

Arizona. Nature study. Mammals.

ARIZONA ROOM

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ARIZONA STATE UNIVERSITY

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
(U.S. -- National Park Service)
Grand Canyon National Park

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PRELIMINARY
CHECK LIST OF MAMMALS,
GRAND CANYON



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MAMMALS of GRAND CANYON NATIONAL PARK, ARIZONA

In the compilation of this record of the mammals of Grand Canyon National Park much credit is due Mr. Vernon Bailey, Chief Field Biologist of the US Biological Survey, for his great assistance. Mr. Bailey not only checked over the list which is as complete as present knowledge will permit, but also made possible much of the collecting of specimens and their identification. The nomenclature of both scientific and common names used here, and the general ranges given are mainly according to H.E. Anthony's Field Book of North American Mammals, based on Gerrit S. Miller's Check List of Mammals for 1924.

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BATS-Family Vespertilionidae

Includes most of the species of Bats found in North America and the most highly specialized forms. Mostly small, or medium sized, cosmopolitan in range, and strictly insectivorous in diet.

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1. LITTLE PALLID BAT - *Myotis californicus pallidus*

Found in Lower Sonoran Zone of Colorado and Mohave Deserts. At Grand Canyon found in lower parts and bottom.

2. YUMA BAT - *Myotis yumanensis yumanensis*

An abundant Lower Sonoran species of the hot desert country. Common in Supai Canyon and probably the whole Grand Canyon.

3. GOLDEN BAT - *Myotis evotis chrysonotus*

A wide ranging interior form of the Little Long-eared Bat, occupying the Great Basin and Rocky Mountain region. One specimen from the South Rim of the Grand Canyon.

4. HOLLISTER BAT - *Myotis occultus*

A common bat of New Mexico, Arizona, and southeastern California with its northern-most record at the South Rim of the Grand Canyon.

5. FRINGED BAT - *Myotis thysanodes*

A Sonoran species of the southwestern United States. A specimen was collected on the South Rim of Grand Canyon, August, 1928.

6. SILVER-HAIRED BAT - *Lasionycteris noctivagans*

Migratory range over most of North America. Found on South Rim of Grand Canyon in fall of 1928.

7. LITTLE CANYON BAT - *Pipistrellus hesperus hesperus*

Canyons of southwestern desert country. Abundant in the Grand Canyon. This is the smallest North American Bat.

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8. PALE BROWN BAT - *Eptesicus fuscus pallidus*

The Pale Brown Bat is the commonest of the larger Bats ranging over most of the southwestern United States. At Grand Canyon this species is found on the South Rim.

9. MEXICAN FREE-TAILED BAT - *Tadarida mexicana*

Found in southwestern United States from Colorado south into Mexico and from the Pacific east to the middle of Texas. Inhabits the lower parts (Inner Gorge) of Grand Canyon.

RACCOONS - Family Procyonidae

Carnivores of medium size distributed over most of North America from 50° latitude south. Food principally frogs, fish, small mammals, birds, eggs, reptiles, fruit, nuts, etc. Color varies somewhat with season; sexes colored alike.

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10. PALE DESERT RACCOON - *Procyon lotor pallidus*

Found in California in "Lower Sonoran Zone on the Colorado Desert, in Imperial County, and north along the Colorado River at least to Needles" (Grinnell). In Grand Canyon it is found in the lower parts of Havasu Canyon and probably in other parts of the Lower Sonoran Zone.

CACOMISTLES (RING-TAILS) - Family Bassariscidae

Also known as Ring-tailed Cat; Civet-cat, Coon-cat, and Bassarick. Resembling the Raccoons in external characteristics, but differing in dental characters. Sexes colored alike, and no great seasonal change in color. Geographic distribution over southern United States from Texas west. Food, small mammals, birds, insects, and occasionally fruit.

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11. (RING-TAIL
(TEXAN CACOMISTLE) - *Bassariscus astutus flavus*

Found in the western half of Texas north into Colorado and southern Utah and west through New Mexico and Arizona. At Grand Canyon found principally in the lower parts but recorded also from both the North and South Rims.

WEASELS, MINKS, MARTENS, SKUNKS, and BADGERS, - Family Mustelidae

Carnivorous mammals very small to medium in size; forms typically slender; limbs short; anal scent glands often highly developed; pelage soft and dense, and rating high as fur.

12. MOUNTAIN WEASEL - *Mustela arizonensis*

These large weasels range from Central Arizona to Oregon and have been taken on both sides of the Grand Canyon.

13. CANYON SPOTTED SKUNK - *Spilogale gracilis gracilis*

Other names are Spotted Skunk; Little Spotted Skunk; Polecat; Little Striped Skunk. Sexes colored alike. Food mainly insects, beetles, and grasshoppers but varied with small mammals birds, eggs, lizards, etc. Erroneously referred to often as Civet Cat and in the Southwest as Hydrophobia Skunk or Phoby Cat. "Northern Arizona and desert ranges of southeastern California." Found not uncommonly in lower parts of Grand Canyon.

14. ARIZONA SKUNK - *Mephitis estor*

Other names are large Striped Skunk; Big Skunk; Line-backed Skunk; Common Skunk. Distributed over practically all of United States and Canada north to 50° in east and 60° in west. Both insectivorous and carnivorous. Found in "Arizona, western New Mexico, Sonora, Chihuahua, and northern Lower California." At Grand Canyon on South Rim.

15. (TEXAS BADGER - *Taxidea taxus berlandieri*
(MEXICAN BADGER

Found in the western half of Texas, west through Arizona. It feeds mainly upon small mammals such as Ground Squirrels, Prairie Dogs, Mice, and gophers. Found in the western half of Texas, west through Arizona into southeastern California. Rather uncommon in open country of South Rim, Grand Canyon.

WOLVES, COYOTES, FOXES - Family Canidae

Medium sized carnivores of dog-like form; elongated muzzle; legs rather long; tail long and unusually bushy.

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16. ARIZONA GRAY FOX - *Urocyon cinereargenteus scotti*

Found from the western half of Texas and western New Mexico west through Arizona and southern California. Found on both rims and in the Grand Canyon.

17. MEARNS COYOTE - *Canis mearnsi*

"Found in lower Sonoran areas of northern Sonora and southern Arizona." At Grand Canyon found on both rims.

18. (GRAY WOLF, - *Canis lycaon nubilus*
(PLAINS WOLF

Limits of range unknown but found in Great Plains region. "Although there may not be any on the North Rim at present specimens were taken there only a few years ago and it is probable they may recur at any time." (Bailey)

CATS - Family Felidae

Carnivorous mammals of medium to large size; form muscular and trim; head rounded; limbs of moderate length. Habit terrestrial but able to climb trees. Two representatives at Grand Canyon - the Cougar and the Bobcat.

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19. ROCKY MOUNTAIN COUGAR - *Felis concolor hippolestes*

The Cougar (genus *Felis*) is also known as Puma, Mountain Lion, Panther and Painter. "It was formerly found over practically all of North America as far north as the Great Lakes, Maine and Southern Alberta; now extinct in much of this range. Largest of North American Cougars. Found from North Dakota, Montana, and Idaho, south through Colorado and Utah to New Mexico and Arizona. Found in and on both rims of Grand Canyon - more numerous on the North Rim.

20. (BAILEY BOBCAT - *Lynx rufus baileyi*
(PLATEAU BOBCAT

The Bobcat (genus *Lynx*) is also known as Wildcat. Its geographic distribution is over most of the United States, southern Canada and Mexico. Found in eastern California, Arizona and New Mexico, north into Colorado, and east into Texas. At Grand Canyon they are found on both North and South Rims and down in the Canyon.

SQUIRRELS - Family Sciuridae

Form varying from slender to robust; size small to fairly large; tail well haired.

21. COLORADO ROCK SQUIRREL - *Otospermophilus grammurus grammurus*

Other names are Canyon Squirrel, Gray Ground Squirrel, Digger Squirrel. Found from eastern Colorado south into Arizona, New Mexico and western Texas. Found in Transition and Sonoran zones of Grand Canyon - on both rims and below.

22. MANTLED GROUND SQUIRREL - *Callospermophilus lateralis*

Other names are Big Chipmunk, Golden-mantled Chipmunk, Golden-mantled Ground Squirrel. Found in the mountainous, forested parts of northern Arizona and New Mexico. Common on North Rim of Grand Canyon.

23. PARK GROUND SQUIRREL - *Citellus pilosoma pratensis*

These little speckled ground squirrels occupy the lower edge of the Juniper belt of central Arizona up to near the South Rim of the Grand Canyon.

24. (ANTELOPE GROUND SQUIRREL - *Ammospermophilus leucurus cinnamomeus*
(CINNAMON GROUND SQUIRREL

Other names are White-tailed Chipmunk, Antelope Chipmunk. Found in northern Arizona, southern Utah, southwestern Colorado and northeastern New Mexico. They are not uncommon in the lower parts of Grand Canyon, especially on the Tonto Platform.

25. ZUNI PRAIRIE DOG - *Cynomys gunnisoni zuniensis*

Found in "Southwestern Colorado, extreme southeastern Utah, northwestern and west-central New Mexico, and north-central Arizona. Found at Grand Canyon in the open country of South Rim."

26. BEAVER MOUNTAIN CHIPMUNK - *Eutamias adsitus*

Found in Beaver Mountains, Millard County, Utah. At Grand Canyon it is found on the North Rim.

27. UTAH CLIFF CHIPMUNK - *Eutamias dorsalis utahensis*

Found in "Utah, eastern Nevada, northern Arizona, and northwestern Colorado, in the Upper Sonoran and Transition Zones." A resident of the North Rim, Grand Canyon.

28. (GILA CHIPMUNK - *Eutamias dorsalis dorsalis*
(CLIFF CHIPMUNK

Found in the mountains of western New Mexico and of Arizona, Common resident of South Rim, Grand Canyon.

29. WASATCH CHIPMUNK - *Eutamias minimys consobrinus*

Found in northwestern New Mexico, western Colorado, and eastern Utah in mountains and plateaus of Canadian and Transition Zones. Found on North Rim of Grand Canyon.

30. (SPRUCE SQUIRREL - *Sciurus fremonti fremonti*
(FREMONT CHICKAREE

Also known as Pine Squirrel. Found in "the mountainous portions of Colorado" and neighboring regions. Fairly common North Rim of Grand Canyon.

31. ABERT SQUIRREL - *Sciurus aberti aberti*.

This and the next are also known as Tuft-eared Squirrels. They do not hibernate but may be inactive during cold weather. The Abert Squirrel is found in northern Arizona south to the Mogollon Mountains and east into New Mexico. The South Rim of Grand Canyon apparently marks the northern limit of their range.

32. (KAIBAB SQUIRREL
(WHITE-TAILED SQUIRREL) . *Sciurus kaibabensis*

Found on top of Kaibab Plateau, North Rim of Grand Canyon.
Apparently this is the limit of its range.

POCKET GOPHERS - Family Geomyidae

Rodents with large, strong claws on forefeet; small eyes and ears, external fur-lined cheek-pouches; scantily haired tail tip supplied with tactile nerves. Range includes most of western United States

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33. YELLOW POCKET GOPHER (?) - *Thomomys perpallidus aurous*

Found in "desert region of southern Nevada, southern Utah, western Colorado, central and northwestern New Mexico, and northern and western Arizona." It is suspected that the Pocket-gopher which lives in the bottom of the Grand Canyon is of this species though as yet no specimens have been collected for verification.

34. FULVOUS POCKET GOPHER - *Thomomys fulvusfulvus*

"Transition Zone in northern and central Arizona." Found on the South Rim of Grand Canyon.

35. COLORADO POCKET GOPHER - *Thomomys fossor*

"Mountains of western Colorado, extreme southern Wyoming, northern New Mexico, eastern and southern Utah, and northwestern Arizona." Found on North Rim of Grand Canyon.

POCKET MICE and POCKET RATS - Family Heteromyidae

Small rodents with external, fur-lined cheek-pockets; forefeet not equipped with greatly developed claws; hind legs more or less elongated; tail as long or longer than head and body.

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36. INTERMEDIATE POCKET MOUSE - *Perognathus intermedius intermedius*

It feeds principally on seeds. Found in "several scattered localities in the Sonoran Zone of Arizona, New Mexico and northern Mexico." At Grand Canyon they have been found along the Tonto Platform - Lower Sonoran Zone.

37. PAINTED DESERT KANGAROO RAT - *Dipodomys ordii longipes*

Seeds, some grains, and sometimes green foliage are its principal foods. Found on the Painted Desert, Coconino County Arizona, and adjacent portions of New Mexico, southeastern Utah, and southwestern Colorado. At Grand Canyon it has been found in the open country of the South Rim bordering the Painted Desert

to the east.

BEAVER - Family Castoridae

Size large; form thickset; tail broad, flat and scaly; habit aquatic. Distributed over most of North America from Alaska and Labrador to the Rio Grande. Food consists of bark, twigs, even wood of deciduous trees, especially aspen, cottonwoods, and willows; also other vegetable matter such as roots of aquatic plants, grass, etc.

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38. (BROAD-TAILED BEAVER - *Castor canadensis frondator*
(SONORA BEAVER

Found in the southwestern states from Mexico north to Colorado. Not known west of about the 115th meridian. It appears to be numerous along Bright Angel Creek and several of the other large permanent streams in the lower parts of the Grand Canyon where for the most part it lives without either dams or huts.

NATIVE RATS and MICE - Family Cricetidae

Form typically rat or mouse-like. Represented by several important genera which are widely distributed over most of North America.

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39. ARIZONA GRASSHOPPER MOUSE - *Onychomys leucogaster capitulatus*

Also known as Scorpion Mouse, Food consists of insects such as grasshoppers, beetles, etc. Found in lower end of Prospect Valley (Grand Canyon) and Aubrey Valley, Arizona. Found also in open country of South Rim near Desert View, Grand Canyon.

40. DESERT HARVEST MOUSE - *Reithrodontomys megalotis megalotis*

Its principal foods are seeds, grains, and fruit - mostly of native and not cultivated species. Found "from northern Nevada and southern Idaho south to Zacatecas, Mexico; occupying the greater part of Nevada, Arizona, western Utah, southern New Mexico, western Texas, and the deserts of southern and northeastern California." At Grand Canyon it is found inhabiting the bottom and lower parts.

41. (TAWNY WHITE-FOOTED MOUSE - *Peromyscus maniculatus rufinus*
(ARIZONA WOOD MOUSE

The food of the White-footed Mice consists chiefly of seeds and grains, small nuts and dry vegetables - a contrast with the green and succulent diet of Meadow Mice. This species is found in "southern Rocky Mountain region, including the elevated part of New Mexico, scattered peaks and ranges in Arizona, eastern Utah, and the greater part of western and central Colorado. Transition to Boreal Zones." At Grand Canyon it occurs on both North and South Rims.

42. SONORAN WHITE-FOOTED MOUSE - *Peromyscus maniculatus sonoriensis*.

Found in Great Basin region in general. Northern Sonora, southern and western Arizona and Utah, exclusive of the higher mountains, eastern California, most of Nevada, and parts of Oregon. At Grand Canyon it is found on low parts of the South Rim.

43. ROWLEY WHITE-FOOTED MOUSE - *Peromyscus boylii rowleyi*

Found in "mountains of southern California, northern Lower California, southern Nevada, Utah, Colorado, Arizona, New Mexico, western Texas and south in Mexico." At Grand Canyon found on the South Rim and in the Canyon.

44. TRUE WHITE-FOOTED MOUSE - *Peromyscus truei truei*

Found in southwestern United States and northern Mexico. Numerous on South Side of Grand Canyon.

45. (STEPHEN'S CANYON MOUSE
(PALM DESERT MOUSE - *Peromyscus erinitus stephensi*

Found in "rocky situations in the Lower Sonoran Zone from northeastern Lower California northward to Death Valley region and eastward across southern Nevada to southwestern Utah and northwestern Arizona." In Grand Canyon it inhabits the lower parts.

46. (DESERT MOUSE
(WESTERN DESERT MOUSE - *Peromyscus eremicus eremicus*

Found in "Lower Sonoran Zone of southeastern California, eastward to western Texas, and south to border states of eastern Mexico, northward along the Colorado River, at least to the vicinity of the mouth of the Little Colorado, also extending along the Virgin River to Utah and Nevada." It inhabits the bottom of the Grand Canyon.

47. SAN FRANCISCO MOUNTAIN WOOD RAT - *Neotoma mexicana pinetorum*

The wood rats are also known as Pack Rats, Trade Rats, Mountain Rats, Brush Rats. They feed principally on green vegetation fruit, roots, bulbs, fungi, seeds, etc. This species is found in "Plateau region from San Francisco Mountain, Arizona, north to the Grand Canyon and southeastward along the Mogollon Mesa to the Mogollon and Mimbres Mountains in western New Mexico. Transition Zone" Common along South Rim of Grand Canyon.

48. DESERT WOOD RAT - *Neotoma desertorum*

Found in Upper and Lower Sonoran Zones of desert regions from California to Colorado, and from Oregon to the Colorado River, Arizona. At Grand Canyon found in the lower parts.

49. THOMAS WOOD RAT - *Neotoma lepida lepida*

Found in "Upper Sonoran Zone on the plateau region of northeastern Arizona, north of the Little Colorado River, and northwestern New Mexico south to Gallup." At Grand Canyon found on the North Rim.

50. COLORADO BUSHY-TAILED WOOD RAT - *Neotoma cinerea orolestes*

Mainly Transition and Canadian Zones of Rocky Mountain region from northern New Mexico north through Colorado and Wyoming. Found on the North Rim of Grand Canyon.

51. MOGOLLON MOUNTAIN MEADOW MOUSE - *Microtus mogollonensis*

Also known as Meadow Vole and Field Mouse. Food consists of many species of plants, shrubs, and trees, grass, roots, seeds and bark, often destructive. Found in "plateau country of central Arizona." Inhabits South Rim of Grand Canyon.

PORCUPINE - Family Erethizontidae

Other names - Hedgehog (a misnomer); Quill-pig. Food consists of bark, buds and foliage.

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52. YELLOW-HAIRED PORCUPINE - *Erethizon epixanthum epixanthum*

Found from Utah and Colorado northward through forested country to Alaska; east to North Dakota, west to the Cascades and Sierra Nevadas. Inhabits the North Rim of Grand Canyon.

53. ARIZONA PORCUPINE - *Erethizon epixanthum couesi*

Found in central Arizona and New Mexico. Not uncommon along the South Rim of Grand Canyon.

RABBITS - Family Leporidae

Distributed over almost all of North America. Food consists of a great variety of green vegetation, grasses, foliage, bark, etc.

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54. COLORADO DESERT JACK RABBIT - *Lepus californicus deserticola*

Found in arid desert areas of southeastern California, most of Utah and southern Idaho, and plateau of Northern Arizona. Mainly Upper and Lower Sonoran Zones. Inhabits open country on both rims of Grand Canyon.

55. BLACK HILLS COTTONTAIL - *Sylvilagus nuttalli grangeri*

Found mainly in Transition and upper half of Upper Sonoran Zone from Dakota to eastern California and from southern Canada to northern Arizona. At Grand Canyon it inhabits the North Rim.

56. ARIZONA COTTONTAIL - *Sylvilagus auduboni arizonae*

Found in deserts of southern Nevada, eastern California, northern Mexico, and most of Arizona. Zonal range mostly Lower Sonoran, but extending through Upper Sonoran. At Grand Canyon found on the South Rim.

DEER - Family Cervidae

The White-tailed Deer are distributed from the Atlantic seaboard to the Great Plains, and from the Gulf of Mexico to about 45° latitude.

The Black-tailed and Mule Deer occur from the central part of Canada to Mexico and from about 95° longitude to California. The principal foods are twigs, foliage of trees and shrubs, grass, fruits, and plants.

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57. ROCKY MOUNTAIN MULE DEER - *Odocoileus hemionus macrotis*

A subspecies of "hemionus" whose type came from South Dakota east of the Missouri River. The type locality of this subspecies is northern New Mexico. At Grand Canyon it is very abundant on the North Rim (estimated at 30,000 in 1929), less common on the South Rim, and occasionally ranges down in the Canyon.

ANTELOPE - Family Antilocapridae

Also known as Pronghorn; Pronghorn Antelope; American Antelope. Distributed in general over most of the Rocky Mountain and southwestern part of North America. Food consists of grasses, woods, cacti, sagebrush, etc.

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58. (AMERICAN ANTELOPE
(PRONGHORN ANTELOPE - *Antilocapra americana americana*

Found from the Mexican border northward. The only species found in the United States except at or near this boundary. At Grand Canyon it is native to the South Rim though very rare there at present. On the Tonto Platform they have been introduced from northwestern Nevada and now range around Hermit Camp and Indian Gardens.

SHEEP - Family Bovidae

Mountain Sheep are distributed throughout the mountain sections west of the 100th meridian from Mexico north to Arctic Circle. They feed on grass, tender plants, wild flowers and some browse.

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59. (NELSON BIGHORN MOUNTAIN SHEEP - *Ovis canadensis nelsoni*
(DESERT BIGHORN

Found in the "mountains of southern Nevada, southern California, and northern border of Lower California." At Grand Canyon they are found occasionally on both rims and more often on the middle slopes. They are estimated (1929) to number about 300 most of which are in the western part of the park.

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