

**A TRIP TO THE SOUTHWEST:
Finding SQUIRRELS, CHIPMUNKS, and PRAIRIE DOGS
in New Mexico, Arizona, Colorado, and Utah
August 21 - 30, 2015
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Centerville, Ohio**

During the last third of August 2015, we took a ten day trip to the West to look for a number of squirrels, chipmunks, and prairie dog species that we were missing on our World Mammal Life List in the United States. Our trip started in Albuquerque, New Mexico and ended in Salt Lake City, Utah. In between New Mexico and Utah, we also visited both Arizona and Colorado. All in all, we drove over 2900 miles through the four states! This was the kind of vacation that requires a vacation when it is over!



Our first stop was in the late afternoon at the Bureau of Land Management Valley of Fires Recreation Area in south central New Mexico, a little over two hours SE of Albuquerque. Only about four miles west of the little town of Carrizozo along US380 in the Tularosa Valley, the Valley of Fires is right next to the Malpais Lava Flow, one of the youngest lava flows in the country. The area features a wonderful boardwalk nature trail ("Malpais Nature Trail") through the lava flow, which is part of the Chihuahua Desert. The diversity of plants is pretty amazing, and the nature trail features the majestic yucca-look-alike, the Sotol (or "Spoonplant"), a member of the Lily family. We walked the boardwalk twice, and discovered that **Rock Squirrels** were abundant, finding about fifteen. We also found the first squirrel on our



"shopping list", the **Texas Antelope Squirrel**. Unfortunately, we were chased off the boardwalk by an approaching thunderstorm. Even though we now had photos of the Texas Antelope Squirrel, we decided to check out the rest of the Recreation Area, and drove the campground loop at the end of the road, just to see what else we could find. We were very pleased to find another very cooperative antelope squirrel, which was eating Prickly Pear



Texas Antelope Squirrels

Cactus fruit and didn't pay any attention to us as we watched and photographed it. The **Gray-footed Chipmunk** is also found at the Valley of Fires, but during our short visit only Karen glimpsed one. The population found in the lava field is apparently darker than the chipmunks in the nearby mountains. We spent the rest of the afternoon driving south to Alamogordo, arriving at sunset.

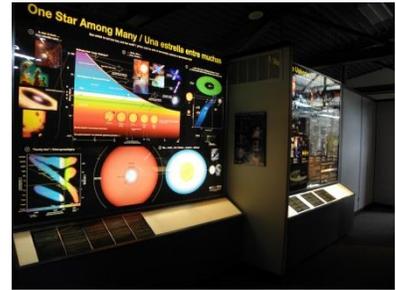


Rock Squirrels





We then stayed in Alamogordo, where there are plenty of hotels and restaurants. The next morning we photographed one of the fabulous sunrises for which the West is so famous, and then we drove up into the Sacramento Mountains to the National Solar Observatory at Sunspot (it took a little over an hour.) There we were



delighted to easily find our target for the day, the **Gray-footed Chipmunk**, an endemic to the central mountains of New Mexico and far western Texas. The chipmunk was quite common and tame on the grounds of the observatory and easy to photograph here, and we also found them at the nearby Cathey Canyon Vista in the Lincoln National Forest. During the morning we quickly found about ten Gray-footed Chipmunks. Not only is the National Solar



Observatory Visitor's Center very interesting and educational to visit, but there is a great view of the Tularosa Valley and the White Sands National Monument in the distance. We also visited



Apache Point Observatory run by the University of New Mexico where we had a picnic lunch. There the wildflowers were in full bloom. Other mammals we saw during our morning in the mountains included



Desert Cottontail, Fremont's Red Squirrel, Coyote, and both **White-tailed** and **Mule Deer**, which overlap in the area. One could stay in the wonderful little tourist town of Cloudcroft nearby to the Observatory (only 17 miles) if more time in the spectacular Sacramento Mountains was desired.



Gray-footed Chipmunks





Because we had such good luck with the first of the three chipmunks we were missing, we spent the late afternoon and evening at the White Sands National Monument, and after dark, we did some spotlighting along the Interdune Boardwalk before the park closed, and saw several **Apache Pocket Mice**, a subspecies of Plains Pocket Mouse and **Merriam's Kangaroo Rats**. On the drive out, we saw a **Black-tailed Jackrabbit** and a [Western] Prairie



Rattlesnake (*Crotalus viridis*) was in the road near the entrance gate.



The next morning, we spent a couple of hours on the Riparian Nature Trail at Oliver Lee Memorial State Park just south of Alamogordo before leaving the area. Besides a long list of birds we found three **Desert Cottontails**, a couple of **Black-tailed Jackrabbits**, and a **Western Pipistrelle**. A wonderful State Park, we were disappointed that we couldn't spend more time here, but our ambitious schedule simply wouldn't allow it.



Heading west by mid-morning, we stopped briefly at the New Mexico State University campus in Las Cruces (in the wash behind the Arrowhead Park Medical Academy southwest corner of Wells St. and Arrowhead Dr.) where we were absolutely delighted



Spotted Ground Squirrel

to see a **Spotted Ground Squirrel** within just a few minutes, as well as more **Desert Cottontails**. We found a lot of ground squirrel burrows under the creosote bushes. We also noticed that there is a lot of new of construction in the area, but along Arrowhead Dr. the area is posted "Burrowing Owl Management Area" so the wash may be protected. Indeed, we found a couple of Burrowing Owls as well.



On to Silver City, NM – that took us much of the afternoon. We arrived to find our hotel on "half power." The city had experienced a severe thunderstorm the afternoon before, which knocked out the power to the town and it rained about three inches! Fortunately, just before we arrived the electric company managed to restore part of the power, which provided lights and air conditioning. We were very lucky!



That evening we explored the fascinating City of Rocks State Park nearby, and found four of the fabulous **Banner-tailed Kangaroo Rats** as well as a **Plains Harvest Mouse**. Other mammals spotted at City of Rocks included **Rock Squirrel**, **Desert Cottontail**, **Black-tailed Jackrabbit**, and **Merriam's Kangaroo Rat**. The City of Rocks is made



up of large volcanic rock formations, mainly in columns and pinnacles, and is about a square mile in size. It is located about halfway between Silver City and Deming, and features a large campground nestled around the rocks.

The next day we did a "side trip" to see the Gila Cliff Dwellings National Monument. Because we arrived before everyone else, we ended up with a



ranger-led private tour of the entire rock cave dwellings. Even though it meant four extra hours of driving that day, we both agreed it was worth it. Three **Collared Peccaries (Javelinas)** were very tame.



In the afternoon we added another seven hours in the car as we headed into far-east central Arizona. In the late afternoon, we stopped at Los Burros Campground in Sitgreaves National Forest, where we found the next chipmunk on our "shopping list": the **Gray-collared Chipmunk**. Finally arriving at Show Low, AZ almost at dark, we were "trashed!"



Gray-collared Chipmunk

The lady at the desk in our hotel in Show Low told us where to find **Gunnison's Prairie-Dog**, which was on SR 77 (just west of the airport) as we headed out of town to our next destination: Flagstaff. The prairie dogs cooperated, but unfortunately, the property they are living on appears to be for sale, which means they will soon get evicted, so that another strip mall or gas station can be built there. We were sad thinking about their eventual demise as we left town. (Fortunately, we checked the area again on a more recent trip in 2017 and the land still hasn't been developed and the Prairie-Dogs are still there. The reason for the return to the Show Low area was that on our first trip we noticed there were a lot of woodrat nests around the Pintail Lake parking area, which we assumed likely belonged to Stephen's Woodrat, and on the next two

trips to the area just north of Show Low, we easily found them after dark. Try Mormon Lake Road east of the airport – it is fairly quiet at night, and loads of nests along the road.)

However, in Flagstaff we stopped at Foxglenn Park just south of I40 where they actually seem to be encouraging the prairie dogs and got good close-up photos of them (along the Urban Trail, a citywide bike trail on the south side of the park.) We also stopped at the nearby Little America Hotel, along the Nature Trail in the back, where we saw the **Gray-**



Gunnison's Prairie-Dog

collared Chipmunk again and photographed it as well.



On to Seligman, AZ, which calls itself the “Birthplace of Historic Route 66.” Close to the nearby Aubrey Valley, it is a good place to stay with a number of reasonably priced hotels, not to mention a restaurant that caters to mammal watchers – the Road Kill Café! We spent from midnight until six in the morning driving back and forth on a twelve mile stretch of the famous Route 66 looking for both Black-footed Ferret and American Badger, and seeing neither. We think the weather was the primary culprit because it rained until 1:30 A.M. and it was quite cold. We guessed the critters just didn't want to get cold and stayed in their burrows. However, as a consolation prize, we did see a couple of **Northern Grasshopper Mice!** (We decided then and



there to return, and take part in the periodic ferret censuses that are done by the Arizona Game and Fish Department. Having done it twice since, we can confirm that volunteers are sorely needed and welcomed, and there is nothing else like driving around on the wild ranches on both sides of U.S. 66 all night and not worrying about being given a hard time for spotlighting!)

After sleeping for a few hours, we headed north to the North Rim of the Grand Canyon National Park, about a six hour drive from Seligman. Our drive took us past the amazingly beautiful Vermillion Cliffs, and a stop at the Kaibab National Forest Visitor Center in Jacob Lake, AZ, was a



very lucky stop. There the lady working told us exactly where to find our primary target for the visit to the North Rim, the **Kaibab Squirrel**. Even though it was raining by then, we found three of them, and managed some photos. Pressure off, we drove on to the Lodge on the North Rim where we stayed the night. The next

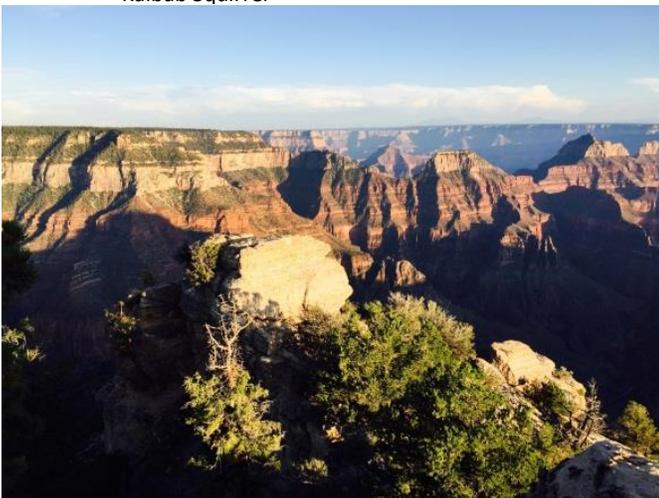


Kaibab Squirrel

morning, we drove the main scenic road (to Roosevelt Point) before everyone else got up and found both a Common Poorwill and a Spotted Owl! Back on the road again, we stopped to look at



a couple of **Colorado Chipmunks** fighting in the middle of the highway, and made another stop at Jacob Lake again. This time we managed to finish getting wonderful photos of the beautiful **Kaibab Squirrel**.



On our way east, we briefly checked the entrance road to House Rock Valley Wildlife Area, and saw a few of the **American Bison** that have a safe home there, along with a **White-tailed Antelope Squirrel**.



After that we headed past the Vermillion Cliffs again and drove through Monument Valley and on to the Navajo Four Corners Monument, the only place in the United States where you can stand in four states at one time! In the late afternoon, we ended up at Cortez, Colorado, primarily because we wanted to visit Mesa Verde National Park. No new squirrels or chipmunks there, although we found a



Mountain Cottontail, a female **Mule Deer** with two fawns, and a couple of **feral horses**. However, the scenic drive past the Pueblo Indian rock-side cave cities was fascinating. We didn't start out this trip to focus on Indians, but they became a real part of our trip none-the-less. Highly recommend a visit to Mesa Verde National Park!



The next morning we drove west into Utah to Natural Bridges National Monument where Karen



fortunately very quickly spotted a couple of **Hopi Chipmunks**, the last of the three chipmunks we were missing. We did some "squeeking" and one of them cooperated very nicely. We managed some excellent photos of it. Exiting the park quickly after a cursory look at the three



Hopi Chipmunk

massive rock bridges, we headed west to Bryce Canyon. The drive took all day and we arrived late in the afternoon, and the scenery was truly awesome, especially as we passed through a small portion of the Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument. In fact, by the time we arrived in southwest Utah, we both had



"scenery overload!" It was worth taking the time to get off the freeways!





Utah Prairie-Dogs

Within five minutes of entering the National Park, we had "ticked off" our last of the four American prairie dogs, the **Utah Prairie Dog**. They were obvious along the main road just opposite the access road to the Bryce Canyon Lodge. An endangered species, there are now only about 7,000 of them left, down from 100,000 about 100 years ago. But, the 24 we saw in Bryce Canyon National Park didn't seem aware of their status, and went about

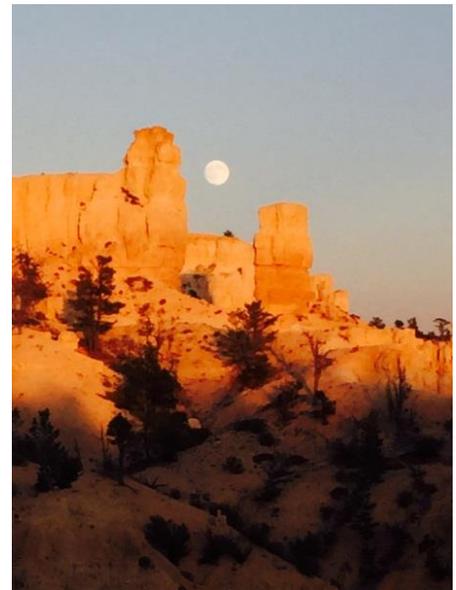


their business eating flowers and grass seeds and chasing each other around. We also did an after-dark drive of the park road, which is about 20 miles long looking for nocturnal mammals. Both **Mule Deer** and **Pronghorn** were easily seen, and at the very end of the road, Karen spotted a Western Harvest Mouse feeding on something underneath the only car in the parking lot!

Our last day was spent playing tourist (not really - we were more focused on photographing chipmunks - both Least and Uinta Chipmunks are common in Bryce Canyon NP and relatively



cooperative because they are habituated to constant tourist traffic on the trails.) However, we did stop at almost every overlook in the park as we slowly drove out - spectacular place! Finally, we did the four hour drive to Salt Lake City to fly back to DFW and then on home to Dayton, Ohio.



So, we drove over 2,900 miles in nine

days, and saw 35 species of mammals, of which 14 were "lifers." Eighteen of those mammals were in the squirrel family - squirrels, chipmunks, and prairie dogs. We have now seen all 22 chipmunks that live in the USA, as well as the Siberian Chipmunk in Asia. There are only two more chipmunks in the world we haven't seen, both in the mountains of Mexico. Maybe someday? And, we managed to find everything on our "shopping list" plus more except for the one bad weather night where we "dipped" on the ferret and the badger. The monsoon rains had started and we had dark clouds, thunderstorms, and light rain for the first six days, which really helped keep the desert cool, as well as provided the opportunity for some dramatic photography. Our trip had a very ambitious itinerary (probably actually crazy!), and the Bryce Canyon "extension" was added later once we realized that we could see the Utah Prairie Dog simply by driving to Bryce Canyon. We haven't mentioned birds above much, but we did spend a lot of time looking at birds as well (even though none were "new" for us.) We also ended up with a very long list of western birds (117 species – see list at the end of this report) - all found incidentally while looking for mammals. All in all, a wonderful adventure! (Date report revised: 9/26/2018)



LOCATIONS, WEATHER, AND COVERAGE DETAILS

Fri Aug 21, 2015 (1500 – 1830) – Valley of Fires SP, Lincoln County, NM:

T 96F → 83F; partly cloudy becoming cloudy with thunderstorms nearby; wind W 10 – 20 mph
Nature Trail (3/4 mile X 2) and campground road X 3

Sat Aug 22, 2015 (0700 – 1200) – Sunspot and Apache Point Observatories, Lincoln National Forest, Otero County, NM:

T 54F → 67F; partly cloudy; calm with wind to 10 mph N
Lincoln National Forest, Sacramento Mountains:

1. Cathey Canyon Vista
2. National Solar Observatory, Sunspot
3. University of New Mexico Observatory – Apache Point Observatory
4. Brief stop in Cloudcroft (hummingbird feeders)

Sat Aug 22, 2015 (1730 – 2100) – White Sands National Monument, Otero County, NM:

T 95F → 80F; mostly cloudy; wind W 10 – 15 mph
Drove Dunes Drive twice (20 mi) and walked Interdune Boardwalk at sunset

Sun Aug 23, 2015 (0630 – 0815) – Oliver Lee Memorial State Park, Otero County, NM:

T 67 → 75F; partly to mostly cloudy; calm
Nature Trail and Campground area

Sun Aug 23, 2015 (1000 – 1030) – New Mexico State Univ. Stadium Wash, Dona Ana County, NM:

T 79F; mostly sunny; calm
New Mexico State University wash – the wash behind Arrowhead Medical Academy, University Park (SW corner of Wells St. and Arrowhead Dr.)

Sun Aug 23, 2015 (1730 – 2100) – City of Rocks State Park, Grant County, NM:

T 89F → 67F; cloudy with scattered thunderstorms; wind 20 – 30 mph NW / N
61, entrance road, and State Park loop road x 2

Mon Aug 24, 2015 (0700 – 1330) – Gila Cliff Dwellings, Catron County, NW:

T 54F → 75F; cloudy; calm
Road (15) to/from Silver City; 1 mi to Cliff Dwelling; roads in park

Mon Aug 24, 2015 (1330 – 1830) – Silver City, NM, to Show Low, AZ (drive):

T 75F; partly to mostly cloudy
US 180, US 191, AZ 260, then headed north to US 60 from Los Burros Campground through Sitgreaves National Forest

Tue Aug 25, 2015 (0745 – 0900) – Pintail Lake and Show Low area, Navajo County, AZ:

Mostly cloudy (high clouds)
1. Jct 77 in Show Low (near the airport)
2. Pintail Lake (N on 77 about 5 mi)

Tue Aug 25, 2015 (1100 – 1145) – Urban Trail, Foxglenn Park, Flagstaff, Coconino County, AZ:

Mostly cloudy with recent thunderstorms moving through the area headed north
Beginning of Urban Trail south of Foxglenn Park in Flagstaff (4200 E Butler)

Tue Aug 25, 2015 (1300 – 1350) – Nature Trail, Little America Hotel, Flagstaff, Coconino Co, AZ:

T 71F; cloudy with showers that just ended heading north
0.25 miles on Nature Trail behind the Little America Hotel, Flagstaff

Tue Aug 25, 2015 (1530 -1700) – Aubrey Valley, Coconino County, AZ:

T 67F; cloudy

US 66, Aubrey Valley and immediate area near Seligman (scouting for a visit at night to look for Black-footed Ferrets)

Wed Aug 26, 2015 (0000 – 0630) – Aubrey Valley, Coconino County, AZ:

T 63F; cloudy with light to moderate rain until 0130, then partly cloudy and cool

MP 121 – 133 (X 3) on US 66 (drove back and forth very slowly all night!)

Wed Aug 26, 2015 (1000 – 1700) – Seligman, AZ to North Rim of the Grand Canyon, Coconino County, AZ (drive):

Partly cloudy becoming mostly cloudy with scattered rain showers

Via I40 east to Flagstaff, then US 89 north, then US 89 Alt, then W to 67, then south to the National Park

Thu Aug 27, 2015 (0500 – 0630) – Roosevelt Point drive, Grand Canyon National Park, Coconino County, AZ:

T 52F → 55F; clear; calm with wind 5 – 10 mph along edge of canyon

Drove to Roosevelt Point and back (from North Rim Lodge) via Cape Royal Rd.

Thu Aug 27, 2015 (0730 – 1700) – Drove from the Grand Canyon National Park (North Rim) to Cortez, CO with stops at Jacob Lake Campground area (0820 – 0930) and House Rock Valley Wildlife Area in Coconino County, AZ:

T upper 50s; clear; calm

US 89 Alt, US 89, 98, US 160 (about 400 miles)

Thu Aug 27, 2015 (1900 – 2100) – Mesa Verde National Park, Montezuma County, CO:

T 70 → 75F; clear; calm

Cortez to Mesa Verde National Park (Mesa Top Trail and back)

Fri Aug 28, 2015 (0630 – 0815) – Cortez, CO to Natural Bridges National Monument. UT:

T 65F → 75F; clear; calm

Via US 491, US 191, and NM 95

Fri Aug 28, 2015 (0930 – 1100) – Natural Bridges National Monument, San Juan County, UT:

T 75F → 80F; clear; calm

Visitor Center area and loop drive

From Natural Bridges drove on across southern Utah to Bryce Canyon – passed through the Grand Staircase – Escalante National Monument

Fri Aug 28, 2015 (1800 – 2200) – Bryce Canyon National Park, Garfield County, UT:

T 75F → 60F; clear; calm

Drove the entire National Park road (about 20 miles one way)

Sat Aug 29, 2015 (0700 – 1300) – Bryce Canyon National Park, Garfield County, UT:

T 52F → 75F; clear; calm

Drove the main park road to the end (approximately 20 miles one way)

ACCOMMODATIONS

Fri & Sat Aug 21 & 22, 2015 (2 nights) – Hampton Inn, Alamogordo, NM
1295 Hamilton Road, Alamogordo; (575) 439-1782

Sun Aug 23, 2015 (1 night) – Holiday Inn Express Silver City, Silver City, NM
1103 Superior Street, Silver City; (575) 538-2525

Mon Aug 24, 2015 (1 night) – Hampton Inn & Suites, Show Low/Pinetop, AZ
1501 East Woolford Road, Show Low; (928) 532-4444

Tue Aug 25, 2015 (1 night) – Canyon Lodge, Seligman, AZ
22340 West Old Highway 66, Seligman; (928) 422-3255

Wed Aug 26, 2015 (1 night) – Grand Canyon Lodge North Rim, AZ
End of Highway 67, North Rim, AZ; (928) 638-2611

Thu Aug 27, 2015 (1 night) – Holiday Inn Express Mesa-Verde-Cortez, Cortez, CO
2121 East Main Street, Cortez; (937) 565-6000

Fri Aug 28, 2015 (1 night) – The Lodge at Bryce Canyon, UT
Bryce Canyon National Park; (435) 834-8700

Sat Aug 29, 2015 (1 night) – Hilton Garden Inn Salt Lake City Airport, Salt Lake City, UT
4975 Wiley Post Way, Salt Lake City; (801) 519-9000

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

A trip like this designed to seek out specific mammals requires a lot of research, but in addition, we also received a lot of help by scouring the internet which has a lot of very specific directions and hints for someone willing to put in the time to find them. Of course, the information on Jon Hall's outstanding website, <http://www.mammalwatching.com/> for New Mexico and Arizona (and other parts of the Southwest) was invaluable, and gave us confidence that we could actually find some of the mammals we were seeking. Trip reports and postings by Paul Carter, Morgan Churchill, Jon Fox, Jon Hall, Steve Morgan, Mike Richardson, Don Roberson, Richard Webb, and others, were read very carefully as we plotted out our itinerary. In addition, we'd like to acknowledge the help we received from Jennifer Cordova, Arizona Game and Fish Department, regarding specific directions to look for Black-footed Ferrets (JCordova@azgfd.gov). For more information see:

<http://azgfd.net/artman/publish/NewsMedia/Volunteers-can-help-to-spotlight-endangered-black-footed-ferrets.shtml>

<https://www.azgfd.com/wildlife/speciesofgreatestconservneed/blackfootedferret/>

There are also excellent papers about both the chipmunks and mammals of the area available on the internet:

Best TL, Bartig JL, Burt SL. *Tamias canipes* – Gray-footed Chipmunk. *Mammalian Species*. 1992 Dec 10; 411:1-5.

Hilton CD, Best TL. *Tamias cinereicollis* – Gray-collared Chipmunk. *Mammalian Species*. 1993 Apr 23; 436:1-5.

Burt SL, Best TL. *Tamias rufus* – Hopi Chipmunk. *Mammalian Species*. 1994 Jun 2; 460:1-6.

Geluso K. Distributional Records for Seven Species of Mammals in Southern New Mexico. *Museum of Texas Tech University*. 2009 Apr 15; No. 287:1-7.

Other Useful Websites:

<http://www.iucnredlist.org/> - IUCN Red List Website

<https://www.blm.gov/visit/valley-of-fires> - Valley of Fires Recreation Area, NM

<https://www.nso.edu/telescopes/legacy-telescopes-2/> – National Solar Observatory, Sacramento Mountains, NM

<http://www.emnrd.state.nm.us/spd/oliverleestatepark.html> - Oliver Lee Memorial State Park, NM

<https://www.nps.gov/whsa/index.htm> - White Sands National Monument, NM

<http://www.emnrd.state.nm.us/spd/cityofrocksstatepark.html> - City of Rocks State Park, NM

<https://www.nps.gov/gicl/index.htm> - Gila Cliff Dwellings National Monument, NM

<https://www.fs.usda.gov/recarea/asnf/recarea/?recid=44711> – Los Burros Campground, AZ

<http://azwildlifetrails.com/northeastern-arizona-wildlife-trails/pintail-lake-allen-severson-wildlife-area/> - Pintail Lake, AZ

<https://www.nps.gov/grca/planyourvisit/north-rim.htm> - North Rim, Grand Canyon National Park, AZ

<https://www.nps.gov/meve/index.htm> - Mesa Verde National Park, CO

<https://www.nps.gov/nabr/index.htm> - Natural Bridges National Monument, UT

<https://www.nps.gov/brca/index.htm> - Bryce Canyon National Park, UT

LIST OF MAMMALS SEEN (Listed in trip order / first location)

Total of 35 species seen including 18 “squirrels” and 14 lifers (in bold)! Number is total seen during trip.

1. Rock Squirrel (*Otospermophilus variegatus*) – Valley of Fire National Monument, NM, USA - 35
2. **Texas Antelope Squirrel** (*Ammospermophilus interpres*) – Valley of Fire National Monument, NM, USA - 3
3. Black-tailed Jackrabbit (*Lepus californicus*) – Valley of Fire National Monument, NM, USA - 7
4. Desert Cottontail (*Sylvilagus audubonii*) – North of Alamogordo, NM, USA - 12
5. **Fremont’s Red Squirrel** (*Tamiasciurus fremonti*) – Sunspot area, Lincoln National Forest, Sacramento Mountains, NM, USA - 1 – For a discussion of Red Squirrels, see:
http://www.aschavez.com/wp-content/uploads/2013/03/Hope-et-al-2016-MPE-Tamiasciurus_revision.pdf
6. **Gray-footed Chipmunk** (*Tamias canipes*) – Sunspot area, Lincoln National Forest, Sacramento Mountains, NM, USA - 11
7. Coyote (*Canis latrans*) – Sunspot area, Lincoln National Forest, Sacramento Mountains, NM, USA - 4
8. Mule Deer (*Odocoileus hemionus*) – Sunspot area, Lincoln National Forest, Sacramento Mountains, NM, USA - 33
9. White-tailed Deer (*Odocoileus virginianus*) – Sunspot area, Lincoln National Forest, Sacramento Mountains, NM, USA - 3
10. **Apache Pocket Mouse** (*Perognathus flavescens apache*) – White Sands Nat. Monument, NM, USA - 2
11. **Merriam’s Kangaroo Rat** (*Dipodomys merriami*) – White Sands National Monument, NM, USA - 7
12. Western Pipistrelle (*Pipistrellus hesperus*) – Oliver Lee Memorial State Park, NM, USA - 1
13. **Spotted Ground Squirrel** (*Xerospermophilus spilosoma*) – Las Cruces, NM, USA - 1
14. **Banner-tailed Kangaroo Rat** (*Dipodomys spectabilis*) – City of Rocks State Park, NM, USA - 4
15. **Plains Harvest Mouse** (*Reithrodontomys montanus*) – City of Rocks State Park, NM, USA - 1
16. Collared Peccary (*Pecari tajacu*) – Gila Cliff Dwellings National Monument, NM, USA - 5
17. Arizona Gray Squirrel (*Sciurus arizonensis*) – Gila Cliff Dwellings National Monument, NM, USA - 2
18. Abert’s Squirrel (*Sciurus aberti*) – Gila Cliff Dwellings National Monument, NM, USA - 10
19. **Gray-collared Chipmunk** (*Tamias cinereicollis*) – Los Burros Campground, Sitgreaves National Forest, AZ, USA - 6
20. Pronghorn (*Antilocapra americana*) – East of Show Low, AZ, USA - 33
21. **Gunnison’s Prairie-Dog** (*Cynomys gunnisoni*) – Show Low, AZ, USA - 13
22. **Northern Grasshopper Mouse** (*Onychomys leucogaster*) – Aubrey Valley, Seligman, AZ, USA - 2
23. **Kaibab Squirrel** (*Sciurus aberti kaibabensis*) – Jacob Lake Ranger Station, Kaibab Nat. Forest, AZ, USA - 6
24. Golden-mantled Ground Squirrel (*Callospermophilus lateralis*) – Jacob Lake Ranger Station, Kaibab National Forest, AZ, USA - 11
25. American Red Squirrel (*Tamiasciurus hudsonicus*) – North Rim, Grand Canyon National Park, AZ, USA - 7
26. Colorado Chipmunk (*Tamias quadrivittatus*) – North Rim, Grand Canyon National Park, AZ, USA - 3
27. White-tailed Antelope Squirrel (*Ammospermophilus leucurus*) – House Rock Valley W.A., AZ, USA - 1
28. American Bison (*Bison bison*) – House Rock Valley Wildlife Area, AZ, USA - 7
29. Feral Horse (*Equus ferus caballus*) – Mesa Verde National Park, Cortez, CO, USA - 2
30. Mountain Cottontail (*Sylvilagus nuttalli*) – Mesa Verde National Park, Cortez, AZ, USA - 2
31. **Hopi Chipmunk** (*Tamias rufus*) – Natural Bridges National Monument, UT, USA - 2
32. **Utah Prairie-Dog** (*Cynomys ludovicianus*) – Bryce Canyon National Park, UT, USA - 34
33. Least Chipmunk (*Tamias minimus*) – Bryce Canyon National Park, UT, USA - 5
34. Western Harvest Mouse (*Reithrodontomys megalotis*) – Bryce Canyon National Park, UT, USA - 1
35. Unita Chipmunk (*Tamias umbrinus*) – Bryce Canyon National Park, UT, USA - 4

LIST OF BIRDS SEEN

The following list is the birds we observed on this trip. Because the trip was designed primarily to find mammals, we didn't do a lot of birding, and ignored a number of habitats we would have visited had this been a birding trip. However, being birders, we recorded everything we noticed, and saw 117 species, all identified incidentally! Taxonomy and species order per the National Geographic Field Guide to the Birds of North America, 6th Edition by Jon L. Dunn and Jonathan Alderfer. Number is total see during the trip.

1. Canada Goose (*Branta canadensis*) - 5
2. Mallard (*Anas platyrhynchos*) - 56
3. Cinnamon Teal (*Anas cyanoptera*) - 2
4. Ruddy Duck (*Oxyura jamaicensis*) - 10
5. Gambel's Quail (*Callipepla gambelii*) - 8
6. Scaled Quail (*Callipepla squamata*) - 7
7. Wild Turkey (*Meleagris gallopavo*) - 12
8. Pied-billed Grebe (*Podilymbus podiceps*) - 20
9. Double-crested Cormorant (*Phalacrocorax auritus*) - 10
10. Great Blue Heron (*Ardea herodias*) - 1
11. Turkey Vulture (*Cathartes aura*) - 131
12. Golden Eagle (*Aquila chrysaetos*) - 2
13. Bald Eagle (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*) - 1
14. Northern Harrier (*Circus cyaneus*) - 1
15. Northern Goshawk (*Accipiter gentilis*) - 1
16. Harris's Hawk (*Parabuteo unicinctus*) - 1
17. Zone-tailed Hawk (*Buteo albonotatus*) - 2
18. Swainson's Hawk (*Buteo swainsoni*) - 1
19. Red-tailed Hawk (*Buteo jamaicensis*) - 12
20. American Kestrel (*Falco sparverius*) - 9
21. American Coot (*Fulica americana*) - 300
22. California Gull (*Larus californicus*) - 1
23. Rock Pigeon (*Columba livia*) - 85
24. Eurasian Collared-Dove (*Streptopelia decaocto*) - 6
25. Mourning Dove (*Zenaidura macroura*) - 76
26. White-winged Dove (*Zenaidura asiatica*) - 95
27. Greater Roadrunner (*Geococcyx californianus*) - 2
28. Barn Owl (*Tyto alba*) - 2
29. Great Horned Owl (*Bubo virginianus*) - 2
30. Spotted Owl (*Strix occidentalis*) - 1
31. Burrowing Owl (*Athene cucularia*) - 3
32. Lesser Nighthawk (*Chordeiles acutipennis*) - 1
33. Common Nighthawk (*Chordeiles minor*) - 1
34. Common Poorwill (*Nyctidromus albigollis*) - 1
35. Vaux's Swift (*Chaetura vauxi*) - 2
36. White-throated Swift (*Aeronautes saxatalis*) - 15
37. Black-chinned Hummingbird (*Archilochus alexandri*) - 10
38. Broad-tailed Hummingbird (*Selasphorus platycercus*) - 43
39. Rufous Hummingbird (*Selasphorus rufus*) - 3
40. Acorn Woodpecker (*Melanerpes formicivorus*) - 5
41. Ladder-backed Woodpecker (*Picoides scalaris*) - 2
42. Downy Woodpecker (*Picoides pubescens*) - 1
43. Hairy Woodpecker (*Picoides villosus*) - 1
44. Northern (Red-shafted) Flicker (*Colaptes auratus*) - 22
45. Western Wood Pewee (*Contopus sordidulus*) - 2
46. Gray Flycatcher (*Empidonax wrightii*) - 1
47. Dusky Flycatcher (*Empidonax oberholseri*) - 1
48. Cordilleran Flycatcher (*Empidonax occidentalis*) - 1
49. Say's Phoebe (*Sayornis saya*) - 10
50. Cassin's Kingbird (*Tyrannus vociferans*) - 9
51. Western Kingbird (*Tyrannus verticalis*) - 3
52. Loggerhead Shrike (*Lanius ludovicianus*) - 3
53. Plumbeous Vireo (*Vireo plumbeus*) - 1
54. Warbling Vireo (*Vireo gilvus*) - 1
55. Clark's Nutcracker (*Nucifraga columbiana*) - 7
56. Pinyon Jay (*Gymnorhinus cyanocephalus*) - 25
57. Steller's Jay (*Cyanocitta stelleri*) - 28
58. Woodhouse's Scrub Jay (*Aphelocoma woodhouseii*) - 47
59. Black-billed Magpie (*Pica hudsonia*) - 3
60. American Crow (*Corvus brachyrhynchos*) - 30
61. Chihuahuan Raven (*Corvus cryptoleucus*) - 5
62. Common Raven (*Corvus corax*) - 149
63. Violet-green Swallow (*Tachycineta thalassina*) - 4
64. Barn Swallow (*Hirundo rustica*) - 95
65. Cliff Swallow (*Petrochelidon pyrrhonota*) - 33
66. Mountain Chickadee (*Poecile gambeli*) - 25
67. Verdin (*Auriparus flaviceps*) - 1
68. Bushtit (*Psaltriparus minimus*) - 20
69. Red-breasted Nuthatch (*Sitta canadensis*) - 1
70. White-breasted Nuthatch (*Sitta carolinensis*) - 4
71. Pygmy Nuthatch (*Sitta pygmaea*) - 44
72. Brown Creeper (*Certhia americana*) - 2
73. Rock Wren (*Salpinctes obsoletus*) - 11
74. Canyon Wren (*Catherpes mexicanus*) - 18
75. Cactus Wren (*Campylorhynchus brunneicapillus*) - 6
76. House Wren (*Troglodytes aedon*) - 13
77. Blue-gray Gnatcatcher (*Polioptila caerulea*) - 5
78. Western Bluebird (*Sialia mexicana*) - 190
79. Hermit Thrush (*Catharus guttatus*) - 12
80. American Robin (*Turdus migratorius*) - 33
81. Northern Mockingbird (*Mimus polyglottos*) - 10
82. Curve-billed Thrasher (*Toxostoma curvirostre*) - 1
83. European Starling (*Sturnus vulgaris*) - 12
84. Orange-crowned Warbler (*Oreothlypis celata*) - 13
85. Nashville Warbler (*Oreothlypis ruficapilla*) - 1
86. Yellow Warbler (*Setophaga petechial*) - 1
87. Yellow-rumped Warbler (*Setophaga coronate*) - 105
88. Hermit Warbler (*Setophaga occidentalis*) - 2
89. Townsend's Warbler (*Setophaga townsendi*) - 5
90. Northern Waterthrush (*Parkesia noveboracensis*) - 2
91. Wilson's Warbler (*Cardellina pusilla*) - 5
92. Common Yellowthroat (*Geothlypis trichas*) - 1
93. Yellow-breasted Chat (*Icteria virens*) - 1
94. Spotted Towhee (*Pipilo maculatus*) - 2
95. Canyon Towhee (*Pipilo crissalis*) - 7
96. Green-tailed Towhee (*Pipilo chlorurus*) - 1
97. Rufous-crowned Sparrow (*Aimophila ruficeps*) - 2
98. Chipping Sparrow (*Spizella passerine*) - 81
99. Black-throated Sparrow (*Amphispiza bilineata*) - 5
100. Sagebrush Sparrow (*Amphispiza nevadensis*) - 2
101. Lark Sparrow (*Chondestes grammacus*) - 10
102. Dark-eyed Junco (*Junco hyemalis*) - 123
103. Western Tanager (*Piranga ludoviciana*) - 2
104. Pyrrhuloxia (*Cardinalis sinuatus*) - 2
105. Black-headed Grosbeak (*Pheucticus melanocephalus*) - 2
106. Blue Grosbeak (*Passerina carulea*) - 6
107. Yellow-headed Blackbird (*Xanthocephalus xanthocephalus*) - 20
108. Brewer's Blackbird (*Euphagus cyanocephalus*) - 90
109. Great-tailed Grackle (*Quiscalus mexicanus*) - 20
110. Brown-headed Cowbird (*Molothrus ater*) - 2
111. Scott's Oriole (*Icterus parisorum*) - 2
112. Cassin's Finch (*Carpodacus cassinii*) - 10
113. House Finch (*Carpodacus mexicanus*) - 60
114. Lesser Goldfinch (*Spinus psaltria*) - 10
115. Pine Siskin (*Spinus pinus*) - 10
116. Evening Grosbeak (*Coccothraustes vespertinus*) - 4
117. House Sparrow (*Passer domesticus*) - 45