

**GUIDE TO THE NONGAME**

**MAMMALS OF**

**SOUTHEAST MINNESOTA-**

**REGION 5**



**MINNESOTA**

**DEPARTMENT OF**

**NATURAL**

**RESOURCES**

## Guide to the Nongame Mammals of Southeast Minnesota

## Region 5

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 5 in southeast Minnesota. Taxonomy is based on Jones, et al., (1975). Identification marks are described in Burt and Grossenheider (1964).

Game mammals are not included in this survey.

Counties in this region are Houston, Winona, Wabasha, Goodhue, Fillmore, Olmsted, Dodge, Mower, Freeborn, Steele, and Rice. Figure 1 is a map of Region 5.

Table 1 is a list of the nongame mammals of Region 5.

TABLE 1 - Nongame Mammals of Region 5

Marsupials

Virginia opossum

Insectivores

Masked shrew  
Arctic shrew (?)  
Northern water shrew (?)  
Pygmy shrew  
Short-tailed shrew  
Least shrew\*\*  
Eastern mole

Bats

Little brown bat  
Keen's little brown bat\*  
Silver-haired bat (?)  
Eastern pipistrelle\*  
Big brown bat\*  
Red bat  
Hoary bat (?)

Carnivores

Short-tailed weasel  
Least weasel\*  
Long-tailed weasel\*  
Spotted skunk\*  
Striped skunk  
Coyote

Squirrels

Woodchuck  
Thirteen-lined ground squirrel  
Franklin's ground squirrel  
Eastern chipmunk  
Southern flying squirrel\*  
Red squirrel

Other Rodents

Plains pocket gopher  
Plains pocket mouse (?)  
Western harvest mouse

Other Rodents (cont.)

Deer mouse  
White-footed mouse  
Southern bog lemming (?)  
Gapper's red-backed vole  
Meadow vole  
Prairie vole  
Pine vole\*\*  
Norway rat (E)  
House mouse (E)  
Meadow jumping mouse

Ungulates

Pronghorn (A)  
American elk (X)\*

Key

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

A total of 34 nongame mammals are recorded for Region 5. The arctic shrew, northern water shrew, silver-haired bat, hoary bat, plains pocket mouse, and southern bog lemming are hypothetical and need documentation to verify their presence.

The house mouse and Norway rat are the only exotic species.

The American elk is extirpated from this region.

Priority Species

The least shrew and pine vole are only found in this region of Minnesota. Other priority species on which more data is needed are the Keen's little brown bat, eastern pipistrelle, big brown bat, least weasel, long-tailed weasel, spotted skunk, and southern flying squirrel.

Threatened and Endangered Species

There are no threatened or endangered nongame mammals in Region 5.

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 large mammals like cougars. Skulls of small mammal specimens should

be retained for documentation of new county records when studies result in the collection of specimens.

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.

FOX RIVER BOND  
25% COTTON

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TABLE 2 - County Records for Nongame Mammals in Region 5

	HOUSTON	WINONA	WABASHA	GOODHUE	FILLMORE	OLMSTED	DODGE	MOWER	FREEBORN	STEELE	RICE
Virginia Opossum	X4, 6+	X4, 6-	X4		X4, 6+	X4	X4	X4, 6-	X4, 6-	X4, 6-	X4
Masked Shrew					X6+				X6+	X6-	
Arctic Shrew											
Northern Water Shrew											
Least Shrew		X6+									
Pygmy Shrew											
Short-tailed Shrew		X6+			X6+				X6+	X6-	
Eastern Mole	X6+	X6-									X4
Little Brown Bat		X6-	X6-	X6-	X6+				X6+		
Keen's Little Brown Bat		X6-	X6-	X6+							
Silver-Haired Bat											
Eastern Pipistrelle			X6+	X6+							
Big Brown Bat			X6-	X6-	X6+						
Red Bat	X8										
Hoary Bat											
Short-tailed Weasel		X4									
Least Weasel		X6+		X6+							
Long-tailed Weasel	X6+										X4
Spotted Skunk		X4, 6-	X6-		X6-	X6-	X4	X4, 6-			X6-
Striped Skunk	X6-	X6-	X6-	X6-	X6-	X4, 6-		X4	X6-	X4	X6-
Coyote	X4	X4	X4		X6-						
Woodchuck		X4	X4	X6-	X6+	X4	X4		X6-		X4
Thirteen-lined Ground Squirrel	X6+	X4, 6+	X4	X6-	X4, 6+	X4	X4		X6+	X4	X4



LITERATURE CITED

- 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.