: alternate; eight to fifteen; on lower portion of plant; thick; firm; flat; elongated; bluish-colored; whitish to bluish, waxy coating

Flowers: one to two male spikelets at tip; two to four female spikelets below

Fruits: short beaked; two pointed; yellowish-brownish reduced leaves; achenes; light to dark brown

Common Name:

needle spikerush

Scientific Name:

Eleocharis acicularis (L.) Roemer & J.A. Schultes



Plant Type: sedge

Wetland Indicator Status: obligate wetland

General: perennial; rhizomatous; up to 1 ft tall, small plant; native to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N C SE SW

Stems: green; thin; needle-like; dense clusters

Leaves: none

Flowers: one spikelet; at tip of flower stalk; cone-shaped

Fruits: white or pale grey; longitudinal ribbed; cross-ribbed; three-angled; capped achene

Common Name:

northern cluster sedge; bear sedge

Scientific Name:

Carex arcta Boott



Plant Type: sedge

Wetland Indicator Status: facultative wetland

General: perennial; rhizomatous; up to 3 ft tall; native to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N

Stems: single or very few clumped together; stout; erect; slender; triangular-shaped

Leaves: elongate; flat; light green; brownish tinged; red dots on lower leaf coverings; leaves longer than stems; arising from base

Flowers: three to seven; dense flower clusters; light green to greenish-brown; male spikelets below female spikelets

Fruits: oval to egg-shaped and lens-shaped; brownish achenes

Common Name:

northwestern sedge

Scientific Name:

Carex concinnoides Mackenzie



Plant Type: sedge

Wetland Indicator Status: facultative

General: perennial; rhizomatous (scaly; brownish-black); up to 1 ft tall; native to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N C SE SW

Stems: slender; erect; spreading; curved; shorter or longer than leaves

Leaves: six to ten; near base; flat or grooved; firm; green

Flowers: two to four; green and reddish-purple; male and female spikelets separate but on same stalk

Fruits: dark-purplish red and white edged reduced leaves enclosing greenish (brownish at maturity) egg-shaped achenes

Common Name:

saltmarsh bulrush; alkali bulrush

Scientific Name:

Schoenoplectus maritimus (L.) Lye



Plant Type: sedge

Wetland Indicator Status: obligate wetland

General: perennial; rhizomatous; up to 5 ft tall; native to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N C SE SW

Stems: dense clusters; upright; stout; triangular; smooth; pale green; not hairy

Leaves: alternate; elongate; flat; not hairy; on lower half of plant

Flowers: large; compact; crowded spikelets whorled at tip; brown

Fruits: tan to greenish-brown; pointed at tip; lens-shaped achenes surrounded by short bristles

Common Name:

silvery sedge; hoary sedge; pale sedge

Scientific Name:

Carex canescens L.



Plant Type: sedge

Wetland Indicator Status: facultative wetland

General: perennial; rhizomatous; up to 2 ft tall; native to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N C SE SW

Stems: upright; unbranched; spreading; smooth; triangular-shaped; as long or longer than leaves

Leaves: near base; flat; soft; whitish to bluish, waxy coating-green; elongated; not hairy; shorter than flower stems

Flowers: four to eight; light greyish to greenish; male and female spikelets separate but on same stalk

Fruits: pale yellowish to silvery reduced leaves enclosing egg-shaped

Common Name:

slender cottongrass

Scientific Name:

Eriophorum gracile

W.D.J. Koch var. *gracile*



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Plant Type: sedge

Wetland Indicator Status: obligate wetland

General: perennial; rhizomatous; up to 2 ft tall; native to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N C SE SW

Stems: slender; single; triangular-shaped (at least on upper portion)

Leaves: narrow; elongate; channeled or triangular-shaped; near base

Flowers: two to five spikelets; cyme-shaped; fluffy clusters of whitish hairs (cotton-like)

Fruits: elliptical to oblong; light brown; achenes

Common Name:

slenderbeak sedge

Scientific Name:

Carex athrostachya Olney



Plant Type: sedge

Wetland Indicator Status: facultative wetland

General: perennial; rhizomatous; up to 2 ft tall; native to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N C SE SW

Stems: smooth; slender; upright; unbranched; as long or longer than leaves

Leaves: two to five; lower third of plant; flat; firm; elongated; yellowish-green to bright green; not hairy

Flowers: dense; egg-shaped flower clusters at tip; green to brownish; female spikelets above male spikelets on same stalk

Fruits: oblong and lens-shaped achenes

Common Name:

small-fruit bulrush; panicled bulrush

Scientific Name:

Scirpus microcarpus J.& K. Presl



Plant Type: sedge

Wetland Indicator Status: obligate wetland

General: perennial; rhizomatous; up to 5 ft tall; native to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N C SE SW

Stems: upright; stout; triangular-shaped; somewhat three edged; smooth; pale green

Leaves: many; alternate; elongate; narrow; rough-textured; purplish-tinged

Flowers: small; many; loose spikelets whorled at tip; brown

Fruits: pale; smooth; lens-shaped; bristles shorter than achenes

Common Name:

small-winged sedge

Scientific Name:

Carex microptera Mackenzie



Plant Type: sedge

Wetland Indicator Status: facultative

General: perennial; rhizomatous; clustered; up to 3 ft tall;
native to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N C SE SW

Stems: many; upright; triangular-shaped; up to 2 dm tall

Leaves: three to five; mostly on lower third of plant;
narrow; flat; elongated; not hairy; shorter than
flower stalks

Flowers: three to ten; rounded clusters; female spikelets
above male spikelets; crowded at tip; green to
brownish (at maturity)

Fruits: brown colored reduced leaves with beak enclosing
egg-shaped achenes; brown (at maturity)

Common Name:

soft-stemmed bulrush

Scientific Name:

Schoenoplectus tabernaemontani
(K.C. Gmel.) Palla



Plant Type: sedge

Wetland Indicator Status: obligate wetland

General: perennial; rhizomatous; up to 10 ft tall; native to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N C SE SW

Stems: smooth; soft; round; dark green

Leaves: reduced leaves

Flowers: many; from side of stem; spreading flower cluster; reddish-brown; cone-shaped

Fruits: lens-shaped achenes, small bristles

Common Name:

three-square bulrush

Scientific Name:

Schoenoplectus pungens (Vahl) Palla var.
pungens



Plant Type: sedge

Wetland Indicator Status: obligate wetland

General: perennial; rhizomatous; up to 3 ft tall; native to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N C SE SW

Stems: dense clusters; upright; triangular with flat sides; not hairy

Leaves: mostly near base; flat or occasionally folded; elongate; not hairy

Flowers: small; dense cluster of one to six spikelets at tip; one reduced leaf

Fruits: dark green to brown; pointed tip; lens-shaped or triangular-shaped achenes surrounded by four to six bristles

Common Name:

threeway sedge

Scientific Name:

Dulichium arundinaceum (L.) Britt.



Plant Type: sedge

Wetland Indicator Status:

General: perennial; rhizomatous; up to 3.5 ft tall; native to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N C SE SW

Stems: hollow; triangular-shaped; single stems clustered together

Leaves: short leaves in three distinct rows; lower leaves reduced; grass-like

Flowers: flat clusters; spikelets in two vertical rows; male and female flowers

Fruits: narrow; lens-shaped; brownish bristles; achene

Common Name:

tufted bulrush

Scientific Name:

Trichophorum cespitosum (L.) Hartm.



Plant Type: sedge

Wetland Indicator Status: obligate wetland

General: perennial; rhizomatous; up to 1.25 ft tall; native to Idaho

Location in Idaho: C

Stems: upright; round; smooth; pale green

Leaves: yellowish at base; one; green leaf at tip

Flowers: one small spikelet at tip; yellowish-brown

Fruits: triangular; brown; pointed at tip; smooth achenes surrounded by long bristles

Common Name:

water sedge

Scientific Name:

Carex aquatilis Wahlenb.



Plant Type: sedge

Wetland Indicator Status: obligate wetland

General: perennial; rhizomatous; up to 5 ft tall; native to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N C SE SW

Stems: single or very few clumped together; stout; erect; slender; sharply angled; reddish at base

Leaves: alternate; elongate; flat; light green to whitish to bluish, waxy coating tipped

Flowers: three to seven; cylindrical spikes; male spikelets at tip; female spikelets below

Fruits: elliptical to egg-shaped and lens-shaped; reddish-brown to purplish-black reduced leaves with beak enclosing yellowish to brownish-black achenes

Common Name:

white beakrush; white beaksedge

Scientific Name:

Rhynchospora alba (L.) Vahl.



Plant Type: sedge

Wetland Indicator Status: obligate wetland

General: annual or perennial; up to 2 ft tall; native to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N

Stems: solid; dense clusters; triangular-shaped

Leaves: narrow; slender; elongate; grass-like

Flowers: small; one to three flower clusters; spikelets; spiral cyme shaped

Fruits: round; many bristles; pointed tip; achene

Common Name:

woodrush sedge

Scientific Name:

Carex luzulina Olney



Plant Type: sedge

Wetland Indicator Status: obligate wetland

General: perennial; rhizomatous; clustered; up to 2 ft tall; native to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N C SE SW

Stems: upright; smooth; brownish-tinged at base; longer than leaves

Leaves: six to twelve; flat; thick; stiff; smooth; elongated; mostly near base of plant; shorter than flower stalks

Flowers: three to six; erect; male spikelets above wider female spikelets; flower cluster at tip; greenish-brown to reddish-brown

Fruits: brown; smooth; egg-shaped; triangular achenes

Common Name:

alderleaf buckthorn

Scientific Name:

Rhamnus alnifolia L 'Her.



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Plant Type: shrub

Wetland Indicator Status: obligate wetland

General: perennial; up to 5 ft tall; native to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N C SE SW

Stems: brown; woody; multiple; branches grey and hairy; erect or spreading

Leaves: alternate; dark-green; glossy; egg-shaped; prominently veined; toothed

Flowers: greenish-yellow; cup-shaped; no petals; clustered where the leaf attaches to the stem

Fruits: reddish to bluish-black; cherry-like

Common Name:

arctic willow

Scientific Name:

Salix arctica



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Plant Type: shrub

Wetland Indicator Status: facultative wetland

General: perennial; deciduous; up to 0.5 ft tall; very short stature; native to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N C SE SW

Stems: many; creeping and spreading along ground level; smooth or occasionally hairy

Leaves: mostly entire; green and smooth on upperside; whitish to bluish, waxy coating and slightly hairy underneath

Flowers: catkins

Fruits: capsules; hairy

Common Name:

Bebb willow

Scientific Name:

Salix bebbiana Sarg. V



Plant Type: shrub

Wetland Indicator Status: facultative wetland

General: perennial; deciduous; up to 32 ft tall; native to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N C SE SW

Stems: current year stems reddish; long, loose white hairs

Leaves: whitish to bluish, waxy coating underneath; broadest at middle; elliptical to egg-shaped; toothed; long, loose white hairy

Flowers: pale reduced leaves; catkin; loose cluster

Fruits: capsules hairy; with a stalk

Common Name:

bitter cherry

Scientific Name:

Prunus emarginata (Douglas ex Hook.)

D. Dietr.



Plant Type: shrub /tree

Wetland Indicator Status: facultative upland

General: perennial; up to 12 ft tall; native to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N C SE SW

Stems: smooth; multiple; dark reddish-brown to grey with horizontal grey markings

Leaves: alternate; dark green above; pale green below; oblong to oval-shaped; rounded at tip; finely toothed

Flowers: cream to white; five petals; saucer-shaped; round clusters

Fruits: reddish-black berry

Common Name:

black elderberry

Scientific Name:

Sambucus racemosa L. var. *melanocarpa*
(Gray) McMinn



Plant Type: shrub

Wetland Indicator Status: facultative wetland

General: perennial; deciduous; up to 10 ft tall; native to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N C SE SW

Stems: opposite; dark reddish-brown; spreading at base; twigs soft and whitish

Leaves: opposite; divided into five to seven smaller leaflets; toothed; pointed

Flowers: white; pyramidal clusters

Fruits: purplish-black berry

Common Name:

black hawthorn

Scientific Name:

Crataegus douglasii Lindl.



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Plant Type: shrub

Wetland Indicator Status: facultative

General: perennial; thorny; deciduous; up to 30 ft tall;
native to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N C SE SW

Stems: single or many stemmed; mature branches
smooth to scaly and greyish

Leaves: alternate; thin; lance-shaped; edges many toothed

Flowers: white; five petals; ten pink stamens; terminal
flower clusters

Fruits: small; black; apple-like

Common Name:

blue elderberry

Scientific Name:

Sambucus nigra L. ssp. *cerulea* (Raf.) R. Bolli



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Plant Type: shrub

Wetland Indicator Status: facultative upland

General: perennial; erect; deciduous; up to 10 ft tall;
native to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N C SE SW

Stems: opposite; dark reddish-brown; spreading at base;
twigs soft and whitish

Leaves: opposite; usually divided into nine leaflets; maybe
five to seven leaflets; toothed; pointed

Flowers: white; flat-topped clusters

Fruits: whitish to bluish waxy coating; berry

Common Name:

bog birch

Scientific Name:

Betula pumila L. var. *glandulifera* Regel



Plant Type: shrub

Wetland Indicator Status: obligate wetland

General: spreading to erect; up to 6 ft tall; native to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N C SE SW

Stems: young branches glandular hairy

Leaves: alternate; round to egg-shaped; rounded teeth;
leathery; turning reddish-brown in fall

Flowers: catkins; erect

Fruits: round; flat; narrowly winged nutlets

Common Name:

bog blueberry

Scientific Name:

Vaccinium uliginosum L.



Plant Type: shrub

Wetland Indicator Status: facultative

General: perennial; deciduous; up to 2 ft tall; native to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N C SE SW

Stems: creeping to erect; short stature

Leaves: alternate; entire; egg-shaped to elliptical; firm; obvious veins underneath; whitish to bluish, waxy coating

Flowers: white; urn-shaped; five petals, spreading and reflexed; flower clusters at tips of flower stalk

Fruits: bluish to blackish berry

Common Name:

bog cranberry

Scientific Name:

Vaccinium oxycoccos L.



Plant Type: shrub

Wetland Indicator Status: obligate wetland

General: perennial; deciduous; up to 2 ft tall; native to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N C SE SW

Stems: creeping to erect; branches not strongly angled; short stature

Leaves: alternate; entire; egg-shaped to elliptical

Flowers: white; urn-shaped; four petals, spreading and reflexed; flowers at tips of flower stalk

Fruits: reddish berry

Common Name:

bog laurel; swamp laurel, alpine laurel

Scientific Name:

Kalmia microphylla (Hook.) A. Heller



Plant Type: shrub

Wetland Indicator Status: facultative wetland

General: perennial; evergreen; less than 1 ft; native to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N C SE SW

Stems: many; slender; matted; spreading

Leaves: opposite; slender; oval to elliptical; rolled edges; leathery; shiny; pointed; dark green on upperside; whitish and hairy underneath

Flowers: pink; five petals; open flower cluster at tip of flowering stalk; saucer-shaped

Fruits: capsules; round; break apart into five pieces

Common Name:

Booth willow

Scientific Name:

Salix boothii Dorn



Plant Type: shrub

Wetland Indicator Status: obligate wetland

General: perennial; deciduous; up to 20 ft tall; native to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N C

Stems: smooth red; appressed hairy; current year branches yellow

Leaves: green; smooth on both sides; lance-shaped to elliptical; fine toothed; tapered

Flowers: dark-colored reduced leaves; catkin

Fruits: capsules smooth

Common Name:

buffaloberry; soopolallie; soapberry

Scientific Name:

Shepherdia canadensis (L.) Nutt.



Plant Type: shrub

Wetland Indicator Status: upland

General: perennial; deciduous; spreading; up to 6 ft tall;
native to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N C SE SW

Stems: opposite; brownish; scabs on younger branches

Leaves: opposite; oval; dark green on upperside; fuzzy
silvery hairy underneath; rust-colored scales

Flowers: yellowish-greenish; very small clusters

Fruits: bright red; yellowish berry

Common Name:

Cascara buckthorn

Scientific Name:

Frangula purshiana (DC.) A. Gray



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Plant Type: shrub /tree

Wetland Indicator Status: facultative upland

General: perennial; deciduous; up to 30 ft tall; native to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N SW

Stems: woody; multiple; twigs reddish-brown; branches greyish-brown; erect or spreading

Leaves: alternate; green; glossy; elliptical to oval-shaped; prominently veined; ten to twelve veins

Flowers: greenish-yellow; cup-shaped; no petals; large clusters where the leaf attaches to the stem

Fruits: reddish to purplish-black; cherry-like

Common Name:

chokecherry

Scientific Name:

Prunus virginiana L. (Nutt.) Torr.



Plant Type: shrub

Wetland Indicator Status: facultative upland

General: perennial; deciduous; erect to straggling; up to 15 ft tall; native to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N C SE SW

Stems: smooth; reddish-grey to greyish-brown; small raised pores

Leaves: alternate; oval; pointed at tip; teeth on edges; reddish glands near base

Flowers: white; saucer-shaped; five petals

Fruits: dark red to black cherries hanging in clusters

Common Name:

common snowberry

Scientific Name:

Symphoricarpos albus (L.) S.F. Blake



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Plant Type: shrub

Wetland Indicator Status: obligate upland

General: perennial; deciduous; erect; up to 2.5 ft tall;
native to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N C SE SW

Stems: opposite; slender; hairless; colonies

Leaves: opposite; oval; thin; pale green; smooth

Flowers: pinkish-white; funnel-shaped

Fruits: white; waxy; berry-like

Common Name:

Drummond willow

Scientific Name:

Salix drummondiana Barratt ex Hook.



Plant Type: shrub

Wetland Indicator Status: facultative wetland

General: perennial; deciduous; up to 20 ft tall; native to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N C SE SW

Stems: branches whitish to bluish, waxy coating; yellowish or reddish; not hairy

Leaves: densely silvery hairy and whitish to bluish, waxy coating underneath; smooth or few hairs on upperside; not toothed; oblanceolate

Flowers: dark-colored reduced leaves; catkin

Fruits: capsules; hairy

Common Name:

Eastwood willow; mountain willow

Scientific Name:

Salix eastwoodiae Cockerell ex Heller



Plant Type: shrub

Wetland Indicator Status: facultative wetland

General: perennial; deciduous; up to 13 ft tall; native to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N C SE SW

Stems: loose and wavy hairy

Leaves: large; narrow; gland-toothed on lower margins; lance-shaped to elliptical; hairy on both sides; greyish-green

Flowers: long catkins

Fruits: capsules; hairy

Common Name:

Geyer willow

Scientific Name:

Salix geyeriana Andersson



© 2004 Brent Miller

Plant Type: shrub

Wetland Indicator Status: facultative wetland

General: perennial; deciduous; up to 25 ft tall; native to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N C SE SW

Stems: many branches; whitish to bluish, waxy coating; densely hairy; young branches yellowish-green with whitish covering

Leaves: narrow; lance-shaped; white hairs on both sides; dark green on upperside; whitish to bluish, waxy coating underneath; not toothed

Flowers: pale reduced leaves; catkins; short

Fruits: capsules; hairy

Common Name:

golden currant

Scientific Name:

Ribes aureum Pursh.



Plant Type: shrub

Wetland Indicator Status: facultative

General: perennial; deciduous; up to 10 ft tall; native to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N C SE SW

Stems: erect to spreading; lacking spines or prickles; many stems; brownish

Leaves: alternate; green; three to five lobed; round-toothed and wavy

Flowers: long cluster; bright-red to yellowish; tubular with five fused petals

Fruits: red berry

Common Name:

green alder

Scientific Name:

Alnus viridis (Vill.) Lam. & DC.



Plant Type: shrub

Wetland Indicator Status: facultative wetland

General: perennial; deciduous; up to 13 ft tall; native to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N C SE SW

Stems: small glands on young branches; reddish-brown to greyish-black

Leaves: alternate; oval; dark green; shiny; toothed; tip pointed

Flowers: catkins; woody; egg-shaped

Fruits: round; nutlet with wings

Common Name:

grey alder; thinleaf alder; mountain alder

Scientific Name:

Alnus incana (L.) Moench



Plant Type: shrub

Wetland Indicator Status: facultative wetland

General: perennial; deciduous; up to 15 ft tall; native to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N C SE SW

Stems: sprawling or upright; trunk and branches greyish-brown to blackish; elongated white markings

Leaves: alternate; simple; oval to elliptical-shaped; smooth; dull green; wavy-lobed; double-toothed leaves

Flowers: male and female flowers on separate branches but on the same plant; flower clusters; catkins

Fruits: narrow-winged nutlets; cone-like

Common Name:

Lemmon willow

Scientific Name:

Salix lemmonii Bebb



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Plant Type: shrub

Wetland Indicator Status: facultative wetland

General: perennial; deciduous; up to 15 ft tall; native to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N C SE SW

Stems: slender; smooth or minutely hairy; younger branches yellow with whitish to bluish, waxy coating; mature branches brownish-black and shiny

Leaves: elliptical to lance-shaped; narrow; green and shiny on upperside; red-tinged and whitish to bluish, waxy coating underneath; not generally toothed

Flowers: male and female flowers in separate spikes; dark colored reduced leaves; catkin

Fruits: capsules; hairy; lance-shaped

Common Name:

mountain ash

Scientific Name:

Sorbus scopulina Greene



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Plant Type: shrub /tree

Wetland Indicator Status: facultative

General: perennial; deciduous; beautiful fall foliage; up to 12 ft tall; native to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N C SE SW

Stems: multiple; branched; whitish-hairy twigs, reddish grey to yellowish older branches

Leaves: alternate; divided into nine to thirteen leaflets; toothed; shiny green above changing to yellowish-orange

Flowers: white to cream; five petals; saucer-shaped, flat cluster at top of flower stalk

Fruits: small; orangish-red; round; apple-like

Common Name:

mountain spiraea

Scientific Name:

Spiraea splendens Baumann ex K. Koch



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Plant Type: shrub

Wetland Indicator Status: facultative wetland

General: perennial; up to 3.5 ft tall; native to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N C SE SW

Stems: short; brown; spreading; slender

Leaves: green; alternate; oval; toothed

Flowers: dark pink; saucer-shaped; five petals; flat topped clusters

Fruits: pod-like capsule

Common Name:

ninebark

Scientific Name:

Physocarpus malvaceus (Greene) Kuntze



© 2001 IRT Hawke

Plant Type: shrub

Wetland Indicator Status: facultative upland

General: perennial; deciduous; up to 6.5 ft tall; native to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N C SE SW

Stems: reddish-brown; shredding bark; many branches

Leaves: alternate; three lobed; wide; toothed; smooth and green on upperside; pale green underneath

Flowers: five white petals; round flower clusters at tip of flower stalk

Fruits: fuzzy; egg-shaped; reddish; pods

Common Name:

planeleaf willow; diamondleaf willow

Scientific Name:

Salix planifolia Pursh



© 2010 Barry Breckling

Plant Type: shrub

Wetland Indicator Status: obligate wetland

General: perennial; deciduous; up to 15 ft tall; native to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N C SE SW

Stems: many; slender; current year branches red and smooth; previous year branches whitish to bluish, waxy coating

Leaves: smooth; elliptical; dark green; shiny on upper side; whitish to bluish, waxy coating underneath; usually not toothed; few hairs underneath

Flowers: dark-colored reduced leaves; catkins

Fruits: capsules; egg-shaped; hairy

Common Name:

poison ivy

Scientific Name:

Toxicodendron rydbergii (Small ex.
Rydb.) Greene



Plant Type: shrub

Wetland Indicator Status: facultative upland

General: perennial; deciduous; up to 3 ft tall; native to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N C SE SW

Stems: spreading to trailing to erect; greenish-brown; simple; few branches

Leaves: alternate; divided into three egg-shaped; pointed leaflets; prominently veined; glossy and bright green; orange in fall

Flowers: greenish to cream; five petals; cup-shaped (pumpkin-like); rounded flower clusters

Fruits: whitish; smooth; berrylike

Common Name:

prickly currant

Scientific Name:

Ribes lacustre (Pers.)
Poir.



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Plant Type: shrub

Wetland Indicator Status: facultative wetland

General: perennial; up to 5 ft tall; native to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N C SE SW

Stems: light reddish-brown; erect or spreading; with spines or prickles

Leaves: alternate; three to five lobed; rounded; maple leaf-shaped

Flowers: reddish-purple; saucer-shaped; long, drooping clusters; hairs with glands

Fruits: purple to black berry

Common Name:

red elderberry

Scientific Name:

Sambucus racemosa L. var. *racemosa*



Plant Type: shrub

Wetland Indicator Status: facultative upland

General: perennial; erect; deciduous; up to 10 ft tall; native to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N C SE SW

Stems: opposite; dark reddish-brown; spreading at base; twigs soft and whitish

Leaves: opposite; divided into five to seven smaller leaflets; toothed; pointed

Flowers: white; pyramidal clusters

Fruits: bright red berry

Common Name:

red-flowering currant

Scientific Name:

Ribes sanguineum Pursh



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Plant Type: shrub

Wetland Indicator Status: facultative

General: perennial; up to 5ft tall; native to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N

Stems: without spines or prickles

Leaves: alternate; three lobed; rounded; palm-shaped

Flowers: white to pink; tubular and bell-shaped; spike

Fruits: black berry

Common Name:

red-osier dogwood

Scientific Name:

Cornus sericea L. ssp. *sericea*



Plant Type: shrub

Wetland Indicator Status: facultative wetland

General: perennial; deciduous; up to 10 ft tall and wide;
in thickets; native to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N C SE SW

Stems: multi-stemmed; opposite; upright; red

Leaves: opposite; simple; oval; dark green turning to
purplish-reddish in fall

Flowers: white to cream colored; four petals

Fruits: round; white berry-like

Common Name:

rose spirea

Scientific Name:

Spiraea douglasii Hook.



Plant Type: shrub

Wetland Indicator Status: facultative wetland

General: perennial; deciduous; rhizomatous; up to 6 ft tall;
native to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N C SE SW

Stems: spreading; slender

Leaves: oblong; toothed

Flowers: dark pink; five petals; upright; tall and round
flower cluster; stiff hairy

Fruits: pod-like capsule

Common Name:

**sandbar willow; coyote willow;
narrow-leaved willow**

Scientific Name:

Salix exigua Nutt.



Plant Type: shrub

Wetland Indicator Status: facultative wetland

General: perennial; deciduous; up to 32 ft tall; spreading;
native to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N C SE SW

Stems: single stems; smooth or short hairs

Leaves: long; linear; narrow; hairy; sparsely spiny toothed;
green or silver leaves

Flowers: pale reduced leaves; catkin

Fruits: capsules; glabrous or hairy

Common Name:

Saskatoon serviceberry

Scientific Name:

Amelanchier alnifolia (Nutt.) Nutt. ex M.
Roemer



Plant Type: shrub

Wetland Indicator Status: facultative upland

General: perennial; deciduous; erect to spreading; up to 15 ft tall; native to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N C SE SW

Stems: mature stems smooth; dark grey

Leaves: alternate; oval to round; rounded at tip; toothed on upper half; green; turning to orange in fall

Flowers: white; star-shaped; five petals; clusters at branch tips

Fruits: berry-like; apple-like; purplish-black; whitish to bluish, waxy coating

Common Name:

Scouler willow

Scientific Name:

Salix scouleriana Barratt ex Hook.



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Plant Type: shrub

Wetland Indicator Status: facultative

General: perennial; deciduous; up to 65 ft tall; native to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N C SE SW

Stems: thick; greenish-yellow to dark red or brown; previous year branches with short red hairs; whitish to bluish, waxy coating

Leaves: broad elliptical to egg-shaped; broadest near middle; whitish to bluish, waxy coating and short, reddish hairy underneath; smooth on upperside; not toothed

Flowers: dark colored reduced leaves; catkin

Fruits: capsules; hairy; long beak

Common Name:

shrubby cinquefoil

Scientific Name:

Dasiphora fruticosa (L.) Rydb.



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Plant Type: shrub

Wetland Indicator Status: facultative

General: perennial; deciduous; erect to spreading; up to 3 ft tall; native to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N C SE SW

Stems: woody; multiple branched; mature stems with shredding; reddish-brown bark

Leaves: alternate; divided into three to seven smaller leaflets; linear; greyish-green

Flowers: yellow; five petals; flower clusters at branch tips; showy; open; saucer-shaped

Fruits: light brown achenes with long white hairs

Common Name:

silver sagebrush

Scientific Name:

Artemisia cana Pursh



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Plant Type: shrub

Wetland Indicator Status: facultative

General: perennial; evergreen; rounded; gnarled looking;
up to 5 ft tall; native to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N C SE SW

Stems: mature stems: dark brown; younger stems: white
to yellowish hairy

Leaves: alternate; entire; linear; silvery whitish wooly hairs;
upper leaves smaller than lower leaves

Flowers: dense flower clusters; tall; erect; spike-like

Fruits: small; one seeded; hairy; nut-like

Common Name:

silverberry

Scientific Name:

Elaeagnus commutata Bernh. ex Rydb.



Plant Type: shrub

Wetland Indicator Status: upland

General: perennial; erect; up to 15 ft tall; native to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N C SE SW

Stems: small; rusty-brown scales; many (thickets)

Leaves: alternate; egg-shaped or lance-shaped; silvery hairy; maybe brown scales

Flowers: yellow inside; funnel-shaped; strong sweet smell

Fruits: silvery; mealy; oval; nutlet

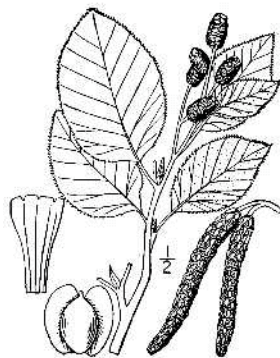
Common Name:

Sitka alder

Scientific Name:

Alnus viridis (Chaix) DC. ssp *sinuata* (Regel)

A. Love & D. Love



Plant Type: shrub

Wetland Indicator Status: facultative wetland

General: perennial; deciduous; up to 26 ft tall; native to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N C SE SW

Stems: reddish-brown; greyish-black on mature branches

Leaves: narrow to oval-shaped leaves; tapered tip; once to double toothed; green upperside; pale green underneath

Flowers: catkins cone-like

Fruits: round to elliptical; nutlet with wings

Common Name:

skunkbush sumac

Scientific Name:

Rhus trilobata Nutt.



Plant Type: shrub

Wetland Indicator Status: facultative

General: perennial; deciduous; up to 6 ft tall;
strong-smelling; rounded; native to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N C SE SW

Stems: smooth; many

Leaves: alternate; bright green; three broad-tipped
lobed leaflets

Flowers: small; dense clusters

Fruits: fuzzy; round; reddish-orange

Common Name:

smooth sumac

Scientific Name:

Rhus glabra L.



Plant Type: shrub/tree

Wetland Indicator Status: facultative upland

General: perennial; beautiful fall foliage; up to 6 ft tall; native to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N SE SW

Stems: multiple; branched; smooth; greyish

Leaves: alternate; dark green; divided into eleven to twenty-one leaflets; rounded at the base and pointed at the tip; lance-shaped; changing to yellowish-orange

Flowers: cream to greenish-yellow; five petals; flowers saucer-shaped; cluster pyramid-shaped at top of flower stalk

Fruits: red; fuzzy; clustered

Common Name:

syringa; mock-orange

Scientific Name:

Philadelphus lewisii Pursh



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Plant Type: shrub

Wetland Indicator Status: facultative wetland

General: perennial; erect; deciduous; up to 10 ft tall; native to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N C SE SW

Stems: opposite; loose; spreading; brown; flaky bark

Leaves: opposite; egg-shaped; three main veins; rough texture

Flowers: white; cross-shaped; four petals

Fruits: woody; oval capsules

Common Name:

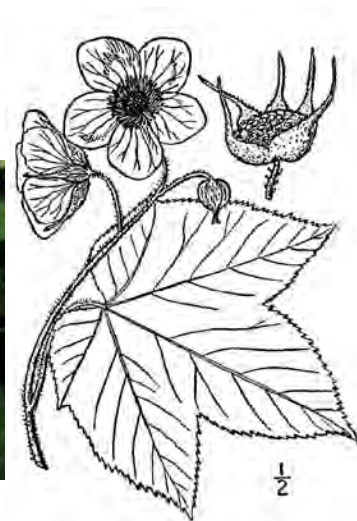
thimbleberry

Scientific Name:

Rubus parviflorus Nutt.



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Plant Type: shrub

Wetland Indicator Status: facultative

General: perennial; rhizomatous; up to 6 ft tall; native to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N C SE SW

Stems: tall; brown; spreading; multiple branches

Leaves: large; bright green; alternate; palm-shaped; three to seven lobed; hairy; prominently veined

Flowers: white; open; saucer-shaped; papery; five petals; flat topped clusters

Fruits: red, fleshy; similar to a raspberry

Common Name:

twinberry honeysuckle

Scientific Name:

Lonicera involucrata (Richardson) Banks ex Spreng.



2008 Barry Breckling



Plant Type: shrub

Wetland Indicator Status: facultative

General: perennial; deciduous; up to 7 ft tall; native to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N C SE SW

Stems: greenish to yellowish-brown; four sided; multiple; erect or spreading

Leaves: opposite; green; elliptical-shaped; widest near the middle; pointed; hairy; glands beneath

Flowers: light yellow; tubular; two opposite; clustered where the leaf attaches to the stem

Fruits: shiny; two purplish-black berries; reddish-purple bracts next to fruits

Common Name:

undergreen willow

Scientific Name:

Salix commutata Bebb



Plant Type: shrub

Wetland Indicator Status: obligate wetland

General: perennial; deciduous; up to 6.5 ft tall; native to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N C

Stems: spreading and erect hairs; long and woolly hairy

Leaves: entire; large; broad; strongly gland-toothed; elliptical to lance-shaped; woolly hairy on both sides (especially on younger leaves); greyish-green; paler green

Flowers: catkin

Fruits: capsules; smooth or minutely hairy

Common Name:

wax currant; squaw currant

Scientific Name:

Ribes cereum Dougl.



Plant Type: shrub

Wetland Indicator Status: facultative upland

General: perennial; deciduous; up to 5 ft tall; native to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N C SE SW

Stems: erect to spreading; lacking spines or prickles; many stems; glandular hairy on young branches; greyish or reddish-brown on mature branches

Leaves: alternate; green; three to five lobed; fan-shaped; round-toothed

Flowers: white with greenish or pinkish coloring; tubular with five fused petals; sticky-glandular hairy

Fruits: red berry

Common Name:

western black currant

Scientific Name:

Ribes hudsonianum Richards.



Plant Type: shrub

Wetland Indicator Status: obligate wetland

General: deciduous; up to 5 ft tall; erect to spreading;
lacking spines or prickles; native to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N C SE SW

Stems: many; yellow; crystalline resin dots; greyish or
reddish-brown

Leaves: alternate; green; three to five lobed; sharply
toothed; maple-like; yellow resin glands

Flowers: white; funnel-shaped; tubular with five fused
petals; clusters

Fruits: black berry; whitish to bluish, waxy coating;
maybe resin dots

Common Name:

Wolf willow

Scientific Name:

Salix wolfii Bebb.



Plant Type: shrub

Wetland Indicator Status: facultative wetland

General: perennial; deciduous; up to 3 ft tall; short stature; native to Idaho

Location in Idaho: C SE SW

Stems: dense and wavy hairy

Leaves: small; narrow; entire; elliptical to lance-shaped; silvery hairy on both sides; greyish-green; paler green underneath

Flowers: catkin

Fruits: capsules; hairy

Common Name:

Woods' rose

Scientific Name:

Rosa woodsii Lindl.



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Plant Type: shrub

Wetland Indicator Status: facultative upland

General: perennial; deciduous; up to 4 ft tall; native to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N C SE SW

Stems: erect to spreading; branches covered with bristly prickles and thorns

Leaves: alternate; divided into five to seven smaller leaflets; double toothed

Flowers: pink; saucer-shaped; five petals

Fruits: round small hips; clustered

Common Name:

yellow willow

Scientific Name:

Salix lutea Nutt.



Plant Type: shrub

Wetland Indicator Status: obligate wetland

General: perennial; deciduous; up to 20 ft tall; native to Idaho

Location in Idaho: C SE SW

Stems: young branches light blue; mature branches yellow to greyish; smooth; many stems

Leaves: lance-shaped; not generally toothed; whitish to bluish, waxy coating underneath; smooth and green on upperside; red-tinged

Flowers: reduced leaves; catkin

Fruits: smooth; capsule

Common Name:

arroyo willow

Scientific Name:

Salix lasiolepis Benth



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Plant Type: tree

Wetland Indicator Status: facultative wetland

General: perennial; deciduous; greater than 6 ft tall; native to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N C SE SW

Stems: yellowish to brownish; young branches long, soft hairy; mature branches smooth; brittle near base

Leaves: oblong to lance-shaped; rounded tip; green to greyish; hairy and whitish to bluish, waxy coating underneath

Flowers: catkin; yellow

Fruits: smooth; capsule

Common Name:

bigtooth maple

Scientific Name:

Acer grandidentatum Nutt.



Plant Type: tree

Wetland Indicator Status: facultative

General: perennial; deciduous; up to 20 ft tall; native to Idaho

Location in Idaho: SE

Stems: many; clumped; opposite branches; greyish bark and twigs

Leaves: opposite; maple-like; three to five rounded, deep lobes; blunt, wide toothed; dark green on upperside; light green underneath; turning yellowish

Flowers: no petals

Fruits: greenish to tan; winged nutlet

Common Name:

black cottonwood

Scientific Name:

Populus balsamifera L. ssp.
trichocarpa (Torr. & Gray
ex Hook.) Brayshaw



Plant Type: tree

Wetland Indicator Status: facultative

General: perennial; deciduous; up to 80 ft tall; large;
resinous buds; native to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N C SE SW

Stems: large; thick trunks; greenish-grey bark with black
spots; smooth on young trees; rough and deeply
furrowed on mature trees

Leaves: alternate; egg-shaped; pointed at tip; fine toothed;
dark green on upperside; light green underneath

Flowers: catkins; drooping clusters

Fruits: egg-shaped; round capsules; fluffy; hairy seeds

Common Name:

blue spruce

Scientific Name:

Picea pungens Engelm.



Plant Type: tree

Wetland Indicator Status: facultative

General: perennial; up to 150 ft; native to Idaho

Location in Idaho: SE

Stems: thick and rigid bark; dark brownish to grey;
younger twigs yellowish-brown and smooth

Leaves: needle; very stiff; whorled all around; bluish-green;
sharp point

Flowers:

Fruits: overlapping woody scales; hanging down; oval;
female cones light brown to purplish; male cones
light red

Common Name:

boxelder

Scientific Name:

Acer negundo L.



Plant Type: tree

Wetland Indicator Status: facultative

General: perennial; deciduous; up to 65 ft tall; native to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N C SE SW

Stems: greyish bark; reddish twigs

Leaves: long; lance-shaped; three to five lobes

Flowers: no petals

Fruits: two winged fruit

Common Name:

Douglas-fir

Scientific Name:

Pseudotsuga menziesii (Mirbel) Franco



Plant Type: tree

Wetland Indicator Status: facultative

General: perennial; up to 230 ft tall; native to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N C SE SW

Stems: bark thick, rough, and dark brown; branches spreading to drooping; branches hairy

Leaves: needle; stiff; whorled all around; turned upward; blunt; yellowish-green to dark green or bluish-green

Flowers:

Fruits: overlapping woody scales; hanging; egg-shaped; female cones yellowish to purplish-green turning to reddish-brown; male cones yellow to reddish

Common Name:

Engelmann spruce

Scientific Name:

Picea engelmannii (Parry ex Engelm.)

T.M.C. Taylor



© 2004 Robert Sivinski

Plant Type: tree

Wetland Indicator Status: facultative

General: perennial; up to 150 ft tall; native to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N C SE SW

Stems: straight trunk; young twigs finely hairy; bark brownish-red to reddish-purple; bark thin and scaly; branches whorled

Leaves: needle; long; somewhat stiff; whorled; curving upward; sharp point; dark bluish-green; four-angled

Flowers:

Fruits: overlapping woody scales; hanging down; oval; female cones yellowish-brown to purplish-brown; male cones yellow

Common Name:

grand fir

Scientific Name:

Abies grandis (Dougl. ex D. Don) Lindl.



Plant Type: tree

Wetland Indicator Status: facultative upland

General: perennial; up to 300 ft tall; native to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N C SE SW

Stems: upper side of twigs bare; young branches soft hairy; bark greyish to light brown; smooth to shallowly ridged; peeling bark

Leaves: nearly flat needle; horizontal spreading; curving out and down; blunt

Flowers:

Fruits: overlapping woody scales; cylindrical; female cones yellowish-green to light green; male cones yellowish

Common Name:

honey locust

Scientific Name:

Gleditsia triacanthos L.



Plant Type: tree

Wetland Indicator Status: facultative

General: perennial; up to 100 ft tall; deciduous; native to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N SE SW

Stems: large trunks; dark grey and black with deep fissures forming plates; red thorns

Leaves: alternate; dark green; many leaflets divided into multiple segments

Flowers: greenish-yellow; small; sweet-smelling; drooping clusters

Fruits: long; flat; twisted; pod; green turning to reddish-brown; sweet-smelling

Common Name:

lanceleaf cottonwood

Scientific Name:

Populus acuminata Rydb.



Plant Type: tree

Wetland Indicator Status: facultative

General: perennial; deciduous; over 50 ft tall; resinous buds; native to Idaho

Location in Idaho: C SE

Stems: large; thick trunks; greenish-grey bark; smooth on young trees; rough and deeply furrowed on mature trees

Leaves: alternate; lance-shaped; narrow at base; coarse toothed

Flowers: catkins; drooping clusters

Fruits: smooth; egg-shaped; round capsules with fluffy, hairy seeds

Common Name:

lodgepole pine

Scientific Name:

Pinus contorta Dougl. ex Loud.



Plant Type: tree

Wetland Indicator Status: facultative

General: perennial; up to 90 ft tall; pyramid-shaped; native to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N C SE SW

Stems: trunk bare; bark thin, furrowed, scaly, and reddish-brown to greyish-black

Leaves: trunk bare; bark thin, furrowed, scaly, and reddish-brown to greyish-black

Flowers:

Fruits: overlapping woody scales; hanging; egg-shaped; female cones purplish-brown with light brown tip; male cones clustered and reddish-green

Common Name:

Mackenzie willow

Scientific Name:

Salix prolixa Anderss.



Plant Type: tree

Wetland Indicator Status: obligate wetland

General: perennial; deciduous; up to 30 ft tall; native to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N C SE SW

Stems: many stems; branches reddish-brown to dark brown; young branches smooth; mature branches hairy

Leaves: lance-shaped; not generally toothed; whitish to bluish, waxy coating underneath; smooth and green on upper side; long

Flowers: reduced leaves; catkin

Fruits: smooth; capsule

Common Name:

mountain hemlock

Scientific Name:

Tsuga mertensiana (Bong.) Carr.



Plant Type: tree

Wetland Indicator Status: facultative upland

General: perennial; up to 100 ft tall; stunted to erect; native to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N C SE SW

Stems: young branches with long hairs; bark thick, furrowed, scaly, and dark purplish or reddish-brown; downward sweeping branches

Leaves: needle; stiff; thick at center; four-sided; whorled all around; straight; blunt; yellowish-green to bluish-green

Flowers:

Fruits: overlapping woody scales; mostly hanging; oval and narrowed at the ends; female cones dark purple to brownish; male cones bluish

Common Name:

narrow-leaved cottonwood

Scientific Name:

Populus angustifolia James



Plant Type: tree

Wetland Indicator Status: facultative wetland

General: deciduous; up to 80 ft tall; large; resinous buds; native to Idaho

Location in Idaho: C SE SW

Stems: large; thick trunks; greenish-grey bark with black spots; smooth on young trees; rough and deeply furrowed on mature trees

Leaves: alternate; lance-shaped; pointed at tip; fine and rounded teeth; dark green on upper side; light green underneath

Flowers: catkins; drooping clusters

Fruits: egg-shaped; round capsules; fluffy; hairy seeds

Common Name:

paper birch

Scientific Name:

Betula papyrifera Marsh.



Plant Type: tree

Wetland Indicator Status: facultative upland

General: perennial; spreading; up to 65 ft tall; native to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N C SE SW

Stems: several trunks; slender; occasional crystalline glands; white to yellowish-brownish; brown horizontal slits; bark peels

Leaves: alternate; egg-shaped; slender pointed; double-toothed; pale green; yellow in fall

Flowers: catkins; erect; loose hanging;

Fruits: oval; winged nutlets

Common Name:

peachleaf willow

Scientific Name:

Salix amygdaloides
Anderss.



Plant Type: tree

Wetland Indicator Status: facultative upland

General: perennial; deciduous; up to 65 ft tall; native to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N C SE SW

Stems: many stems; young branches reddish-brown and smooth; mature branches greyish with thick bark and deep furrows

Leaves: oval to lance-shaped; fine toothed; pale yellowish-green and smooth on upper side; pale and whitish to bluish, waxy coating underneath; glands near leaf base

Flowers: pale reduced leaves; catkin

Fruits: capsule

Common Name:

ponderosa pine

Scientific Name:

Pinus ponderosa Lawson & C. Lawson



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Plant Type: tree

Wetland Indicator Status: facultative upland

General: perennial; up to 200 ft tall; native to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N C SE SW

Stems: bark furrowed and thick and flaky; bark dark reddish-brown or blackish; large flaky plates

Leaves: needle; long; stiff; typically bunches of three; occasionally bunches of two; pointed not sharp; clustered at the branch ends; yellowish-green

Flowers:

Fruits: overlapping brown, woody scales; scale with pointed tip; egg-shaped; horizontal; female cones dark reddish-purple turning to reddish-brown; male cones yellow to purplish

Common Name:

quaking aspen; trembling aspen

Scientific Name:

Populus tremuloides Michx.



Plant Type: tree

Wetland Indicator Status: facultative

General: perennial; deciduous; up to 65 ft tall; buds shiny; not resinous; native to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N C SE SW

Stems: small trunk; short branches; smooth greenish-white bark with blackened spots and lines

Leaves: alternate; oval or round; fine toothed; pointed at tip

Flowers: catkins

Fruits: small; narrow capsules; cone-shaped

Common Name:

red alder

Scientific Name:

Alnus rubra Bong.



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Plant Type: tree

Wetland Indicator Status: facultative

General: perennial; deciduous; up to 80 ft tall; native to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N C SE SW

Stems: new branches smooth

Leaves: elliptical; broad; toothed; margins slightly rolled back; green on upper side; pale grey underneath

Flowers: catkins cone-like

Fruits: round; nutlet with wings

Common Name:

Rocky Mountain maple

Scientific Name:

Acer glabrum Torr.



Plant Type: tree

Wetland Indicator Status: facultative

General: perennial; deciduous; up to 23 ft tall; native to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N C SE SW

Stems: many; clumped; opposite branches; greyish bark; reddish-brown twigs

Leaves: opposite; maple-like; three to five jagged, shallow lobes; sharply toothed; dark green on upper side; light green underneath; turning orangish

Flowers: yellowish-green; five petals; loose, hanging flower clusters

Fruits: greenish to tan; winged nutlet

Common Name:

Russian olive

Scientific Name:

Elaeagnus angustifolia L.



Plant Type: tree

Wetland Indicator Status: facultative

General: perennial; deciduous; up to 25 ft tall; introduced to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N C SE SW

Stems: reddish-brown; many trunks; woody thorns

Leaves: alternate; entire; narrow; lance-shaped; silvery scales on both sides

Flowers: yellow; four petals; small flowers

Fruits: round; fleshy; silvery scales; capsule

Common Name:

salt cedar; tamarisk

Scientific Name:

Tamarix ramosissima Ledeb.



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Plant Type: tree

Wetland Indicator Status: facultative wetland

General: perennial; deciduous; up to 20 ft tall; very deep tap root; noxious weed; introduced to Idaho

Location in Idaho: SE SW

Stems: reddish-brown; many trunks; slender; flimsy

Leaves: alternate; finely divided; scale-like; bright green

Flowers: five pink petals; very small; long; narrow clusters

Fruits: lance-shaped; capsule

Common Name:

subalpine fir

Scientific Name:

Abies lasiocarpa (Hook.) Nutt.



Plant Type: tree

Wetland Indicator Status: facultative upland

General: perennial; up to 100 ft tall; narrow crown; native to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N C

Stems: short; stiff branches; drooping lower branches; young twigs reddish with hairs; bark thin and greyish-brown

Leaves: needle; stiff; whorled; curved upward; blunt; resin ducts; bluish-green

Flowers:

Fruits: overlapping woody scales; cylindrical; female cones dark purple; male cones bluish

Common Name:

water birch; spring birch

Scientific Name:

Betula occidentalis Hook.



Plant Type: tree

Wetland Indicator Status: facultative wetland

General: perennial; deciduous; up to 30 ft tall; native to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N C SE SW

Stems: crystalline-glandular (warted); occasionally smooth; bark coppery-red to purplish-brown; bark not peeling

Leaves: alternate; simple; smooth; thin; broadly oval to egg-shaped; pointed tip; double-toothed

Flowers: erect; female and male flower clusters separate but on the same plant; catkins; clusters of three

Fruits: winged nutlet

Common Name:

western hemlock

Scientific Name:

Tsuga heterophylla (Raf.) Sarg.



Plant Type: tree

Wetland Indicator Status: facultative

General: perennial; up to 160 ft tall; narrow crown; native to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N C

Stems: young branches with long hairs; bark thick, furrowed, scaly, and dark reddish-brown; downward sweeping branches

Leaves: needle; stiff; mostly flat; grooved; glossy; spreading horizontally; blunt; yellowish-green on upper side; whitish covering underneath

Flowers:

Fruits: overlapping woody scales; mostly hanging; oval; female cones greenish to brown; male cones yellow

Common Name:

western larch; western tamarack

Scientific Name:

Larix occidentalis Nutt. N Am. Sylva.



Plant Type: tree

Wetland Indicator Status: facultative upland

General: perennial; up to 250 ft tall; native to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N C SE SW

Stems: bare trunk; young twigs smooth or soft hairy; bark thick and furrowed; peeling off as brown-colored scales

Leaves: needles; fifteen to thirty; spiral bundle; pale green; stiff; long; triangular-shaped

Flowers:

Fruits: overlapping woody scales; female cones reddish-brown; male cones yellow; spine tipped

Common Name:

western red cedar

Scientific Name:

Thuja plicata



Plant Type: tree

Wetland Indicator Status: facultative

General: perennial; up to 230 ft tall; native to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N C

Stems: thin; reddish-brown; peeling bark; longitudinal ridges; spreading or drooping branches; ends of branches upturned and flattened

Leaves: scale-like; opposite; two ranked; pointed not sharp; dull; whitish

Flowers:

Fruits: bluish turning to brown; cones; egg-shaped to elliptical; overlapping woody scales; erect on stem

Common Name:

western white pine

Scientific Name:

Pinus monticola Dougl.



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Plant Type: tree

Wetland Indicator Status: facultative upland

General: perennial; up to 100 ft tall; native to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N C

Stems: bark very thin; young bark grey and smooth; mature bark small and square and flaky scales; brown underneath bark

Leaves: needle; slender; stiff; bunches of five; bluish-green; pointed not sharp

Flowers:

Fruits: overlapping woody scales; hanging; oblong or oval

Common Name:

whiplash willow; pacific willow

Scientific Name:

Salix lucida Muhl. ssp. *lasiandra* (Benth.)

A.E. Murray



Plant Type: tree

Wetland Indicator Status: facultative wetland

General: perennial; deciduous; up to 50 ft tall; native to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N C SE SW

Stems: many stems and branches; young branches light green and smooth; mature branches brown with fine covering and deep furrowed bark

Leaves: black glands near leaf base; lance-shaped; tips of leaves long and pointed; shiny and smooth on both sides

Flowers: pale reduced leaves; catkin

Fruits: capsule

Common Name:

white fir; balsam fir

Scientific Name:

Abies concolor (Gord. & Glend.) Lindl. ex
Hildebr.



Plant Type: tree

Wetland Indicator Status: facultative upland

General: perennial; up to 250 ft tall; native to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N C SE SW

Stems: young twigs smooth and shiny and pale greenish to yellowish-brown; mature twigs furrowed and grey to brownish; thick bark

Leaves: flat needle; horizontal spreading; whirled; curving upward; rounded; small resin ducts; bluish-green

Flowers:

Fruits: overlapping woody scales; oval; oblong; erect on stem; female cones yellow to brown or greenish-purple; male cones yellow to dark-red

Common Name:

white spruce

Scientific Name:

Picea glauca (Moench) Voss



Plant Type: tree

Wetland Indicator Status: facultative upland

General: perennial; up to 82 ft tall; native to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N C

Stems: smooth; shiny; younger bark yellowish-brown; mature bark thin and silvery-brown

Leaves: needle; stiff; whorled all around; greenish waxy coating; rounded to blunt point

Flowers:

Fruits: overlapping woody scales; stiff scales with smooth, rounded tips; hanging down; oval

Common Name:

white willow; weeping willow

Scientific Name:

Salix alba L.



Plant Type: tree

Wetland Indicator Status: facultative wetland

General: perennial; deciduous; up to 80 ft tall; introduced to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N C SE SW

Stems: single trunk or many spreading stems; fragile twigs; yellowish

Leaves: alternate; long; narrow; smooth; sharply toothed along edges; shiny green on upperside; pale and whitish to bluish waxy coating underneath

Flowers: catkins; yellow scales

Fruits: capsule

Common Name:

whitebark pine

Scientific Name:

Pinus albicaulis Engelm.



Plant Type: tree

Wetland Indicator Status: facultative upland

General: perennial; up to 50 ft tall; native to Idaho

Location in Idaho: N C SE SW

Stems: bark thin, brown with whitish scales; young twigs hairy

Leaves: needle; clusters of five; stiff; yellowish-green

Flowers:

Fruits: overlapping woody scales; hanging; egg-shaped; female cones reddish-purple; male cones red

GLOSSARY

achene	a small, dry fruit with one seed, for example a sunflower seed
aquatic	plant growing in water
bract	a leaf or leaf-like structure near the base of the flower
capsule	a dry fruit, for example an iris seed pod
catkin	long, drooping flower cluster without petals, for example birch and willow
entire	not toothed or divided
facultative	equally likely to occur in wetlands or non-wetlands (estimated probability 34%-66%)
facultative upland	usually occurs in non-wetlands (estimated probability 67%-99%), but occasionally found on wetlands (estimated probability 1%-33%)
facultative wetland	usually occurs in wetlands (estimated probability 67%-99%), but occasionally found in non-wetlands
forb	a non-grasslike herbaceous (non-woody) plant
grain	a dry fruit with one seed, for example a barley or oat seed
grass	plant with linear, parallel veined leaves; generally hollow, jointed stems, no petals
leaflet	a division of a compound leaf; a leaf made of smaller leaf segments
nutlet	a small nut
obligate upland	occurs in wetlands in another region, but occurs almost always (estimated probability 99%) under natural conditions in non-wetlands in the regions specified. If a species does not occur in wetlands in any region, it is not on the National List.
obligate wetland	occurs almost always (estimated probability 99%) under natural conditions in wetlands.
rhizomatous	containing horizontal underground stems from which new plants form
rush	generally cylindrical stems, six scales, no petals, three chambered capsule
sedge	generally three-sided stems, reduced scales or absent petals, achenes

GLOSSARY, *continued*

sepal	an outer segment of the flower, not a petal, but petal-like
shrub	a woody plant with several stems, shorter than a tree
spikelet	flower cluster of grasses and sedges
stamen	the male part of the flower consisting of the anther and filament
tree	a large, woody plant, usually with a single main stem or trunk
N	North Idaho
C	Central Idaho
SE	Southeastern Idaho
SW	Southwestern Idaho

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Riparian Plant Reference Guide

Field Guide for Identifying Riparian Plants



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