# **DID I SEE A WOLVERINE?**





### **Badger:**

Lighter colored overall with long fur along the sides and a low-slung appearance. Distinctive striping on the head and face.



### **Black Bear:**

Cubs may be similar in size to wolverine and adults much larger. Tail is very small, often unnoticeable.

## **Hoary Marmot:**

About half the size of a wolverine. Grayish overall with portions of the head darker than the body. Lacking the distinctive light stripes along the sides of its back.



### **Wolverine:**

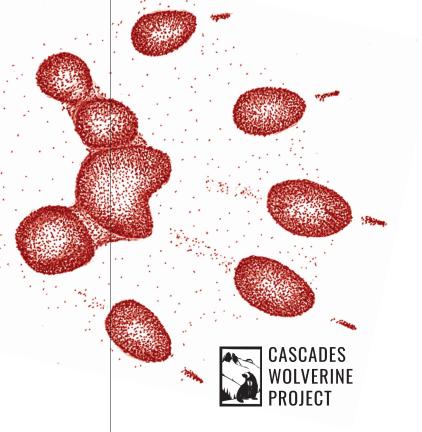
Head more elongated than a bear. Brownish overall with a noticeable light stripe along the sides of its back. Distinctive blazes on chest. Medium sized bushy tail.



Donations to Cascades
Wolverine Project are the only
way we can continue this effort.
Please consider donating to keep
eyes on the Gulo gulo, spirit
animal of the alpine.

www.cascadeswolverineproject.org

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# **CASCADES WOLVERINE PROJECT**

...is a grassroots effort to support wolverine recovery in the North Cascades.

Biologists seek to answer basic questions about wolverine ecology but the intrepid Gulo gulo is notoriously difficult to study due to the remote and rugged terrain they inhabit. Blending skills from science, alpine recreation, conservation, and storytelling, our team collects valuable occupancy data, and engages those who share the mountains with wildlife in the Pacific Northwest.

Based in the Methow Valley of Washington, our team installs and maintains remote winter camera-trapping stations in the North Cascades that contribute to ongoing monitoring and conservation. We produce visual storytelling through photography, film, maps, trailhead signs, talks and events. We spearhead community science for winter recreationalists.

# OUR AIM IS TO HELP ENSURE WOLVERINES RECOVER AND PERSIST IN THE PACIFIC NORTHWEST.

Cascades Wolverine Project's direct study area on the eastern slopes of the North Cascades falls within the traditional territories of several indigenous peoples, most prominently the Methow and Chelan tribes, both members

## **IDENTIFYING WOLVERINE TRACKS**

### **Overall size and shape:**

Front and hind tracks are similar in size and shape, with the front slightly wider than the hind. The heel registers sometimes, giving the track either an ice-cream cone shape or round shape. Tracks can range in size from 3.5-7 " long x 3-5" wide.

The left front-print on the cover is around average.



front right



### Toe shape and arrangement:

Front and hind feet have 5 toes which are arranged in a relatively even arc. Occasionally the inside toe doesn't register in tracks. The palm pad is an asymmetrical chevron shape.

Tracks are often confused with Lynx and Wolf who have only 4 toes, and Pine Marten which present a similar shape print, but much smaller.



### Track pattern: 2x2

This track pattern is seen in <u>deep, loose</u> <u>snow</u> conditions. The left and right front tracks land side by side, with one side slightly ahead of the other. The hind tracks land directly in the prints left by the front tracks.

### Track pattern: 1-2-1

This track pattern is found in firmer snow conditions or when the animal increases speed. The pattern is made by a front foot, followed by the other front foot paired with the hind from the opposite side of the body, followed by the final hind foot.

Submit your observation via www.cascadeswolverineproject.org