Language of the Land
A Coastal Prairie Lexicon

WORDS

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Alfisol - A mostly sandy prairie soil
Birds - Flying, egg-laying, warm-blooded prairie vertebrates
Cajun - A group of French-descended people living on the prairies of southwest Louisiana; Coastal prairies are known as Cajun Prairies in Louisiana
Crawfish - Common crustacean on wet prairies. Wet prairies were once called Crawfish Land.
Decreaser - A plant that decreases in number when heavily eaten by cattle.
Dragonflies - Flying predatory insects
Ecotone - A meeting place of two habitat types
Fire - A tool used to control the growth of trees on prairies and return nutrients to the soil
Forbs - Another name for flowers and other non-woody plants
Frogs - Common, tailless amphibians on prairies
Gilgai - Small, depressional wetlands
Grass - Most common plants on prairies

Grazers - Animals, such as buffaloes, cows, grasshoppers, and rabbits that feed on plants
Increase - A plant that increases in number with disturbance including heavy grazing by cattle; a weed.
Invasive - A plant that has become a threat to other plants because it grows in an uncontrolled manner.
Mammals - Warm-blooded, milk producing vertebrates
Pimple Mound - Small, sandy hills found on some prairies
Plain - A mostly treeless, vast grassland
Platin - A small pond (French)
Prairie - A large grassland with some trees and wetlands
Restoration - The act of returning a landscape back to its original plant cover, function, geology, etc.
Tallgrass - A prairie that reaches great height in the fall (6-10') because of it is located in an area of heavy rainfall
Vertisol - A mostly clay prairie soil
Wildflower - Another name for a native, often showy flower

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