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Tamias cinereicollis. By Clayton D. Hilton and Troy L. Best

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Tamias cinereicollis J. A. Allen, 1890

Gray-collared Chipmunk

Tamias cinereicollis J. A. Allen, 1890:94. Type locality "San Francisco Mountain [Coconino Co.—Miller and Rehn, 1901:40],

CONTEXT AND CONTENT. Order Rodentia, Suborder Sciuromorpha, Family Sciuridae. The genus *Tamias* contains ca. 24 species (Honacki et al., 1982). *T. cinereicollis* (Fig. 1) is in the subgenus *Neotamias*, and either the *amoenus* (Levenson et al., 1985) or *quadrivittatus* species group (Patterson, 1984a). Two subspecies are recognized (Hall, 1981):

T. c. cinereicollis J. A. Allen, 1890:94, see above.

T. c. cinereus (Bailey, 1913:130). Type locality "Magdalena Mountains [Socorro Co.-Miller, 1924:204], New Mexico (alt. 8200 feet), in Copper Canyon."

DIAGNOSIS. Tamias cinereicollis has pale-grayish color on the cheeks, shoulders, and anterior part of the back. Prominent areas of gray in these three regions are unique to the species (Hoffmeister, 1986).

Compared with *T. canipes*, the sides of *T. cinereicollis* are darker, the outer pair of dorsal stripes is less brownish (more blackish), and the sides of the nose and face are more heavily washed with buff. The feet of *T. cinereicollis* are less grayish (more buffy), the tail edgings are darker and less grayish (more buffy), and the hind foot averages longer (color nomenclature follows Ridgway, 1912—Howell, 1929). In fresh postbreeding pelage, *T. canipes* is grayer throughout, with paler and duller ochraceous on the sides, the tips of the long hairs on the rump and dorsal surface of the tail are white instead of yellowish, the feet are clear gray without a tinge of yellowish, and the black dorsal stripe extends forward to between the ears (Bailey, 1902). The skull (Fig. 2) of *T. cinereicollis* averages smaller than that of *T. canipes* (Howell, 1929). *T. canipes* has a length of shaft of the baculum of 3.10–3.49 mm compared with

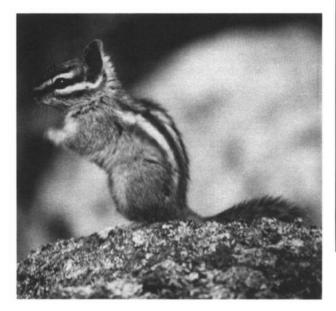


Fig. 1. Tamias cinereicollis in Bear Trap Canyon, San Mateo Mountains, Socorro Co., New Mexico. Photograph by T. L. Best.

4.7 mm in *T. cinereicollis* (Fig. 3). The angle formed by the shaft and tip of baculum is 112-120° in *T. canipes* and 138-148° in *T. cinereicollis* (Hall, 1981).

The gray-collared chipmunk is grayer than T. minimus, especially on the shoulders and cheeks, whereas T. minimus is buffy gray. It also differs from T. minimus in having a greater postorbital breadth (T. minimus, ≤ 10.8 mm with no overlap) and cranial depth

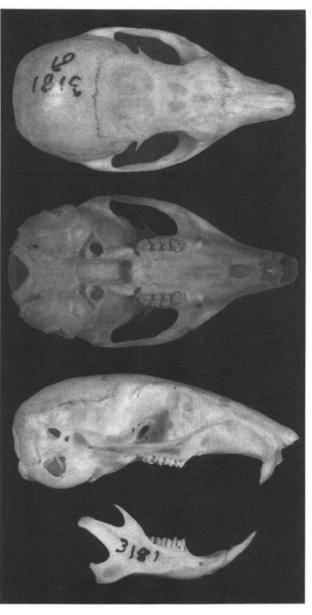


Fig. 2. Dorsal, ventral, and lateral views of cranium and lateral view of mandible of *Tamias cinereicollis* (male, The University of New Mexico Museum of Southwestern Biology 3181) from Iron Canyon, Black Range, 15 miles E, 6 miles N of Santa Rita, Grant Co., New Mexico. Greatest length of cranium is 35.3 mm. Photographs by T. H. Henry.

2 MAMMALIAN SPECIES 436

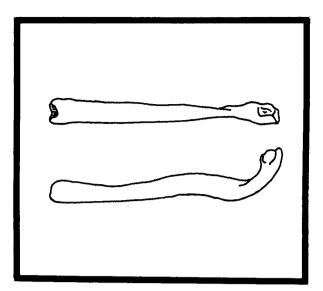


Fig. 3. Baculum of *Tamias c. cinereicollis* from Mount Thomas, White Mountains, Apache Co., Arizona (redrawn from White, 1953).

(T. minimus, ≤13.7 mm with no overlap). Externally, T. cinereicollis and T. minimus are difficult to distinguish (Hoffmeister, 1986).

Compared with T. quadrivittatus, palatilar length and postorbital breadth of T. cinereicollis are larger on average, and
T. cinereicollis is gray on the shoulders rather than orange (Hoffmeister, 1986). Karyotypically, T. quadrivittatus has a B karyotype
of Tamias, while T. cinereicollis has an A karyotype of Tamias
(Patterson, 1980b). Compared with T. umbrinus, postpalatal length
is smaller and total length, palatilar length, zygomatic breadth, and
length of maxillary toothrow are larger for T. cinereicollis (Hoffmeister, 1986). Five well-defined black dorsal stripes and four pale
stripes distinguish T. cinereicollis from T. dorsalis and T. merriami,
which have ambiguous or obscure dorsal stripes. The skull of the
gray-collared chipmunk is similar to that of T. dorsalis, except that
the braincase of T. cinereicollis is shorter and broader, the rostrum
is shorter and more depressed, and the incisors are narrower than
in T. dorsalis (Mearns, 1907).

The baculum of *T. cinereicollis* (Fig. 3) differs from that of *T. quadrimaculatus* in that the keel is lower, the ridges on either side of the tip are weakly developed, and there is a greater tip-shaft angle in *T. cinereicollis*. The shaft is longer, the base is only slightly widened, and the tip-shaft angle is greater than in *T. bulleri*, *T. palamintinus*, *T. speciosus*, or *T. umbrinus* (White, 1953). When length of baculum is plotted against greatest length of skull, *T. cinereicollis* is separated from *T. canipes*, *T. durangae*, and *T. quadrivittatus* (Patterson and Thaeler, 1982).

GENERAL CHARACTERS. The gray-collared chipmunk has five black or brown dorsal stripes; the lateral-most pair may be difficult to discern. There are two whitish and three brown facial stripes, and the forehead is brown and washed with pale gray. Likewise, the cheeks, neck, shoulders, anterior part of back, and rump are gray (Hoffmeister, 1986).

In summer pelage (August), the top of the head of T. c. cinereicollis is sayal brown that is mixed with grayish white and strongly shaded on the top and sides of the nose with clay color or cinnamon buff. The crown is bordered on each side with a stripe of fuscous or warm sepia. The ocular stripe is blackish and shaded with sayal brown. The submalar stripe is sayal brown and shaded with bister. The ears are fuscous or chaetura drab, broadly margined posteriorly with grayish white, and washed on the anterior margin with sayal brown. The inside surface of the ears are washed with sayal brown. The nape and shoulders have a distinct wash of smoke gray, mixed on the sides with pinkish buff or pinkish cinnamon. The dorsal stripes are black, bordered on each side with sayal brown. The median pair of pale stripes are pale smoke-gray. The outer pair is white. The lateral stripes are fuscous black, mixed with sayal brown or russet. The rump and thighs are smoke gray and mixed with cinnamon buff. The sides are saval brown. The feet are pinkish buff or pale pinkish-cinnamon, shaded with clay color and sometimes

with grayish white. Dorsally, the tail is fuscous black (the bases of the hairs are cinnamon) overlaid with pinkish buff or cinnamon buff. Ventrally, the tail is tawny or ochraceous tawny (fading to clay color) and bordered with fuscous black and edged with pinkish buff or cinnamon buff. The underparts are creamy white and often are tinged with pinkish buff (color nomenclature follows Ridgway 1912—Howell, 1929).

In summer pelage (September), the top of the head of T. c. cinereus is pale smoke-gray, mixed with cinnamon, and bordered on each side with fuscous black. The sides of the nose are washed with pale pinkish-cinnamon. The ocular stripe is fuscous black and shaded with mikado brown. The submalar stripe is mikado brown and shaded with fuscous. The ears are chaetura drab and broadly margined posteriorly with grayish white and washed anteriorly with mikado brown. The postauricular patches are large and grayish white. The nape and shoulders are extensively washed with smoke gray. The dark dorsal stripe is black and margined with mikado brown; the outer pair sometimes is mainly brownish. The lateral stripes are fuscous black shading to mikado brown. The median pair of pale stripes is grayish white and the outer pair is white. The rump and thighs are smoke gray and mixed with pinkish buff. The sides are between sayal brown and pale-clay color. The feet are pinkish buff or pinkish cinnamon shaded with pale smoke-gray. Dorsally, the tail is fuscous black (the bases of the hairs are pinkish cinnamon) overlaid with pinkish buff. Ventrally, the tail is creamy white and tinged with pale buff (color nomenclature follows Ridgway, 1912-Howell, 1929).

Winter pelage (October) of *T. c. cinereicollis* is similar to summer pelage, but the sides are paler (pale sayal-brown). The edgings of the tail are paler and the upperparts usually are more extensively washed with grayish. Winter pelage of *T. c. cinereus* (October) is similar to summer pelage (color nomenclature follows Ridgway, 1912—Howell, 1929).

Breeding pelage (May-July) is softer and fuller than autumn pelage (most noticeable when comparing May and August animals), but the colors generally are faded. The tints of gray, black, and white are not as pure or clear and the sides are tinged with pale yellowish-brown or pale buff, occasionally blending with the general color of the dorsum (Allen, 1890).

Mean and range of measurements (in mm) of T.c. cinereicollis from the Mogollon Rim, Coconino Co., and White Mountains, Apache and Greenlee counties, Arizona, respectively, are: total length, 223 (212–243), 229 (217–243); length of tail, 91 (80–110), 101 (92–113); length of hind foot, 33 (31–36), 34 (32–36); greatest length of cranium, 35.4 (33.8–36.5), 36.0 (35.2–37.1); condylobasal length, 31.4 (29.7–32.6), 31.9 (30.8–32.7); palatilar length, 15.3 (14.8–16.0), 15.4 (14.8–16.0); postpalatal length, 12.4 (11.6–13.0), 12.6 (11.9–12.9); nasal length, 10.8 (10.3–11.5), 11.0 (10.2–11.7); interorbital breadth, 7.9 (7.2–8.3), 8.1 (7.8–8.3); postorbital breadth, 11.5 (10.9–12.0), 11.6 (11.2–12.1); zygomatic breadth, 19.7 (18.7–20.5), 19.7 (19.0–20.2); cranial breadth, 15.9 (15.3–16.4), 16.1 (15.7–16.6); depth of cranium, 14.3 (13.8–14.7), 14.6 (14.3–15.1); length of bulla, 8.0 (7.7–8.2), 8.0 (7.6–8.4); length of maxillary toothrow, 5.8 (5.5–6.1), 5.8 (5.4–6.2—Hoffmeister, 1986).

Zygomatic breadth, cranial breadth (Hoffmeister, 1986), and length of head and body of females are larger than those of males (Levenson, 1990). Average measurements (in mm) of adult males and females, respectively, are: length of body, 128.20, 133.18 (Levenson, 1990); total length, 223, 225; length of tail vertebrae, 95, 99; length of tail to end of hairs, 118, 125; length of hind foot, 34.3, 34.1; length of ear from crown, 15.1, 16.0; length of ear from notch, 20.3, 20.1; length of head, 38.3, 39.5; distance from tip of nose to eye, 16.3, 15.8; distance from tip of nose to ear, 30.0, 30.6 (Mearns, 1907).

Coloration of T. c. cinereus is similar to that of T. c. cinereicollis, but is paler and grayer, the rufescent areas of the body not only are paler in color, but also are smaller in T. c. cinereus. The crown, shoulders, and rump are clear ashy gray. The white of the belly is clearer and more extensive, and the hind feet are pale buffy. The dorsal stripes (three black, two gray, two white) are broad, clear, and sharply defined (Bailey, 1913). Average and range of measurements (in mm) for T. c. cinereicollis and T. c. cinereus, respectively, are: total length, 225 (212-242), 222 (208-231); length of tail vertebrae, 102 (95-109), 95 (90-101); length of hind foot, 35 (34-36), 35 (33-36); length of ear from notch, 15.3 (14.3-16.0), 14.8 (14.0-15.3); greatest length of cranium, 35.9 (35.1-36.6), 36.1 (35.5-36.7); zygomatic breadth, 19.7 (19.4-20.2), 19.6 (19.4-19.8); breadth of cranium, 14.9 (14.0-15.4), 15.3

MAMMALIAN SPECIES 436 3

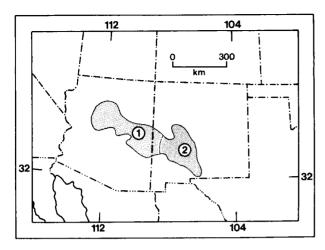


Fig. 4. Distribution of *Tamias cinereicollis* in western North America: 1, *T. c. cinereicollis*; 2, *T. c. cinereus* (modified from Hall, 1981).

(14.8-15.6); interorbital breadth, 8.1 (7.9-8.6), 7.9 (7.8-8.0); length of nasals, 11.2 (10.5-12.3), 11.2 (10.5-11.6—Howell, 1929); average body mass of T. c. c inereus is 61.7 g (Patterson, 1980b).

DISTRIBUTION. The gray-collared chipmunk is found only in montane coniferous forest (Hoffmeister, 1986) at altitudes of 1,950–3,440 m (it is most common at 2,100–3,300 m—Mearns, 1907). Its range includes the mountain and plateau region of central Arizona from the Bill Williams and San Francisco mountains southward across the Mogollon Plateau to the White Mountains and Prieto Plateau, and into the Black, Datil, Elk, Magdalena, Mimbres, Mogollon, San Francisco, and San Mateo Mountains of New Mexico (Fig. 4; Bailey, 1931; Elliot, 1905; Hoffmeister, 1986; Howell, 1929; Patterson, 1980a).

FOSSIL RECORD. Fossil remains of *T. cinereicollis* have been found in Baldy Peak Cave, Florida Mountains, Luna Co., New Mexico, an area that is thought to be late Wisconsinan in age (Harris, 1985). A jaw fragment identified as that of *T. cinereicollis* was recovered from late Pleistocene deposits in Fowlkes Cave, Culberson Co., Texas; however, this specimen may be *T. canipes* (Dalquest and Stangl, 1984).

FORM AND FUNCTION. The dental formula of *T. cine-reicollis* is i 1/1, c 0/0, p 2/1, m 3/3, total 22. The palate is elongate, the bullae are small, and the braincase is narrow (Fig. 2; Hoffmeister, 1986). There are four pair of mammae (Mearns, 1907).

The spring molt takes place early in the year. On 15-17 May, three males from Flagstaff, Arizona, were in worn winter pelage that was being replaced by uneven patches on the upperparts (Howell, 1929).

One *T. cinereicollis* from near Silver City, Grant Co., New Mexico, had aberrant coloration. This was a subadult female with a pale grayish-brown mid-dorsal stripe extending from mid-body to between the ears. The other dark stripes were gray posteriorly and became whitish-gray anteriorly, while the dorsal pale stripes were pale gray on the rump becoming white anteriorly. The hind legs and the dorsal sides of the hind feet were gray. The tail was whitish-gray on the ventral surface; the dorsal surface was grayish-brown basally and became gray posteriorly, terminating in a black tip. All hairs on the tail were tipped with white. The ears were grayish black and the dorsal side of the snout was black. The ventral body surface, face, and dorsal side of the head were white. The eyes were pink (Fleharty and Jones, 1960).

There is no relationship between length of baculum and greatest length of cranium (Patterson and Thaeler, 1982). The tip of the baculum is 34% of the length of the shaft. The distal 33% of the shaft is slightly compressed laterally and the base is barely widened (White, 1953). Means of bacular measurements (in mm) from the San Mateo, Black, and Mogollon mountains of New Mexico, respectively, are: total length, 6.47, 5.85, 6.10; length of tip, 1.72, 1.69, 1.83; height of keel, 0.50, 0.50, 0.48; bend of shaft, 0.62, 0.62, 0.65; width of base, 0.63, 0.64, 0.72; width of neck, 0.29, 0.29, 0.29; width of tip, 0.44, 0.45, 0.46; angle of tip (in degrees),



Fig. 5. Habitat of *Tamias cinereicollis* in the Magdalena Mountains, Socorro Co., New Mexico. Photograph by T. L. Best.

134.40, 136.50, 137.75 (Patterson, 1980b). Usually, the angle between tip and shaft of the baculum is $>140^{\circ}$ (Hoffmeister, 1986; White, 1953). Another sample of bacula of T. cinereicollis from New Mexico and Arizona had measurements (in mm) as follows: length of shaft, 4.27-5.72; width of base, 0.49-0.87; tip-shaft angle, $136-148^{\circ}$ (Fleharty, 1960).

A female genital bone (baubellum or os clitoris) is present. Average and range of measurements (in mm) of the os clitoris are: length of base, 0.95 (0.85–1.00); length of shaft, 0.99 (0.85–1.00); depth of shaft, 0.52 (0.42–0.59); length of tip, 0.94 (0.85–1.10); length of keel, 0.36 (0.26–0.39); angle of the tip-shaft, 144.8° (136–156°). The os clitoris has a thin, untapered base that forms an acute angle with the shaft. The shaft is thick, with a slight break and no heel at the tip-shaft angle. The large tip has a 33° bend to the right and is rotated ca. 6° counterclockwise. The keel is large with conspicuous flanges extending onto the sides of the shaft. The os clitoris of 267 females representing 16 species of Tamias is longest for T. cinereicollis (Sutton, 1982).

ONTOGENY AND REPRODUCTION. One litter is produced each year (Bailey, 1931; Clothier, 1969; Hoffmeister, 1986) with conception occurring from early April to mid-May (Dunford, 1974). Rearing takes place during June, July (Mearns, 1907), and August (Merriam, 1890). Young are above ground by late July (Clothier, 1969; Hoffmeister, 1986), but lactating females may occur as late as 3 August (Merriam, 1890).

In southeastern Coconino Co., Arizona, pregnant females occurred from 29 April to 7 June. The gestation period was at least 30 days. Young were born during the first 2 weeks of June, with the peak of the breeding season possibly occurring in late April. Fourteen young that were born in captivity on 2, 4, and 8 June began eating solid foods at 36-40 days and stopped nursing at 41-45 days. Litter size ranged from four to six, with an average of 4.9 young/litter (Clothier, 1969).

The half-grown young of August and September are of similar coloration to the adults, but the pelage is thinner and more silky (Allen, 1890). By September and October the young are almost fully grown (Bailey, 1931).

Juveniles with a deciduous Pm4 fully erupted can be distinguished from adults by the presence of a small hole in the bone lingual to this tooth. This is not found in adults. Also, the anterior root of Pm4 is more slanted in juveniles than adults (Hoffmeister, 1986).

ECOLOGY. The gray-collared chipmunk occupies Ponderosa pine (Pinus ponderosa) forest (Fig. 5), extending into the spruce-fir (Picea-Pseudotsuga) forest. It is common up to the timberline in the San Francisco Mountains, and frequently is seen running along fallen logs or perched on stumps. T. cinereicollis often is seen in more open parts of the forest, but this may be because it is more conspicuous there and not because it selects this habitat more often than dense forest (Hoffmeister, 1986). It is most common where Douglas fir (Pseudotsuga menziesii) and pine overlap. T. cinereicollis is a good climber and often is found hidden in dense foliage (Merriam, 1890).

MAMMALIAN SPECIES 436

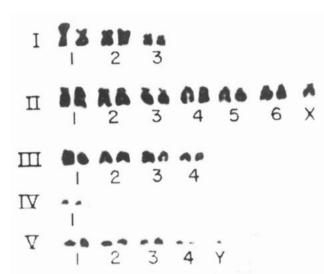


Fig. 6. Karyotype of a male *Tamias cinereicollis cinereus* from near Kingston, Grant Co., New Mexico. Roman numerals indicate the type of chromosome: I, large metacentric; II, submetacentric; III, large acrocentric; IV, small metacentric; V, small acrocentric. The number of chromosomes of each type is noted (modified from Sutton and Nadler, 1969).

Of all the forest chipmunks in New Mexico, *T. cinereicollis* is least likely to occur below the Ponderosa pine forest and tends to occupy only the most mesic of the high forests (Findley et al., 1975). However, *T. cinereicollis* also occurs in association with oak (*Quercus*) trees (Allen, 1895), and it may be common in oak and juniper (*Juniperus*) habitat (Findley and Caire, 1977). In a second-growth pine forest, densities ranged from ca. 5/ha in May to 12.5/ha in August, when young-of-the-year were present (Clothier, 1969).

Nests are placed under logs, stumps, and roots, or in hollows in trees. In the San Francisco Mountains, a nest made of grass and weed fibers was located in a crevice on the underside of a downed log (Hoffmeister, 1986). In the White Mountains, a mother and six young used a woodpecker hole in a large Ponderosa pine as the entrance to a nest. The hole was in a large limb 18 m above the ground and faced the ground. Elsewhere, *T. cinereicollis* has used woodpecker holes 6–23 m above the ground in conifers (Broadbooks, 1974).

The gray-collared chipmunk eats seeds of small plants (Merriam, 1890), fir cones, acorns of Gambel's oak (Quercus gambeli), currants and gooseberries (Ribes), shadblow berries (Amelanchier), tubers, starchy roots (Bailey, 1931), and feeds heavily upon legumes in the summer (Mearns, 1907). T. cinereicollis also consumes mushrooms (Bailey, 1931) and other fungi (Fogel and Trappe, 1978), Pseudotsuga menziesii, Pinus edulis (Van Dersal, 1938), and the seed of P. ponderosa (Smith, 1943; Taylor and Gorsuch, 1932). Stomach contents reveal a mixture of masticated seeds, green vegetation, and traces of insects (Bailey, 1931).

Tamias cinereicollis may occur in the same geographic area as T. dorsalis and T. minimus (Allen, 1895; Hoffmeister, 1986; Patterson, 1981). In Arizona, T. cinereicollis only occurs with T. dorsalis in a few places on the Mogollon Plateau and White Mountains. Usually, T. cinereicollis occurs higher in the forest and in less rocky situations (Hoffmeister, 1986). In New Mexico, T. cinereicollis occupies only the most mesic higher forests, with T. dorsalis occupying the lower zones. Competition with T. dorsalis may help maintain this relationship (Findley et al., 1975). In the White Moutains of Arizona, T. cinereicollis occurs more often in spruce-fir and mixed-conifer forest than does T. minimus, which uses pine and mixed-conifer forest (Sullivan, 1985). Other mammals associated with gray-collared chipmunks include Sorex merriami, S. monticolus, S. nanus, S. palustris, Sylvilagus nuttalli, Spermophilus lateralis, Sciurus aberti, Tamaisciurus hudsonicus, Thomomys talpoides, Clethrionomys gapperi, Microtus longicaudus, M. mexicanus, M. montanus, Zapus hudsonicus, and Neotoma mexicana (Lomolino et al., 1989).

BEHAVIOR. Contrary to Allen's (1895) report that *T. cinereicollis* primarily is arboreal and rarely occurs on the ground or on rocks, it often is terrestrial (Broadbooks, 1974; Hoffmeister,

1986). Throughout the Mogollon Mountains *T. cinereicollis* frequently climbs conifers in search of food (Broadbooks, 1974; Hoffmeister, 1986). Favorite haunts are log piles near clearings, or the edges of burned forests, but it also is commonly found in the dense pine, spruce, or fir forests (Bailey, 1931). *T. cinereicollis* is a good climber, often taking to the trees for protection and escaping by hiding among the dense, evergreen foliage. Generally, *T. cinereicollis* is shy and when alarmed it commonly disappears among the logs or trees (Bailey, 1931).

The gray-collared chipmunk is an active species, and has a loud, sharp call (Allen, 1895; Merriam, 1890). When not alarmed, gray-collared chipmunks may sit on stumps or logs and slowly wave their tails from side to side as they make a low "chuck-chuck-chuck" or sharp "chipper." The alarm call is a shrill, rapid "chipper" (Bailey, 1931; Mearns, 1907).

Tamias cinereicollis makes nests on the ground beneath stones, logs, and tree roots and burrows in fallen logs, the ends of which have dry grass and similar material for the birth and rearing of young. It will climb even the tallest trees to gather food and stores acorns in large quantities in the ground or in hollow logs (Mearns, 1907). T. cinereicollis often uses woodpecker holes as nest sites (Broadbooks, 1974).

Tamias cinereicollis may hibernate late in the year, or not at all (Merriam, 1890). In autumn, it may be active until 30 November and reappear from hibernation by 18 March (Clothier, 1969). This species does not become noticeably fat in autumn; however, it does gather food for winter. T. cinereicollis is active in the Mogollon Mountains at 2,400–3,000 m altitude, up to the end of October, even with 5 cm of snow on the ground. Its tracks may be abundant on snow in the mountains, but it is probable that during the cold of winter it remains in dens under the deep snow, either sleeping or feeding on stored food (Bailey, 1931). In Arizona, T. cinereicollis commonly emerges from beneath the deep snow in winter, and runs about during the warm part of the day. However, during stormy or severly cold periods it does not venture forth (Mearns, 1907).

GENETICS. This species has karyotype A of Tamias (Fig. 6; Nadler et al., 1977). The diploid karyotype contains 38 chromosomes including three pair of large metacentric, six pair of large submetacentric, four pair of large acrocentric, one pair of small metacentric, and four pair of small acrocentric chromosomes. The X and Y chromosomes are submetacentric and acrocentric, respectively (Hoffmeister, 1986; Sutton and Nadler, 1969). Based upon 20 allozymes, T. cinereicollis had an average heterozygosity of 0.0242 and one polymorphic locus (red cell phosphoglucomutase—Levenson et al., 1985).

REMARKS. Primarily on the basis of the five dark stripes, presence of a third premolar, certain features of the hyoid and the baculum, microcomplement fixation, and some features of the chromosomes, many scientists regard the gray-collared chipmunk and other western chipmunks to be in the genus *Eutamias* (Hoffmeister, 1986).

Phenetic analysis of electrophoretic data places T. cinereicollis closest to T. amoenus and T. umbrinus. Phenetic analysis of morphologic data places T. cinereicollis closest to T. bulleri, T. canipes, T. dorsalis, T. durangae, and T. obscurus (Levenson et al., 1985). In southern New Mexico, T. canipes, T. cinereicollis, and T. quadrivittatus were considered conspecific until bacular and karyotypic differences were demonstrated (Fleharty, 1960; Patterson, 1980b, 1984b). Further study may reveal that T. durangae and T. cinereicollis are conspecific (Baker, 1956).

Although once considered as conspecifics (Bailey, 1902), there is no basis for the derivation of *T. canipes* from *T. cinereicollis*. Instead, both species appear to have been derived independently from a northern stock currently represented by *T. quadrivittatus*. The early synonymy of *T. canipes* and *T. cinereicollis* thus reflects convergent evolution of these southern populations of the *quadrivittatus* species group (Patterson, 1982).

Tamias is from the Greek tamias meaning a storer or distributor. The specific epithet cinereicollis is derived from the Latin cinereus meaning ash-colored and collum meaning neck (Jaeger, 1955). Another common name is ash-colored chipmunk (Elliot, 1905).

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