

Trees



JUOS (NP)

Juniperus osteosperma



Common Name(s): Utah juniper

Identifying Characteristics

- Mature plants can be up to 10 m tall.
- The trunk is often branched several times at the base.
- Plants are highly branched above the base, and have a rounded, spreading appearance.
- Leaves are small, scale-like and occur in 3's (3 leaves occur around the diameter of the branch at the same distance from the base of the branch).
- Cones are berry-like and blue to black in color with a waxy coating.

Site and Habitat

Scattered on medium to coarse-texture soils, on and around basalt outcroppings, and around the buttes and foothills.

Not to Be Mistaken For:

JUSC - JUSC has an upright appearance, seldom branches at the base, and leaves occur in 2's; JUOS has a spreading appearance, usually branches at the base, and leaves occur in 3's.