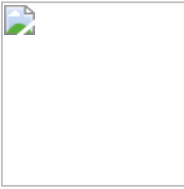


ANOTHER REASON TO FEAR SAN FRANCISCO: HERPES INFESTED RAT INVASION



San Francisco and Oakland are some of the most rat-infested cities in US, study finds

You Really, Really do not want to find yourself covered in Rat Herpes



Now Playing: Was That Fake? - rat taking a shower

San Francisco and Oakland are some of the most rat-infested cities in US, study finds

By **Susana Guerrero**, SFGATE

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 Click ahead to see the top 10 cities with the worst rat problems, according to data from Orkin pest control. Photo: Julie Jacobson, Associated Press

Photo: Julie Jacobson, Associated Press

IMAGE 1 OF 37

Click ahead to see the top 10 cities with the worst rat problems, according to data from Orkin pest control.

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from Sept. 2016 to Sept. 2017. The ranking includes both residential and commercial treatments.

Chicago out beat New York as the most rat-infested city in the county — a title it's carried for three years, according to Orkin.

RELATED VIDEO: Overrun by Rats: Novato woman blames dumpsters for infestation

A North Bay woman blames the dump who won't go away.

Media: Brandpoint

In August, **Mother Jones** that in cities like Chicago, i officials to sprinkle rat birt

San Francisco has had its o in rat sightings in the last f



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311, San Francisco's official site for information and complaints.

RATS IN SF: Rat complaints in San Francisco have surged over the past five years

Other California cities to make the list were Los Angeles (3), Sacramento-Stockton (26) and San Diego (35).



Invasive 20-pound MEGA-RATS increasingly burrowing into California

Tom Miller, KCRA



Photo: CA Department Of Fish And Wildlife

IMAGE 1 OF 28

A giant 20-pound rodent with the ab in Stanislaus County.

A giant invasive rodent wetlands has been disc

A video player interface showing a black screen with a white border and a red text overlay at the bottom. The text overlay reads: "Now Playing: Was That Fake? - rat taking a shower".

Weighing in at 20 pounds and measuring 2 feet, 6 inches long, plus a 12-inch tail, the nutria live in or near water. They're also incredibly destructive.

“They burrow in dikes, and levees, and road beds, so they weaken infrastructure, (which is) problematic for flood control systems,” California Fish and Wildlife spokesperson Peter Tira said.

FOX 26 News anchor Jonathan Martin
Media: Fox 26 Houston

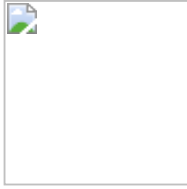
When nutria aren't burrow
percent of their body weight
destroy 10 times that.

ALSO

San Francisco and
Oakland are some of
most rat-infested cities

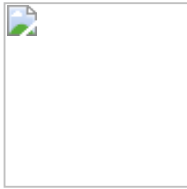


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US, study finds

quickly. Nutria can give birth to up to 200 offspring each year.



California science fair project tying race, IQ

"We have traps out. We're setting traps. We have trail cameras," Tira said. "We're really asking for the public's help to report sightings so we can get a handle on the extent of the problem."

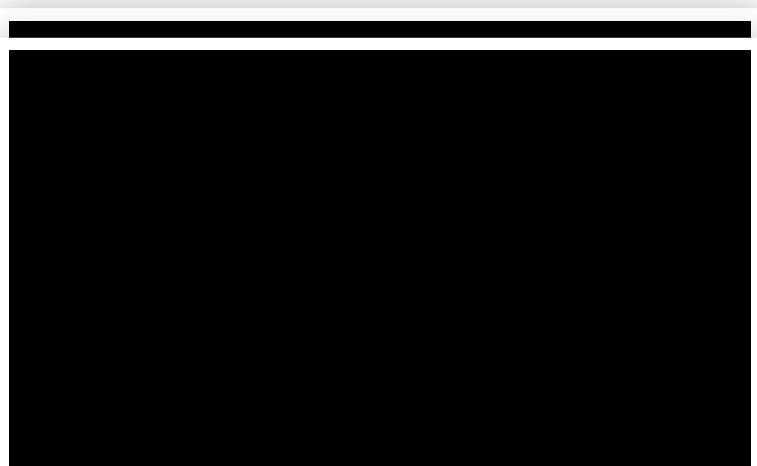
sparks outcry

Nutria are native to South America, and they were introduced to

California in 1899 for their mink-like fur.

Wildlife officials believed they were eradicated from the state in 1978 but now think a colony may have stayed under the radar and only recently reemerged.

Nutria is often mistaken for a beaver or muskrat, but it's identified by its white whiskers, rounded tail and webbed feet with just one toe free.



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