

# US BASIN AND NEARBY MOUNTAINS SUBALPINE AND ALPINE HABITATS

## FUNGI – ASCOLICHENS

- Aspicilia caesiocinerea* Mosaic of bluish gray thalli (bodies) with sunken black apothecia.  
*Lecidea tessellata*. Mosaic of greenish-gray thalli with flat black apothecia.  
*Pleosidium chlorophanum* Mosaic of separated, chartreuse-yellow, lobed thalli with black dots.  
*Rhizocarpon geographicum*. Mosaic of small, separated, yellow, flat thalli; black spores  
*Solorina spp.* Relatively large foliose, flat thalli with curled-up edges. *S. crocea*  
brown, other species gray.  
*Xanthoria elegans* Large orange leaf-like thalli with apothecia that have orange edges and  
brown centers. Very common on sentinel rocks with urine deposits.

## BRYOPHYTES – MOSSES

### BARTRAMIACEAE –

### BARTRAM FAMILY

*Philonostis fontana*

**Umbel Moss** Forms large mat of vertical stems with many umbel-shaped sporophytes rising above the leaves. Common in cold wet seeps.

### POLYTRICHACEAE

### – POLYTRICH FAMILY

*Polytrichum juniperinum*

**Juniper Haircap Moss** Grows in thin interwoven mats in dry habitats, 1-4 cm tall. Stems are reddish with gray-green leaves that have a distinctive red-brown tip.

*Polytrichum piliferum*

**Bristly Haircap Moss** Similar to *P. juniperinum*, but smaller. Leaves have a longer tip that is green.

## PTERIDOPHYTES – POLYPODIALES – FERNS

### CYSTOPTERIDACEAE – BLADDER FERN FAMILY

*Cystopteris fragilis*

**Brittle Bladder Fern.** Leaves 2 pinnate; pinnae serrate margins.

### PTERIDACEAE – MAIDENHAIR FERN FAMILY

*Cryptogramma acrostichoides*

**American Parsley Fern** Leaves two shapes. Sterile leaves are typical fern-shaped, 2–3-pinnate, ultimate pinnae lanceolate. Fertile leaves 2-pinnate, pinnae linear with revolute (in turned) margins.

## EQUISETALES – HORSETAILS

### EQUISETACEAE – HORSETAIL FAMILY

*Equisetum arvense*

**Field Horsetail.** Stems dimorphic. Vegetative stems green, branched in whorls. Fertile stems brown, unbranched. Common along pond edges and in wet meadows.

## PINOPHYTES – PINALES – CONIFERS

### CUPRESSACEAE

*Juniperus communis*

**Common Juniper** Low and spreading shrub. White band on needles.

### PINACEAE

*Abies bifolia*

**Rocky Mt. Subalpine Fir** Tall tree. Flat, flexible needles. Cones vertically upward. Tree green.

*Picea engelmannii*

**Engelmann Spruce** Tall tree. Sharp, square, stiff needles. Cones suspended. Tree dark bluish green.

## ANGIOSPERMS

### ADOXACEAE – MOSCHATEL FAMILY

<i>Adoxa moschatellina</i>	Muskroot	2-5 cm tall; palmate leaves; tiny white flowers
<i>Sambucus racemosa</i>	Red Elderberry	1-2 m tall shrub; leaves pinnate; white flowers

### AMARYLLIDACEAE – AMARYLLIS FAMILY

<i>Allium geoyeri</i>	Geyer's Onion	12-16 cm tall; leaves long, linear; tepals pinkish
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### APIACEAE – PARSLEY FAMILY

<i>Angelica grayi</i>	Gray's Angelica	30-60 cm tall; compound umbel; green flowers
<i>Conioselinum scopulorum</i>	Hemlock-Parsley	40-80 cm tall; umbel of white flowers
<i>Cymopterus lemmonii</i>	Yellow Mountain-parsley	10-40 cm tall; umbel of yellow flowers
<i>Heracleum maximum</i>	Cow Parsnip	1-3 m tall; compound umbel, 20+ white flowers
<i>Ligusticum porteri</i>	Porter's Lovage	≤100 cm tall; ternate lvs; umbel white flowers
<i>Oreoxis alpina</i>	Alpine Parsley	2-8 cm tall; hairy leaves; umbels yellow flowers
<i>Oreoxis bakeri</i>	Baker's Alpine Parsley	2-8 cm tall; smooth leaves; longer petals
<i>Oxyopolis fendleri</i>	Fendler's Cowbane	≤100 cm tall; pinnate lvs.; umbel white flowers
<i>Podistera eastwoodiae</i>	Eastwood's Podistera	4-8 cm tall; prostrate stems; yellow flowers

### ASPARAGACEAE – ASPARAGUS FAMILY

<i>Maianthemum stellatum</i>	Star Lily	30-40 cm tall; small white tepals; leaves long
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### ASTERACEAE WITH DISK FLOWERS AND YELLOW RAY FLOWERS

<i>Arnica cordifolia</i>	Heart-leaved Arnica	10-50 cm tall; opposite heart-shaped leaves
<i>Arnica latifolia</i>	Broadleaf Arnica	20-50 cm tall; opposite large elliptic leaves
<i>Arnica mollis</i>	Hairy Arnica	20-50 cm tall; opposite lanceolate leaves; hairy
<i>Arnica rydbergii</i>	Subalpine Arnica	10-20 cm tall; opposite leaves; rocky areas
<i>Helianthella quinquenervis</i>	Five-nerved Sunflower	30-120 cm tall; large horizontal sunflower head
<i>Heliomeris multiflora</i>	Showy Goldeneye	40-80 cm tall; opposite leaves; forms clumps
<i>Heterotheca pumila</i>	Golden Aster	10-30 cm tall; bushy clumps; many flowers
<i>Hymenoxys grandiflora</i>	Old Man of the Mountain	10-30 cm tall; horizontal sunflower head
<i>Hymenoxys hoopesii</i>	Orange Sneezeweed	20-60 cm tall; drooping rays; many heads
<i>Oreochrysum parryi</i>	Parry's Goldenrod	20-50 cm tall; terminal open cluster; short rays
<i>Packera crocata</i>	Saffron Packera	40-60 cm tall; 2-6 yellow-orange heads on stem
<i>Packera dimorphophylla</i>	Two-leaf Packera	15-20 cm tall; two types of leaves; orange buds
<i>Packera werniiifolia</i>	Hoary Packera	5-10 cm tall; stems hairy; 1-5 heads per stem
<i>Senecio amplexens</i> var. <i>amplexens</i>	Showy Alpine Senecio	20-50 cm tall; green toothed leaves; narrow pointed petals; in meadows & forests
<i>Senecio amplexens</i> var. <i>holmii</i>	Holm's Senecio	8-20 cm tall; purple-tinged, toothed leaves; narrow pointed petals; in scree
<i>Senecio crassulus</i>	Thickleaf Senecio	30-40 cm tall; leaves thick; 4-12 heads on stem
<i>Senecio fremontii</i>	Fremont's Senecio	8-12 cm tall; rounded clumps; 20-100 heads
<i>Senecio triangularis</i>	Arrowleaf Senecio	60-120 cm tall; long triangular serrated leaves
<i>Senecio soldanella</i>	Colorado Senecio	8-20 cm tall; large oval purple leaves; in scree
<i>Solidago multiradiata</i>	Rocky Mt. Goldenrod	30-60 cm tall; rounded flower heads; 13 rays
<i>Solidago simplex</i>	Mt. Albert Goldenrod	20-50 cm tall; rounded flower heads; 8± rays

**ASTERACEAE WITH DISK FLOWERS AND WHITE RAY FLOWERS**

<i>Achillea millefolium</i>	Common Yarrow	20-30 cm tall; fern-like leaves; small flowers
<i>Erigeron coulteri</i>	Coulter's Daisy	20-30 cm tall; glandular hairy; narrow rays
<i>Erigeron elatior</i>	Tall Daisy	40-50 cm tall; buds pink; rays narrow & white
<i>Erigeron flagellaris</i>	Whiplash Daisy	5-8 cm tall; long runners; forms colonies
<i>Erigeron grandiflorus</i>	Large-flowered Daisy	2-4 cm tall; hairy; large rays; in tundra
<i>Erigeron melanocephalus</i>	Blackheaded Daisy	5-10 cm tall. Black hairs below large petals

**ASTERACEAE WITH DISK FLOWERS AND PURPLE OR LIGHT PURPLE RAY FLOWERS**

<i>Erigeron compositus</i>	Cutleaf daisy	10-20 cm tall; tufted; basal leaves ternate
<i>Erigeron formosissimus</i>	Beautiful Daisy	15-30 cm tall; light violet narrow rays
<i>Erigeron glacialis</i>	Glacial Daisy	10-50 cm tall; rhizomatous; wide lavender rays
<i>Erigeron leiomerus</i>	Rockslide Daisy	5-8 cm tall; crowded mats; stems hairy; in scree
<i>Erigeron pinnatisectus</i>	Featherleaf Daisy	5-10 cm tall; leaves basal, pinnate; large flower
<i>Erigeron speciosus</i>	Showy Daisy	20-60 cm tall; tufted; lavender rays; in meadows

**ASTERACEAE WITH NO DISK FLOWERS, BUT HAS RAY FLOWERS**

<i>Agoseris aurantiaca</i>	Orange Mt. Dandelion	20-25 cm tall; orange rays; like dandelion
<i>Agoseris glauca</i>	Yellow Mt. Dandelion	15-20 cm tall; yellow rays; like dandelion
<i>Hieracium albiflorum</i>	White Hawkweed	20-70 cm tall; 10-20 heads; 10-30 white rays
<i>Hieracium triste</i>	Wooly Hawkweed	22-28 cm tall; 2-5 heads; 20-35 yellow rays
<i>Taraxacum ceratophorum</i>	Northern Dandelion	10-40 cm tall; narrow leaves; yellow rays
<i>Taraxacum officinale</i>	Common Dandelion	10-30 cm tall; very common; yellow rays
<i>Taraxacum scopulorum</i>	Alpine Dandelion	Prostrate; leaves indented to rib; yellow rays

**ASTERACEAE WITH COLORED DISK FLOWERS, BUT NO RAY FLOWERS**

<i>Anaphalis margaritacea</i>	Pearly Everlasting	20-60 cm tall; white bracts overlap yellow disk
<i>Arnica parryi</i>	Parry's Arnica	20-50 cm tall; opposite leaves; nodding flowers
<i>Artemisia frigida</i>	Fringed Sagewort	10-40 cm tall; silver-gray leaves; yellow flowers
<i>Artemisia ludoviciana</i>	Silvery Sagewort	20-80 cm tall; silver-gray leaves; yellow flowers
<i>Artemisia scopulorum</i>	Alpine Sagewort	5-20 cm tall; small yellow brown flowers; odor
<i>Brickellia grandiflora</i>	Large-flowered Bricklebush	25-60 cm tall; hanging yellow flowers
<i>Cirsium eatonii</i>	Eaton's Thistle	20-60 cm tall; lavender disk; very prickly
<i>Cirsium scariosum(a)</i>	Low Elk Thistle	No stem; white disks in leaf axils; prickly
<i>Cirsium scariosum(b)</i>	Tall Elk Thistle	40-80 cm tall; white disks in leaf axils; prickly
<i>Cirsium scopulorum</i>	Mountain Thistle	30-70 cm tall; pink disks; densely white hairy
<i>Senecio bigelovii</i>	Nodding Senecio	50-80 cm tall; nodding heads; yellow disks

**ASTERACEAE WITH WHITE DISK FLOWERS, BUT NO RAY FLOWERS**

<i>Antennaria corymbosa</i>	Flat-top Pussytoes	10-20 cm tall; plants cluster; white wooly hairs
<i>Antennaria media</i>	Rocky Mt. Pussytoes	5-10 cm tall; disks very pale yellow; lvs. hairy
<i>Chaenactis douglasii</i>	Alpine Dusty Maiden	5-10 cm tall; wide mound; many flowers

**BETULACEAE – BIRCH FAMILY**

<i>Alnus incana</i>	Thinleaf Alder	2-10 m tall bushy tree; leaves oval, toothed
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**BORAGINACEAE – BORAGE FAMILY**

<i>Lithospermum multiflorum</i>	Southwestern Stoneseed	15-60 cm tall; long tubular yellow flowers
<i>Mertensia ciliata</i>	Fringed Bluebell	40-90 cm tall; many light blue drooping flowers
<i>Mertensia franciscana</i>	Franciscan Bluebell	Similar to <i>M. ciliata</i> , but light green leaves
<i>Mertensia lanceolata</i>	Snowy Bluebells	10-30 cm tall; drooping blue flowers; alpine
<i>Phacelia bakeri</i>	Baker's Phacelia	5-30 cm tall; purple flowers in terminal ball
<i>Phacelia sericea</i>	Purple Fringe	≤30 cm tall; purple flowers in terminal column

**BRASSICACEAE – MUSTARD FAMILY**

Mustards have 4 petals, most often yellow, sometimes white. A few have lavender or purple petals.

<i>Boechea lemmonii</i>	Lemmon's Rockcress	5-20 cm tall; hanging seed pods; lavender petals
<i>Boechea stricta</i>	Drummond's Rockcress	30-40 cm tall; erect lvs., seed pods; white petals
<i>Cardamine cordifolia</i>	Heartleaf Bittercress	20-80 cm tall; erect seed pods; white petals
<i>Descurainia incana</i>	Mountain Tansy Mustard	2-10 cm tall; flowers in terminal cluster
<i>Draba aurea</i>	Golden Draba	5-20 cm tall; hairy pods and gray-green leaves
<i>Draba albertina</i>	Slender Draba	3-20 cm tall; stems and leaves have simple hairs
<i>Draba cana</i>	Cushion Draba	10-30 cm tall; hairy; forms clumps; white petals
<i>Draba crassa</i>	Thickleaf Draba	4-6 cm tall. Thick, dark green lanceolate leaves
<i>Draba crassifolia</i>	Snowbed Draba	1-10 cm tall; small mats in tundra; tiny petals
<i>Draba fladnizensis</i>	Austrian Draba	2-13 cm tall; single plants in alpine fellfields
<i>Draba graminea</i>	Rocky Mt. Draba	1-8 cm tall; forms mats in tundra; erect seed pod
<i>Draba lonchocarpa</i>	Lancepod Draba	1-8 cm tall; simple hairs; short white petals
<i>Draba spectabilis</i>	Showy Draba	7-30 cm long; smooth pods and leaves
<i>Draba streptobrachia</i>	Alpine-tundra Draba	2-10 cm tall; woody stolons; twisted pods
<i>Erysimum capitatum</i>	Western Wallflower	10-120 cm tall; 10-20 terminal flowers
<i>Noccaea fendleri</i>	Alpine Pennycress	5-32 cm tall. 10-20 flowers; small white petals
<i>Rorippa alpina</i>	Alpine Yellowcress	Prostrate; long stems; small petals
<i>Smelowskia americana</i>	American False Candytuft	5-16 cm tall; pinnate leaves; light blue petals

**CAMPANULACEAE – BELLFLOWER FAMILY**

<i>Campanula parryi</i>	Parry's Harebell	20-26 cm tall; single nodding purple flower
<i>Campanula rotundifolia</i>	Harebell	20-30 cm tall; 1-4 blue-purple nodding flowers

**CAPRIFOLIACEAE – HONEYSUCKLE FAMILY**

<i>Linnaea borealis</i>	Twinflower	2 white to pink twin flowers on divided stem
<i>Lonicera involucrata</i>	Twinberry	2 yellow twin flowers on divided stem
<i>Symphoricarpus rotundifolius</i>	Mountain Snowberry	≤ 2 m tall shrub; petals pink; berries white
<i>Valeriana acutiloba</i>	Sharpleaf Valerian	10-40 cm tall; dense head of white-pink flowers
<i>Valeriana edulis</i>	Tobacco Root	10-60 cm tall; cluster of many white flowers

**CARYOPHYLLACEAE – PINK FAMILY**

<i>Arenaria lanuginose</i>	Spreading Sandwort	5-6- cm tall; single white flowers
<i>Cerastium arvense</i>	Mouse-ear Chickweed	5-20 cm tall; 5 white petals deeply divided
<i>Eremogone congesta</i>	Ballhead Sandwort	3-40 cm tall; tufted 20-50 stems; white flower
<i>Eremogone fendleri</i>	Fendler's Sandwort	10-40 cm tall; stems & bracts hairy; white petals
<i>Minuartia macrantha</i>	House's Sandwort	2-15 cm tall; mounded; broad white petals
<i>Minuartia obtusiloba</i>	Alpine Stitchwort	1-12 cm tall; wide matt; white flowers
<i>Minuartia rubella</i>	Reddish Sandwort	≤ 3 cm tall; prostrate; white flowers
<i>Silene acaulis</i>	Moss Champion	3-6 cm tall; small purple flowers on top of mat
<i>Silene drummondii</i>	Drummond's Champion	25-35 cm tall; thin; calyx long, hairy, striped
<i>Silene scouleri</i>	Simple Champion	10-60 cm tall; calyx 10 striped; flowers pink

**CARYOPHYLLACEAE – PINK FAMILY (Continued)**

<i>Stellaria irrigua</i>	Colorado Starwort	1-5 cm tall; deeply divided white petals; in scree
<i>Stellaria longipes</i>	Long-stalked Starwort	8-20 cm tall; deeply divided white petals
<i>Stellaria umbellata</i>	Umbrella Starwort	5-20 cm tall; flowers hang down from T

**CRASSULACEAE – STONECROP FAMILY**

<i>Rhodiola integrifolia</i>	Rose (Queen's) Crown	5-30 cm tall; terminal cluster of pink flowers
<i>Rhodiola rhodantha</i>	King's Crown	4-20 cm tall; terminal cluster of dark red flowers
<i>Sedum lanceolatum</i>	Spearleaf Stonecrop	4-20 cm tall; succulent leaves; yellow petals

**CYPERACEAE – SEDGE FAMILY**

Perigynia are highly visible sheaths enclosing the ovary of pistillate flowers. Most about same length.

<i>Carex albonigra</i>	Black-and-white Scaled Sedge	Perigynia (P.) reddish black, ovate; triangular-shaped head, densely flowered
<i>Carex aquatilis</i>	Water Sedge	P. green with speckles; long cylindrical terminal spike; most common sedge by fens
<i>Carex aurea</i>	Golden Sedge	P. golden yellow; loosely tufted; multiple spikes
<i>Carex canescens</i>	Gray sedge	P. greenish; densely tufted; evenly spaced spikes
<i>Carex capillaris</i>	Hair-like Sedge	P. light brown; densely tufted; narrow spikes
<i>Carex ebenea</i>	Ebony Sedge	P. brownish black, acute tip; dense triangular head
<i>Carex echinata</i>	Star Sedge	P. yellow & pointed; densely tufted; star-shaped
<i>Carex haydeniana</i>	Cloud Sedge	P. black in center, pale margins; rounded head
<i>Carex illota</i>	Sheep Sedge	P. yellow-brown; terminal triple head; loosely tufted; flowers star-shaped; very common in meadows
<i>Carex nova</i>	Black Sedge	P. dark brown; densely tufted; oval head
<i>Carex saxatilis</i>	Rock Sedge	P. purplish black; clustered; long, thin head
<i>Carex scopulorum</i>	Cliff Sedge	P. tan; clustered; long, oval head
<i>Carex utriculata</i>	Beaked Sedge	P. light yellow-green; terminal spike beaked; corncob-like large, long head
<i>Eleocharis palustris</i>	Common Spikerush	10-60 cm tall; 30-100 yellow brown scales; mats
<i>Eleocharis pauciflora</i>	Fewflower Spikerush	10-30 cm tall; pointed terminal head; common
<i>Eriophorum angustifolium</i>	Tall Cotton-sedge	30-100 cm tall; red leaf tips; seed head fluffy
<i>Eriophorum chamissonis</i>	Chamisso's Cotton-sedge	30-70 cm tall; seed head like cotton ball

**ERICACEAE – HEATH FAMILY**

<i>Arctostaphylos uva-ursi.</i>	Kinnikinnick.	2-4 cm tall; prostrate ground cover; flower pink
<i>Gaultheria humifusa</i>	Alpine Wintergreen	4-10 cm tall; prostrate shrub; pink hanging flowers
<i>Pyrola asarifolia</i>	Pink Wintergreen	15-40 cm tall; erect pink flowers; in wet meadows
<i>Pyrola minor.</i>	Lesser Wintergreen.	10-25 cm tall; large basal leaves; flowers pale pink
<i>Vaccinium myrtillus</i>	Whortleberry	5-30 cm tall; ground cover; flowers pink & white
<i>Vaccinium scoparium.</i>	Dwarf Whortleberry	10-30 cm tall; shrub; hanging pink flowers

**FABACEAE – PEA FAMILY**

<i>Astragalus alpinus</i>	Alpine Milvetch	6-12 cm tall; pinnate; light purple & white flowers
<i>Oxytropis sericea</i>	White Locoweed	10-25 cm tall; pinnate, spike of white flowers
<i>Trifolium attenuatum</i>	Rocky Mountain Clover	10-20 cm tall; mound; pink & white flowers
<i>Trifolium brandegeei</i>	Brandegee's Clover	6-12 cm tall; cluster of shiny pink flowers
<i>Trifolium nanum</i>	Dwarf Clover	2-4 cm tall; prostrate; light pink or white flowers
<i>Trifolium parryi</i>	Parry's Clover	15-25 cm tall; light pink & white flowers
<i>Vicia americana</i>	American Vetch	20-100 cm long vine with tendrils; purple flowers

<b>GENTIANACEAE</b>	–	<b>GENTIAN FAMILY</b>	
<i>Frasera speciosa</i>		Green Gentian	1-2 m tall. Many pale green flowers on tall stalk
<i>Gentiana algida</i>		Arctic Gentian	5-10 cm tall; white petals with purple dots
<i>Gentiana parryi</i>		Bottle Gentian	10-30 cm tall; blue flowers with tips turned out
<i>Gentiana prostrata</i>		Moss Gentian	2-10 cm tall; single small light blue flowers
<i>Gentianella amarella</i>		Little Gentian	8-40 cm tall; narrow flower, small pink-purple petals
<i>Gentianopsis thermalis</i>		Fringed Gentian	5-40 cm tall; purple flowers; petals twisted, turned out
<i>Swertia perennis</i>		Star Gentian	10-50 cm tall; star shaped flowers; grayish-blue petals
<b>GERANIACEAE</b>	–	<b>GERANIUM FAMILY</b>	
<i>Geranium richardsonii</i>		Richardson's Geranium	30-70 cm tall; pale pink petals with stripes
<b>GROSSULARIACEAE</b>	–	<b>CURRENT FAMILY</b>	
<i>Ribes cerium</i>		Wax current	≤ 2 m tall shrub; pink or yellow petals, no spines
<i>Ribes laxiflorum</i>		Colorado Currant	≤ 1 m tall shrub; ink petals; no spines
<i>Ribes montigenum</i>		Red Prickly Currant	≤1.5 m tall shrub; pinkish-red petals, spiny
<b>IRIDACEAE</b>	–	<b>IRIS FAMILY</b>	
<i>Iris missouriensis</i>		Missouri Iris	20-60 cm tall; 6 white tepals in two whorls, irregular
<i>Sisyrinchium montanum</i>		Rocky Mt. Blue-eyed Grass	10-50 cm tall; 6 purple tepals with stripes
<b>JUNCACEAE</b>	–	<b>RUSH FAMILY</b>	
<i>Juncus drummondii</i>		Drummond's Rush	10-30 cm tall; tufted; tepals have green stripe
<i>Juncus mertensianus</i>		Mertens' Rush	5-30 cm tall; tufted; tepals dark brown
<b>LILIACEAE</b>	–	<b>LILY FAMILY</b>	
<i>Calochortus gunnisonii</i>		Gunnison's Mariposa Lily	20-60 cm tall; 3 white tepals, 3 light green
<i>Erythronium grandiflorum</i>		Glacier Lily	20-30 cm tall; 6 bright yellow tepals pointing down
<i>Lloydia serotina</i>		Alpine Lily	5-20 cm tall; 6 white, striped tepals pointing up
<i>Streptopus amplexifolius</i>		Twisted Stalk	15-100 cm tall; 6 greenish tepals hanging down
<b>LINACEAE</b>	–	<b>FLAX FAMILY</b>	
<i>Linum lewisii</i>		Lewis Flax	15-80 cm tall; thin stem; temporary light blue flowers
<b>MELANTHIACEAE</b>	–	<b>FALSE HELLEBORE FAMILY</b>	
<i>Anticlea elegans</i>		Death Camas	20-80 cm tall; star-shaped flowers; light green tepals
<i>Veratrum californicum</i>		Corn Lily	1.5-2 m tall; 100's of light green flowers along stem
<b>MENYANTHACEAE</b>	–	<b>BUCKBEAN FAMILY</b>	
<i>Menyanthes trifoliata</i>		Buckbean	Aquatic; 10-20 cm above surface; star-shaped flowers
<b>MONTIACEAE</b>	–	<b>MINER'S LETTUCE FAMILY</b>	
<i>Claytonia megarhiza</i>		Alpine Spring Beauty	15-25 cm tall; white petals; pink exerted stamens
<i>Lewisia pygmaea</i>		Pygmy Bitterroot	2-8 cm tall; long lanceolate leaves; flowers pink
<b>ONAGRACEAE</b>	–	<b>EVENING PRIMROSE FAMILY</b>	
<i>Chamerion angustifolium</i>		Fireweed	0.5-1.5 m tall; forms patches; numerous pink-red flowers
<i>Chamerion latifolium</i>		Dwarf Fireweed	10-40 cm tall; purple flowers; exerted stamens
<i>Epilobium anagallidifolium</i>		Alpine Willow-herb	5-20 cm tall; stems droop; white petals;
<i>Epilobium hornemannii</i>		Hornemann's Willow-herb	10-50 cm tall; tiny whitish petals
<i>Epilobium saximontanum</i>		Rocky Mt. Willow-herb	10-50 cm tall; pink-white petals

**ORCHIDACEAE – ORCHID FAMILY**

<i>Coeloglossum viride</i>	Long-bracted Frog Orchid	5-50 cm tall; long bracts; greenish flowers
<i>Corallorhiza maculata</i>	Spotted Coralroot	20-60 mm tall; flower lip white, purple dot
<i>Neottia cordata</i>	Heartleaf Twayblade	5-30 cm tall; yellow-green flowers
<i>Platanthera aquilonis</i>	Northern Green Orchid	10-60 cm tall; light yellowish spurred flowers
<i>Platanthera dilatata</i>	Scentbottle Orchid	2-15 cm tall; many white, spurred flowers
<i>Spiranthes romanzoffiana</i>	Hooded Lady's Tresses	10-50 cm tall; white, hooded, spiraled flowers

**OROBANCHACEAE – BROOMRAPE FAMILY**

<i>Castilleja haydenii</i>	Rosy Paintbrush	10-15 cm tall; bracts light pink, very hairy
<i>Castilleja miniata</i>	Red Paintbrush	25-70 cm tall; bracts red-orange, often deeply cut
<i>Castilleja occidentalis</i>	Alpine Yellow Paintbrush	8-15 cm tall; bracts light yellow, deep cuts
<i>Castilleja rhexifolia</i>	Splitleaf Paintbrush	25-60 cm tall; bracts purplish, rose, or mottled
<i>Castilleja septentrionalis</i>	W. Yellow Paintbrush	20-60- cm tall; bracts pale yellow, deep cuts
<i>Pedicularis bracteosa</i>	Fern-leaf Lousewort	30-100 cm tall; pinnate leaves; pale yellow flowers
<i>Pedicularis groenlandica</i>	Elephant's Head	20-50 cm tall; purple elephant-shaped head
<i>Pedicularis parryi</i>	Alpine Lousewort	10-40 cm tall; pinnate; few white-yellow flowers
<i>Pedicularis procera</i>	Tall Lousewort	≤130 cm tall; long bracts between striped flowers
<i>Pedicularis racemosa</i>	Sickle-top Lousewort	15-50 cm tall; lanceolate leaves; white flowers
<i>Pedicularis scopulorum</i>	Alpine Lousewort	20-90 cm tall; pinnate; rose-purple flowers

**PAPAVERACEAE – POPPY FAMILY**

<i>Corydalis caseana</i>	Fitweed	50-100 cm tall bush; Irregular flowers; pink petals
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**PHYRMACEAE – LOPSEED FAMILY**

<i>Mimulus guttatus</i>	Yellow Monkeyflower	5-55 cm tall; petals hairy yellow with red spots,
<i>Mimulus tilingii</i>	Subalpine Monkeyflower	7-20 cm tall; petals hairy yellow; patches

**PLANTAGINACEAE – PLANTAIN FAMILY**

<i>Besseyia alpina</i>	Alpine Kittentails	5-20 cm tall; dense purple flowers
<i>Besseyia ritteriana</i>	Ritter's Kittentails	20-40 cm tall; dense pale flowers
<i>Chionophila jamesii</i>	Snowlover	5-10 cm tall; purple bracts; white flowers
<i>Penstemon hallii</i>	Hall's Penstemon	10-20 cm tall; bluish-purple bilabiate flowers
<i>Penstemon harbourii</i>	Harbour's Penstemon	5-10 cm tall; mats; light purple to blue flowers
<i>Penstemon whippleanus</i>	Whipple's Penstemon	20-60 cm tall; short hairs; dark purple flowers
<i>Veronica serpyllifolia</i>	Thyme-leaf Veronica	8-30 cm tall; small light blue flowers
<i>Veronica wormskjoldii</i>	Alpine Veronica	10-30 cm tall; small light purple flowers

**POACEAE – GRASS FAMILY**

<i>Bromopsis ciliata</i>	Fringed brome	45-120 cm tall; nodding; many spikelets
<i>Bromopsis inermis</i>	Smooth Brome	20-130 cm tall; weedy; "W" on leaves
<i>Bromopsis porteri</i>	Nodding Brome	40-90 cm tall; nodding; few spikelets
<i>Calamagrostis canadensis</i>	Bluejoint Reedgrass	60-150 cm tall; nodding; common by ponds
<i>Danthonia intermedia</i>	Timber Oatgrass	10-50 cm tall; open panicle; 5-10 spikelets
<i>Deschampsia cespitosa</i>	Tufted Hairgrass	10-150 cm tall; very open pyramidal panicle
<i>Festuca brachyphylla</i>	Alpine Fescue	5-15 cm tall; strongly tufted; long awns
<i>Phleum alpinum</i>	Alpine Timothy	20-60 cm tall; short spike-like panicle
<i>Phleum pratense</i>	Common Timothy	40-100 cm tall; long spike-like panicle
<i>Poa alpina</i>	Alpine Bluegrass	4-30 cm tall; no stolons; densely tufted
<i>Poa artica</i>	Artic Bluegrass	8-30 cm tall; stolons; loosely tufted
<i>Trisetum spicatum</i>	Spike Trisetum	10-120 cm tall; spike-like panicle; exerted awns

**POLEMONIACEAE – PHLOX FAMILY**

<i>Aliciella pinnatifida</i>	Sticky Gilia	15-70 cm tall; blue-violet flowers; glandular hairy
<i>Phlox condensata</i>	Dwarf Phlox	2-3 cm tall; mat forming; light blue-white flowers
<i>Polemonium confertum</i>	Rocky Mt. Sky Pilot	10-20 cm tall; tufted; dense head of blue flowers
<i>Polemonium pulcherrimum</i>	Jacob's Ladder	5-25 cm tall; pale blue-purple flowers; smelly
<i>Polemonium viscosum</i>	Sky Pilot	10-20 cm tall; matted; light blue-violet flowers

**POLYGONACEAE – BUCKWHEAT FAMILY**

<i>Bistorta bistortoides</i>	American Bistort	20-75 cm tall; tepals white; spikelike flowers
<i>Bistorta vivipara</i>	Alpine Bistort	8-35 cm tall; tepals white; bulblets on stem
<i>Eriogonum umbellatum var. aurea</i>	Golden Sulphur Flower	10-35 cm tall; cluster yellow flowers
<i>Eriogonum umbellatum var. porteri</i>	Alpine Sulphur Flower	Prostrate; flower branches $\leq$ 5 mm
<i>Oxyria digyna</i>	Mountain Sorrel	3-50 cm tall; red stem; dense red flowers
<i>Rumex densiflorus</i>	Dense-flowered Dock	50-100 cm tall; dense green and red flowers

**POTAMOGETONACEAE – PONDWEED FAMILY**

<i>Potamogeton gramineus</i>	Variableleaf Pondweed	Flowering stem $\leq$ 80 cm tall; flowers green
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**PRIMULACEAE – PRIMULUS FAMILY**

<i>Androsace septentrionalis</i>	Pygmyflower Rockjasmine	4-20 cm tall; white flowers on many stems
<i>Primula parryi</i>	Parry's Primrose	8-60 cm tall; large reddish purple flowers

**RANUNCULACEAE – BUTTERCUP FAMILY**

<i>Aconitum columbianum</i>	Monkshood	1-2 m tall; deep blue sepals hooded over petals
<i>Actaea rubra</i>	Red Baneberry	20-80 cm tall; terminal cluster of white flowers
<i>Anemone multifida</i>	Red Windflower	30 $\pm$ cm hi; maroon petals with yellow centers
<i>Aquilegia coerulea</i>	Blue Columbine	15-70 cm tall; light blue sepals; white petals
<i>Aquilegia elegantula</i>	Western Red Columbine	10-50 cm tall; orange sepals behind petals
<i>Caltha leptosepala</i>	Marsh Marigold	5-30 cm tall; large entire leaves; large white sepals
<i>Delphinium barbeyi</i>	Subalpine Delphinium	1-2 m tall; large purple irregular flower
<i>Ranunculus alismifolius</i>	Water-plantain Buttercup	10-15 cm tall; 8 $\pm$ separated yellow petals
<i>Ranunculus eschscholtzii</i>	Eschscholtz's Buttercup	5-10 cm tall; 5 overlapping yellow petals
<i>Ranunculus inamoenus</i>	Graceful Buttercup	12-20 cm tall; 5 yellow separated petals
<i>Ranunculus hyperboreus</i>	High Northern Buttercup	Aquatic; stem and yellow flower emergent
<i>Ranunculus macauleyi</i>	Rocky Mt. Buttercup	6-12 cm tall; red-black hairy sepals; 5 large yellow overlapping petals
<i>Thalictrum alpinum</i>	Alpine Meadowrue	5-20 cm tall; ternate leaves; hanging flowers
<i>Thalictrum fendleri</i>	Meadowrue	30-60 cm tall; ternate leaves; hanging flowers
<i>Trollius albiflorus</i>	White Globeflower	5-60 cm tall; leaves palmate; 5-9 white sepals

**ROSACEAE – ROSE FAMILY**

<i>Dasiphora fruticosa</i>	Shrubby Potentilla	$\leq$ 1 m thick shrub; yellow rose-like flowers
<i>Dryas octopetala</i>	Eight-petal Mt. Avens	1-11 cm tall; white petals; mat-forming
<i>Fragaria virginiana</i>	Strawberry	5-10 cm tall; trifoliolate leaves; white flowers
<i>Geum macrophyllum</i>	Largeleaved Avens	20-120 cm tall; trifoliolate leaves; yellow flowers
<i>Geum rossii</i>	Alpine Avens	3-15 cm tall; pinnate leaves; shiny yellow flowers
<i>Geum triflorum</i>	Prairie Smoke	$\leq$ 40 cm tall; purple sepals; pink petals; pinnate
<i>Ivesia gordonii</i>	Mousetail	7-30 cm tall; ball of yellow flowers; pinnate leaves



**ROSACEAE – ROSE FAMILY (Continued)**

All *Potentilla* species have yellow flowers and compound leaves. Frequent hybridization.

<i>Potentilla concinna</i>	<b>Elegant Potentilla</b>	2-11 cm tall; palmate leaves; 5-7 curled leaflets
<i>Potentilla diversifolia</i>	<b>Varileaf Potentilla</b>	5-25 cm tall; palmate leaves; 5-7 ciliate leaflets
<i>Potentilla gracilis</i>	<b>Slender Potentilla</b>	20-80 cm tall; palmate leaves; 5-9 toothed leaflets
<i>Potentilla nivea</i>	<b>Snow Potentilla</b>	2-15 cm tall; ternate leaves; forms mounds
<i>Potentilla pulcherrima</i>	<b>Beautiful Potentilla</b>	20-80 cm long; palmate leaves; forms mats
<i>Potentilla rubricaulis</i>	<b>Red-stemmed Potentilla</b>	4-15 cm long; red stems; palmate leaves
<i>Potentilla subjuga</i>	<b>Colorado Potentilla</b>	10-30 cm tall; palmate leaves; leaflets whitish
<i>Rosa woodsii (blanda)</i>	<b>Woods' (Smooth) Rose</b>	≤ 1.5 m tall shrub; pink petals; forms thicket
<i>Rubus idaeus</i>	<b>Red Raspberry</b>	0.5-1.5 m tall prickly shrub; white petals; red fruit
<i>Sibbaldia procumbens</i>	<b>Creeping Sibbaldia</b>	5-15 cm tall mats; long sepals; short yellow petals,

**SALICACEAE – WILLOW FAMILY**

<i>Populus tremuloides</i>	<b>Aspen</b>	20-40 m tall deciduous tree; white bark; leaves cordate
<i>Salix brachycarpa</i>	<b>Shortfruit Willow</b>	0.2-1.5 m tall shrub; curved and twisted branches; leaves hairy, light gray green; short catkins
<i>Salix nivalis</i>	<b>Snow Willow</b>	≤ 2 cm tall; trailing stems; leaves– veins net pattern, shiny, rounded tips; dioecious
<i>Salix petrophila</i>	<b>Alpine willow</b>	2-10 cm tall; trailing stems; leaves– veins pinnate, dark green, pointed tips; dioecious
<i>Salix planifolia</i>	<b>Planeleaf Willow</b>	1-3 m tall shrub; straight branches; leaves bright green on top, whitish- hairy below; long catkins

**SAXIFRAGACEAE – SAXIFRAGE FAMILY**

<i>Heuchera parviflora</i>	<b>Common Alumroot</b>	20-60 cm tall; basal leaves; light yellow flowers
<i>Micranthes odontoloma</i>	<b>Brook Saxifrage</b>	≤20 cm tall; small white flowers with red style
<i>Micranthes rhomboidea</i>	<b>Snowball Saxifrage</b>	10-30 cm tall; small white flowers in ball shape
<i>Mitella pentandra</i>	<b>Five-star Mitrewort</b>	10-30 cm tall; wide sepals; green pinnatifid petals
<i>Mitella stauropetala</i>	<b>Side-flowered Mitrewort</b>	10-40 cm tall; wide sepals, white linear petals

*Saxifraga* species have basal leaves and sometimes a few stem leaves, upper stem leaves much smaller.

All have relatively tall stems.

<i>Saxifraga austromontana</i>	<b>Spotted Saxifrage</b>	6-10 cm tall; white petals with red spots
<i>Saxifraga cernua</i>	<b>Bulblet Saxifrage</b>	5-10 cm tall; bulblets on red stems; white petals
<i>Saxifraga cespitosa</i>	<b>Tufted Alpine Saxifrage</b>	5-10 cm tall; very hairy stems; white petals
<i>Saxifraga chrysantha</i>	<b>Golden Saxifrage</b>	5-10 cm tall mats; red stems; yellow petals
<i>Saxifraga flagellaris</i>	<b>Whiplash Saxifrage</b>	10-15 cm tall; red stolons; yellow petals; red style
<i>Saxifraga rivularis</i>	<b>Pygmy Saxifrage</b>	5-15 cm tall; green stems with 2-5 white flowers

**TYPHACEAE FAMILY – CATTAIL FAMILY**

<i>Sparganium angustifolium</i>	<b>Narrowleaf Bur-reed</b>	Aquatic; ≤1 m long strings of stems on water
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**URTICACEAE – NETTLE FAMILY**

<i>Urtica dioica</i>	<b>Stinging Nettle</b>	1-2.5 m tall; white flowers in leaf axils; stinging
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**VIOLACEAE – VIOLET FAMILY**

<i>Viola adunca</i>	<b>Hook-spurred Violet</b>	4-25 cm tall; light blue, striped, spurred flowers High elevation plants are variety <i>bellidifolia</i> or separate species <i>Viola bellidifolia</i> .
<i>Viola canadensis var. scopulorum</i>	<b>White Violet</b>	5-30 cm tall; cordate leaves; small white flowers