

AHTNA USES OF PLANTS
OCCURRING AT THE WRANGELL-ST ELIAS NATIONAL PARK & PRESERVE
VISITOR CENTER SITE

SUMMARY OF INFORMATION PROVIDED BY
AHTNA ELDERS
TO PRISCELLA RUSSELL IN INTERVIEWS CONDUCTED
SEPTEMBER 1998

1998 Wrangell-St. Elias National Park and Preserve
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Introduction

Priscella Russell was contracted by Wrangell-St. Elias National Park and Preserve to compile information on Ahtna plant uses found at the visitor center site to assist in the interpretation of Ahtna ethnobotany. Ms. Russell had conducted interviews on plant uses with Ahtna elders during the 1970's while assisting Dr. James Kari in the preparation of an Ahtna dictionary. Many of the elders interviewed at this time have since died. This information was seen as immensely valuable, not only in providing an opportunity for visitors to have a better understanding of one aspect of Ahtna life, but primarily to make this information available to the Ahtna so that they may preserve this heritage.

Methodology

Ms. Russell synthesized information about plants found at the visitor site from her work in the 1970's into a document which she provided to the National Park Service (NPS) and to the Ahtna villages in April 1998 (Russell 1998). Then, in September 1998 she conducted interviews with eight Ahtna elders to verify and enhance this information (Table 1).

Ms. Russell was assisted by Gloria Stickwan of Copper River Native Association (CRNA) during all the interviews. The interviews were taped when the elders gave approval. These tapes were provided to the Ahtna consultants, the Ahtna Heritage Foundation, Copper River Native Association, Tazlina Village and Kluti-kaah Village. Ms. Russell also sent Ahtna Heritage Foundation a copy of her notes, which were reviewed and then provided to Wrangell-St. Elias National Park and Preserve.

Ruth Ann Warden, interpreter with the National Park Service (NPS), accompanied Ms. Russell on an interview with her grandparents, Harry and Ruth Johns. Mary Beth Cook, NPS botanist was present at interviews conducted with Ruth and Harry Johns and with Millie Buck.

This document summarizes the information from Ms. Russell's 1998 handwritten interview notes provided to us by the Ahtna Heritage Foundation. Interview data was entered into the relational database, Filemaker.pro, so that records could be linked to a taxonomic database being used by the park botanist. This facilitates consistency in nomenclature and the sorting of data by a given field, such as Ahtna plant name or consultant name.

First, data from the September 1998 interviews were entered into the file Ahtna1.fp3 and then summarized by species in

Ahtna2.fp3. Then, pertinent information was entered from Ms. Russell's April 1998 report (Russell 1998) into Ahtna2.fp3. As mentioned above, this report summarized her notes about plants found at the visitor center site from interviews conducted with Ahtna elders in the 1970's. These files are on the park botanist's computer (C:\Documents\ethno\Ahtna1.fp3 and Ahtna2.fp3). A diskette was also given to the park's Cultural Resource Specialist, Anne Worthington. An example of a record from Ahtna1.fp3 follows the species treatments (Appendix 1). These files may be converted into an Excel spreadsheet or into a text file.

Summary

Ms. Russell documented Ahtna uses of sixteen different plants found at the visitor center site in her April report (Russell 1998). Of these, eleven are found in the garden area proposed for the interpretive display (Table 2). Information on twenty-nine species was acquired during the September interviews, six of these were new to the previous report, two of which occur in the garden area. Twelve of the new plants do not occur at the visitor site but three could possibly be planted (Table 3).

There are twenty-four species which occur at the visitor center site for which we have some Ahtna information on use. Within the garden area, there are thirteen species. Of those in the garden area, two are dwarf shrubs, three are forbs, three are trees, three are shrubs and there is moss and grass which are not identified to species by the Ahtna.

There are thirty-five plants that occur at the visitor center site which have Ahtna names, ten of these we have not documented uses (Table 2). Either they were not used by the Ahtna, they were not included in Russell's interviews or weren't considered interesting enough to transcribe from the tapes. Of these, Yarrow (*Achillea borealis*) is most likely to have an Ahtna use, since it is a traditional herbal while Death Camas (*Zygadenus elegans*) is a poisonous plant that could have had a use, but was probably generally avoided.

Recommendations

Information from both interview efforts (1970's and 1998) should be synthesized and compiled into a report. This could then be provided to the Ahtna and they could use the information in preparing a teaching kit, or a booklet on plant uses.

There was a great deal of interest by the elders in talking about their traditional plant uses. A workshop where the elders work with Ahtna youth would be one way to keep this knowledge alive.

The knowledge that Frank Stickwan has about tools is significant. It was suggested by Gloria Stickwan and Ms. Russell that another interview with Mr. Stickwan be conducted, that he speak in his own language, and that the interview be video taped and then transcribed.

Appropriate plants to use for the interpretive garden should have interesting Ahtna uses, represent a variety of life forms and be easy to maintain. Those that occur in the garden area or could be planted are listed in Table 4. If interpretation occurs along the trail instead of the garden area, the selection of plant species available doubles. In addition, there is no investment in planting, the maintenance costs will be significantly less and the setting along the trail may be more conducive to an appreciation of this type of information.

Table 1. Ahtna elders interviewed by Priscella Russell,
September 1998.

Consultant	Date of Interview	Place of Residence
CC*	9-16-98	Copper Center
Millie Buck	9-18-98	Glennallen
Maggie Eskileda (Mother of Millie Buck)	9-16-98	Chitina
Walya Hobson	9-15-98	Tazlina
Katie John	9-17-98	Mentasta
Harry Johns	9-15-98	Copper Center
	9-16-98	
Ruth Johns	9-15-98	Copper Center
	9-16-98	
Frank Stickwan	9-18-98	Tazlina

This consultant wished to be anonymous.

Table 2. An incomplete list of plants found at the Wrangell-St. Elias National Park & Preserve Visitor Center site indicating which are present in the garden area, which have Ahtna names treated in Kari and Buck (1976), uses documented by Russell (April 1998) and uses documented in September 1998 interviews.

Taxon Common Name Family	Ahtna Name*	Life Form	Russell (4/98)	Interviews (10/98)	Present in Garden (9/98)
<i>Achillea borealis</i> Yarrow Asteraceae	utsit'ahwdelggeyi	Forb			X
<i>Arctostaphylos rubra</i> Bearberry Ericaceae	dziidzi naegge'	Dwarf shrub	p. 22	X	X
<i>Arctostaphylos uva-ursi</i> Kinnikinnick Ericaceae	giznae (M)	Dwarf shrub	p. 21		
<i>Aster sibiricus</i> Aster Asteraceae		Forb			X
<i>Astragalus alpinus</i> Milk Vetch Fabaceae		Forb			X
<i>Bromus pumpellianus</i> Arctic Brome Poaceae	all grasses - tl'ogh	Graminoid	p. 8	X	
<i>Calamagrostis canadensis</i> Bluejoint Poaceae	all grasses - tl'ogh	Graminoid	p. 8	X	X
<i>Carex concinna</i> Sedge Cyperaceae		Graminoid			X
<i>Carex</i> sp. Sedge Cyperaceae	all sedges - ladzuuy (M)	Graminoid			
<i>Castilleja caudata</i> Indian Paintbrush Scrophulariaceae		Forb			X
<i>Chenopodium capitatum</i> Strawberry Blight Strawberry Spinach Chenopodiaceae	kentsiis dele'	Forb			
<i>Cladina</i> sp. Caribou lichen	c'adyuu' (C, M) c'aguu' (L) udzih c'aane'	Lichen		X	

*Refers to dialect area in Kari and Buck (1976): L - Lower dialect, Chitina, Lower Tonsina, Kenny Lake and some of Copper Center; C - Central dialect - Copper Center, Gulkana, Gakona and most of Chistochina; W - Western dialect, Cantwell and Mendeltna; M - Mentasta-Batzulnetas; U - Upper dialect - Chistochina and Mentasta.

Table 2, cont'd.

Taxon Common Name Family	Ahtna Name (Kari and Buck 1976)*	Life Form	Russell (4/98)	Interviews (10/98)	Present in Garden (9/98)
<i>Corallorrhiza trifida</i> Coral Root Orchidaceae		Forb			
<i>Chrysomyxa arctostaphyli</i> Spruce Broom Rust Witches Broom	lacdzaas, c'udzaadze (M) lay'dzaas, dahdzaas (C, L)	Fungus			
<i>Empetrum nigrum</i> Crowberry, Blackberry, Mossberry Ericaceae	giznaey (L) giznae - (C) naht'aezi (M)	Dwarf shrub			
<i>Epilobium angustifolium</i> Fireweed Onagraceae	tl'ac'usk'a'	Forb	p. 19		X
<i>Equisetum pratense</i> Scouring Rush Equisetaceae	tehts'abaele' (C) tehts'ebael' (M) naghaay ts'abaele' (L)	Lower Vascular			
<i>Erigeron acris</i> Fleabane Daisy Asteraceae		Forb			
<i>Festuca altaica</i> Arctic Fescue Poaceae	all grasses - tl'ogh	Graminoid			
<i>Galium boreale</i> Bedstraw Rubiaceae		Forb			
<i>Gentiana propinqua</i> Gentian Gentianaceae		Forb			
<i>Geocaulon lividum</i> Comandra, Toadflax, Dogberry Santalaceae	saghani gige'	Forb			X
<i>Hedysarum alpinum</i> Wild Potatoe Fabaceae	tsass	Forb	p. 16	X	X

*Refers to dialect area in Kari and Buck (1976): L - Lower dialect, Chitina, Lower Tonsina, Kenny Lake and some of Copper Center; C - Central dialect - Copper Center, Gulkana, Gakona and most of Chistochina; W - Western dialect, Cantwell and Mendeltna; M - Mentasta-Batzulnetas; U - Upper dialect - Chistochina and Mentasta.

Table 2, cont'd.

Taxon Common Name Family	Ahtna Name (Kari and Buck 1976) *	Life Form	Russell (4/98)	Interviews (10/98)	Present in Garden (9/98)
<i>Hylocomnium splendens</i> Feather Moss	all moss - naen' (C, L) nin' (M); soft moss - naen' 'ots'i	Moss		X	X
<i>Ledum</i> <i>groenlandicum/palustre</i> Labrador Tea Ericaceae	laduudze' (C) naduudze' (C, L) c'eladuudze' (M) lat'uudze (W)	Shrub	p. 20	X	
<i>Linnea borealis</i> Twinsflower Frog's Blanket Caprifoliaceae	naghaay ts'ede'	Dwarf shrub			X
<i>Lupinus arcticus</i> Lupine Fabaceae		Forb	p. 15		X
<i>Mertensia paniculata</i> Bluebells Boraginaceae	lic'ae tsula' (M)	Forb			
<i>Moneses uniflora</i> Single Delight Ericaceae		Forb			X
<i>Oxytropis campestris</i> Field Oxytrope Fabaceae		Forb			X
<i>Parnassia palustris</i> Northern-Grass-of- Parnassus Saxifragaceae		Forb			
<i>Picea glauca</i> White Spruce Pinaceae	ts'abaeli (C, L) ts'ebael (M) delaeni (W)	Tree	p. 5	X	X
<i>Poa glauca</i> Glacous Bluegrass Poaceae	all grasses - tl'ogh	Graminoid	p. 8		
<i>Polemonium pulcherrimum</i> Jacob's Ladder Polemoniaceae		Forb			X
<i>Polyporus</i> sp. Aspen & Cottonwood Conks Polyporaceae	heavy: besk'atl'i (C,W), lts'iis light: li'entsiis (C,M) fire starter:tl'ael (M), c'edistaey (L), c'etnitsaey (C)	Fungus			
<i>Populus balsamifera</i> Balsam Poplar Salicaceae	t'aghes (C, L) t'eghes (M)	Tree	p. 10	X	X

*Refers to dialect area in Kari and Buck (1976): L - Lower dialect, Chitina, Lower Tonsina, Kenny Lake and some of Copper Center; C - Central dialect - Copper Center, Gulkana, Gakona and most of Chistochina; W - Western dialect, Cantwell and Mendeltna; M - Mentasta-Batzulnetas; U - Upper dialect - Chistochina and Mentasta.

Table 2, cont'd.

Taxon Common Name Family	Ahtna Name (Kari and Buck 1976)*	Life Form	Russell (4/98)	Interviews (10/98)	Present in Garden (9/98)
<i>Populus tremuloides</i> Quaking Aspen Salicaceae	t'aghes (C, L) t'aghes baay (M)	Tree	p. 11		X
<i>Potentilla hookeriana</i> Hooker Cinquefoil Rosaceae		Forb			
<i>Potentilla fruticosa</i> Shrubby Cinquefoil Rosaceae	sos ggaane' (L)	Shrub	p. 13	X	
<i>Pulsatilla patens</i> Pasque Flower Ranunculaceae		Forb		X	
<i>Pyrola asarifolia</i> Wintergreen Ericaceae		Forb			X
<i>Ribes triste</i> Red Currant Saxifragaceae	nantnuuy (C, L) danihnuuy (M)	Shrub		X	
<i>Rosa acicularis</i> Prickly Rose Rosaceae	xost'aan'	Shrub	p. 14	X	X
<i>Rubus arcticus</i> Nagoonberry Rosaceae	dahts'enkaadle' (C) dlahts'enkaade' (L) nkaal	Forb			
<i>Salix bebbiana</i> Bebb Willow, Diamond Willow Salicaceae	all willows - k'ay' (C, L) k'ey' (M)	Shrub	p. 12	X	X
<i>Salix glauca</i> Glaucous Willow, Diamond Willow Salicaceae	all willows - k'ay' (C, L) k'ey' (M)	Shrub	p. 12	X	
<i>Shepherdia canadensis</i> Soapberry Elaeagnaceae	ligige' (C, L) sosgige' (M)	Shrub	p. 18	X	X
<i>Solidago multiradiata</i> Northern Goldenrod Asteraceae		Forb			X
<i>Taraxacum</i> sp. Dandelion Asteraceae		Forb			
<i>Usnea</i> sp. Hair-like Lichen	dat's'iis deyoze' (M) dat's'iisi dadyuuts'I latsigha' (C, L)	Lichen			
<i>Viburnum edule</i> High Bush Cranberry Caprifoliaceae	tsanitsatsaey tsanitsae	Shrub	p. 23		
<i>Vaccinium vitis-idaea</i> Lowbush Cranberry Ericaceae	xay gige' (C, L) ntl'et (M)	Dwarf Shrub		X	X
<i>Zygadenus elegans</i> Death Camas Liliaceae	c'ughuk'aedi (M)	Forb			X

Table 3. List of plants included in September 1998 interview documentation not occurring at visitor center site.

Taxon	Possibility of using in interpretive display
<i>Allium schoenoprasum</i> Wild Onion	No
<i>Alnus</i> sp. Alder	Possible to transplant
<i>Angelica lucida</i> Angelica	No, wetland species
<i>Arctostaphylos alpina</i> Alpine Bearberry	No, alpine species. <i>A. rubra</i> is on site.
<i>Artemisia tilesii</i> Wormwood	Possible to transplant, grows in vicinity, river bluffs and bottoms
<i>Betula papyrifera</i> Paper Birch	No, probably not easy to transplant
<i>Elaeagnus commutata</i> Silverberry Soapberry Dogberry	Maybe if transplanted, grows in vicinity on river gravel bars
<i>Hedysarum mackenzii</i> Rabbit's Root	Grows in vicinity, but better to use species at site, <i>Hedysarum mackenzii</i> , since this is the eatable species
<i>Heracleum lanatum</i> Wild Celery	No, wetland species
<i>Polygonum alaskanum</i> Wild Rhubarb	Grows in disturbed situations, but not particularly interesting uses
<i>Vaccinium uliginosum</i> Blueberry	May be possible to transplant, but only one use, as a food.
<i>Veratrum viride</i> False Hellebore	No, wetland species

Table 4. List of plants with potential for use in the interpretive garden, based on Ahtna use information, presence in garden area or possibility of planting, and ease of maintenance.

Species Common Name	Comments
<i>Alnus</i> sp. Alder	would need to be transplanted food, smoke hides, dye
<i>Arctostaphylos uva-ursi</i> Kinnikinnick	food
<i>Artemisia tilesii</i> Wormwood	would need to be transplanted herb, steambath switch
<i>Epilobium angustifolium</i> Fireweed	food, line fish fermenting pits, ornament
<i>Hedysarum alpinum</i> Indian Potato	food
<i>Ledum palustre</i> Labrador Tea	herb, tea, steambath switch, smoke moose hides
Moss	building, mattress, baby cradles, hygiene
<i>Picea glauca</i> White Spruce	food, building material, medicine, hair treatment, firewood, dye, smoking fish, fish racks, fish wheels, caribou fence, canoes, dipnets, greyling traps, gathering stick, baskets, roofing, fermenting pits, mattress
<i>Populus balsamifera</i> Balsam Poplar	Food, medicine, steambath switches, fuel, carving wood for spoons
<i>Potentilla fruticosa</i> Tundra Rose	Tea, tobacco, herbal
<i>Ribes triste</i> Red Current	Food
<i>Rosa acicularis</i> Prickly Rose	Food, herbal
<i>Salix</i> Willow	Line, walking stick, food, good luck, fuel
<i>Viburnum edule</i> Highbush Cranberry	Not in garden area, but possibly could be planted Food and medicine
<i>Shepherdia canadensis</i> Soapberry	Herbal, food
<i>Vaccinium vitis-idaea</i> Cranberry	Food

Summary of Ahtna Plant Use Information from interviews conducted by Priscella Russell with Ahtna elders in September 1998 and in the 1970's.

ALLIUM SCHOENOPRASUM

Wild Onion

Liliaceae (Lily Family)

Life form: Forb

Visitor Center: 1 - Occurs at VC site, but not in garden area

Referenced in Russell (1998): No

Ahtna Names¹:

hwgihlaegi (C,L)

c'edzed (M)

Ahtna translation to English (from Russell 1998) :

Other Ahtna terms for associated parts¹:

Ahtna Uses Documented in 1998 interviews by Russell²:

Food. Pick along river. Used with fish. Not preserved for winter. They grow in the sand.

Ahtna Uses Documented in 1970 interviews by Russell (1998)³:

¹Ahtna names are from: Kari, James and Mildred Buck. 1976.

²This is a summary of data first entered in Ahtna1.fp3 which links data to the consultant and then summarized in this file, Ahtna2.fp3. This data is from handwritten notes provided to the Ahtna Heritage Program by Priscella Russell.

³Refer to Russell (1998) Some Plant Traditions of the Ahtna Athabaskan for the complete text.

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ALNUS SP.

Alder

Betulaceae (Birch Family)

Life form: Shrub

Visitor Center: 3 - Possible to transplant or grow

Referenced in Russell (1998): No

Ahtna Names¹:

-k'es (C, L) = *Alnus tenuifolia*, *A. incana* (Thinleaf Alder, Red Alder)

-c'ekac (M) = *Alnus tenuifolia*, *A. incana* (Thinleaf Alder, Red Alder)

-kon'k'aye' (C, L) = *Alnus crispa*, *A. sinuata* (American Green Alder, Sikta Alder)

-kon'k'ey' (M) = *Alnus crispa*, *A. sinuata* (American Green Alder, Sikta Alder)

Ahtna translation to English (from Russell 1998) :

Other Ahtna terms for associated parts¹:

Ahtna Uses Documented in 1998 interviews by Russell²:

-Could take the sap from alder like described for cottonwood for food.

-Young alder stems used to stretch fish.

-Alder wood for smoking fish.

-Inner bark used as a dye for snowshoes - reddish color. If didn't find or have red Indian rock paint (ochre) use inner Alder bark. Put bark in water to soak. Paint bow and arrow too. Used skin probably to paint with - not sure.

Ahtna Uses Documented in 1970 interviews by Russell (1998)³:

¹Ahtna names are from: Kari, James and Mildred Buck. 1976.

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ANGELICA LUCIDA

Angelica

Apiaceae (Parsley Family)

Life form: Forb

Visitor Center: 5 - Not near VC site

Referenced in Russell (1998): No

Ahtna Names¹:

Ahtna translation to English (from Russell 1998) :

Other Ahtna terms for associated parts¹:

Ahtna Uses Documented in 1998 interviews by Russell²:

Purple flowers. Not found in immediate area.

Ahtna Uses Documented in 1970 interviews by Russell (1998)³:

¹Ahtna names are from: Kari, James and Mildred Buck. 1976.

²This is a summary of data first entered in Ahtna1.fp3 which links data to the consultant and then summarized in this file, Ahtna2.fp3. This data is from handwritten notes provided to the Ahtna Heritage Program by Priscella Russell.

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ARCTOSTAPHYLOS ALPINA

Alpine bearberry

Ericaceae (Heath Family)

Life form: Dwarf Shrub

Visitor Center: 5 - Not near VC site

Referenced in Russell (1998): No

Ahtna Names¹:

dziidzi naegge'

Ahtna translation to English (from Russell 1998) : Duck Eye

Other Ahtna terms for associated parts¹:

Ahtna Uses Documented in 1998 interviews by Russell²:

Eaten occassionally, not a favorable berry.

Ahtna Uses Documented in 1970 interviews by Russell (1998)³:

-Eaten raw or cooked with flour, sugar and fish eggs (called k'uun c'encaes).

¹Ahtna names are from: Kari, James and Mildred Buck. 1976.

²This is a summary of data first entered in Ahtna1.fp3 which links data to the consultant and then summarized in this file, Ahtna2.fp3. This data is from handwritten notes provided to the Ahtna Heritage Program by Priscella Russell.

³Refer to Russell (1998) Some Plant Traditions of the Ahtna Athabaskan for the complete text.

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ARCTOSTAPHYLOS RUBRA

Red bearberry

Ericaceae (Heath Family)

Life form: Dwarf Shrub

Visitor Center: 2 - Occurs in garden area

Referenced in Russell (1998): No

Ahtna Names¹:

dziidzi naegge'

Ahtna translation to English (from Russell 1998) : Duck Eye

Other Ahtna terms for associated parts¹:

Ahtna Uses Documented in 1998 interviews by Russell²:

Eaten occassionally, not a favorable berry.

Ahtna Uses Documented in 1970 interviews by Russell (1998)³:

Eaten raw or cooked with flour, sugar and fish eggs (called k'uun c'encaes).

¹Ahtna names are from: Kari, James and Mildred Buck. 1976.

²This is a summary of data first entered in Ahtna1.fp3 which links data to the consultant and then summarized in this file, Ahtna2.fp3. This data is from handwritten notes provided to the Ahtna Heritage Program by Priscella Russell.

³Refer to Russell (1998) Some Plant Traditions of the Ahtna Athabaskan for the complete text.

Bearberry Kinnikinnick
Ericaceae (Heath Family) . **Life form:** Dwarf Shrub

Referenced in Russell (1998): Yes

Denes

Ahtna translation to English (from Russell 1998) : Stem

Other Ahtna terms for associated parts:

Ahtna Uses Documented in 1998 interviews by Russell²:

Ahtna Uses Documented in 1970 interviews by Russell (1998)³:

-Ate with lard or oil, cooked with grease, mixed with tallow and used in meat or fish soup.

-Stored with tallow in birch bark baskets. Chunks broken off and eaten. Good camping and emergency food.

¹Ahtna names are from: Kari, James and Mildred Buck. 1976.

²This is a summary of data first entered in Ahtna1.fp3 which links data to the consultant and then summarized in this file, Ahtna2.fp3. This data is from handwritten notes provided to the Ahtna Heritage Program by Priscella Russell.

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ARTEMISIA TILESII

Wormwood

Asteraceae (Sunflower Family)

Life form: Forb

Visitor Center: 4 - In vicinity of VC site

Referenced in Russell (1998): No

Ahtna Names¹:

tl'ogh tsen

Ahtna translation to English (from Russell 1998) :

Other Ahtna terms for associated parts¹:

Ahtna Uses Documented in 1998 interviews by Russell²:

-Look for fresh plant and dry it, like in June. Also use it as a steambath switch.

-Cleans out your system, your blood. Dry leafy stems and use. Also steambath switch.

Ahtna Uses Documented in 1970 interviews by Russell (1998)³:

¹Ahtna names are from: Kari, James and Mildred Buck. 1976.

²This is a summary of data first entered in Ahtna1.fp3 which links data to the consultant and then summarized in this file, Ahtna2.fp3. This data is from handwritten notes provided to the Ahtna Heritage Program by Priscella Russell.

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BETULA PAPYRIFERA

Birch

Betulaceae (Birch Family)

Life form: Tree

Visitor Center: 4 - In vicinity of VC site

Referenced in Russell (1998): No

Ahtna Names¹:

k'ey

Ahtna translation to English (from Russell 1998) :

Other Ahtna terms for associated parts¹:

Ahtna Uses Documented in 1998 interviews by Russell²:

- Big plates 1 ft. by 1 1/2 ft made from spruce and birch. Decorated with knife incisions around rim especially. Not painted.
- Pole to kill bear made from birch - about 2-3 ft long. Point tied on with caribou skin that is made wet - then dries on pole apparently. -Caribou stronger than moose skin. Spear for bear.
- Knife handles and other handles tied with rawhide to the blade - handles made with birch wood. Salmon oil and animal grease used to preserve plates.
- Armor of birch made in a vest shape - pieces of birch about 1 1/2 in thick and two feet long - reach down to upper legs - tied together with caribou skin - not too tight so could move easily.

Ahtna Uses Documented in 1970 interviews by Russell (1998)³:

¹Ahtna names are from: Kari, James and Mildred Buck. 1976.

²This is a summary of data first entered in Ahtna1.fp3 which links data to the consultant and then summarized in this file, Ahtna2.fp3. This data is from handwritten notes provided to the Ahtna Heritage Program by Priscella Russell.

³Refer to Russell (1998) Some Plant Traditions of the Ahtna Athabaskan for the complete text.

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BOLETUS EDULES

King Bolete

Life form: Mushroom

Visitor Center: 4 - In vicinity of VC site

Referenced in Russell (1998): Yes

Ahtna Names¹:

c'eniye' (C, L)

c'eney' (M)

nela' uts' enłgiidi (W)

Ahtna translation to English (from Russell 1998) : Stem

Other Ahtna terms for associated parts¹:

Ahtna Uses Documented in 1998 interviews by Russell²:

Ahtna Uses Documented in 1970 interviews by Russell (1998)³:

Roasted over fire for food and also ate with onions in fish soup.

¹Ahtna names are from: Kari, James and Mildred Buck. 1976.

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CLADINA

Caribou Lichen

Life form: Lichen

Visitor Center: 1 - Occurs at VC site, but not in garden area

Referenced in Russell (1998): No

Ahtna Names¹:

c'adyuu' (C, M)

c'aguu' (L)

udzih c'aane'

Ahtna translation to English (from Russell 1998) :

Other Ahtna terms for associated parts¹:

Ahtna Uses Documented in 1998 interviews by Russell²:

Would eat stomach contents of caribou that had the lichen in it. Would cook it in caribou fat, the whole thing. They would put in pan and stir so that its like mush.

Ahtna Uses Documented in 1970 interviews by Russell (1998)³:

¹Ahtna names are from: Kari, James and Mildred Buck. 1976.

²This is a summary of data first entered in Ahtna1.fp3 which links data to the consultant and then summarized in this file, Ahtna2.fp3. This data is from handwritten notes provided to the Ahtna Heritage Program by Priscella Russell.

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ELAEAGNUS COMMUTATA

Silverberry

Elaeagnaceae (Oleaster Family)

Life form: Shrub

Visitor Center: 4 - In vicinity of VC site

Referenced in Russell (1998): No

Ahtna Names¹:

dengige' (C, L)

dembaa' (M)

nige'

Ahtna translation to English (from Russell 1998) :

Other Ahtna terms for associated parts¹:

Ahtna Uses Documented in 1998 interviews by Russell²:

-Fry fat and melt the grease with the berries including the seeds (certain kind didn't have big seeds). Would cook and save for winters. Put it in big animal stomach to store it in. Keep it in cache.

-Cooked it like highbush berries - c'encaes.

-Can dig it for winter.

Ahtna Uses Documented in 1970 interviews by Russell (1998)³:

¹Ahtna names are from: Kari, James and Mildred Buck. 1976.

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EMPETRUM NIGRUM

Blackberry

Crowberry

Empetraceae (Crowberry Family)

Life form: Dwarf Shrub

Visitor Center: 1 - Occurs at VC site, but not in garden area

Referenced in Russell (1998): No

Ahtna Names¹:

giznaey (L)

giznae (C)

Aht'aezi (M)

Ahtna translation to English (from Russell 1998) :

Other Ahtna terms for associated parts¹:

Ahtna Uses Documented in 1998 interviews by Russell²:

-Mix with sugar. Store for winter in birch bark basket.

-Berries kept in birch bark baskets for winter in cache - for food. Eat with salmon oil poured over it. Cranberries and rosehips are kept this way also.

Ahtna Uses Documented in 1970 interviews by Russell (1998)³:

¹Ahtna names are from: Kari, James and Mildred Buck. 1976.

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EPILOBIUM ANGUSTIFOLIUM

Fireweed

Onagraceae (Evening Primrose Family)

Life form: Forb

Visitor Center: 1 - Occurs at VC site, but not in garden area

Referenced in Russell (1998): Yes

Ahtna Names¹:

tl'ac'usk'a'

Ahtna translation to English (from Russell 1998) :

Other Ahtna terms for associated parts¹:

Ahtna Uses Documented in 1998 interviews by Russell²:

Ahtna Uses Documented in 1970 interviews by Russell (1998)³:

- Young plants gathered for food in early summer before reaching 1 1/2 ft tall. Boil shoots and leaves until tender, ate alone or with salmon or oil.
- Line fish fermenting pits with large fireweed leaves.
- 'Cotton' from seeds used as hair decoration, looks like feathers.

¹Ahtna names are from: Kari, James and Mildred Buck. 1976.

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GRASS

Grass

Poaceae

Life form: Graminoid

Visitor Center: 2 - Occurs in garden area

Referenced in Russell (1998): No

Ahtna Names¹:

tl'ogh

Ahtna translation to English (from Russell 1998) : Stem

Other Ahtna terms for associated parts¹:

grass for making mats = tl'ogh tael; a soft grass = tl'ogh del'ots'i

Ahtna Uses Documented in 1998 interviews by Russell²:

Mattress for people.

Ahtna Uses Documented in 1970 interviews by Russell (1998)³:

-Tl'ogh refers to grass-like plants including sedges.

-Tl'ogh del'ots'i refers to soft textured grass.

-Rub soft, dried grass between hands to further soften and used for toilet paper, baby diapers, skin boot and moccasin insoles. Will keep feet warm at 60 degrees below zero(F).

-Soft grass for wiping dishes and hands and sitting on in sweat house.

-Stored for winter before snow covered ground.

-Not softened grass as dog bedding, roof thatching, trail markers.

-To drain fish & stuff in fish mouths to prevent flies from entering.

-Fermented grass in urine to tan hides and make soap for washing.

-Burn dry grass & use remains as baby powder to heal diaper rash and sores.

¹Ahtna names are from: Kari, James and Mildred Buck. 1976.

²This is a summary of data first entered in Ahtna1.fp3 which links data to the consultant and then summarized in this file, Ahtna2.fp3. This data is from handwritten notes provided to the Ahtna Heritage Program by Priscella Russell.

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HEDYSARUM ALPINUM

Wild Potato

Fabaceae (Pea Family)

Life form: Forb

Visitor Center: 2 - Occurs in garden area

Referenced in Russell (1998): Yes

Ahtna Names¹:

tsass

Ahtna translation to English (from Russell 1998) : Stem

Other Ahtna terms for associated parts¹:

Ahtna Uses Documented in 1998 interviews by Russell²:

-Hard on stomach if eat raw. Roast in coals or boil it. Build fire on top of snow where see the tops sticking out. Dig the warmed soil and find the potatoes if hungry.

-Put the potatoes in the ashes of open fire to cook. Also use for stomach upset if it was eaten. Easier to digest if the potato was cooked although can be eaten raw.

-Take it out in fall and spring. Get fat in fall like right now. Keep it in animal stomach with grease for winter. Also store without washing it in underground cache. No grease then needed. Can fry, boil it. Put stick in ground where there is alot. Can find it in winter and dig it up. Can save lives.

-In old days would take stick and poke the ground. Where there is a lot of mouse holes. Find a cache of Indian potato. Give the mouse a gift to thank it for its cache.

Ahtna Uses Documented in 1970 interviews by Russell (1998)³:

-Indian Potato roots most important plant food of the Ahtna other than berries.

-Dug in late spring or early summer when frost leaving and in fall after the first frost. Roots juicy and tender at these times.

-Surplus stored in pit caches which were holes in the ground covered with dirt. People remembered where their caches were.

-Times of low winter food, snow would be shoveled and roots dug.

-Mice eat wild potatoes in winter, so lots of tracks indicate where they can be found. Roots taken from mouse caches and a gift left in exchange.

-Ate the root raw, boiled, roasted or fried in grease. Sometimes pounded into a flour and added to soups.

¹Ahtna names are from: Kari, James and Mildred Buck. 1976.

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³Refer to Russell (1998) Some Plant Traditions of the Ahtna Athabaskan for the complete text.

-Juice from boiling drunk as a tea.

-First year of puberty, males and females not supposed to eat wild potatoes. If they did, as they got older, their teeth would chip.

¹Ahtna names are from: Kari, James and Mildred Buck. 1976.

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HEDYSARUM MACKENZII

Rabbit Root

Fabaceae (Pea Family)

Life form: Forbs

Visitor Center: 4 - In vicinity of VC site

Referenced in Russell (1998): No

Ahtna Names¹:

dzigundak (L)

Ahtna translation to English (from Russell 1998) :

Other Ahtna terms for associated parts¹:

Ahtna Uses Documented in 1998 interviews by Russell²:

Top looks same but roots long and thin. Not fat. No one eats it. Strong taste.

Ahtna Uses Documented in 1970 interviews by Russell (1998)³:

¹Ahtna names are from: Kari, James and Mildred Buck. 1976.

²This is a summary of data first entered in Ahtna1.fp3 which links data to the consultant and then summarized in this file, Ahtna2.fp3. This data is from handwritten notes provided to the Ahtna Heritage Program by Priscella Russell.

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HERACLEUM LANATUM

Cow Parsnip Wild Celery

Apiaceae (Parsley Family)

Life form: Forb

Visitor Center: 5 - Not near VC site

Referenced in Russell (1998): No

Ahtna Names¹:

ggus (C, L)

aan' delk'esi (M)

Ahtna translation to English (from Russell 1998) :

Other Ahtna terms for associated parts¹:

Wild celerey root = ggus tsaaze'

Ahtna Uses Documented in 1998 interviews by Russell²:

Peel the stems and eat them for food. Don't use the roots.

Ahtna Uses Documented in 1970 interviews by Russell (1998)³:

¹Ahtna names are from: Kari, James and Mildred Buck. 1976.

²This is a summary of data first entered in Ahtna1.fp3 which links data to the consultant and then summarized in this file, Ahtna2.fp3. This data is from handwritten notes provided to the Ahtna Heritage Program by Priscella Russell.

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LACTARIUS DELICIOSUS

Orange Delicious

Life form: Mushroom

Visitor Center: 1 - Occurs at VC site, but not in garden area

Referenced in Russell (1998): Yes

Ahtna Names¹:

c'eniye'

Ahtna translation to English (from Russell 1998) : Stem

Other Ahtna terms for associated parts¹:

Ahtna Uses Documented in 1998 interviews by Russell²:

Ahtna Uses Documented in 1970 interviews by Russell (1998)³:

-Cleaned and roasted before eating.

-When hungry during winter, mushrooms were gathered from mouse caches and cooked in soups.

¹Ahtna names are from: Kari, James and Mildred Buck. 1976.

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LEDUM PALUSTRE

Labrador Tea

Ericaceae (Heath Family)

Life form: Shrub

Visitor Center: 1 - Occurs at VC site, but not in garden area

Referenced in Russell (1998): Yes

Ahtna Names¹:

laduudze' (C)
naduudze' (C,L)
c'eladuudze' (M)
lat'uudze' (W)

Ahtna translation to English (from Russell 1998) :

Other Ahtna terms for associated parts¹:

Ahtna Uses Documented in 1998 interviews by Russell²:

- Used to smoke skin with it. Put in smoking fire to smoke moose skin when can't find spruce wood. Gives it a color and smell.
- Boil the leaves for beverage tea.

Ahtna Uses Documented in 1970 interviews by Russell (1998)³:

- Fresh or dried leaves simmered or steeped for tea.
- Fresh or dried leaves chewed as a kind of tobacco.
- Leaves chewed as a tooth cleanser and mouth freshener.
- Leafy branches used as a steambath switch.
- Tea leaves for smoking moose hides.

¹Ahtna names are from: Kari, James and Mildred Buck. 1976.

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LUPINUS SP.

Lupine

Fabaceae (Pea Family)

Life form: Forb

Visitor Center: 1 - Occurs at VC site, but not in garden area

Referenced in Russell (1998): Yes

Ahtna Names¹:

Not given

Ahtna translation to English (from Russell 1998) :

Other Ahtna terms for associated parts¹:

Ahtna Uses Documented in 1998 interviews by Russell²:

Ahtna Uses Documented in 1970 interviews by Russell (1998)³:

-Peas or 'beads' as food in small quantities when traveling.

¹Ahtna names are from: Kari, James and Mildred Buck. 1976.

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LYCOPERDON SP.

Puffball

Life form: Mushroom

Visitor Center: 1 - Occurs at VC site, but not in garden area

Referenced in Russell (1998): Yes

Ahtna Names¹:

saghani tsiige' (C,L)

tsaghani siige' (M)

Ahtna translation to English (from Russell 1998) : Stem

Other Ahtna terms for associated parts¹:

Ahtna Uses Documented in 1998 interviews by Russell²:

Ahtna Uses Documented in 1970 interviews by Russell (1998)³:

Ate cooked puffballs only after cut in half to see if rotten.

¹Ahtna names are from: Kari, James and Mildred Buck. 1976.

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MOSS

Moss

Life form: Non-vascular

Visitor Center: 2 - Occurs in garden area

Referenced in Russell (1998): No

Ahtna Names¹:

naen' (C, L)

nin' (M)

Ahtna translation to English (from Russell 1998) :

Other Ahtna terms for associated parts¹:

a soft moss: naen' 'ots'i

Ahtna Uses Documented in 1998 interviews by Russell²:

-Used for roofing and chinking logs. For roofing, moss placed first, then top soil dirt then birchbark on top.

-Used in baby cradles. Changed every day at least, also moss used for toilet cleaning.

-Use for baby diaper in birch bark carrying bag. Put moss in and then soft grass.

-Also for mattress.

-For chinking cabins.

Ahtna Uses Documented in 1970 interviews by Russell (1998)³:

¹Ahtna names are from: Kari, James and Mildred Buck. 1976.

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MUSHROOM

Mushroom

Life form: Non-vascular

Visitor Center: 2 - Occurs in garden area

Referenced in Russell (1998): No

Ahtna Names¹:

c'eniye' (C, L)

c'eney' (M)

nela' uts'enłgiidi (W)

Ahtna translation to English (from Russell 1998) :

Other Ahtna terms for associated parts¹:

King Bolete = c'eney' (M); puffball = saghani tsiige' (C, L); tsaghani tsiige' (M); heavy birch polypore = besk'atl'i (C, W); light birch poplypore = l'entsiis (C, M); birch polypore used as fire starter = tl'ael (M), c'editaey (L), e'etnitsaey (C)

Ahtna Uses Documented in 1998 interviews by Russell²:

Throw mushroom in the fire and move it out of fire quickly. Then eat.

Ahtna Uses Documented in 1970 interviews by Russell (1998)³:

¹Ahtna names are from: Kari, James and Mildred Buck. 1976.

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PICEA GLAUCA

Spruce

Pinaceae (Pine Family)

Life form: Tree

Visitor Center: 2 - Occurs in garden area

Referenced in Russell (1998): Yes

Ahtna Names¹:

ts'abaeli (C, L)

ts'ebael (M)

delaeni (W)

Ahtna translation to English (from Russell 1998) : Stem

Other Ahtna terms for associated parts¹:

Black Spruce (Picea mariana), hard spruce in wet place. tats'uu', tatsaaye'. Jack spruce = tsaay (C, L). Thick spruce grove = let'aes (C); rotten spruce wood = ltsogh; spruce bark = c'elaats'i; inner spruce bark = i'lataane' (C); spruce needle = 'elggade' (C,L) 'el laggade' (M); spruce gough = 'el; spruce cone = lay'duuy (C,L), lay'duuye' (w), lacduuy (M); spruce root = way (C,L), xey (M); spruce gum, hard = dxaex; spruce gum, soft = t'adzaex

Ahtna Uses Documented in 1998 interviews by Russell²:

- Caribou fence made from dry spruce poles. Tied with rawhide (caribou skin).
- Moose skin and birch bark canoes - boat frame could be made from spruce that was smoked to make it hard or birch (birch already hard).
- Dipnet made from spruce roots. Rim of willow and handle from little spruce tree.
- Greyling trap made from spruce wood. Tied with spruce roots, the parts tied together with the roots.
- Tool to pull spruce roots out of grounds was a sharpened stick. Also used forked stick to pull roots through to take bark of roots. Then smoke the roots to harden. Put in water to soften to use.
- Spruce bark basket that was waterproof.
- Spruce bark for roofing. Peel it and stretch it. Dry it like plywood.
- Spruce needle in baby's ears and nose to keep hole open to put rings in later.

Ahtna Uses Documented in 1970 interviews by Russell (1998)³:

- Name for tree and white spruce are the same, indicates importance.
 - Outer bark as flooring, roofing, and siding for building, often two layers for roofs.
 - Lined and covered fish fermenting pits.
-

¹Ahtna names are from: Kari, James and Mildred Buck. 1976.

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- Crafted baskets from bark, including waterproof baskets which were cooked in and used for other purposes.
- Spruce bough as mattresses, especially when camping.
- Temporary snowshoes by tying spruce branches together.
- Spruce roots as lining for baskets, dipnets and sewing canoes together.
- Wood for firewood, most important of all woods.
- Cambium as a food, considered a delicacy.
- Cambium sap as eye medicine.
- Boiled or steeped cambium using cooled liquid as a wash for rashes, cuts and infections, colds and tuberculosis.
- Cambium as a bandage.
- Hard pitch (dzaex) as a chewing gum, traded with the Aleuts.
- Hard pitch healed cuts, burns and sores. Chewed to make soft, then spread on sore and held in place with cambium bandage which was changed every day.
- Soft pitch to cure burns, sores, cuts and ringworm.
- Pitch as hair treatment to keep hair in place, wealthy persons wore at potlatches.
- Thin soft pitch to remove a cataract.
- Hard pitch for cold and flu by boiling in water and drinking liquid.
- Pitch to waterproof baskets.
- New-growth as internal medicine, for diarrhea, and external for strained backs.
- Ulcer medicine by boiling spruce needles.
- Cold treatment: fire of spruce needles outdoors and inhale smoke.
- Burn spruce needles at doorway to keep flu away.
- Rotten spruce as medicine for tuberculosis.

¹Ahtna names are from: Kari, James and Mildred Buck. 1976.

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POLYGONUM ALASKANUM

Wild Rhubarb

Polygonaceae (Buckwheat Family)

Life form: Forb

Visitor Center: 4 - In vicinity of VC site

Referenced in Russell (1998): No

Ahtna Names¹:

ts'igguuze' (M)

Ahtna translation to English (from Russell 1998) :

Other Ahtna terms for associated parts¹:

Ahtna Uses Documented in 1998 interviews by Russell²:

- Made c'encaes with it. Used it like rhubarb, the stems.
- Cook or eat raw, the young stems and leaves.
- Eat the plant with fish oil. Fish oil mellow the strong taste. (Mellow was P. Russell's word, but that was the idea given).

Ahtna Uses Documented in 1970 interviews by Russell (1998)³:

¹Ahtna names are from: Kari, James and Mildred Buck. 1976.

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POPULUS BALSAMIFERA

Balsam Cottonwood Balsam Poplar
Salicaceae (Willow Family) **Life form:** Tree

Visitor Center: 2 - Occurs in garden area

Referenced in Russell (1998): Yes

Ahtna Names¹:

t'aghes (C, L)
t'eghes (M)

Ahtna translation to English (from Russell 1998) : Stem

Other Ahtna terms for associated parts¹:

Ahtna Uses Documented in 1998 interviews by Russell²:

Big spoons made from the wood to eat soup with. Grease applied to the wood. Salmon oil and moose grease used to preserve the wood.

Ahtna Uses Documented in 1970 interviews by Russell (1998)³:

- Early summer when sap running, scrape sap from inner bark and eat as a delicacy.
- Menstruates given raw cottonwood buds to chew every morning and evening.
- Pound raw buds, boil with spruce tips & drink liquid as medicine for colds.
- Poultice from buds for skin rashes.
- Leafy branches as steambath switches.
- Wood produces a smoky fire, slow burning for smoking fish.
- Soft wood carved into utensils and toys.

¹Ahtna names are from: Kari, James and Mildred Buck. 1976.

²This is a summary of data first entered in Ahtna1.fp3 which links data to the consultant and then summarized in this file, Ahtna2.fp3. This data is from handwritten notes provided to the Ahtna Heritage Program by Priscella Russell.

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POPULUS TREMULOIDES

Quaking Aspen

Salicaceae (Willow Family)

Life form: Tree

Visitor Center: 1 - Occurs at VC site, but not in garden area

Referenced in Russell (1998): Yes

Ahtna Names¹:

t'aghes (C, L)

t'aghes baay (M)

Ahtna translation to English (from Russell 1998) : Stem

Other Ahtna terms for associated parts¹:

c'et'aan'baats'i - aspen leaves

Ahtna Uses Documented in 1998 interviews by Russell²:

Ahtna Uses Documented in 1970 interviews by Russell (1998)³:

-Same name as Balsam Poplar. So many uses may be similar.

-Early summer (June 20 - July 10) at fish camps, women collected sap as a food. Eaten fresh alone or with fish.

-Mixed ashes with chewing tobacco as a stimulant if birch fungus not found. White ashes separated from charcoal by hand.

-Not a preferred firewood.

¹Ahtna names are from: Kari, James and Mildred Buck. 1976.

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Summary of Ahtna Plant Use Information from interviews conducted by Priscella Russell with Ahtna elders in September 1998 and in the 1970's.

POTENTILLA FRUTICOSA

Tundra Rose

Rosaceae (Rose Family)

Life form: Shrub

Visitor Center: 1 - Occurs at VC site, but not in garden area

Referenced in Russell (1998): Yes

Ahtna Names¹:

sos ggaane' (L)

Ahtna translation to English (from Russell 1998) : Bear?

Other Ahtna terms for associated parts¹:

Ahtna Uses Documented in 1998 interviews by Russell²:

Drink as a tea. Leafy branches.

Ahtna Uses Documented in 1970 interviews by Russell (1998)³:

-Beverage tea using steeped leaves or boiled bark of stems.

-Dried for tobacco.

-Stems pounded and boiled, small amount of liquid drunk for 'bad sickness'.

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PULSATILLA PATENS

Pasque Flower

Ranunculaceae (Crowfoot Family)

Life form: Forb

Visitor Center: 1 - Occurs at VC site, but not in garden area

Referenced in Russell (1998): No

Ahtna Names¹:

Ahtna translation to English (from Russell 1998) :

Other Ahtna terms for associated parts¹:

Ahtna Uses Documented in 1998 interviews by Russell²:

Sear eats it. The root and greens.

Ahtna Uses Documented in 1970 interviews by Russell (1998)³:

¹Ahtna names are from: Kari, James and Mildred Buck. 1976.

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RIBES TRISTE

Red Current

Saxifragaceae (Saxifrage Family)

Life form: Shrub

Visitor Center: 1 - Occurs at VC site, but not in garden area

Referenced in Russell (1998): No

Ahtna Names¹:

nantnuuy (C, L)

danihnuuy (M)

Ahtna translation to English (from Russell 1998) :

Other Ahtna terms for associated parts¹:

Ahtna Uses Documented in 1998 interviews by Russell²:

-Eat it as a food. Make pudding. Cook it with flour and water and sugar and old time way was to use fish oil in it and cook it with fish eggs. Squash them. Mix them into berries. Fish eggs like flour instead of flour used eggs - c'encaes.

-In c'encaes. Not kept for winter. Used when partially ripe.

Ahtna Uses Documented in 1970 interviews by Russell (1998)³:

¹Ahtna names are from: Kari, James and Mildred Buck. 1976.

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ROSA ACICULARIS

Prickly Rose

Rosehips

Rosaceae (Rose Family)

Life form: Shrub

Visitor Center: 2 - Occurs in garden area

Referenced in Russell (1998): Yes

Ahtna Names¹:

xost'aan'

Ahtna translation to English (from Russell 1998) : Thorn Leaf

Other Ahtna terms for associated parts¹:

Rose hip = tsange't'aeni (C,L), tsinge't'aeni (W), ncuus (U)

Ahtna Uses Documented in 1998 interviews by Russell²:

Put rosehips in basket and store in dark. Place under the ground. Otherwise rosehips get moldy.

Ahtna Uses Documented in 1970 interviews by Russell (1998)³:

-Rose hips gathered when red for food. Mixed with grease to preserve, layered in a basket between pieces of dried salmon. Basket stored in underground cache.

-Lots eaten at potlaches in earlier days.

-Vitamins were rose hips and moldy fish.

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SALIX

Willow

Salicaceae

Life form: Shrub

Visitor Center: 2 - Occurs in garden area

Referenced in Russell (1998): Yes

Ahtna Names¹:

k'ay' (C, L)

k'ey' (M)

Q'ay' (Russell 1998)

Ahtna translation to English (from Russell 1998) : Stem

Other Ahtna terms for associated parts¹:

pussy willow = dlahtahliggaaye' (L), dahliggaaye' (M), dahtahliqqaaye' (C), laliggaay (W); a willow = k'ay'giis (C, L); k'ey' giis (M); k'ay'luus (C,L), luuzi (M)

Ahtna Uses Documented in 1998 interviews by Russell²:

- Willow stems - before they use it for line - winter willow, heat on fire to make it flexible.
- Willow used as line - throw stem in fire quickly and out to make it strong - for holding fish and tying camp buildings, etc. Use the sticks over because strong.
- Walking sticks made from unspecified wood - peel the bark off, dry the wood. Calls the wood "brush" (like willow is called "brush" sometimes). He refers to Willow.
- Eat the budding leaves, about an inch long. Chew the leaf for bee stings (any kind of leaf)
- Eat the willow leaves with the first fish. For good luck for anything. Dad walked around her as she sat with the fish and leaves and ate it and said something, once in a young person's life for good luck.

Ahtna Uses Documented in 1970 interviews by Russell (1998)³:

- Some species of willow shoots and new leaves as food. Suck sweet juice from stems after scraping away leaves and outer bark. Sprouts and leaves eaten raw.
- Young sprouts and leaves eaten with the first salmon. Part of 'first salmon ceremony' because willow is moose food and eating willow during the ceremony helped the people catch moose later in the year.
- Line and lashing material.
- Protection against wolves - swing leafless willow branches in the air while

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running. Wolves don't like the sound and will leave the people alone.
-Firewood where little else available.

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SHEPERDIA CANADENSIS

Soapberry

Dogberry

Elaeagnaceae (Oleaster Family)

Life form: Shrub

Visitor Center: 2 - Occurs in garden area

Referenced in Russell (1998): Yes

Ahtna Names¹:

ligige' (C, L)

sosgige' (M)

Ahtna translation to English (from Russell 1998) : Dogberry

Other Ahtna terms for associated parts¹:

Ahtna Uses Documented in 1998 interviews by Russell²:

-Means dogberry in her language. Used as a medicine by boiling the stems and leaves and wash the infection. Like an antiseptic for sores.

-Pound the leaves, boil it. Good for colds and stomach trouble - can dig it for winter.

Ahtna Uses Documented in 1970 interviews by Russell (1998)³:

¹Ahtna names are from: Kari, James and Mildred Buck. 1976.

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SHEPERDIA CANADENSIS

Soapberry

Elaeagnaceae (Oleaster Family)

Life form: Shrub

Visitor Center: 4 - In vicinity of VC site

Referenced in Russell (1998): Yes

Ahtna Names¹:

łigige' (C,L)

Ahtna translation to English (from Russell 1998) :

Other Ahtna terms for associated parts¹:

Ahtna Uses Documented in 1998 interviews by Russell²:

-Whipped until frothy and made into a kind of icecream

-Medicinal wash for skin sores. Scrape the bark from the stem, cook the bark by boiling it, then wash the sore with the liquid. Or boil the stem, leaves and berries and use this liquid.

Ahtna Uses Documented in 1970 interviews by Russell (1998)³:

¹Ahtna names are from: Kari, James and Mildred Buck. 1976.

²This is a summary of data first entered in Ahtna1.fp3 which links data to the consultant and then summarized in this file, Ahtna2.fp3. This data is from handwritten notes provided to the Ahtna Heritage Program by Priscella Russell.

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UNKNOWN

Unknown

Life form: Forb

Visitor Center: =

Referenced in Russell (1998): No

Ahtna Names¹:

Ahtna translation to English (from Russell 1998) :

Other Ahtna terms for associated parts¹:

Ahtna Uses Documented in 1998 interviews by Russell²:

Little white/blue flowers. Use the bulb. Found in woods. Find flowers, start digging it. Flower lays flat, they find it in June-July, fall is too late. They find it by flowers. Long stem, 1 flower by itself.

Ahtna Uses Documented in 1970 interviews by Russell (1998)³:

¹Ahtna names are from: Kari, James and Mildred Buck. 1976.

²This is a summary of data first entered in Ahtna1.fp3 which links data to the consultant and then summarized in this file, Ahtna2.fp3. This data is from handwritten notes provided to the Ahtna Heritage Program by Priscella Russell.

³Refer to Russell (1998) Some Plant Traditions of the Ahtna Athabaskan for the complete text.

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VACCINIUM ULIGINOSUM

Blueberry

Ericaceae (Heath Family)

Life form: Shrub

Visitor Center: 4 - In vicinity of VC site

Referenced in Russell (1998): No

Ahtna Names¹:

gigi gheli (C,L)

gigi (M)

Ahtna translation to English (from Russell 1998) :

Other Ahtna terms for associated parts¹:

Ahtna Uses Documented in 1998 interviews by Russell²:

Eaten on the spot not saved

Ahtna Uses Documented in 1970 interviews by Russell (1998)³:

¹Ahtna names are from: Kari, James and Mildred Buck. 1976.

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VACCINIUM VITIS-IDAEA

Cranberry

Ericaceae (Heath Family)

Life form: Dwarf Shrub

Visitor Center: 2 - Occurs in garden area

Referenced in Russell (1998): No

Ahtna Names¹:

xay gige' (C, L)

ntl'et (M)

Ahtna translation to English (from Russell 1998) :

Other Ahtna terms for associated parts¹:

Ahtna Uses Documented in 1998 interviews by Russell²:

Kept in the same way (in birch bark baskets for winter in cache. For food. Eat with salmon oil poured over it).

Ahtna Uses Documented in 1970 interviews by Russell (1998)³:

¹Ahtna names are from: Kari, James and Mildred Buck. 1976.

²This is a summary of data first entered in Ahtna1.fp3 which links data to the consultant and then summarized in this file, Ahtna2.fp3. This data is from handwritten notes provided to the Ahtna Heritage Program by Priscella Russell.

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VERATRUM VIRIDE

False Hellebore

Liliaceae (Lily Family)

Life form: Forb

Visitor Center: 5 - Not near VC site

Referenced in Russell (1998): No

Ahtna Names¹:

ts'escene'

Ahtna translation to English (from Russell 1998) :

Other Ahtna terms for associated parts¹:

Ahtna Uses Documented in 1998 interviews by Russell²:

-Use root as a rub.

-Don't eat the raw plant - very poisonous.

-Old days - don't talk about it when you use it. Hid it always from people. Talk to it to gather it. Take a gift to it and thank the plant. Use glove to gather the root, because hands will burn.

Ahtna Uses Documented in 1970 interviews by Russell (1998)³:

¹Ahtna names are from: Kari, James and Mildred Buck. 1976.

²This is a summary of data first entered in Ahtna1.fp3 which links data to the consultant and then summarized in this file, Ahtna2.fp3. This data is from handwritten notes provided to the Ahtna Heritage Program by Priscella Russell.

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VIBURNUM EDULE

Highbush Cranberry

Caprifoliaceae (Honeysuckle Family)

Life form: Shrub

Visitor Center: 1 - Occurs at VC site, but not in garden area

Referenced in Russell (1998): Yes

Ahtna Names¹:

Ahtna translation to English (from Russell 1998) :

Other Ahtna terms for associated parts¹:

Ahtna Uses Documented in 1998 interviews by Russell²:

Ahtna Uses Documented in 1970 interviews by Russell (1998)³:

-Food in late summer and fall when ripe.

-Made c'encaes with other berries using fish eggs, flour and sugar mixed and boiled together.

-Sealed in birch bark baskets and stored in caches.

-Raw berries eaten as medicine for sore throats and colds.

¹Ahtna names are from: Kari, James and Mildred Buck. 1976.

²This is a summary of data first entered in Ahtna1.fp3 which links data to the consultant and then summarized in this file, Ahtna2.fp3. This data is from handwritten notes provided to the Ahtna Heritage Program by Priscella Russell.

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Appendix 1. Ahtna Plant Uses - Information from Interviews Conducted by
 Priscella Russell with Ahtna Elders, September 1998
 (Filemaker.pro file on Wrangell-St. Elias NP/P Botanist's computer:
 C:\Documents\Ethno\Ahtna1.fp3)

CODE	ROSACI	GNAME	ROSA ACICULARIS
FAMILY	Rosaceae (Rose Family)	LIFE_FORM	Shrub
COM_NAME	Rosehips		
AHTNA_NAME*	xost'aan'		
PART_TYPE_NAMES	Rose hip = tsange't'aeni (C,L), tsinge't'aeni (W), ncuus (U)		
DATE	9/15/98		
INFORMANT	Walya Hobson		
INTERVIEWER	Priscella Russell		
USE	Put rosehips in basket and store in dark. Place under the ground. Otherwise rosehips get moldy.		
DESCRIPTION			

Literature Cited

Kari, James and Mildred Buck. 1976. Ahtna Noun Dictionary. Fairbanks: Alaska Native Language Center. 201 pp.

Russell, Priscilla N. 1998. Some Plant Traditions fo the Ahtna Athabaskan. 25 pp. Unpublished report prepared for Wrangell-St. Elias National Park and Preserve.



Angela
Vanderhoofven/AKSO/NPS
12/11/2009 03:49 PM

To Adia Cotter/FAIR/NPS@NPS, Angela
Olson/LACL/NPS@NPS, Betty Wilcox/GLBA/NPS@NPS,
Bill Allen/DENA/NPS@NPS, Bonni

cc

bcc

Subject Sunday Premium for Part-time Employees

Affective PP0926 all **part-time employees** will receive Sunday Premium for regularly scheduled Sunday work. Part-time employees who are not on a maxiflex schedule must have Sunday as part of their regular work schedule. (The regular work schedule **must be scheduled** one week prior to the work week in which Sunday Premium would apply.) Part-time maxiflex employees will receive Sunday Premium if work is done on a Sunday.

More information will follow.

Angie Vanderhoofven
Human Resources Specialist
Alaska Regional Office
National Park Service, Anchorage
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[Customer Satisfaction Survey](#)

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