WOOD SANDPIPER (Tringa glareola)

IDENTIFICATION
19-20 cm. Brown greenish upperparts, with whitish spotted; prominent white supercilium; white underparts, with streaked breast; dark wings lacking white band; pale underwing coverts; white rump; white tail, narrowly barred; dark bill; greenish legs.

SEXING
Plumage of both sexes alike.

AGEING
3 types of age can be recognized:
Juvenile with feathers on upperparts and wing coverts dark brown with many distinct deep buff spots; median wing coverts with oblique buff spots at sides of the feather.
2nd year spring with juvenile flight feathers, which are worn.
Adult with feathers on upperparts and wing coverts dark brown with indistinctly whitish mottled; median wing coverts with grey centres and triangular white notches at sides of the feather.

SIMILAR SPECIES
Recalls a Common Sandpiper, which is smaller, lacks white rump and has a white line on wing. Green Sandpiper is very similar but without a white supercilium and with dark underwing coverts.
Wood Sandpiper. Ageing. Pattern of greater coverts: left adult; right juvenile.

MOULT
Complete postbreeding moult, usually starting in breeding areas and finished in wintering quarters (CAUTION: some bird can start their moult in wintering quarters). Partial postjuvenile moult changing body feathers, tertials, central tail feathers and some wing coverts and flight feathers; usually starts in wintering quarters. Both types of age have a prebreeding moult, between February and April, including body feathers, some tertials and wing coverts.

PHENOLOGY

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STATUS IN ARAGON
Only on passage. Widely distributed throughout the Region.
Wood Sandpiper. Spring. Upperpart pattern: left adult (17-V); right 2nd year ()

Wood Sandpiper. Spring. Tail pattern: left adult (17-V); right 2nd year ()

Wood Sandpiper. Spring. Pattern of tertials: left adult (17-V); right 2nd year ()

Wood Sandpiper. Spring. Adult: pattern of wing coverts (17-V)

Wood Sandpiper. Spring. 2nd year: pattern of wing coverts (17-V)

Wood Sandpiper. Spring. Adult: pattern of primaries (17-V)

Wood Sandpiper. Spring. 2nd year: pattern of primaries ()
Wood Sandpiper. Spring. Adult: pattern of secondaries (17-V)

Wood Sandpiper. Spring. 2nd year: pattern of secondaries ()

Wood Sandpiper. Spring. Adult: pattern of wing (17-V)

Wood Sandpiper. Spring. 2nd year: pattern of wing (17-V)


Wood Sandpiper. Spring. Adult: pattern of wing (17-V)

209 Wood Sandpiper

Wood Sandpiper. Autumn. Head pattern: top adult (29-VII); bottom juvenile (26-VIII).

Wood Sandpiper. Autumn. Breast pattern: top adult (29-VII); bottom juvenile (26-VIII).

Wood Sandpiper. Autumn. Upperparts pattern: left adult (29-VII); right juvenile (26-VIII).

Wood Sandpiper. Autumn. Tail pattern: top left no moulted adult (29-VII); top right adult in active moult (18-VIII); left juvenile (26-VIII).
209 Wood Sandpiper

Wood Sandpiper. Autumn. No moulted adult: pattern of wing coverts (29-VII)

Wood Sandpiper. Autumn. No moulted adult: pattern of primaries (29-VII)

Wood Sandpiper. Autumn. Adult in active moult: pattern of primaries (18-VIII)

Wood Sandpiper. Autumn. Adult in active moult: pattern of wing coverts (18-VIII)

Wood Sandpiper. Autumn. Juvenile: pattern of primaries (26-VIII)

Wood Sandpiper. Autumn. Juvenile: pattern of wing coverts (26-VIII)
Wood Sandpiper. Autumn. No moulted adult: pattern of secondaries (29-VII)

Wood Sandpiper. Autumn. Adult in active moult: pattern of secondaries (18-VIII)
