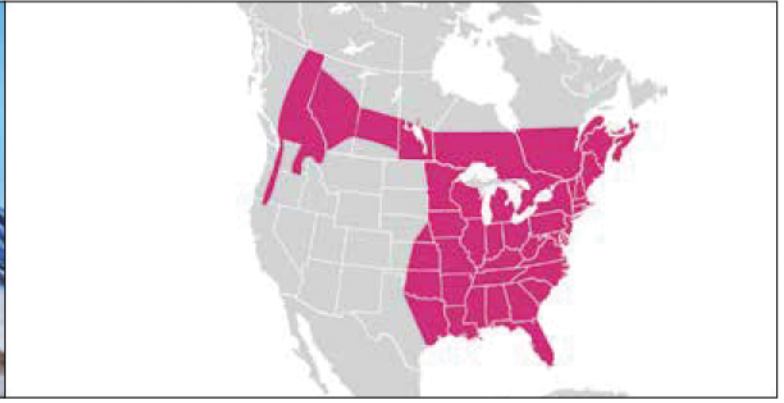


BARRED OWL

updated March 2017



Range	Throughout southwestern Canada, Washington, Oregon and northern California. Its range extends throughout the eastern United States including Florida and Texas.
Habitat	Deciduous and coniferous forests near water across Canada, the eastern U.S. and Mexico. They require dense foliage for daytime roosting, and large trees with cavities for nesting.
Diet (wild)	Small animals including squirrels, chipmunks, mice, meadow voles, rabbits, and birds
Diet (captive)	Prey-based diet including mice, rats, and rabbits
Description	Length: 16–25 inches; wingspan: 38–49 inches; weight: 1–2.3 pounds. A pale face with dark rings around the eyes, a yellow beak and dark brown eyes. The under parts are light with markings, the chest is barred horizontally while the belly is streaked vertically. The legs and feet are covered in feathers up to the talons.
Lifespan	Wild: 10 years. Captivity: up to 23 years
Reproduction	Female incubates a clutch of 1–5 eggs for 28–33 days. Young do not all hatch at the same time since egg laying occurs over a period of days and incubation begins immediately. While the female incubates eggs, the male will hunt for her. At four to five weeks old, the young begin to leave the nest and venture to adjacent branches. At six weeks old, the young will learn to fly. Parental care is exhibited for up to six months. Barred owls form mated pairs that stay together for life. Although barred owls prefer to nest in tree cavities, this species is known to use empty hawk nests, crows nests, or squirrel nests. Barred owls are capable of breeding at about two years of age.
Behavior	Barred owls are non-migratory and nocturnal. They are territorial year-round. Barred owls hunt by waiting on high perches at night or flying through the woods and swooping down on prey. The most common mnemonic device for remembering their call is “Who cooks for you, who cooks for you all.”
Our animals	1 male. Arrived at PPZ in 2012. Wild born; rehabilitated but unable to be released into the wild
Cool stuff	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The barred owl is the only typical owl of the eastern United States which has brown eyes; all others have yellow eyes. • Without exception, barred owls hunt prey that can be swallowed whole. • The great horned owl is the most serious predatory threat to the barred owl. Although the two species often live in the same areas, a barred owl will move to another part of its territory when a great horned owl is nearby. • Barred owls don't migrate, and they don't even move around very much. Of 158 birds that were banded and then found later, none had moved farther than 6 miles away.

Phylum
ChordataClass
AvesOrder
StrigiformesFamily
StrigidaeGenus
Strixspecies
S. varia