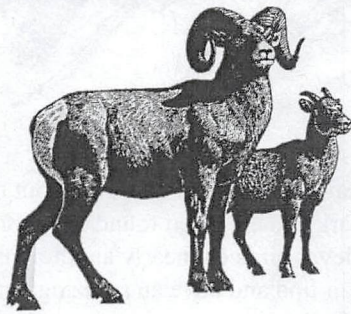




# Desert Wildlife

## Death Valley National Park



**bighorn sheep**

Shy and elusive, bighorn sheep are the park's largest native animal. Watch for them in canyons and on mountain slopes. Males have large, spiraling horns, while females have shorter, straighter horns.



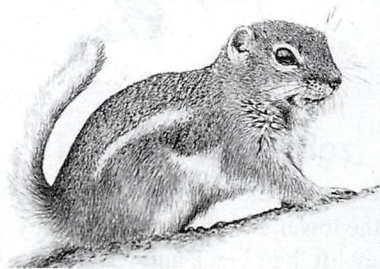
**kit fox**

Kit foxes are about the size of a housecat and have large ears and tails. They are nocturnal and are most common in lower elevations.



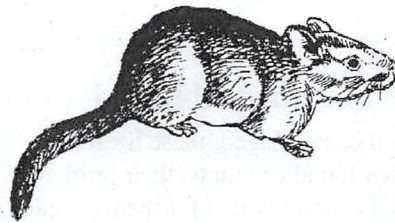
**coyote**

Common throughout the park. Coyotes are excellent scavengers and hunters; they do not need your handouts. **Never feed coyotes or other wildlife!**



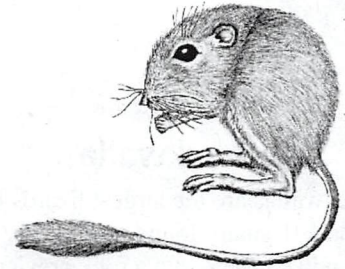
**antelope ground squirrel**

These tiny, pale squirrels are common in the desert shrublands. As they run, they hold their white tails over their backs to reflect sunlight.



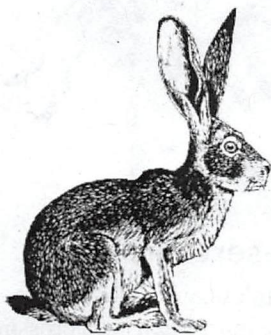
**desert woodrat**

Also known as pack rats, these nocturnal rodents collect plants and pile them in caches called *middens*. Middens dating back thousands of years are an important source of information about the desert's past.



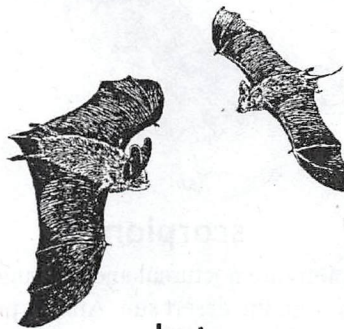
**kangaroo rat**

Kangaroo rats emerge from their dens at night to collect seeds from creosote and other plants. They never have to drink water – they get all they need from seeds!



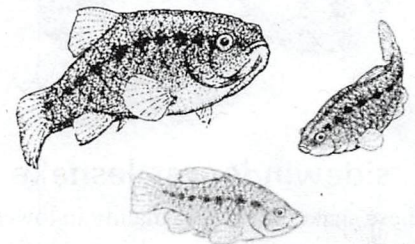
**black-tailed jackrabbit**

Jackrabbits are most common in the mid-elevations around the park. Watch for them on moonlit nights.



**bats**

Bats are usually seen at dusk. The most common species found in the park are the California myotis and the western pipistrelle.



**pupfish**

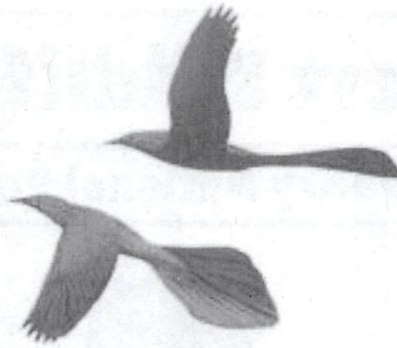
Tiny native pupfish are found in only a few isolated springs and creeks. Four species live in the park; the Devil's Hole pupfish is an endangered species.





### **roadrunner**

These ground-dwelling desert birds are found in the lower elevations of Death Valley. They eat lizards, insects, snakes, and small birds.



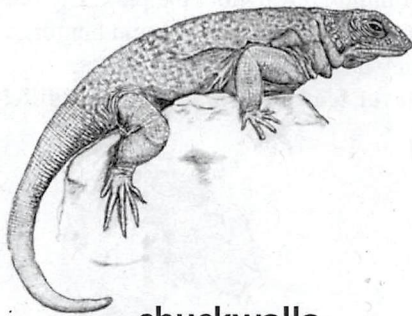
### **great-tailed grackle**

These sleek birds are often found in noisy flocks near developed areas. Males are glossy-black with long tails; the brown females have shorter tails.



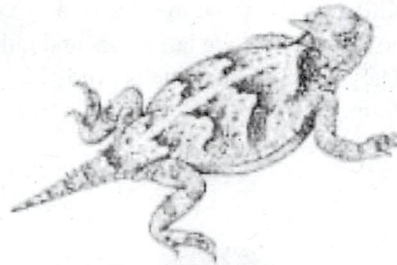
### **raven**

Ravens are common throughout the park and are often found in pairs. These clever birds eat nearly anything they can find and have an amazing variety of calls.



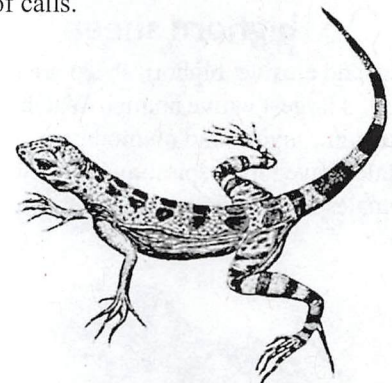
### **chuckwalla**

Chuckwallas are the largest lizards in the park. Usually found near rocks, they will squeeze into a rock crevice and inflate themselves when threatened.



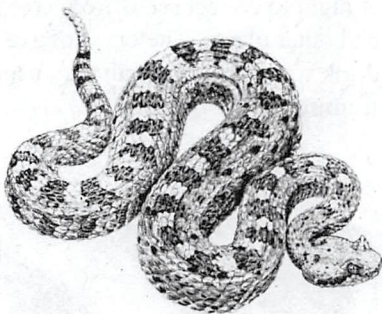
### **horned lizard**

Well camouflaged, these lizards are often found near ants, their primary food source. Watch for them crossing dirt roads in the park's mid-elevations.



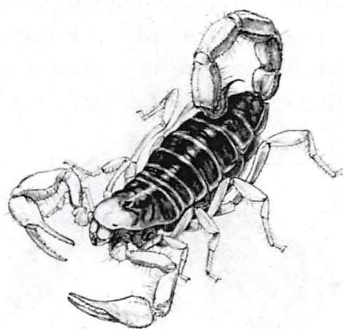
### **zebra-tailed lizard**

These fast, pale lizards are common in the lower elevations of the valley. They lift their black and white striped tails high when running.



### **sidewinder rattlesnake**

These snakes are found mainly in lower elevations, especially on dunes, where their odd "sidestepping" motion helps keep them off the hot sand. Though venomous, sidewinders are not aggressive when left undisturbed.



### **scorpion**

Scorpions are nocturnal and hide under rocks from the desert sun. All scorpions have a venomous sting, but those found in the park are not deadly.



### **desert tarantula**

These harmless, ground-dwelling spiders are most often seen crossing roads in autumn. Look for them in the higher desert valleys.