Cavities provide a multitude of wildlife uses – denning, nesting, resting, food caching, hibernation

Large Cavities - Homes for Many

Large Cavity Dwellers

Bushnell
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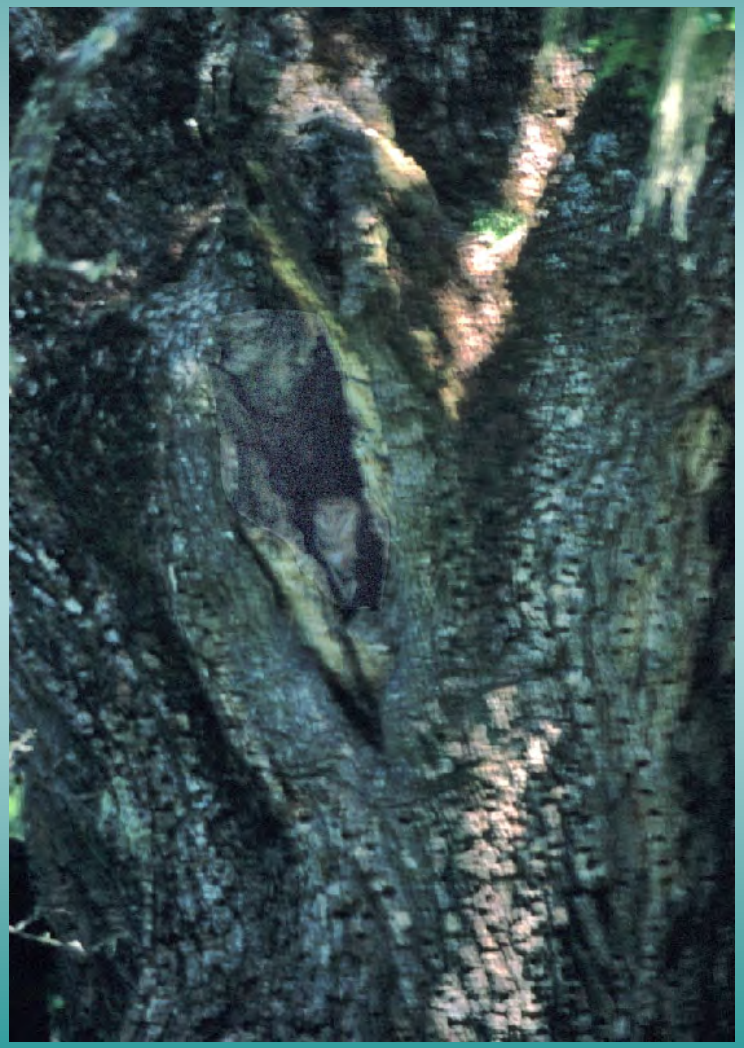
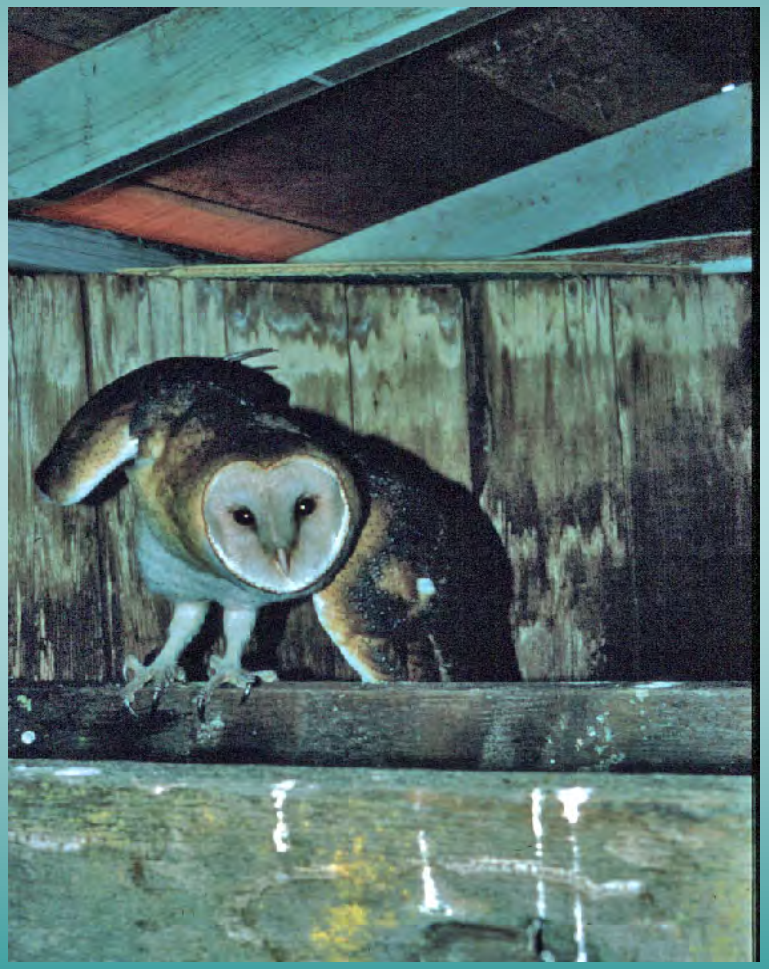
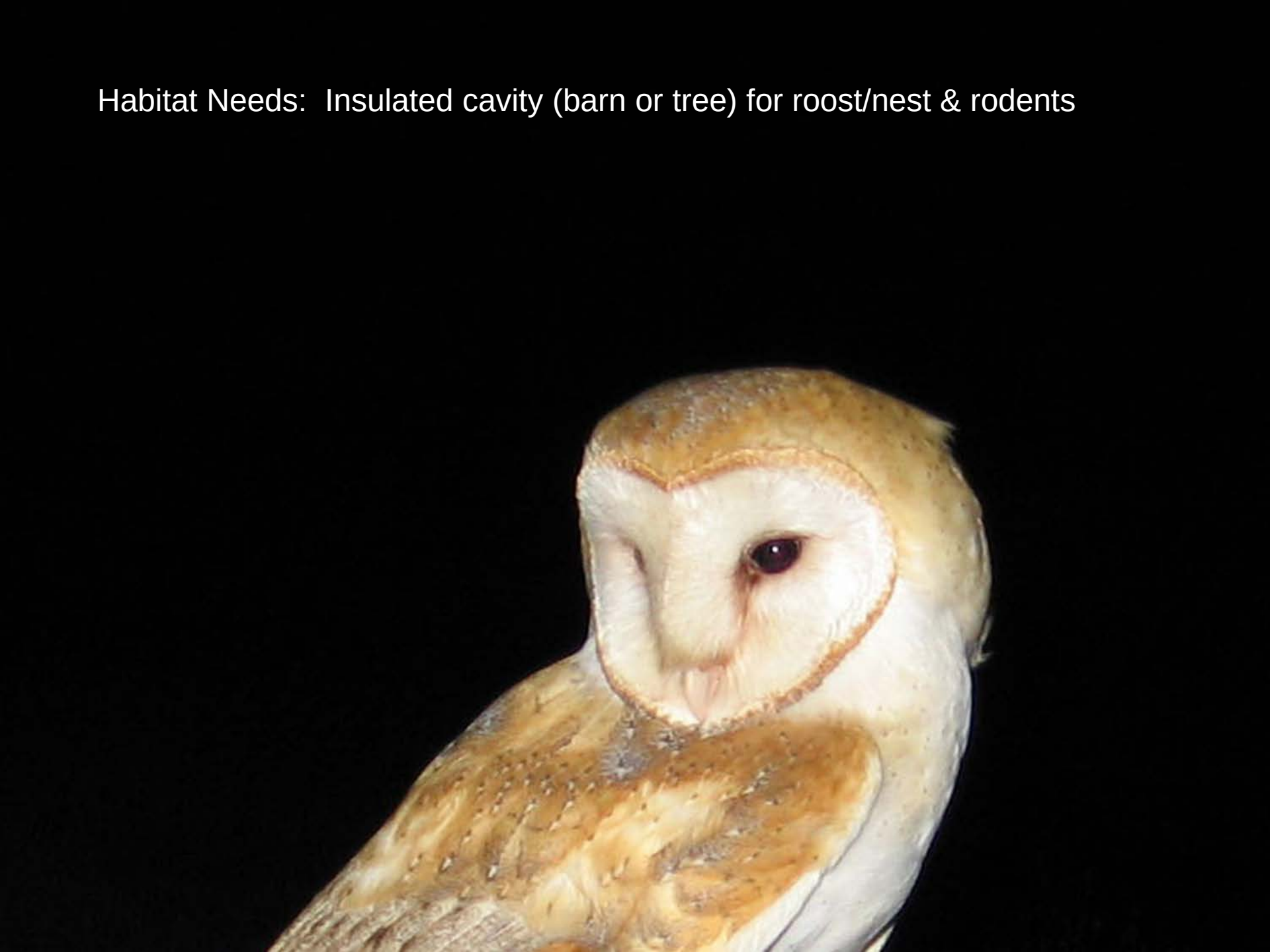
Barn Owls – Barns or Oaks?





Habitat Needs: Insulated cavity (barn or tree) for roost/nest & rodents



Townsend’s Big-eared Bat

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Bushnell
05–03–2013 11:50:38

Nest Tree Selection by Turkey Vultures *(Cathartes aura)* in Oak Woodlands

Greg Giusti, Shane Feirer, Bob Keiffer, Ryan Keiffer

UCCE and Hopland REC

4 August 2010 - S3 Pasture - HREC
© RJKeiffer2010
© RJKeiffer2010

What % of oaks are suitable?

Trees with suitable nesting elements n=7 (N=416)

- 36” blue oak
- 67” interior live oak
- 59” Oregon white oak
- 31” black oak
- 81” Oregon white oak
- 49” Oregon white oak
- 72” valley oak

- **$\overline{X}$ = 50”**
- **Rng = 31-81”**

What are they telling us about the trees they select?

Tree number	DBH	Length	Radius	Volume (ft^3)	Volume (m^3)
66	38”	10’11”	12.5”	37.03	1.06
67	44”	13’	14”	54.9	1.5
68	42”	4’10”	16.5”	28.5	.79
69	65”	6’3”	18”	44.7	1.26
68-A	36	7’	17”	49.5	1.34
Mean Range	45” 36-65			42.7 28-54	1.04 .79-1.5

Tree cavities tend to be vertical and essentially go “to the ground”

Pacific Fisher

- 43% of historic range presently has zero or rare occurrence of fishers
- Cavities are needed for denning and resting
- Multiple cavities are necessary within a females home range for kit rearing
- One study found 54% of denning cavities in Black Oaks

Large Oaks Have Large Limbs

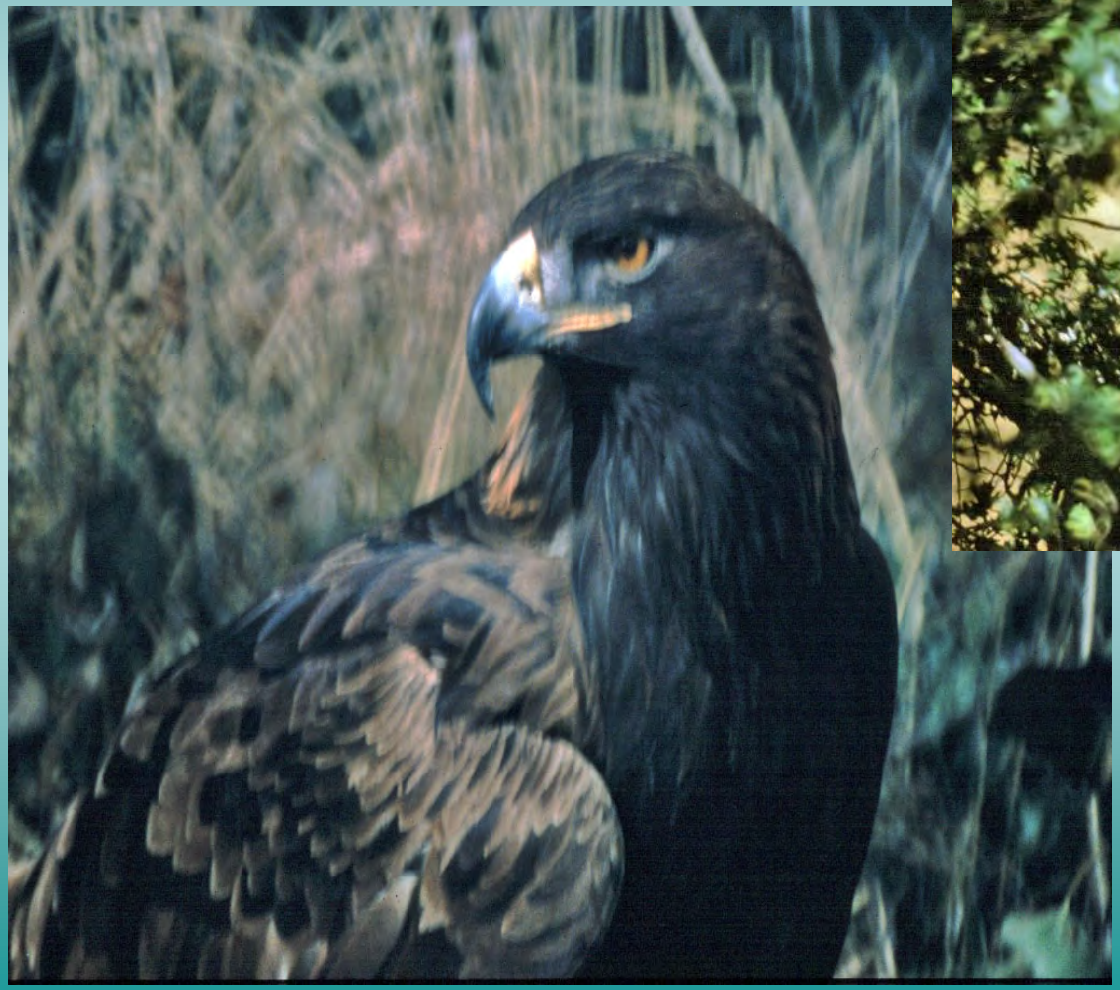
Big Limbs for Big Cats

Photo by Craig Coolahan

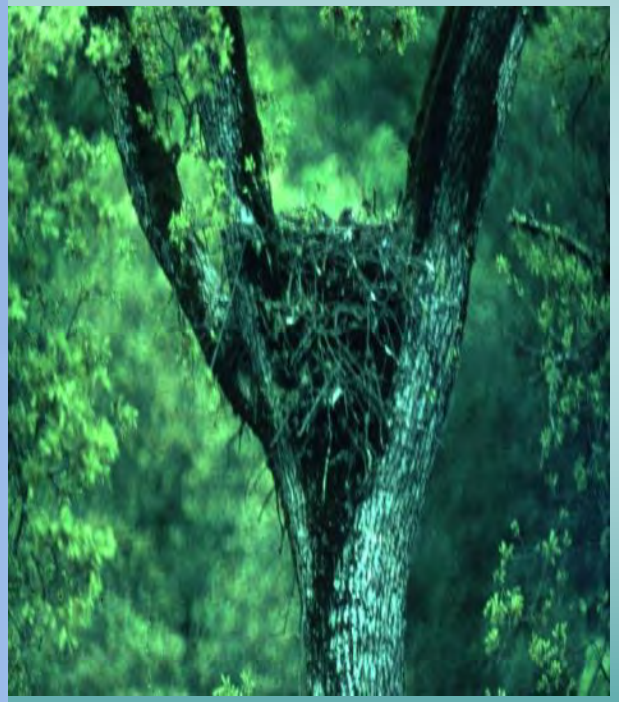
Raptors – Oaks for Perching

Limb Structure for Nesting

Golden Eagle – Oaks for Nests



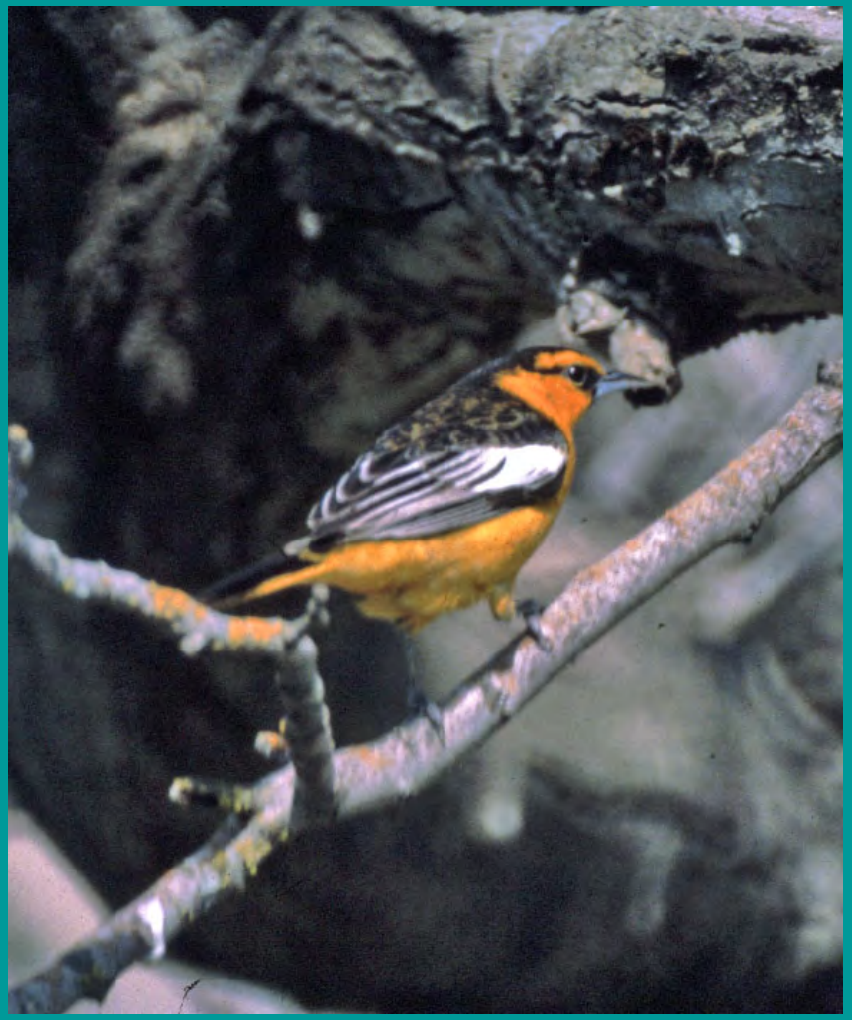
Red-tailed Hawk - Nesting



Small Limb Structure - Nesting

Long-eared Owl on nest

Orioles Build in Hanging Branches



Oak Limbs for Roosting

Loose Bark for Nesting Cavities

Downed Woody Debris

Oak Debris – Ground Nesters

Rufous-crowned Sparrow

Herptiles of the Oak Floor

Herptiles of the Oak Floor

More Herptiles of the Oak Floor

Oak woodlands & Insects

STEWARDSHIP OF THE LAND – PLANTING OAKS

The End – Thank You!