

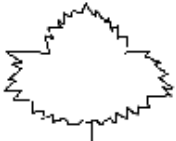






# Bald Mountain –iNaturalist Scavenger Hunt –September 24, 2021

Take photos of the following plants that show at least two of the listed characteristics. To show size include your hand or a coin. Upload your photos to iNaturalist.org. with location “Bald Mountain Scenic Area.” Click mouse in species field for suggested identification. The date field should automatically populate.

| FLOWERS   |              |   |
|---|--------------|---|
| Name  | Flower color | Characteristics   |
| Curlycup Gumweed,<br><i>Grindelia squarrosa</i>         | yellow       | <input type="checkbox"/> Upward-facing small sunflowers with yellow petals (ray flowers) and yellow centers (disk flowers). Many already fallen<br><input type="checkbox"/> Sticky recurved bracts (leaf-like parts under the flower)<br><input type="checkbox"/> Plants can be a few feet tall.<br><input type="checkbox"/> Leaves longer than wide with sparsely toothed margins  |
| Hairy False Golden Aster,<br><i>Heterotheca villosa</i> | yellow       | <input type="checkbox"/> Upward-facing small sunflowers with yellow petals (ray flowers) and yellow centers (disk flowers). Many already fallen<br><input type="checkbox"/> Green bracts arranged like roof shingles. Not sticky<br><input type="checkbox"/> Spreading plant, close to ground, but maybe over a foot high<br><input type="checkbox"/> Sharp-tipped leaves with smooth margins<br><input type="checkbox"/> Tiny wind-dispersed seeds Like tiny dandelion “blow-blow” |
| Goldenrod<br><i>Solidago spp.</i>                       | yellow       | <input type="checkbox"/> Very small yellow flowers in tight oblong clusters<br><input type="checkbox"/> Leaves are simple and alternate (true for all Solidago species)<br><input type="checkbox"/> More than one species on Bald Mt, 11 in Boulder county<br><input type="checkbox"/> Some have a prominent rosette of basal leaves  |
| Broom-like ragwort,<br><i>Senecio spartioides</i>       | yellow       | <input type="checkbox"/> 5 to 8 yellow petals (ray flowers) with yellow center (disk flowers)<br><input type="checkbox"/> Many-stemmed open, airy plant about 3 feet high<br><input type="checkbox"/> Linear leaves (over 10 times longer than wide)<br><input type="checkbox"/> Many flowers have already turned to dandelion-like seed heads  |
| Little Sunflower,<br><i>Helianthus pumilus</i>          | yellow       | <input type="checkbox"/> Yellow petals (ray flowers) yellow center (disk flowers) Many already fallen<br><input type="checkbox"/> Sandpapery, opposite leaves<br><input type="checkbox"/> Stems rough and hairy. Plants about 2 feet tall.  |
| Fringed Sagebrush,<br><i>Artemisia frigida</i>          | yellow/green | <input type="checkbox"/> Look for grayish plants about a foot high.<br><input type="checkbox"/> Tiny yellow flowers are barely visible on spikey clusters<br><input type="checkbox"/> Aromatic thin gray-green hairy leaves near ground.<br><input type="checkbox"/> Leaves are divided (pinnatifid). They look like fringe.  |
| Western Ragweed,<br><i>Ambrosia psilostachya</i>        | yellow/green | <input type="checkbox"/> Lobed leaves<br><input type="checkbox"/> Very small drooping flowers in tall spikes (male flowers)<br><input type="checkbox"/> Female flowers found in leaf axis<br><input type="checkbox"/> Many on trailside near top of hill. Native but looks weedy.   |
| Dotted Gayfeather,<br><i>Liatris punctata</i>           | purple       | <input type="checkbox"/> Many star-shaped flowers in a spike-like cluster (wilted now)<br><input type="checkbox"/> Plants about a foot tall (take photo with an object for scale)<br><input type="checkbox"/> Small linear leaves with dot like pores (need a zoom lens to see)   |
| Bigelow's Tansy Aster,<br><i>Dieteria bigelovii</i>     | purple       | <input type="checkbox"/> Bracts (structures under flowers) recurved and hairy<br><input type="checkbox"/> Purple petals (ray flowers) with yellow center (disk flowers)<br><input type="checkbox"/>   |

| SHRUBS   |   |  |
|--|---|--|
| Name   | Leaf Shape  | Characteristics  |
| Fendler's Ceanothus<br><i>Ceanothus fendleri</i>         |    | <input type="checkbox"/> Leaves are entire, sometimes serrate, just at tip. Dark green<br><input type="checkbox"/> Woody ¼ inch diameter circular bases where fruit fell off<br><input type="checkbox"/> Thorns  |
| Wax Currant,<br><i>Ribes cereum</i>                      |    | <input type="checkbox"/> Leaves have broadly rounded lobes about 1 inch diameter<br><input type="checkbox"/> Leaf margins are scalloped<br><input type="checkbox"/> Orange/red translucent skinned shiny berries may be present<br><input type="checkbox"/> Deciduous so there may be brown or fallen leaves |
| Rocky Mountain Raspberry,<br><i>Rubus deliciosus</i>     |    | <input type="checkbox"/> Leaves have broadly rounded lobes.<br><input type="checkbox"/> Leaf margins are toothed.<br><input type="checkbox"/> Deciduous so there may be brown or fallen leaves<br><input type="checkbox"/> No thorns.  |
| Chokecherry,<br><i>Prunus virginiana</i>                 |    | <input type="checkbox"/> Leaves are elliptic to ovate<br><input type="checkbox"/> Leaf margins finely toothed.<br><input type="checkbox"/> Deciduous so there may be brown or fallen leaves<br><input type="checkbox"/> No thorns<br><input type="checkbox"/> Dark red or black berries in drooping clusters |
| Skunkbrush,<br><i>Rhus aromatica trilobata</i>           |    | <input type="checkbox"/> Leaves have broadly rounded lobes.<br><input type="checkbox"/> Leaves compound with three leaflets<br><input type="checkbox"/> Deciduous so there may be brown or fallen leaves<br><input type="checkbox"/> No thorns, berries probably fallen off already                          |
| TREES  |   |  |
| Ponderosa Pine,<br><i>Pinus ponderosa</i>                | needle  | <input type="checkbox"/> Needles in bundles of 2 or three<br><input type="checkbox"/> Puzzle piece-like bark<br><input type="checkbox"/> Female cones up to 6 inches long, pointed tipped scales.<br><input type="checkbox"/> Male cones up to 2 inches long on same tree as female cones                    |
| Rocky Mountain Juniper<br><i>Juniperus scopulorum</i>    | scale   | <input type="checkbox"/> Bark is reddish-brown to gray and fibrous or peeling in strips<br><input type="checkbox"/> Leaves are scale-like<br><input type="checkbox"/> Berry like cones, less than half inch diameter   |
| GRASSES  |   |  |
| Big Bluestem Grass<br><i>Andropogon gerardi</i>          |  | <input type="checkbox"/> Tall native grass up to 8 feet high, grows in bunches<br><input type="checkbox"/> Panicle (branched group of flowers) shaped like a turkey foot.<br><input type="checkbox"/> Tiny straight yellow flowers probably fallen off<br><input type="checkbox"/> Reddish stems             |
| Crested Wheatgrass,<br><i>Agropyron cristatum</i>        |  | <input type="checkbox"/> Non-native grass up to 3 feet high<br><input type="checkbox"/> Florets in a spiked cluster, probably still containing grain<br><input type="checkbox"/> Currently all golden brown<br><input type="checkbox"/> Leaves mostly basal  |
| CACTI  |   |  |
| Hair-spined Prickly pear,<br><i>Opuntia polyacantha</i>  | many spines   | <input type="checkbox"/> succulent (thick and fleshy) pads (modified stems)<br><input type="checkbox"/> 6-12 short spines (which are modified leaves) on each areole<br><input type="checkbox"/> areoles (bunches of spines) close together  |
| Twisted-spine Prickly pear,<br><i>Opuntia macrorhiza</i> | fewer spines  | <input type="checkbox"/> succulent pads (modified stems) usually wrinkled across<br><input type="checkbox"/> fewer and longer spines on each areole<br><input type="checkbox"/> areoles (bunches of spines) farther apart  |