Lower Columbia River Floodplain Habitat Revegetation in a Changing Climate





Marshall Johnson, Lower Columbia Estuary Partnership

















Habitat Restoration Program

Restoration Project With Funding Through Estuary Partnership



Horsetail Creek Floodplain Restoration







Thousand Acres Floodplain Restoration









La Center Wetlands Floodplain Restoration













Restoration of native vegetation:

- Preserve existing established vegetation
- Control competitive weeds prior to planting
- Minimize ground disturbance and soil compaction
- Keep healthy topsoil on top
- Use correct elevations to support the plant community
- Use the appropriate species
- Budget for establishment









"**Toolbox approach**" to managing ecosystem responses to climate change feature three basic adaptive strategies:

(1) promoting resistance to change,

(2) promoting resilience to change, and

(3) facilitating response to change

(Joyce et al. 2009, Millar et al. 2007, Spies et al. 2010, Stephens et al. 2010)



United States Department of Agriculture

Climate Change Effects on Vegetation in the Pacific Northwest: A Review and Synthesis of the Scientific Literature and Simulation Model Projections

David W. Peterson, Becky K. Kerns, and Erich K. Dodson





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Pacific Northwest Research Station General Technical Report PNW-GTR-900

September 2014

PLANTS Database: USDA, NRCS

USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service



Citation: PLANTS Database: USDA, NRCS. 2016. The PLANTS Database (<u>http://plants.usda.gov</u>, 18 May 2016). National Plant Data Team, Greensboro, NC 27401-4901 USA.

Impact of climate change on Lower Columbia estuary floodplains:

- Increased winter precipitation and flooding
- Decreased snowpack resulting in decreased spring and early summer flooding
- Decreased summer and early fall precipitation

Drought tolerance?



"Species differ in their tolerances of heat and drought stress, so stress-related mortality tends to favor some species over others and can produce significant changes in vegetation structure and composition (Koepke et al. 2010, Mueller et al. 2005)."



Defined for the PLANTS database as: "...relative tolerance of the plant to drought conditions compared to other species with the same growth habit from the same geographical region...."

| Species | Drought Tolerance? |
|---|--------------------|
| Oregon white oak (Quercus garryana) | High |
| Oregon ash (<i>Fraxinus latifolia</i>) | No data (FACW) |
| Black cottonwood (Populus trichocarpa) | Low |
| Red alder (<i>Alnus rubra</i>) | Medium |
| Sitka willow (Salix sitchensis) | Medium |
| Pacific willow (Salix lasiandra) | Low |
| Scouler's willow (Salix scouleriana) | No data (FACW) |
| Redstem dogwood (Cornus sericea) | Low |
| Red elderberry (Sambucus racemosa) | No data (FACU) |
| Nutka rose (<i>Rosa nutkana</i>) | Low |
| Clustered rose (Rosa pisocarpa) | No data (FAC) |
| Snowberry (Symphoricarpos albus) | High |
| Pacific ninebark (<i>Physocarpus capitatus</i>) | Low |
| Black twinberry (Lonicera involucrata) | Low |
| Douglas spirea (Spiraea douglasii) | Medium |

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USDA United States Department of Agriculture Natural Resources Conservation Service





Trailing edge of range?



Velocity of Change is a concept referring to the rates at which plant and animal species would have to migrate in the future to track their current environmental conditions (Loarie et al. 2009).

"Biogeographical models suggest that most plant species will have to migrate in response to changing climate in the next century or face dramatic reductions in species ranges and possible extinction." *Quercus garryana* Douglas ex Hook. Oregon white oak

Show All



| General Information | |
|---------------------|----------------|
| Symbol: | QUGA4 |
| Group: | Dicot |
| Family: | Fagaceae |
| Duration: | Perennial |
| Growth Habit: | Shrub Tree |
| Native Status: | CAN N L48 N |
| Characteristics | |
| Plant Guide (pdf) | (doc) |
| Data Source and | Documentatio |



Fraxinus latifolia Benth. Oregon ash





| Symbol: | FRLA |
|----------------|----------------|
| Group: | Dicot |
| Family: | Oleaceae |
| Duration: | Perennial |
| Growth Habit: | Tree |
| Native Status: | CAN N L48 N |
| | |



Populus balsamifera L. subsp. trichocarpa (Torr. & A. Gray ex Hook.) Brayshaw black cottonwood





| General Information | |
|------------------------|------------------------|
| Symbol: | POBAT |
| Group: | Dicot |
| Famil <mark>y</mark> : | Salicaceae |
| Duration: | Perennial |
| Growth Habit: | Tree |
| Native Status: | AK N CAN N L48 N |
| Characteristics | |
| Plant Guide (pdf) | (doc) |
| Data Source and | Documentatio |



Alnus rubra Bong. red alder



| General Information | |
|---------------------|------------------------|
| Symbol: | ALRU2 |
| Group: | Dicot |
| Family: | Betulaceae |
| Duration: | Perennial |
| Growth Habit: | Tree |
| Native Status: | AK N CAN N L48 N |
| Characteristics | |
| Plant Guide (pdf) | (doc) |
| Data Source and | Documentation |

About our new maps



Show All

Salix sitchensis Sanson ex Bong. Sitka willow





| General Information | |
|---------------------|------------------------|
| Symbol: | SASI2 |
| Group: | Dicot |
| Family: | Salicaceae |
| Duration: | Perennial |
| Growth Habit: | Shrub Tree |
| Native Status: | AK N CAN N L48 N |
| Characteristics | |
| Plant Guide (pdf) | (doc) |
| Data Source and | Documentation |



Salix Iucida Muhl. subsp. Iasiandra (Benth.) A.E. Murray Pacific willow





| Symbol: | SALUL |
|-----------------|------------------------|
| Group: | Dicot |
| Family: | Salicaceae |
| Duration: | Perennial |
| Growth Habit: | Shrub Tree |
| Native Status: | AK N CAN N L48 N |
| Characteristics | |



SHOW AI

Scouler's willow



| Symbol: | SASC |
|----------------|------------------------|
| Group: | Dicot |
| Family: | Salicaceae |
| Duration: | Perennial |
| Growth Habit: | Shrub Tree |
| Native Status: | AK N CAN N L48 N |



Cornus sericea L. subsp. sericea redosier dogwood





| General Information | |
|---|--------------------------------------|
| Symbol: | COSES |
| Group: | Dicot |
| Family: | Cornaceae |
| Duration: | Perennial |
| Growth Habit: | Shrub Tree |
| Native Status: | AK N CAN N L48 N SPM N |
| Other Common Names: | Siberian dogwood Tatarian dogwood |
| Characteristics | |
| Fact Sheet (pdf) (doc) Plant Guide (pdf) (doc) | |



Sambucus racemosa L. red elderberry



| Symbol: | SARA2 |
|------------------|------------------------|
| Group: | Dicot |
| Family: | Caprifoliaceae |
| Duration: | Perennial |
| Growth Habit: | Shrub Tree |
| Native Status: | AK N CAN N L48 N |
| Fact Sheet (pdf) | (doc) |

About our new maps



Show All

Rosa nutkana C. Presl Nootka rose

Show All



| Symbol: | RONU |
|-----------------|------------------------|
| Group: | Dicot |
| Family: | Rosaceae |
| Duration: | Perennial |
| Growth Habit: | Subshrub |
| Native Status: | AK N CAN N L48 N |
| Characteristics | |



Rosa pisocarpa A. Gray cluster rose





| Symbol: | ROPI2 |
|----------------|----------------|
| Group: | Dicot |
| Family: | Rosaceae |
| Duration: | Perennial |
| Growth Habit: | Subshrub |
| Native Status: | CAN N L48 N |



Symphoricarpos albus (L.) S.F. Blake common snowberry





| Symbol: | SYAL |
|-----------------|------------------------|
| Group: | Dicot |
| Family: | Caprifoliaceae |
| Duration: | Perennial |
| Growth Habit: | Shrub Subshrub |
| Native Status: | AK N CAN N L48 N |
| Characteristics | 10 |

About our new maps

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Physocarpus capitatus (Pursh) Kuntze Pacific ninebark





| General III | ormation |
|--------------------|------------------------|
| Symbol: | PHCA11 |
| Group: | Dicot |
| Family: | Rosaceae |
| Duration: | Perennial |
| Growth Habit: | Shrub |
| Native Status: | AK N CAN N L48 N |
| Characteristics | |
| Fact Sheet (pdf) (| doc) |
| Data Source and | Documentation |



Lonicera involucrata (Richardson) Banks ex Spreng. twinberry honeysuckle





| Symbol: | LOIN5 |
|---------------------------------------|------------------------|
| Group: | Dicot |
| Family: | Caprifoliaceae |
| Duration: | Perennial |
| Growth Habit: | Shrub |
| Native Status: | AK N CAN N L48 N |
| Characteristics | |
| Fact Sheet (pdf) Plant Guide (pdf) | (doc)) (doc) |
| Data Source and | Documentatio |



Spiraea douglasii Hook. rose spirea



| Symbol: | SPDO |
|--------------------|------------------------|
| Group: | Dicot |
| Family: | Rosaceae |
| Duration: | Perennial |
| Growth Habit: | Shrub |
| Native Status: | AK N CAN N L48 N |
| Characteristics | |
| Fact Sheet (pdf) (| doc) |

About our new maps



Show All

| Species | Trailing edge? |
|---|----------------|
| Oregon white oak (Quercus garryana) | No |
| Oregon ash (<i>Fraxinus latifolia</i>) | No |
| Black cottonwood (Populus trichocarpa) | No |
| Red alder (<i>Alnus rubra</i>) | Maybe |
| Sitka willow (Salix sitchensis) | Maybe |
| Pacific willow (Salix lasiandra) | No |
| Scouler's willow (Salix scouleriana) | No |
| Redstem dogwood (Cornus sericea) | No |
| Red elderberry (Sambucus racemosa) | No |
| Nutka rose (<i>Rosa nutkana</i>) | Yes |
| Clustered rose (Rosa pisocarpa) | Yes |
| Snowberry (Symphoricarpos albus) | No |
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Does the species have more phenotypic plasticity?

- physiological processes (respiration and growth rates)
- morphology (height, leave size, allocation to roots)
- and reproduction (methods, timing)

Is the species adapted to more frequent disturbance?

"Recent evidence suggests that invasive plants may be better able to adjust to rapid changes in abiotic conditions by tracking seasonal temperature trends and shifting their phenologies (e.g., earlier spring warming)" (Willis et al. 2010).

| Species | Expert recommendations? |
|---|-------------------------|
| Oregon white oak (Quercus garryana) | |
| Oregon ash (<i>Fraxinus latifolia</i>) | Use less |
| Black cottonwood (Populus trichocarpa) | Use less |
| Red alder (<i>Alnus rubra</i>) | |
| Sitka willow (Salix sitchensis) | |
| Pacific willow (Salix lasiandra) | Use less |
| Scouler's willow (Salix scouleriana) | |
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