

# 02560 Short-toed Snake Eagle (*Circaetus gallicus*)



Short-toed Eagle. Adult (14-VIII).

## SHORT-TOED SNAKE EAGLE (*Circaetus gallicus*)

### IDENTIFICATION

63-68 cm. Buff upperparts; tail with four transversal dark bands; dark throat and breast; white underparts buff streaked; bluish scaly legs; yellow iris.



Short-toed Eagle. Pattern of legs, breast and colour of iris.



### SIMILAR SPECIES

This species is unmistakable.

### SEXING

Plumage of both sexes alike.

### AGEING

4 age groups can be recognized:

**Juvenile** with fresh plumage, without moult limits; wing without grey subterminal band; secondaries with ill-defined bands; all bands of central tail feathers with similar width.

**2nd year** with all **juvenile** plumage in **spring** before moult; in **autumn** with two ages of feathers with brownish and worn **juvenile** feathers contrasting with darker and fresh moulted ones.

**3rd year** as long as they retain some unmoulted **juvenile** flight feathers; retained **juvenile** secondaries are paler and with bands ill-defined.

**Adult** with several generations of feathers, all with **adult** pattern; broad and contrasted bands on secondaries with broader subterminal band; bands of central tail feathers with different width, the last one wider (**CAUTION**: the number of tail bars varies individually).

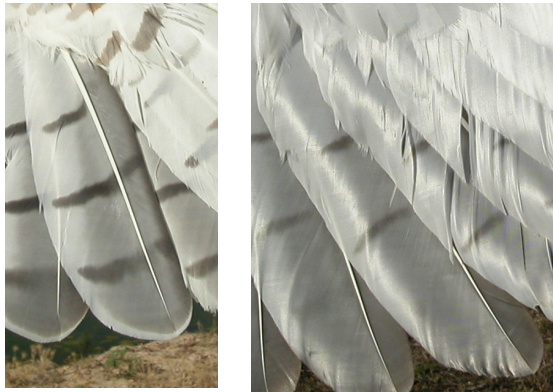


Short-toed Eagle. Ageing. Pattern of central tail feather: left adult; right juvenile.



Short-toed Eagle. Ageing. Pattern of upperside of inner primaries: left adult; right juvenile.

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Short-toed Eagle. Ageing. Pattern of underside of inner primaries: left adult; right juvenile.



Short-toed Eagle. Ageing. Pattern of upperside of secondaries: left adult; right juvenile.



Short-toed Eagle. Ageing. Pattern of underside of secondaries: left adult; right juvenile.

<http://blascozumeta.com>

**MOULT**

Incomplete **postbreeding** moult, between May and October, since all tail and flight feathers are not changed in one year. **Postjuvenile** moult starts in spring of **2nd year** retaining some unmoulted outer primaries and central secondaries.

**PHENOLOGY**

| I | II | III | IV | V | VI | VII | VIII | IX | X | XI | XII |
|---|----|-----|----|---|----|-----|------|----|---|----|-----|
|   |    |     |    |   |    |     |      |    |   |    |     |

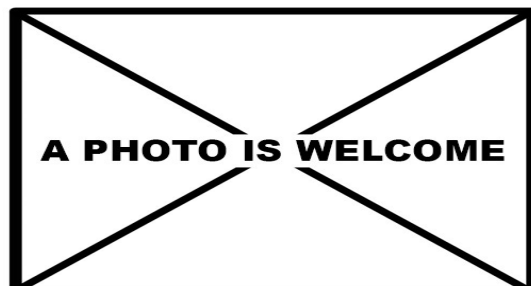
- Summer visitor
- Resident
- Wintering
- On passage



Short-toed Eagle. 3th year (06-VIII).



Short-toed Eagle. 2nd year (14-VIII).



Short-toed Eagle. Juvenile ().

<http://www.aranzadi.eus>

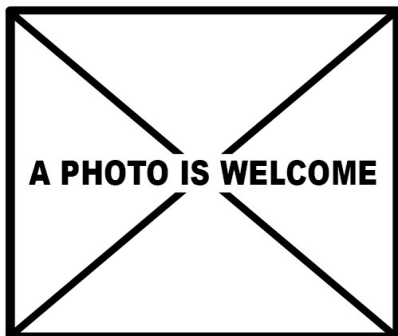
**02560 Short-toed Snake Eagle** (*Circaetus gallicus*)



Short-toed Eagle. Head pattern and iris colour: top adult (14-VIII); bottom 3rd year (06-VIII).



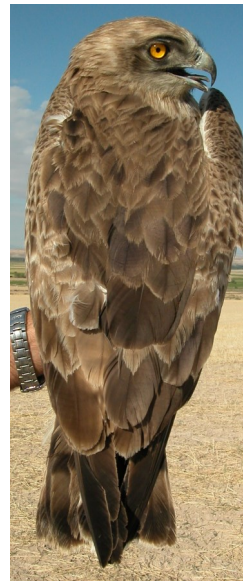
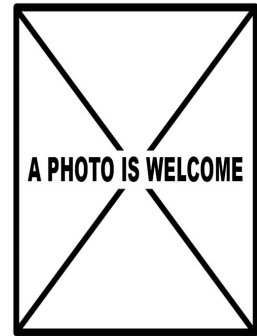
Short-toed Eagle. Head pattern and iris colour: top 2nd year (14-VIII); bottom juvenile ().



Short-toed Eagle. Breast pattern: left adult (14-VIII); right 3rd year (06-VIII).



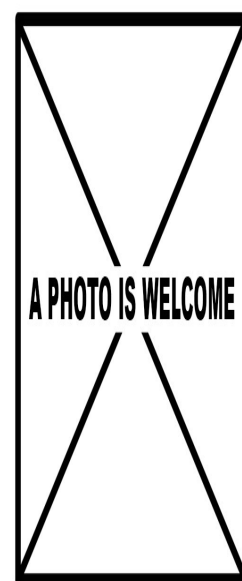
Short-toed Eagle. Breast pattern: left 2nd year (14-VIII); right juvenile ().



Short-toed Eagle. Upperparts pattern: left adult (14-VIII); right 3rd year (06-VIII).



Short-toed Eagle. Upperparts pattern: left 2nd year (14-VIII); right juvenile ().



**02560** Short-toed Snake Eagle (*Circaetus gallicus*)



Short-toed Eagle. Adult: pattern of tail (14-VIII).



Short-toed Eagle. Juvenile: pattern of tail (08-IX).



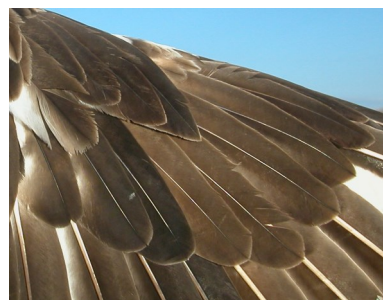
Short-toed Eagle. 3rd year: pattern of tail (06-VIII).



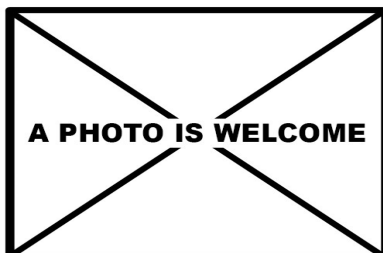
Short-toed Eagle. Pattern if primary coverts: top adult (14-VIII); bottom 3rd year (06-VIII).



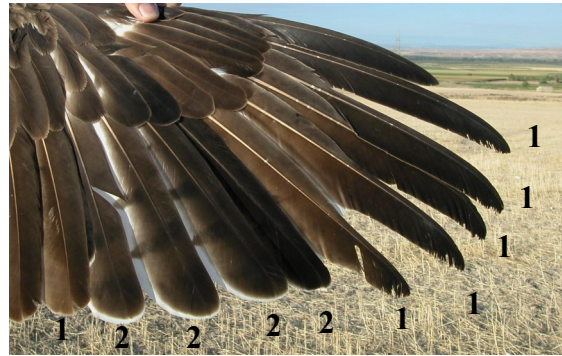
Short-toed Eagle. 2nd year: pattern of tail (1 juvenile feathers; 2 adult feathers) (14-VIII).



Short-toed Eagle. Pattern of primary coverts: top 2nd year (14-VIII); bottom juvenile ( ).



**02560** Short-toed Snake Eagle (*Circaetus gallicus*)



Short-toed Eagle. Adult: pattern of primaries (20-VIII).

Short-toed Eagle. 2nd year: pattern of primaries (1 juvenile feathers; 2 2nd year feathers) (14-VIII).



Short-toed Eagle. 3rd year: pattern of primaries (2 2nd year feathers; 3 3rd year feathers) (06-VIII).

Short-toed Eagle. Juvenile: pattern of primaries (08-IX).

**02560 Short-toed Snake Eagle** (*Circaetus gallicus*)



Short-toed Eagle. Adult: pattern of secondaries (14-VIII).



Short-toed Eagle. 2nd year: pattern of secondaries (1 juvenile feathers; 2 2nd year feathers) (14-VIII).



Short-toed Eagle. 3rd year: pattern of secondaries (1 juvenile feathers; 2 2nd year feathers; 3 3rd year feathers) (06-VIII).



Short-toed Eagle. Juvenile: pattern of secondaries (08-IX).

# 02560 Short-toed Snake Eagle (*Circaetus gallicus*)



Short-toed Eagle. Adult: pattern of wing (14-VIII).

Short-toed Eagle. Juvenile: pattern of wing (08-IX).



Short-toed Eagle. 3rd year: pattern of wing (1 juvenile feather; 2 2nd year feather; 3 3rd year feather) (06-VIII).



Short-toed Eagle. 2nd year: pattern of wing (15-VIII).