

Common Name: Eurasian Eagle Owl

Scientific Name: *Bubo bubo*



IUCN Red list Status: Least Concern

AZA Conservation Program: None

Class: Aves

Order: Strigiformes

Family: Strigidae

Genus: Bubo

Habitat: Eurasian eagle owls live in the woodlands, deserts, mountains, open grasslands, and riverbeds of Europe, Asia (north of the Himalayan foothills), northern Africa, and the north central portions of the Arabian Peninsula. They can range from Siberia in the

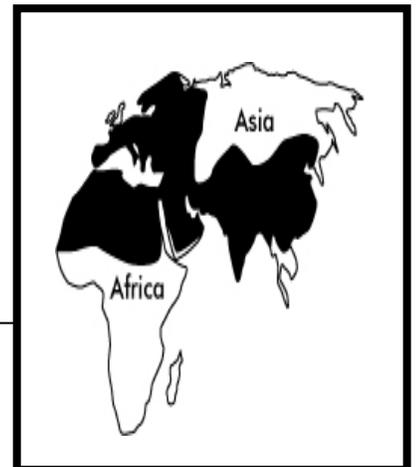
north, all the way, to the Ethiopian Region (breeding region) in the south.

Threats in the Wild: This owl is in the 'least concern' category for extinction because it has such a large range. But, there are endangered populations in some areas due to hunting pressures.

Physical Characteristics: The Eurasian eagle owl is one of the largest owls in the world, with a wing span of up to 6.5 feet. They look much like their North American relative, the great horned owl, but are much larger. They have two plumicorns (tufts of feathers) atop their heads that are, presumably, used for intraspecies communication. They have brownish mottled feathers and a streaked breast. Eurasian eagle owls have large eyes that are bright orange in color. Eagle owls are, on average, 2 to 2.5 feet long and 3.5 to 9 pounds. Like most other raptors, Eurasian eagle owls are sexually dimorphic in size, females are usually much larger than males.

Reproduction: Eurasian Eagle Owls prefer rocky landscapes to use as their nesting sites and are known to scrape a shallow

depression in rocky habitats to use as a nest.



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Longevity: Eurasian eagle owls live about 20 years in the wild, but can live 45 to 60 years in captivity.

Diet: Like other owl species, Eurasian eagle owls use their silent, yet powerful wings to stealthily hunt its prey. They swoop down and scoop up their prey, but are also known to catch other birds in mid-air. They eat small mammals such as rabbits, rodents, and birds. They have also been known to take down roe deer fawns that can be up to four times the owl's body weight.

Miscellaneous: Eagle owls have a large repertoire of beak-clacks and clicks, chirps, growls, and hoots that they use to communicate needs and moods.

Exhibited: In mew behind DC building.

Resources:

<https://denverzoo.org/animals/eurasian-eagle-owl/>

<http://cincinnati.org/animals/eurasian-eagle-owl-2/>

<https://potterparkzoo.org/animals/eurasian-eagle-owl/>

<https://mnzoo.org/blog/animals/eurasian-eagle-owl/>



Fact Sheet – Aves – Eurasian Eagle Owl
Last Updated: October 2020

