TULARE GRASSHOPPER MOUSE (ONYCHOMYS TORRIDUS TULARENSIS)

DFG: Species of Special Concern

The Tulare grasshopper mouse has a stout body with a short, thick tail. The fur is bicolored with the head, back, and upper sides pale brown to grayish or pinkish cinnamon; the underparts are white and distinctly different from the upperparts. The tail is usually bicolored and has a white tip. Adult grasshopper mice range in size from about 4.5 (113 mm) to 6.5 (163 mm) inches. Their tails are from about 1.5 (38 mm) to 2.5 (63 mm) inches long.

Tulare grasshopper mice eat mostly small animals, with insects being the main part of the diet. Prey items include scorpions, beetles, grasshoppers, small mice, lizards, spiders, and frogs.

Tulare grasshopper mice occur along the western margin of the San Joaquin Valley and adjacent foothills. They may be found in the hot, arid grassland and shrubland habitats of Fresno, San Benito, Kern, Tulare, Kings, Merced, and Madera counties.

Photo: Not yet available.