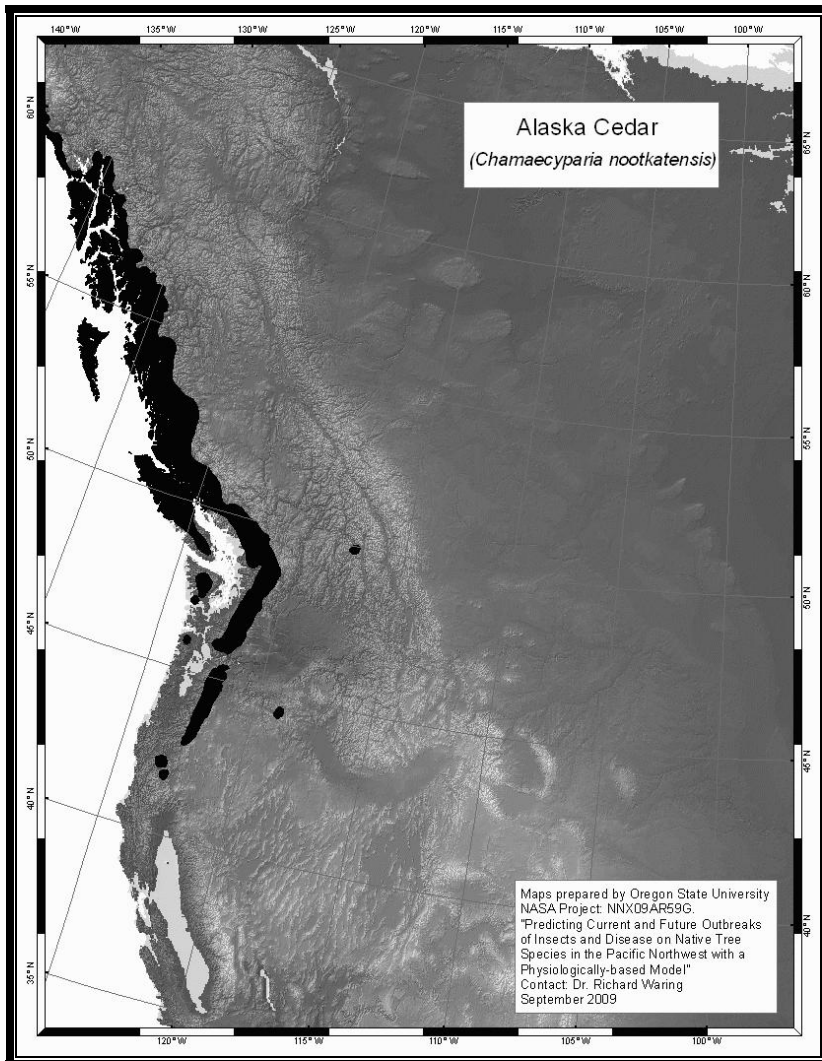


Species Silvics

Scientific Name: Alaska / Yellow cedar

Common name: *Chamaecyparis nootkatensis*



Climate:

Yellow cedar is a coastal species found extensively in hypermaritime and maritime influenced coastal British Columbia, pacific coast Alaska, and south into Washington state and Oregon. Yellow grows best on fresh to wet soils with moderate nutrient levels. Yellow cedar is distributed at higher elevations than western red cedar (*Thuja plicata*) in the montane and subalpine. Range is restricted almost entirely to heavily maritime influenced areas.

Wood and form:

Yellow cedar grows slowly to about 40m, resulting in strong tight grained wood that is light, and like western red cedar is resistant to decay. The wood has a light yellow coloration and recognizable smell. Branches and leader are flexible and have a drooping character.

Bark:

The bark is smooth and gray when very young, becoming scaly, then ridged and fibrous when mature.

Cones:

Seed cones are small (8-12mm diameter) and spherical with triangular projections.

Foliage:

Leaves of yellow cedar are scale-like and braided in appearance.

Ecology:

Yellow cedar has the ability to reproduce vegetatively whereby the lower branches may root and eventually become a individual clone of its mother tree.

Uses:

The wood from yellow cedar is very valuable for its strength and aesthetic properties. The majority of high quality timber is exported to Japan where it is used decoratively in home construction and for the rebuilding of temples as a substitute for rare native Hinoki cedar (*Chamaecyparis obtusa*).