

# Track Makers Copy Page



Snowshoe Hare ½ Life Size



Beaver ½ Life Size



Short-tail Weasel ½ Life Size



Mink ½ Life Size



Marten ½ Life Size

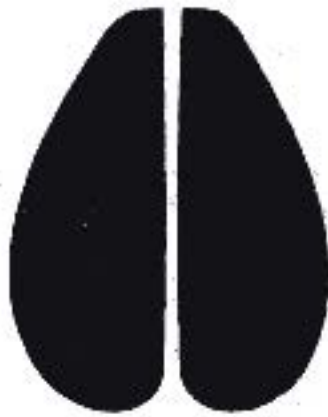
# Track Makers Copy Page



Mule Deer ½ Life Size



Spruce Grouse ½ Life Size



Elk ½ Life Size



Deer Mouse  
Life Size



Coyote ½ Life Size



Red Squirrel  
½ Life Size



Mt. Lion ½ Life Size

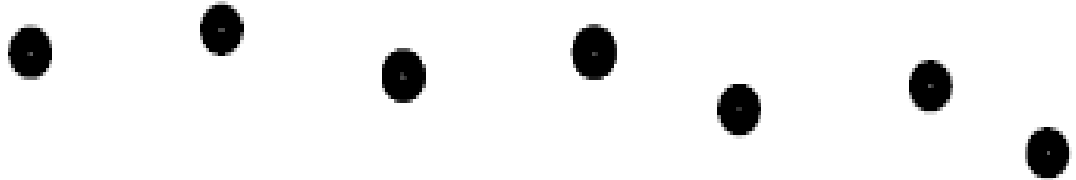


Moose ½ Life Size



Lynx ½ Life Size

Walking (felines, canines, ungulates)  
Move right hand and left foot at same time (and likewise their left hand and right foot). As hand moves forward, foot goes onto the spot where their hand just was.



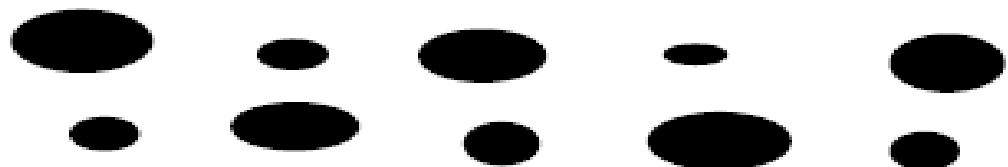
Galloping (rabbits, snowshoe hares, squirrels, chipmunks, mice, voles, shrews) - larger hind feet land in front of the smaller front feet.



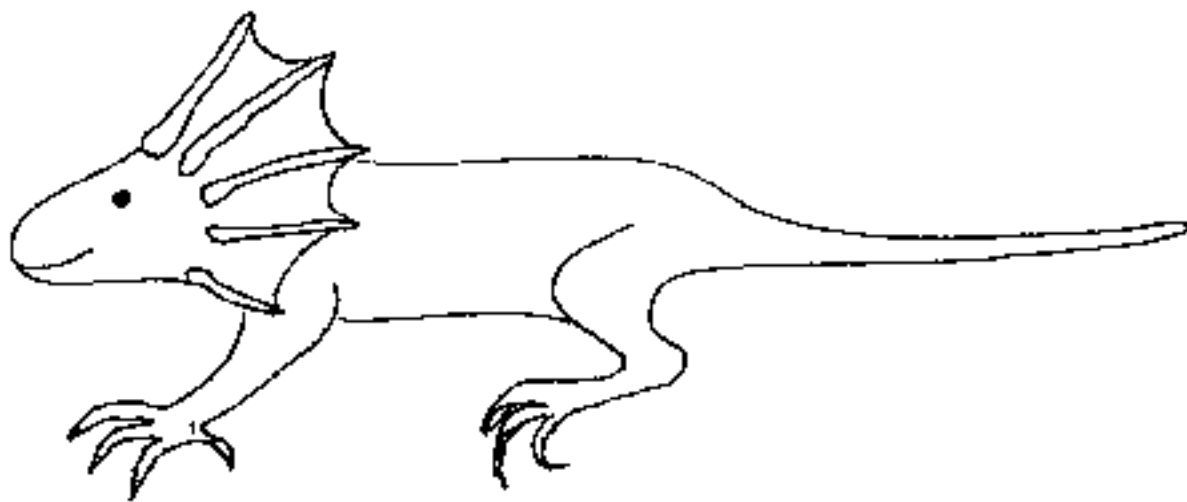
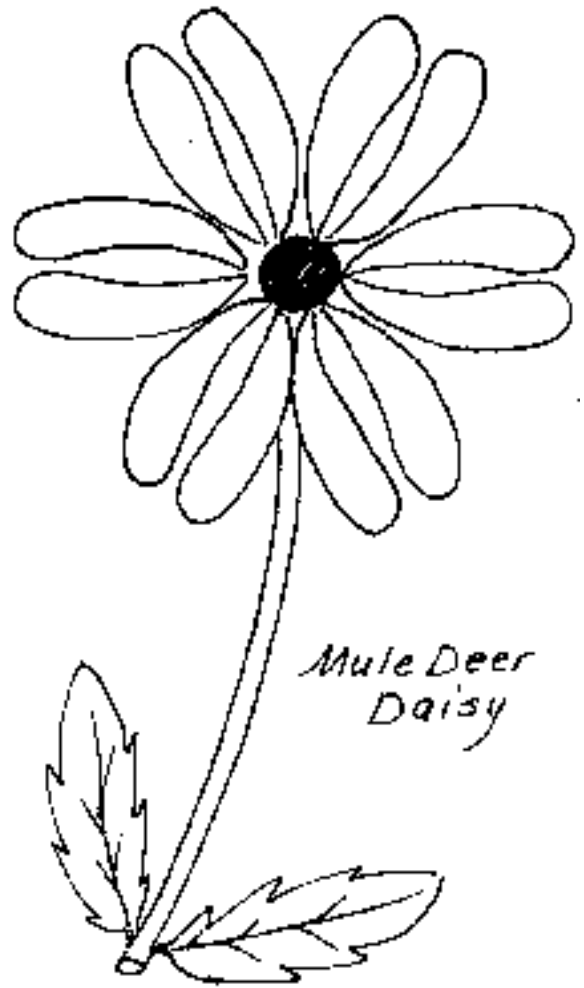
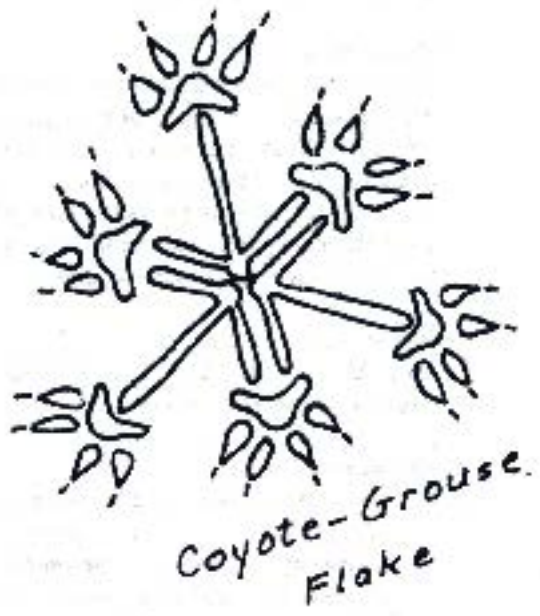
Bounding (weasel family- otter, mink, marten, fisher, weasels) Front feet hit first, and then the back feet land where the front feet were (direct registering).



Waddling (heavy-set mammals such as beaver, porcupine, muskrat, raccoon, skunk, bear)- weight shifts to the right as both the left hand and foot move forward at the same time. Then shifts to the left as the right hand and foot move in their turn.



## Track Art Examples



Beaversaurus

# Animal Cards

## Snowshoe Hare

These tracks are unmistakable: large snowshoe-like hind feet appear ahead of the front feet indicating the hare is moving. This forest edge dweller takes advantage of the snow in order to feed higher up on shrubs and trees where it goes after buds and tender twigs. Snowshoe hares often use the same trails to and from feeding areas creating "bunny runs." Look for tracks leading to hiding places beneath snow-bent shrubs or snow laden branches that touch the surface of the snow.

## Weasel

This animal is also known as an ermine when its coat is white (changes from brown to white for winter camouflage and warmth). They may be found in both forest and meadow habitats. Small rodents are their primary food and weasel tracks may suddenly disappear down a mouse hole and resurface a short distance away. Their movement is typically bounding. Since their legs are short a body drag may be visible in deep snow.

## Moose

Moose tracks are larger and more pointed than elk tracks. Because of their long legs they are able to move through deep snow. Moose tend to spend much of their time in the forest. During winter they feed heavily on shrubs. Often, large branches are broken when moose pull them down to feed on the tips. Look for droppings, rubs, and beds.

## Deer

Both the whitetail and mule deer can be found in the lower elevations of Glacier National Park during winter. It is not possible to tell the difference by looking at tracks. However, mule deer have more of a tendency to bound on all four feet. Other signs to look for are: rubs on trees, scat, and places where deer have bedded.

## Red Squirrel

You're more likely to hear their chattering call before seeing them in the forest. While they spend much of their time in the trees, tracks can be found on snow where a bounding track pattern may lead to a cache of pine and fir cones. Look for places where they have been feeding (called middens). Middens can be identified by the piles of cone scales left after the squirrel has removed and eaten the seeds.

## Elk

Elk will often winter along river bottoms and south facing slopes where grasses and forbs might be more accessible. As snow depth increases, elk will browse on twigs. Look for rubs on trees- they will be higher up on the tree and appear more ragged than deer rubs; trees or shrubs where they've been browsing; teeth marks on aspens; scat; beds; and places where trailing has taken place.

# Animal Cards

## Beaver

Watch for freshly cut trees, wood chips on the snow and beaver slides (places where branches have been dragged). Beavers cut trees for many reasons: food, building material and to keep their teeth from getting too long. There are several active beaver lodges in Glacier. When you find them, listen carefully. You may be able to hear the beavers inside. On very cold days it is possible to see what appears to be smoke rising from the top of an active lodge. This is actually condensation resulting from warm air escaping from the lodge. Muskrats may be seen near beaver lodges.

## Mink

This member of the weasel family is semi-aquatic. Fish, muskrats, birds, and mice are among its favorite foods. Look for its tracks close to the water's edge. Sometimes they will slide down a bank or dive into snow and emerge a short distance away.

## Lynx

Lynx have large feet that are densely covered by hair in winter. These natural snowshoes help them travel over snow to pursue their main food, the snowshoe hare. Lynx are rarely seen.

## Coyote

Coyotes feed on small mammals and carrion. Look for tracks indicating a coyote has been "mousing." If you locate the site of a winter killed animal, you will most likely find tracks of this scavenger as well as wing prints from ravens and magpies.

## Grouse

Both the ruffed and spruce grouse may be found in the lower elevations in winter. The spruce grouse spends much of its time feeding and roosting up in the trees. The ruffed grouse spends more time on the ground feeding on buds of shrubs. Tracks may lead to a "snow tunnel" - a place where the grouse scratched or dove into the snow and tunneled a short distance to spend the night in a "snow roost."

## Mice, Voles, Shrews

These small mammals spend much of the winter under the security of a blanket of snow which provides a relatively warm and windless environment. Tracks on the snow may indicate they have gone in search of food. As snow melts, you might find their grass nests.

## Pine Marten

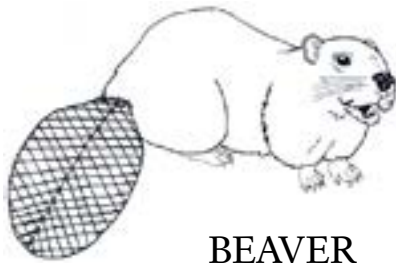
This member of the weasel family spends much of its time in trees. The pine marten feeds on red squirrels, insects, birds, and berries. Like other members of the weasel family, its tracks are distinctly "paired." If the tracks you are following suddenly disappear, it indicates the marten has jumped onto a tree.

## Mountain Lion

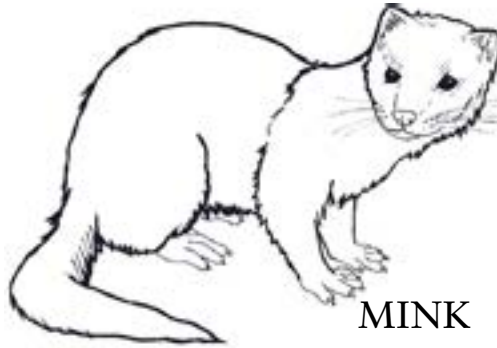
The chances of seeing these secretive animals are slim, but watch for their tracks. Their primary food is deer. If you find "cat" tracks, look for scrapes where scat or urine has been covered. Occasionally, tail drag marks may be seen.



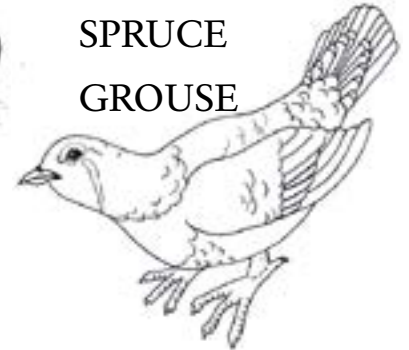
# Animal Cards Drawing Page



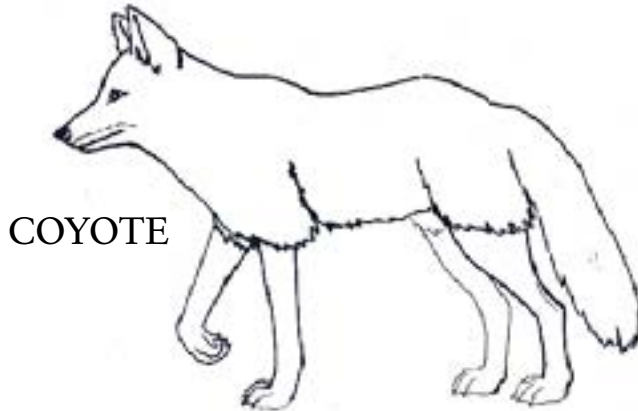
BEAVER



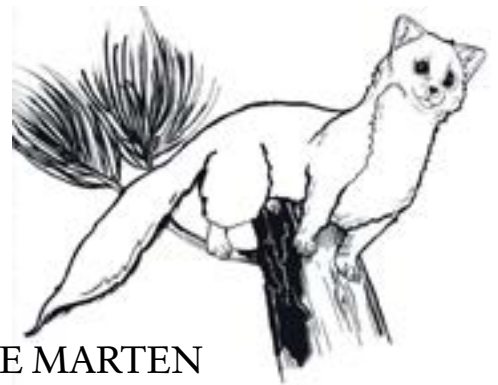
MINK



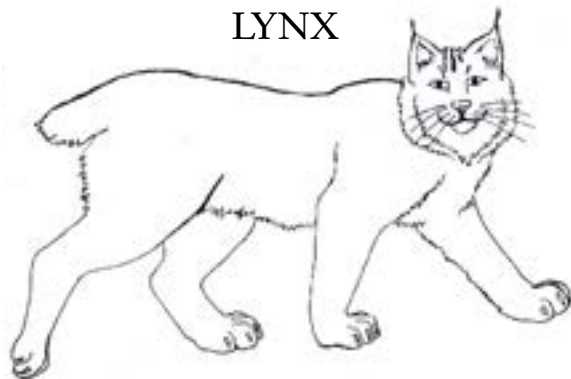
SPRUCE  
GROUSE



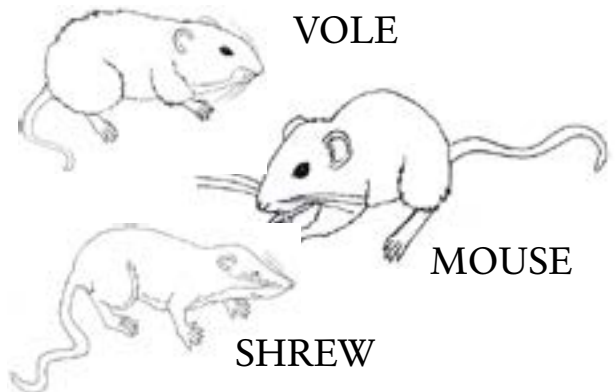
COYOTE



PINE MARTEN



LYNX

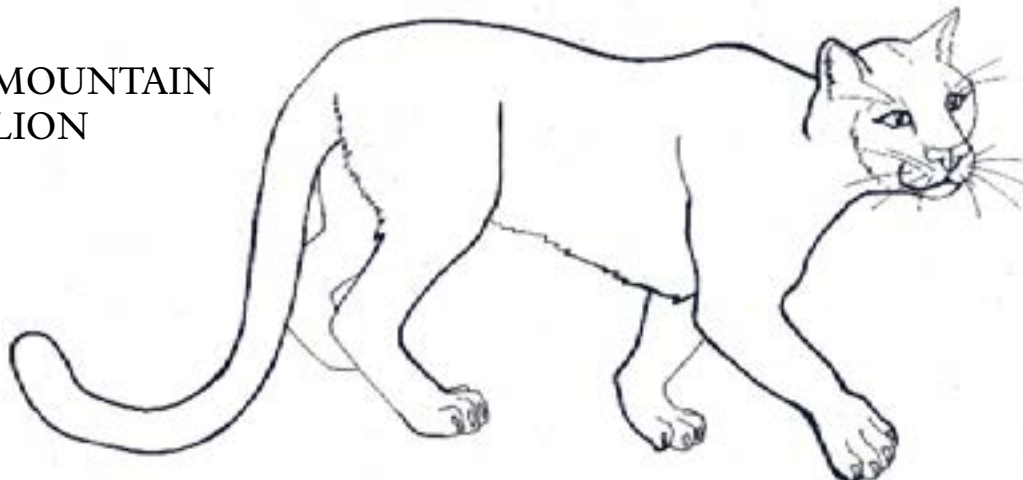


VOLE

MOUSE

SHREW

MOUNTAIN  
LION

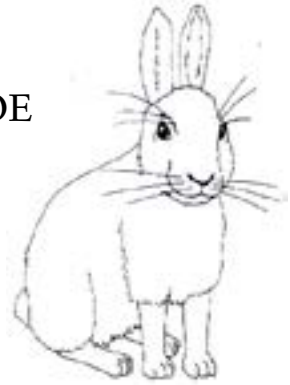


# Animal Card Drawing Page

WHITE-TAILED  
DEER



SNOWSHOE  
HARE



SHORT-TAILED  
WEASEL OR  
ERMINE



TREE  
SQUIRREL

