

California Wildlife Habitat Relationships System
California Department of Fish and Wildlife
California Interagency Wildlife Task Group

PANAMINT KANGAROO RAT

Dipodomys panamintinus

Family: HETEROMYIDAE
M107

Order: RODENTIA

Class: MAMMALIA

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DISTRIBUTION, ABUNDANCE, AND SEASONALITY

In California, the Panamint kangaroo rat is found in suitable habitat in the vicinity of Beckworth Pass, Plumas Co., then south through the Owens Valley to Lake Isabella, Walker Pass, and Mojave in Kern Co., and Hesperia, in San Bernardino Co. Also found in Willow Creek in the Panamint Mts., and Junction Ranch in the Argus Mts. of Inyo Co., and in the Providence Mts. of San Bernardino Co. from Purdy, southwest to Granite Well. Preferred habitats of the Panamint kangaroo rat are pinyon-juniper, Joshua tree, and sagebrush (Harvey 1972, O'Farrell 1973,1974).

SPECIFIC HABITAT REQUIREMENTS

Feeding: As with all heteromyids, *D. panamintinus* is a nocturnal granivore. Seeds of forbs, shrubs, and grasses are taken from sandy-gravelly soil between and beneath desert shrubs.

Cover: No data found.

Reproduction: No data found.

Water: Water is obtained metabolically from food and from moisture in food.

Pattern: Occurs on sandy-gravelly soils, usually with an overstory of big sagebrush, pinyon pine, juniper, or yucca. Comparable habitats that lack all of these plants are more likely habitats of *D. microps*. Within the sagebrush habitats, *D. panamintinus* is found at higher elevations with *D. microps* at lower elevations.

SPECIES LIFE HISTORY

Activity Patterns: Yearlong nocturnal activity.

Seasonal Movements/Migration: None.

Home Range: Activity radius of 15-21 m (50-70 ft) reported by Bartholomew and Caswell (1951).

Territory: Assumed similar to home range. Highly aggressive. Seldom climb (Bartholomew and Caswell 1951).

Reproduction: Reproduction occurs from February into August. An average of 3 young born to each female (range 1-4); young weaned at 27-29 days (Eisenberg and Isaac 1963).

Niche: No additional information found.

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