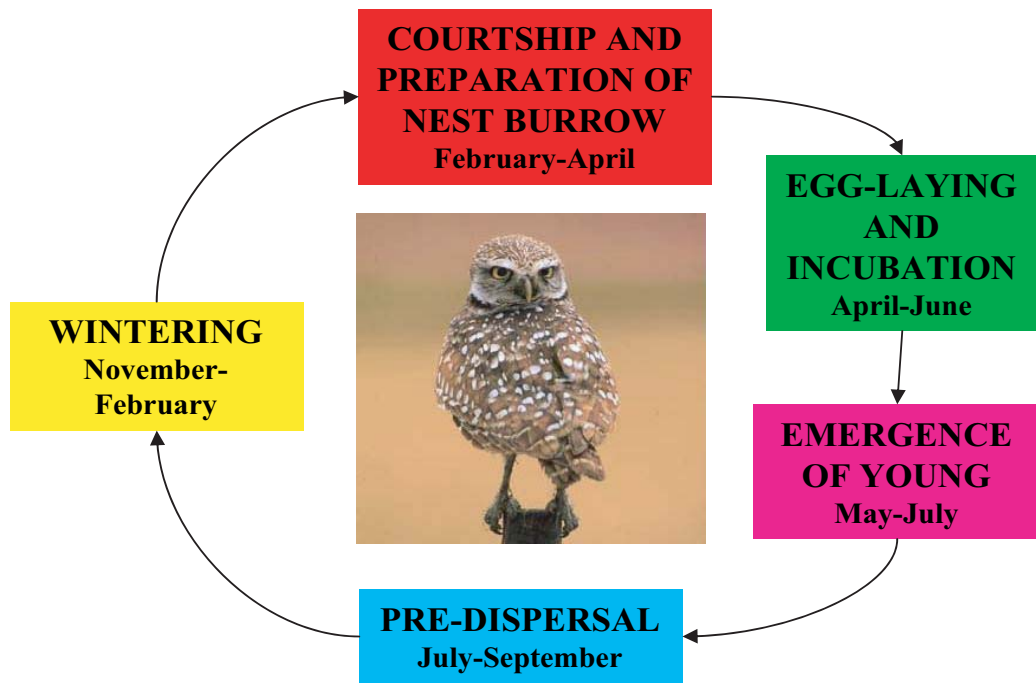


Burrowing Owl Life Cycle and Pressures Model

Biology: Some stay near nest burrows and forage, others migrate south.
Pressures: similar to pre-dispersal

Biology: Adults begin pair formation and courtship in early March, when males try to attract a mate. After pair formation, pairs will select a nest burrow and start lining the burrow and burrow entrance with various debris (e.g., grass clippings, manure, etc.).
Pressure: Reduced nest burrow availability due to urbanization and ground squirrel control.



Biology: Females lay eggs in natal burrow and incubate for 28-30 days. Females perform all incubation and brooding while males forage and bring food to the female.
Pressures: Reduced foraging habitat due to urbanization. Disking, levee maintenance, and flooding could destroy nest burrows and kill owls.

Biology: Young able to fly short distances approx. 1 month after emergence from nest burrow, and may use nearby satellite burrows. Parents continue to feed young 6-8 weeks after emergence. Young remain in vicinity of natal burrow until mid-September, when they molt into adult plumage and disperse to find their own burrows.
Pressures: Reduced foraging habitat due to urbanization. Potential secondary poisoning from consumption of poisoned insects.

Biology: Young emerge from nest burrow approx. 2-4 weeks after hatching. Remain at burrow entrance where they are fed by parents.
Pressures: same as egg-laying and incubation