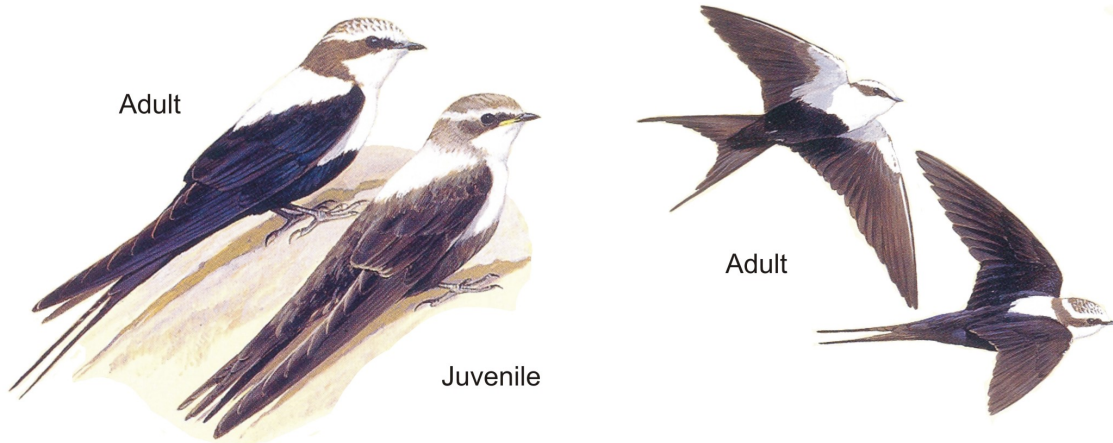


White-backed Swallow *Cheramoeca leucosternus* **Species No.: 358** **Band size: 02 AY**



Morphometrics:

	Adult Male	Adult Female
Wing:	97 – 106 mm	97 – 106 mm
Tail:	70 – 87 mm	65 – 80 mm
Tail fork:	34.7 – 51.5 mm	30.3 – 45.6 mm
Bill:	7.2 – 10.0 mm	7.2 – 10.1 mm
Tarsus:	11.6 – 14.0 mm	11.9 – 13.5 mm
Weight:	12.5 – 16.5 g	11.0 – 17.0 g

Ageing:

	Adult (2+)	Juvenile (J) or (1)
Bill & gape:	black;	grey-black with pinkish-grey base to tomia and gape;
Forehead & crown:	white with dark brown mottling;	dark brown with off-white mottling;
Hindneck:	dark brown forming band that separates white nape from white mantle;	light brown with off-white mottling;
Breast & belly:	breast and anterior flanks white, fairly sharply demarcated from blackish belly, posterior flanks, vent and undertail coverts;	belly, posterior flanks, vent and undertail coverts dark brown with light brown or light grey-brown scalloping;
Mantle, upper back & inner scapulars:	white;	white with faint buff tinge;
Lower back, outer scapulars, rump & upper tail coverts:	outer scapulars dark brown with broad black tips, rump and upper tail coverts glossy black;	dark brown with fine light brown scalloping formed by narrow fringes to tips of feathers;
Wings & tail:	black-brown;	dark brown;

Juveniles moult direct to adult plumage and cannot be separated from adults by late Autumn. Thus birds in adult plumage in early Spring are aged (2+)

Sexing :

There is no sexual dimorphism in plumage, but males may be larger than females in tail length and the depth of the tail fork, see measurements above;
Both sexes incubate.