

SOUTHERN FOX SQUIRREL (*Sciurus niger niger*). Uncommon in the pine forests surrounding the swamp.

FLORIDA FLYING SQUIRREL (*Glaucomys volans querceti*). This species is rarely seen but is probably fairly common. It has been collected on Floyd's and Billy's Islands and Chesser Island.

GEORGIA POCKET GOPHER (*Geomys pinetis pinetis*). Uncommon on dry, sandy sites on the east side of the swamp.

CAROLINA BEAVER (*Castor canadensis carolinensis*). The first record of beavers actually in the swamp was in 1969. Apparently they have disappeared since then, probably because of alligators.

COTTON MOUSE (*Peromyscus gossypinus gossypinus*). Common throughout the area.

SOUTHERN GOLDEN MOUSE (*Peromyscus nuttalli aureolus*). This species is probably rare. It has been found in the cypress bays and in hammocks on the islands.

SWAMP RICE RAT (*Oryzomys palustris palustris*). A fairly common mammal throughout the swamp.

HISPID COTTON RAT (*Sigmodon hispidus hispidus*). A common mammal in the pine woods and old fields on the upland around the swamp.

FLORIDA WOOD RAT (*Neotoma floridana floridana*). Fairly common throughout the swamp and in the hammocks on the upland.

ROUND-TAILED MUSKRAT (*Neofiber alleni nigrescens*). Common in the prairies.

HOUSE MOUSE (*Mus musculus musculus*). Formerly common around habitations but now that few people live within the swamp, it has probably disappeared from the area. Very likely it is still common around human habitations in the vicinity of the swamp.

NORWAY RAT (*Rattus norvegicus*). Like the above species, this mammal has probably disappeared from the area with the cessation of human habitation.

BLACK RAT (*Rattus rattus rattus*). This and the following subspecies were the common barn rats when farming was practiced on some of the islands within the swamp. It probably occurs now at farmsteads in the vicinity of the swamp but not on the refuge.

ROOF RAT (*Rattus rattus alexandrinus*). See above.



EASTERN COTTONTAIL (*Sylvilagus floridanus mallurus*). Common around clearings and in the more sparse pinewoods on the uplands surrounding the swamp and on some of the islands.

MARSH RABBIT (*Sylvilagus palustris palustris*). Fairly common on the swamp edge.

WHITE-TAILED DEER (*Odocoileus virginianus*). These deer are to be found on the upland entirely around the swamp and on the islands within the swamp. Occasionally they may be seen from the Deer Stand observation platform, and in time of low water they may be seen in the prairies.

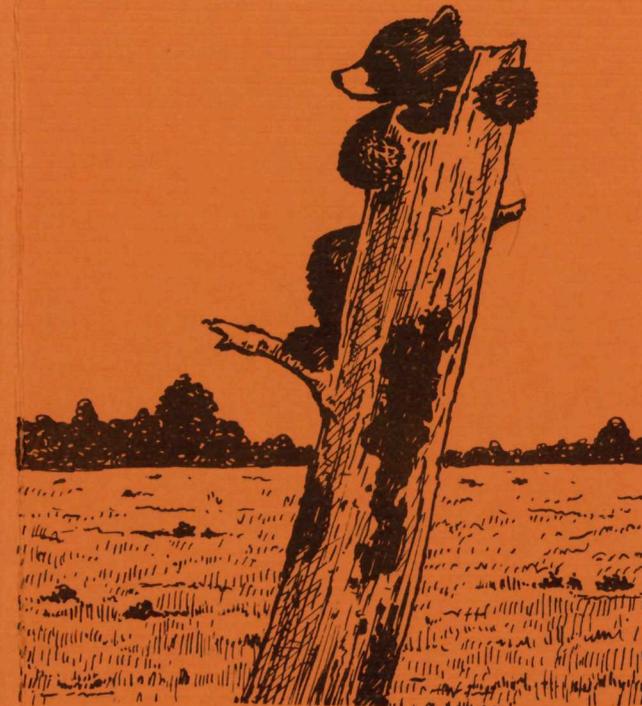
ARMADILLO (*Dasypus novemcinctus mexicanus*). This unusual "armored" mammal was first seen on the refuge in 1963. Since then it has become more numerous and is commonly seen along roadways and trails.



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MAMMALS of the



OKEFENOKEE national wildlife refuge

The varied habitat of Okefenokee Swamp forest and prairie, of swamp edge and of moist and dry upland affords a home for most mammalian species that are known to the southeastern coastal plain.

Most mammals are night prowlers and difficult to observe. Sometimes their tracks, or other signs of activity, are all that is visible to remind us that they do exist. A few kinds such as squirrels, otters, deer, rabbits, bobcats and bears are often or sometimes seen during daytime. However, early morning and late afternoon are the best times to observe mammals.

The following list includes 42 species that now live or have recently lived in, or in the immediate vicinity of, Okefenokee Swamp. This list is based upon specimens and substantiated evidence collected by Dr. Francis Harper and refuge personnel. Most of the species listed are supported by specimens that are preserved in the Cornell University Museum and in the U.S. National Museum.

Mammals to look for in or near Okefenokee are:

FLORIDA OPOSSUM (*Didelphis marsupialis pigra*). Common on the swamp edge and on the islands within the swamp. A night prowler, "Pogo" is often seen by campers at Stephen C. Foster State Park.

STAR-NOSED MOLE (*Condylura cristata*). Apparently rare. Has been collected in the swamp near Mixon's Ferry and on Chesser Island.

FLORIDA MOLE (*Scalopus aquaticus australis*). Generally distributed on the upland adjacent to the swamp and has been found on some of the islands within the swamp.

LEAST SHREW (*Cryptotus parva parva*). Rarely seen but probably fairly common. Specimens have been collected on several of the islands, on the swamp edge and in the pine woods around the swamp.

CAROLINA SHORT-TAILED SHREW (*Blarina brevicauda carolinensis*). A specimen was collected on Floyd's Island June 12, 1921.

EVENING BAT (*Nycticeius humeralis*). One of the most common bats of the Okefenokee. This and other bats are seen at dusk on warm nights in search of flying insects.

GEORGIAN BAT (*Pipistrellus subflavus subflavus*). A fairly common species in the area.

BIG BROWN BAT (*Eptesicus fuscus fuscus*). An uncommon species in the area.

NORTHERN RED BAT (*Lasiurus borealis borealis*). An uncommon species in the area.

SEMINOLE RED BAT (*Lasiurus borealis seminolus*). A common bat of the Okefenokee.

FLORIDA YELLOW BAT (*Dasypterus floridanus*). Apparently a rare species in the area. Two specimens were collected at King's Canal.

RAFINESQUE'S BIG-EARED BAT (*Corynorhinus rafinesquii*). A rather uncommon species in the area.

FREE-TAILED BAT (*Tadarida brasiliensis cynocephala*). An uncommon species in this area although it has been collected at Camp Cornelia.

FLORIDA BLACK BEAR (*Ursus floridanus*). Bears range throughout the refuge. While they are rarely seen, their signs are found in all habitats.

FLORIDA RACCOON (*Procyon lotor elucus*). The most abundant large mammal on the refuge. It is found in all habitats but is most numerous on the swamp edge. They are commonly seen at the Stephen C. Foster State Park camping area and occasionally along boat trails.

LONG-TAILED WEASEL (*Mustela frenata olivacea*). This species is probably more common than the few observations would indicate. Specimens have been collected on Billy's Island and on Chesser Island.

FLORIDA RIVER OTTER (*Lutra canadensis vega*). Occasionally observed along the water courses, especially during the winter.

FLORIDA STRIPED SKUNK (*Mephitis mephitis elongata*). This species is generally distributed on the upland surrounding the swamp and is found occasionally on the islands.

RED FOX (*Vulpes fulva fulva*). This species is rare but occurs occasionally on the upland in the vicinity of the swamp.

FLORIDA GRAY FOX (*Urocyon cinereoargenteus floridanus*). Fairly common on the upland around the swamp.

RED WOLF (*Canis niger niger*). Formerly this was the species of wolf native to this area. It is believed not to be present here now.

FLORIDA BOBCAT (*Lynx rufus floridanus*). Common throughout the swamp and on the surrounding upland. Occasionally seen along the nature drive.

FLORIDA PUMA (*Felis cocalor coryi*). Apparently this species was never more than of rare occurrence in the vicinity of the swamp.

SOUTHERN GRAY SQUIRREL (*Sciurus carolinensis carolinensis*). Abundant in the blackgum-bay forests in the swamp and in the oak woodlands on the upland.