

JARED HOBBS is a Registered Professional Biologist and wildlife photographer based in Victoria, British Columbia. He has worked throughout the province on many of British Columbia's rarest species, including the Spotted Owl. He has been an advisor to the Canadian Spotted Owl Recovery Team and was the 2006 recipient of the International Shikar Safari Award. He has recently completed his Master of Science degree in Biology at Royal Roads University. His photographs have appeared in such magazines as *Canadian Geographic*, *Hobo*, and *British Columbia* and are represented by All Canada Photos and Getty Images.

RICHARD CANNINGS works as a consulting biologist in Naramata, British Columbia, and at Bird Studies Canada. He is the author of *An Enchantment of Birds: Memories from a Birder's Life*, *The Rockies: A Natural History*, and, with Sydney Cannings, *British Columbia: A Natural History*. He holds a Master of Science degree in Biology from Memorial University in Newfoundland.

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"My first encounter with a Spotted Owl, in the middle of the night in the mountains of western Oregon over thirty years ago, led to a lifetime spent studying this elusive species. It is difficult to put into words why I find it so intriguing, but many others have also succumbed to the allure of this beautiful and soulful creature of the night. The photographs and the words in this book are testimony to that allure."

From the Foreword by ERIC FORSMAN



JARED HOBBS

text by Richard Cannings

S P O T T E D

Owls

Shadows
in an
Old-Growth
Forest

Jared Hobbs

S P O T T E D O W L S

GREYSTONE

ROOSTING on the branch of a Douglas-fir or gliding silently over the forest floor, the Spotted Owl is a forest bird, adapted to hunt, sleep, and nest in extensive stands of large old-growth trees. As these ancient stands are increasingly lost to logging, the Spotted Owl population is declining precipitously in both Canada and the United States. The Spotted Owl is listed as Endangered in Canada and will most likely be extirpated there by 2010; in British Columbia, only three breeding pairs and ten single owls are known to remain. In the United States, two of the three subspecies, the Northern Spotted Owl and the Mexican Spotted Owl, are listed as Threatened.

In this celebration of the Spotted Owl, the very rare photographs by wildlife photographer Jared Hobbs capture these nocturnal hunters in mid-flight with wings spread, peering out of hollow tree trunks, and tending to their young, among other activities. The engaging and authoritative text by master birder and esteemed biologist Richard Cannings describes the natural history of the owls and the threats to their survival. This stunning book is a must for anyone who cares about the preservation of nature and the fate of this emblem of the old-growth forest.

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