

Our Mission

The mission of Whitefish Point Bird Observatory is to document the distribution and abundance of birds in the Great Lakes region, with special emphasis on migration. Research projects focus on assessing the status of bird populations and movements. Information acquired is used to increase knowledge of bird migration, to encourage public awareness of birds and the environment, and to further bird conservation.



Why help us?

WPBO research has been conducted for over 30 years through the generous support of WPBO members and other individuals. As an independent non-profit, WPBO does not currently receive any financial support from Michigan Audubon or other agencies. Our long-term migration research contributes greatly to a global understanding of bird population trends, seasonal movements, and the effects of climate change. Our education program provides a way for nearby communities and schools to enjoy and learn more about the outside world. Your contribution directly supports our programs and is critical for our continued existence. Thank You!

Adopt an Owl

Whitefish Point is one of the top owl migration spots in the country. Because owls are nocturnal, we are not able to gather migration data through visual observations. Therefore, WPBO uses banding as a way to gather information about the owls that migrate through Michigan's Upper Peninsula in spring, summer and fall.

Owls are captured in fine-mesh nets throughout the night, and are fitted with a light-weight aluminum band. Various measurements are taken to determine age, gender, and body condition. The owl is then released to continue its migration. All information gathered from banding is sent to the National Bird Banding Lab in Maryland. If by chance the bird is caught again by another bander, or found by a citizen, the information can be retrieved to help map the path of the bird's migration.

Adopting an owl is a unique and rewarding way to help our banding program and contribute to owl migration studies and raptor conservation.



When you adopt an owl, you will receive:

- A 5x7 color photo of your selected species.
- A certificate with your name and a profile for an individual owl banded at WPBO.
- A guarantee that you will be notified if your owl is ever recaptured at WPBO or elsewhere.
- The satisfaction of knowing that your adoption is helping WPBO to continue this important research.

I would like to adopt an owl:

Northern Saw-whet Owl	\$25	_____
Juvenile Saw-whet Owl	\$35	_____
Long-eared Owl	\$45	_____
Boreal Owl	\$55	_____
Barred Owl	\$75	_____
Great Gray Owl	\$100	_____
Northern Hawk Owl	\$150	_____
Short-eared Owl	\$175	_____
Snowy Owl	\$200	_____

Name _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone #: _____

Email: _____

Are you a current member of WPBO? _____

Is this a gift? If so, please fill out the following:

This is a gift for: _____

Giftes Address: _____

Please make your check out to WPBO and mail to:

Whitefish Point Bird Observatory
16914 N Whitefish Point Rd
Paradise, MI 49768

Thank you very much for your tax deductible donation to Whitefish Point Bird Observatory. All proceeds go directly towards our research, education and conservation efforts.