

Hawaii Owls:

Two owls inhabit Hawaii. The introduced Barn owl and the native pueo known as the Hawaiian short eared owl (*Asio flammeus sandwichensis*) This owl is diurnal – a day time hunter.

Idaho Owls:

The resident owls are the Barn owl, Flammulated, Western screech, Great Horned, Northern pygmy, Burrowing, Barred, Great Gray, Long eared, Short eared and Northern saw-whet. Winter visitors are the Northern Hawk and Snowy owl. Several of Idaho owls are strictly nocturnal. The Barn and Long-eared owl become active only after dark. The Burrowing and Pygmy owls are more likely to be diurnal- active during the day. The Great Horned owl is crepuscular- most active at dawn and dusk.

Nevada Owls:

Nevada is known for its rugged landscape and unique biodiversity. Nevada is home to twelve species of owls and home to the lightest one- the Elk owl which weighs around 14 ounces. Great Horned owls are the largest nocturnal rapture weighing between 2-4 pounds. Other species include the Western screech, Northern saw-whet, Long-eared and Burrowing owl.

Arizona Owls:

Arizona has thirteen species of owls.

Year- round owls in northern Arizona are the Barn, Western screech, Great horned, Mexican spotted, Northern pygmy and Northern saw-whet. Desert owls include the Great horned, Barn, Burrowing and the Elf owl. Summer can bring the Burrowing and the Flammulated owl and, on rare occasions, the Long-eared owl. The Whiskered owl is a small owl of mountain oak forests in SE Arizona that winters in Mexico.

The Elf owl is mainly limited from the south and central part of the state. The owl prefers deserts dominated by the saguaro cactus, mesquite trees and riparian canyons dominated by sycamores found in elevations between 3000 and 5000 feet.

California Owls:

The Great Horned, Western screech and the Barn owl are year-round residents of Southern California. The Burrowing owl makes its home in abandoned underground rodent burrows in desert areas. Nesting grounds in Southern California are vital winter hold-overs for Burrowing owls that migrate. The population numbers of the Northern pygmy and Northern saw-whet owls are dwindling due to the loss of preferred habitat by deforestation and urban encroachment.

The California Spotted owl lives in forest habitats of the western slope of the Sierra Nevada mountains and the costal range beginning in Monterey county extending to Baja California in Mexico.

Northern California is home to many owls: Great Gray, California spotted, Barred, Great horned, Western screech, Flammulated, Northern saw-whet, Northern pygmy, Long-eared, Short-eared, Burrowing and Barn owl.

Oregon Owls:

Oregon has fourteen species of owls. Barn, Flammulated, Western screech, Great Horned, Snowy, Northern Pygmy, Burrowing, Barred, Great gray, Long-eared, Short-eared, Boreal, Northern saw-whet and the Northern spotted owl.

On the Oregon Conservation Strategy Species List are owls in need of conservation help. They include the Flammulated owl, Northern spotted owl and the Great gray owl.

Washington Owls:

Thirteen owls are residents of Washington State. Barn, Barred, Boreal, Burrowing, Flammulated, Great Horned, Great Gray, Long eared, Spotted, Western screech, Northern saw-whet, Short-eared and Snowy owl.

Barn owls are one of the most distributed birds in the world, found on all continents except Antarctica. Barn owls occupy a wide range of habitats and altitudes: forests, deserts, grasslands, agricultural fields and urban areas. They are medium size nocturnal raptors. Females are larger, darker and more spotted than males: 13-16 inches tall with a wing span of 39-49 inches. In winter, they roost in dense conifer, caves, buildings or barns. Their diet consists of small mammals, especially rodents. They also eat birds, reptiles and insects. The Barn owl's ability to locate prey by sound is the best of any animal that has ever been tested.

Ann Kronenwetter, PRGC Bird Chairman