

WACD PLANT MATERIALS CENTER

16564 Bradley Road, Bow WA 98232

(360) 757-1094

Coyote Willow (*Salix exigua*)

Distribution

Coyote Willow is one of the more readily identifiable Willow species that grows in eastern Cascades. It can be found south to California, north to Alaska and east across North America.

Growth Habit

It has distinctive grayish-green leaves that are 2 - 4" long, relatively narrow, which taper to a point on either end. The underside of the leaves have soft hairs that appear as a white powder. The shrub grows in thickets ranging from 6 to 20 feet tall, with an open, upright growth habit. It is a thicket-forming species that can spread via underground stems.

Adaptability

Coyote Willow is suitable for use along stream banks and bottomlands throughout eastern Washington at lower to mid elevations on wet to moist soils in partial shade.

Comments

- The Coyote Willow grown at the PMC originated from cuttings collected in Columbia County.
- Important soil stabilizer in riparian areas due to it's quick rooting ability.
- Also known by other common names such as sandbar willow, gray willow, narrow-leaved willow, dusky willow and pussy willow.
- The branches were used by many Native Americans for baskets, beds, housing and much more.

