

Eurasian Eagle-owl

Washi-Mimizuku

Scientific name Bubo bubo

Classification Strigiformes, Strigidae

Distribution Eurasian Continent

Feeding Habits It is said to be one of the strongest birds of prey in the world, and it is known that it occasionally preys on large mammals such as raccoon dogs and foxes.

Characteristics It is one of the largest in the body size among the owl family, and some of them have the wingspan reaches 180 cm.

Behavior and ecology It inhabits in various environments such as ordinary woods or deep forests, and rocky areas. For nesting, they utilize old ruins of other bird' s nests and caves in rocks. The habitats have been losing in a lot of areas of the distribution range due to the land development in recent years. In Japanese, the family of owls are traditionally called "Fukurou" and "Mimi-zuku" to distinguish them, but both of them is not biologically differed. "Mimi" means ears, and " zuku" is the alias of "Fukurou" , thus "Mimi-zuku" means owls have ear-tufts. So generally, the owls with ear-tufts among owl family called "mimi-zuku", and the owls without ear-tufts called "fukurou". The genus name (Bubo) is derived from the song of this bird.

