



Small mammals of Yellowstone National Park

There are at least 50 **small mammal** species known to occur in Yellowstone National Park.

Species are listed by common name, scientific name, typical habitat and relative abundance.^[1]

Raccoons

Order: Carnivora **Family:** Procyonidae

- Raccoon, *Procyon lotor*, rivers, cottonwoods, rare

Badgers and weasels

Order: Carnivora **Family:** Mustelidae

- Wolverine, *Gulo gulo*, alpine, coniferous forests, rare
- North American river otter, *Lontra canadensis*, rivers, lakes, ponds, common
- Pacific marten, *Martes caurina*, coniferous forests, common
- American ermine, *Mustela richardsonii*, willows to spruce/fir forests, common
- Long-tailed weasel, *Neogale frenata*, willows to spruce/fir forests, common
- American mink, *Neogale vison*, riparian forests, occasional
- Fisher, *Pekania pennanti*, forests, rare
- American badger, *Taxidea taxus*, sagebrush, common

Skunks

Order: Carnivora **Family:** Mephitidae

- Striped skunk, *Mephitis mephitis*, riparian to forest, rare



Pacific marten



Short-tailed weasel

Hares and rabbits

Order: Lagomorpha **Family:** Leporidae

- Snowshoe hare, *Lepus americanus*, forests, willows, common
- White-tailed jackrabbit, *Lepus townsendii*, sagebrush, grasslands, common
- Desert cottontail, *Sylvilagus audubonii*, shrub lands, common
- Mountain cottontail, *Sylvilagus nuttallii*, shrub lands, common



Snowshoe hare

Pikas

Order: Lagomorpha **Family:** Ochotonidae

- American pika, *Ochotona princeps*, rocky slopes, common

Shrews

Order: Soricomorpha **Family:** Soricidae

- Dusky shrew, *Sorex monticolus*, moist meadows, forests, common
- Masked shrew, *Sorex cinereus*, moist meadows, forests, common
- American water shrew, *Sorex palustris*, moist meadows, forests, common
- Preble's shrew, *Sorex preblei*, moist meadows, forests, rare, if present
- Dwarf shrew, *Sorex nanus*, moist meadows, forests, rare



Masked shrew

Beaver

Order: Rodentia **Family:** Castoridae

- Beaver, *Castor canadensis*, ponds, streams, approximately 500

Squirrels

Order: Rodentia **Family:** Sciuridae

- Least chipmunk, *Tamias minimus*, forests, common
- Uinta chipmunk, *Tamias umbrinus*, forests, common
- Yellow-pine chipmunk, *Tamias amoenus*, forests, common

- Yellow-bellied marmot, *Marmota flaviventris*, rocky slopes, common
- Golden-mantled ground squirrel, *Callospermophilus lateralis*, forests, rocky slopes, common
- Northern flying squirrel, *Glaucomys sabrinus*, forests, occasional
- American red squirrel, *Tamiasciurus hudsonicus*, forests, common
- Uinta ground squirrel, *Urocitellus armatus*, sagebrush, meadows, common



Golden-mantled ground squirrel

Pocket gophers

Order: Rodentia **Family:** Geomyidae

- Northern pocket gopher, *Thomomys talpoides*, sagebrush, meadows, forests, common

Mice

Order: Rodentia **Family:** Cricetidae

- Deer mouse, *Peromyscus maniculatus*, grasslands, common

Jumping mice

Order: Rodentia **Family:** Dipodidae

- Western jumping mouse, *Zapus princeps*, riparian, occasional

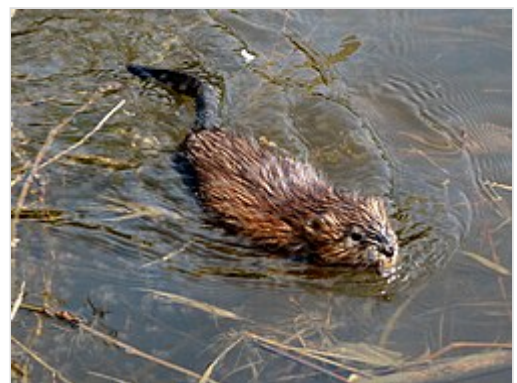


Deer mouse

Muskrats, voles and woodrats

Order: Rodentia **Family:** Cricetidae

- Muskrat, *Ondatra zibethicus*, streams, lakes, ponds, common
- Western heather vole, *Phenacomys intermedius*, sagebrush to forests, occasional
- Long-tailed vole, *Microtus longicaudus*, moist meadows, common
- Meadow vole, *Microtus pennsylvanicus*, moist meadows, common
- Montane vole, *Microtus montanus*, moist meadows, common
- Southern red-backed vole, *Myodes gapperi*, dense forests, common
- Water vole, *Microtus richardsoni*, riparian, occasional



Muskrat

- Bushy-tailed woodrat, *Neotoma cinerea*, rocky slopes, common

Porcupines

Order: Rodentia **Family:** Erethizontidae

- North American porcupine, *Erethizon dorsatum*, forests, sagebrush, willows, common

Bats

Order: Chiroptera **Family:** Vespertilionidae

- Big brown bat, *Eptesicus fuscus*, roost in sheltered areas, common
- Fringe-tailed bat, *Myotis thysanodes*, roost in cliffs, large snags, uncommon
- Hoary bat, *Lasiurus cinereus*, roost in trees. uncommon
- Little brown bat, *Myotis lucifugus*, roost in caves, buildings, trees, common
- Long-eared bat, *Myotis evotis*, roost in cliffs, buildings, uncommon
- Long-legged bat, *Myotis volans*, roost in tree cavities, cliffs, buildings, common
- Silver-haired bat, *Lasionycteris noctivagans*, roost in trees, including snags, common
- Western small-footed bat, *Myotis ciliolabrum*, roost in rocky areas, caves, rare, if present
- Townsend's big-eared bat, *Corynorhinus townsendii*, roost in caves, uncommon
- Yuma bat, *Myotis yumanensis*, roost in caves, buildings, trees. rare, if present



Big brown bat

See also

- Animals of Yellowstone
- Mammals of Yellowstone National Park

Further reading

- Broderick, Harold J. (1954). *Wild Animals of Yellowstone National Park*. Yellowstone Library and Museum Association, Yellowstone National Park, National Park Service.
- Streubel, Donald P. (1995). *Small Mammals of the Yellowstone Ecosystem*. Boulder, CO: Robert Rineharts. ISBN 0-911797-59-9.

Notes

1. Mammals in Yellowstone National Park (<http://www.nps.gov/yell/naturescience/mammalscheck.htm>) (Report). Yellowstone National Park, National Park Service. Retrieved February 1,

2010.

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