Wildlifeldentification

BigCritters



Characteristics Tan colour, tail has white underside and is held erect like a flag when alarmed.

Where to find Mostly valley bottoms.

Characteristics

Where to find

Black tip on tail, large ears,

white rump, grey colour.

Mostly valley bottoms.

Characteristics

Where to find

Brown body, darker neck

and large tan rump patch.

Backwards slanting antlers.

Valley bottoms and open

around the Jasper townsite.







Moose



..... Characteristics

Built like a large German Shepherd, with longer legs. Colour can vary from white to black.

Where to find Throughout the park but particularly in valley bottoms.



Characteristics Medium-sized dog. Thick, bushy tail. Greyish-brown in colour.

Where to find Valley bottoms, well adapted to humans.

Characteristics Darker body with light neck hair. C-shaped antlers with shovel-like tines at their base.

Where to find Alpine and subalpine meadows. Threatened species.

Characteristics Narrow black horns, beard, long white hair.

horns, short light brown fur.

Near steep rocky terrain.

Where to find

Where to find

Near steep rocky terrain.

Characteristics

Shovel-like antlers.

Where to find

Wet and marshy areas.





Coyote

Caribou





SizeChart

Moose

Elk

Caribou

Goat

Wolf Coyote



SmallCritters



Characteristics Red body, white underside and very large, bushy tail.

Where to find Coniferous forests, scampering up trees.

Red Squirre



Columbia Ground Squirrel



Where to find Meadows, roadsides and townsites in ground colonies.



Characteristics

Where to find

and scree slopes.

colour with longer hair.



Marmot

Mountain Wildlife **VIEWING GUIDE**







I think I see **a bear...**



Bears can be dangerous and unpredictable.

Consider not stopping...

Bears need to forage undisturbed in order to gain enough fat to survive the winter. Your decision to drive by without stopping gives bears the space they need to survive in this challenging landscape.

If you stop...

- Pull over where it is safe to do so.
- Use your hazard lights to alert other drivers
- Observe and photograph bears from the safety of your car.
- Remain a respectful distance from the bear.
- NEVER feed a bear, a fed bear is a dead bear.

Watch for a moment and then move on! If a traffic jam develops, it is unsafe for people and wildlife.

Grizzly or Black Bear?

Colour and size are poor identifiersboth species can range in size and exhibit great variation in colour.



BEARS Things to **remember...** • If you are on foot, remain at least 100 m from a bear.

• **DO NOT** approach or pursue.

Don't be fooled by our elk...



When they become used to living near people, these proud-looking plant-eaters can look "tame". **BUT BEWARE: they can** get aggressive if people get too close.

Elk are particularly aggressive during the spring calving season (May, June) and the fall rut (September, October).

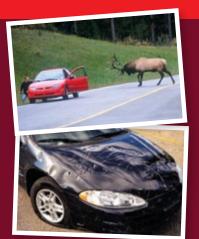
ELK Things to remember...





During the calving season... **DANGER SIGNS:**

- 1. Staring directly at you
- 2. Flattened ears
- 3. Curled lips
- 4. Teeth grinding
- 5. Charging or kicking



Give wildlife space, space and MORE SPACE!



If you are on foot, remain at least 30m from an elk.
DO NOT approach or pursue.

During the fall rut... **DANGER SIGNS:**

- 1. Lower head and wave antlers
- 2. Thrash bushes with antlers
- 3. CHARGE!

One of the amazing attractions of Jasper National Park is the chance to see wild animals living free in their natural world. With nearly two million visitors a year, it takes a conscious effort from each of us to make sure we don't harm the very thing that makes the park special: its *wild* nature.



Jasper is very fortunate to have amazing wildlife viewing opportunities. If you would like to explore further, consider hiring a guide.

For more information contact: JASPER NATIONAL PARK INFORMATION CENTRE 780-852-6176 • 500 Connaught Drive www.pc.gc.ca/jasper

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