

Appendix A

A description of the study sites.

Site 1: Forest

This area is a thin forest, with taller, mature trees and a flat forest floor. This area is within 30 m of a road and an abandoned wooden outhouse. The forest has little overhang canopy, and has plenty of barren ground. Site 1 was a temporarily closed site—no human activity allowed—for the first year of study. The site was reopened the second year of study, although there was not an obvious change to the area. There were no small mammals captured here.

Site 2: Grassland

Site 2 is a grassy clearing, surrounded by a dense forest. This area is seasonally mowed, although the area appeared overgrown during the second year of study. The ground is flat, but inclined slightly toward the west. Deer frequent the area. There is also a deer blind on the perimeter of the site. This was the only location where *S. hispidus* was found.

Site 3: Grassland

This site is primarily grassland, with occasional clusters of trees. Site 3 is at the pinnacle of human activity at the ranch. The site is next to a gravel road, the ranch house, and a recreation hall. There is a large bathroom facility on the site itself, as well as inactive gopher mounds. There were no small mammals captured here.

Site 4: Forest

This is an extremely dense forest, with lots of overhang canopy. There were occasional clearings, all of which were completely surrounded by *Smilax*. There are also many snags and other forms of litter. The density of the forest and overhang canopy created an extremely humid environment. Many *P. leucopus* and *N. floridana* were found here.

Site 5: Forest

The site progressed from areas thick with dead Junipers, to a dense lush forest. There was a distinct 3m drop-off, at which point the density of the forest decreased, and the amount of rock cover increased dramatically. There was a standing stream at the end of the site. *Peromyscus leucopus* and *N. floridana* were captured here.

Site 6: Grassland

This site is narrow, and runs between the edge of a forest and County Line Road. This area appeared mowed in some areas, but unkempt in others. Part of the trap lines ran parallel to a horse pen. No small mammals were captured here.

Site 7: Forest

The trap lines began at the edge of the forest. Overall, the area is a U-shaped depression, although there are many elevation changes within the site. There are many rocky bluffs and pockets of thick vegetation, making the site very difficult to navigate in. Both *P. leucopus* and *N. floridana* were captured here, although there were many more *N. floridana*.

Site 8: Forest

This area is a moderately dense forest with a shallow winding creek. The trapping site was not too far from a hiking trail. This area was also U-shaped, although the elevation changes were much more gradual than in site 7. The overhang canopy was lighter, which allowed more sunlight and airflow. *Peromyscus leucopus* and *N. floridana* were found here.

Site 9: Forest

The trap lines of this site began at the edge of a light forest. Annuals are dominant vegetation of the area, although there were occasional shrubs and trees—increasing as the trap lines progressed into the forest. This site was on the high hills of a steep valley, and was much higher in elevation than the other locations. Cacti are present in the open, grassy areas. This was the only site where *P. maniculatus* was found.

Site 10: Forest

The trap lines began at the edge of a 20 m rocky cliff. The entire trap site is extremely steep, sloping upward toward a proximal, manmade clearing. Overall, this was a moderately-dense forest with few pockets of clearing. This site had frequent rock exposure, and more barren ground than other sites. Both *P. leucopus* and *N. floridana* were captured here.