

Red Alder

Alnus rubra ~ Birch Family

Lummi: sqwong-ilhch **Nooksack:** kwenípimay7

Ethnobotany

- Wood is a favorite for smoking fish & carving dishes, spoons & masks; bark yields a red dye

Habitat Value

- Seeds & insects hiding in “cones” are eaten by small birds
- Leaves are eaten by some butterfly larvae

Characteristics

- Long male catkins appear before the leaves
- Clusters of small brown fruit “cones” stay on the tree over winter



Sponsors

City of Bellingham
Washington State Department of Ecology

Artist

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