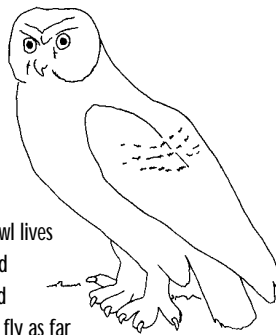


B I R D

SNOWY OWL



Scientific Name: *Nyctea scandiaca*

Known for its beautiful white feathers, this owl lives in the white world of arctic Canada, Greenland and northern Eurasia, on tundra, marshes and coasts. When its food supply dwindles, it may fly as far south as Japan in the East and Florida in the West. Snowy owls often are hunted during these southern migrations. Many states now protect them, and educational campaigns are under way to help save these birds.



STATUS: Protected by law to help maintain populations



DIET IN THE WILD: Arctic hare, lemmings, small rodents, ducks, gulls
ZOO DIET: Mice & other rodents, vitamin supplements



FUN FACTS: In May they begin nesting in shallow depressions on the ground or on rocks. In a year when food is abundant, the owls lay up to 15 eggs in their moss-lined nests. The male brings food to the female while she warms the eggs.