

Sherman's Fox Squirrel

(*Sciurus niger shermani*)



Sherman's Fox Squirrel

Instant ID

- A large squirrel with highly variable amounts of gray, black, brown and tan
- Up to 28 inches from nose to tail and can weigh up to 3 pounds
- Bushy tail is almost the length of the body and head

Native Niches

- Found throughout peninsular Florida (excluding the southern portion) and into Georgia
- Frequents woodlands with an open canopy, dominated by pines and oaks
- Prefers sandhills and pine flatwoods



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Favorite Foods

- Eats acorns and longleaf pine cone seeds
- Also eats nuts, fruits and seeds

Critter Characteristics

- Florida's largest squirrel
- Builds nests from Spanish moss and oak leaves
- Unlike other tree squirrels, will attempt to outrun a predator or climb to safety
- The southern fox squirrel and the Big Cypress fox squirrel are two other subspecies in Florida

Population Protection

- Prescribed burns done in Florida State Parks and elsewhere help to preserve fox squirrel habitat
- The Sherman's fox squirrel and the Big Cypress fox squirrel are both protected subspecies

