

ANIMALS OF THE LAS POSADAS AREA

Mammals Abstracted From  
The Mammals of Napa County  
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California Fish & Game  
Vol. 26, No. 3 - July  
1940

## MAMMALS OF THE LAS POSADAS AREA

### Black Bear, Ursus americanus altifrontalis

Formerly abundant but probably not present at Las Posadas now.

### California Raccoon, Procyon lotor psora

Abundant throughout forest and brushland. In 1939 trapping season 102 were taken in the county. Their dens are usually in hollow trees or holes under rocks.

### Ring-tailed Cat, Bassariscus astutus raptor

Distributed throughout Napa County in more heavily forested areas. Probably a number are at Las Posadas. Long tail with rings.

### Redwoods Weasel, Mustela frenata munda

Probably at Las Posadas as several were reported west of St. Helena in 1937. A very active and fierce mammal with brown fur and tan under parts.

### Scotted Skunk, Spilogale gracilis phenax

Common in forest and brushland throughout the county.

### Northern California Striped Skunk, Mephitis mephitis occidentalis

Probably over entire county. Most common where grassland meets forest of chaparral.

### Badger, Taxidea taxus neglecta

In southern and eastern parts of the county mostly in grassland and away from forest. Probably not at Las Posadas.

### Gray Fox, Urocyon cinereoargenteus townsendi

Found throughout forest and brushland of the county and probably common at Las Posadas. They make their dens among boulders. They are able to climb trees when pursued by dogs.

### California Coyote, Canis latrans ochropus

Formerly abundant but now scarce because of poisoning and trapping. They live in mountainous forest and brush land and are probably still present at Las Posadas.

### California Mountain Lion, Felis concolor californica

This big cat is found throughout mountainous areas in forest and brushland wherever deer are found. It travels widely and though heavily hunted is probably still present in the Las Posadas area at least occasionally.

### California Wildcat, Lynx rufus californicus

Numerous in forest and brushland throughout the county. In 1939 53 were taken in the county. They are probably present at Las Posada.

### Douglas Ground Squirrel, Citellus beecheyi douglassi

One of the commonest mammals in California, it persists in grass-land and cultivated areas in spite of poison and traps. Hawks, owls, coyotes and foxes help keep it in check. Probably common in open areas.

Sonoma Chipmunk, Eutamias sonomae

Is found within the range of digger pine, ponderosa pine, Douglas fir and redwood so is undoubtedly present at Las Posadas. It is not abundant anywhere in the county.

Gray Squirrel, Sciurus griseus griseus

This beautiful tree squirrel makes its nests of leaves and twigs in trees and is found throughout forested areas but numbers are subject to great fluctuation - probably because of disease.

Pocket Gopher, Thomomys bottae agricolaris

Wide distribution throughout the county principally in grassland. They make an extensive system of burrows and live on roots of plants. They are important food for hawks, owls, coyotes, foxes and other carnivores.

Kangaroo Rat, Dipodomys heermanni californicus

This rat with very long hind legs is of common occurrence in chaparral areas from Napa Valley eastward and is very abundant at times.

Dusky-footed Wood Rat, Neotoma fuscipes fuscipes

Is common in heavy forest and chaparral areas throughout the county. This one is never abundant and the houses are scattered with few being built in trees. It may be recognized by the squirrel-like tail.

White-footed Mice

Gambel white-footed mouse, Peromyscus maniculatus gambelii

Gilbert white-footed mouse, Peromyscus truei gilberti

These beautiful little mice are grey above and white beneath. They have very large ears from which they are sometimes called deer mice. They are widely distributed in forest and brushland areas. They are very numerous throughout the county.

Long-tailed Harvest Mouse, Reithrodontomys megalotis longicaudus

Throughout the county but usually not common in heavy forest areas. Not abundant but usually at edges of chaparral and grassland.

Sanhedrin Meadow Mouse, Microtus californicus eximius

Not abundant but probably distributed throughout the county. In the uplands on grassy areas near the edge of forest and brush. During the dry season they congregate near springs but in winter disperse.

House Mouse, Mus musculus

Is found most abundantly near houses and barns and causes a lot of destruction to grain and other stored food products. There are undoubtedly specimens around the camp kitchen.

Black Rat, Rattus rattus rattus

Probably most common in settled areas. May not be at Las Posadas.

Roof Rat, Rattus rattus alexandrinus

Probably present in the county.

Norway Rat, Rattus norvegicus norvegicus

Probably widely distributed, especially around buildings.

California Jack Rabbit, Lepus californicus, californicus

Widely distributed over the county and most common where grassland joins brushland. They feed mostly at night but are often seen in the early morning. They occasionally strip the bark from young fruit trees or vineyards but are not numerous enough to cause much damage.

Brush Rabbit, Sylvilagus bachmani tehamae

This is the little rabbit that is usually seen at the edge of brush patches and along the edges of roads. They are active in the early morning and late evening. They have been collected on Howell Mt.

Black-tailed Deer, Odocoileus hemionus columbianus

This is the common deer of the north coast country and is found widely except in more settled areas; mostly in brushland and forest. They are common at Las Posadas