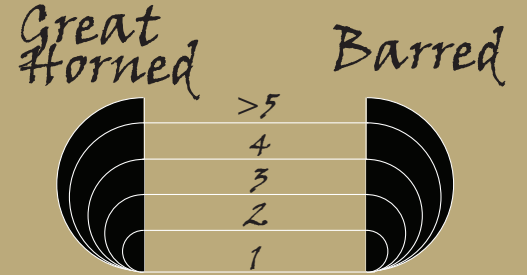


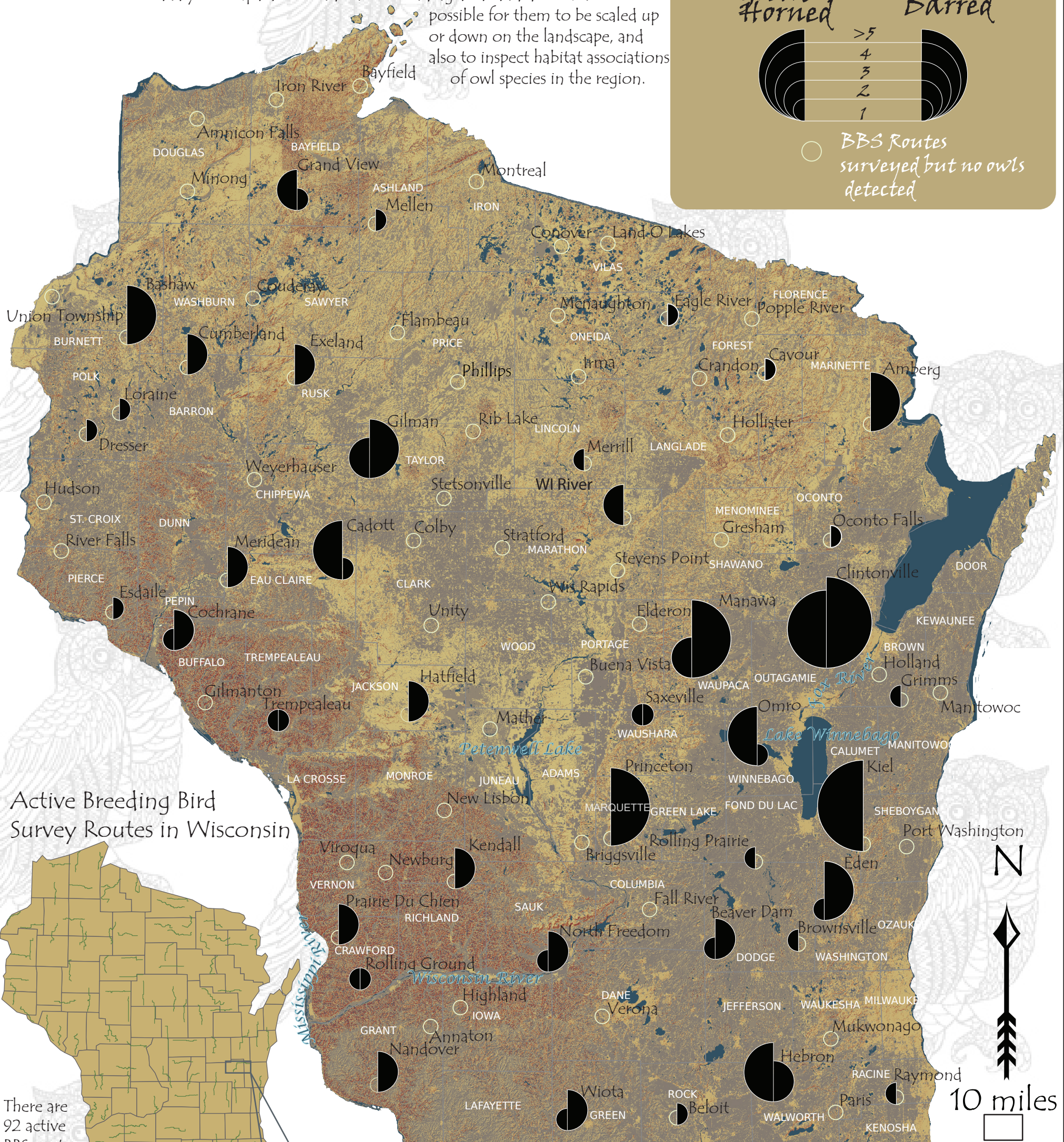
The more you know

In efforts to adequately monitor Wisconsin owl populations through the Breeding Bird Survey (BBS), the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources began the Western Great Lakes Region Owl survey in 2005. According to the U.S.G.S. Patuxent Wildlife Research Center, each BBS route is approximately 24.5 miles long, consisting of survey stations placed 1 mile apart on each route. Five different species of owls were detected, with a total of 139 individual observations recorded. Of the five species, Great Horned and Barred owls were the top 2. By conducting these surveys, wildlife conservation specialists, volunteers, and owl enthusiasts alike hope to: further understand the region's abundance and distribution of owl species, recognize trends in the relative abundance of the region's owls, analyze comparable trends in surrounding areas and determine if it's possible for them to be scaled up or down on the landscape, and also to inspect habitat associations of owl species in the region.

Number of observations of owls in 2014



BBS Routes surveyed but no owls detected



Active Breeding Bird Survey Routes in Wisconsin



There are 92 active BBS routes located in Wisconsin. In 2014, 57 volunteer teams conducted roadside-surveys for 69 of them. The BBS route in Kiel is shared by Fond du Lac and Sheboygan county where 5 or more Great Horned owls were detected (right figure). Their population increased by 30% from 2013 with an average observation of 0.61 owls per route.

1 mile

Cartographer: Ravina Patel.

Projection: Lambert Conformal Conic

Data derived from Wisconsin DNR, USDA, and GeoData@Wisconsin