Wildlife Corridor Assessment

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Summary: The designated wildlife corridor is an attractive space beneficial to wildlife such as butterflies, insects, small mammals, ground-nesting birds, and reptiles, and provides access for wildlife around Moose Can Gulley. Noxious weeds have been identified and treatments recommended. Beneficial plants to protect and promote have been identified. Recommendations for future care of the area are included.

1. Noxious weeds: All may be treated with the same herbicide. Spot treat only. Let sprayers know area will be re-seeded with wildflowers.
   1. Leafy spurge (Euphorbia esula)
   2. Canada thistle (Cirsium arvense)
   3. Climbing vetch (Viccia ciacca)
   4. Ox eye daisy (Chrysanthemum leucanthreum)
   5. Bindweed (Convolulus arvese)
   6. Common tansy (Tanacetum vulgare): Do not need to spray; can pull or dig out
2. Grasses: This healthy perennial mix of native and non-native grasses should be protected as it is good for wildlife, butterflies, insects, ground-nesting birds, small mammals, and reptiles.
   1. Fescues
   2. Bunchgrass
   3. Intermediate wheatgrass
   4. Idaho fescue
   5. Kentucky bluegrass
   6. Quackgrass
   7. Orchard grass
   8. Crested wheatgrass
   9. Smooth brome
3. Beneficial plants to protect:
   1. Yarrow
   2. Spreading fleabane
   3. Serviceberry
   4. Aspen: Recommendation is to establish small grove by allowing small seedlings to thrive. Do not mow or spray. Flag if surrounding area is to be mowed.
4. Adjacent plants for cultivation: Chokecherry bushes, potentilla, Ponderosa pine, blue elderberry.
5. Russian olive adjacent to serviceberry: Recommendation is to remove; cut limbs close to ground and use herbicide on cut surfaces.
6. Regulations re mowing: Mowing is not required since wildlife corridor is irrigated.
7. Management steps:
   1. Option 1 – spot spray now, do not mow
   2. Option 2 – spot spray now, mow at end of August (nesting birds will be off nests but other wildlife will still be present)
   3. Option 3 – mow now, spot spray late summer or early spring (see note above)
   4. For all options, flag beneficial plants to protect - do not mow or spray
   5. Scatter or plant perennial seeds or small plugs of native plants. Plant in fall or spring (see list below).
8. Shrubs to promote/add:
   1. Chokecherry (Prunus virginiana)
   2. Shrubby cinquefoil (Potentilla fruiticosa)
   3. Woods rose (Rosa woodsii)
9. Trees to promote/add:
   1. Aspen (Populous tremuloides)
   2. Serviceberry (Amelanchier alnifolia)
10. Forbs (wildflowers) to add:
    1. Blanketflower (Gaillardia aristata)
    2. Goldenrod (Solidago missouriensis and S. Canadensis)
    3. Showy fleabane (Erigeron speciosa)
    4. Showy milkweed (Ascepias speciosa)
    5. Three veined fleabane (Erigeron subtrinervis)
    6. Wilcox’s penstemon (Penstemon wilcoxii)
    7. Wild bergamot (Monarda fistulosa)
    8. Rocky mountain beeweed (Cleome serrulata)
11. Sources:
    1. Nature’s Enhancement (for shrubs)
    2. Pipilo Native Plants
    3. Great Bear Natives (wholesale)
    4. Fancy Plants (Ace Hardware) – take species list
    5. Caras Nursery – take species list
    6. [www.NativeIdeals.com](http://www.NativeIdeals.com) (for seeds)
12. Explanatory National Wildlife Federation placards are available to post near wildlife corridors.

Respectfully submitted,

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