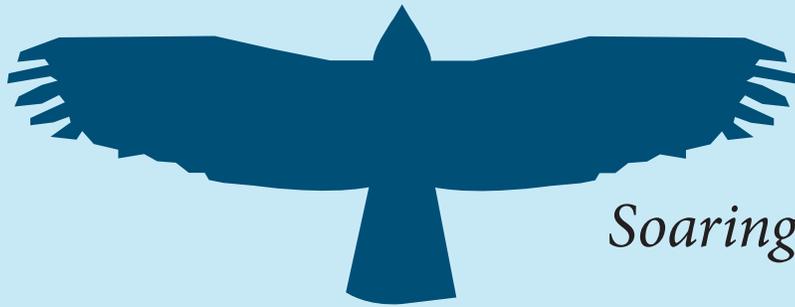
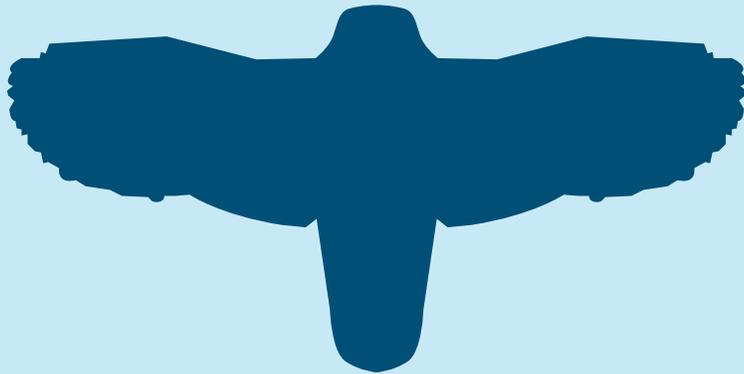


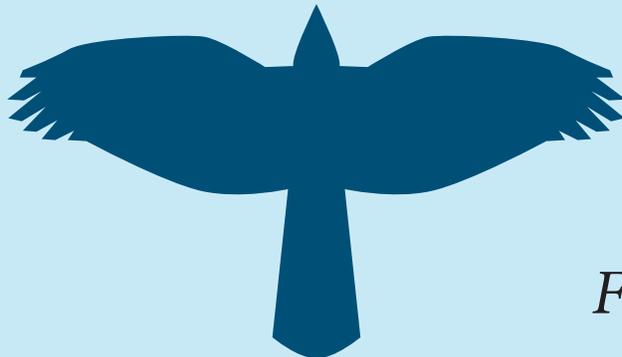
Eagles



Soarings Hawks



Owls



Forest Hawks



Falcons



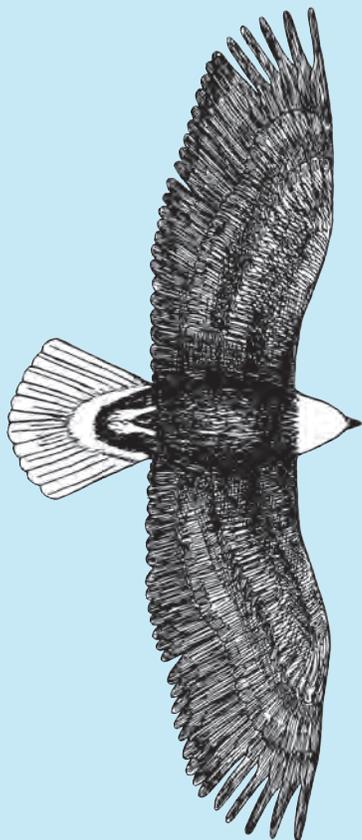
Bald Eagle

(Haliaeetus leucocephalus)

Dark brown raptor with a white head and tail. The large beak, eyes, and feet are yellow. Adult feathers are in full plume when the bird is about 4-5 years old. Up until that time, the feathers vary from all brown in young eagles to brown with some white color on the belly as adults. White feathers are under the wings and on the back. Heads and tails are dark or spotted. The beak and eyes of young eagles are dark brown and gradually change to yellow as the bird matures.

Females are about 25% larger than males.

They eat fish, ground squirrels, jackrabbits and other mammals. Nesting bald eagles stay year-round in Idaho.



Wing span: 72 to 96 inches
Length: 28 to 38 inches
Weight: 7 to 14 pounds

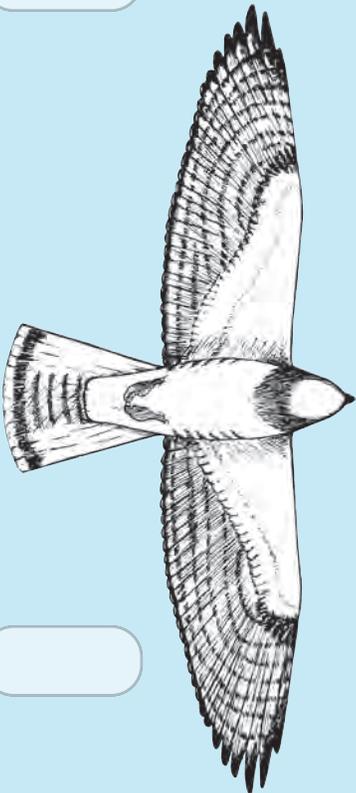


Swainson's Hawk

(Buteo swainsoni)

The most slender hawk; relatively long tail, long tapered pointed wings which reach or barely exceed the tip of the tail when perched; note pale underwing linings contrasting with dark flight feathers. Bill is slate to black, becoming dull blue or pale olive buff at corner of mouth. Nostril area and mouth-lining is pale green-yellow to yellow. Eyes are dark brown in adults, gray or blue gray in young. Legs and feet vary from yellow to creamy to pale grayish green. Females are larger than males and more often darker. Swainson's hawks breed in Idaho and winter in South America. They eat rodents, reptiles, and insects.

Illustration courtesy Alberta Sustainable Resource Development



Wing span: 48-54 inches
Length: 17-22 inches
Weight: 1.5-2.5 pounds

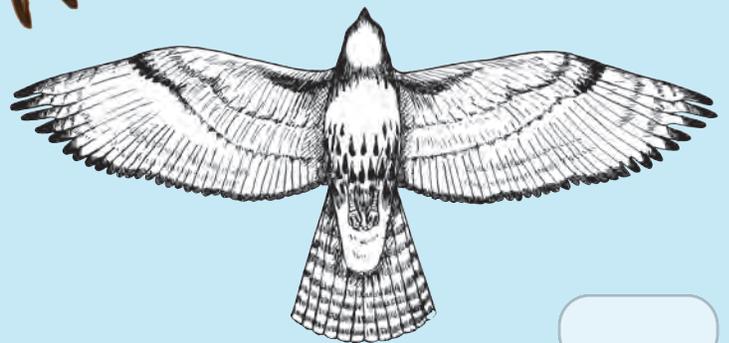
Red-tailed Hawk

(Buteo jamaicensis)

The red-tailed hawk is the most commonly seen hawk. It has a chunky body and broad round-tipped wings. Its upperparts range from brown to black and underparts are white to black. Adults typically have a reddish tail with a narrow, dark band at the tip. The tail is sometimes streaked or spotted and often spread or fanned in flight. The beak is dark becoming lighter on the lower side. The iris of adult is yellow in younger birds, grading to brown in older hawks. Legs and feet are yellow with dark talons. Young hawks have narrower wings and

longer tails that are brownish with seven to nine dark brown bands of equal width. It eats rodents, reptiles, and insects.

Red-tailed hawks stay year round in Idaho.



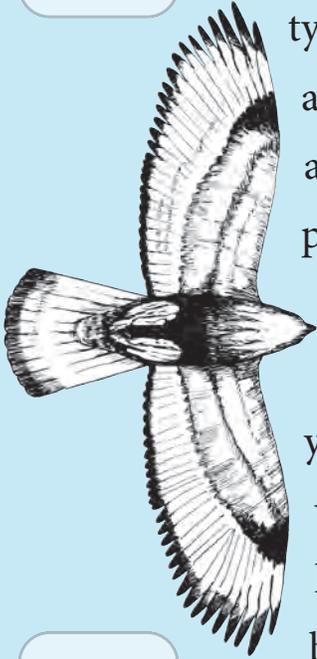
Wing span: 42-56 inches
Length: 17-25 inches
Weight: 1.5-3.3 pounds

Rough-legged Hawk

(*Buteo lagopus*)

Rough-legged hawks have long, broad wings, a chunky body, and typically soar with their long tails fanned. They have small feet and a small beak. “Rough-legged” refers to their legs which are feathered to the toes. These hawks exhibit a high degree of plumage variation, from extremely dark to more patterned birds.

Male, female, and young birds have slightly different feather patterns. In adults, the bill is dark, the nostril area is orange-yellow, the eyes are dark brown, and the feet and toes are bright yellow. When perched, the wing tips exceed the tail tips. Adults have black patches on the underside of the wrists and a black band on the trailing edge of their underwings. They eat rodents, reptiles, and insects, hovering when they hunt. Rough-legged hawks are winter visitors to Idaho from November to April.

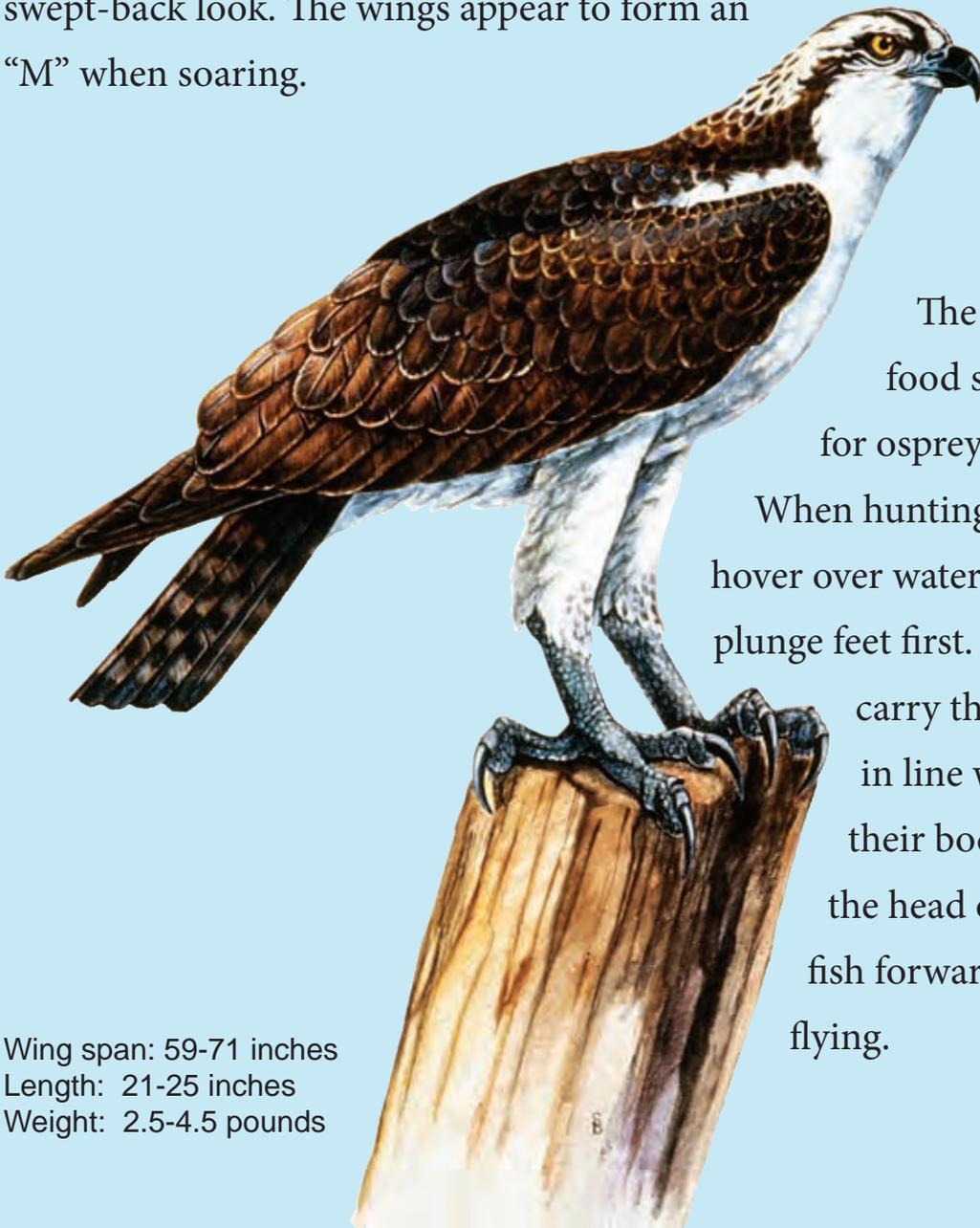


Wing span: 48-56 inches
Length: 18-23 inches
Weight: 1.5-3 pounds

Osprey

(*Pandion haliaetus*)

Also known as fish raptor, osprey are large raptors with a dark chocolate brown back and wings; a mostly white breast, forehead and belly; and a dark brown stripe through the eyes extending down to the shoulder. The underwings have white patches with a dark wrist strip and feather tips. The legs and feet pale bluish-gray and the talons (claws) are black, long and strongly curved. In flight, long narrow wings are bent at the wrists giving them a swept-back look. The wings appear to form an “M” when soaring.



Wing span: 59-71 inches
Length: 21-25 inches
Weight: 2.5-4.5 pounds

The primary food source for osprey are fish. When hunting they hover over water and plunge feet first. osprey carry their prey in line with their body and the head of the fish forward when flying.

Prairie Falcon

(*Falco mexicanus*)

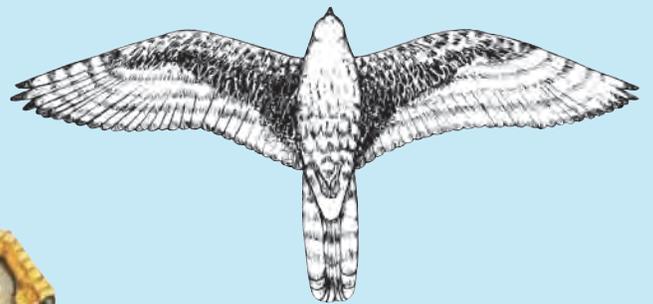
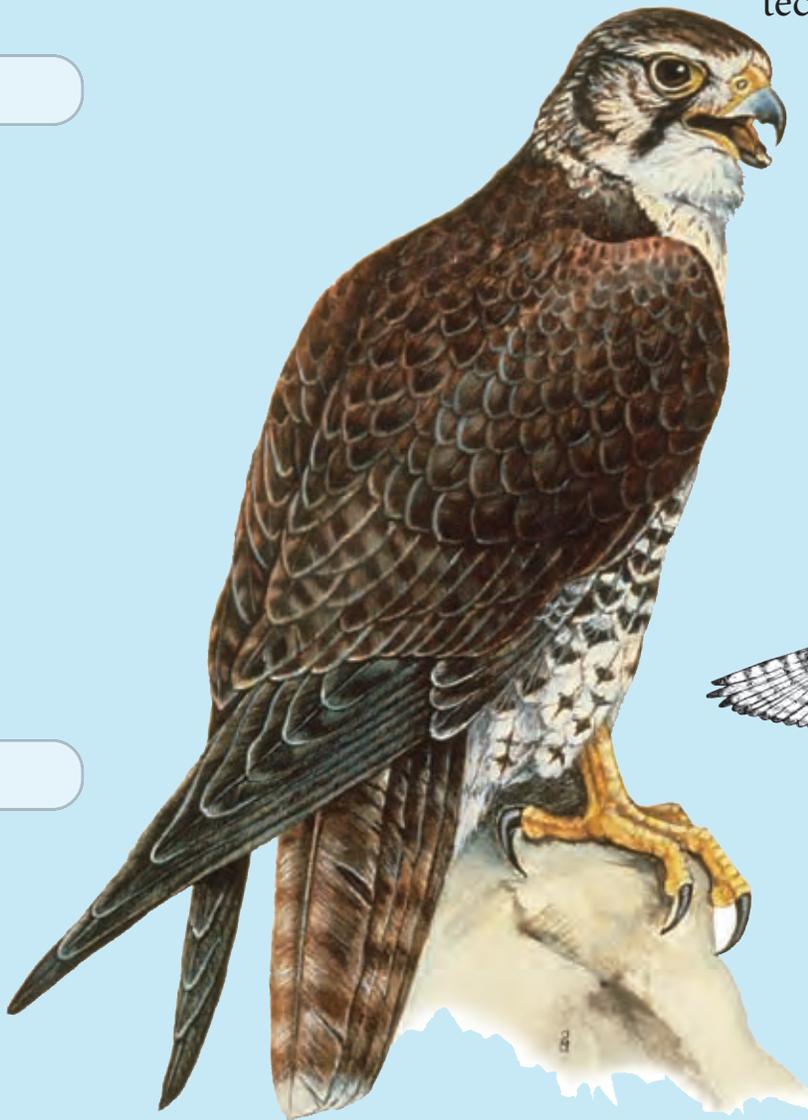
The prairie falcon has a large head, notched beak, and a “heavy-shouldered” body. The back and upper wing are medium brown with pale stripes. The tail shows light stripes underneath. The underbody is spotted on the belly. A large blackish patch in the armpits distinguishes this from all other falcons. A narrow black mustache extends from below the eyes downward along the chin. Eyelid, nostril area, legs and feet are bright yellow in adults, and more intense in males. The beak is bluish with a dark tip. Prairie falcons have rapid wing beats in flight. They are famous for their

technique of high speed dives

toward their prey. Prairie

falcons stay year-round in

Idaho.



Wing span: 37-43 inches

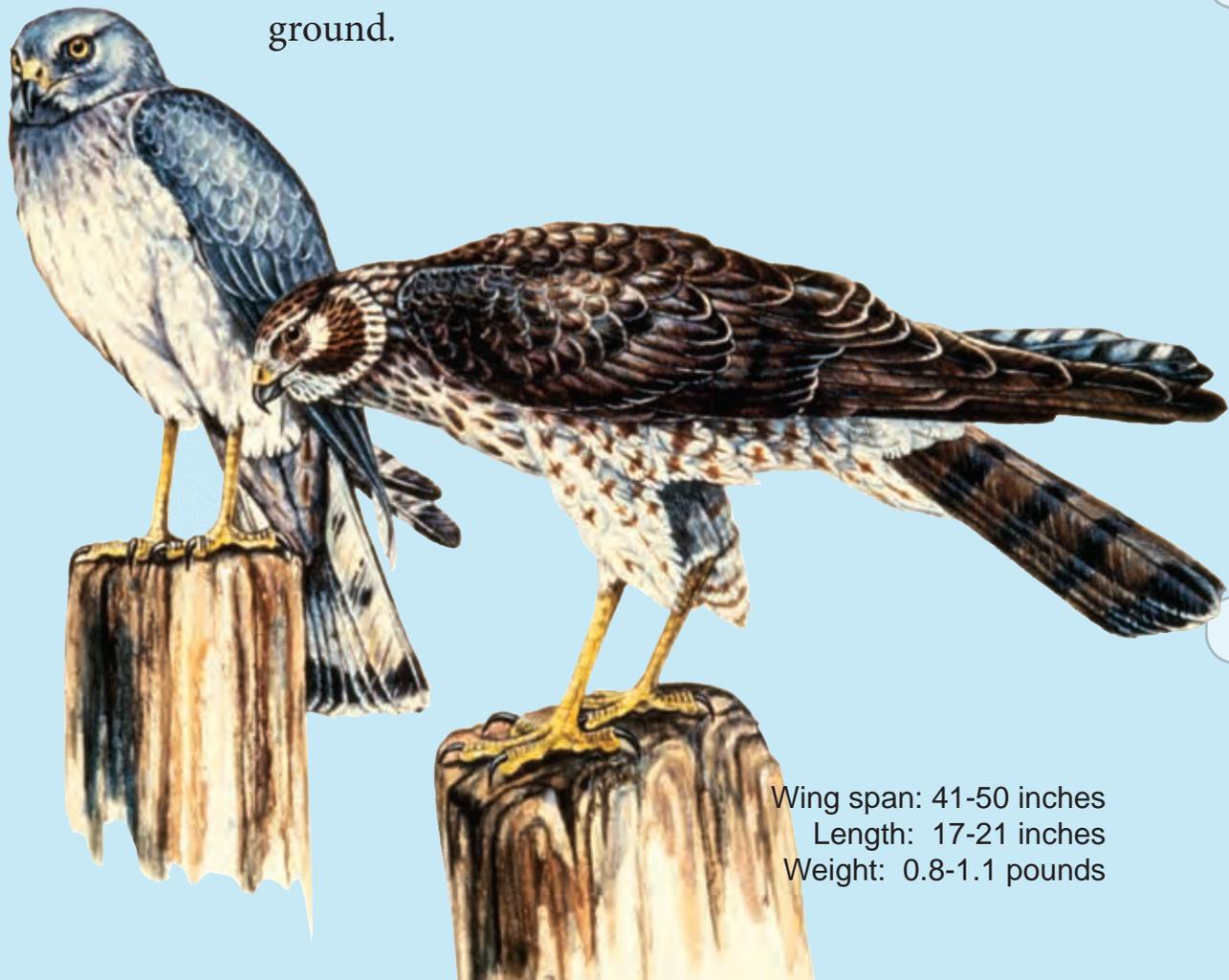
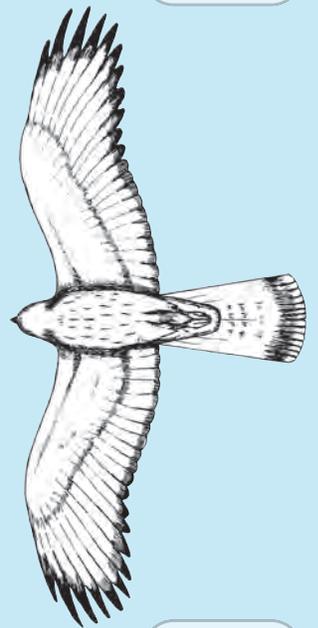
Length: 15-18 inches

Weight: 1-2 pounds

Northern Harrier

(Circus cyaneus)

The northern harrier is one of the most widespread and easily recognized raptors in North America. This medium-sized, slender bird has long wings, long tail and white upper tail coverts (white rump patch). Harriers have an owl-like appearance of the face due to a facial disk shape (aids in directional hearing), similar in structure and function to owls. The male is light to medium gray above, and whitish below, with black wing tips; while the female is dark to blackish brown above and buffy with brown streaks below. Bill is dark, becoming bluish on the lower side. Nostril area is yellow, sometimes with a greenish tinge. The legs and feet are pale to vivid orange-yellow. Harriers typically soar low to the ground.



Wing span: 41-50 inches
Length: 17-21 inches
Weight: 0.8-1.1 pounds

American Kestrel

(Falco sparverius)

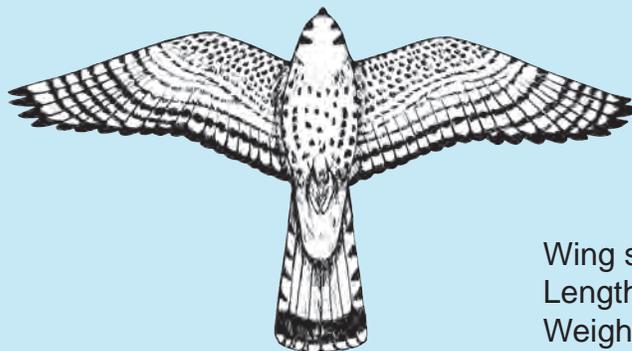
Kestrels are the smallest falcon in North America.

They have large heads, notched beaks, and a “heavy-shouldered” bodies.

One of the few raptors with different feather characteristics between

males and females. In both

genders the back is reddish-brown sparsely striped with black. The crown is blue-gray with variable amounts of rust color, the face and throat are white with a black vertical stripe below the dark eyes and another behind the cheek. The beak is blue-black and the legs and feet are yellow. Male kestrels have blue-gray wings, while females have reddish-brown wings with black bars. Kestrels have rapid wing beats in flight. They are famous for their technique of high speed dives toward their prey. American kestrels stay year-round in Idaho.



Wing span: 20-24 inches
Length: 8-11 inches
Weight: 3.4 to 5.3 ounces

Great Horned Owl

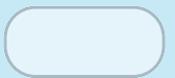
(Bubo virginianus)

The great horned owl varies in color from a reddish-brown to a grey or black and white. The underside is a light grey with a white band of feathers towards its neck. They have large yellow-orange eyes.

It is named for the tufts of feathers on their head that appear to be “horns.” The great horned owl is the only animal that regularly eats skunks. They also eat rodents, frogs, snakes, and other bird species (including other owls).



A call for this owl is “hoo-hoo hooooo hoo-hoo.” Sometimes the call sounds like “Who’s Asleep? Me Too.” The male owl has a deeper pitch than the female.



Short Eared Owl

(*Asio flammeus*)

This owl is often seen at dusk flying low over the ground circling open areas or sitting on a fence post. Its head is large and round with short/small ear tufts rising from the center of the forehead. Its face is a white disk shape, rimmed in brown. Dark brown to black areas circle the eyes and a bright, lemon-yellow iris illuminates the eye. The backside is deep brown with white spotting and the thighs and legs are white/buff with no streaks. Upper body parts are spotted with dense brown vertical streaking on the throat, chest and upper breast. The underwing is generally buff-white with distinct dark wrist patches. The legs are feathered to the toes and the feet are yellow. The long wings and medium tail are strongly striped. Short-eared owls clap their wings together during mating.



Wing span: 36-44 inches
Length: 13-17 inches
Weight: 7-17 ounces