CALIFORNIA QUAIL

Lophortyx californica



1741.

The California quail includes (according to recent classification) four subspecies. Of these, the valley California quail (*L. californica californica*) has the widest range and is by far the best known. Its range extends from California to parts of Oregon, Washington, and Nevada. Another subspecies occurs in a narrow coastal strip in central and northern California, one is confined to Santa Catalina Island, and the fourth occurs in Inyo County and vicinity.

The habitat of this jaunty, plumetopped quail varies from chaparralcovered upland to foothill slopes and valley floors. It is the principal upland gamebird in California.

Specimens: 354 WINTER	30 SPRING	179 SUMMER	EALL FALL
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Animal food: The small percentage of animal food taken consists of a miscellary of insects, including ants and other *Hymenoptera*, beetles, grasshoppers, and crickets.

Plant food: In the late winter and spring, tender leaves, especially of burclover and filaree, constitute the major part of the diet. But in other seasons, seeds, particularly of legumes, are the staple food.

California, 802 (354-30-179-239)

- *** Filaree, sd. and lf. SpSuFW
 - ** Turkeymullein SpSuFW
 - ** Barley SuFW
 - ** Clover SpSuFW
 - ** Lupine SpSuFW
 - ** Burclover, If. and sd. SpSuFW
 - ** Deervetch SuFW
 - * Oak FW
 - * Poison-oak FW
 - * Star-thistle F
 - * Pigweed SuF

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UPLAND GAMEBIRDS



- * Oats SuF
- * Ryegrass SuF
- * Bromegrass SuFW
- + Chickweed, Tarweed, Annual Bluegrass, Redmaids, Fiddleneck, Buttercup, Popcornflower, Gilia, Loco-

- weed, Ceanothus, Toadrush, Wild Strawberry Nevada, 189 (102-27-35-25)
 - *** Wheat SuFWSp
 - *** Burclover, sd. and lf. SuFWSp
 - ** Alfalfa, if. and sd. SuFWSp
 - ** Barley SuFWSp
 - ** Bassia FW
 - ** Poplar Su
 - ** Sweetclover FWSp
 - ** Corn WSp
 - * Buffaloberry SuFW
 - * Russianthistle FWSp
 - * Bristlegrass SuFW
 - * Locust, Black FW
 - * Goosefoot SuF
 - * Violet Su
 - + Pigweed, Ricegrass, Tansymustard, Dandelion, Greasewood, Wildmillet

Reference: A Life History of the California Quail. Lowell E. Summer, Jr. Calif. Fish and Game, Vol. 21, pp. 167-256 and 275-342, 1935.