

Plants of Laramie River Shale Barrens [Larimer Co(s), Colorado]

Observed on CONPS fieldtrip, 7/6/2007 to 7/6/2007

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<u>Scientific Name</u>	<u>Synonym</u>	<u>Common Name</u>
1. <i>Achillea lanulosa</i>	(<i>A. millefolium</i> ssp. <i>lanulosa</i>)	Yarrow
2. <i>Allium cernuum</i>		Nodding onion
3. <i>Antennaria</i> sp		Pussytoes
4. <i>Artemisia arbusculum</i> var. <i>longilobum</i>	(<i>Seriphidium arbusculum</i>)	Little sagebrush
5. <i>Artemisia bigelovii</i>		Bigelow sagebrush / wormwood
6. <i>Artemisia frigida</i>		Silver or fringed sage
7. <i>Breea arvense</i>	(<i>Cirsium arvense</i>)	Canada thistle
8. <i>Campanula rotundifolia</i>		Common harebell
9. <i>Chaenactis douglasii</i>		Dusty maiden
10. <i>Chrysothamnus nauseosus</i>		Rubber rabbitbrush
11. <i>Chrysothamnus viscidiflorus</i>		Sticky-flowered rabbitbrush
12. <i>Cirsium</i> sp		Thistle
13. <i>Grindelia squarrosa</i>		Gumweed
14. <i>Gutierrezia sarothrae</i>	(<i>Xanthocephalum sarothrae</i>)	Broom snakeweed
15. <i>Mahonia repens</i>		Oregon-grape, holly-grape
16. <i>Oonopsis wardii</i>		Selenium goldenweed
17. <i>Oreocarya</i> sp.		
18. <i>Packera cana</i>	(<i>Senecio cana</i> , <i>S. harbourii</i>)	Woolly groundsel
19. <i>Paronychia sessiliflora</i>		Whitlow-wort, nailwort
20. <i>Rhus aromatica</i> ssp. <i>trilobata</i>	(<i>R. trilobata</i>)	Skunkbrush
21. <i>Seriphidium</i> cf. <i>novum</i>		
22. <i>Stanleya pinnata</i>		Prince's plume
23. <i>Stenotus amerioides</i>	(<i>Haplopappus amerioides</i>)	Thrifty goldenweed
24. <i>Symphoricarpos</i> sp		Snowberry
25. <i>Tetradymia canescens</i>		Gray horsebrush
26. <i>Virgulaster ascendens</i>	(<i>Aster ascendens</i> , <i>A. chilensis</i> ssp. <i>ascendens</i>)	
27. <i>Virgulus campestris</i>	(<i>Aster campestris</i>)	

Comment: The upper Laramie River Valley is located in extreme northwest Larimer County, a few hours drive from Fort Collins. Along slope breaks among the sagebrush covered uplands there are calcareous shale barrens that host several rare plant species, including *Penstemon laricifolius* ssp. *exilifolius*, *Eriogonum exilifolium*, and *Phacelia formosula*. The shale barren plant community contains elements of both Colorado and Wyoming floras, including the only Colorado state record of *Oonopsis wardii*.