



EASTERN SCREECH-OWLS

This screech-owl in Schenley Park blended in well with the tree bark making it harder to spot by a casual observer.

Another screech-owl warmed itself in a tree on a busy Squirrel Hill street. Up about 12 feet, it was invisible to passers-by below.



A red morph Eastern Screech-Owl made itself at home in a friend's owl box. The photo was taken in the middle of the day, showing that the owl was very aware of its surroundings.

BARRED OWLS

Our first encounter with Barred Owls was with this pair of owlets in North Park

Years later I found a Barred Owl in the same area as the owlets. Could this be one all grown up?



Kele, the Barred Owl, was shown as an educational bird in Fern Hollow Nature Center.



GREAT HORNED OWLS



Again, our first sighting of Great Horned Owls was a pair of owlets on Strouss Road in the Imperial area. Their nest was a Red-tail Hawk's construction.



Here the second Great Horned Owl of a pair in Frick Park stared down through red berry covered branches. (The first is pictured in the *Observations* article.)



Another Red-tail nest on the Homestead Grays Bridge was used to raise a single owlet in 2016.

NORTHERN SAW-WHET OWLS

The small size and big eyes of the Northern Saw-whet Owl give it a seemingly cute appearance.



However, it will fight back when captured, as Dave Darney at the Allegheny Front experienced when an owl grabbed his thumb with its claws.

At Sewickley Heights Borough Park, Bob Mulvihill showed a Saw-whet to an admiring crowd. The boy was later allowed to release this owl.



SNOWY OWLS



In Cambria County we first found a Snowy Owl in a farmer's field.

The Snowy then flew as dusk approached to hunt. It landed in a small tree, where it let me approach and take this portrait.



In March 2009, a Snowy Owl landed on Calvary United Methodist Church on Pittsburgh's North Side.



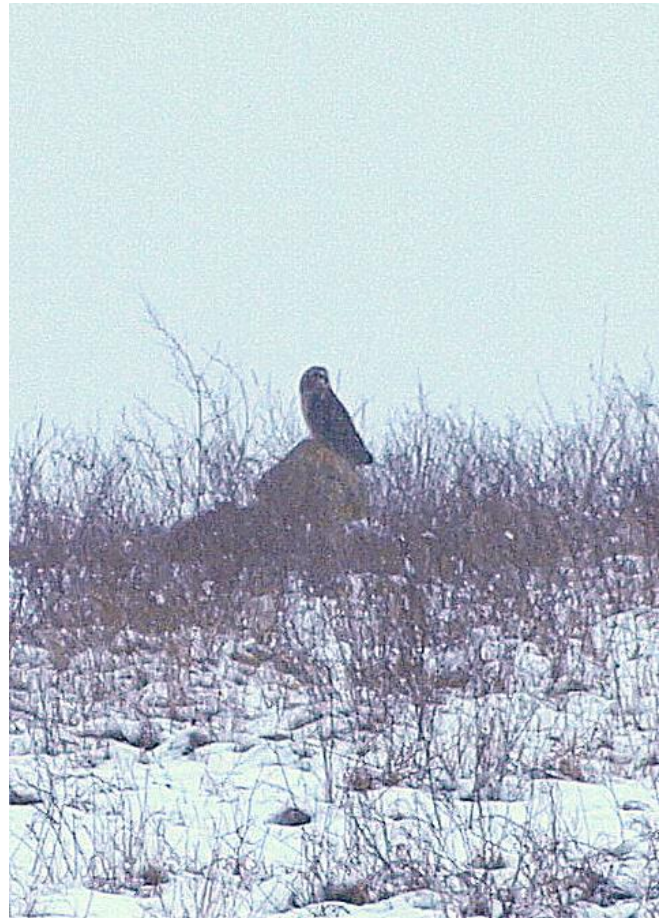
SHORT-EARED OWLS

A Short-eared Owl hunted at dusk along Donaldson Road near the Imperial area.



It found its prey and dove down with legs extending.

In Cadiz, Ohio a Short-eared Owl found a promontory to survey the area before heading out for its nightly hunt.



LONG-EARED OWLS

Our first view of the owls from the road at Mosquito Lake in Ohio was not very satisfying through the tangled branches.



Around the back of the hedgerow, a much clearer view of the Long-eared Owls was apparent.



The plumage on the owls' faces made it seem as though they were angry. We had woken them up!

Note claws the of the upper owl on the left.



NORTHERN HAWK OWLS

The first Northern Hawk Owl we saw in Minnesota near Duluth perched high in a tree as dusk turned to night. Moments after this photo, the owl dove down onto unsuspecting prey.



In Sax-Zim Bog another Hawk Owl had been using this tree as a base for many days. As in the first photo, the owls favored the tops of leafless trees.

The second owl had a clear view of the surrounding area as it surveyed for prey.



GREAT GRAY OWLS



Our little group's life Great Gray Owl perched at the top of a broken off pine tree at the Sax-Zim Bog festival.

The owl moved to this tree (away from us gawkers) and continued its early morning hunt..



As we left the festival, we encountered a second Great Gray Owl hunting in a field by the road.