



Wolf tracks, Mud Creek, P.A.N.P.

Stuart Dechka

BATS AND WEASELS

The following are a few observations on bats and weasels made in 1991.

Long-tailed Weasels About 7:00 a.m. on 5 July, while driving slowly on a road across a slough (5 km northeast of Saskatoon), I saw the heads of several small animals in the grass at the edge of the gravel. They disappeared. I stopped, backed up and waited. In a few minutes, they ran slowly across the road about 100 m ahead of the car. It was an amazing sight — nine long brown and white bodies, nine long black-tipped tails and 36 short legs in two bunches. They were large weasels — much longer than

Richardson's Ground Squirrels. I was too busy counting to notice whether there was any difference in size within the group.

Bats On 15 August, about 7:45 a.m., while getting out of the car to do some birding at the old Sanatorium site in Saskatoon, I saw two Merlins chasing — or following — a bat (maybe half their size) out of the park. The observation probably lasted four or five seconds before all three disappeared over a building. I doubt that the falcons caught the bat because they were back in the park within two or three minutes. — *Bernie Gollop*, 2202 York Avenue, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan. S7J 1J1