## WACD PLANT MATERIALS CENTER

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# Pacific Crabapple (Malus fusca)

### Distribution

Native Crabapple can be found throughout western North America from Alaska to California.

#### **Growth Habit**

Native Crabapple is a small tree, or an upright deciduous shrub. It can grow to 30 feet high and spread to 12 feet wide. Attractive white to pink, fragrant, apple blossoms produce small, edible, but tart fruits.

## **Adaptability**

Native crabapple is typically found in moist woods, swamps, and low, damp sites such as stream sides and moist fields. It grows best in wet to moist areas with partial to full sun.

## **Comments**

- Native Crabapple is an excellent soil and streambank stabilizer, and an important wildlife species.
- It produces small oblong crabapples in late summer. The fruit remains well into winter, providing food for a wide variety of birds, including purple finches.
- The fruit can be eaten raw or cooked but has an acidic flavor.
- Often found in parks and gardens as an ornamental tree.

