

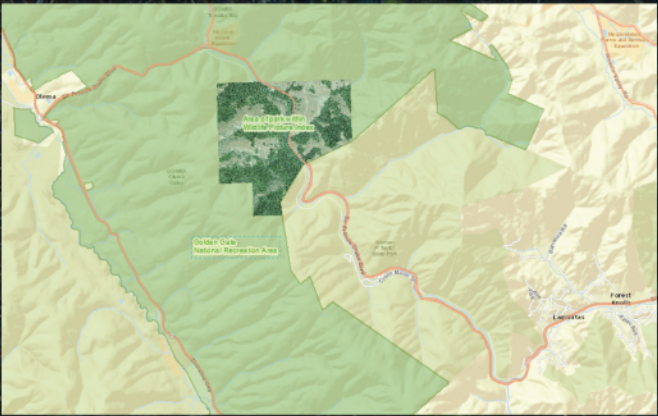
WILDLIFE PICTURE INDEX: POINT REYES

Bordering Samuel P. Taylor State Park to the north lie the picturesque working landscapes of Point Reyes National Seashore. Rocky outcrops and grazing beef cattle dot the grassy slopes, and patches of mixed hardwood and coniferous forest are home to threatened Northern Spotted Owls. Threatened steelhead trout also live in Cheda Creek, which runs through the site.

Eight camera stations were installed in late 2014 to help us learn more about how wildlife use this area. Seventy-five percent of these cameras were placed in open habitats (e.g. grasslands), 13% were in closed habitats (e.g. forests), and the rest were in mixed habitat types. This summary includes results from September 2014 through February 2015.

The species of mammals caught on camera are those that would be expected in the kinds of habitats that were surveyed—including cattle! As with many of the other sites in the Wildlife Picture Index Project area, black-tailed deer were most common.

Although not part of the study, numerous ground-foraging birds were detected, including California Towhee, Varied Thrush, California Quail, Western Scrub Jay, and Wild Turkeys. It also had the highest number of opossum sightings, which was unexpected as this species usually prefers more densely populated areas.



3,279
WILDLIFE PHOTOS CAPTURED



NUMBER OF MAMMALIAN DETECTIONS & SPECIES

