Plant Communities of the Willamette Valley

Open Woodlands (Oak Savanna) Community

- Prairie vegetation
 (grasses and flowers),
 with scattered Garry
 Oak trees
- Formerly common in Willamette Valley, now only remnants survive
- Bald Hill in early 1900's



Open Woodlands (Oak Savanna) Community - continued

Controlled fire to manage oak savannah landscape

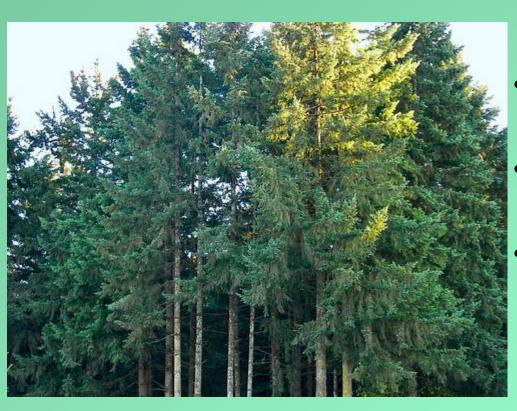


Open Woodlands (Oak Savanna) Community - continued

Finley Wildlife Refuge



Douglas Fir Forest Community



- Douglas Fir trees dominate
- What we think of as typical "forest"
- Much more common in Willamette Valley now due to lack of burning

Douglas Fir Forest Community

Understory plants include ferns, shrubs like salal and snowberry, and small trees like Pacific dogwood



Douglas Fir Forest Community

Common throughout the Pacific Northwest (Drift Creek wilderness, near Waldport)



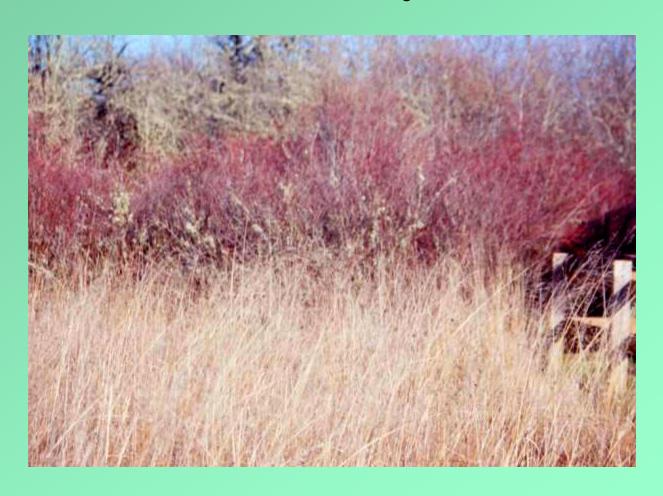
Prairie Community



- Pristine prairies are very rare now
- Include small plants such as blue ryegrass and many other flowers and grasses
- Most prairies are dominated by nonnative plants

Prairie Community

Tufted Hairgrass stand at the entrance to Jackson-Frasier wetland in Corvallis



Prairie Community

Grasses and wildflowers at Finley Wildlife Refuge, south of Corvallis



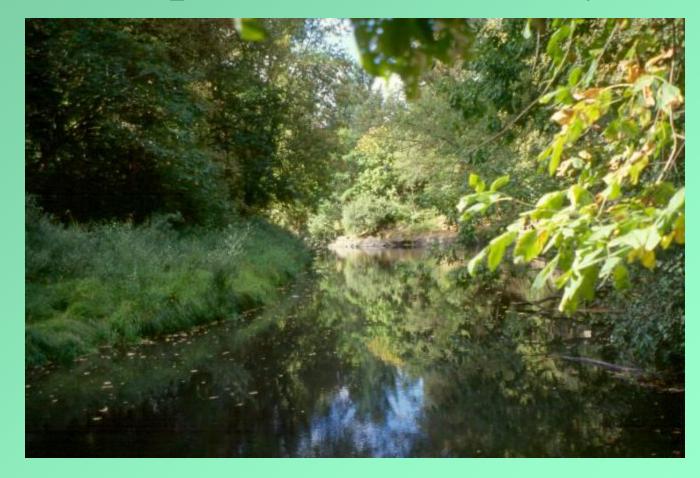
Wetland / Riparian Community



- Near streams, lakes and wetlands
- Lots of alder, ash, snowberry, horsetail, and other water-loving plants

Wetland / Riparian Community

Mary's River near Avery Park in Corvallis



Wetland / Riparian Community

Ash swale in the winter (Ankeny Wildlife Refuge)

