



Red Alder

Alnus rubra

Birch Family (*Betulaceae*)

General Description: Reaches heights of 50-120 ft. The crown is conical and the trunk quite straight, although red alders often have two leading branches.

Key Characteristics: Smooth silvery grey bark when mature, trunks sometimes covered with white patches of lichens. Young bark reddish green. Leaf buds alternately arranged and 5/8" long. Leaf scars kidney shaped with dip on top. Three bundle scars, center raised and compound.

Confused With: Alder catkins are in clusters while hazel catkins are singular.

Photo: Joe Bettis