



Western Hazel

Corylus cornuta

Birch Family (*Betulaceae*)

General Description: A large shrub, sometimes seen as a small tree. Bark is gray-brown to light brown.

Key Characteristics: Alternate buds, long oval covered in brown-red hairs; triangular leaf scars with 3 bundle scars; terminal bud usually droops downward. Greenish to tan male catkins, grow in singles or pairs.

Confused With: Juvenile easily confused for thimbleberry. However, hazel is branched with rounder buds and more pubescence. Non-native hazels have larger, bright yellow catkins which grow in clusters of 3 or more.

Photo: Joe Bettis