PINGREE PARK HERBACEOUS SPECIES LIST

CHARACTERISTICS OF GRASSES AND FORBS COMMON TO PINGREE PARK AREA

GRASSES & GRASSLIKES

1. Agropyron cristatum – crested wheatgrass (POACEAE)

- Perennial bunchgrass
- Auricles that clasp the stem
- Introduced, cool-season forage grass
- Flattened, spike-type inflorescence

2. Anisantha tectorum – cheatgrass (POACEAE)

- Annual grass, therefore is an invader
- Introduced from S. Europe
- Very hairy
- Panicle inflorescence densely branched and nodding
- Medium length awns
- Short awns

3. Bromopsis inermis – smooth brome (POACEAE)

- Perennial cool-season grass
- Introduced from Europe and, therefore, is an invader
- Panicle-type inflorescence
- Strongly rhizomatous
- "W" on leaf

4. *Carex* spp. – sedge (CYPERACEAE)

- Compact, terminal inflorescence
- 3 ranked leaves
- Leaves originate from base of plant
- Larger *Carex* species have triangular stems
- Yellow/greenish color

5. Chondrosum gracile – blue grama (POACEAE)

- Colorado's state grass
- Perennial, native, warm-season decreaser
- Panicle of unilateral spikate branches
- Spikelets on one side of branches
- Short rhizomes forming dense mats
- Hairy, curled leaves
- Ligule is a fringe of hairs

6. Danthonia parryi – Parry's oatgrass (POACEAE)

- Perennial, native bunchgrass
- Awns with flattened base
- Large papery glumes
- Yellowish-green leaves from base, frequently with dead tips
- Tuft of hairs at collar

7. *Elymus elymoides* – squirreltail (POACEAE)

- Perennial, native, bunchgrass
- Spike inflorescence
- 2 spikelets per node
- Spikelets long-awned
- Auricles present

8. *Elymus lanceolatus* – Griffith's wheatgrass (POACEAE)

- Perennial, native, cool-season grass
- Spike inflorescence
- Usually one spikelet per node
- Lemmas with long bent awn
- Auricles present

9. Festuca idahoensis – Idaho fescue (POACEAE)

- Perennial, native bunchgrass
- Cool-season decreaser
- Very fine growth
- Leaves basal, rolled
- Yellowish-green
- Short awns

10. *Hesperostipa comata* – needle-and-thread (POACEAE)

- Perennial, native bunchgrass
- Very long (10-15 cm) awns
- Ligule 3-4 mm long, split
- Conspicuous old flag leaf
- One floret per spikelet

11. Juncus arcticus – rush (JUNCACEAE)

- Round, unjointed stem
- Inflorescence part way up stem
- Grows in areas with high water table
- High silica content
- Rhizomatous
- Brown base

12. *Koeleria macrantha* – Junegrass (**POACEAE**)

- Small, perennial, native bunchgrass
- Panicle inflorescence that opens and closes
- Fine hairs on leaves
- Feels soft
- Leaves twist

13. Leucopoa kingii – King fescue (POACEAE)

- Perennial, native, dioecious
- Almost always under Pinus ponderosa
- Large grass with short rhizomes
- Ligule 3-4 mm long and erose
- Bluish-green color

14. Muhlenbergia montana – mountain muhly (POACEAE)

- Perennial, native bunchgrass, frequently with dead centers
- Panicle inflorescence
- Long, prominent ligule
- Light green
- Very fine leaves
- Awns short and irregularly bent

15. Pascopyrum smithii – western wheatgrass (POACEAE)

- Perennial, native, cool-season grass
- One spikelet per node
- Blue-green color
- Auricles that clasp the stem
- Awn-tipped florets
- Strongly rhizomatous, therefore a sod-former

16. *Phleum commutatum* – alpine timothy (POACEAE)

- Perennial, native, cool-season grass
- No bulb at base
- Glumes awned
- Found at subalpine to alpine elevations

17. Phleum pratense – Timothy (POACEAE)

- Perennial, introduced
- Dense, spike-like panicle inflorescence
- One floret per spikelet
- Glumes awned
- Bulb at base

18. Poa pratensis – Kentucky bluegrass (POACEAE)

- Introduced from Europe
- Found in "run-in" moisture areas
- Rhizomatous
- "Boat-shaped" leaf tips
- Florets have cobwebby base
- Yellow-green color
- Relatively short ligule

19. Poa spp. – bluegrass (POACEAE)

- Perennial, native bunchgrass
- "Boat-shaped" leaf tips
- Pointed ligule several mm long

FORBS

20. Achillea lanulosa – western yarrow (COMPOSITAE)

- White composite flowers
- Ubiquitous
- Fern-like leaves
- Aromatic
- Woolly stems and leaves

21. Acomastylis rossii – alpine avens (ROSACEAE)

- Yellow flowered
- Rose family
- Common on alpine tundra, responsible for the deep red color in autumn
- Leaves compound, basal leaves well developed

22. Antennaria parvifolia – Rocky Mountain pussytoes (COMPOSITAE)

- White flowers
- Low growing forb, stoloniferous
- Gray leaves
- Heads of flowers resemble pads on cat's feet

23. Arnica cordifolia – heartleaf arnica (COMPOSITAE)

- Yellow flowers
- Heart-shaped leaves
- Opposite leaves
- Long rhizomes

24. Artemisia ludoviciana – prairie sage, Louisiana cudweed or sagewort (COMPOSITAE)

- Leaves alternate, simple, irregularly lobed
- Rhizomatous
- Densely pubescent

25. Astragalus spp. – locoweed or milk vetch (LEGUMINOSAE)

- Many species toxic to animals, some are good forage
- Leaves found on the flowering stems pinnately dissected
- Flowers variable in color
- Keel petals are blunt

26. Bistorta bistortoides – bistort (POLYONACEAE)

- Flower white or pinkish
- Flowers in terminal clusters
- Large, fleshy roots
- Basal leaves oblanceolate
- Alpine plant

27. Chamerion angustifolium – fireweed (ONAGRACEAE)

- Bright purple flowers
- Back side of leaf has 1 conspicuous vein
- Secondary veins run parallel to leaf margins
- Common in disturbed areas, especially after fire
- Leaves linear-lanceolate

28. Chrysopsis villosa – hairy golden aster (COMPOSITAE)

- Stems very hairy
- Yellow composite flowers
- Alternate leaves
- Reddish stems
- Increaser species

29. Delphinium spp. – larkspur (RANUNCULACEAE)

- Poisonous to cattle, especially in spring
- Low growing leaves
- Blue flowers with spurs

30. Eremogone fendleri – Fendlers sandwort (CARYOPHYLLACEAE)

- Forb that closely resembles a grass
- Very fine linear leaves, opposite
- Sharp points on tips of leaves
- White flowers

31. Erigeron spp. - daisy (COMPOSITAE)

- Small linear leaves, alternate
- White composite flowers
- Fine hairs on foliage

32. Eriogonum umbellatum – sulphur-flower (POLYGONACEAE)

- Umbel inflorescence
- Leaves at base of plant
- Bracts at base of inflorescence
- Stoloniferous
- Stems are reddish
- Leaves light green above and dusty gray below

33. Erysimum asperum – western wallflower (CRUCIFERAE)

- Biennial mustard
- Yellow flowers
- "Fish hook" subdivisions on leaf margins

34. Fragaria ovalis – strawberry (ROSACEAE)

- Grows in moist environments
- Stoloniferous
- Compound leaf with 3 leaflets
- White flowers
- Red stems

35. Galium boreale - bedstraw (RUBIACEAE)

- Square stem
- Small white flowers
- Leaves in whorls originating from each side of the stem

36. Geranium spp. – geranium (GERANIACEAE)

- White to purple flowers
- Leaves with long petioles, sticky hairs on foliage
- Palmately divided leaves

37. *Harbouria trachypleura* – whisk-broom parsley (UMBELLIFERAE)

- Looks like dill
- Umbel inflorescence
- Yellow flowers
- Highly dissected leaf

38. Helianthus pumilus – dwarf sunflower (COMPOSITAE)

- Common on disturbed sites
- Invader species
- Mostly opposite leaves
- Course hairs on stem
- Yellow composite flower

39. *Lupinus argenteus* – common lupine (LEGUMINOSAE)

- Many lupines are poisonous
- Palmately divided leaves
- White-blue flowers

40. *Mertensia* spp. – bluebells (BORAGINACEAE)

- Generally grows in moist sites
- Waxy leaf
- Fleshy feel to plant
- Blue tubular flowers

41. *Opuntia polyacantha* – starvation cactus (CATACEAE)

- Succulent
- Numerous thick spines on pads
- Bright lemon yellow flower

42. Oxytropis lambertii – crazyweed (LEGUMINOSAE)

- Poisonous to most herbivores, especially horses
- Flowers scapose, i.e., borne on stalks that do not support leaves
- Purple flowers with is pointed keel petals
- Leaves pinnately compound

43. Penstemon spp. – penstemon (SCROPHULARIACEAE)

- Purplish-blue tubular flowers
- Irregular, 5-petalled flowers
- Opposite leaves
- Leaves waxy, tend to be folded

44. *Potentilla* spp. – cinquefoil (ROSACEAE)

- Leaves variable
- Leaves end in 3 leaflets
- Gray to greenish colored leaves
- Yellow flowers

45. Pulsatilla patens – pasque flower (RANUNCULACEAE)

- Leaves palmately divided
- Fine hairs on leaves
- Flowers early in spring
- Reddish stem

46. Pyrola spp. – wintergreen (ERICACEAE)

- Low-growing plant
- Evergreen leaves with serrated margins
- "Leathery" leaves
- Leaves oval to spatulate
- Common in the understory of lodgepole pine forests

47. Sedum lanceolatum – stonecrop (CRASSULACEAE)

- Low growing herb
- Succulent, fleshy leaves
- Yellow flowers

48. Solidago spp. – goldenrod (COMPOSITAE)

- Yellow flowers
- Netted venation on leaves
- Very common plant in forest understory

49. Thermopsis divaricarpa – golden banner (LEGUMINOSAE)

- Yellow flowers
- Leaves divided into 3 leaflets
- Leaflets with yellow veins
- Sheathing stipules at the base of petiole

50. *Trifolium parryi* – alpine clover (LEGUMINOSAE)

- Leaves basal and palmately trifoliate
- Flowers in heads, scapose
- Petal rosey or purple
- Alpine plant