Greening the Scarred Earth

Native plants like the ones growing here are used in revegetation of disturbed habitats throughout the Rocky Mountain West. Soils are vulnerable to erosion and deficient soil nutrients due to poor land management practices, such as repetitive tilling, over grazing, construction and mining. For many disrupted ecosystems, revegetation provides the opportunity to restore the vegetation and soil.

In most disturbed areas, weeds can move in quickly preventing native plants from establishing, which can result in much lower quality habitat. Revegetation with native plants helps restore natural ecosystems by reducing erosion and improving habitat for wildlife—from the smallest microbes to the largest predators.