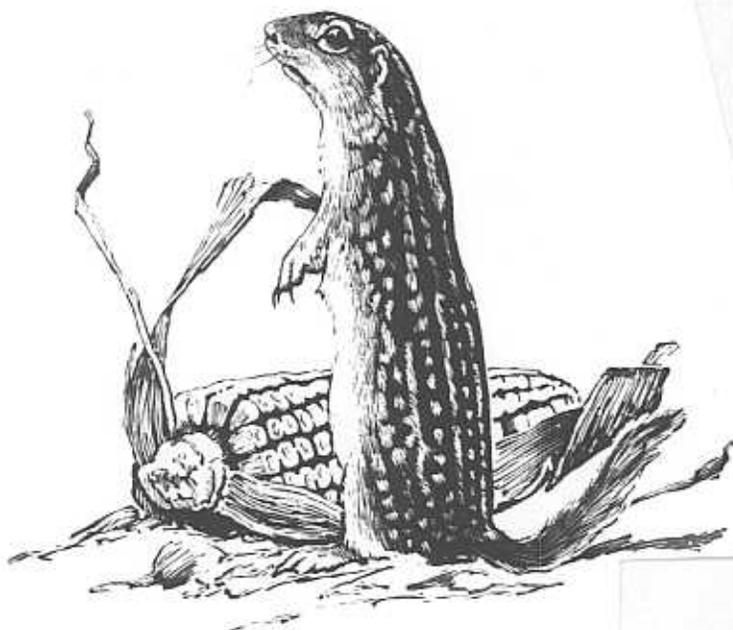


**GUIDE TO THE NONGAME**

**MAMMALS OF**

**NORTHWEST MINNESOTA-**

**REGION 1N**



**MINNESOTA  
DEPARTMENT OF  
NATURAL  
RESOURCES**

Guide to the Nongame Mammals of Northwest Minnesota

Region 1 - North

By Carrol Henderson and Julie Reitter

This preliminary guide has been prepared as a reference to the occurrence and distribution of nongame mammals of Region 1 North in northwest Minnesota. Taxonomy is based on Jones et al., (1975).

\*Identification marks are described in Burt and Grossenheider (1964).

Game mammals have not been included in this summary.

Counties in this region are Kittson, Roseau, Lake of the Woods, Marshall, Pennington, Red Lake, Polk, Norman, Mahnomen, Clearwater, Beltrami, and Hubbard. Figure 1 is a map of Region 1 North.

Table 1 is a list of nongame mammals from Region 1 North.

TABLE 1 - Nongame Mammals of Region 1 North

Insectivores

Masked shrew  
Arctic shrew  
Northern water shrew  
Pygmy shrew  
Short-tailed shrew  
Star-nosed mole  
Eastern mole

Bats

Little brown bat  
Keen's little brown bat\*  
Silver-haired bat  
Big brown bat\*  
Red bat  
Hoary bat

Carnivores

Short-tailed weasel  
Least weasel\*  
Long-tailed weasel\*  
Spotted skunk\*  
Striped skunk  
Coyote  
Gray Wolf\*  
Cougar\*(?)

Squirrels

Woodchuck  
Richardson's ground squirrel  
Thirteen-lined ground squirrel  
Franklin's ground squirrel  
Eastern chipmunk  
Least chipmunk  
Red squirrel  
Southern flying squirrel\*(?)  
Northern flying squirrel\*

Other Rodents

Northern pocket gopher\*\*  
Plains pocket gopher  
Plains pocket mouse\*\*  
Deer mouse  
White-footed mouse  
Northern grasshopper mouse(?)  
Southern bog lemming  
Northern bog lemming\*  
Red-backed vole  
Meadow vole  
Meadow jumping mouse  
Woodland jumping mouse  
Porcupine

Other Rodents (cont.)

House mouse-E  
Norway rat-E

Ungulates

American Elk\*\*  
Woodland caribou X

Key

- \* - Priority species - reports needed
- \*\* - Priority species - known only in this region
- E - Exotic species
- ? - Hypothetical species - reports needed
- A - Accidental species
- X - Extirpated

A total of 42 nongame mammal species are found in Region 1 North. The cougar is occasionally reported, but is still classified as hypothetical. Woodland caribou are extirpated. The southern flying squirrel and northern grasshopper mouse are also hypothetical species in this region.

The house mouse and Norway rat are the only two exotic species which have become established. There are some old records of *Neotoma* for this region, but they have all apparently died out after their introduction.

Priority Species

The northern pocket gopher, plains pocket mouse, and northern bog lemming and American elk are apparently found only in this region in Minnesota.

Other priority species for which more data is needed are the Keen's little brown bat, big brown bat, least weasel, long-tailed weasel, spotted skunk, gray wolf, cougar, southern flying squirrel, northern flying squirrel, and American elk.

Spotted skunks and American elks are among the most rare mammals of this region.

Threatened and Endangered Species

The gray wolf is officially considered a threatened species.

Data Collection

If you encounter any new county records, be sure to record the date, county, township, range, section number (or distance and direction from the nearest town) and habitat in which the animal was found. Note all identifying features which distinguish that species from similar ones. Photographs or plaster casts of tracks are important for rare species like cougars. Small mammal skulls should be retained

to help verify new county records when animals are trapped.

Mammal records should be sent to the Nongame Supervisor,  
Department of Natural Resources, Box 7, Centennial Bldg., 658 Cedar  
St., St. Paul, Minnesota 55155.

County Records

County records for this region are given in Table 2.

-5-  
TABLE 2 - County Records of Nongame Mammals in Region 1 North

	KITTSON	ROSEAU	LAKE OF THE WOODS	MARSHALL	PENNINGTON	RED LAKE	POLK	NORMAN	MAHONMEN	CLEARWATER	BELTRAMI	HUBBARD
Masked Shrew	X6+	X2	X6+				X6+		X4	X6+, 10	X2, 6+	X6+
Arctic Shrew		X2, 6+					X6+			X6+, 10	X2	
Northern Water Shrew										X6+, 10		
Pygmy Shrew		X2	X6+							X6-, 8	X2, 8	X8
Short-tailed Shrew	X6+	X2, 6+	X6+	X6-					X4	X6+, 10	X2	
Star-nosed Mole		X2								X4, 5+, 10		
Eastern Mole										6-		
Little Brown Bat		X6+		X5						X6+, 10+		
Keen's Little Brown Bat										X6-		
Silver-Haired Bat				X6-						X10, 6+		
Big Brown Bat										X10, 6+		
Red Bat										X10, 8		X8
Hoary Bat							X8	X8		X10, 6+		X8
Short-tailed Weasel		X2, 6+	X6+	X6+						X10, 6-	X2, 6+	
Least Weasel		X6+	X6+	X6+						X10, 4		
Long-tailed Weasel	X4	X6+	X6+	X6-			X4			X10, 4, 6-	X6+	
Spotted Skunk							X6-					
Striped Skunk	X6-	X6-	X4, 6-	X6-	X6-	X6-	X6-	X6-		X10 6+, 4	X4, 6-	X6- 4
Coyote	X6- 4	X4 6+	X6+ 4	X6- 4	X6+ 4	X4	X6- 4	X4	X4	X10 6+	X6+	X6+
Gray Wolf			X4, 6+								X4, 6+	X4
Cougar										X11		
Woodchuck		X4 6+	X4 6+	X6+					X4	X10 6-		X4 6+
Richardson's Ground Squirrel	X4 6+						X6-	X6+				
Thirteen-lined Ground Squirrel	X6+	X2, 4	X4, 6+	X6-			X6+			X10, 4, 6+	X6-	

	KITTSO	ROSEAU	LAKE OF THE WOODS	MARSHALL	PENNINGTON	RED LAKE	POLK	NORMAN	MAHONEN	CLEARWATER	BELTRAMI	HUBBARD
Franklin's Ground Squirrel		X2, 4, 6+	X6+	X6-						X10, 6+		
Eastern Chipmunk	X6+	X2	X4, 6+	X6-						X10, 6+	X2	
Least Chipmunk		X2, 6+	X6+							X10, 6+	X6+	
Red Squirrel		X2, 6+	X6+	X4, 6+						X10, 6+	X2, 4, 6+	
Southern Flying Squirrel										X8?		
Northern Flying Squirrel		X2, 6-	X6-		X6-					X10 6+	X2	
Northern Pocket Gopher	X6+											
Plains Pocket Gopher	X6+			X6+			X6+			X10, 6-		
Plains Pocket Mouse							X6+					
Deer Mouse	X6+	X2	X6+	X6+			X6+	X4		X10, 6+	X2, 6+	
White-footed Mouse				X6+			X6+			X10, 6+		
Northern Grasshopper Mouse												
Southern Bog Lemming		X2	X6+							X10, 6+	X2, 6+	X8
Northern Bog Lemming		X6+	X6+									
Gapper's Red-backed Vole	X6+	X2, 6+	X6+	X6+			X6+			X10, 6+	X2	
Meadow Vole	X6+	X2, 6+	X6+	X6+			X6+		X10, 6+		X4	
Norway Rat	X6+											
House Mouse	X6+			X6-					X10			
Meadow Jumping Mouse	X6+	X2, 6+	X6+	X6+			X6+		X10, 6+		X6+	
Woodland Jumping Mouse									X10		X4?	
Porcupine	X4		X6-	X4, 6-			X4		X10, 6-, 8	X4		X6-
American Elk		X4		X4, 6-			X4		X4	X6+		
Woodland Caribou			X4						X6+			

LITERATURE CITED

- X-2 Birney, E.C. and Gerda E. Nordquist 1978. The importance of peatland habitats to small mammals in Minnesota. Mimeo. 52 pp.
- X-3 Burt, W.H. and R.P. Grossenheider 1964. A field guide to the Mammals. 2nd Ed. Houghton Mifflon Co. Boston. 284 pp.
- X-4 Department of Natural Resources Wildlife data files of wildlife breeding and distribution records. Section of Wildlife, St. Paul.
- X-6 Gunderson, H.L. and J.R. Beer 1953. The Mammals of Minnesota. Univ. Minn. Press Mpls. 190 pp. (6+ = specimens seen, 6- = authentic records)
- X-8 Heaney, L.R. and E.C. Birney 1975. Comments on the distribution and natural history of some mammals in Minnesota. Canadian Field Nat. 89:29-34
- X-9 Jones, J.K. Jr., D.C. Carter and H.H. Genoways 1975. Rev. checklist of North American Mammals North of Mexico. Occ. Pap. Mus. Texas Tech. Univ. 28:1-14
- X-10 Sargeant B. and U.H. Marshall 1959. Mammals of Itasca State Park, Minnesota. The Flicker 31(4): 116-128