

Big Hole

National Battlefield
Wisdom, Montana
(406) 689-3155

Mammal Checklist

"The Nez Perce had a traditional campsite in the Big Hole Valley which they used when traveling to the high plains to hunt buffalo. They called this place Is-koom-tsi-la-lih or "many calves", for it was a renowned buffalo grazing area where the buffalo cows left their calves concealed in the grass and willows in great numbers."

...John R. Pierce



LOCATION

This list covers Big Hole National Battlefield, located in the western portion of the Big Hole Valley, ten miles west of Wisdom, Montana. The battlefield encompasses a variety of habitats ranging from flood plain to conifer forest.

KEY

This checklist is based on information gathered by Walter Van Sickle during the summer of 1987. Mammals not found on the battlefield during the summer of 1987, but which are potentially present, are numbered.

A-abundant
C-common
U-uncommon
R-rare

- 1-Hoffmann, R.S. and D.C. Pattie. A Guide to Montana Mammals. Univ. Montana Print Serv. 1968
- 2-Hennings, D. and R.S. Hoffman. A Review of the Taxonomy of the Sorex vagrans Species Complex from Western North America. Occasional Papers of the Museum of Natural History, University of Kansas, 1977
- 3-Mimiograph list of mammals observed on Battlefield in National Park Service records.
- 4-Possible sighting on Battlefield in summer of 1987
- 5-Based on interviews with local trappers and taxidermists.

CHECKLIST

SHREWS

- Masked Shrew (Sorex cinereus) A
- Preble's Shrew (Sorex preblei) U
- Vagrant Shrew (Sorex vagrans) A
- Northern Water Shrew (Sorex palustris) 1
- Pygmy Shrew (Sorex hoyi) R
- Montane Shrew (Sorex monticolus) 2

BATS

- Little Brown Myotis (Myotis lucifugus) 3,4,1
- Yuma Myotis (Myotis yumanensis) 1
- Long-eared Myotis (Myotis evotis) 1
- Fringed Myotis (Myotis thysanodes) 1
- Long-legged Myotis (Myotis volans) 1
- California Myotis (Myotis californicus) 1
- Small-footed Myotis (Myotis leibii) 1
- Silver-haired Bat (Lasionycteris noctivagans) 1
- Big Brown Bat (Eptesicus fuscus) 1
- Hoary Bat (Lasiurus cinereus) 1
- Spotted Bat (Euderma maculatum) 1
- Western Big-eared Bat (Plecotus townsendii) 1

RABBITS AND HARES

- ___ White-tailed Jackrabbit (*Lepus townsendii*) U
- ___ Snowshoe Hare (*Lepus americanus*) A
- ___ Mountain Cottontail (*Sylvilagus nuttallii*) U
- ___ Pygmy Rabbit (*Sylvilagus idahoensis*) 1

RODENTS

- ___ Yellow-bellied Marmot (*Marmota flaviventris*) 3,1
- ___ Colombian Ground Squirrel (*Spermophilus columbianus*) A
- ___ Golden Mantled Ground Squirrel (*Spermophilus lateralis*) U
- ___ Yellow Pine Chipmunk (*Tamias amoenus*) A
- ___ Red-tailed Chipmunk (*Tamias ruficaudus*) A
- ___ Red Squirrel (*Tamiasciurus hudsonicus*) A
- ___ Northern Flying Squirrel (*Glaucomys sabrinus*) U
- ___ Northern Pocket Gopher (*Thomomys talpoides*) C
- ___ Great Basin Pocket Mouse (*Perognathus parvus*) 1
- ___ Beaver (*Castor canadensis*) C
- ___ Deer Mouse (*Peromyscus maniculatus*) A
- ___ Bushy-tailed Woodrat (*Neotoma cinerea*) 3,1
- ___ Montane Heather Vole (*Phenacomys intermedius*) U
- ___ Southern Red-backed Vole (*Clethrionomys gapperi*) R
- ___ Meadow Vole (*Microtus pennsylvanicus*) A
- ___ Montane Vole (*Microtus montanus*) C
- ___ Long-tailed Vole (*Microtus longicaudus*) 1
- ___ Sagebrush Vole (*Lagurus curtatus*) 1
- ___ Water Vole (*Arvicola richardsoni*) 4,1
- ___ Muskrat (*Onychomys leucogaster*) C
- ___ Western Jumping Mouse (*Zapus princeps*) C
- ___ Porcupine (*Erethizon dorsatum*) C

DOGS

- ___ Coyote (*Canis latrans*) C
- ___ Red Fox (*Vulpes vulpes*) U

BEARS

- ___ Black Bear (*Ursus americanus*) C

RACCOON

- ___ Raccoon (*Procyon lotor*) 1,5

WEASELS, SKUNKS & BADGERS

- ___ Marten (*Martes americana*) C
- ___ Fisher (*Martes pennanti*) 1,5,4
- ___ Short-tailed Weasel (*Mustela erminea*) 1,5
- ___ Long-tailed Weasel (*Mustela frenata*) C
- ___ Mink (*Mustela vison*) C
- ___ River Otter (*Lutra canadensis*) 1
- ___ Wolverine (*Gulo gulo*) 1,5
- ___ Badger (*Taxidea taxus*) C
- ___ Western Spotted Skunk (*Spilogale gracilis*) 1
- ___ Striped Skunk (*Mephitis mephitis*) C

CATS

- ___ Mountain Lion (*Felis concolor*) 1,5
- ___ Lynx (*Felis canadensis*) R
- ___ Bobcat (*Felis rufus*) 1,5

HOOFED MAMMALS

- ___ American Elk (*Cervus elaphus*) C
- ___ Mule Deer (*Odocoileus hemionus*) A
- ___ White-tailed Deer (*Odocoileus virginianus*) 3,1,5
- ___ Moose (*Alces alces*) C
- ___ Pronghorn (*Antilocapra americana*) U

