



Dr. Gregory Hayward Ecology of Boreal Owls

Dr. Gregory Hayward studied the ecology of boreal owls at Chamberlain Basin and Cold Meadows between 1984 and 1988 for his Ph.D. research. At the time his study was conducted there was little information on North American boreal owls, or on their distribution south of Canada. He concluded that boreal owls prefer mature spruce-fir stands for nesting and summer roosting. These stands are relatively rare in the northern Rocky Mountains, which led him to believe breeding populations of boreal owls may be isolated from others. He found that his study population had very low juvenile recruitment, possibly even to the point that the population was not self-sustaining.

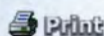
He recommended more research on boreal owls and their small mammal prey and managing forests for mixed-age structure with large snags for nesting. He suggested developing a metapopulation model to assess the regional status of boreal owls.



Dr. Gregory Hayward

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