

## Choke Cherry

*Prunus virginiana*

**Distribution:** Choke Cherry is widespread at low to mid elevations throughout the region.

**Growth:** Choke Cherry grows as a large heavy deciduous shrub or small tree. It can grow from 10 to 20' tall. It is often found growing in groups that grow together to form large groves.

**Adaptability:** Choke Cherry grows in a wide range of habitats, from riparian areas to dry upland sites. It is most commonly found in sites that are moist. It often grows in sagebrush, bunchgrass, and Ponderosa Pine ecosystems.

**Comments:** Choke Cherry is a good restoration and wildlife species. It grows in a wide range of sites. The dark red *cherries* are an important food for many birds and mammals. The berries are also used for jams and jellies but are considered too tart for fresh eating.

