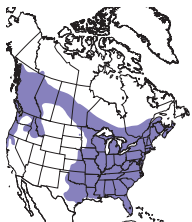




Barred Owl *Strix varia* **BDOW** L 21in



Common in s., scarcer to the n. Found in swamps and wooded areas near water: Call is a memorable, deep, throaty 'who-cooks for you,' often repeated, and building to a crescendo (in chorus) - the night sound of swampy forests. Although nocturnal, is sometimes seen and heard in the daytime. Hunts on the wing and from perches, taking mostly rodents. Often comes to for-

est edge at twilight to feed. **ID:** Thick body, short tail, and broad wings. Large black eyes on brown face, and yellow bill 'wrapped in a shawl,' with brown-streaked breast. Brown marbled upperparts. Sexes similar. Easily flushed, brief views can make ID from GHOW difficult but GHOW lacks brown back and the more contrasting wing pattern with white tips.