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MAMMAL RECORDS FROM BRISCOE, DICKENS, HALL, AND MOTLEY COUNTIES, TEXAS

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ABSTRACT

We conducted fieldwork in 2008 that resulted in the identification of 18 new mammal records from three counties (Dickens, Hall, and Motley) in northwest Texas. An additional 13 county records collected from 1956-2005 (including from Briscoe County) were identified after an examination of specimens housed in the Natural Science Research Laboratory of the Museum of Texas Tech University. Collecting efforts such as these provide important natural history data that can be used in future assessments of the mammalian diversity within Texas.

Key words: Briscoe County, Dickens County, Hall County, mammals, Motley County, Texas Panhandle

INTRODUCTION

In the spring, summer, and fall of 2008, 18 species of mammals, all representing new county records, were collected from three counties in western Texas: Dickens (1), Hall (6), and Motley (11). Our sampling sites included 26 localities (see Fig 1). The following are the trapping localities in which records were collected in 2008.

Afton. On a private ranch, about 1.2 km north and 0.6 km east of Afton, in Dickens County. One specimen was caught at the edge of a small lake (UTM 14N: 332182E, 3738136N) surrounded by dense stands of cattail (*Typha sp.*).

Flomot North. On a topographically level CRP (Conservation Reserve Program) grassland, about 1.6

km south of Flomot (UTM 14N: 316559E, 3786887N), in Motley County.

Flomot South. On a private ranch, about 2.4 km south of Flomot (UTM 14N: 316863E, 3786602N), in Motley County. This locality was primarily comprised of a series of shallow and medium-sized canyons dominated by juniper (*Juniperus sp.*) and mesquite (*Prosopis sp.*).

Turkey North. On a large private ranch, located approximately 10 km east of Turkey (UTM 14N: 335684E, 3809850N), in Hall County. This locality was comprised of both dense grassland and a juniper grassland drainage area with interspersed plum thickets surrounded by high bluffs.