

FIELD GUIDE TO NORTH AMERICAN MAMMALS

Meadow Jumping Mouse
(Zapus hudsonius)

ORDER: Rodentia
FAMILY: Dipodidae

Conservation Status: Preble's Meadow Jumping Mouse, *Zapus hudsonius preblei*, is Endangered; the Black Hills meadow jumping mouse, *Z. hudsonius campestris*, is Vulnerable and *Z. hudsonius luteus* is Near Threatened.



Credit: painting by Ron Klinger from Kays and Wilson's *Mammals of North America*, © Princeton University Press (2002)

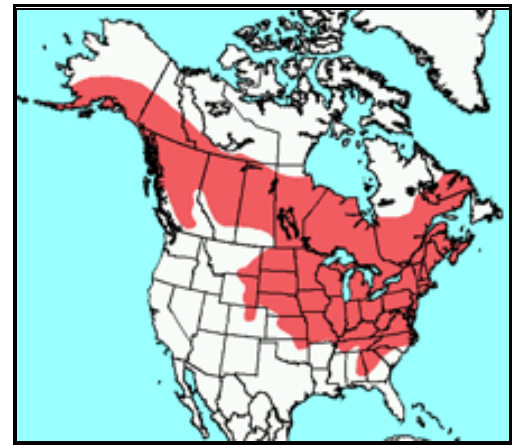
Meadow Jumping Mice have very long tails and very large feet. They are most common in grassy or weedy fields, where they use runways made by other rodents. If they are frightened, they may creep away through the grass, or make a series of short jumps. They have to put on about six grams of fat in the fall, because they burn about a gram a month in their six months of hibernation. Jumping Mice have litters of 3–6 young after an 18–day gestation period. Most of the Mice born late in the summer are not able to put on enough weight to survive hibernation.

Also known as:
Hudson Bay Jumping Mouse, Kangaroo Mouse

Sexual Dimorphism:
None

Length:
Average: 202 mm
Range: 180–234 mm

Weight:
Range: 12–30 g



FIELD NOTES

DATE: _____ LOCATION: _____

FIELD GUIDE TO NORTH AMERICAN MAMMALS

Western Jumping Mouse

(Zapus princeps)

ORDER: Rodentia
FAMILY: Dipodidae

Western Jumping Mice are common in meadows, streamsides, and marshes in northwestern mountains. They also occur in subalpine meadows, and are found at low densities in dry, low-elevation, grassy habitats. The Mice have one litter per year. The young nurse for about a month, and after weaning have a month and a half to eat seeds and put on the fat they need to hibernate. Their summer weight is 18-24 g; just before hibernation, they can weigh up to 35 g. Only about half the juveniles who enter hibernation survive the winter.



Zapus princeps - hibernating

Credit: painting by Ron Klinger from Kays and Wilson's Mammals of North America, © Princeton University Press (2002)

Sexual Dimorphism:

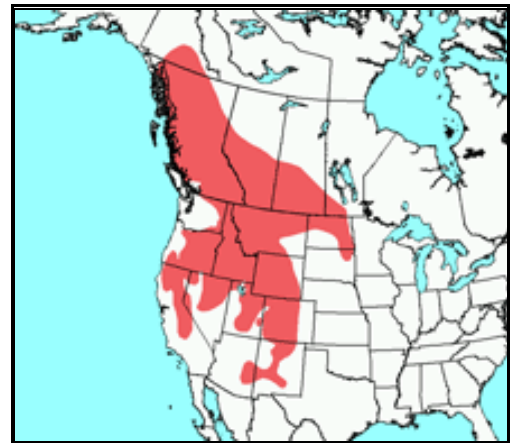
None

Length:

Average: 231 mm
Range: 216-247 mm

Weight:

Range: 18-24 g



FIELD NOTES

DATE: _____ LOCATION: _____

Four horizontal lines for writing field notes.

