

LEWIS AND CLARK'S VISTA POINT AT POMPEY'S PILLAR

July 25, 1806
Pompey's Pillar

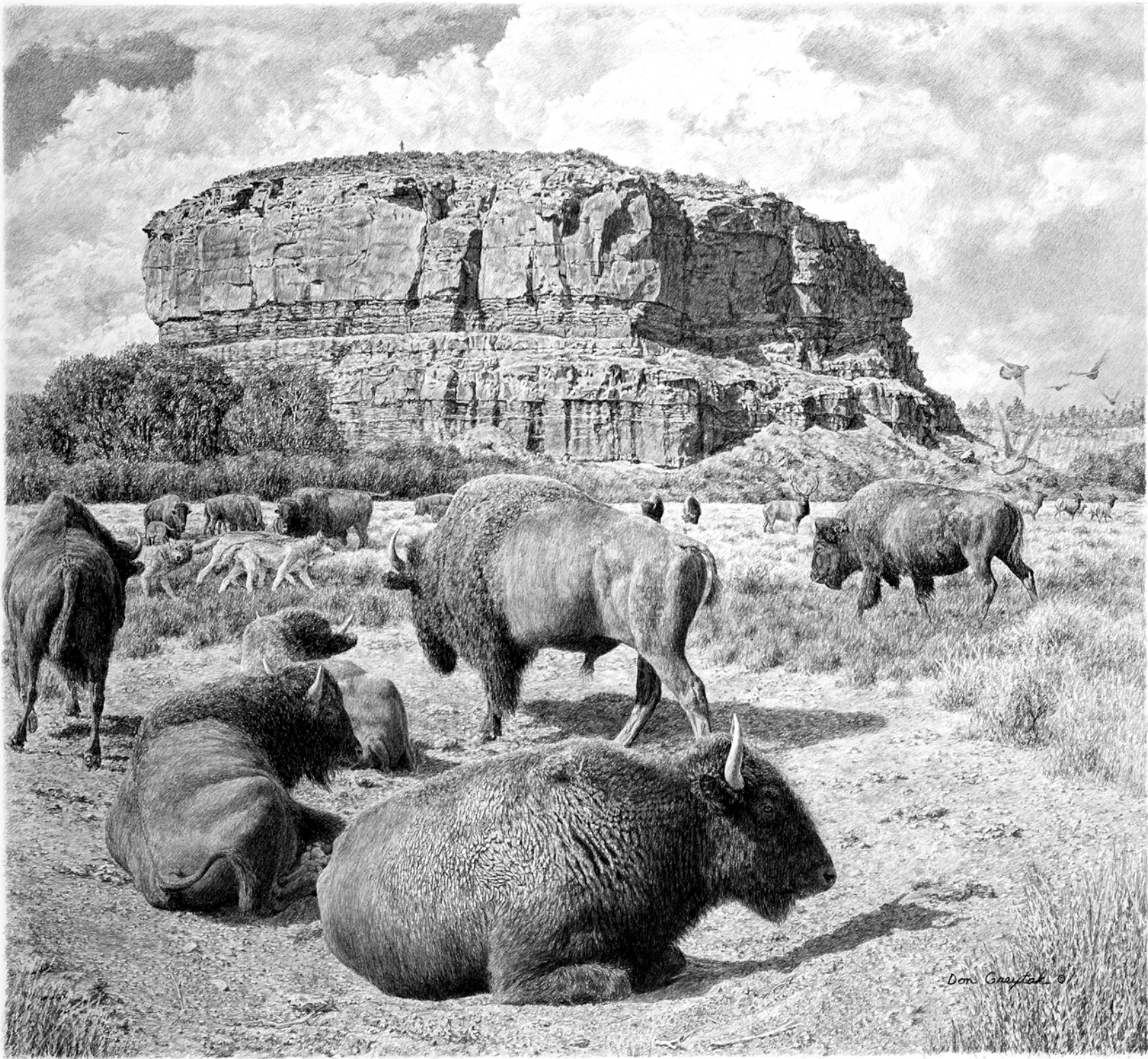
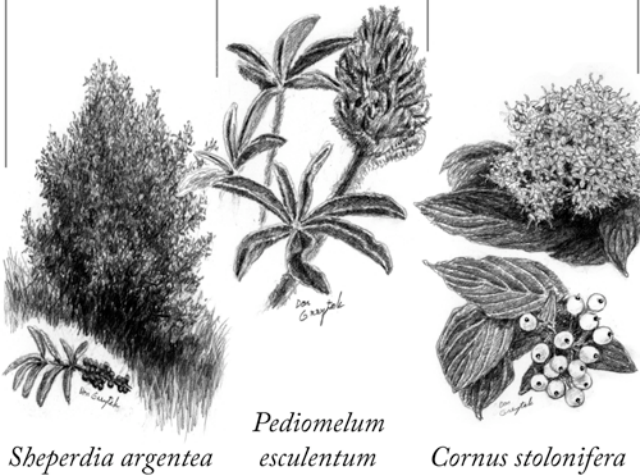
Jean Baptiste, son of the Indian woman Sacajawea, was nicknamed *Pomp* by William Clark.

Clark climbed the pillar along the Yellowstone on July 25, 1806, and signed "Wm Clark" in the soft sandstone.

1806—Sgt. Pryor and two other men built bull boats at Pompey's Pillar to catch up with William Clark. Sgt. Pryor with three other men had separated earlier from Clark and were traveling across country with horses; however, the horses were stolen and that is why they needed to build the bull boats to catch up with Clark and the others. Clark's canoes used to travel down the Yellowstone were built, near what is now Park City, out of Cottonwood trees.

Native Plant Species

Buffaloberry	Prairie Turnip	Red Osier Dogwood
height: 3 to 6 feet habitat: not too dense woods; to or slightly above timberline	height: 12 to 18 inches habitat: dry or rocky prairie	height: 3 to 6 feet habitat: moist places, prairie, marshy areas
The yellowish flowers are clustered in the leaf axis. The ripe scarlet juicy fruits are astringent or sour and provided food for Lewis and Clark at Pompey's Pillar.	The large, starchy root that is said to taste like turnips was a favored food among native Americans. Roots were eaten raw, boiled, roasted, or pounded into meal and mixed with other foods.	Red Osier dogwood has bright red stems and white pith in the center of the twigs. The fruits are white to grayish.



Montana artist Don Greytak interprets the vista at Pompey's Pillar as it was viewed by William Clark when he arrived at the Yellowstone River landmark in 1806.

www.dongreytak.com
www.mtweed.org
www.weedcenter.org
www.stopans.org
www.weedawareness.org
www.whatsinyourworld.org



Statewide Noxious Weed Awareness and Education Campaign

The Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail weed education project was initiated and developed in 1997 by Montana's Statewide Noxious Weed Awareness and Education Campaign Task Force. The project grew to eleven locations by 2003 with the addition of Tower Creek Pyramids site cooperating with Idaho's Weed Awareness Campaign. By 2008 collaboration increased to the diverse entities shown on the reverse side of this sheet.

Today — As you stop along the Yellowstone River and inspect William Clark's signature at Pompey's Pillar, you will observe invading plant species like saltcedar, Canada thistle, and common mullein. These invasive weeds arrived at Pompey's Pillar with unsuspecting travelers along the Yellowstone. Wildlife, livestock, people, and pets transport seeds on their coats, clothing, shoe treads, vehicles, and boats.

Once introduced, invading species thrive in Montana's climate. Canada thistle adapts to many habitat types and spread rapidly. Common mullein invades disturbed sites. Saltcedar reduces water availability and displaces native and desirable riparian species. Invasive plants have the potential to out-compete native plants and reduce wildlife habitat.

You can help protect pristine areas from invading plant species by not walking or driving through infestations.

Invasive Plant Species

Canada thistle	Mullein	Saltcedar
height: 1 to 4 feet habitat: wide range	height: 2 to 6 feet habitat: gravelly soil; requires 140-day growing season	height: 5 to 20 feet habitat: streams, canals, reservoirs
Canada thistle is an aggressive perennial plant with an extensive creeping root system. It forms dense patches and crowds out desirable plants.	The woolly-leaved common mullein has a capsuled fruit, occurring from June to August, which splits to release an average of 600 seeds.	Saltcedar was introduced as an ornamental and escaped its garden home. Stands of this plant can consume large quantities of water, drying up riparian areas that are home to many native plant communities and wildlife species.

