

Natural History Information For Mammals

Mammal, Species, Population	Migration Trends	Food	Reproductive Age, Mating Season/ Gestation Period, Offspring Stats	Weight, Size, Longevity	Male, Female, Young, Group, Other Facts
MOOSE <i>Alces alces gigas</i> ~ 2000 – 2200 1279 in 2008 (in north side survey area)	"Local" to river bottoms and willow patches. May cover 20 - 40 miles.	HERBIVORE Spring: Sedges, grasses, <i>Equisetum</i> , pond plants. Summer: Willow, aspen, and birch leaves. Also pond plants. Winter: Twigs, bark, saplings.	2 - 3 years Sept. - Oct./240 days (8 mo.) 1 - 3 calves born May-June, 28 - 35 lbs.	Male: 1000 - 1600 lbs. Female: 800 - 1200 lbs. Max.: 7.5 feet at shoulders Lives 17 - 20 years	Bull, Cow, Calf Largest member of deer family in N. America. Called "Elk" in Europe. Usually have only one calf. Calf weighs over 300 lbs. at 5 months. Max antlers 80 inches. Velvet shed Aug.-Sept. Antlers shed Nov.-Dec. Wolf is primary predator of adult moose. Alaska population is 130,000-160,000.
CARIBOU <i>Rangifer tarandus</i> ~2000 2100 in fall 2008 2080 in fall 2007 2150 in fall 2006	Summer: Along road & SE. Winter: N and NW Calving: SW above timberline.	HERBIVORE Summer: Willow, dwarf birch, grasses, sedges, succulents. Winter: Lichens, moss, dried sedges.	3 years October/240 days (8 mo.) 1 calf born May - June, 10 - 15 lbs.	Male: 350 - 400 lbs. Female: 175 - 225 lbs. 3.5 - 4 feet at shoulders Lives at least 11 - 12 years	Bull, Cow, Calf, Herd Caribou and domestic reindeer are same species. Only member of deer family in which both male and female have antlers. Record antlers: 44 inches. Velvet shed Aug.-Sept., antlers shed in Dec. (pregnant females shed antlers Apr.-June). Newborn calf can walk after 1 hour, run after 2 days.
DALL SHEEP <i>Ovis dalli dalli</i> ~2500 parkwide; in survey area: 1526 (2008), 1563 (1996)	"Local" to high tundra near rock outcrops. Migrate between Alaska Range and Outer Range.	HERBIVORE Summer: Avens, flowers, grasses, willows, sedges. Winter: Mosses, lichens.	3 years Nov.-Dec./180 days (6 mo.) 1 lamb born May - June, 2 lambs rare.	125 - 200 lbs. 3 - 3.5 feet at shoulder Lives 11 - 14 years	Ram, Ewe, Lamb, Band Nursery gatherings in May-June. Horns are never shed but continue to grow. Rings on horns give approximate age. Full curl at 7-11 years. Record spread of horns 35 inches. Male and female remain in separate bands except during rut. Wolf is main predator.
GRIZZLY BEAR <i>Ursus arctos</i> 300 - 350 (north side); density is 27 (north) or 28 (south) bears per 1000 km ²	"Local"	OMNIVORE 80-85%: Roots, grasses, berries 15-20%: Ground squirrel, moose calf, caribou calf, rodents, carrion.	6 - 10 years May-July/180 days (6 mo.) Twins common, born Jan. - Feb, less than 1 lbs.	Male: 300 - 500 lbs. Max: 650 lbs. Female: 200 - 400 lbs. 6 - 7 feet standing 3.5 feet at shoulders Lives at least 16 - 20 years	Boar, Sow, Cub Significant predator of caribou and moose calves. Brown and grizzly same species; coastal browns weigh 500-1400 lbs. and are 9 ft. tall b/c of fish diet. Enter dens in Oct., emerge in April-May. Sow mates every 3 years. Temperature drops only 5-10°F during dormancy. Waste products recycled by kidneys during dormancy.
GRAY WOLF <i>Canis lupus</i> 65 wolves (based on density of 3.9 per 1000 km ²)	"Local"	CARNIVORE Rodents, hare, beaver, birds, moose, caribou, sheep, carrion.	2 years Feb.-March/63 days 2 - 10 pups (avg. 5) born May	Male: 85 - 115 lbs. Female: 75 - 105 lbs. 2.5 feet at shoulders Lives 9 - 12 years	Dog, Bitch, Pup, Pack Individual color varies from black to white, gray most common. 25-150 sq. mile territory per wolf, 200-600 sq. mile per pack. Average pack size is 8 wolves. *2003 - 22 wolves in 12 packs radio collared. Study goal is 2 animals per pack.
RED FOX <i>Vulpes fulva</i> no census	"Local"	OMNIVORE Mice, voles, lemmings, squirrels, hares, birds, eggs, insects, berries, vegetation.	1-2 years Feb.-March/53 days 4 - 10 kits (avg. 4) born Apr-May, 4 oz.	6 - 15 lbs. 22 - 25" long (head/body) 14 - 16" tail Lives 3 - 5 years	Dog, Vixen, Kit or Pup, Family Silver fox, cross fox, and other color variations are all red fox. Several color phases can occur in a single litter. Dens extend 15-20 feet. Both parents and other related adults care for young.
LYNX <i>Lynx canadensis</i> no census	"Local," usually below tree line.	CARNIVORE Hare, squirrel, ptarmigan, rodents, carrion.	1 year Jan.-Feb/62 days 1 - 4 kittens (avg. 2) born Mar. - May	11 - 35 lbs. 3 feet long (head/body) 4" tail Lives 3 - 4 years	Male, Female, Kitten Hare main food source. Population cycles every 9-10 years, 1-2 years after hare population. Nocturnal. During hare scarcity will prey on sheep and other lynx. Kittens cry similar to gyrfalcon.
HOARY MARMOT <i>Marmota caligata</i> no census	"Local" burrow in rock outcrops.	HERBIVORE Grasses, flowering plants, berries, roots, mosses, lichens.	2 years Mar. - May/40 days 2 - 6 young born May - June	8 - 20 lbs., max 30 lbs. 20 - 24", max 31 in. Lives 5 years	Warning whistle can be heard 2 miles. Hibernates Sept.-Apr. Body temperature drops to 40°F. Arouses every 2 weeks to eat, defecate, urinate. Latin name "caligata" means "boots" referring to dark blackish brown feet.