



Mammals

Grizzly Bears

Near the Keno City Signpost, you'll probably hear a variety of whistles and squeaks coming from the rocky slope, especially on sunny days. Hoary marmots, or "whistlers" are large alpine rodents weighing up to 10 kg, or 22 lbs! They live in family communal burrows, and love to bask on rocks in the warm sun. Collared pikas are actually short-eared members of the rabbit family that live in alpine rock piles and make hay for the winter by cutting and drying grass. Everywhere, you'll hear the shrill alarm call of arctic ground squirrels, and, if you're lucky, you may even see a grizzly bear trying to make a dinner of one!

The marmots are quite used to people and may stray far from their burrows, so please do not let your dogs run free.

Cautions

There are numerous old buildings and shafts on the mountain. Most of them are not marked and are in poor condition. Please keep away from the buildings, and stick to marked trails for your safety. Also, do not collect any of the mining equipment or other artifacts you see—these are private property. The Keno City Mining Museum is renowned for its excellent mining exhibits.

Because Keno Hill is bear habitat, please review bear safety information before you go.

Flower photos Bruce Bennett



Beauverd's Spirea



Mountain Avens



Drummond's Dryas



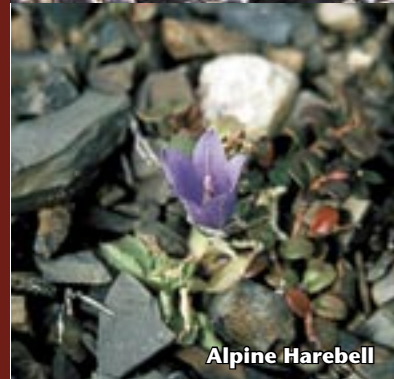
Few-flowered Corydalis



Moss Gentian



Alpine Speedwell



Alpine Harebell



Few-flowered Lousewort

Common Species

Butterflies

Eversmann's Parnassian
Old World Swallowtail
Canadian Tiger Swallowtail
Western White
Arctic White
Hecla Sulphur
Palaeno Sulphur
Northern Blue
Cranberry Blue
Arctic Blue
Mountain Fritillary
Dingy Fritillary
Polaris Fritillary
Freija Fritillary
Arctic Fritillary
Hoary Comma
Banded Alpine
White-veined Arctic
Melissa Arctic
Polixenes Arctic

Birds

Golden Eagle
Northern Harrier
Willow Ptarmigan
American Golden-Plover
Short-eared Owl
Horned Lark
American Pipit
Blue Grouse
Golden-crowned Sparrow
American Tree Sparrow

For more information:
Keno City Mining Museum (867) 995-2792

Yukon Wildlife Viewing Program
(867) 667-8291 or Toll free 1-800-661-0408 ext. 8291
www.environmentyukon.gov.yk.ca/viewing

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Wildflowers

Bistort
Long-leaved Starwort
Monkshood
Narcissus Anemone
Yellow Anemone
Snow Buttercup
Few-flowered Corydalis
Roseroot
Yellow Marsh Saxifrage
Mountain Avens
Drummond's Avens
Ross' Avens
Two-flowered Cinquefoil
Beauverd's Spirea
Hairy Arctic Milk-vetch
Alpine Bearberry
Northern Labrador Tea
Northern Shooting Star
Moss Gentian
Pale Paintbrush
Few-flowered Lousewort
Alpine Speedwell
Alpine Harebell

Mammals

Grizzly Bear
Short-tailed Weasel
Collared Pika
Hoary Marmot
Arctic Ground Squirrel

VIEWING Alpine Wildlife

ON KENO HILL



Shelia Stange Photo



Viewing alpine wildlife on Keno Hill



Hoary Marmot
Welcome to Keno City! We hope you enjoy our

hospitality, our beautiful natural surroundings, and our rich mining history. Keno City, population 20, is nestled in the mountains at about 3,100 feet and retains the feel of a 1920s boomtown.

We are proud of our mining history and the unique wildlife and scenery with which we live. The mountains surrounding Keno City remained ice-free during the last ice age about 10,000 years ago, when much of



Collared Pika

North America was covered by glaciers. As a result, they are home to plants and animals unique to "Beringia", the vast unglaciated grassland that once stretched from the Yukon, across Alaska to Siberia.

The mining roads around Keno City provide easy access up into the mountains, so visitors have an excellent opportunity to view alpine wildlife that is



Arctic Shooting Star

rarely available elsewhere. This publication describes the wildlife you are most likely to see on Keno Hill, some special wildlife projects that the community has initiated, and advice about how you can best enjoy your wildlife viewing without disturbing the animals or the habitat they live in.

Butterflies



Eversmann's Parnasian

Viewing and collecting butterflies

Butterflies need the heat of the sun to warm their bodies before they can fly. The best time to observe butterflies is on warm, sunny days during July. Butterflies depend on very specific food plants when they are in their larval stage, so the kinds of butterflies you'll see will depend on which plants are available. Look especially around wet meadows, at the bases of snow patches or in creek bottoms. Some species of butterflies take two years to grow into adulthood.

You are encouraged to view and enjoy Keno Hill's butterflies. We've provided a list of the most common species. The Keno City Alpine

When some people think of Keno Hill, they think not of mining, but butterflies! The butterflies that live in the Beringian rocky alpine tundra attract enthusiasts from all over the world. Some come to collect specimens, but many more, including local residents, just enjoy watching them.

During 1999 and 2000, the community initiated a special project to find out which species of butterflies were present, and how many were being collected.



Interpretive Centre has an excellent display of the area's butterflies.

If you want to collect any butterflies, you will need a Yukon Scientists and Explorers Permit. Contact the Yukon's Heritage Branch: (867)667-5363 or www.yukonheritage.com for more information.

Birds



American Pipit

Many species of birds nest in the alpine tundra. You may see ptarmigan in their brown summer plumage, Horned Larks, and American Pipits. American Golden-Plovers migrate all the way from South America to nest in these northern mountains.

In the treeless rocky alpine, birds must nest on the ground. Bird nests are very well-hidden, so be careful where you step! If you encounter an aggravated

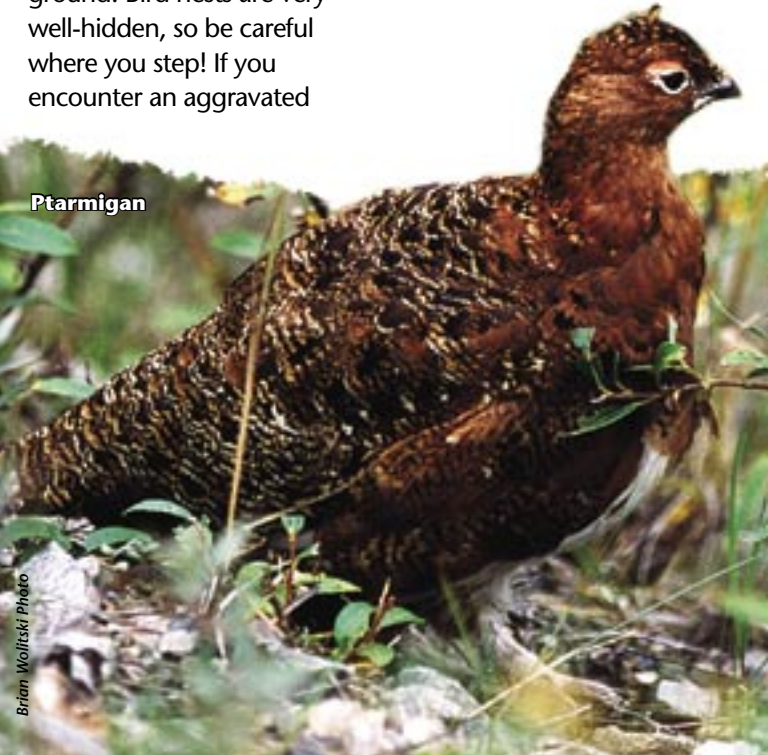
bird, you're likely near their nest and should back away from the area to avoid harming the eggs or chicks.



American Golden-Plover



Short-eared Owl



Ptarmigan

Wildflowers



Two-flowered Cinquefoil



Ross' Avens



Bistort

The display of colour put on by Keno Hill's wildflowers each summer is dazzling. We know of 91 different species on the mountain, and there are surely more to be discovered. Most of the flowers are in full bloom in July.



Snow Buttercup

While you're enjoying the flowers, please avoid trampling the fragile vegetation, especially in the wetter areas. The butterflies depend on these plants for food.



Field of flowers

Roseroot