

Hawk at Ambergis Caye

Body shape

observed more or less buteo-shaped, but a bit lanky
eliminates forest-falcons, kites, hawk-eagles, eagles, falcons

Tail bands

observed 5 white bands, 5 dark bands plus broad distal bar
adult buteos 3 or less bands too few
STHA adult 4-5 dark bars, poorly contrasting with gray-brown not bold enough contrast
GRHA juvenile 6-9 dark brown bars poorly contrasting with gray-brown not bold enough contrast
ROHA juvenile 3-4 pale bands, boldly and evenly spaced too few
WTHA juvenile 10-15 indistinct dusky bars too many
WTHA 1st basic 6-8 narrow black bars with fairly broad subterminal band too narrow
ZTHA juvenile 5-7 dark bars poorly contrasting with gray-brown not bold enough contrast
GBHA juvenile 10-13 pale bars too many
GBHA 2nd basic boldly banded black-and-white with 2-4 wavy pale bands too few
BWAH juvenile 4-7 poorly contrasting bands with distal band noticeably broader not bold enough contrast
CBHA juvenile 4-7 white or dusky bands with distal dark bar widest
GBHA 1st basic pale gray to whitish with 5-7 coarse dark bars; distal bar broadest

Bill

observed bicolor: dark gray with pale bluish base; yellow cere
CBHA juvenile bicolor: black with wide pale bluish basal region; yellowish cere
GBHA 1st basic black with grayish cere not bicolor, no yellow cere until adult

Wing length

observed wings significantly shorter than tail, covering ~3/4 of tail
CBHA juvenile wings nearly reach tail tip seems contradictory
GBHA 1st basic wings fall short of tail tip

Wings: primary-tertiary

observed primaries project noticeably beyond tertials
CBHA juvenile primaries project noticeably beyond tertials
GBHA 1st basic primaries project only slightly beyond tertials not enough difference

Wings: secondaries

observed show some rufous on inner side, barred dark brown
CBHA juvenile inner secondaries dusky cinnamon to greyish buff, barred dark brown
GBHA 1st basic inner secondaries cinnamon to dusky rufous, barred dark brown

Legs

observed fairly long to long legs; very long tarsi; feathers moderately barred
CBHA juvenile fairly long legs; very long tarsi; feathers streaked
GBHA 1st basic long legs; feathers distinctly banded
BWAH juvenile leg length not distinctive; feathers moderately streaked or barred not long enough

Head

observed mostly dark, with white supercilium, pale lores, white auriculars
CBHA juvenile dark brown with crown & nape streaked cream to pale buff; yellowish lores
GBHA 1st basic cream to pale buff, finer dark brown streaks; white or tawny supercilium not dark enough

Malar stripe

observed probably, but not a good view (more obvious on 3rd photo)
CBHA juvenile dark malar stripe
GBHA 1st basic lacks dark malar stripe should have malar stripe

Underparts (3rd photo)

observed white with bold wide vertical stripes, especially high in chest
CBHA juvenile throat & underparts whitish to rich buff, streaked dark brown
GBHA 1st basic similar, except light sides

Flanks

observed mostly dark
CBHA juvenile blackish brown
GBHA 1st basic mostly pale not dark enough

Iris

observed dark brown
CBHA juvenile medium brown
GBHA 1st basic similar