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## EARTH: Owl Pellets Bridge Ancient and Modern Ecosystems

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Alexandria, VA - In a Utah cave, paleontologists are exploring the fossil record preserved in owl pellets since the Pleistocene glaciation. The fossils in the pellets are giving the scientists a glimpse of how the ecosystems have changed over time both from natural variation and more recent changes brought on by human settlement.

By studying the pellets, scientists have been able to assess the energy flow through the ecosystem, and how the addition of non-native plants such as cheatgrass is recorded in the geologic record. Explore Homestead Cave in the November Issue of EARTH Magazine: <http://www.earthmagazine.org/article/owl-pellets-bridge-ancient-and-mode....>

Get the science behind the headlines in EARTH Magazine. The November issue is now available on the digital newsstand and includes feature stories such as the effort to track conflict minerals through the Democratic Republic of the Congo, and research headlines from the geoscience community about the role the stratosphere plays in Santa Ana winds and fires, a Cambrian-like explosion of mammals during the Mid-Jurassic, and how the petrology of Campi Flegrei gives the volcano a Roman-concrete-style caprock. All this, and more is available from [www.earthmagazine.org](http://www.earthmagazine.org).

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Keep up to date with the latest happenings in Earth, energy and environment news with EARTH Magazine online at: [www.earthmagazine.org](http://www.earthmagazine.org). Published by the American Geosciences Institute, EARTH is your source for the science behind the headlines.

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The American Geosciences Institute is a nonprofit federation of geoscientific and professional associations that represents more than 250,000 geologists, geophysicists and other earth scientists. Founded in 1948, AGI provides information services to geoscientists, serves as a voice of shared interests in the profession, plays a major role in strengthening geoscience education, and strives to increase public awareness of the vital role the geosciences play in society's use of resources, resiliency to natural hazards, and interaction with the environment.

## Press Release PDF:



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