

Washington Flora Checklist

A checklist of the Vascular Plants of Washington State

Hosted by the University of Washington Herbarium

Family: Lycopodiaceae

12 terminal taxa (species, subspecies, and varieties).

The Washington Flora Checklist aims to be a complete list of the native and naturalized vascular plants of Washington State, with current classifications, nomenclature and synonymy.

Taxa included in the checklist:

- Native taxa whether extant, extirpated, or extinct.
- Exotic taxa that are naturalized, escaped from cultivation, or persisting wild.
- Waifs (e.g., ballast plants, escaped crop plants) and other scarcely collected exotics.
- Interspecific hybrids that are frequent or self-maintaining.
- Some unnamed taxa in the process of being described.

Family classifications follow [APG IV](#) for angiosperms, PPG I (J. Syst. Evol. 54:563-603. 2016.) for pteridophytes, and Christenhusz et al. (Phytotaxa 19:55-70. 2011.) for gymnosperms, with a few exceptions. Nomenclature and synonymy at the rank of genus and below follows the [2nd Edition of the Flora of the Pacific Northwest](#) except where superceded by new information.

Accepted names are indicated with **blue type**, synonyms with gray type.

Native species and infraspecies are marked with **bold-face type**.

*Non-native and introduced taxa are preceded by an asterisk.

Please note: This is a working checklist, continuously updated. Use it at your discretion.

Created from the Washington Flora Checklist database on January 17th, 2026 at 2:40pm PT.

Available online at <https://burkeherbarium.org/waflora/>

Comments and questions should be addressed to the checklist administrators:

David Giblin (dgiblin@uw.edu)

Peter Zika (zikap941@gmail.com)

Suggested citation:

Weinmann, F., P.F. Zika, D.E. Giblin, B. Legler. 2002+. Checklist of the Vascular Plants of Washington State. University of Washington Herbarium. <https://burkeherbarium.org/waflora/>. Accessed Jan 17, 2026.

Ferns and Lycophtyes:

Lycopodiaceae [FNA2, HC, HC2]

Generic ranking is disputed in the family; here we follow Haines (2003) and the Pteridophyte Phylogeny Group (2016) in recognizing segregate genera. Lycopodiaceae is sometimes split into two families, Huperziaceae (containing *Huperzia* s.l.) and Lycopodiaceae (remaining genera).

***Dendrolycopodium* [HC2]**

tree-clubmoss

***Dendrolycopodium dendroideum* (Michx.) A. Haines [HC2]**

Fam. Huperziac. Lycopodiac. New England 84. 2003.

prickly tree clubmoss, tree ground-pine

Lycopodium dendroideum Michx. [FNA2]

Lycopodium hickeyi W. H. Wagner, Beitel & R. C. Moran [FNA2], misapplied

Lycopodium obscurum L. [FNA2, HC], misapplied

Lycopodium obscurum L. var. *dendroideum* (Michx.) D.C. Eaton

***Diphasiastrum* [FNA2, HC2]**

Preslia. 47: 104. 1975.

clubmoss

***Diphasiastrum alpinum* (L.) Holub [FNA2, HC2]**

Preslia. 47: 107. 1975.

alpine clubmoss

Lycopodium alpinum L. [HC]

***Diphasiastrum complanatum* (L.) Holub [FNA2, HC2, ILBC5]**

Preslia. 47: 108. 1975.

ground cedar, trailing ground-pine

Lycopodium complanatum L. [HC]

Lycopodium complanatum L. var. *complanatum* [Abrams]

***Diphasiastrum sitchense* (Rupr.) Holub [FNA2, HC2]**

Preslia. 47: 108. 1975.

Alaskan clubmoss, Sitka clubmoss

Lycopodium sabinifolium Willd. var. *sitchense* (Rupr.) Fernald [Peck], orthographic variant

Lycopodium sitchense Rupr. [HC]

***Diphasiastrum ×takedae* Ivanenko [WTU]**

Bot. Zhum. (Moscow & Leningrad) 77(8): 124. 1992.

hybrid clubmoss

Diphasiastrum alpinum (L.) Holub × *Diphasiastrum sitchense* (Rupr.) Holub

Lycopodium alpinum L. × *Lycopodium sitchense* Rupr.

This is the named hybrid of *Diphasiastrum alpinum* ×*Diphasiastrum sitchense*.

***Huperzia* [FNA2, HC2]**

J. Bot. (Schrader). 1800(2): 126. 1801 Gemma fir-moss [for Johann Peter. 1816.
firmoss

Phlegmariurus [FNA2]

***Huperzia continentalis* Testo, A. Haines & A.V. Gilman [HC2]**

Systematic Botany 41(4):894-901. 2016.

alpine firmoss

Huperzia haleakalae (Brack.) Holub [FNA2], misapplied
Lycopodium selago L. [HC], misapplied

Easily confused with *Huperzia miyoshiana*. Recently (2016) published in Systematic Botany, in which history of name *Huperzia haleakalae* is explained. *Huperzia haleakalae* is known only from Hawaii; all reports from North America are referred to *H. continentalis*.

***Huperzia miyoshiana* (Makino) Ching [FNA2, HC2]**

Acta Bot. Yunnan. 3(3): 303, 304. 1981.
fir clubmoss

Huperzia chinensis (Christ) Czern. [KZ99], misapplied
Lycopodium selago L. [HC], misapplied

***Huperzia occidentalis* (Clute) Kartesz & Gandhi [FNA2, HC2]**

Phytologia. 70: 201. 1991.
western clubmoss

Huperzia porophila (F.E. Lloyd & Underw.) Holub [FNA2], misapplied
Lycopodium selago L. [HC], misapplied
Lycopodium selago L. var. *patens* (P. Beauv.) Desv., misapplied

FNA uses *Huperzia occidentalis* (Clute) Beitel, but this combination was published in 1992, and is a later isonym (identical epithet & same type) of *Huperzia occidentalis* (Clute) Kartesz & Gandhi (1991).

***Lycopodiella* [FNA2, HC2]**

Preslia. 36: 20, 22. 1964.
bog clubmoss

Palhinhaea [FNA2]
Pseudolycopodiella [FNA2]

***Lycopodiella inundata* (L.) Holub [FNA2, HC2]**

Preslia. 36: 21. 1964.
bog clubmoss, marsh clubmoss, northern bog clubmoss

Lycopodium inundatum L. [HC]
Lycopodium inundatum L. var. *inundatum* [HC]

***Lycopodium* [FNA2, HC, HC2]**

Sp. Pl. 2: 1100. 1753; Gen. Pl. ed. 5, 486, 1754.
clubmoss
(see also *Dendrolycopodium*, *Diphasiastrum*, *Huperzia*, *Lycopodiella*, *Spinulum*)

***Lycopodium clavatum* L. [FNA2, HC, HC2]**

Sp. Pl. 2: 1101. 1753.
common clubmoss, elk-moss

Lycopodium clavatum L. var. *integerrimum* Spring [ILBC5, Abrams], misapplied
Lycopodium clavatum L. var. *integrifolium* Goldie
Lycopodium clavatum L. var. *subremotum* Vict.

FNA2: "Plants found in eastern North America have been called *Lycopodium clavatum* var. *clavatum*; those in the western part of the range, which have been called *L. clavatum* var. *integrifolium* Goldie, are distinguished by early shedding of the characteristic hairs on the leaf tips." Sun-exposed plants of *Lycopodium clavatum* sometimes closely resemble and may be mistaken for *Lycopodium lagopus*.

***Lycopodium lagopus* (Laest. ex C. Hartm.) G. Zinserling ex Kuzeneva Prochorova [FNA2, HC2]**

Fl. Murmansk. Obl. 1: 80. 1953.
one-cone clubmoss, ptarmigan clubmoss

Lycopodium clavatum L. var. *integerrimum* Spring [ILBC5, Abrams]

Recently (2009) documented from the North Cascades of Washington. It is sometimes confused with *Lycopodium clavatum*. FNA2: "Lycopodium lagopus is generally more northern than its sister species, *L. clavatum*. Where they come together, however, they can grow side by side (even in southern Michigan) and maintain their distinctions."

***Spinulum* [HC2]**

bristly clubmoss, stiff clubmoss

***Spinulum annotinum* (L.) A. Haines [HC2]**

Fam. Huperziac. Lycopodiac. New England 86. 2003.
interrupted clubmoss, stiff clubmoss

Lycopodium annotinum L. [FNA2, HC]

Lycopodium annotinum L. var. *pungens* (Bach. Pyl.) Desv. [Abrams], invalidly published

FNA2: "This widespread and common club-moss has been divided into various forms or varieties, some of which have been treated as species. Present evidence supports the hypothesis that these are environmentally induced forms, the most distinctive of which has been called *Lycopodium annotinum* var. *alpestre* C. Hartman, with leaves only 2.5--6 mm, very leathery, entire-margined, and appressed. Plants intermediate between this and *L. annotinum* var. *annotinum* are a form that has been called var. *pungens* (Bachelot de la Pylaie) Desvaux, an invalid name. Both are found in cold, bleak, northern or high elevation habitats. The species should be studied in detail to determine whether it contains any groups that should be recognized taxonomically."