

## CHISEL-TOOTHED KANGAROO RAT (*DIPodomys MICROPS*)

**Navajo/Federal Statuses:** NESL G4 / not listed under the ESA.

**Distribution:** Species found throughout most of NV and extending into southeast OR, eastern CA, western UT and northwest AZ; subspecies *D.m.leucotis* is limited to Marble Canyon and House Rock Valley of Coconino County, AZ. Only known population on Navajo Nation is near Navajo Bridge of Marble Canyon; potential range is likely restricted to upper Marble Canyon area.

**Habitat:** Construct burrow system with multiple entrances on a discrete, raised mound (2-4 m diameter) in Great Basin desertscrub habitat with open, sandy areas and vegetation dominated by sparse grasses, shadscale, four-wing saltbush, or blackbrush. Preferred areas have surface soils with rock or gravel component, and are relatively undisturbed by cattle grazing.

**Similar Species:** *Dipodomys ordii* is shorter in hind-foot (40 vs. 43 mm), tail (137 vs. 164 mm), and total lengths (245 vs. 280 mm); and faces of lower-incisors are rounded rather than flat and broad; *Dipodomys spectabilis* has four toes on hind foot; all *Perognathus* spp. (pocket mice) have shorter body and hind feet and no white fur on hips and sides of tail.

**Phenology:**

e.MAY-l.SEP: pregnancy, birthing, lactating of young

l.SEP-e.MAY: non-breeding season

**Survey Method:** ≥1 pedestrian survey for habitat evaluation and presence of burrows/mounds; live-trapping necessary for species identification.

**Avoidance:** Recommended no activity (year-round) within 60 m of occupied habitat that could result in destruction of burrows/mounds and take of individuals.

**References:**

Hoffmeister, D.F. 1986. Mammals of Arizona. University of Arizona Press. (description p.304)

O'Farrell, M.J. 1995. Distribution of the Houserock Valley chisel-toothed kangaroo rat (*Dipodomys microps leucotis* Goldman). O'Farrell Biological Consulting, Las Vegas, NV for Bureau Land Management and Arizona Game and Fish Department.