



Getting to know Chilliwack's Species at Risk

Species at risk profile: Short-Eared Owl, *Asio flammeus*

What it looks like:

A medium-sized owl with a brown spotted body (up to 44 cm) and a pale face with black outlined eyes. [Click here for more identification details.](#)

Where it lives:

Found in open areas, such as fields, meadows, and edges of marshes and rivers. It migrates over a vast area, overwintering in the Fraser Valley and more south. Breeding occurs further north. [Click here for more location details.](#)

What it eats:

A predator that mostly hunts rodents, particularly voles. Can also eat shrews and small birds.

What are its main threats in the Fraser Valley?

Habitat loss.

Did you know?

- The short 'ears' are tufts of feathers, while the real ears are hidden on the side of the head.
- A migratory owl that overwinters in the Fraser Valley delta and has been known to roost in flocks of 100 birds or more.
- It has a barking call when alarmed.
- Click [here](#) to learn more.

How you can help:

Leave portions of grass or fields un-mowed to create areas for hunting.

Join the [Nature Stewards](#) program for personalized property advice.

See a Short-eared Owl? – take a photo, record the location, and send it to outreach@fraservalleyconservancy.ca.

For any questions about this or other species at risk, contact the [Fraser Valley Conservancy](#).