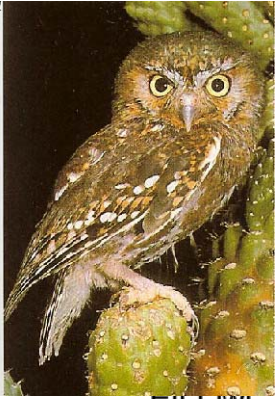


POORWILLS are part of the “Nightjar” family, called so because of the jarring cry of the birds at night. They are also called “goatsuckers”. They resemble owls and many rescue calls concerning an injured owl is actually a poorwill that is resting during the day. They do go into a torpid state during the day and can be lethargic. Determine whether the bird is sitting in a vertical (owl) position or a horizontal (nightjar) position. A poorwill will also resemble a piece of bark.



Great Owl



Poorwill



Lesser Nighthawk

Poorwills have a huge, frog-like mouth that can be intimidating but their bite is only as hard as two butterfly wings coming together.



We occasionally get in Lesser Nighthawks in the area too. Nestlings (left) have fawn colored/darker mottled pinfeathers.

All nightjars eat nothing but insects and have to be hand fed in captivity. They also need the right caging as not to damage their feathers. These birds must have perfect feathering to catch their food on the wing. It's important that rescued birds be taken to a rehabilitator specializing in this species right away.

Call WildWing at 480-893-6660 or Liberty Wildlife 480-998-5550