

Marmota vancouverensis

Vancouver Marmot

Order: [Rodentia](#)

Family: [Sciuridae](#)



Marmota vancouverensis - right (*M. broweri* on left)

Conservation Status: [Endangered](#).

Vancouver marmots live only on Vancouver Island, British Columbia. They are the only [endangered](#) mammal in Canada, with a population estimated at only 100-200 individuals. Archaeological finds from sites 700-2,500 years old, and museum records, indicate that this [species](#) was once more widespread on the island. Why there are so few now is not known: long-term environmental change, hunting, and habitat degradation due to forestry practices may have influenced its decline. Its lifestyle is much like that of other marmots. Although Vancouver Island enjoys a mild climate, the mountains where the marmots live get heavy snows, and Vancouver marmots spend seven or eight months of the year underground, deep in hibernation.

Also known as:

Vancouver Island Marmot

Sexual Dimorphism:

Males are larger than females.

Length:

Average: 668 mm

Range: 580-750 mm



Weight:
Range: 3-6.5 kg

References:

Swarth, H.S., 1911. Two new species of marmots from north-western America, p. 201. *University of California Publications in Zoology*, 7:201-204.