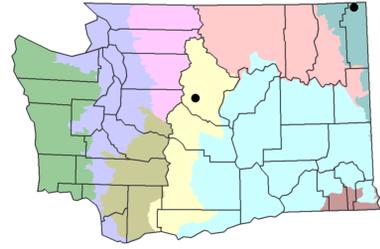


Salix pseudomonticola C.R. Ball
false mountain willow
Salicaceae - willow family
status: State Sensitive, USFS sensitive
rank: G4G5 / S1



General Description: Adapted from Douglas et al. (1998-2002) and Klinkenberg (2008): Shrub 1-6 m tall, not colonial, branches erect. Twigs yellowish green, turning dark when dry, shiny, densely hairy to hairless. Leaves alternate, simple, elliptic to egg-shaped, 2.5-10 x 1.2-3.5 cm, margins finely toothed or entire, tips pointed, bases rounded or heart-shaped. Lower surface whitish waxy, with white hairs or becoming hairless; upper surface shiny or dull, smooth or midrib hairy. Petioles 5-10 (15 mm), without glandular dots at top. Stipules leaflike, 1-12 mm long.

Floral Characteristics: Male and female catkins borne on separate plants. Catkins stout, unstalked, floral bracts dark. Male catkins 2-3.5 cm long, about 1 cm thick; stamens 2. Female catkins 2-6 cm long at maturity; ovary 1, smooth. Style elongate, 0.5-1.8 mm long. Catkins flower before the leaves emerge in the spring.

Fruits: Capsules hairless, 4-7 mm long, stalk 0.5-3 mm; seeds surrounded by a tuft of hairs.

Identification Tips: This taxon is not in Hitchcock & Cronquist (1973). It would key to *Salix monticola* there; but *S. monticola* does not occur in the Pacific Northwest. *S. maccalliana* is distinguished by capsules covered with dense, curly, white hairs. *S. prolixa* has larger leaves (5-15 x 1-5.3 cm), yellow to redish brown twigs, and catkins that flower as the leaves emerge. *S. barclayi* has generally wider leaves (1-5 cm wide), toothed leaf margins, and catkins that flower as the leaves emerge.

Range: AK, most of Canada, south through WA, ID, WY, SD, and MN.

Habitat/Ecology: Wet meadows, stream banks, lake edges, hummocks in calcareous peat fens, thickets, and floodplains; found in montane to lower subalpine sites. Associated species include subalpine fir (*Abies lasiocarpa*), Engelmann spruce (*Picea engelmannii*), resin birch (*Betula glandulosa*), Maccall's willow (*Salix maccalliana*), alderleaf buckthorn (*Rhamnus alnifolia*), sedges (*Carex lasiocarpa*, *C. cusickii*, *C. utricularia*), cotton-grass (*Eriophorum* spp.), and mosses (*Sphagnum* spp. and others). Elevations in WA: 900-1680 m (2950-5500 ft).

Comments: This taxon is also rare in ID, MT, WY, B.C., and Ontario. The report from Chelan Co. needs to be confirmed.

References: Douglas et al. 1998-2002, vol. 5; Klinkenberg 2008.



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