

Badger Burrow ID

OCCURRENCE

- southern interior of BC
- variety of habitats; grasslands and dry open forests are most common
- occur in logged or burned forests, often at disturbed areas such as landings
- also occur in the alpine

SIGN

- mound of dirt at the entrance to a large elliptical hole
- burrow plugged with soft “fluffy” dirt is good indication the badger is currently in the burrow
- badgers regularly re-use burrows across their range



BURROW LOCATION

- flat to steep terrain from valley bottom to alpine
- silty, loamy, clayey and sandy; coarse fragments range from low to high



DIET

- main source: Columbian ground squirrel
- other sources: voles, marmots, muskrats, birds, insects and scavenged roadkill





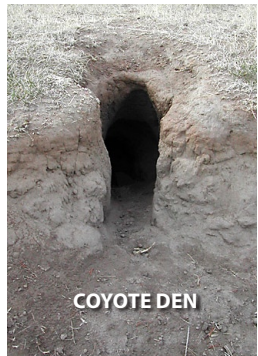
BADGER BURROWS

- elliptical shape; about 20–30 cm wide and 15–25 cm high
- claw marks may be seen along sides and top, 3–5 cm apart



TRADING PLACES

- foxes, coyotes and bears often enlarge and use an old badger burrow
- coyote dens are taller and less round
- badgers and ground squirrels regularly “exchange” burrows
- burrows most recently occupied by ground squirrels often narrow down to 10 cm
- burrows used by badgers most recently remain at least 19 cm wide



GROUND SQUIRREL BURROWS

- fairly round, with entrances about 10 cm in diameter
- amount of dirt at the entrance of badger or ground squirrel burrows highly variable and not a good indicator of which species excavated the burrow

jeffersonii Badger Recovery Team

Photo credits: Tim McAllister, Richard Klafki, and Roger Packham