

# ghost pine in California

ghost pine

Pinaceae  
*Pinus sabiniana*



◀ cones are the largest of any conifer in northwest California

▼ the bluish-grey tree shimmers like a ghost out of the hot, dry chaparral



**Bark:** dark grey on the ridges, flaky and black underneath when young, growing more solid with age; deeply furrowed in between the ridges and reddish brown in the furrows **Needles:** 3 to a bundle and long (up to 12"), grayish-green in color **Cones:** up to 10", symmetrical, big, nasty, and yet beautiful, very similar to those of Coulter pine, with large pointed hooks at the tips of the scales; weighs up to 2 pounds **Habitat:** hot, lower elevation foothills and river valleys, mixed with chaparral



■ Range\* map for ghost pine (*Pinus sabiniana*)

\*based on Little (1971) and Griffin and Critchfield (1972)

Michael Kauffmann | [www.conifercountry.com](http://www.conifercountry.com)