

Reptiles

National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Joshua Tree National Park



Tortoise	Habitat	Status
Mojave Desert Tortoise <i>Gopherus agassizii agassizii</i>	Creosote bush lowlands in the Mojave Desert Rocky hillsides and bajadas in the Colorado Desert	threatened
Lizards		
Desert Banded Gecko <i>Coleonyx variegatus variegatus</i>	Most common in sandy flats; occasional in canyons and rocky areas	common
Northern Desert Iguana <i>Dipsosaurus dorsalis dorsalis</i>	Most common on sandy flats, dunes, and washes but also along rocky washes and on alluvial fans	common
Mojave Collared Lizard <i>Crotaphytus bicinctores</i>	Rocky slopes, rock outcrops of gullies, and boulder-strewn alluvial fans	common
Long-nosed Leopard Lizard <i>Gambelia wislizenii wislizenii</i>	Open sandy or gravelly flats and plains; less commonly in rocky areas	common
Western Chuckwalla <i>Sauromalus ater obesus</i>	Rocky outcrops, rocky canyons, rocky slopes, and alluvial fans	special concern
Mojave Zebra-tailed Lizard <i>Callisaurus draconoides rhodostictus</i>	Open areas of sandy and gravelly desert flats, sandy washes, and alluvial fans	common
San Diego Horned Lizard <i>Phrynosoma coronatum blainvillii</i>	Northwest section where loose, fine soil with high sand content is present	threatened
Southern Desert Horned Lizard <i>Phrynosoma platyrhinos calidiarum</i>	Sandy flats and canyon bottoms	common
Yellow-backed Spiny Lizard <i>Sceloporus magister uniformis</i>	Most abundant in the Joshua tree woodland Occasional on rock outcrops	common
Great Basin Fence Lizard <i>Sceloporus biseriatus longipes</i>	Rocky outcrops above 3,000 feet	common
Mojave Fringe-toed Lizard <i>Uma scoparia</i>	Wind-blown sand of dry lake beds, washes, and large dunes	special concern
Western Brush Lizard <i>Urosaurus graciosus graciosus</i>	Bushes and small trees; also in clumps of galleta grass, Pleuraphis rigida	common
Desert Side-blotched Lizard <i>Uta stansburiana stejnegeri</i>	Open, sunny ground Usually some rocks and loose soil are present	common
Desert Night Lizard <i>Xantusia vigilis vigilis</i>	Most common in Joshua tree woodland, especially within fallen branches of Joshua trees and yuccas	common
Great Basin Whiptail <i>Aspidoscelis tigris tigris</i>	Most common in areas where vegetation is densest	common
Western Red-tailed Skink <i>Eumeces gilberti rubricaudatus</i>	Prefers moderately damp areas; northwest section	common
San Diego Alligator Lizard <i>Elgaria multicarinata webbii</i>	Prefers moderately damp areas; northwest section	common

Lizards continued	Habitat	Status
Silvery Legless Lizard <i>Anniella pulchra pulchra</i>	Sandy or loose loamy soils with some moisture; northwest section	special concern
Snakes		
Southwestern Blind Snake <i>Leptotyphlops humilis humilis</i>	Moist areas in canyons, rocky slopes and boulder piles, and among the roots of shrubs; northern section	common
Desert Blind Snake <i>Leptotyphlops humilis cahuilae</i>	Sandy hills and rocky slopes where soil moisture is present; southern section	common
Desert Rosy Boa <i>Lichanura trivirgata gracia</i>	Rocky hills and canyons	special concern
Mojave Glossy Snake <i>Arizona occidentalis candida</i>	Prefers sandy areas, but also occurs on hard pan or in rocky areas; northern section	common
Desert Glossy Snake <i>Arizona occidentalis eburnata</i>	Sandy flats; southern section	common
Mojave Shovel-nosed Snake <i>Chionactis occipitalis occipitalis</i>	Sandy desert, creosote bush and dune areas Occasionally in rocky canyons and on rocky slopes	common
Desert Night Snake <i>Hypsiglena torquata deserticola</i>	Most common in rocky areas	common
California Kingsnake <i>Lampropeltis getula californiae</i>	Found in all communities; most common in canyons with water	common
Red Coachwhip <i>Masticophis flagellum piceus</i>	Prefers open areas with high visibility	common
California Striped Racer <i>Masticophis lateralis lateralis</i>	Most common in pinyon-juniper woodland; northwest section	common
Western Leaf-nosed Snake <i>Phyllorhynchus decurtatus perkinsi</i>	Areas of mixed sandy and rocky soil	common
Sonoran Gopher Snake <i>Pituophis catenifer affinis</i>	Creosote bush scrub; southern section	common
Great Basin Gopher Snake <i>Pituophis catenifer deserticola</i>	Creosote bush scrub, pinyon-juniper and Joshua tree woodlands, desert riparian community; northern section	common
Western Long-nosed Snake <i>Rhinocheilus lecontei lecontei</i>	Creosote bush and pinyon-juniper woodlands	common
Desert Patch-nosed Snake <i>Salvadora hexalepis hexalepis</i>	Creosote bush scrub, desert washes; southern section	rare
Mojave Patch-nosed Snake <i>Salvadora hexalepis mojavensis</i>	Most common on sandy valley floors; northern section	common
Smith's Black-headed Snake <i>Tantilla hobartsmithi</i>	Desert riparian, pinyon-juniper and Joshua tree woodland; creosote bush and alkali scrubs; perennial grassland	common
California Lyre Snake <i>Trimorphodon biscutatus vandenburghi</i>	Rocky foothills, canyons, and mesas	common
Western Diamondback Snake <i>Crotalus atrox</i>	Areas with fairly thick vegetation; southern section	common

Snakes continued	Habitat	Status
Mojave Desert Sidewinder <i>Crotalus cerastes cerastes</i>	Sandy deserts, occasionally in rocky areas	common
Colorado Desert Sidewinder <i>Crotalus cerastes laterorepens</i>	Sandy, south-facing canyons; southwestern section	common
Southwestern Speckled Rattlesnake <i>Crotalus mitchelli pyrrhus</i>	Rocky slopes, canyons, rock outcrops	common
Red Diamond Rattlesnake <i>Crotalus ruber ruber</i>	Brush shrouded granite boulders and cactus patches; western section	common
Mojave Rattlesnake <i>Crotalus scutulatus scutulatus</i>	Desert flats; northwestern edge only	common
Southern Pacific Rattlesnake <i>Crotalus helleri</i>	Pinyon-juniper woodland communities; northwestern section	common