MORPHOMETRICS OF THE WEDGE-TAILED EAGLE Aquila audax

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Morphological measurements were made from 233 wild Wedge-tailed Eagles Aquila audax on the Nullarbor Plain, 116 museum specimens from southern Australia and 30 dead birds from New South Wales. In the birds from the Nullarbor Plain, reversed sexual size dimorphism (female larger than male) was found in all characters examined. Among the museum specimens (a) I found no evidence of geographical variation across southern mainland Australia and (b) a number of specimens were probably incorrectly sexed. Overall, the length of tail appeared to increase with age in females but not in males.