

management-Herbaceous complex

Wild Blueberry: Blueberry fruits are eaten by many species of wildlife including turkey, quail, ruffed grouse, black bear, deer, chipmunks, rabbits, foxes, squirrels and raccoons. Songbird species such as the scarlet tanager, robin, cardinal, bluebird, and brown thrasher also eat the blueberry fruit. Deer readily browse some blueberry foliage with the greatest use occurring in April and May. Winter browsing also occurs in some areas.

Black Huckleberry: Black, or Thinleaf, Huckleberry is one of the choicer wild blueberries . Wildlife

Huckleberry: fruits are an important food source for songbirds, gulls, cranes, pigeons, turkeys, and upland game birds. Many mammals, from black bears to mice, feed on red huckleberries. Herbivores graze on the entire plant; it appears to be a favorite browse of deer. Huckleberries and blueberries form a major part of the grizzly and black bear's diet in late summer and fall. Grouse feast on the leaves and blossoms. The fruits, twigs, and foliage are eaten by foxes, opossums, raccoons, squirrels, deer, moose, caribou, elk, pikas, cottontail rabbits, and skunks.

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Dull Oregon Grape: The flowers of Oregon Grape are attractive to bees, butterflies and moths and bloom from March through June. It's also a food source for birds and small mammals. Among birds that will eat the berries are forest birds such as grouse and pheasants as well as common songbirds such as robins, waxwings, juncos, towhees and sparrows. Small mammals include foxes, coyotes and raccoons. Painted Lady butterflies are known to use the nectar of the Tall Oregon-grape and I observed a Half-white Carpet Moth frequenting the flowers as well. Orchard mason bees are also known to frequent the flowers of Tall Oregon-grape for their nectar. Mining bees and bumble bees in addition to mason bees are the most common visitors. Dull Oregon-grape may also attract other pollinators. Both Oregon-grapes can be used by a variety of wildlife species for protection thanks to the plants spiny leaves and dense growth, especially when planted in groups.

Red-osier Dogwood: Wildlife Uses: Berries are a preferred food of ruffed grouse, northern flicker, downy woodpecker, eastern kingbird, common crow, gray catbird, American robin, Swainson's thrush, evening grosbeak, cedar waxwing and purple finch. They are well utilised by dozens of other species of songbirds, particularly during fall migration. The branches and foliage form dense summer cover, offering protection and nesting sites for species such as the American goldfinch. Flowers are an important source of pollen for honey bees. Red squirrels, chipmunks and raccoons include red osier dogwood in their diets, while snowshoe hare and beaver browse the twigs in winter.

Salmon Berry: Wildlife: Salmonberry fruits, ripe from June to August, rank at the very top of foods for wildlife. The early blooming flowers, blossoming from March to June, are an important nectar source for bees, butterflies, various other insects, and hummingbirds. The berries are relished by songbirds, bears, and small mammals as much as they are enjoyed by humans. Leaves, twigs, and stems are grazed by browsers, such as deer, elk, and rabbits. The dense thickets provide excellent escape habitats for birds and small mammals, and nesting sites for songbirds.

Snowberry: An important cover and food source for animals and birds makes snowberry ideal for use in wildlife plantings. Snowberry is important upland nesting habitat for waterfowl. Also recommended for riparian buffers, its extensive deep roots and rhizomes help control erosion and protect water quality. Flowers are late spring and early summer pollen and nectar source for bees and other insects.

Highbush Cranberry: Wildlife Uses: Native high bush cranberry fruits are much more desirable for wildlife than those of the showier European variety. It is a preferred food only of ruffed grouse and cedar waxwing, but fruit is also eaten by over 20 other species. More importantly, fruits hang on throughout the winter and serve as critical emergency food when other sources are not available. Because the tips die over the winter, plants become very bushy as they get older. They provide valuable cover and are used as nesting sites by several species of birds.

Fireweed: The North American First Nations people used fireweed as a fresh or cooked vegetable, as a tobacco substitute, and as a poultice to draw out infections. Stem fibres were used for thread. Today fireweed has been shown to have potent anti-inflammatory activity, and is being developed into products to treat skin problems such as diaper rash, and as a mouthwash for the treatment of sore gums. The nectar is also important

in the honey business. This statuesque perennial's leaves are food for deer and elk.

Sitka Valerian: Grazing Considerations , Fair to good forage for livestock. This is a very valuable herb for grazers on subalpine ranges.

Lady Fern: Lady Fern were traditionally used as a covering for food, much like today's wax paper the fiddleheads are a spring delicacy and are eaten raw or cooked.

Pinegrass: Wildlife, especially elk, utilize it during spring and again in fall and winter . Studies show utilization by bighorn sheep, white-tailed deer, blackbear, and mule deer. Rocky mountain goats consume pinegrass and also using it for bedding. Boreal owls nest in pinegrass clippings . Tolerates grazing relatively well by forming a thick sod layer.

False Azalea: Environment Canada - Nature - Biodiversity Profile ... and false azalea, providing ideal habitat and plentiful food for birds. ... The inventory is done by the Wild Bird Trust,

Thimbleberry: Animals such as chipmunks, squirrels, hummingbirds, and rabbits eat thimbleberries. A good shrub for wildlife, thimbleberry provides cover in thickets and food for birds and mammals. The flower provides nectar for hummingbirds, but isn't as important a food source as salmon berries. Birds such as bushtits, finches, jays, quail and wrens eat the berries, as well as the bear, coyote and fox.

Black Twinberry: Do not use pesticides since hummingbirds eat the plant insects as a source of protein. Hummingbirds do not have a sense of smell and rely upon sight and high nectar producing plants. The plant attracts butterflies, hummingbirds, Grosbeaks, Juncos, Waxwings, Thrushes, Flickers, Finches, and Quail.

Ocean Spray: The large white lilac like flower clusters are a nectar source for butterflies while succulent, and a late season seed source for birds after they mature and turn brown. The seeds will last through the winter if not deadheaded. Chickadees, Bushtits, Hummingbirds. Brown Elfins, Pale Tiger Swallowtails, Spring Azures, Lorquin's Admirals. Thought it's not a preferred food, Deer are reported to browse ocean spray when other food is scarce.

Soopollalie: Also known for its medicinal properties. The berries have been used to treat the flu and indigestion. Once the berries ripen in August and September, this becomes the most important plant for bears.

Douglas Maple: Common Name: Rocky mountain maple, Mountain Maple, "Rocky Mountain maple is a highly valued big game browse species. Moose, elk, mule deer, and white-tailed deer to varying degrees throughout the year eat its leaves and twigs, but it is especially important as a winter food source."

Black Gooseberry: wild gooseberry, black gooseberry, mountain gooseberry, swamp gooseberry. North American natives used the swamp gooseberry to make a tea which they said was especially good for colds. The nectar and pollen of the flowers attract honeybees, bumblebees, Halictid bees and an oligolectic bee, *Andrena nivalis*. Both birds and mammals eat the berries. Among mammals, these species include the Red Fox, Eastern Chipmunk, Red Squirrel, Striped Skunk, Raccoon, Woodland Deer Mouse, White-Footed Mouse, and Meadow Vole. Berry-consuming birds include the Catbird, Brown Thrasher, Robin, Cedar Waxwing. White-Tailed Deer occasionally browse on the twigs and foliage.

Red Raspberry: Wild raspberries are an important wildlife berry for animals and birds to eat. Red raspberry is browsed by moose, deer, rabbits, mountain beaver, and elk eat the foliage of raspberries. Porcupine and beaver occasionally consume buds, twigs, or cambium of species. In general, raspberries have little forage value for domestic livestock. Fruits are eaten by ruffed grouse, blue grouse, sharp-tailed grouse, ring-necked pheasant, greater prairie chicken, California quail, northern bobwhite, gray catbird, northern cardinal, yellow-breasted chat, American robin, thrushes, towhees, brown thrasher, orchard oriole, summer tanager, pine grosbeak, gray (Hungarian) partridge, and band-tailed pigeon. The coyote, raccoon, black bear, common opossum, squirrels, Townsend's chipmunk, skunks, red fox, and gray fox, eastern chipmunk, western chipmunk, deer mice, and grizzly bear consume red raspberry fruit where available. Flowers of red raspberry provide nutritious food for bees.

Red Elderberry: Berries are food for rabbits, squirrels, foxes, woodchucks, chipmunks, ground squirrels, woodrats, and mice. Also is heavily browsed by deer and moose. Elderberries provide valuable nesting and perching habitat, and their fruit provides food for many species of birds including bluebirds, woodpeckers, grosbeaks, vireos, warbling vireo, red-eyed vireo, scarlet tanager, American crow, grouse, and hummingbirds who visit flowers for nectar.

Alder: Plants are occasionally eaten by mule deer but provide cover for wildlife. Muskrats, beavers, cottontails, and snowshoe hares eat alder twigs and leaves. Beavers eat the bark of alders, and build dams and lodges with the stems. Alder seeds, buds, and catkins, are eaten by redpolls, siskins, goldfinches, chickadees, and grouse, and are an important winter food source. Sitka alder improves soil fertility both by fixing nitrogen and by producing a nitrogen-rich leaf litter. It has therefore been proposed for interplanting with Douglas-fir or other desirable conifers on sites where additional nitrogen is desirable.

Willows: Vegetation surrounding streams occupies a transitional zone between aquatic and upland areas known as the riparian zone. Riparian zones maintain critical ecosystem functions by mediating the cycling of nutrients and sediments, increasing the retention of water in vegetation, and providing habitat for wildlife. Willows are an important food source for wildlife and livestock in riparian areas. When protein levels of most rangeland plants begin to decrease in midsummer, deer, elk, and livestock may shift their foraging efforts towards willow communities in order to meet nutritional requirements. Grazing animals such as cattle and Deer may only eat willow in late summer or winter whereas Moose and other browsers eat willow year-round. Willows in riparian areas provide essential nesting habitat for migratory songbirds like yellow warblers and willow flycatchers. Willows (*Salix* spp.) in general are a preferred food of moose, and coyote willow occurs in riparian and flood plain habitats that these animals frequent. It also is browsed heavily by elk but is of only slight importance as browse for mule deer. Also eaten by beaver and snowshoe hare. Willows provide wildlife with important sources of food and shelter. Many game as well as non-game species use willow for cover and nesting.

Paper Birch: The paper-like bark was traditionally used by the North American Natives for canoe construction. Young regenerating stands of paper birch and associated species provide prime browse and cover for deer and moose. Paper birch can be an important winter food for many forest animals including deer and moose. It is also a favourite food of snowshoe hare, porcupine, and beaver. Many birds will nest in paper birch, including woodpeckers, sapsuckers, and vireos.

Trembling Aspen: The leaves, twigs and bark are highly nutritious, and moose, deer and elk use them for overwintering., Black bears, cottontails, porcupine, and snowshoe hares feed on bark, buds, and foliage and grouse and quail eat the winter buds. Small mammals, such as shrews, mice, and voles abound And, of course, aspen is a favorite food and building material for the North American beaver. The layered structure of an aspen grove is popular with birds,. Snags provide perches for birds of

prey, and sites for cavity nesters, including canopy nesters like the warbling vireo, shrub nesters like the flycatcher, cavity nesters like the mountain bluebird, and ground nesters like the hermit thrush, as well as hummingbirds and birds of prey. Increasing stand size increases diversity of insectivorous birds. A good example of aspen's importance as a food source is the sympatric range of the ruffed grouse, which feeds extensively on aspen buds. In addition to providing key habitat for wildlife, aspen in their seral form may be important as a 'nurse crop' for shade-tolerant species that do not become established in full sunlight, such as many coniferous tree species and forbs. A mature aspen canopy passes more sunlight than a stand of conifers, yet provides partial shade as well.

Black Cottonwood: Is an important tree for wildlife. Beaver consume the inner bark of large cottonwoods and use the branches to build dams and lodges. Woodpeckers excavate nest cavities in mature cottonwoods, which are then used by cavity nesting' water birds. Small mammals also nest, store food and escape from predators in sheltered woodpecker cavities. On the top of large cottonwood snags, osprey and eagles build their nests overlooking feeding grounds. With old age, cottonwood trees fall to the ground creating valuable habitat for amphibians and reptiles. The Black Cottonwood prefers moist sites. Many kinds of wildlife use the foliage, twigs, and buds for food.