

2013 VEGETATION MONITORING PILOT PROJECT SUMMARY

What is the Vegetation Monitoring Project?

With the support of the Land Stewardship Centre of Canada, the Friends of Fish Creek launched a pilot project this year to take a closer look at the vegetation in two specific areas in Fish Creek Provincial Park:

- A native grassland plant community
- A plant community near an engineered wetland

What was the aim?

- To create a list of plants growing in these two areas which could serve as a baseline to which future plant inventories could be compared
- To create an <u>online plant image library</u> that members of the public could use to familiarize themselves with local botany
- To gain an understanding of the invasive species present in these areas

Who was involved?

Volunteers from the Friends of Fish Creek community as well as from partnering agencies stepped up to form two teams to identify and photo-document the species.

What were the results?

Together, the two teams identified 120 plant species growing in either or both of the two plots.



Thank you to the volunteers and partners that helped bring this project to life!

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berta









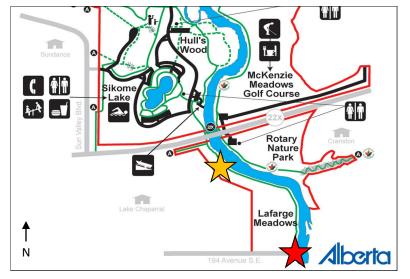
Plot 1 - "Grasslands Plot"

- Located in the SE corner of the Lafarge Meadows area, approx 50m west of the Bow River.
- Covers 8,700 square metres

Plot 2 - "Wetlands Plot"

- Located in the NW corner of the Lafarge Meadows area, approximately 50m south of Hwy 201 (formerly Hwy 22X)
- Includes land surrounding stormwater wetland

Southeast end of Fish Creek Provincial Park



Species Observed at the Vegetation Monitoring Plot 1

TREES

Balsam Poplar (saplings) Trembling Aspen (saplings) **SHRUBS** Bearberry Buckbrush Canada Buffaloberry Chokecherry Raspberry Saskatoon Shrubby Cinquefoil Silverberry/Wolf Willow Wild Rose FORBS Alfalfa Alpine Hedysarum American Vetch Ascending Milkvetch **Black Medick** Canada Thistle **Common Blue-eyed Grass Common Dandelion** Common Goats-beard Cow Vetch Creeping White Prairie Aster **Cut-leaved Anemone Dotted Blazing Star** Early Blue Violet Entire-leaved Groundsel **Field Goldenrod** Flodman's Thistle Gaillardia / Blanket Flower Giant Goldenrod

Golden Bean Graceful Cinquefoil Hairy Golden Aster Harebells / Bluebells Heart-leaved Alexander Late Yellow Locoweed Little-leaf Pussytoes Long-fruited Anemone Missouri Goldenrod Mouse-eared Chickweed Narrow-leaved Puccoon **Nodding Onion** Northern Bedstraw **Pasture Sage Plains Wormwood** Prairie American Vetch Prairie Bastard Toad-flax **Prairie Blue Flax Prairie Cinquefoil Prairie Crocus** Prairie Onion **Prairie Sage** Prairie Smoke Purple Milkvetch **Purple Prairie Clover Rhombic-leaved Sunflower Richardson's Alumroot** Scarlet Butterfly Weed Slender Milkvetch Small-leaved Everlasting Smooth Aster Smooth Fleabane Smooth Perennial Sow Thistle Smooth Scouring Rush Star-flowered False Solomon's Seal Stiff Goldenrod Strawberrv Tall Goldenrod Tall White Cinquefoil Tufted fleabane **Tufted White Prairie Aster** Veiny Meadow-rue Western False Gromwell White Camas White Sweet Clover Wild Bergamot Woolly Cinquefoil Woolly Gromwell Yarrow Yellow False Dandelion GRAMINOIDS **Canada Blue Grass** Couch Grass **Green Needle Grass** Hall's Rough Fescue June Grass **Kentucky Blue Grass** Needle-and-thread Northern Wheat Grass Sand Grass **Slender Wheat Grass** Smooth Brome Thread-leaf Sedge Western Porcupine Grass Western Wheat Grass



Want to improve or refresh your plant ID skills? Visit the riends of Fish Creek's online plant image library!







TREES

Trembling Aspen SHRUBS Sandbar Willow Silverberry or Wolf Willow Autumn Willow Buckbrush Gooseberry **Thorny Buffaloberry** FORBS Alfalfa Alsike Clover Annual Sowthistle Species **Black Medick** Blanket Flower or Gallardia Butter and Eggs, Toad-flax Canada Thistle Common Burdock

Cow Vetch **Creeping Buttercup Curled Dock** Dandelion Giant Goldenrod Goat's-beard Goldenbean Gumweed Leafy Spurge Northern Willowherb Penny Cress/Stinkweed **Prairie Sage Prickly Rose** Red-osier dogwood Scentless Chamomile Seneca Root Silverweed

Smooth Aster Smooth Perennial Sow Thistle Southernwood Western Willow Aster White Cockle White Heath Aster White Sweet Clover Wild rose Wormseed Mustard Yarrow Yellow Avens Yellow Sweet Clover GRAMINOIDS **Baltic Rush Common Cattail Foxtail Barley** Green Needle Grass Timothy



