

# Manitoba's Owl Survey

*Annual Report  
2007*



# Manitoba's 2007 Nocturnal Owl Survey Annual Report

**Acknowledgements:** A big thank you to all the volunteer surveyors in 2007 including Christian Artuso, Ron Bazin, Dean Berezanski, Rob Berger, Jason Boychuk, Adam Brown, Tim Byers, Sandy Campbell, Lewis Cocks, Barbara Coombs, Kevin Coombs, Cal Cuthbert, David Doucette, Jim Duncan, Bev Dunlop, Alvin Dyck, Richard Ervick, Maureen Frolick, Harry Harris, Wally Jansen, Ken Kingdon, Rudolf Koes, Christine Labossiere, Andre Lansard, Elizabeth Lansard, Georgina Larson, Raymond Larson, Irene Lyon, Jeannie Mackay, Alex McIlraith, Bonnie McLeod, David McLeod, Ernie McLeod, Marilyn Meyer, Al Mickey, Matthew Miller, Lorelie Mitchell, Doug Nichol, Danielle Papin, Charlotte Pedwell, Morley Pedwell, Les Pelletier, Barbara Pettinger, Raymond Pettinger, Ryan Porteous, David Raitt, Amelia Reid, Monica Reid, Dave Roberts, Lois Robertson, Amber Robinson, Barbara Robinson, John Robinson, Kerry Ryan, Len Ryznar, Ken Schykulski, Rosalie Sigurdson, Connie Singleterry, Peter Taylor, Sharon Taylor, Ken Tilling, Paul Tilling, Dave Uhryniuk, Piet van Dijken, Ted Wilson, Jeope Wolfe, Margaret Yorke, and Fred Young. **If you participated in the 2007 owl survey and your name is not included on this list perhaps your data sheets were not received. If this is the case, please contact Jim Duncan and he will update his records.**

In 2007, Debbie Badzinski and Denis Lepage from Bird Studies Canada (BSC) set up a data base and an associated on-line data entry system for the Manitoba owl survey. This will help us share our data with students and other researchers around the world. Alex Froese was contracted to enter owl survey data from 2000-2007 and did an outstanding job – she also put in many extra hours organizing the data and produced an excellent summary poster of the 2006 data for a GIS

course. Doug Collicutt has created and maintains a wonderful website called NatureNorth and has kindly posted survey forms, instructions and much information about the Manitoba owl survey. Many thanks to these folks for their help!

**Introduction:** For 17 years hundreds of volunteers have been participating in the Manitoba Nocturnal Owl Survey. Their contribution of time and resources permit the continued monitoring of owl populations in Manitoba on a scale not possible by any other means.

Since 1991, when the survey began, their comments and enthusiasm continues to inspire me not only as the survey coordinator but also as a conservation biologist. Manitoba's owl survey played a key role in the establishment of a Canadian owl survey through the auspices of Bird Studies Canada such that the number of people surveying for owls in our country numbers in the thousands.

Who are these volunteers? Their names are listed herein but more generally they come from every walk of life. Why do they participate? One of the reasons is undoubtedly that they crave an opportunity to experience the wonder of experiencing owls in a complex and natural wild ecosystem. And they are no less part of that ecosystem that the owls they hope to hear – some thoughts to keep in mind as you scan the cumulative results of the survey effort presented in this annual report.

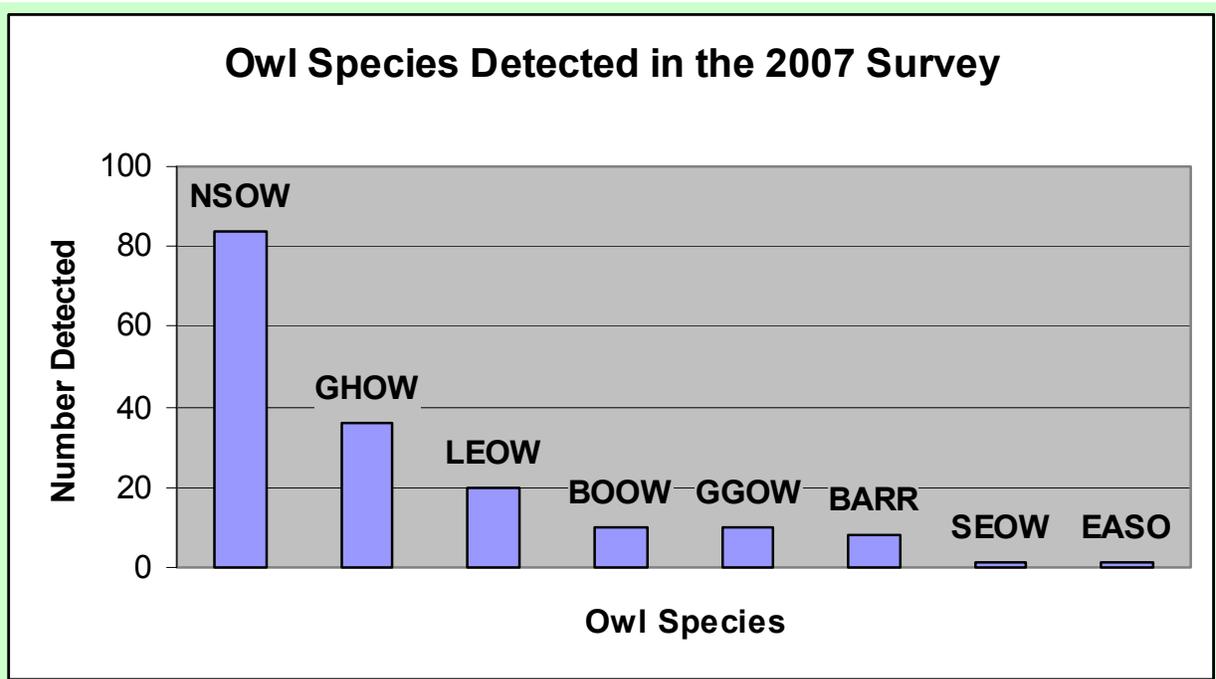
All creatures influence the world we share, including you and me. I hope this report stimulates you to involve yourself in new ways to help conserve our natural biological diversity including owls and the habitats that support them.



Photograph courtesy of Gordon Court

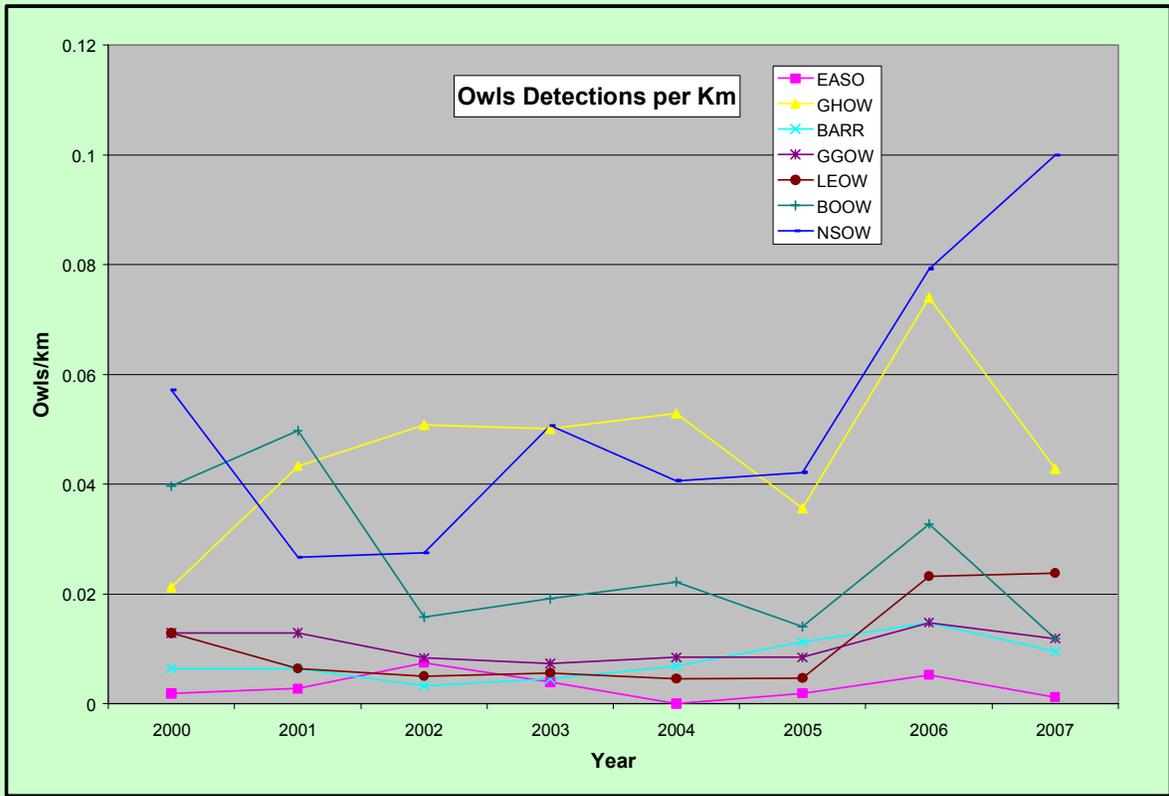
## Results of the 2007 Manitoba Owl Survey

Year	# Volunteers	Distance Surveyed (Km)	# Routes	Total Owl Detections	# Owl Detections per Km
2000	106	1085	57	165	0.15
2001	91	1070	57	180	0.17
2002	198	2403	115	315	0.13
2003	162	1776	107	267	0.15
2004	150	1304	94	183	0.14
2005	102	1067	74	135	0.13
2006	91	946	65	262	0.28
2007	68	856	52	170	0.20



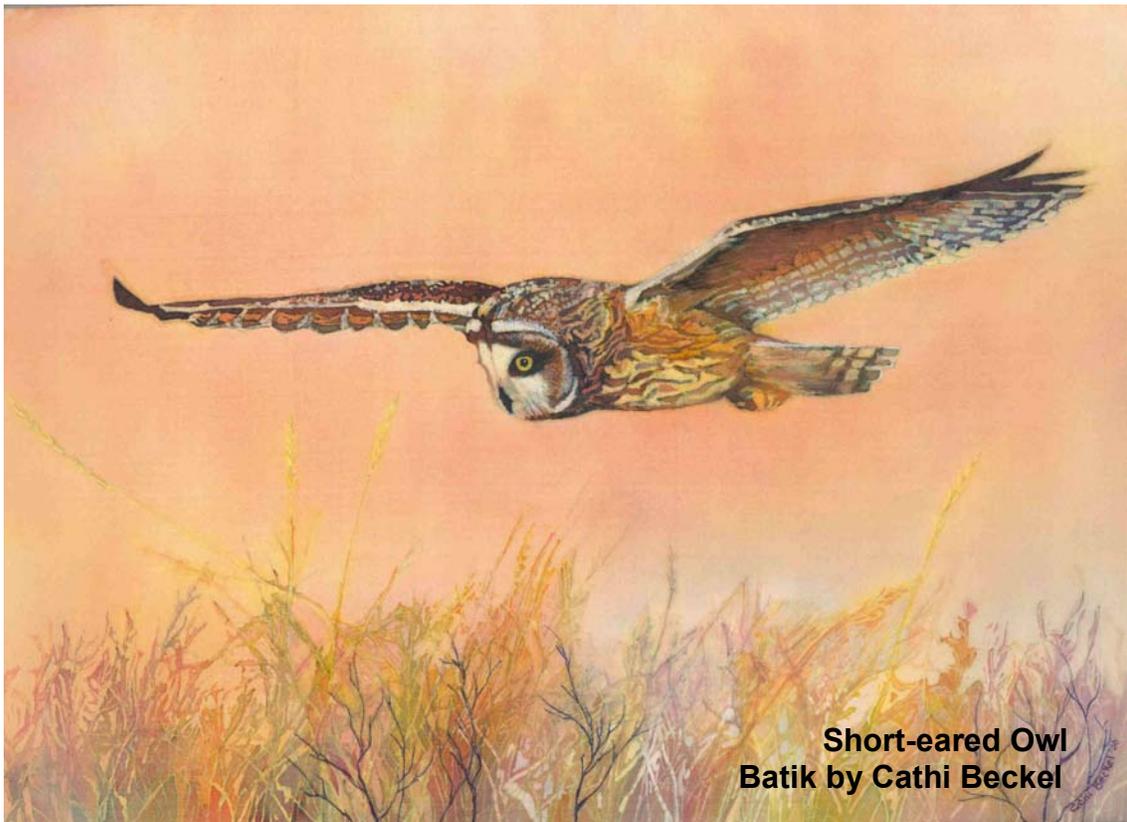
**NSOW** – Northern Saw-whet Owl  
**GHOW** – Great Horned Owl  
**LEOW** – Long-eared Owl  
**BOOW** – Boreal Owl

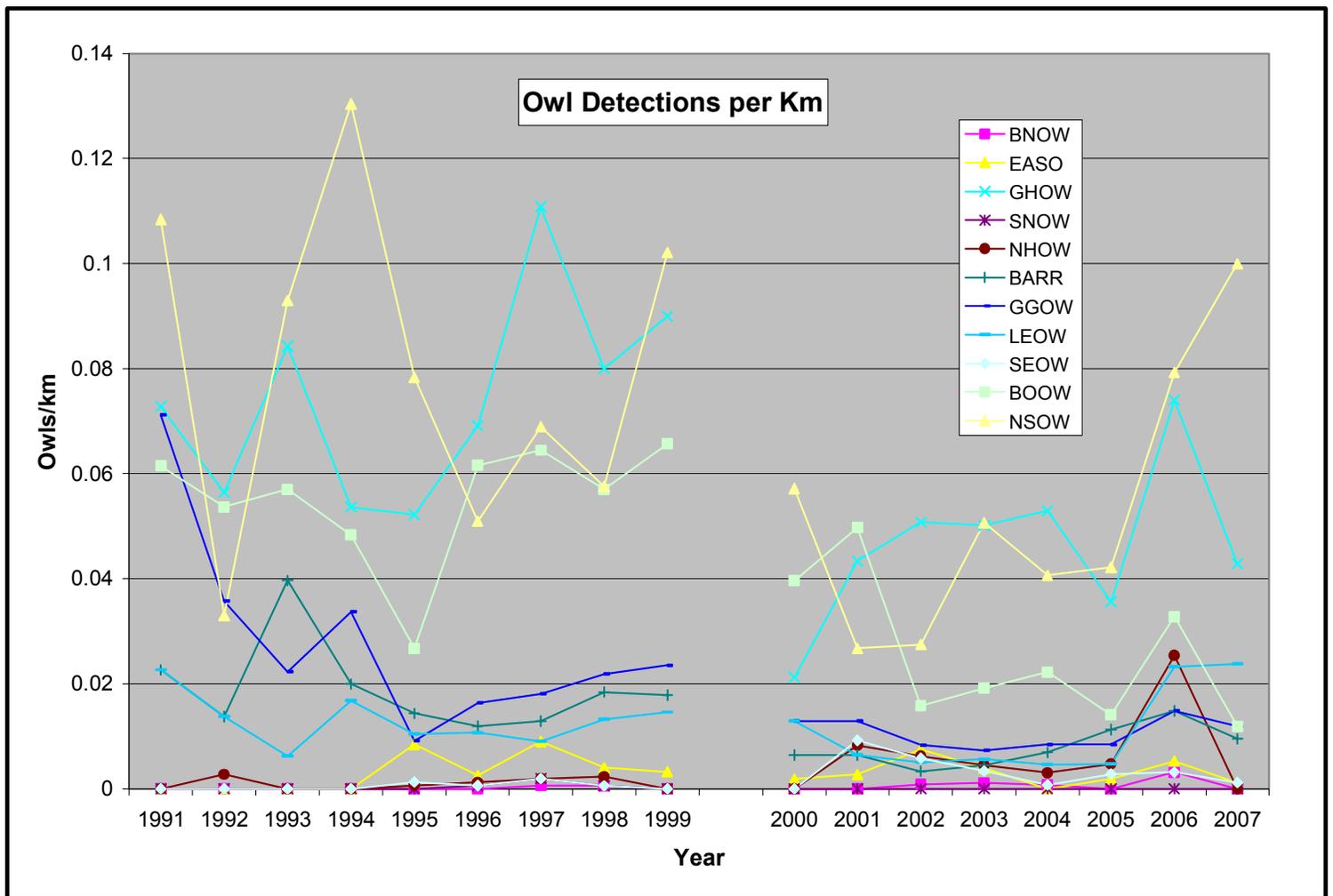
**GGOW** – Great Gray Owl  
**BARR** – Barred Owl  
**SEOW** – Short-eared owl  
**EASO** – Eastern Screech Owl.



**EASO- Eastern Screech Owl**  
**GHOW – Great Horned Owl**  
**BOOW- Boreal Owl**  
**BARR – Barred Owl**

**NSOW – Northern Saw-whet Owl**  
**LEOW – Long-eared Owl**  
**GGOW – Great Gray Owl**





**NSOW – Northern Saw-whet Owl**  
**BOOW- Boreal Owl**  
**LEOW – Long-eared Owl**  
**GGOW – Great Gray Owl**  
**SEOW – Short-eared owl**  
**SNOW- Snowy Owl**

**GHOW – Great Horned Owl**  
**NOHO – Northern Hawk Owl**  
**BARR – Barred Owl**  
**EASO- Eastern Screech Owl**  
**BNOW – Barn Owl**  
**BUOW – Burrowing Owl**

**For more information on the Manitoba Nocturnal Owl Survey please contact**

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