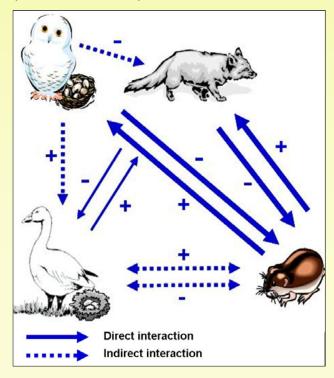
ሥL<sup>c</sup> ኼኦኦኣጭርኦኖ<sup>c</sup> ኦ<sup><</sup>ለካፈላ<sup>c</sup>? Why study Snowy Owls?

></>

>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
></p

Snowy Owls are one of the most important top predator of the arctic ecosystem and a key component of its integrity. However we know little about its movements, abundance and demography. They are also vulnerable to climate change because it is a specialist predator well adapted to the tundra.



Gilles Gauthier Université Laval gilles.gauthier@bio.ulaval.ca (418) 656-2131 #5507

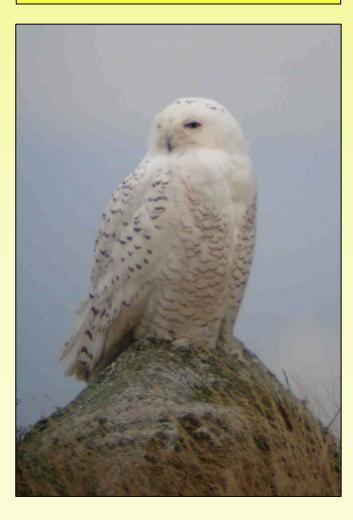
Jean-François Therrien Université Laval jean-francois.therrien.3@ulaval.ca (418) 656-2131 #6327

Joël Bêty Université du Québec à Rimouski joel\_bety@uqar.qc.ca (418) 723-1986 #1701

## 'd≻ ํ๔⊢ั'! Thank you!



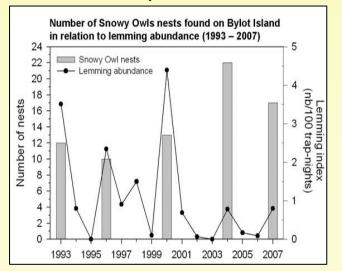
Ϸ<sup><</sup>Λ<sup>⊾</sup>Վ⊲<sub>σ</sub> <sup>ເ</sup>ଧϷ≻ͺ៶ʹ<sub>σ</sub><sup>®</sup> Γ<sup>c</sup>∩LCϲ-Ϸ<sup><</sup> ͺ ⊲ዮ⊲ Snowy Owl studies on Bylot Island



## ለየኦቴቴርናታ ቴኦኦጎቴርኦታ Breeding biology



This large northern owl breeds in the open tundra of the circumpolar Arctic. Numerous Snowy Owls breed on Bylot Island but only in years when there is a high abundance of lemmings. There are almost absent from the island in other years.



## 

></>

>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>

Snowy Owls are known for their erratic movements. This behaviour is believed to be related to fluctuations in the abundance of its main prey, the lemming. Although this bird is seen in southern Canada during winter, its seasonal and annual movements are largely unknown. We are using satellite telemetry to track long-distance movements of owls and to relate them to lemming abundance.



## ⊳∿ປイ<sup>ເ</sup>⊃ມ່‰ເC<sup>ເ</sup> ຫ∿<sup>ເ</sup> Long-distance movements

Tracking of 4 Snowy Owl breeding females marked on Bylot Island from July 2007 to February 2008. These 4 birds followed very different paths and illustrate the erratic movements of the species.

