

LYDLE GULCH WILDFLOWER WALK

mid March to early April

plants listed in approximate order of encounter within category

Description: Begin at Lydle Gulch trailhead opposite Barclay Bay parking lot after crossing Lucky Peak Dam from Highway 21 (VERY FRAGILE SOILS near trailhead; stay on well-established trails!). South to trail crossing Lydle Creek ca ½ mile above Foote Park; trail cuts north to top of slope. Turn around at gate (with option of exploring network of dirt roads from Bonneville Point to Oregon Trail trailhead on Hwy 21), return to Lydle Creek and follow trail to Foote Park on east side of creek. Difficulty: 2 miles roundtrip, modest elevation gain. **Heavy clay soils; avoid when muddy, and stay on trails!**

Plants listed in approximate order of encounter within category. * indicates native species

WILDFLOWERS IN BLOOM (or soon to be)

Spring whitlow-grass (*Draba verna*) – tiny white flowers with notched petals, non-native

***Beckwith's violet, sagebrush pansy** (*Viola beckwithii*)

***Woolly-pod milkvetch** (*Astragalus purshii* var. *glareosus*)

***Hare's-foot milkvetch** (*Astragalus purshii* var. *lagopinus*) – very localized and rare

***Sagebrush buttercup** (*Ranunculus glaberrimus*)

***Miner's lettuce** (*Claytonia/Montia perfoliata*, possibly also *C. rubra*)

***Bulbous or pink woodlandstar/prairiestar** (*Lithophragma glabrum*, previously *L. bulbiferum*)

Jagged chickweed (*Holosteum umbellata*) – inconspicuous non-native

***Narrowleaf biscuitroot** (*Lomatium simplex*, previously included in *L. triternatum*, nine-leaf biscuitroot)

***Dwarf or low pussytoes** (*Antennaria dimorpha*)

***Bolander's yampah** (*Perideridia bolanderi*)

***Yellow bell** (*Fritillaria pudica*)

UPLAND SHRUBS (not in bloom)

***Basin big sagebrush** (*Artemisia tridentata* subsp. *tridentata*)

***Rubber rabbitbrush** (*Ericameria* [previously *Chrysothamnus*] *nauseosa*)

***Bitterbrush, Antelope brush** (*Purshia tridentata*)

***Green rabbitbrush** (*Chrysothamnus viscidiflorus*)

PRIMARY BUNCHGRASSES (not in bloom, but evident)

***Threeawn grass** (*Aristida purpurea* var. *longiseta*)

***Sandberg bluegrass** (*Poa secunda*) – non-native *Poa bulbosa* also present

***Great Basin wildrye** (*Leymus/Elymus cinereus*)

***Squirreltail grass** (*Elymus elymoides*, previously *Sitanion hystrix*)

***Bluebunch wheatgrass** (*Pseudoroegneria spicata*, alternatively in *Agropyron* or *Elymus*) – both native-to-site and planted races from other sites probably present

***Thurber's needlegrass** (*Achnatherum/Stipa thurberianum*)

***Idaho fescue** (*Festuca idahoensis*)

Tall or rush wheatgrass (*Thinopyrum ponticum*; alternatively in *Agropyron*, *Elymus*, *Elytrigia*) – non-native, frequently planted

SIGNIFICANT NOXIOUS WEEDS (not in bloom, but evident)

Cheatgrass (*Bromus tectorum*) -- other annual *Bromus* also present

Rush skeletonweed (*Chondrilla juncea*)

Medusahead grass (*Taeniatherum/Elymus caput-medusae*)

Bur buttercup (*Ceratocephala/Ranunculus testiculata*)

Whitetop (*Lepidium* [previously *Cardaria*] *draba*)

Canada thistle (*Cirsium arvense*)

STREAMSIDE SHRUBS AND TREES (mostly not yet in bloom)

Dog rose (*Rosa canina*) – non-native, with large hooked prickles

***Willows** (*Salix*) – several species, including sandbar willow (*Salix exigua*)

***Syringa or Lewis's mockorange** (*Philadelphus lewisii*)

***Serviceberry** (*Amelanchier* sp.) – taxonomy in flux

***Interior or Wood's rose** (*Rosa woodsii* subsp. *ultramontana*) – native, with slender prickles

***Golden currant** (*Ribes aureum*)

***Blue elderberry** (*Sambucus cerulea*, alternatively *S. mexicana*)

***Chokecherry** (*Prunus virginiana*) – an atypically tall form

Siberian elm (*Ulmus pumila*) – non-native tree

Black locust (*Robinia pseudoacacia*) – non-native tree

***Red-osier dogwood** (*Cornus stolonifera* s.l.)

Ponderosa pine (*Pinus ponderosa*) – planted locally

Box-elder (*Acer negundo*) – non-native variety

compiled by Barbara Ertter, 31 March 2018