

Western Red Cedar



Scale-like leaves, closely pressed to stem



Seed cones green when immature, turning brown



Buttressed base

©T. Neuffer

Thuja Plicata

PNW Native Plant

Generous Evergreen Tree

Tree of Life

Cultural Uses:

Cedar wood is a culturally important resource, known as “the cornerstone of Northwest Coast Indian culture.” The many uses of Cedar wood include; house planks, boxes, dugouts, arrow shafts , and posts. The bark is used more often and the uses include; clothes, ceremonial head bands, dishes, mats, baskets, sails and cooking pit liners. It also had many medicinal uses from chewing the buds to boiling the leaves for coughs.

Part sun

Moist to wet soils

Ecology:

Shaded forests, grows best on seepage, bogs, and bottomlands

General:

Western Red Cedar grows mostly on low, moist or wet bottomlands and is shade tolerant. This tall and straight large tree can reach up to 200 feet tall and grow 3 to 5 feet in diameter. Its branches spread horizontally, tips up-turned; then, below, they take a down curve. Mature trees often fluted and buttressed at the base. Red Cedars range from sea level to 4500', growing from Alaska down into Northern California.

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