

HAVE OUR NIGHTS LOST THEIR WOOF?

A PLEA FOR RECORDS OF SURVIVING BARKING OWLS IN SOUTH-WEST WA

HAVE YOU SEEN OR HEARD A BARKING OWL IN THE SOUTH WEST?
THERE IS A POSSIBILITY THAT THE SOUTHERN BARKING OWL IS
NOW EXTINCT IN WESTERN AUSTRALIA.



Southern Barking Owl (Photo Steve Castan)

Boobook (Photo Steve Castan)

	SOUTHERN BARKING OWL	AUSTRALIAN BOOBOOK
Size	35-45cm	25-35cm
Eyes	Bright yellow	Grey-green
Chest colour	Dark brown streaks on cream	White streaks on dark
Rarity	Rare	Common
Habitat	Waterside vegetation, semi-arid woodland	Most woodlands in south west
Call	'Woof woof' or 'whoop whoop', gruff and deep	'boobook' or 'morepork', high pitched

FIND OUT MORE AND LISTEN
TO A RECORDING OF CALLS →



HOW TO SUBMIT A RECORD

Please email robert.davis@ecu.edu.au or submit your record when using eBird or Birdata.

Photos, phone video of vision and/or calls, or detailed descriptions are required to distinguish reports from Boobooks.

Verifiable historic records would also be most welcomed.

WHAT WE KNOW

So little is known about the south-west Barking Owl that there are no museum specimens since the 1960s. New records are needed to be able to undertake a genetic comparison with the eastern Australian counterparts to see whether we have a distinct sub-species.

CONSERVATION STATUS

This species is extremely rare but is not currently listed as threatened as it is lumped in with the Southern Barking Owl sub-species across southern Australia. Further material would likely prove it is an endemic sub-species in which case it would likely qualify for 'critically endangered'.

DIET

The diet of the south-west Australian population is unknown but is likely to include insects and small mammals.

FURTHER INFORMATION

Scan the QR Code for a free comprehensive review of the status of south-west Barking Owls.



The project to locate the south-west WA Southern Barking Owl is coordinated by Dr Robert Davis, Senior Lecturer in Vertebrate Biology at Edith Cowan University



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