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| 4. Grass, a humble hero | 13. Western meadowlark (<i>Sturnella neglecta</i>) | 22. Ornate Tiger Moth (<i>Apantesis ornata</i>) |
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| 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>) |

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.
3. **California poppy (*Eschscholzia californica*)**
Ranging from the northern U.S. to Baja, California poppies support many pollinators, including bees and butterflies. Designated the state flower in 1903, the plant is used medicinally by Indigenous communities.
4. **Grass, a humble hero**
Grasses spread globally 20–30 million years ago and reshaped ecosystems as climates cooled and dried. Fire- and grazing-resistant, their deep roots store vast amounts of carbon beneath grasslands and rangelands.
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.
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.
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.
8. **Mounted herders**
Range riders support sustainable grazing by managing herds across large landscapes. Their work mimics natural grazing patterns, deters predators, and improves herd and ecosystem health.
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.
10. **Grass roots and soil**
Perennial grasses store enormous amounts of carbon underground through deep roots and long growing seasons. Roughly one-third of Earth's terrestrial carbon is stored in grassland soils, much of it protected from wildfire.
11. **Pastoralist**
Pastoralists steward rangelands worldwide, from the Sahel to the Andes and the Arctic. Over half a billion people manage grazing lands that support global ecological health.
12. **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.
13. **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.
14. **Lupine (*Lupinus* spp.)**
Lupines enrich soils by fixing nitrogen and thrive in grasslands and mountain meadows. They provide nectar for pollinators and are among the first plants to return after wildfire.
15. **Navajo-Churro sheep (*Dibé dits'ozí*)**
Central to Diné pastoral lifeways, Navajo-Churro sheep provide wool, meat, and milk. Their fiber supports traditional weaving and craft, and they are the oldest sheep breed in 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.
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.
18. **Blue grama grass (*Bouteloua gracilis*)**
One of North America's most widespread grasses, blue grama anchors soils, stores carbon, and feeds wildlife. As a keystone species, it sustains grassland ecosystems and grazers alike.
19. **Monarch butterfly (*Danaus plexippus*)**
Monarchs undertake one of the world's most remarkable migrations, relying on milkweed and diverse wildflowers. Conserving grasslands is essential to their survival.
20. **Western massasauga rattlesnake (*Sistrurus tergeminus*)**
This venomous grassland snake plays an important ecological role. Its defensive hiss is even mimicked by burrowing owls to deter predators.
21. **Burrowing owl (*Athene cunicularia*)**
Burrowing owls nest underground in grazed grasslands, often using prairie dog tunnels. Habitat loss threatens them, while managed grazing helps maintain suitable conditions.
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.
23. **Big sagebrush (*Artemisia tridentata*)**
A keystone species across western North America, big sagebrush supports over 350 species. Its deep roots stabilize soil, trap snow, and provide critical habitat.
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.
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.
27. **Sagegrouse (*Centrocercus urophasianus*)**
Sagegrouse depend on intact sagebrush grasslands and have declined by 85% since the 1960s. Habitat loss from development, agriculture, and wildfire remains the primary threat.

