

Raptor pellets are often found on the ground below roost sites where they can be easily collected. Such roost sites are common in agricultural settings where owls may take up residence in barns or in landscapes where raptors commonly nest on cliff ledges. Where roosts sites have been maintained for over long time periods, you may find pellets in varying degrees of decomposition. Pellet debris from such sites can still provide valuable ecological data, and can be swept into a bag separate from intact pellets. **If you are collecting pellets, please be aware of and follow all regulations regarding the removal of material from state federal lands, and please avoid disturbances to nesting birds.**

To send us pellets that you have collected follow the steps below:

1. Write down the name of collector, contact information, date and time of day of collection, number of pellets collected and the location of collection. Most smart phones offer the capability of recording GPS coordinates. When GPS coordinates cannot be provided, please be as precise as possible in the details of the location.
2. If pellets are fresh, they must be dried before shipping. You can accomplish this by allowing them to sit uncovered in a dry, well ventilated area for several days.
3. Once the pellets are dry, put them in a sealable plastic bag with your name on it, being sure to separate the pellets from the loose bone and debris you may have collected.
4. Put the bag(s) of pellet material in a cardboard box along with the collection information and ship to the following address:

Terry Lab Owl Pellets
Department of Integrative Biology
Oregon State University
Cordley Hall 3029
Corvallis, OR 97331

Thank you,

Pellet Map Team