

# Nesting information for Corkscrew's common raptors

## Barred Owl *Strix varia*

### PAIRS

monogamous; may mate for life

### BREED

breed at 2 years of age; one brood per year (if first brood fails, will start another in 3-4 weeks; typically begin nesting in mid February and chicks typically branch around end of March or first week of April

### TERRITORY

male and female live alone in different overlapping territories when not breeding; their breeding territory is smaller

### NEST

pairs prospect potential nest sites up to one year in advance; prefer dense forests, wooded swamps; prefer cavities in deciduous trees with well-developed understory, but will use abandoned hawk or squirrel nests (do not build their own nests); maintain nesting territories and nest sites for years

### CLUTCH

usually 2-3 eggs; white, almost perfectly round; about two inches in diameter

### INCUBATION

female begins incubating with first egg; laying takes 2-3 days; asynchronous hatching; incubation 28-33 days; female incubates/broods while male brings food to cavity

### CHICKS

eyes open at 7 days; branch in 4-5 weeks (unable to fly); fledged at 6-7 weeks; parents care for young for 4-6 months; young from small cavity nests leave earlier than young in roomier cavities

### INDEPENDENCE

fledglings independent at 6 months

## Barred Owl

*Top:* A chick ready to branch peers out from the nesting cavity.

*Bottom:* A fledged chick watches visitors pass on the boardwalk below.



## Red-shouldered Hawk

*Top:* An adult brings a suitable stick to the tree crotch to build the nest.

*Bottom:* Chicks peer out from the nest waiting for parents to bring food.



## Red-shouldered Hawk *Buteo lineatus extimus*

### PAIRS

monogamous

### BREED

breed at 1 year of age; one brood per year; nesting season is January through May

### TERRITORY

male and female live alone in different overlapping territories when not breeding; their breeding territory is smaller

### NEST

nest in woodland habitats, especially cypress swamps; build nest in large mature trees with good canopy; look for sites in a major fork of the tree near the trunk, below the canopy but in the top half of the tree; re-use previous years' successful nests after renovation

### CLUTCH

usually 2 eggs; white with brown or lavender blotches; a little over two inches in diameter

### INCUBATION

female begins incubating with first or second egg; asynchronous hatching with up to seven days between first and last hatch; incubation 33 days, female incubates and broods for first week after hatching while male brings food; then, male brings food to nearby branch and calls female over

### CHICKS

born with eyes open; altricial; leave nest at 6 weeks but are fed for an other 8-10 weeks; males bring food during nesting period but then both parents feed and protect chicks

### INDEPENDENCE

fledglings independent at 4-5 months but linger in nest vicinity