

A Few Beach Mouse Facts

There are 16 subspecies of the oldfield mouse (*Peromyscus polionotus*)
8 of these are considered to be beach mice

Atlantic Coast: Anastasia Island, Pallid (extinct), and
Southeastern

Gulf Coast: Alabama, Perdido Key, Santa Rosa,
Choctawhatchee, and St. Andrew

Description:

Size: Head and body length is 2.7 – 3.5 in

Weight: Adults average 12.5 grams (=weight of 2-3 nickels)
some pregnant females may weigh up to 20 grams

Breeding: Will breed year round if food is available

They are monogamous, a pair will mate for life

Diet: Will eat primarily seeds of dune plants and insects

Activity: They sleep in burrows during the day, and are only active at
night. They avoid lighted areas and are never found in
houses

Status:

With the exception of the Santa Rosa beach mouse, all
subspecies are state and federally protected. Beach Mice face
many threats which include loss of habitat due to development
and hurricanes; and predation by native and non-native species,
such as cats.

What You Can Do To Help

- Use Beach Crossovers and Boardwalks Instead of Footpaths
- Dispose of Garbage Properly
- Keep Pets on a Leash and Cats Indoors
- Leave Dune Plants as You Found Them