



Western Small-Footed Myotis

Myotis ciliolabrum

Description

Western small-footed myotis are flying mammals with a distinct black mask on their face, dark ears and forearms, and yellow or buff-coloured fur. They have a wingspan ranging from 205 to 245mm and a total height averaging 87.3mm. They weigh approximately 5.88g on average, with females being generally larger than males.

Western small-footed myotis are found near water sources with abundant insects and inhabit cliff faces, rocky outcroppings, caves and human-made structures like buildings.

They are solitary during the day, roosting within a small area, but forming small communal roosts at night near their foraging grounds. They hibernate in caves or rocky crevices, with small groups of up to six individuals per site.

FUN FACTS

- Average lifespan for a western small-footed myotis is 12 years.
- During summer, they switch their typical roost sites to cooler cliff crevices.
- While they typically forage within 25 min. of sunset, some groups begin much later, in fact later than other bat species.
- They are opportunistic feeders.

If you find an injured or orphaned wild animal, please contact the Calgary Wildlife Rehabilitation Society hotline at 403-214-1312, for tips, instructions and advice.

