

Swamp Harrier *Circus approximans* **Species Code: 272** **Band: L**



Juvenile



Adult Female



Adult Male, dark



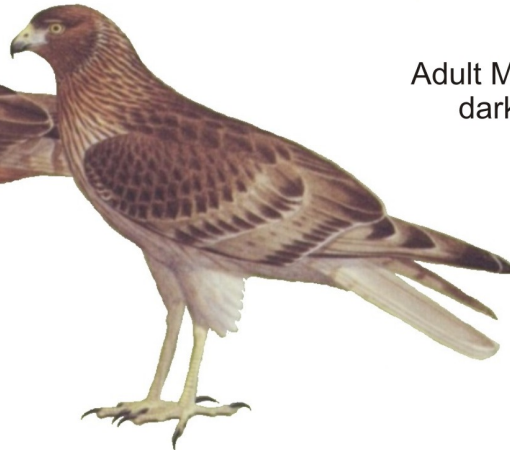
Adult Male, pale



Juvenile



Adult Female



Adult Male, pale

Adult Male, dark



Morphometrics:

	Adult Male	Adult Female
Wing:	399 – 426 mm	419 – 444 mm
Tail:	210 – 246 mm	237 – 263 mm
Bill (tip to skull):	29.1 – 35.6 mm	32.5 – 36.2 mm
Bill width (at gape):	27.6 – 32.0 mm	27.9 – 34.2 mm
Middle toe:	37.9 – 42.7 mm	43.8 – 49.2 mm
Hind claw:	19.6 – 23.0 mm	22.7 – 26.5 mm
Weight:	520 – 720 g	700 – 1035 g

Ageing:

	Adult Male	Adult Female	Juvenile
Eyes:	pale yellow;	light brown to pale yellow;	dark brown;
Legs & feet:	yellow to orange yellow;	yellow;	pale yellow;
Upperparts:	tricolour pattern – brown saddle, black wing tips;	darker & browner than male with grey wash to flight feathers;	dark brown with white streaked nape;
Rump & tail:	white rump, lightly barred grey tail;	white rump, tail dark grey with rufous tinge & heavily barred;	rufous rump with faint bars on orange washed tail;
Underparts:	white, streaked rufous;	buff heavily, streaked rufous-brown;	dark brown to rufous;

After complete post Juvenile moult (at about one year), Immatures are indistinguishable from adults; Age adults (2+).

Sexing:

Most adult females are larger than most adult males in all measurements and there are several differences in plumage and bare parts colours as shown above; Adults can also be reliably sexed on the shape of the sub-terminal band on secondaries – in males it is evenly narrow along its length, whereas in females it broadens toward the body; Only females incubate.