



Badlands National Park, South Dakota

Badlands National Park, South Dakota Reintroduction Site Profile

Date Updated: February 2010

Location: Southwestern South Dakota

Species of PD: Black-tailed Prairie Dogs **Acres of PD:** 5,800

Land ownership: National Park Service

Years of ferret reintroduction: 1994 - 2000

Number of ferrets released to date: 217

Estimated population size: 28

Research activities: plague research

Site challenges: plague, habitat fragmentation due to topography

Volunteer or visitor opportunities: Badlands National Park Visitor Center <http://www.nps.gov/badl/index.htm>

Education staff and activities: Badlands National Park Visitor Center <http://www.nps.gov/badl/index.htm> and swift fox curriculum http://www.nps.gov/badl/forteachers/upload/Swift_Fox_Curriculum.pdf and prairie education programs <http://www.nps.gov/badl/forteachers/index.htm>

Future plans: Actively monitor population, provide ferrets for translocation when ferret population is high, but may reintroduce ferrets if population decreases or future genetic studies suggest low genetic diversity