IDENTIFICATION OF NORTHERN WHEATEAR (*Oenanthe oenanthe*) AND BLACK-EARED WHEATEAR (*Oenanthe hispanica*)

**ALL AGES AND SEXES**

All ages and sexes can be separated by wing formula and pattern of tail.

Northern Wheatear. Wing formula: 10th primary similar or shorter than primary coverts; 7th and 8th primaries emarginated.

Black-eared Wheatear. Wing formula: 10th primary similar or longer than primary coverts; 6th to 8th primaries emarginated.

**MALES**

Males are easily distinguishable by pattern of plumage.

Northern Wheatear. Pattern of plumage. Male: with grey crown and back; white forehead; black bands on both sides of the head.

Black-eared Wheatear. Pattern of plumage. Male: with reddish brown back; throat and sides of head black or black only on sides of head.
**FEMALES**

*Females* can be separated by pattern of plumage but not always easy using only this character.

**Northern Wheatear. Pattern of plumage. Female:** with grey tinge on crown and back; pale bib; with small dark patches on both sides of the head.

**Black-eared Wheatear. Pattern of plumage. Female:** crown and back scarcely tinged grey; throat and sides of head dark or dark only on sides of head.

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**JUVENILES**

*Juveniles* can be separated by pattern of plumage.

**Northern Wheatear. Pattern of plumage. Juvenile:** back and breast poorly spotted.

**Black-eared Wheatear. Pattern of plumage. Juvenile:** back and breast strongly spotted white.