

Reproduction and Breeding:

The nesting season is usually between late March and April. Birds breeding in Canada and northern sections of the United States may migrate south to Mexico or southern US during colder months. Males court the females through a variety of calls and courtship behaviors including display flights, bowing, nipping, scratching, or flashing white markings. Male Burrowing Owls make a “who-who” call to attract females to their burrow. They may also use the call to announce ownership of the burrow to other males nearby. Females will lay their eggs over a two week period, and incubate them for three to four weeks. Males bring the females food while she is incubating the eggs, and may protect the burrow during the day. While the offspring are still in the nest, the male will become the main care giver. When the young fledge, they remain near the burrow and join the parents in their nightly hunts. Parents will help feed the chicks for one to three months.

Amazing Facts:

Burrowing owls line their burrow with mammal dung to attract insects and maintain burrow temperature!

Burrowing owls may have a very diverse diet including the fruit of prickly pear cactus and Tesajilla.

Burrowing Owl



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