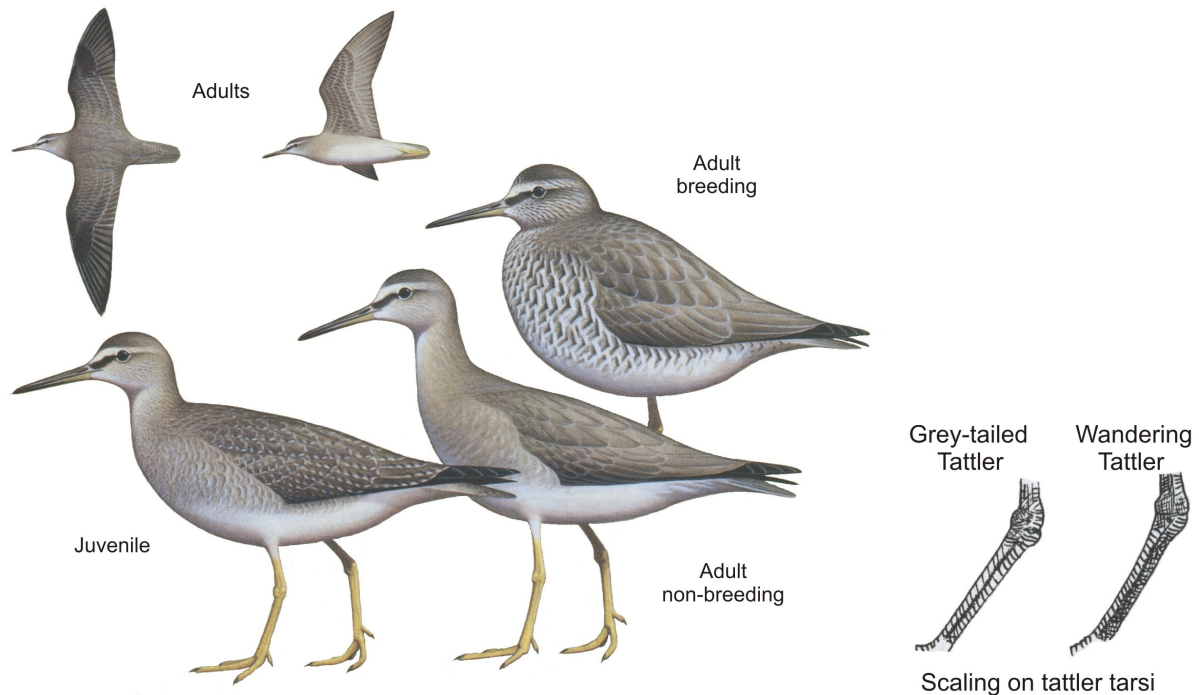


**Grey-tailed Tattler** *Heteroscelus brevipes*

**Species Code: 450**

**Band: [D/DP]**



**Morphometrics:**

	Adult Male	Adult Female
Wing:	154 – 168 mm	155 – 170 mm
Tail:	60 – 74 mm	56 – 70 mm
Bill:	35.7 – 39.2 mm	35.1 – 39.9 mm
Tarsus:	31.0 – 33.8 mm	29.6 – 33.9 mm
Toe:	28.0 – 39.7 mm	28.3 – 30.4 mm
GVTT:	17.5 – 21.5 mm	18.8 – 21.7 mm
Weight:	86 – 154 g	108 – 150 g

GVTT – the distance from the end of the nasal groove to the tip of the bill;  
 Juveniles and immatures have significantly shorter wing and tail than adults.

**Ageing:**

On arrival in Australia/NZ primaries of Juveniles are fresh, whereas adults (3+) are old or moulting, So they can be reliably separated on the condition of primaries until at least October – December; In February – mid March first immature non-breeding birds (1) have worn retained juvenile primaries, whereas adults (3+) have finished moult and have fresh primaries; In late March – early April most immatures (1) start pre-supplemental moult of outer primaries and those that migrate north are separable from adults on return to non-breeding areas, when aged (2) by contrast between very worn inner primaries and only slightly worn outer primaries; Immatures that remain in non-breeding areas retain non-breeding appearance and start moult of primaries two months earlier than returning adults.

**Sexing:**

There is no sexual dimorphism in size or plumage.

**Similar Species:**

Wandering Tattler – see illustration above depicting the difference in scale pattern on the rear of their tarsi – Grey-tailed most scales are scutellate, whereas Wandering are often reticulate; Significant differences between the two species in size of wing, tail, bill, GVTT and tarsus (see separate sheet on Wandering Tattler).