

Southern California 2014

April 29th – May 5th

Curtis Hart and Lindsay Gedact

After spending the winter on the Abishag, I flew out to visit Lindsay, who was working in the Channel Islands for the winter. We did a fair bit of mammal watching, however we did not see a large number of species.

On April 30th we went out whale watching with Davy's Locker out of Newport Beach. We managed to see 2 Gray Whales, about 250 Long-beaked Common Dolphins, and 25 California Sea Lions. We then headed over to Anza Borrego State Park and saw a Desert Cottontail, California Ground Squirrels, and a Desert Pocket Mouse, all around Tamarisk Grove Campground.

May 1st was spent in the park and we saw a White-tailed Antelope Squirrel, a Black-tailed Jackrabbit, a California Ground Squirrel, and a Desert Cottontail. That night we walked around the Borrego Palm Canyon. We saw a wood rat and a *Peromyscus* that we were unable to identify due to the poor views. Both probably would have been lifers.

May 2nd we headed towards Joshua Tree, seeing CA Ground Squirrels and White-tailed Antelope Squirrels on the way out. In Joshua Tree we saw 2 White-tailed Antelope Squirrels, 5 California Ground Squirrels, a Black-tailed Jackrabbit, and a Canyon Bat exiting a roost in the rocks while it was still daylight.

May 3rd we walked to Pine City and were able to find a California Chipmunk, which was the main reason for us visiting Joshua Tree. We also saw some of the other species we had already seen.

May 4th and 5th were uneventful mammal wise.

Gray Whale
Long-beaked Common Dolphin
California Sea Lion
California Ground Squirrel
California Chipmunk
White-tailed Antelope Squirrel
Desert Pocket Mouse
Desert Cottontail
Black-tailed Jackrabbit
Canyon Bat