

Oceanspray (*Holodiscus discolor*)

Distribution: Oceanspray is found throughout western North America at low to mid elevations.

Growth: Oceanspray is an upright, multi-stemmed deciduous shrub. It can grow to over 10 feet tall and spread to over 6 feet wide. In many sites they can spread, creating dense thickets. It's white to cream lilac-like clusters turn brown and produce seed.

Adaptability: Oceanspray is a remarkably adaptable species. It is particularly well suited to rocky slopes that are moist to dry and well drained with partial shade to full sun.

Comments: Oceanspray is a good conservation species as well as a favored ornamental for landscapes. Its dense, matting root system is excellent for soil stabilization. Birds feed upon the seeds, which can persist into winter. The masses of cream-colored flower clusters are attractive in spring. Native peoples used its strong, straight stems for arrow shafts and digging implements. Pioneering families fashioned pegs from the stems to use as a substitute for nails in construction projects.

