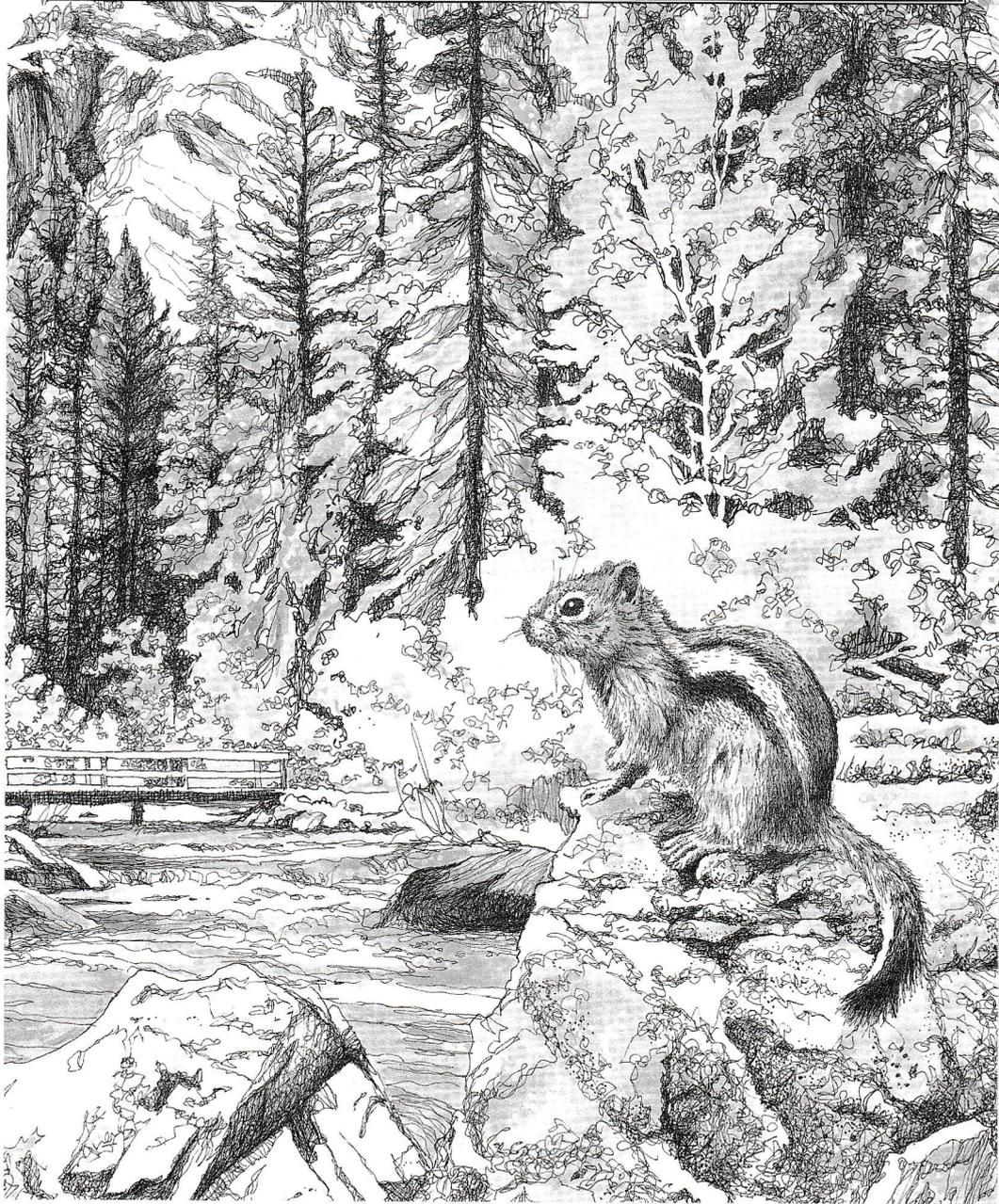


MAP, TRAIL GUIDE & INFORMATION
FOR THE TRAILS INTO

Cascade Canyon



MAMMALS TO WATCH FOR ALONG CASCADE CANYON TRAIL

YELLOW-BELLIED MARMOT

Size: 18 to 28 inches long. 5 to 10 lb.

Summer Habitat: Rocky areas surrounded by meadows and forests.

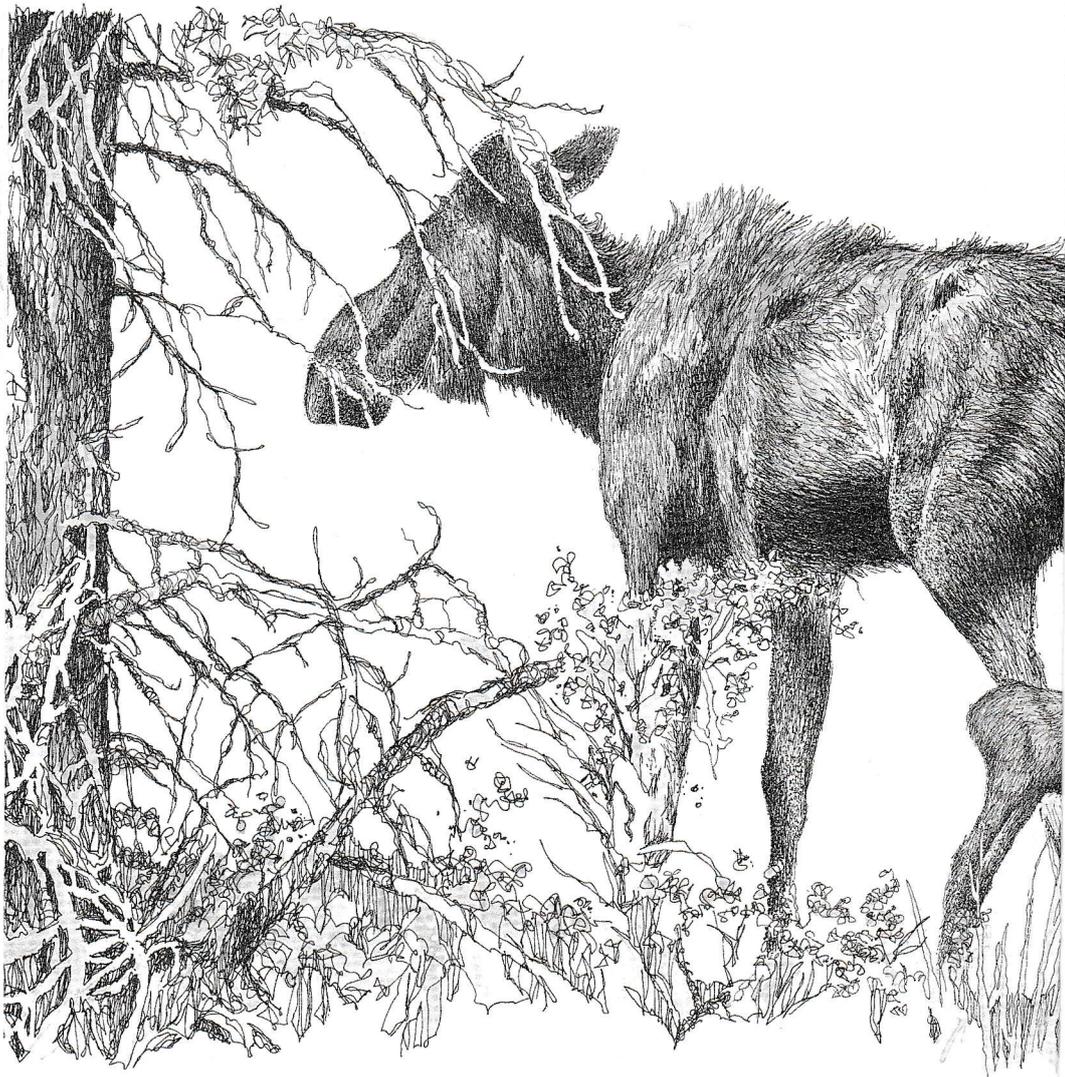
Signs to watch for: High clear, sharp whistle

How to identify: Heavy-bodied animal, yellowish brown to tawny although there are many color variations. Often suns on rocks.

Marmots consume large amounts of grasses, flowers, seeds and caterpillars during summer months as they lose half their weight during the long hibernation. Lives among rocks and boulders, used burrows for nursery and hibernation.

Confusing/similar species: Badgers have vertical black and white stripes on face.

Marmots hibernate from Sept. to Feb.



PIKA

Size: 6 to 8.5 inches long

Summer Habitat: Talus slopes along Cascade Canyon trail. Elevations from 7,000 to 13,000 feet.

Signs to watch for: Green plants stacked for drying, hidden under a rock overhang and between boulders.

How to identify: "Bleat" sounding call. Looks like a guinea pig. Short, rounded ears with white edges. No visible tail.

Pikas are small members of the rabbit family. They are the alpine farmers. They gather plants and dry them as a farmer gathers and dries hay. The pika even moves the stacks as necessary to protect from wind and rain. Some dried stacks weigh as much as fifty pounds. The pika will rely on the stacked vegetation for winter forage, as they do not hibernate during the long, snowy mountain winters.

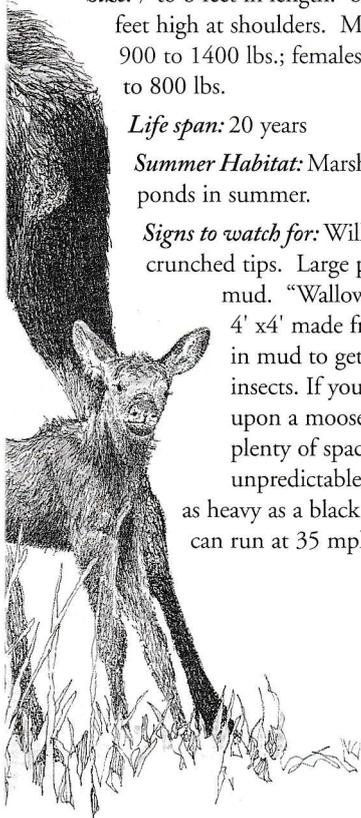
MOOSE

Size: 7 to 8 feet in length. 6.5 to 7.5 feet high at shoulders. Males weigh 900 to 1400 lbs.; females weigh 600 to 800 lbs.

Life span: 20 years

Summer Habitat: Marshes and ponds in summer.

Signs to watch for: Willows with crunched tips. Large prints in mud. "Wallows" that are 4' x4' made from rolling in mud to get rid of pesky insects. If you happen upon a moose, give them plenty of space. They are unpredictable, three times as heavy as a black bear, and can run at 35 mph!



PINE MARTEN

Size: 19 to 26 inches

Summer habitat: Dense forest stands of fir, spruce and lodgepole

How to identify: About the size of a house cat. Elongated weasel body. Golden brown all over, a little darker underneath. White or orange patch on throat. Martens are quick, agile tree climbers. They hunt rabbits, mice, birds, and eggs.

Confusing/similar species: Fishers are larger, darker, with no throat patch. Long-tailed weasels are smaller, two-toned with a lighter tummy color, and no throat patch.

LEAST CHIPMUNK

Size: 6.5 to 9 inches

Summer habitat: Conifer forest

Signs to watch for: Scattered seed husks below a good perching spot. Very territorial, often seen chasing each other.

How to identify: Small rodent with stripe through eye. Runs with tail held straight up.

Chipmunks are busy gatherers, storing large quantities of food to eat during winter. Often seen with mouth "mumps-like" with food for storage: seeds, berries, insects and fungi. One chipmunk may store 67,000 food items before wintering in burrows about 30 feet long.

GOLDEN-MANTLED GROUND SQUIRREL

Size: 10 to 12.5 inches long

Summer habitat: Rocky outcrops in conifer forest, like Inspiration Point

How to identify: Stripes along body sides, larger than a chipmunk but similar. No eye stripe. "Golden-mantled:" deep, coppery area around shoulders.

Confusing/similar species: Chipmunks are smaller, with striped lines running through eye.

Don't feed! You could be bitten! They find plenty to eat in the mountain habitat of Cascade Canyon: seeds, berries, nuts, and insects. Hibernates in burrows.

Cascade Canyon

TRAIL GUIDE AND MAP FOR THE TRAIL

