



Pikas

Listen for the *eeep!* If you are here early or late in the day you just might hear the nasally honk of this small mammal as it scampers around its rocky home. Like many of the creatures at Craters of the Moon, these “rock rabbits” rely upon the cool shelter of cracks and crevices in the lava rock for protection from heat and predators. Scientists are monitoring pikas within the monument to determine if climate change impacts their distribution and population.

Pikas protect themselves from the searing temperatures on the surface (up to 170 ° F/ 77 ° C) by staying underground during the heat of the day.

Photo: Michael Durham

