

Soapstone Prairie Natural Area Mid May Plants

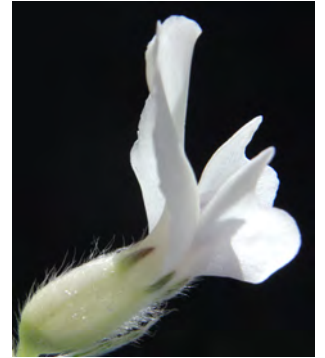


White locoweed

Oxytropis sericea
(Pea family) native
Beautiful showy
flowers, but can be
toxic to livestock,
especially horses.
Leaves mostly at
base, divided into
very hairy leaflets



Leaflets



Individual
flower



Whiskbroom parsley

Harbouria trachypleura (Carrot family) native.
One of the more noticeable plants in this early
period because its flower heads (in umbels—think
umbrella) are fairly large



Britton's skullcap

Scutellaria brittonii
(Mint family) native
These are small and close
to the ground — beautiful
blue-purple. Called
skullcap for the cap-like
top of the flower

Plains stoneseed (pucoon)

Lithospermum incisum

(Borage family) native

Common Plains species in spring. Very hard seeds and has bristly hairs like most members of this family.. Native Americans ate the roots and used various parts medicinally. A blue dye can also be made from the roots



Western wallflower

Erysimum asperum

(Mustard family) native

Common Plains species The Mustard family is well represented early in the season.

Golden banner

Thermopsis rhombifolia

(Pea family) native

Very attractive plants though these seem shorter than usual

