

## Native Trees and Shrubs

### Fremont Cottonwood

#### *Populus fremontii*

**A**

These large trees can grow to 80 feet tall with broad rounded crowns broader than the trees are high. The trunk can grow to 5 feet in diameter with deeply furrowed gray bark. The heart-shaped leaves have only 5-8 coarse teeth on each side. There are male and female trees which bear catkins in the spring for wind pollination. The cottony seeds are dispersed on spring floodwaters. The trees are extremely valuable as



perches for raptors such as Red-tailed Hawks and Bald Eagles. Cavities in the soft wood are used by Kestrels and Owls. Many other kinds of birds forage for leaf eating insects such as caterpillars which eat the leaves. Migratory birds such as Bullock's Orioles use the wide-spreading branches for their unique, woven pendulous nests. Beaver use the bark for food and building materials. This is an extremely important tree for all kinds of wildlife.

### Box Elder

#### *Acer negundo var. interior*

**B**

This softwood tree flourishes in the lower canyons and bottom lands. Under cultivation it can live to 100 years. In open situations, it is truly magnificent, often 65 feet tall, with a straight trunk and round head. New growth is smooth and reddish brown, turning gray and rough with age. It is one of the most



valuable trees for birds since it provides hollows for cavity nesters and many kinds of insects such as caterpillars, aphids, and the infamous box elder bug.

### Peachleaf Willow

#### *Salix amygdaloides*

**C**

This native willow tree often grows with multiple trunks from its base and is called "octopus willow" or "black willow" (but it is not the Black Willow of the Midwest and Eastern U.S.). It can grow to 50 ft. in height with a trunk less than 2 feet in diameter.



pollinated. Its cottony seed is spread on spring floodwaters of low-elevation rivers and streams. It is a valuable tree that provides habitat for nesting and food for birds.

### Buffalo Berry

#### *Shepherdia argentea*

**D**

This shrub or small tree is usually with thorny, silvery-scaly twigs. It spreads by underground rhizomes. Plants grow on river banks or low meadows where roots can reach groundwater. Leaves are silvery on both sides, 3/4 to 2 inches long. Flowers are small and inconspicuous. Fruits are round, one-seeded berries about 1/4 inch wide, scarlet in color. They are tart and flavorful and eaten by birds. Native Americans used the fruit for food and Mormon settlers also used them for jelly and syrup.

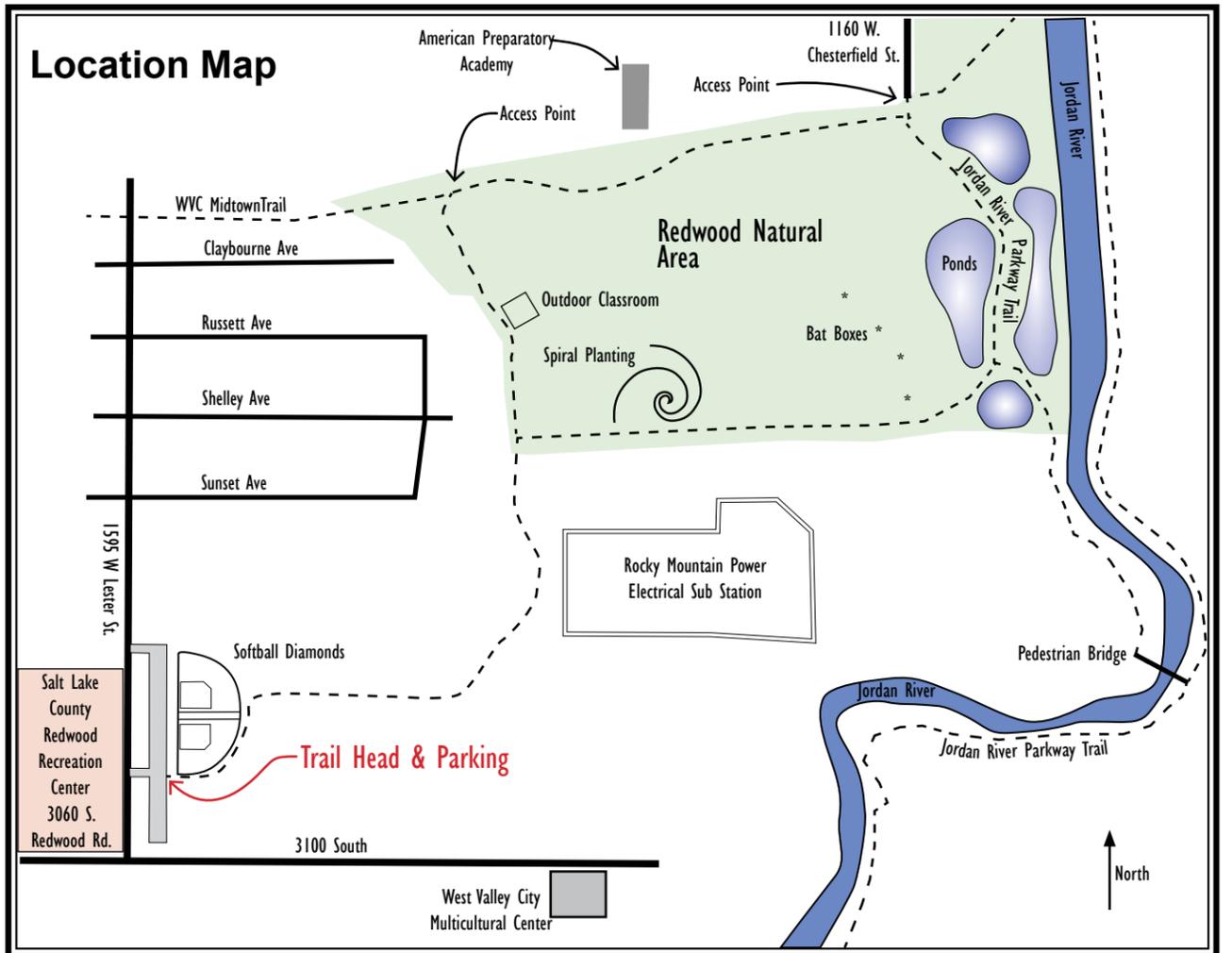
### Sandbar or Coyote Willow

#### *Salix exigua*

**E**

This shrub is common on stream banks and river floodplains at lower elevations. It grows in thick stands about 6-8 ft. tall from underground rhizomes which spread widely. Its slender, flexible branches are leafy and graceful. The narrow leaves are soft with fine hairs, giving them a silvery gray appearance. Its blossom is a loose catkin which form in the spring along with the new leaves. The larger stems, up to

## Location Map



3/4 inch in diameter, are cut and used by beaver for food and dam construction. The stems were used by early Fremont Indians for pit house construction, woven fishing weirs as well as for basketry and toys. Early Mormon settlers used them for roofs on dugout homes and on "boweries" for shade.

### Black Hawthorn

#### *Crataegus douglasii*

**F**

This shrub forms thickets 10-13 feet high along stream banks and river floodplains. It spreads by long underground runners or rhizomes. It is an attractive shrub with shiny green leaves, smooth reddish-brown bark, and stems armed with stout thorns. In late April and May it is a mass of white, sweetly fragrant blossoms. Its fruit is reminiscent of small, long-stemmed apples that are red, becoming black at maturity. It is a favorite food of birds through the winter and can even be made into a nice jelly. Native Americans dried them for food.



### Woods Rose

#### *Rosa woodsii*

**G**

This shrub grows in thick patches on roadsides and floodplains, forming a refuge for small wild life. The plants spread widely by underground rhizomes. Sometimes 6 feet tall, the flowers commonly grow in clusters and vary in color from pale pink to deep rose. They are usually 2 inches in diameter. The seeds are enclosed in hips which turn bright red in the fall and are eaten by a variety of birds. The hips were gathered as food by Scandinavian settlers who also used them to make "fruits soup" which is extremely rich in vitamin C.



### Chokecherry

#### *Prunus virginiana var. melanocarpa*

**H**

This shrub or small tree can grow up to 15 feet tall, with smooth reddish-brown bark. Blossoms white with yellow stamens in cones 2-4 inches long and very fragrant. Leaves are shiny and attractive. It spreads gradually by underground rhizomes. Fruits resemble small cherries which are red, turning black at maturity, with a pleasant astringent flavor that is popular in jelly or syrup. Used by Native Americans as a component of pemmican.

### Oakleaf Sumac

#### *Rhus aromatica var. trilobata*

**I**

The plant grows to more than 4 feet tall forming a single large shrub. Yellow blossoms form before the leaves in March or April. Leaves are soft-textured and aromatic. The plants are extremely drought tolerant when established and are typically found on steep riverbanks or slopes above the river. This plant was a favorite of the Native Americans. They used the sticky red berries for food and a sour drink. The flexible straight branches were stripped of bark in the spring, split in thirds and used for basket making.



### Golden Currant

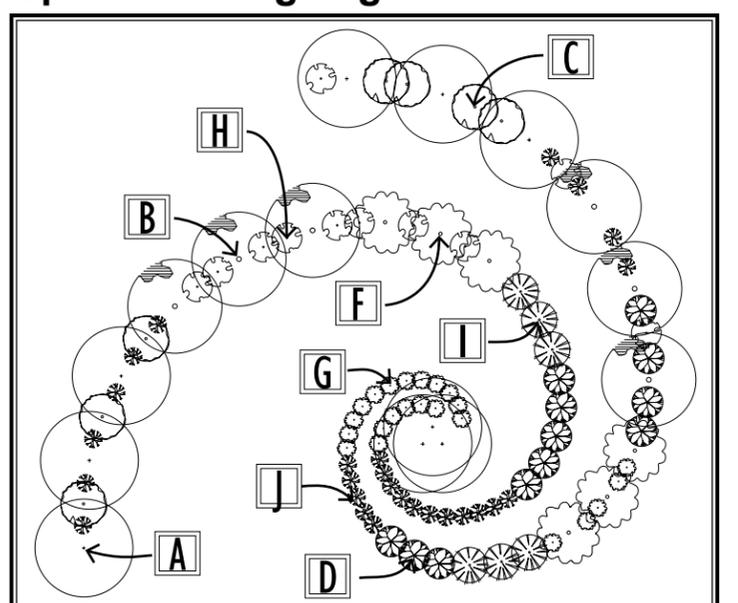
#### *Ribes aureum*

**J**

This shrub grows in round clumps on stream banks and wet areas. The plants spread slowly by short, underground rhizomes. Their branches are about 4 feet tall. Early in the spring before the leaves emerge, it blooms with clusters of very fragrant golden flowers in the axils of the expanding leaves. The fruit is 1/2 inch long, edible, sweet and the colors range from yellow, red and black. The ripe fruits are eaten by many types of birds such as robins and house finches and few are left on the plants through the winter. It was also gathered and dried for winter use by Native Americans and later by Mormon settlers to make jam and pies.



## Spiral Planting Legend



## How Can TreeUtah Help You?

### TEACHERS AND EDUCATORS



- ☐ Would you like to schedule a class **field trip** to the Redwood Natural Area?
- ☐ Would you like an environmental education specialist to come to your **classroom**?

### INDIVIDUALS



- ☐ Are you interested in talking a **personalized tour** of the Redwood Natural Area?
- ☐ Are you interested in volunteering at a **tree planting** or becoming a Redwood Natural Area **steward**?

### ORGANIZATIONS



- ☐ Are you an employee of a company that is looking for a **volunteer service project**?
- ☐ Are you a **scout leader** looking for a service project for your scouts?
- ☐ Would you like to be a **company sponsor** for a

TreeUtah restoration or educational project on the Redwood Natural Area?

If you answered yes to one or more of these questions, we would like to hear from you.

By telephone: (801) 364-2122

By email: Email Gena at [Gena@treeutah.org](mailto:Gena@treeutah.org) or Hob at [Hob@treeutah.org](mailto:Hob@treeutah.org)

## We Invite you.....

### JOIN US FOR A FREE NATURE WALK



- Tree Tromp
- Owl Prowl
- Wildflower Stroll
- Migration Magic
- Wetland Wander
- Hawk Watch
- Wildlife of the Jordan River
- Secrets of Native Trees and Shrubs

For scheduled walk times and dates or to schedule a personalized tour, please contact Gena Christie at [Gena@treeutah.org](mailto:Gena@treeutah.org); (801) 364-2122 or Hob Calhoun at [Hob@treeutah.org](mailto:Hob@treeutah.org).

### TAKE A SELF-GUIDED TOUR



appreciation for this unique area.

Redwood Natural Area is open year around for outdoor activities such as biking, running, walking and enjoying the beauty and serenity of this 73-acre nature preserve. Use this guide to enhance your

### BECOME A MEMBER!

Join the TreeUtah community!  
[www.treeutah.org](http://www.treeutah.org)

Your membership donation will go towards the ongoing projects at the Redwood Natural Area including the Summer Nature



# TREES FOR EAGLES

## For Wildlife

## For People



An invitation to join together to make the Jordan River a better place for our community



[www.treeutah.org](http://www.treeutah.org)

In partnership with



## Mammals and Birds

### Bald Eagle

#### *Haliaeetus leucocephalus*



The adult Bald Eagle has a brown body with a white head and tail, bright yellow irises, and golden talon feet and hooked beak; juveniles are completely brown except for the yellow feet. Males and females are identical in plumage coloration. Bald

Eagles require mature coniferous or hardwood trees for perching, roosting, and nesting. Selected trees must have good visibility, an open structure, and proximity to prey, but the height or species of tree is not as important as an abundance of comparatively large trees surrounding a body of water. The Trees for Eagles Grove is aimed at giving wintering Bald Eagles perch trees along the Jordan River.

### Red-tailed Hawk

#### *Buteo jamaicensis*



These birds of prey are also known as buzzard hawks and red hawks. Adults are known for their brick-colored tails. They are keen-eyed and efficient hunters. Red-tails prefer open areas, with high perching places nearby from which they

can watch for prey. Commonly seen soaring over the Redwood Natural Area or hunting from perches on power poles.

### American Kestrel

#### *Falco sparverius*

This small, colorful falcon is Robin size (9-12 inches in length) with a wingspread of 21-23 inches and has a facial pattern that features two black stripes. The bird's wings are long and pointed. Other identifying features include occasional jerks or wags of the tail while perching, and hovering when searching for prey. Commonly seen hunting over open meadows of Redwood Natural Area.



### Belted Kingfisher

#### *Ceryle alcyon*

Kingfishers have short necks and large heads, and adults sport crests that they can raise. They have long beaks, short legs and small, weak feet. Kingfishers dig burrows for nesting in riverbanks or

creek banks. They dig with their beaks and push the dirt out of the burrows with their feet. Commonly seen perched in Cottonwoods at Heron Pond and flying along the Jordan River.

### Red-winged Blackbird

#### *Agelaius phoeniceus*

One of the most abundant birds across North America, and one of the most boldly colored, the Red-winged Blackbird is a familiar sight atop cattails. Glossy-black males have scarlet-and-yellow shoulder patches they can puff up or hide depending on how confident they feel. Females are a subdued, streaky brown, almost like a large, dark sparrow. They nest abundantly in the wetlands on the south edge of the Redwood Natural Area.

### Black-billed Magpie

#### *Pica hudsonia*

Large, mostly black, with a very long tail and a dark, stout bill. Wings and tail are iridescent blue and green-black with a white belly and sides. They eat insects, larvae, and carrion. Common at the Redwood Natural Area. Seen in flocks of 6-20 during winter months. Look for their large stick nests in the Cottonwood trees.

### Great Blue Heron

#### *Ardea herodias*

Great blue herons are Ciconiiformes, wading birds with long legs, long necks and straight, pointed bills. These magnificent, stately birds stand about four feet tall, with a wingspan of up to seven feet. Look for them standing motionless in one of the newly created



ponds feeding on fish and insects.

### Red Fox

#### *Vulpes vulpes*

Red foxes are solitary hunters who feed on rodents, rabbits, birds, and other small game—but their diet can be as flexible as their home habitat. Foxes will eat fruit and vegetables, fish, frogs, and even worms. They will become more common at the Redwood Natural Area once our native grass meadows reestablish themselves.

### Muskrat

#### *Ondatra zibethicus*

The muskrat is a large, stout, semi-aquatic rodent. The muskrat's coat is practically waterproof and is soft, dense, and grayish brown in color. Its tail is scaled, nearly hairless, and somewhat flattened on the sides. The muskrat is further adapted for its semi-aquatic life with lips that act as valves, closing behind the front incisors so it can actually gnaw underwater.