



This tree is found frequently throughout the eastern half of Wyoming ranging from the Black Hills to the Laramie Mountains and the Bighorns. The tree is known for its ability to withstand the heat of wildfires because of its thick, reddish-colored bark.



This evergreen is found throughout the state. The species is known for often having serotinous cones that only open to release seeds when the cone is heated. Once the limbs are removed, this tree makes an excellent pole for teepees because of its long, slender trunk.



This species is found at drier and lower elevations compared to some of the other trees pictured. This tree shares its name with the town in central Wyoming.



This Wyoming tree is a remnant of the last ice age and is found exclusively in the Black Hills of Wyoming and South Dakota. It grows at higher elevations along riparian or wet areas in its native habitat.

NAME THAT GYMNOSPERM

Wyoming is host to many conifer (gymnosperm or “naked seed” plants including conifer, cycads, and ginkos) tree species. The cones in this quiz and their parent trees are found at different geographical locations across the Cowboy State. Some are found

in hot, dry, and low elevations while others are found in cold and high elevations. Cones are an excellent tool that can be used for identification of evergreens. Match the tree to the photo. Good luck and keep an eye out for these trees this year!



Known for having extremely flexible limbs, this tree is often found braving Wyoming’s brutal wind growing on bare, rocky outcroppings.



This species is probably better known as an ornamental in Wyoming but is also a native growing in small populations near or in wet areas in western Wyoming. It looks similar to the cone in picture G but is distinguished by longer cones than its cousin.



This tree is found in most high-elevation forests of Wyoming. Blowing snow and ice at high elevations carves the tree into a Krummholz form – a low-growing bonsai shape.



This tree grows at high elevations and also can be found in a Krummholz formation given the right conditions. The sap of this tree was sometimes used as a gum by American Indian tribes.

A. Ponderosa pine, B. Lodgepole pine, C. Douglas fir, D. White spruce, E. Limber pine, F. Blue spruce, G. Engelmann spruce, H. Sub-alpine fir.