

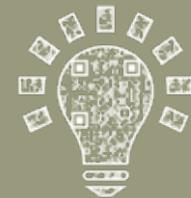


COLORING BOOK

The United Nations has declared **2026 the International Year of Rangelands and Pastoralists (IYRP)**. This global effort celebrates rangelands — wide-open places that are home to an incredible variety of plants and animals. It also honors the pastoralist and ranching communities who care for these lands and depend on them.

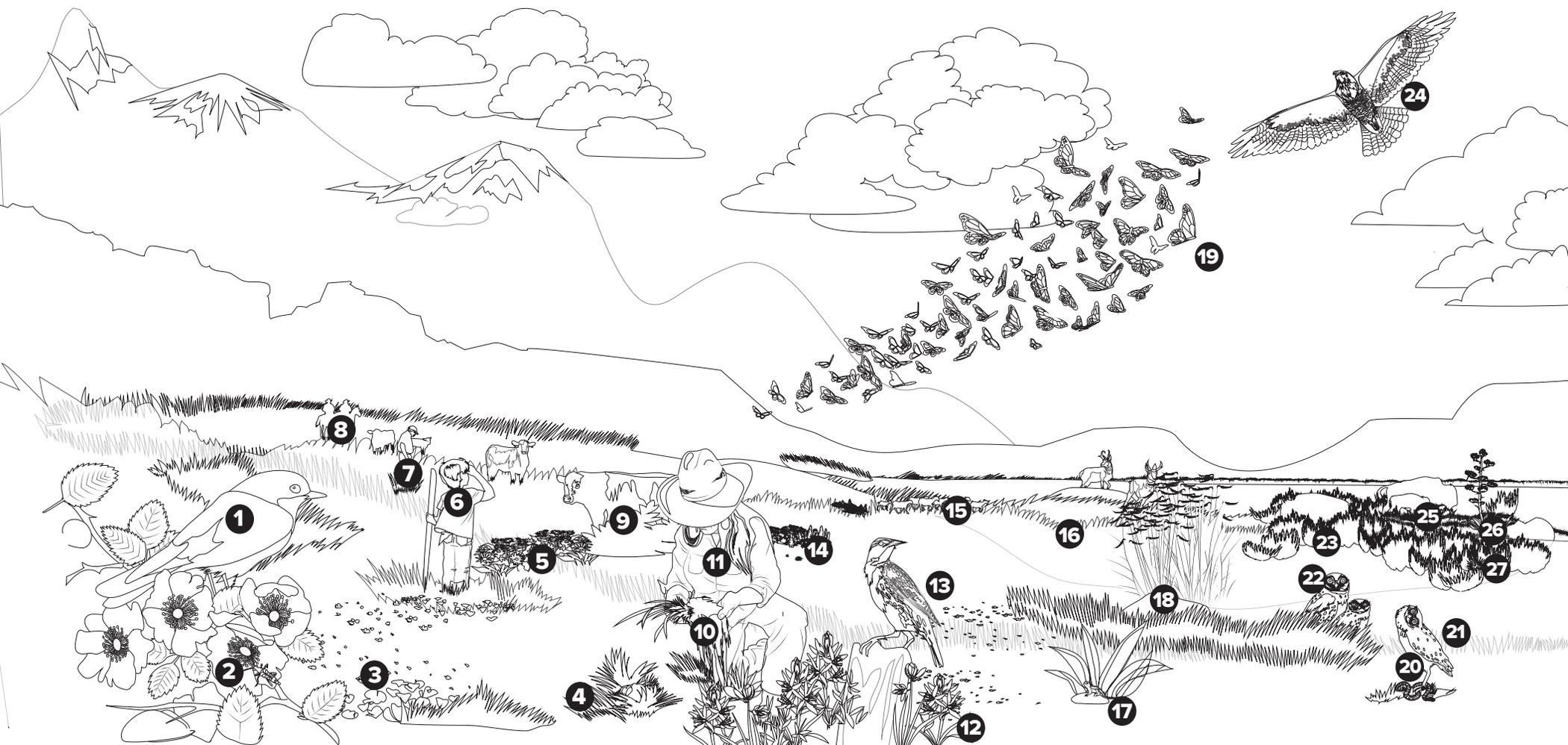
In North America, rangelands extend from the Canadian prairies to the U.S. sagebrush steppe, the deserts of northern Mexico, and the dryland pastures of Hawai'i. These places may look quiet or empty at first glance, but they are full of life, movement, and knowledge passed down through generations.

This coloring book is part of the global IYRP celebration. Through drawing and color, you are invited to explore rangeland ecosystems and the people and animals who call them home. Each page offers a chance to slow down, look closely, and imagine life across these vast and vital environments.

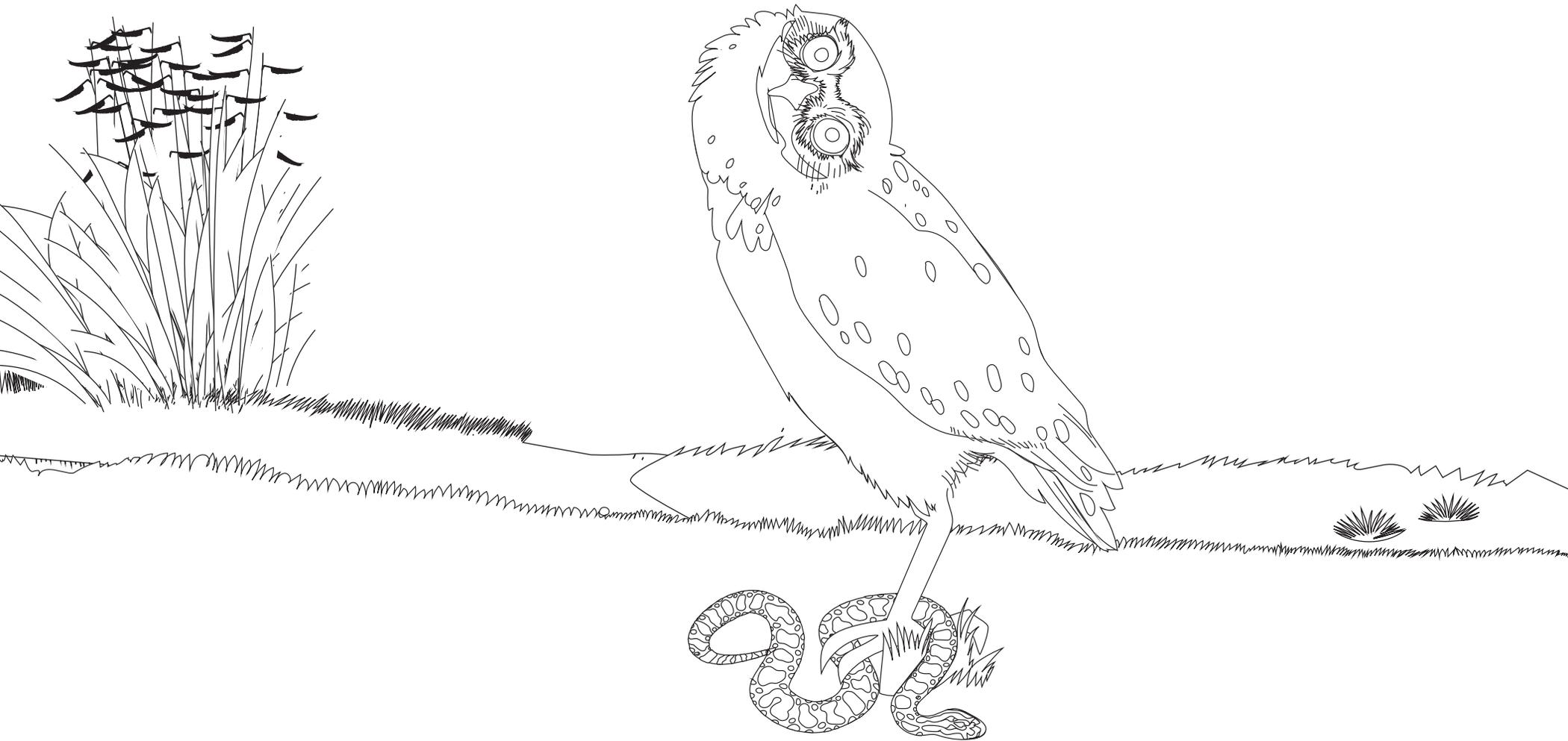


LEARN MORE

www.grasslandsproject.org



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|---|--|--|
| 1. Mountain bluebird (<i>Sialia currucoides</i>) | 10. Grass roots and soil | 19. Monarch Butterfly (<i>Danaus plexippus</i>) |
| 2. Prairie rose (<i>Rosa setigera</i>) | 11. Pastoralist | 20. Western Massasauga Rattlesnake (<i>Sistrurus tergeminus</i>) |
| 3. California poppy (<i>Eschscholzia californica</i>) | 12. Common camas (<i>Camassia quamash</i>) | 21. Burrowing Owls (<i>Athene cunicularia</i>) |
| 4. Grass, a humble hero | 13. Western meadowlark (<i>Sturnella neglecta</i>) | 22. Ornate Tiger Moth (<i>Apantesis ornata</i>) |
| 5. Arrowleaf Balsamroot (<i>Balsamorhiza sagittata</i>) | 14. Lupine (<i>Lupinus perennis</i>) | 23. Sagebrush (<i>Artemisia tridentata</i>) |
| 6. Pastoral youth | 15. Navajo churro sheep (<i>Dibé dits'ozí</i>) | 24. Swainson's Hawk (<i>Buteo swainsoni</i>) |
| 7. Range professional | 16. Pronghorn (<i>Antilocapra americana</i>) | 25. American bison (<i>Bison bison</i>) |
| 8. Mounted herders | 17. Texas Horned Lizard (<i>Phrynosoma cornutum</i>) | 26. Century plant (<i>Agave americana</i>) |
| 9. Cattle (<i>Black angus</i>) | 18. Blue Grama Grass (<i>Bouteloua gracilis</i>) | 27. Sagegrouse (<i>Centrocercus urophasianus</i>) |



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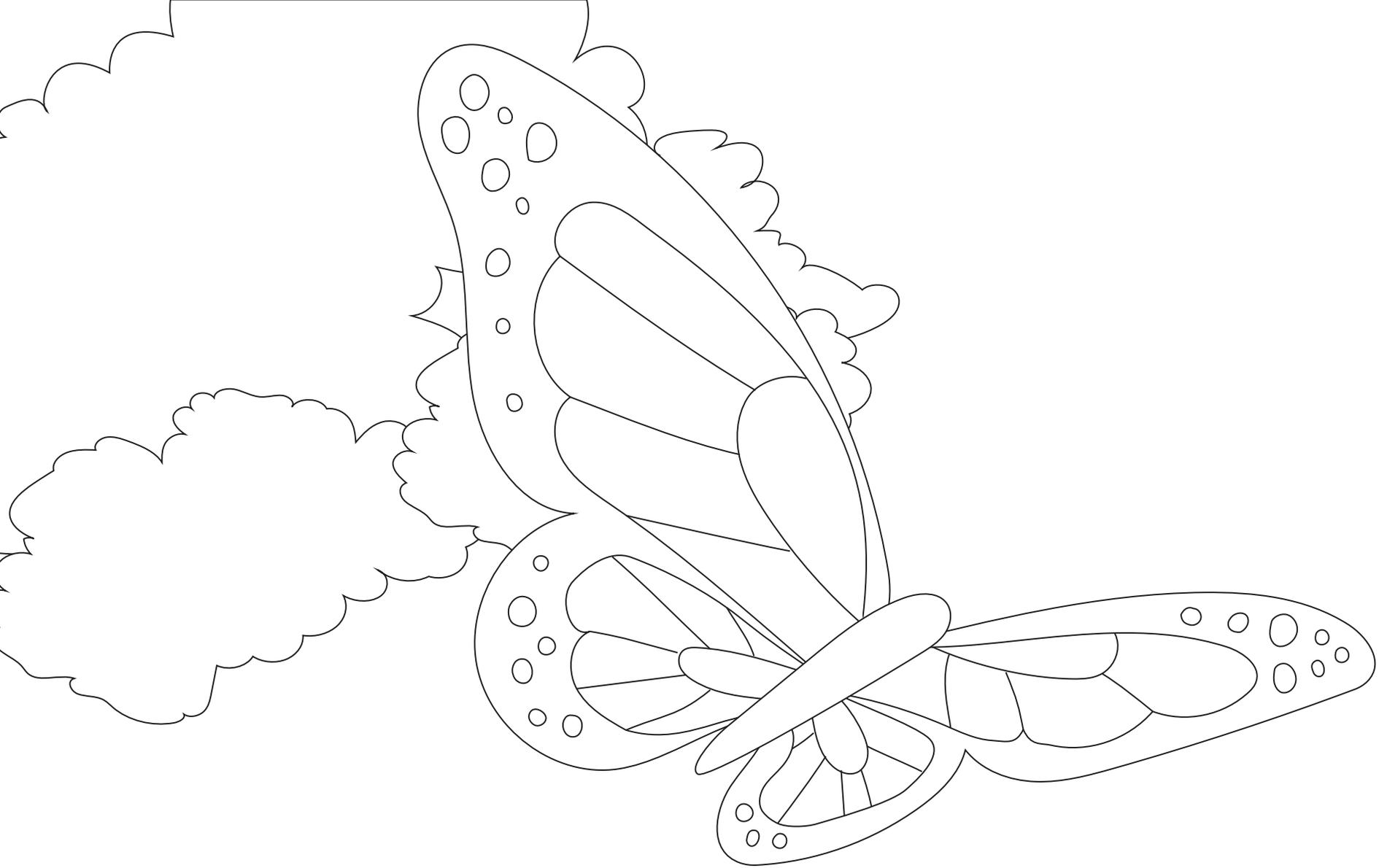
Western Massasauga Rattlesnake (*Sistrurus tergeminus*)

Underground owls? Cool! Burrowing owls thrive in grazed grasslands, nesting in the tunnels created by prairie dogs and other burrowing animals. A primary threat to these owls is converting grasslands into annual farmland crops, urban development, or mining. Grazing by cattle, bison, sheep, and other grazing wildlife create ideal habitat for burrowing owls. They even place dung outside their nest entrances to attract insects to hunt, such as beetles. Conserving prairie dog towns is an important conservation action, due to the importance of their tunnels.

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Burrowing Owls (*Athene cunicularia*)

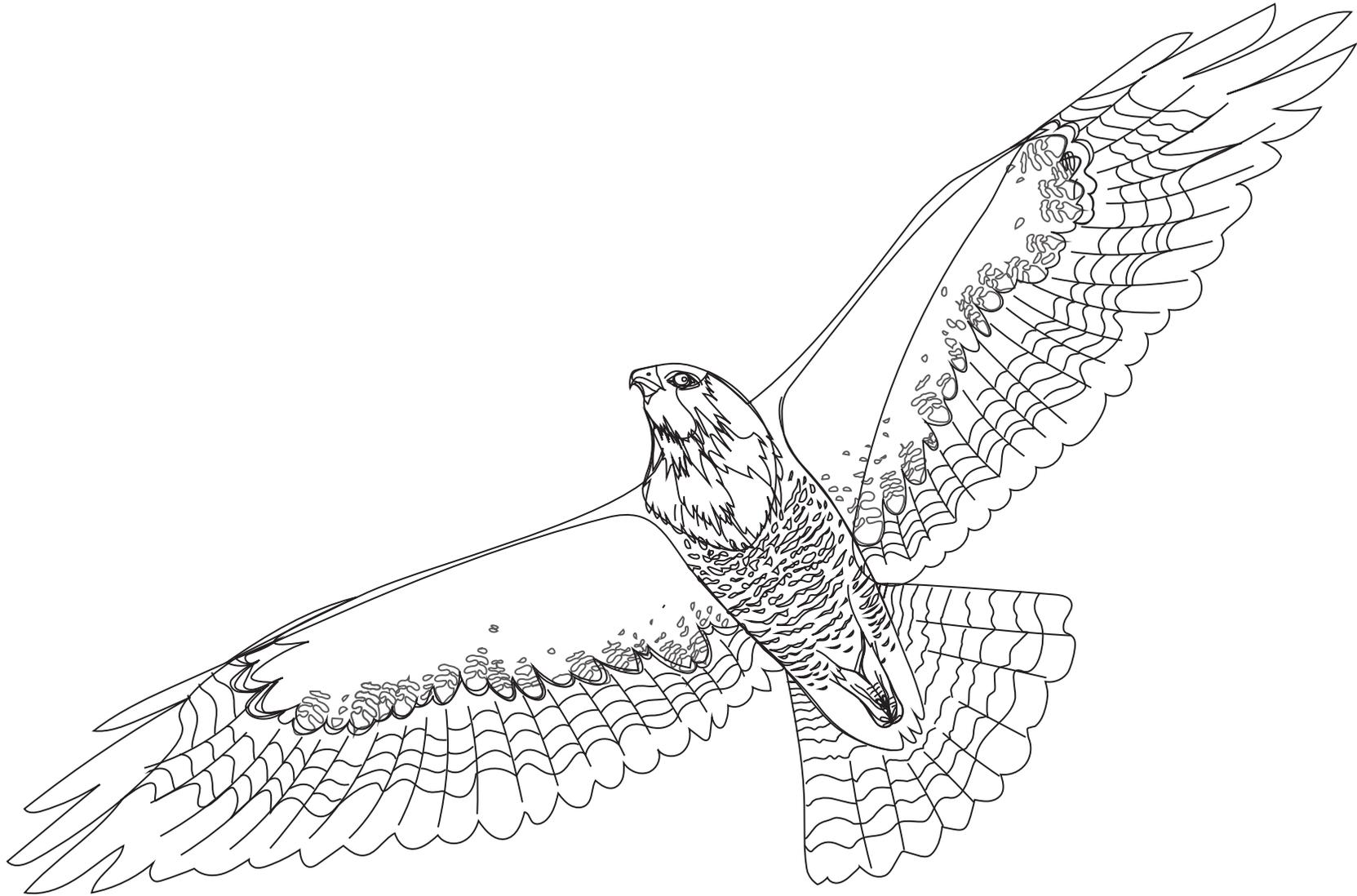
This venomous grassland snake plays an important ecological role. Its defensive hiss is even mimicked by burrowing owls to deter predators.



19

Monarch Butterfly (Danaus plexippus)

Monarch butterflies exhibit one of North America's most stunning natural wonders: migrating thousands of miles each year, flying at altitudes of 800 to 1,200 feet, amassing in the millions at breeding grounds, and relying on "super-generations" that more than quadruple their lifespan to complete migration routes. Grasslands and rangelands are essential to monarch survival. Milkweed is the sole food source for caterpillars, while wildflowers provide nectar for adults. Conserving grazed grasslands and rangelands is essential to protecting this iconic species.



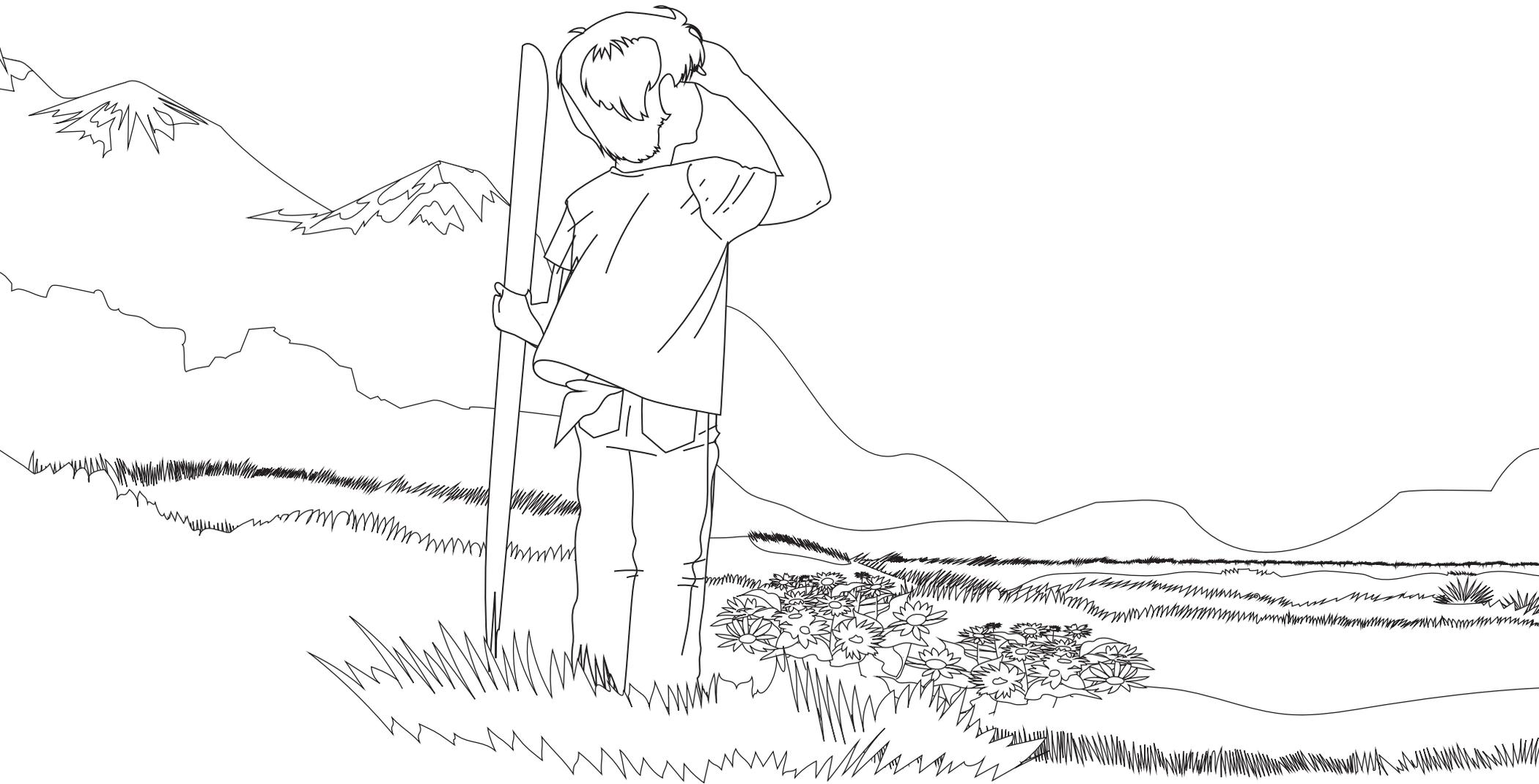
24 Swainson's Hawk (*Buteo swainsoni*)

This long-distance migrant breeds in western grasslands and winters in South America. It helps control insect populations by hunting both on the wing and on the ground.



22 Ornate Tiger Moth (*Apantesis ornata*)

Moths pollinate plants at night and feed many grassland species. The ornate tiger moth is common across western North America and supports birds and other wildlife as prey.



6 Pastoral youth

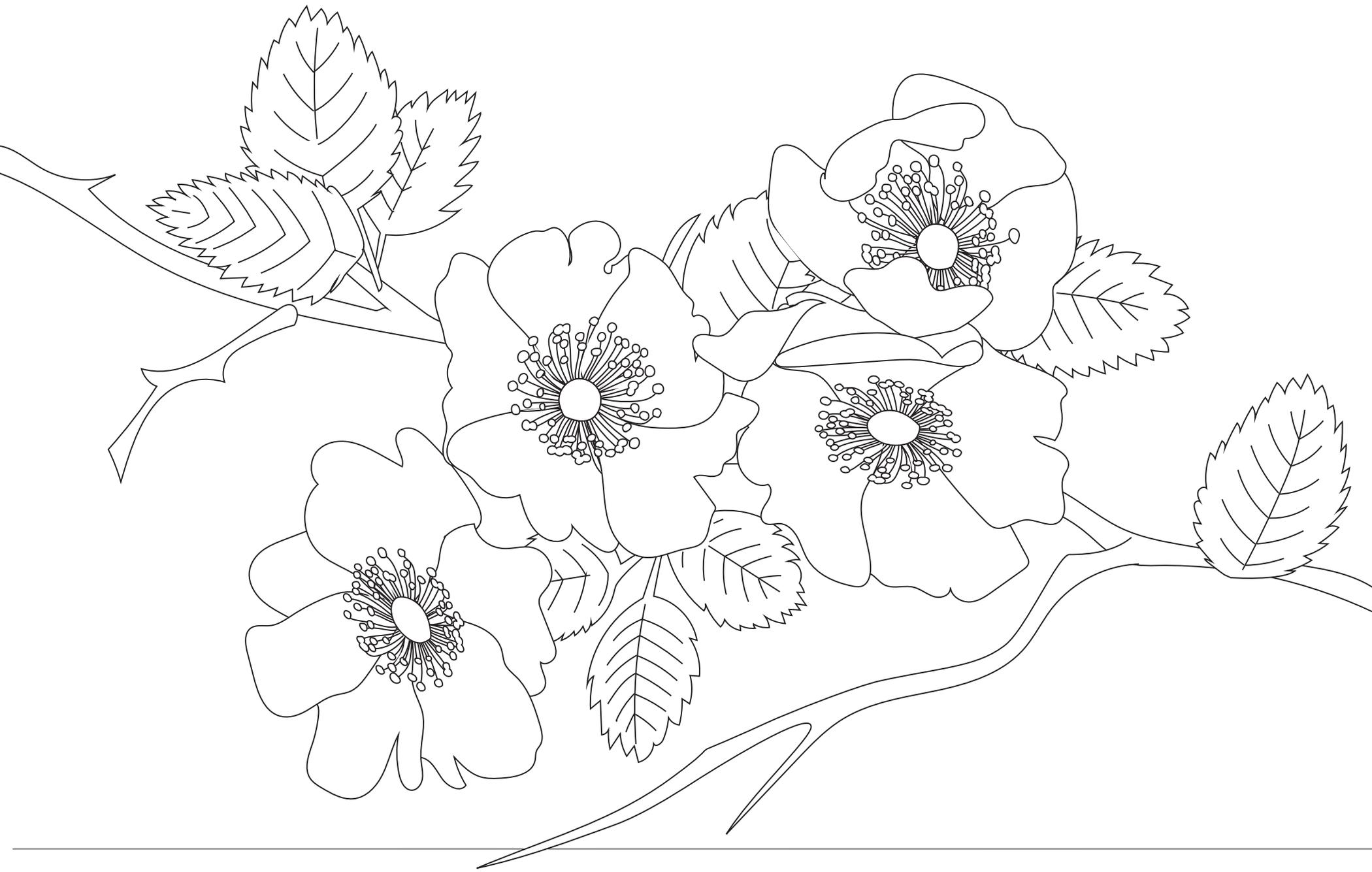
Many pastoral youth face pressures that drive them from rangelands, risking lost knowledge and abandoned lands. Supporting pride, training, opportunity, and appropriate technology helps young people build futures rooted in grasslands.



1

Mountain bluebird (*Sialia currucoides*)

Mountain bluebirds breed in high-elevation, short-grass prairies, including alpine meadows, sagebrush, and tundra edges. Though populations are relatively stable, habitat loss threatens grassland birds; placing nest boxes is one simple way to help.



2 Prairie rose (*Rosa setigera*)

Native roses support wildlife across North American grasslands by providing nesting habitat, pollinator resources, and food for small mammals. Multiple rose species span the continent, from central grasslands to western coastal regions.



17

Texas horned lizard (*Phrynosoma cornutum*)

These grassland reptiles feed primarily on ants and thrive in patchy habitats. Habitat conversion and invasive grasses have made them a threatened species.

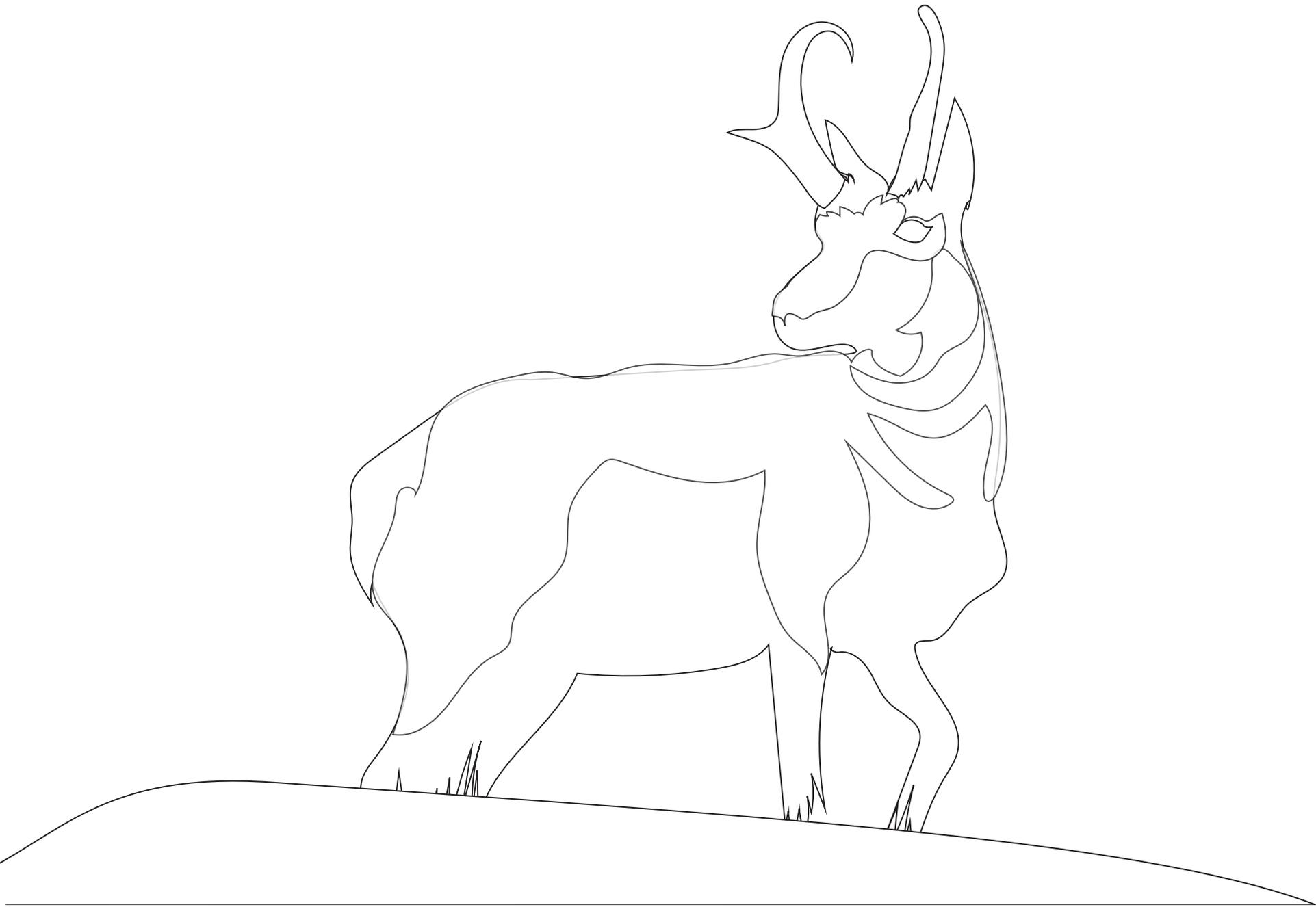


- 5** Arrowleaf Balsamroot (*Balsamorhiza sagittata*)
Found across western North America, arrowleaf balsamroot feeds wildlife such as elk and bighorn sheep and signals healthy sagegrouse habitat. Many Indigenous Nations use it as food and medicine.



7 Range professional

Range professionals manage public and private lands by developing grazing plans, monitoring forage, restoring habitat, and supporting rural communities across North America.



16 Pronghorn (*Antilocapra americana*)

Pronghorn are the fastest land mammals in the Americas and migrate up to 200 miles annually. Their range spans southern Canada to northern Mexico across open grasslands.



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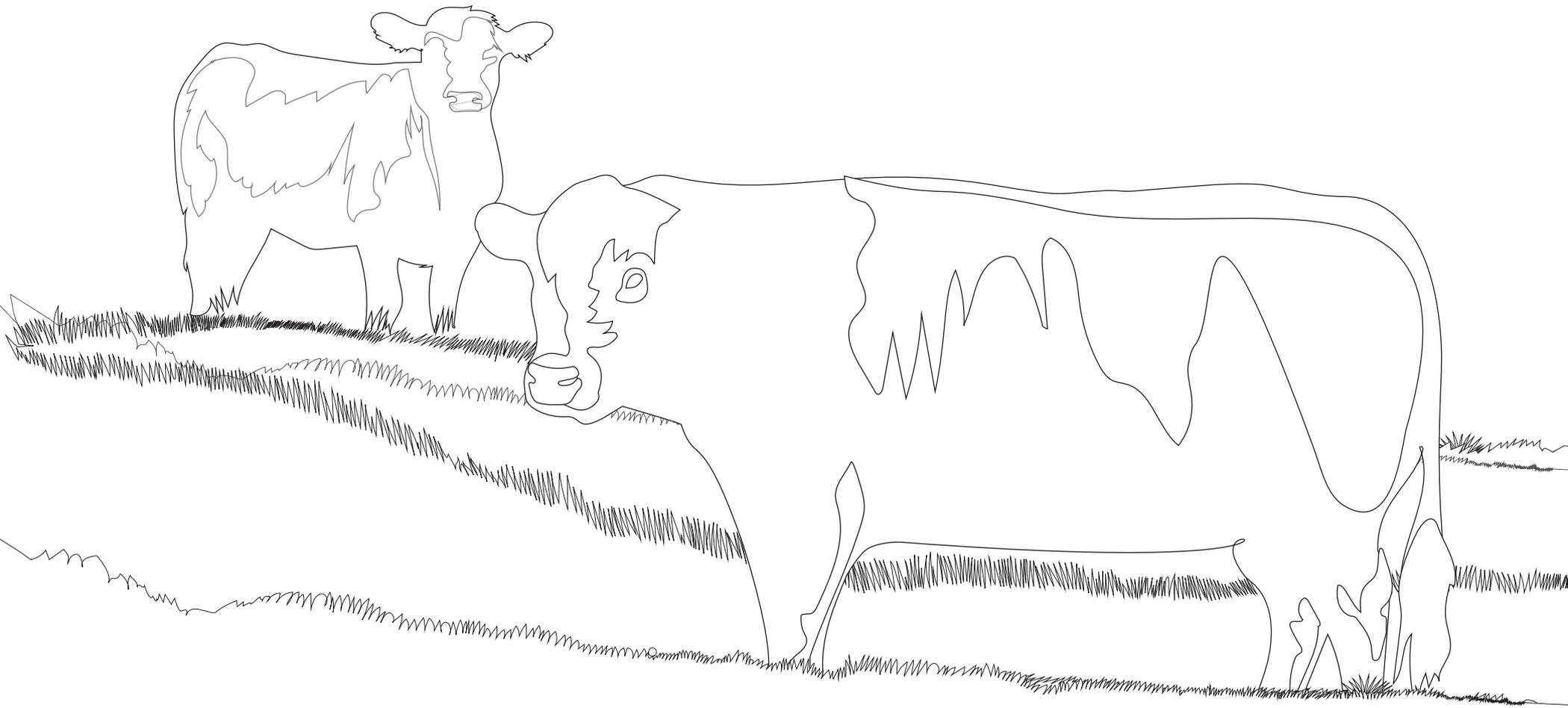
Western meadowlark (*Sturnella neglecta*)

Grassland birds have declined 40% since the 1970s due to development and intensive land use. Meadowlarks can coexist with conservation-minded grazing that protects nesting habitat.



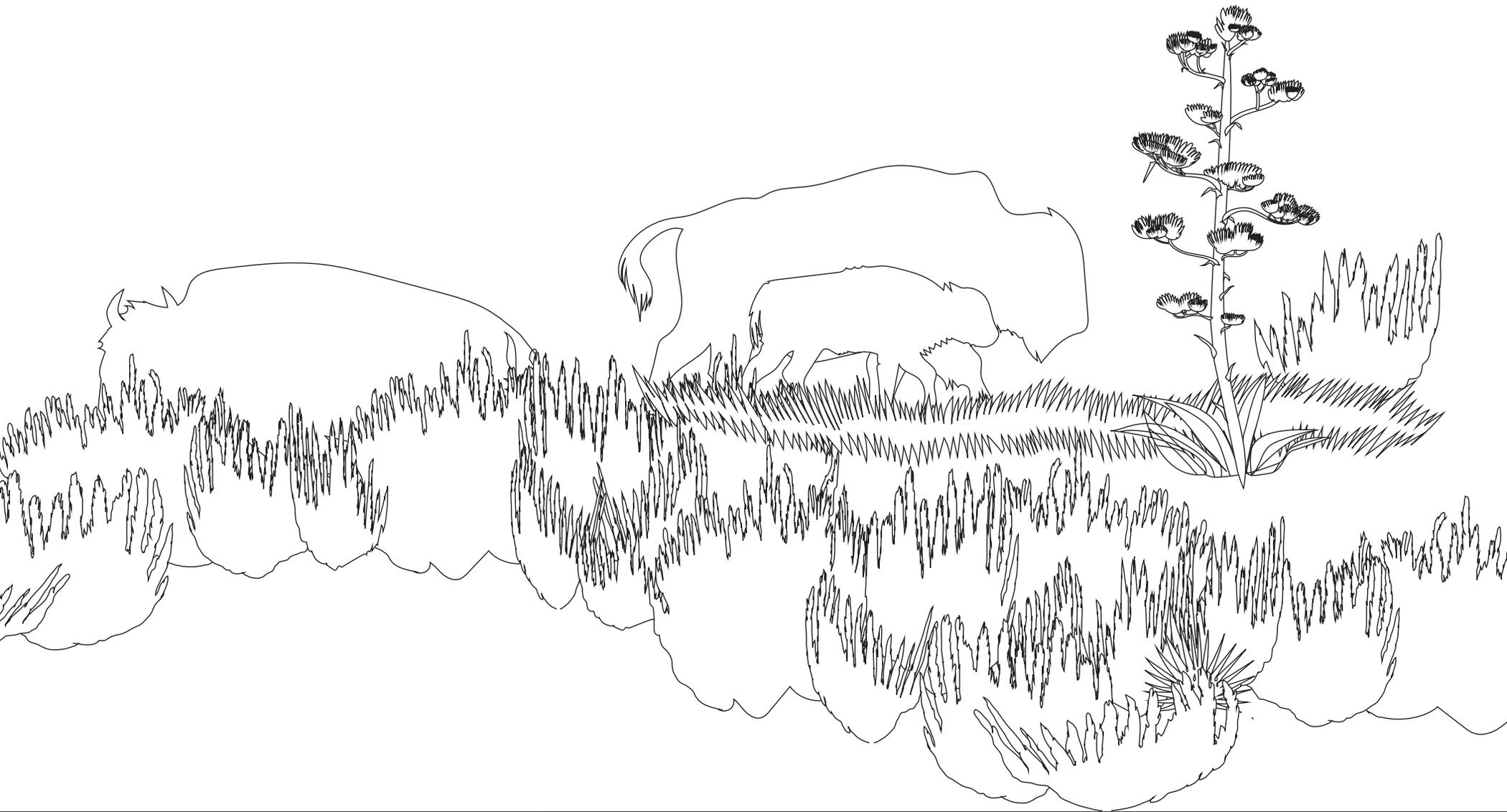
22 Common camas (*Camassia quamash*)

Native to western North America, camas bulbs are a culturally important food for many Indigenous Nations. Its flowers support pollinators, including butterflies like the Taylor's checkerspot.



9 Cattle (*Black angus*)

Carefully managed cattle grazing on native grasslands links sunlight, soil, plants, and wildlife. Ranching can sustain rural livelihoods while maintaining species-rich grassland ecosystems.



25 American bison (*Bison bison*)

Bison have shaped North American grasslands for over 130,000 years and are central to Indigenous lifeways. Today, they are being restored through efforts like the Buffalo Treaty.

26 Century plant (*Agave americana*)

Long-lived agaves stabilize soils in arid landscapes and support pollinators, including bats. Their blooms provide vital nectar and pollen in desert ecosystems.