NOTES ON THE MAMMALS OF BERRIEN COUNTY, MICHIGAN

By Norman A. Wood

The data on the mammals of Berrien County given below were obtained more or less incidentally by the writer while engaged in a study of the birds of the region in 1917, 1918, 1919, and 1920. A few traps were set in the region about Harbert in 1917 and 1918, but in the work in the E. K. Warren Preserve, in 1919 and 1920, no trapping was done since the mammals of the woods and dunes were being studied by Lee R. Dice.¹

LIST OF SPECIES

*Bison bison bison.* American Bison.—The basal portion of a small skull with horn cores attached was dug up at Birchwood Beach by Wells Sizer about 1897. At present these are the only remains of the species in Michigan known to me. Three skulls, which were found by L. D. Watkins near Man-

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chester, Washtenaw County, in the early thirties, have been destroyed by fire.

*Sciurus niger rubiventris.* Fox Squirrel.—Not a common species in the dune region. Specimens were seen at Harbert by Ruthven in July, 1917, and by the writer in May, 1918. One or two were noted at Warren Woods in May, 1919, and several at Warren Dunes in May and June, 1920.

*Sciurus carolinensis leucotis.* Northeastern Gray Squirrel.—This is more abundant than the preceding species, especially in the beech trees of the wooded dunes. The writer saw a black one at Birchwood Beach in May, 1919.

*Sciurus hudsonicus loquax.* Southeastern Red Squirrel.—The most common species on the wooded dunes and in Warren Woods. It is a pest about the resorts.

*Tamias striatus lysteri.* Northeastern Chipmunk.—Rare. One was seen a mile north of Birchwood Beach, May 20, 1918. In Warren Woods one was taken May 15, 1918, and another noted in May, 1919.

*Citellus tridecemlineatus tridecemlineatus.* Striped Spermophile.—A common species at Birchwood Beach, where specimens were taken in July, 1917, and May, 1918. It was only occasionally seen at Warren Woods and Warren Dunes in 1919 and 1920.

*Marmota monax monax.* Southern Woodchuck.—Common about the dunes and the farms behind them. An adult male, light gray, was shot in a small tree near Willow Brook in May, 1918. At Warren Woods several (one very dark in color) were noted in 1919, and at Warren Dunes in 1920.

*Glaucomys volans volans.* Eastern Flying Squirrel.—A specimen was taken in a cottage a half-mile north of Birch-
wood Beach in October, 1917, and was presented to the Museum by Preston Sweet. The species was not noted by the Museum collectors.

*Mus musculus musculus.* House Mouse.—So common that it is a nuisance.

*Peromyscus leucopus noveboracensis.* Northern White-footed Deer Mouse.—A nuisance about the resorts, where it does much damage.

*Peromyscus maniculatus bairdii.* Prairie White-footed Mouse.—A pair was found in July, 1917, at Birchwood Beach under a pile of driftwood, where they had built a nest of fine grass.

*Microtus ochrogaster.* Prairie Vole.—Rare. So far as known the first specimen to be taken in the State was captured by the writer in May, 1918, in a small meadow near Birchwood Beach. The species was taken at Warren Woods by Dice in 1919.

*Fiber sibethicus sibethicus.* Muskrat.—Only occurs occasionally on the lake beaches, but it is more common on the ponds and streams back of the dunes. At the south pond it was observed in May, 1918, and numbers had been trapped there the winter before. There were a few about the north pond in 1920.

*Sylvilagus floridanus mearnsii.* Mearns' Cottontail.—A common species at Birchwood Beach. Several young were seen after May 15, 1918, and a few were noted at Warren Woods in 1919 and at Warren Dunes in 1920.

*Procyon lotor lotor.* Raccoon.—Occurs only in the heavy forests. Tracks were noted along the Galien River in May,
1918 and 1919, and along the edge of the north pond at Warren Dunes in May, 1920.

*Taxidea taxus taxus.* American Badger.—One was trapped by John Eardman in November, 1917.

*Mustela novenboracensis novenboracensis.* New York Weasel.—July 21, 1917, a large male of this species was shot at the edge of Willow Brook near Birchwood Beach. Tracks were occasionally seen on the dunes in 1918 and 1920.

*Scalops aquaticus machrinus.* Prairie Mole.—Very common on the dunes, where its runways almost reached the lake, and in fields. Several were caught at Birchwood Beach, and the runways were noted at Warren Dunes in May and June, 1920.

*Nycteris cinerea.* Hoary Bat.—An adult female containing two large embryos was taken by Dr. J. Hancock at his cottage near Lakeside, June 10, 1917. This is the only breeding record known to me for the State.