

SNOWY OWL

(**BUBO SCANDIACUS**)

CONSERVATION STATUS: **VULNERABLE***



WE ARE BIRDS

with a lifespan of 10 years in the wild, 35 years in captivity

Origin: Worldwide.

Diet: They eat small mammals, birds, bats, small reptiles, frogs and insects. They usually swallow their prey whole. They are carnivores.

Predators: Nestlings are sometimes eaten by stoats, snakes, birds of prey and foxes.

Habitat: Open countryside such as pasture, grasslands and parks.



*The IUCN Red List of Threatened Species 2017. Downloaded 12.04.19



Height

50-72cm



Weight

1.5-2.9kg



Top Speed

47mph

DID YOU KNOW?

The Snowy Owl is one of the largest species of owl in the world. They are also known as Arctic Owls or Great White Owls.

Adult males are mostly white, some with a few brown spots on. Females and juveniles are white with brown markings all over, except on their faces.

Snowy owls spend a lot of their time sitting in the same spot.

GET UP CLOSE AND FIND OUT MORE ABOUT THESE AMAZING BIRDS BY BOOKING AN OWL EXPERIENCE!

ADAPTATIONS

They have excellent hearing and vision and use this to locate their prey, even through the snow. Their bristles on their beaks help them to sense nearby objects, including prey. Snowy Owls have a lot of feathers to protect them from the cold arctic climates. This makes them one of the heaviest owl species in North America. Their feet are covered in feathers, like slippers, to protect them from the cold climate.

REPRODUCTION

Females lay 3-11 eggs once a year. They hatch after a 32 day incubation period, wet and blind. Within a few hours they become a little white ball of fluffy, downy feathers. They usually open their eyes by day 5. Females remain with the young whilst the males hunt for food, the females then feed it to the owlets. The owlets usually leave the nest when they are about 25 days old but cannot fly until around 50 days old. Snowy Owls are ready to breed by 2 years old.

PLEASE DO NOT FEED THE OWLS