

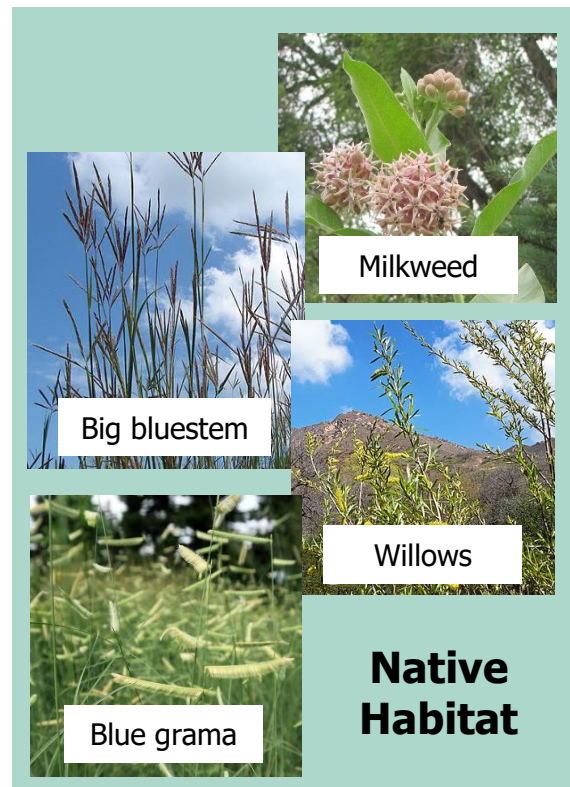
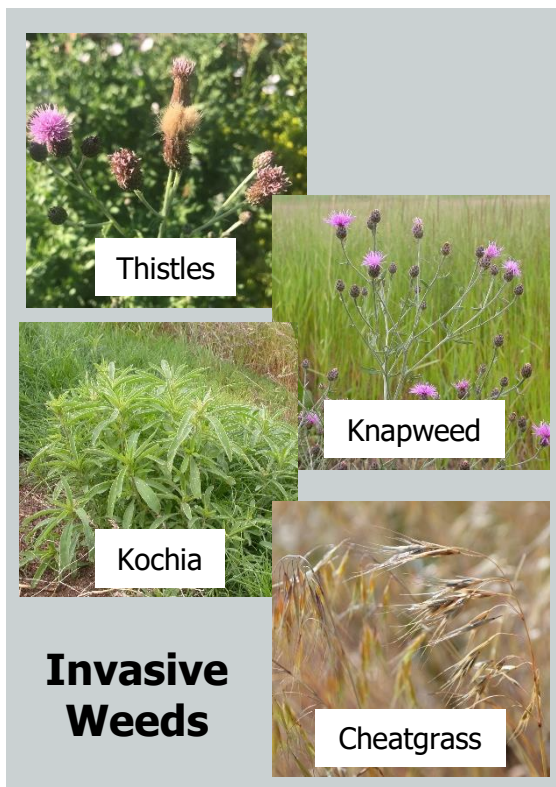
Barefoot Lakes Natural Areas Management Plan

Prepared by High Plains Environmental Center



Management Goals

1. Control invasive species: remove established plants and reduce seedbank.
2. Establish native upland and wetland plant communities that are diverse and resilient.
3. Create habitat for wildlife and pollinators.
4. Provide opportunities for the community to learn about and enjoy native habitats in their neighborhood.



Barefoot Lakes Natural Areas Management Plan

Management Timeline

Year 1



Objective: prioritize perennial and biennial weed control, prepare site for seeding

- Control perennial, biennial weeds
 - Thistles (Canada, musk, Scotch), knapweeds (spotted, diffuse), woody plants (tamarisk, crack willow)
 - Spring – targeted herbicide application
 - Summer, fall – mow any missed weeds
- Prevent annual weed seed production
 - Summer, fall – mowing after seed head emergence

Year 2



Objective: control weeds, begin to establish native plant community

- Seed native warm-season grasses
 - Late winter, early spring – seed blue grama, buffalo grass (germination in summer)
- Install wetland vegetation
 - Willow and cottonwood cuttings in shoreline
 - Wetland plant plugs (prairie cordgrass, Indian grass, etc.) and seeds
- Control invasive weeds
 - Mowing to prevent seed production
 - Monitor and remove woody invasive species

Year 3



Objective: support continued native plant community establishment, control weeds

- Native grasses are not mowed, but allowed to produce seed
 - Reduces stress and energy loss, allows grasses to out-compete annual weeds
- Additional wetland plantings
- Wildflowers for pollinator forage
 - Seed patches with native wildflower mix
- Continue weed management
 - Targeted herbicide application, mowing