



Utah Prairie Dog (*Cynomys parvidens*)

Size: Head and body length, 30.5 - 36 cm; tail, 3 - 6 cm **Weight:** 0.6 - 1.4 kg **Habitat:** Shortgrass prairie and grasslands of southern Utah **Surviving number:** Estimated at 8,000 adults in 2004



Photographed by Kevin Schafer

WILDLIFE AS CANON SEES IT

Family friendly. The Utah prairie dog lives, socializes and cooperates with its extended family in an elaborate network of tunnels and chambers, called a "town," excavated over generations. Each winter, family members cozy up together for long periods to hibernate. When out foraging for choice grasses, they take turns looking out for danger. But while

families can often escape predators this way, they have no defense against habitat loss, plague and poisoning. The future has turned decidedly unfriendly.

As Canon sees it, images have the power to raise awareness of the threats facing endangered species and the natural environment, helping us make the world a better place.



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