



## CONTENTS

### **Introduction** 1

What Is a Mammal? 1

Mammals and the Great Lakes Ecosystem 3

The European Invasion 10

Modern Human Impacts 11

### **SPECIES ACCOUNTS**

#### **Marsupials (Infraclass Metatheria)** 17

New World Opossums (Order Didelphimorpha) 19

New World Opossums (Family Didelphidae) 19

#### **Placental or Eutherian Mammals (Infraclass Eutheria)** 23

Shrews and Moles (Order Soricomorpha) 24

Shrews (Family Soricidae) 25

Moles (Family Talpidae) 50

Bats (Order Chiroptera) 60

Evening or Plain-nosed Bats (Family Vespertilionidae) 61

Rabbits, Hares, and Pikas (Order Lagomorpha) 92

Rabbits and Hares (Family Leporidae) 93

Rodents (Order Rodentia) 108

Squirrels (Family Sciuridae) 109

Pocket Gophers (Family Geomyidae) 139

Beavers (Family Castoridae) 143

New World Rats and Mice, Voles, and Their Allies

(Family Cricetidae) 146

Old World Rats and Mice, and Their Allies (Family Muridae) 184

Jumping Mice (Family Zapodidae) 190

New World Porcupines (Family Erethizontidae) 197

Carnivorans (Order Carnivora) 201

Dogs, Foxes, and Wolves (Family Canidae) 202

Bears (Family Ursidae) 214





xii | **Contents**

Raccoons and Their Allies (Family Procyonidae) 218

Weasels and Their Allies (Family Mustelidae) 222

Skunks and Stink Badgers (Family Mephitidae) 250

Cats (Family Felidae) 254

Even-toed Ungulates and Whales (Order Artiodactyla) 264

Deer (Family Cervidae) 265

Pigs and Hogs (Family Suidae) 278

**Capturing Small Mammals** 283

Ethical, Legal, and Health Considerations 283

Live Traps 284

Snap Traps 285

Sampling Small Mammal Populations with Traps 286

Pitfalls 287

Alternatives to Traps 287

Harp Traps and Mist Nets for Bats 287

**Specimen Preparation** 291

Measuring Specimens and Recording Data 291

Preparing a Study Skin 293

Fluid Preservation 301

Tanning Small Mammal Skins 302

Cleaning Skulls 302

**Identifying Adult Mammals of the Great Lakes Region** 305

Key to Skulls 306

Key to Mammals in the Flesh 327

Summary of Measurements and Life History Information 339

Dental Formulae 345

**Tracks of Mammals** 349

**Technical Names of Organisms Mentioned in the Text** 371

Plants 371

Animals 372

*Glossary* 375

*References* 385

*Index* 399

