The Roost

NEWSLETTER OF THE OWL RESEARCH INSTITUTE (ORI) & NINEPIPES CENTER FOR WILDLIFE RESEARCH & EDUCATION
NOVEMBER 2015 VOLUME 19

Inside this issue:

Cover photo by Kurt Lindsay

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Greetings once again from the ORI headquarters in Charlo, Montana. Autumn is here, and warm days with cool nights are a welcomed relief after a hot and dry summer. This year our resident Great Horned Owls nested about a half mile to the east on our neighbor's property. We set a live camera on their nest and watched the owls raise three young. See Live Owl Cams (p. 13).

As always, we were very busy on our 10 research projects, which keep us in the field most of the year. In addition to research in 2015, we provided about 50 programs including adult and children's education events, days in the field, and lectures. For example, we taught a class for Montana Wild, which brought Montana teachers together to learn about owls and use that information for their classroom instruction.

We donated a Day in the Field to Montana Fish Wildlife and Parks for a fundraiser for Grizzly Bear and Mountain Lion research. This event was hosted in Montana by noted wildlife conservationist and television host Jack Hanna, from the Columbus Zoo, OH. Among our lecture series, we were honored to speak at the Los Angeles Zoo for staff and docents. See Education (p. 10).

We have several papers in press and in review and are looking forward to a productive publishing year in 2016. Our Short-eared Owl survey methods paper is in review with The Wildlife Society Bulletin, and has already been implemented by biologists from several western states.

After three years of literature review and writing, we completed the revised version of the Snowy Owl species account for the Birds of North America (BNA) project. In addition, our Snowy Owl research project in Barrow, AK was featured in the Cornell Laboratory of Ornithology's "Living Bird" magazine, Spring, 2015.

"GEO" Magazine of Germany also featured our Snowy Owl project in its March 2015 issue with outstanding photographs by Daniel Cox, Natural Exposures.com. An article featuring our owl research and services as wildlife watching tour guides will appear in a 2016 Spring edition of "The Financial Times of London", the English counterpart of "The Wall Street Journal".

We are very proud to report that in 2016 we will reach two significant milestones. Our Long-eared Owl research project will enter its 30th year, and our Snowy Owl research project its 25th year.

The Long-eared Owl project is the longest running, year-round research project on this species in North America. The Snowy Owl project is the longest running breeding study in North America and second longest breeding study in the world – second only to Irina Menyushina's study on Wrangel Island, Russia.

Those who have read about our philosophy understand that we believe the most reliable data in wildlife research is usually generated from long-term studies conducted by the same individuals. Read more highlights of these projects in Research (p. 7).

Finally, I ask once a year for your support. This year we have already matched a $25,000 grant, and would now like to match that $50,000. I hope you consider this request. As you read this newsletter, you'll see the programs your investment supports. After reading, please pass it on to a friend.

Photo by Ali Hoy

Snowy Owl defending her nest

Thanks and enjoy the autumn and winter seasons.

~Denver Holt

RESEARCH

Photo by Sean McCann

Adult female Barn Owl

Barn Owl. Barn Owls are not well-suited to tolerate cold, snowy climates and are irregular breeders in the Missoula and Mission valleys of western Montana. Every year we search old barns, structures, and natural cavities for evidence of Barn Owl activity. Although we found several roosts and investigated one reliable sighting, no nests or evidence of breeding was found in 2015.

Female Barn Owl with chicks in natural nest cavity

Flammulated Owl.

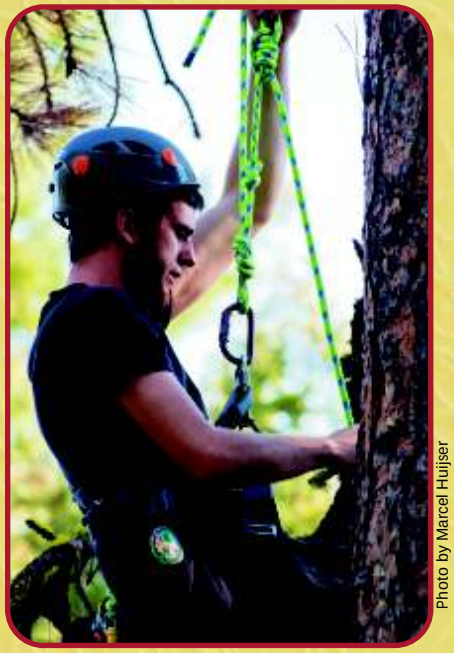


Photo by Marcel Huijser

Adam Eckert climbs a tree to weigh Flammulated Owl chicks

Flammulated Owls are diminutive, insectivorous owls. Keeping up with them in the middle of the night on the steep slopes above Missoula proves a challenging affair. But the difficult task is occasionally rewarded with the discovery of a nest and seeing the cryptic camouflage of a female Flammulated Owl at a cavity entrance is always a joyful sight. We found two nests in 2015: one in a cavity that had been used the previous three years and another in an area where we've suspected, but never found, a nest. We continue to monitor Flammulated Owls and gather information on habitat, snag and cavity use in our study area in the Lolo National Forest. We provide this information to foresters and land managers who use it to develop the best management practices for this and other cavity-dependent species.

Photo by Marcel Huijser

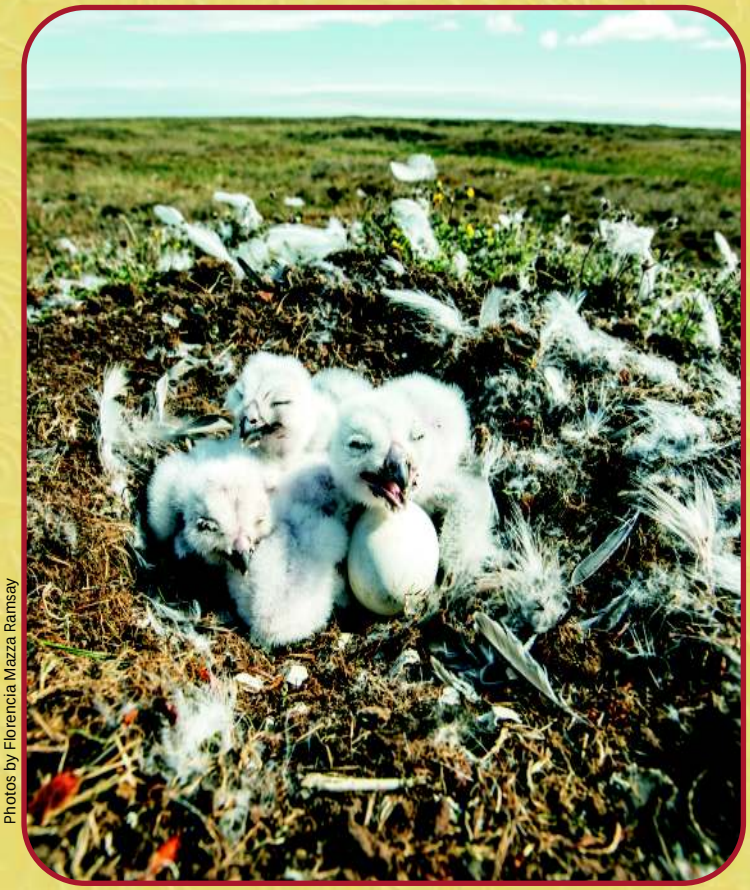
Female Flammulated Owl in nest cavity

RESEARCH

Snowy Owl. Our 24th year studying Snowy Owls on the North Slope of Alaska was a down breeding year. We found three nests and a handful of non-breeding owls in our study area outside of Barrow. Brown Lemmings, the Snowy Owl's principal prey in the Arctic, were scarce to begin the breeding season. However, local populations appeared to be trending upward going into the fall.

We recently revised the Snowy Owl account for the Cornell Lab of Ornithology's Birds of North America (http://bna.birds.cornell.edu/) and our research was highlighted in “Living Bird” and ”GEO” magazine (Germany). See Research Milestones (p. 8).

Two-week old Snowy Owl chicks



Photos by Florencia Mazza Ramsay

Newly-hatched Snowy Owl chicks in the nest

Northern Hawk Owl. 2015 marked the 10th year of our Northern Hawk Owl study in and around Glacier National Park (GNP). Hawk Owls have been observed in GNP every year since 2005, and we have evidence of breeding in all but one of those years (2008).

We found one nest in 2015, outside of St. Mary's on the east side of the park. Apparently, only a single chick fledged from this nest. Although we have evidence that Hawk Owls have bred on the east side of the park (i.e. found recently fledged chicks), this was the first documented nest site east of the divide in GNP.

We also hosted Adam Eckert from Principia College, Elsah, IL, for the second summer. Adam is working with us on a senior capstone project modeling the ecological habitat niche of the Northern Hawk Owl. He spent the summer working with our breeding data in Montana and helping us complete our field work for many other projects. We're looking forward to working with Adam as his project continues to develop.

Releasing adult Northern Hawk Owls

Photos by Paul Bannick

A Northern Hawk Owl hunting from a perch

RESEARCH

Northern Pygmy Owl and Northern Saw-whet Owl. Thanks in large part to the dedication and hard work of Steve Hiro, we found and monitored two Pygmy Owl and two Northern Saw-whet Owl nests in 2015.

Finding natural nests for these small, cavity-nesting owls can be a true challenge. Since 1995, we've documented 33 Pygmy Owl and 54 Saw-whet Owl nests in Montana. This collection of nest records is one of the largest data sets for either species in North America. We are currently working on a manuscript describing natural nest sites used by these two small forest owls.

Northern Pygmy Owl

Migration. Although fellow banders in Canada and Idaho have reported strong numbers during this year's Saw-whet Owl migration, here in Montana it's been relatively slow.

To date, we've captured around 70 Northern Saw-whet Owls. We did have one individual who was captured and banded in Missoula in late September that found its way to Lucky Peak Bird Observatory outside of Boise, ID and was recaptured there in the first week of October. Recaptures and encounters like this are rare.

Individually, these records are interesting, but over time a collection of these data can help us understand the patterns and movements of Northern Saw-whet Owls and perhaps identify important habitats.

Northern Saw-whet Owl

Adult Boreal Owl

Boreal Owl. In 22 years of monitoring nest boxes for Boreal Owls, there has only been one year with as many nests as 2015. As was the case in 1997, five nests kept us plenty busy up on the pass this past year.

We also added a record of site fidelity, as a banded female was found using the same box for the second year in a row. Encounters like this are quite rare – we've now banded nearly 120 individuals from 36 nests and only have a small handful of documented instances of natal philopatry or female site fidelity. Our manuscript describing these records is currently in prep.

RESEARCH

Long-eared Owl. Entering the 30th year of our Long-eared Owl research in western Montana, we have banded over 1,800 individuals and found over 220 nests. This past year we found and monitored five nests in Missoula.

Last winter was another interesting one. During fall and early winter trapping, we observed some large roosts and good numbers throughout our study area. Then a few weeks of freeze/thaw events turned the snow cover to a very hard crust. With cold weather and hard snow, most of our study area was devoid of Long-eared Owls until early spring.

One of these nests was again observed around the clock and across the world via the webcam in partnership with Explore.org. See Live Owl Cams (p. 13).

Comparing plumage of a male and female Long-eared Owl

Short-eared Owl. The second season of our Short-eared Owl Telemetry project was both fruitful and disappointing. We found five nests and attached two transmitters to breeding females. Both females were observed back on their nest several days after being fitted with the backpack-style harnesses used to secure the transmitters, but both of these nests, and the remaining three, failed to fledge young.

Although we can only speculate as to why Short-eared Owls in our study area had such a tough go this year, it was worth noting that all the nest failures coincided with an extended period of high temperatures in western Montana.

We continue to work with private landowners and land managers from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to provide information about the locations and timing of Short-eared Owl nests. This information is used to help mitigate disturbance of management activities during the sensitive incubation and chick-rearing periods for Short-eared Owls.

Researcher Matt Larson and volunteer Tyler Veto attach a satellite transmitter to a female Short-eared Owl

RESEARCH MILESTONES

Two Major Milestones Reached

by Denver Holt

I have had a life-long interest in nature and wildlife of all kinds. I grew up in Massachusetts and spent many days as a young boy skipping school, exploring different habitats, and just being inquisitive. Even at a young age I was asking the how and why questions, although I did not realize it at that time.

In between these adventures, I played baseball, basketball, and football. Eventually, it was sports and the encouragement of a 'little old lady birdwatcher' that directed me to college and launched my career as a wildlife researcher. There's a lot more to the story – but that was about 40 years ago. As my field time increased, I became more experienced at research methods and interpretation of research results. I came to the realization that it would take a lifetime to become a reliable field researcher, and to learn, and hopefully understand the life history of the owl species I have chosen to study. Now, when I look back to when I was conducting research in my mid-twenties, I realize how naïve and inexperienced I really was.

Early years on the Long-eared Owl project

Indeed, in wildlife field research most questions are rather basic. Original questions, however, are hard to think of, and often only derive from lots of experience and good field observations. Although these basic and original questions provide some interesting results, they often do little for species conservation.

After many years and many questions, I have further realized that long-term research and monitoring is the only way to track population changes, and assess the overall health of wildlife populations regionally, nationally and globally. And, that presentation of research results to a diverse audience is essential to generate public interest for wildlife and habitat conservation.

Below, I highlight some of what I, and those whom have helped me, have learned on our two longest-running projects. In 2016, the Long-eared Owl study will begin its 30th year, and the Snowy Owl and Brown Lemming study will begin its 25th year.

LONG-EARED OWL - MONTANA

Photo by Christina Nealson

Long-eared Owl chicks

In 1987, I began the Long-eared Owl study in western Montana. The initial research question was to determine if communal roosts of Long-eared Owls were composed of family groups, other related individuals, or non-related individuals. Long-eared Owls are one of only a few species of owls in the world that aggregate during the non-breeding season to form communal roosts. In Montana, this is usually during autumn and winter. At times, they also nest in close aggregations – but do not fit the definition of colonial.

Since the study began, a host of other questions arose, as happens in most studies. These were simple research questions such as: clutch size, hatching success, fledging success, food habits, nest site characteristics, winter roost site characteristics, molt, and migration. Even our DNA and other molecular studies, although interesting, are simple descriptive research questions. We achieved our goals of answering several original research questions. For example, we now

continued . . .

LONG-EARED OWL - MONTANA . . . continued

Photo by Kurt Lindsay

Female Long-eared Owl peering through the Hawthornes

know that winter communal groups of these owls rarely have members of the same family; we developed a quantitative technique to discern plumage color differences between males and females; we unraveled the long-term mating system and determined the owls were seasonally monogamous, but life-long polygynous; and we quantified stress hormones, which allowed us to evaluate our research impact in these owls.

Overall, however, we are most proud of our long-term data on our local populations, which indicate the owls are declining. We are unsure of the facts influencing this decline. However, we are actively trying to generate interest for states to conduct surveys for this species.

Photo by Radd Icenoggle

To help us celebrate these milestones, we'd like to hear from you!

Do you have an ORI experience you want to share?
Send your story to:

owlresearchinstitute@gmail.com

We'll share it on our social media pages.

SNOWY OWL - ALASKA

Photo by Florencia Mazza Ramsay

Female Snowy Owl flying in to defend her nest

Photos by Florencia Mazza Ramsay

Denver examining Snowy Owl chick

In 2002, I began the Snowy Owl study in Barrow, Alaska. The initial research question was to evaluate the predator/prey relationship between the Snowy Owl and Brown Lemming – the owls' primary food source.

As with the Long-eared Owl study, a host of other simple questions came to mind that were mostly identical to the Long-eared Owl study. These were followed by a few more original questions such as: satellite tracking, growth rates and plumage development, stress response to research, nest defense behavior, and activity budgets.

Indeed, we were the first researchers in the world to track Snowy Owls by satellite. Our growth and plumage development studies are the most comprehensive in the world, our dietary studies provide the largest sample sizes in the world, highlighting the reliance of Snowy Owls on Brown Lemmings as a food source in Barrow, Alaska.

Our simultaneous monitoring of the Snowy Owls and Brown Lemmings is the longest running study of its kind in North America. Our discovery of an infectious disease in lemmings that can affect humans has direct human health implications. Check out our papers.

continued . . .

RESEARCH

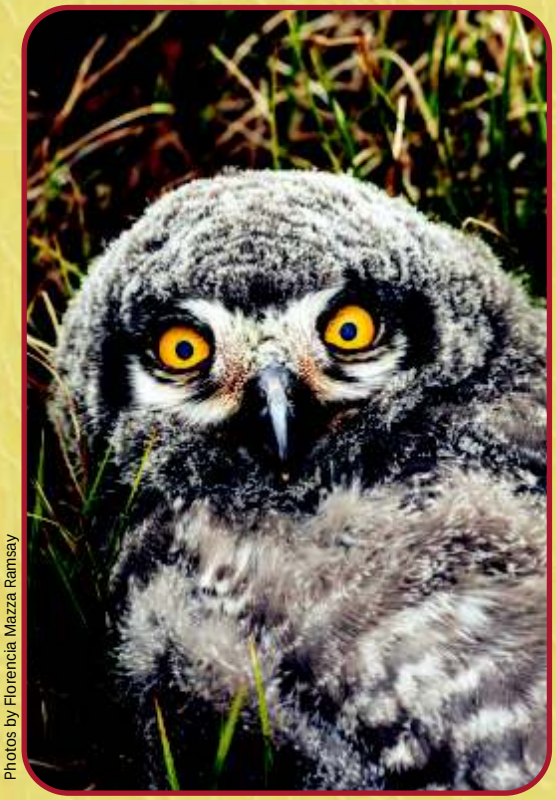
SNOWY OWL - ALASKA . . . continued

The most important objective, however, was to continue with long-term research and monitoring, and to ascertain the owls' population fluctuations in response to fluctuating lemming populations.

We also sought to evaluate if purported lemming cycles really exist in Barrow. Like the Long-eared Owls previously mentioned, the Snowy Owl and Brown Lemming numbers are declining for reasons we do not understand – as of now.

We also hope to determine if these changes in Snowy Owl and Brown Lemming populations are linked to a changing Arctic climate. This study has now evolved into an Arctic wildlife conservation advocacy message.

Denver examining newly-hatched Snowy Owl chicks and eggs



Photos by Florencia Mazza Ramsay

Snowy Owl chick nearing fledging stage

EDUCATION

Although the ORI is primarily focused on research, we have also shown an ongoing commitment to education. Every year we host a number of experiential learning opportunities for a wide variety of people from kindergarten classrooms to senior citizen groups. These programs include: classroom visits, public lectures, internships, "Days in the Field", workshops and field classes. We emphasize the importance of adult education and try to engage folks interested in furthering their understanding of wildlife research and conservation. We are dedicated to publishing and disseminating our research results through scientific peer-reviewed journals, but the value of presenting our findings to the public cannot be overstated. It is a main tenet of our mission.

Volunteer Researchers. Volunteers are an integral part of the ORI and have contributed thousands of hours to our programs. We are enormously grateful for their support, and could not achieve our goals without them.

Volunteers participate in research, managing data, facilities and equipment maintenance, building a foundation for high-quality programs for the public, and assist in presentations. In turn, we offer volunteers valuable hands-on field experience, public communication, and recognition.

This year, volunteers came from the University of Montana, Montana Conservation Corps, Raptor View Research, and citizens at large.

Long-time volunteer Steve Hiro searches for cavity-nesting owls with a school group

EDUCATION

Internships and Seasonal Employees. Each year, we host a number of interns who are typically high school or undergraduate students. The overall objective is to provide a deeper understanding of wildlife research field methods, study design, life history traits, and the importance of long-term study and monitoring. In addition, students often participate in literature searches and data analysis. Occasionally, they take the lead in their own projects. A typical internship lasts one field season.

This year we were happy to host Taylor King, Hannah Myers, and Garrett Visser from the University of Montana, as well as welcome back Adam Eckert of Principia College, Elsah, IL.

Day in the Field. For over 20 years, we have provided an opportunity for the public to join us for a Day in the Field. These donations typically go to schools, community groups, or charitable fundraisers. These groups receive the donation and we provide their donors with a day in the field, observing and learning about research, natural history, and wildlife conservation. In 2015 recipients included: Glacier National Park Conservancy; San Diego State University; University of Texas, El Paso; USFWS; University of Michigan, McGill University; Colorado State University; Greater Polson Community Foundation; Montana Outdoor Legacy; KUFM Montana Public Radio; Mission Mountain Audubon Society.

Banding Saw-whet Owls with Sussex School

Fan mail

A Day in the Field

Classes, Lectures, Media Programs, and Publications

- **Field Classes:** Mission Mountain Audubon, MT; VENT Winter Raptor Workshop, MT; Glacier Institute, MT; Tuzzy Library, AK; Triple Creek Ranch, MT; Sussex School, MT; SG Long Back to School Event, MT; Salish Kootenai College Wildlife Field Methods Class, MT.
- **Indoor Lectures:** Flathead Valley Audubon, MT; Travis Audubon, TX; Sea and Sage Audubon, CA; El Dorado Audubon, CA; Los Angeles Zoo, CA; Grizzly Peak Independent Living, MT; Tuzzy Library, AK; VENT Ornithology class; Potomac School, MT; Holland Lake Campfire Talk, MT; Montana Wild, MT; Ronan High School and Middle School, MT; Montessori, MT; Mission Valley School, MT; Salish Kootenai College Upward Bound, MT; Community Bird Migration Day, MT; Mission Valley Spring Meeting, MT.
- **Professional Talks:** Western Field Ornithologists meeting, MT; The Wildlife Society meetings, MT; Grassland Conservation meeting, MT; Journal of Raptor Research Foundation, CA.
- **Interviews:** Financial Times; Science Magazine; High Country News; University of Alaska; Leigh Calvez; Living Bird Magazine; German Geo; Epic Montana.
- **Publications:** Holt, D.W., M. D. Larson, N. Smith, D.L. Evans, and D.F. Parmelee. 2015. Snowy Owl (Bubo scandiacus). The Birds of North America Online (A. Poole, Ed.). Ithaca: Cornell Lab of Ornithology; Retrieved from the Birds of North America Online: http://birds.cornell.edu/bna/species/010doi:10.2173/bna.10.

  Holt, D.W. Sexing Long-eared Owls Based Upon Plumage Coloration. 2015. Journal Raptor Research. In press.

CONSERVATION PARTNERSHIPS

Ultimately, conservation is about land preservation and stewardship. To reach these goals, communication is essential in dealing with agencies, as well as the public. Our partnership with the groups listed below exemplifies our commitment to work collaboratively. Our information is available to groups wherever we work, and to any interested parties throughout the U.S. and world. Professional partners include:

Alaska

Alaska Department of Fish and Wildlife. Permits and research sharing for Snowy and Short-eared Owls.
North Slope Borough, Department of Wildlife. Information sharing.
Ukpeagvik Inupiat Corporation (UIC). Land access, permits, and housing.
Umiaq (UIC). Permits, office, housing and logistical help.
US Fish and Wildlife Service. Information sharing.

Montana

Avian Science Center, University of Montana. Provides volunteer field assistance, and working to establish cooperative projects.
Bureau of Land Management. Permits, land access, information sharing.
Confederated Salish & Kootenai Tribes. Permits, land access, information sharing, interns.
Glacier National Park. Permits, land access, information sharing.
Marshall Woods Project. Cooperative partnership with U.S. Forest Service and Lolo Restoration Committee for forest restoration efforts and conservation in the Rattlesnake National Recreation Area.
Montana Bird Conservation Partnership. A state run collective group that disseminates information and suggest strategies for bird conservation.
Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks. Permits, land access, information sharing.
US Fish and Wildlife Service. Permits, land access, information sharing.
US Forest Service. Permits, land access, information sharing, research funding.

Private Land Owners

A special thanks for allowing our research and education programs to be conducted on your lands. We research owls and teach many education programs on private lands. Without permission from these land owners, much of our research could not be conducted. Currently, approximately 60% of the land in United States is privately owned. Consequently, land owners have enormous potential to conserve wildlife and habitats. We are grateful for access to their lands. We are especially grateful to Fred Deschamps, Jim Rogers, the Confederated Salish & Kootenai Tribes, and Ukpeagvik Inupiat Corporation (UIC) for allowing us to set cameras on their land.

OTHER PROFESSIONAL PARTNERSHIPS

Cornell Lab of Ornithology. One of the top ornithological research groups in the world. We have worked closely with them on the Snowy Owl live cam and articles for their Living Bird magazine.

Distill Productions. A commercial and documentary production company helping organizations define their brand. The ORI and Distill have finished two clips featuring the ORI's research and mission. The title is "Owls Of Montana - Species and Adaptations". You can look for the"Epic Montana" clip on youTube: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCo5W9_LkAdpGVSDD7JEl1nA or through our website www.owlinstitute.org. This project was funded in part by the Montana Film Office. See www.distillproductions.com

Explore: Pearls of the Planet. Part of the Annenberg Foundation to provide a visual recognition of our planet's natural resources. The ORI and Explore are using live cameras to study and inform the public about the secretive life of owls. See www.explore.org

Montana Conservation Corps. MCC visited the ORI for two days of maintenance of buildings, general clean-up, and construction of nest boxes.

Natural Exposures. Dan and Tanya Cox generously share their award winning wildlife photographs for our publications and presentations. See www.naturalexposures.com. Dan and Denver are also working on a Snowy Owl book and video. Some of this information will be in Dan's Arctic Documentary Project.

Owl Book Project. We provided photographer Paul Bannick with an opportunity to photograph Northern Hawk Owls. Over the past several years, Paul has visited several of our study sites to photograph owls. Paul is working on a photographic book of North American Owls.

Victor Emanuel Nature Tours. VENT is the largest nature tour company in the world. They have generously agreed to invest a portion of their proceeds to our education programs.

RESEARCH

LIVE OWL CAMS

This year marked the third year of our partnership with the Annenberg Foundation's Explore program (www.explore.org).

In 2015, we set live web cameras on Great Horned Owl and Long-eared Owl nests, as part of Explore's "Pearls of the Planet" series. These nests were both located in western Montana. The cameras were outfitted with infra-red systems and microphones, providing viewers the opportunity to view and hear the owls any time of the day or night.

As in years past, we were once again pleased and impressed with the public interest generated by these cameras. Hundreds of thousands of people tuned-in to catch a glimpse of the owls and to follow their daily routines throughout the nesting period.

We posted regularly to discussion boards on the Explore website and also hosted a number of live chats where viewers could ask questions about the individual nests, owl ecology, and conservation.

We always enjoy the opportunity to present our work to the public and look forward to continuing our partnership with the Explore program in 2016. We're hopeful that we can continue to provide people these unique and engaging encounters with owls in their natural habitats.

Stars of the Long-eared Owl Cam

NATURAL HISTORY TOURS

Our affiliate, Wild Planet Nature Tours, provides the following tours, led by Denver Holt, Megan Fylling, and Matt Larson and other qualified guides:

WILD PLANET nature tours

WINTER RAPTOR WORKSHOP
Western Montana
GUATEMALA
Antigua, Tikal, and more
MONTANA OWL WORKSHOP
Western Montana
ALASKA
The North Slope of Alaska at Barrow
WHERE THE DESERT MEETS THE SEA
La Paz, Baja California, Mexico
YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK
Yellowstone National Park, Montana

Photos by Daniel J. Cox/Natural Exposures.com

- Dates forthcoming. See www.wildplanetnaturetours.com.
- Most tours cater to small groups and individuals.
- Denver, Megan and Matt also guide a few specialty tours and an owl education workshop for Victor Emanuel Nature Tour Company, Austin, TX. VENT is the largest nature tour company in the world. See www.ventbird.com.

For more information, visit www.wildplanetnaturetours.com.

BUILDING MAINTENANCE SPONSORSHIP

We are upgrading buildings, and would like to hear from any individuals, corporations or foundations interested in sponsoring the upgrades. The farm house needs energy efficient windows, and some foundation work. An energy efficient wood stove is desirable. A new roof is needed on the barn. Please contact ORI if interested in a sponsorship.

Photo by Ronan Dugan

Photo by austin.trayser@blogspot.com

TRAPPING STATION SPONSOR OPPORTUNITY

Due to high costs, we are asking for a corporation, foundation, or individual to sponsor the Northern Saw-whet Owl migration sites for 2016. The sponsor would be recognized only if they are willing, and thus the site would be recognized in their name. Contact ORI if interested.

2015 WISH LIST

Each year we present our wish list for items that will help us in our research projects and facility maintenance, and each year we receive some of the wishes. In 2015, an ORI supporter from California donated a newer model camper trailer, and an ATV with a trailer.

In addition to donations & grants, the ORI is in need of other contributions:

- ATV – 1 more in good shape
- Flatbed ATV trailer (heavy-duty)
- 2 Snowmobiles & trailer (newer models)
- Suburban or other field car (one of the old ones has died)
- Microscopes
- Riding Lawn Mower
- Wall tent (large)
- Books & Artwork (bird & wildlife related)
- Binoculars & Scopes

Our programs would not be possible without your generosity.

Look for ORI on:

Corporate Sponsors

ConocoPhillips, AK
Natural Exposures, MT
Patagonia, MT
Ukpeagvik Inupiat Corporation (UIC), AK
Umiaq (UIC Science), AK
Victor Emanuel Nature Tours

Foundation Sponsors

Amber Foundation
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Annenberg Foundation
Banbury Fund
Bobolink Foundation
Bucher Family Trust
Cinnabar Foundation
Charlotte Y. Martin Foundation
Community Foundation of North Texas
Fanwood Foundation
Fidelity Charitable Gift Fund
Five Valleys Audubon
Glacier National Park Conservancy
Hess & Helyn Kline Foundation
Jerry Metcalf Foundation
JP Morgan Chase Foundation
Kendeda Foundation
Lawrence Foundation
Lydia & Rob Petty Foundation
Microsoft Matching Gifts Program
Monticello Bird Club
My Good Trust
Norcross Wildlife Foundation
Pleiades Foundation
Seligson-Johnson Foundation
Silicon Valley Community Fund
William H Harris Foundation
Woods Foundation

Government Sponsors

Flathead National Forest, MT
Glacier National Park, MT

NonProfit Sponsors

Five Valleys Audubon, Missoula, MT
Mission Valley Audubon, MT
Montana Audubon Wildlife Fund, MT

Wall of Support

To secure your name on the Wall of Support, please fill out and return the form below. Complete the form exactly as you wish it to appear on the wall. We will use the weathered exterior wood siding from one of our buildings for your name. When the barn renovation is complete, the Wall of Support will be constructed. There are four size categories to choose from for your donation: $100 = 2"; $250 = 3"; $500 = 4"; and $1000 or more = 5". Included with a $1000 donation is an animal and/or plant of your choice.

Name_____

Size: 2"_____ 3"_____ 4"_____ 5" _____

Animal, Bird, Plant _____

Donation amount enclosed $_____

Address_____

City _____

State_____ Zip_____

Phone ( )_____

Email _____

Location of the Owl Research Institute and the Ninepipes Center for Wildlife Research & Education

NOTE ABOUT SPONSORSHIPS: In our newsletter, our practice is to recognize only businesses, nonprofits, foundations, and agencies. We do not list individual names as a courtesy to our constituents, for many wish to remain anonymous. Only in special cases, and with permission, do we list the names of individuals. On the Wall of Support, however, we will list all sponsors, individual or otherwise. This decision ensures a certain measure of privacy.

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