## Buff-breasted Paradise-Kingfisher Tanysiptera sylvia Species No.: 328 Band size: 05 AY (K)



## Morphometrics:

Three subspecies with the nominate migrating from PNG to breed in n-e Qld in the Austral summer:

 $\begin{array}{ccc} & \mbox{Adult Male} \\ \mbox{Wing:} & \mbox{93} - 104 \mbox{ mm} \\ \mbox{Tail:} & \mbox{171} - 276 \mbox{ mm} \\ \mbox{THL:} & \mbox{61.3} - 65.7 \mbox{ mm} \\ \mbox{Bill:} & \mbox{33.0} - 39.5 \mbox{ mm} \\ \mbox{Tarsus:} & \mbox{14.4} - 17.2 \mbox{ mm} \\ \mbox{Weight:} & \mbox{38} - 61 \mbox{ g} \end{array}$ 

Adult Female 93 – 106 mm 130 – 189 mm 61.5 – 66.4 mm 32.0 – 38.6 mm 13.6 – 16.7 mm 44.5 – 60.8 g

## Ageing:

Juvenile is basically mottled all over with a black-brown to yellow-brown bill (see illustrations);
Moult to first immature plumage with overall similar appearance to adults, except retained juvenile crown, upper wing, remiges & rectrices, is completed before the northern migration in Autumn;
Moult into complete adult plumage appears to occur at approximately 15-16 months of age and coincides with adult post-breeding moult after migrating north to New Guinea in March – May;
Thus immatures (2-) and adults (2+).

## Sexing:

Sexes differ in immature and adult plumage;

- T1 of males is totally white, whereas T1 of female is mostly white, but on the uppertail the outer web has patches of blue or dark blue and on the undertail the outer web has brownish-grey patches;
- Fully grown adult male tail (breeding season November to February) is considerably longer than a fully-grown female tail;
- The back, rump and tail coverts of males is white, but in females the centre of the mantle has cream to buff suffusion, feathers of back, rump and upper tail coverts are creamish and have blue-black to dark blue fringes making the whole area appear streaked.
- Scapulars of males are grey-black with broad dark-blue fringes giving a blue-black appearance. The female's scapulars have a narrower fringe and therefore appear darker than those of males; Both sexes incubate.