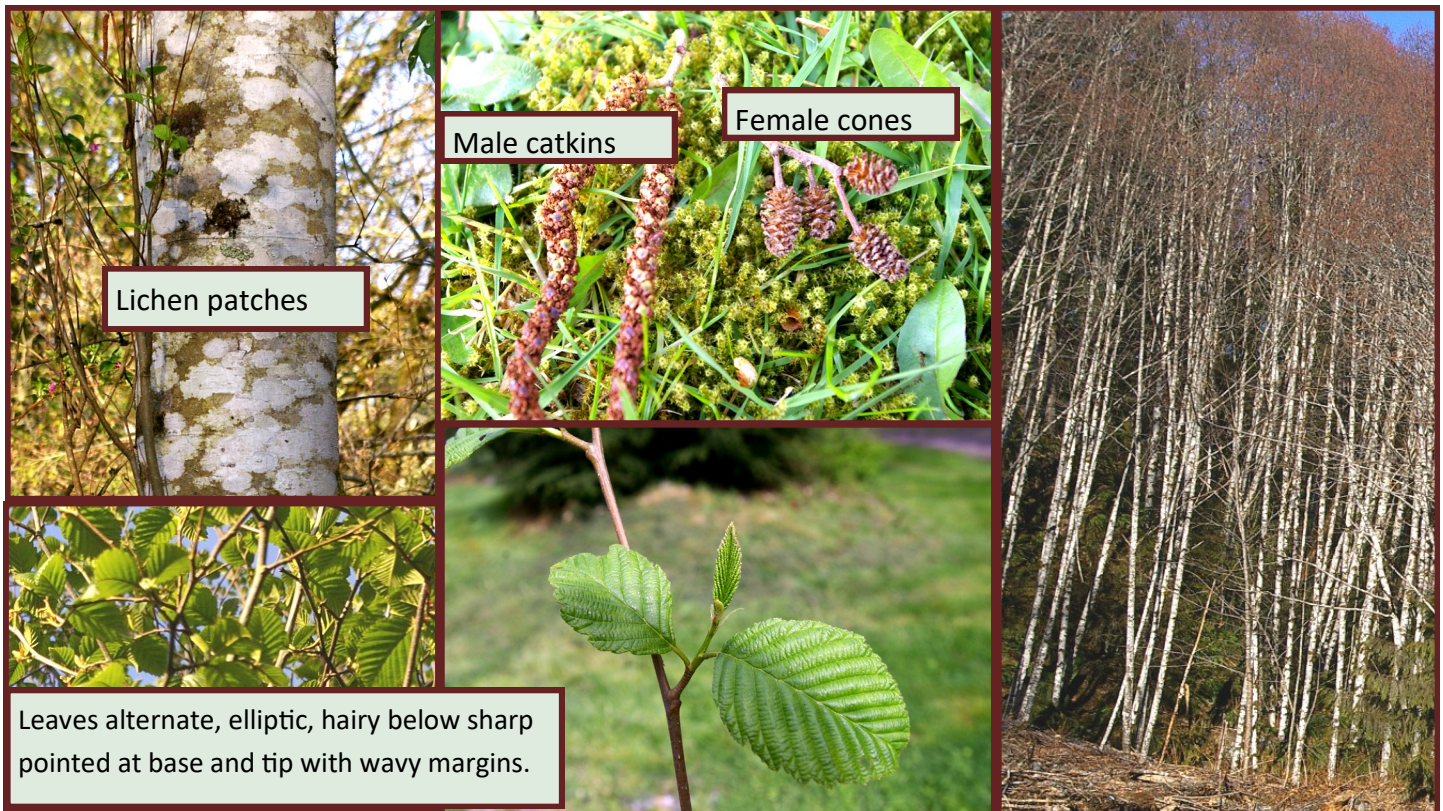


Red Alder



Lichen patches

Male catkins

Female cones

Leaves alternate, elliptic, hairy below sharp pointed at base and tip with wavy margins.

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PNW Native Plant

Alnus rubra

Deciduous Tree *Salmon Smoker*

Cultural Uses:

Red-alder wood is considered the best fuel for smoking salmon and fish. When inner bark is exposed to air it turns bright red making it valuable as a dye. The inner bark of red alder is eaten in spring by the Straits Salish and is valued for its medicinal qualities.

Mostly Sunny



Moist soils

Ecology: Moist woods, stream-banks, flood-plains, slide tracks

Restoration and Landscape Uses:

Red Alder prefers mostly sunny conditions. It likes moist soil and forms dense stands and is the first tree to appear after logging. It can grow up to 130 feet tall but usually reaches 30-50 feet in height. The bark is gray, smooth and thin with distinctive patches of white lichen. As the tree ages the bark appears scaly at the base. Red Alder is a nitrogen fixer.