

From: [Turner, Ed](#)
To: michaelsbuxton@gmail.com
Cc: [Betty Grizzle](#)
Subject: Amethyst Lake Wolverine Sighting 08/2010
Date: Thursday, January 19, 2017 4:04:12 PM
Attachments: [Amethyst Lake.jpg](#)
[Amethyst Lake Wolverine.pdf](#)

Hello Dr. Buxton, I'm currently working on trying to compile wolverine records for the western states, and have been receiving information for the Wasatch GIS Coordinator.

He passed on your following account and I was wondering if you could be of some help.

Amethyst Lake (Evanston-Mountain View RD) Wolverine Sighting

August 20, 2010

Michael Buxton (Professor at Brigham Young University)

Orem, Utah

801-318-1900

michaelsbuxton@gmail.com

Hi Nate

My siting of the wolverine took place around 8pm on Friday, August 20, 2010. The location was near the southwest corner of Amethyst Lake. Fishing had become poorer due to wind, so I hiked up a rocky 100ft incline directly up from the lake at this corner. I did not have any camera with me. At the top of this incline is a rocky ledge which is probably a few hundred feet wide before inclining again westward up the mountain. I began walking toward the north along this ridge and maybe 200 feet along this ridge I saw the wolverine, walking about 60 feet in front of me, crossing my path so I could see its right side perfectly. I was alone in the siting; my 25 year old son was on the south side of the lake.

The first thing I noticed was its size--it was as large as a small-to-medium sized dog. It was quite round around the belly, furry and what seemed a little fat. When I saw it, it was obvious to me it was not a badger or marmot, and certainly not a bear cub. The other thing I quickly noticed was its strange way of walking--kind of a slow trot and loping side to side. It seemed almost comical. I stopped immediately and stood still. It stopped at the east edge of the ledge and stopped, standing still, and looking at me. It appeared it was heading into some brush, but was interested in me. This was the amazing thing to me--it was just as curious about me as I was about it, so we stood there and stared at each other for more than 10 minutes. It kept

looking over at me and then away. I inched forward at times and it noticed this but it stayed put. Eventually I got too close for its comfort (about 50 feet) and it quickly moved into the brush and I did not see it again.

It's head was black. Most of it's body fur was dark brown, but there was golden color on it's neck and behind it's ears. At the top of it's tail was golden/tan color and about 1/4 of the way down it became dark brown through to the end. It's feet were very dark brown/black. I did not smell a scent.

I have never seen a wolverine before so this was a wonderful experience for me, I was certainly not expecting it. If anyone has further questions, please email me or contact me at 801-318-1900. I live in Orem, UT and work as a professor at BYU.

Michael Buxton "

I'm using some of my imagery in the GIS system in an attempt to place the location of your sighting. If at all possible would you be able to help with a location. Your email is very explanatory and I'm finding what I believe would be the general area, but if I have a location that would be very helpful.

I have included a GIS image and a Google Earth image for your reference. I was hoping that maybe you too could open Google Earth on your computer and place a marker at the location of the wolverine that day. If so, you could you email a saved image or KML location?.

Thank you for any help that you can provide,

Ed

--

Edwin Turner, Geographer
GIS Mapping and Analysis Branch

DOI-R8-CFWO
USFWS Carlsbad Fish and Wildlife Office

2177 Salk Ave. Suite 250
Carlsbad, CA 92008
760.431.9440 x266

Ed_Turner@fws.gov
760.431.9440 x266



Amethyst Lake

Google earth

© 2016 Google

1993

Imagery Date: 6/4/2013 12 T 520271.79 m E 4511006.60 m N elev 10779 ft eye alt 14155 ft

