

Alaska Salix Mini-Guide

From 'Learning Alaska Willows'

A presentation to the Alaska Native Plant Society, Anchorage

2025-02-05

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See <http://is.gd/akwillow> for more resources

# 36 native *Salix* species in Alaska

<i>lasiandra</i> (2 × var.) * <b>S</b>	<i>candida</i>	<i>planifolia</i> *
<i>interior</i> <b>L</b>	<i>chamissonis</i> *	<i>polaris</i> *
<i>setchelliana</i> <b>L</b>	<i>commutata</i>	<i>prolixa</i> *
<i>reticulata</i> <b>R</b>	<i>fuscescens</i>	<i>pseudomonticola</i>
<i>alaxensis</i> (2 × var.) *	<i>glauca</i> (2 × var.) *	<i>pseudomyrsinites</i>
<i>arbusculoides</i>	<i>hastata</i>	<i>pulchra</i> *
<i>arctica</i> *	<i>hookeriana</i> *	<i>richardsonii</i>
<i>arctophila</i> *	<i>myrtilifolia</i>	<i>rotundifolia</i> *
<i>athabascensis</i>	<i>niphoclada</i>	<i>scouleriana</i> *
<i>barclayi</i> *	<i>nummularia</i>	<i>sitchensis</i>
<i>barrattiana</i> *	<i>ovalifolia</i> (4 × var.)	<i>sphenophylla</i> *
<i>bebbiana</i>	<i>phlebophylla</i>	<i>stolonifera</i>

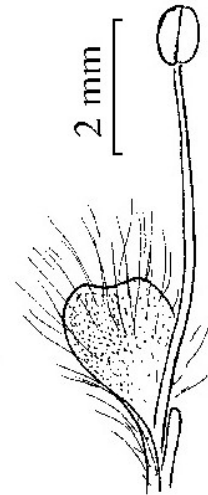
From Argus (2011); \* = polyploid; classification: **S** = subg. *Salix*, **L** = subg. *Longifoliae*, **R** = basal *reticulata* clade; other taxa are in *Chamaetia/Vetrix* group.

*S. alaxensis* ("felt leaf")



**Woolly leaf underside; twigs straight; smooth bark;  
long, erect mature female catkins; precocious**

*S. sitchensis* ("Sitka")



John Myers, FNA

**Leaf underside silvery hairy; thick secondary veins; single anther; long, erect mature female catkins; precocious**

*S. bebbiana* ("Bebb's")



Most common in Fairbanks; 'diamond willow'; leaves small, variable; **long stipe**; fragrant, **bright yellow** male flowers

*S. scouleriana* (“Scouler’s”)



Biggest in Fairbanks; usually multistemmed;  
leaf **obovate**, often leathery; margin recurved; precocious

*S. lasiandra* ("Pacific")



Stems straight, upright; leaves **lanceolate**, glabrous with large marginal glands; stipules circular, glandular; *distinctive!*

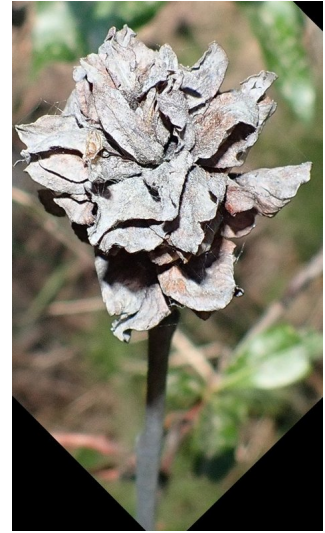
*S. arbusculoides* ("little-tree")



Shrubs to trees; leaves **narrow**, upper side glossy, underside with sparse, straight **parallel** hairs; flowers sparse; precocious



*S. pulchra* (“diamond-leaf”)



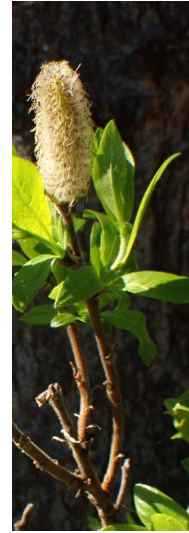
Shrubs; Leaf **diamond-shaped**;  
catkins **erect**; precocious; frequently with **rose galls**

*S. pseudomonticola* ("park")



Shrubs; often waterside; young leaves and petioles **red**; **cherry-like**;  
stipules large; precocious

*S. barclayi* ("Barclay's")



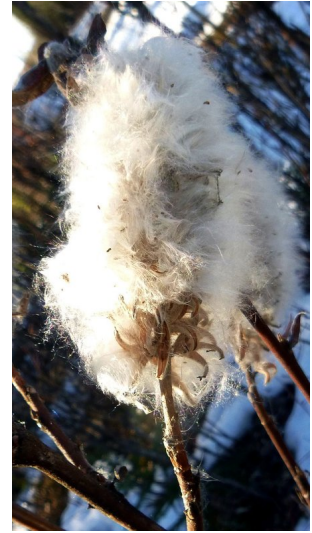
Shrubs; dominant in Alaska Range; leaves **glaucous** below, **toothed**, usu. glabrous sometimes hairy; often with rose galls

*S. interior* ("sandbar")



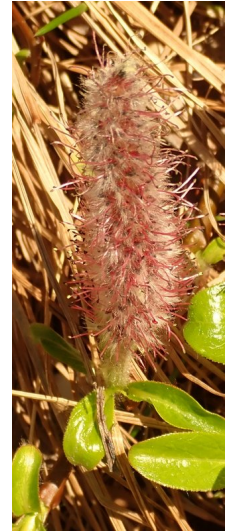
Usually on sandbars where they are dominant; shrubs;  
leaves **narrow**, almost **succulent**

*S. glauca* ("gray-leaf")



Shrubs; leaves usu. narrow obovate, entire, slightly hairy below; stipules **long, persistent; last to flower and fruit; fruits overwinter**

*S. arctica* ("arctic")



Low but not tiny; trailing stems; leaves obovate, **waxy glaucous** below; **tall, erect catkins**

*S. reticulata* (“net-vein”)



Low but not tiny; leaves obovate, dark green, glossy above, with **tertiary and quaternary veins deeply impressed above**