

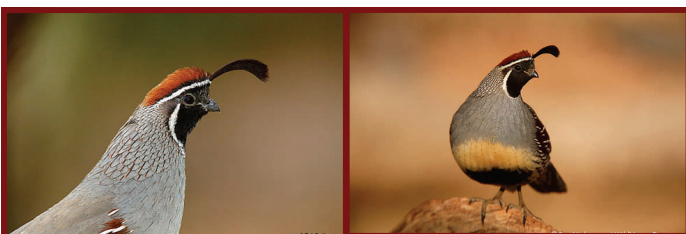


GAMBEL'S QUAIL

Callipepla gambelii



Like other North American quail, Gambel's quail have a chunky round body with a plume on the head. Males have a dark and thick plume, a black face, and a black patch on the abdomen. The chestnut sides and cream-colored belly are streaked with various pale and dark markings. Females are duller than males, their plumes are thinner, and they lack the black markings on the abdomen and face. Gambel's quail are considered monogamous, but females have been known to leave their offspring with their father to have a second brood with another male. Males offer small bits of food to females to entice them into forming a pair-bond. Nests are placed on the ground under a shrub or overhanging rock. Ten to twelve eggs are laid per clutch.



SPECIES QUICK FACTS

SIZE

The Gambel's quail is typically 10 to 11 inches in length.

WINGSPAN

The Gambel's quail has an average wingspan of 14 inches.

FOOD HABITS

Gambel's quail primarily eat seeds, leaves, and other plant materials. Some insects are eaten, especially during the breeding season.

HABITAT

Gambel's quail prefer arid environments with brushy, thorny vegetation.

GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION

Gambel's quail are found in the southwestern United States and northwestern Mexico.

FUN FACT

Gambel's quail live in large groups of 20 to 40 called coveys.