Soapstone Prairie Plants
Early July

White Prairie Clover

Dalea candida (Pea family) native
Drought resistant. Like others in this family, able to take Nitrogen from the air to add to soil fertility

Opposite leaf bahia

Picradeniopsis oppositifolia (Aster family) native.
low-growing plants often along trails edges. Name derived from leaves that are opposite each other on the stem.

Prickly poppy

Argemone hispida (Poppy family) native
Large white petals and bright yellow stamens. The foliage has numerous sharp prickles. The flowers are host to a variety of insects.

Flowers about 2 weeks ago

pods now

Yucca

(Yucca glauca)
(Agave family) native
A pronuba moth lays its eggs in the flower whose fruit feeds the moth's offspring. In the process, the moth pollinates the flowers. Native Americans used the leaf fibers for cordage and made a shampoo from the roots.

Calcareous cryptantha/ *Oreocarya thyrsiflora (Borage family) native.*

These form bushy clumps. Very hairy foliage. Blooming abundantly right now.

Prairie sunflower
Helianthus pumilus (Aster family) native.
Usually taller and more common than plant below. Foliage covered with small stiff prickles that give the feeling of sandpaper.

Hairy goldenaster
Heterotheca villosa (Aster family) native.
Often fairly low plants with closely spaced small leaves. Foliage covered with fine hairs and often scattered longer ones.

Hopi tea greenthread
Thelesperma megapotamicum (Aster family) native.
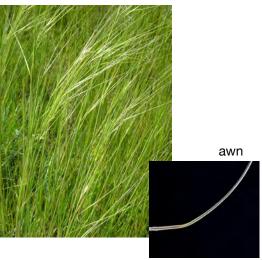Generally not as branched as plant below. Native Americans did use this for tea.

Fineleaf hymenopappus
Hymenopappus filifolus (Aster family) native.
Well branched stems with leaves mostly basal. Foliage grayish from cover of fine white hairs.

awn

New mexican needle grass
Hesperostipa neomexicanas (Grass family) native
Long furry awns (tails on seeds)
Very silvery when backlit.

awn

Needle-n-thread
Hesperostipa comata (Grass family) native.
Long smooth awns. Golden color