


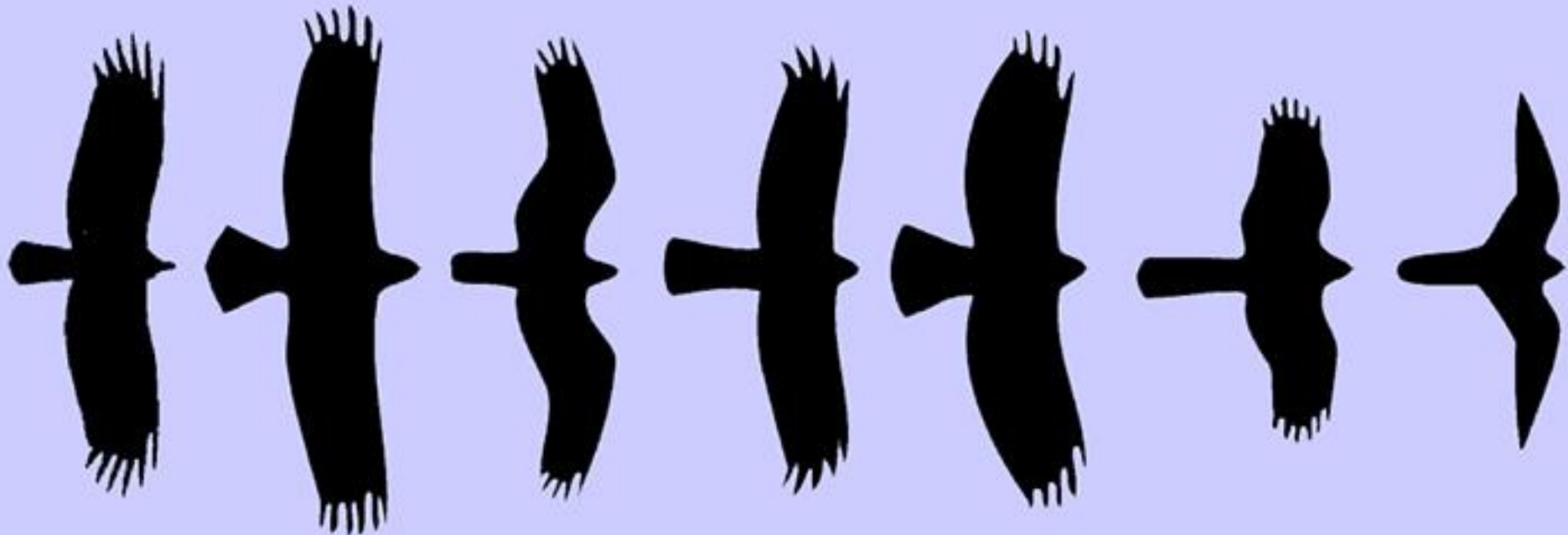
- 
- A detailed photograph of a Fish Eagle (Icthyophaga hodgsonii) perched on a green, leafy branch. The eagle is shown in profile, facing right, with its sharp, hooked beak and keen eyes clearly visible. Its feathers are a mix of brown and grey, with some lighter patches on the wings. The background is a soft, out-of-focus green, suggesting a natural habitat.
- The following pages have some identification markers for each of the Fish Eagles found in India
  - To know more on these birds you can visit <http://ogaclicks.com/eagles/>
  - If you are interested in Coming on any of my tours or workshops please share your email id. I will keep you updated
  - Mail me at [ogaclicks@gmail.com](mailto:ogaclicks@gmail.com)
  - You can also call me on (91)9840119078 ,  
(91) 9445219078  
(91) 6369815812

## Raptors at a glance

Raptors : Any of numerous carnivorous birds that hunt and kill other animals

Derived from Latin word *rapere* : To ravish

Characterised by Hooked Beak, Talons and Flying abilities required to hunt & kill prey



Vulture

Eagle

Osprey

Harrier

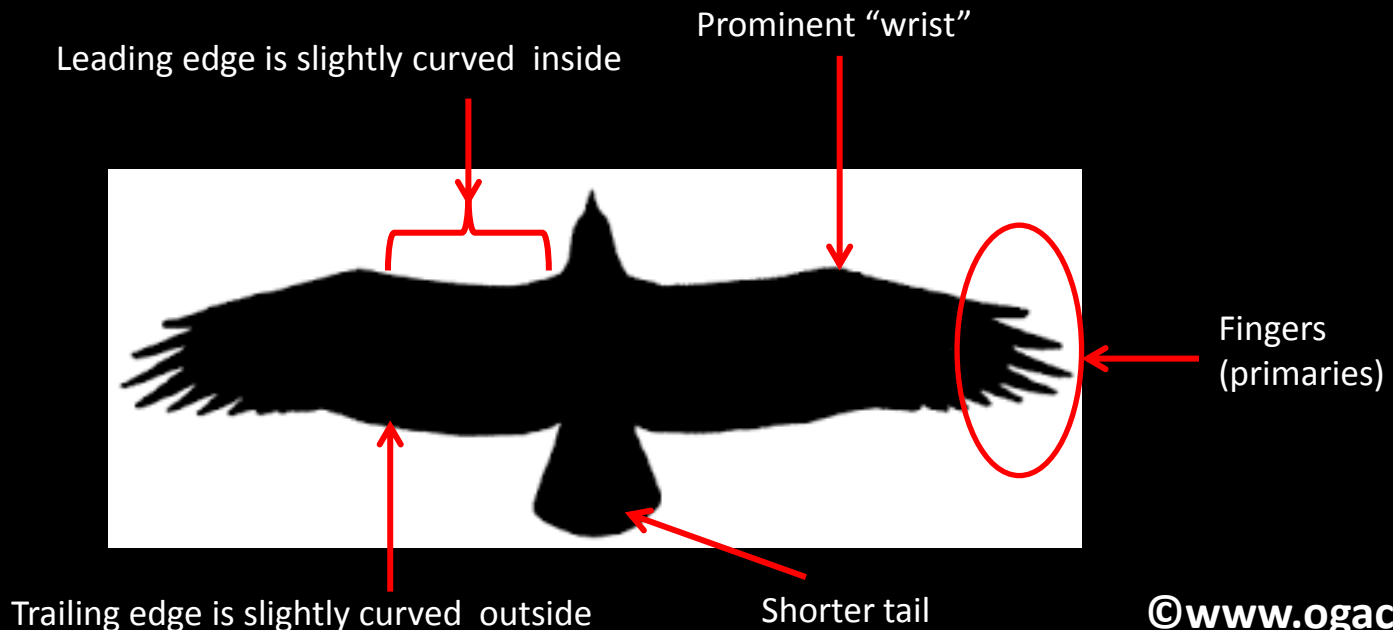
Buteo

Accipiter

Falcon

# Fish Eagles

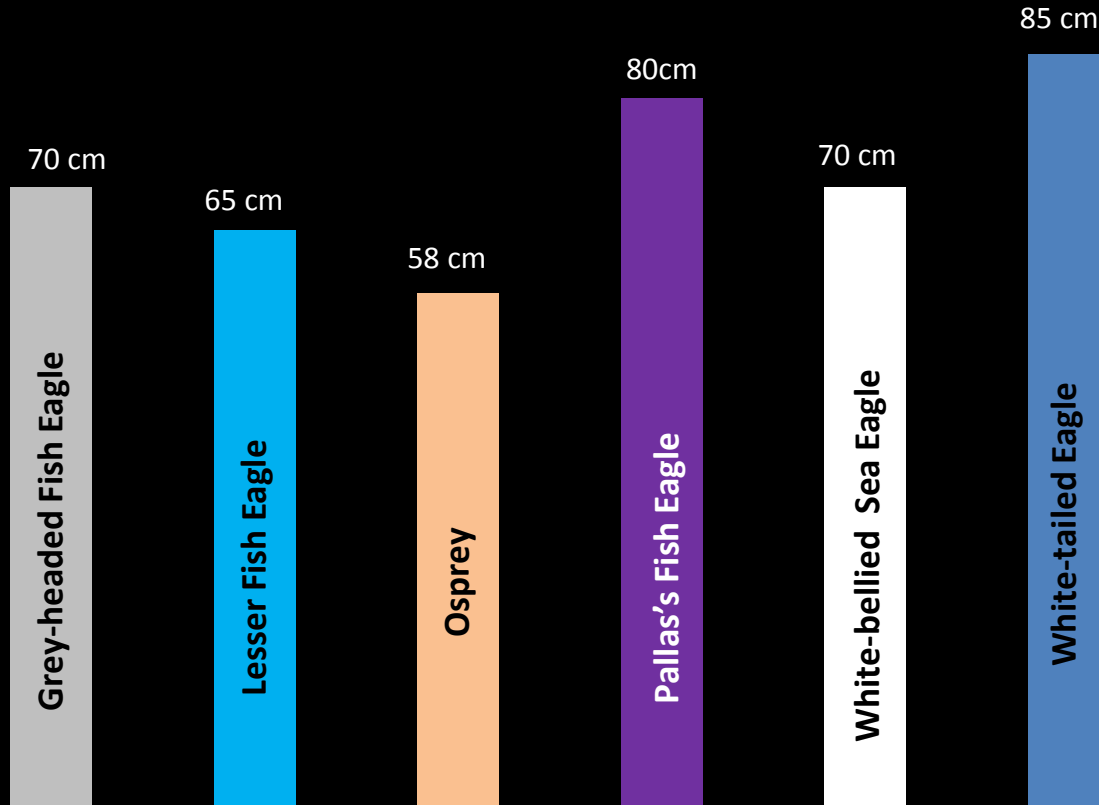
- Eagles are birds of prey large enough to hunt sizeable (about 50 cm long or more overall) vertebrate prey
- Fish Eagles are part of Eagle family characterised by “Large curved Talons that lock the prey in them”
- Inner surface of talons have rough edges to catch the slippery prey
- They predominantly ( some exclusively) eat fish



# List of Fish Eagles found in India

Sno.	Name	Binomial Name
1	Grey -headed Fish Eagle	<i>Ichthyophaga ichthyaetus</i>
2	Lesser Fish Eagle	<i>Haliaeetus humilis</i>
3	Osprey	<i>Pandion haliaetus</i>
4	Palla's Fish Eagle	<i>Haliaeetus leucoryphus</i>
5	White-bellied Sea Eagle	<i>Haliaeetus leucogaster</i>
6	White-tailed Eagle	<i>Haliaeetus albicilla</i>

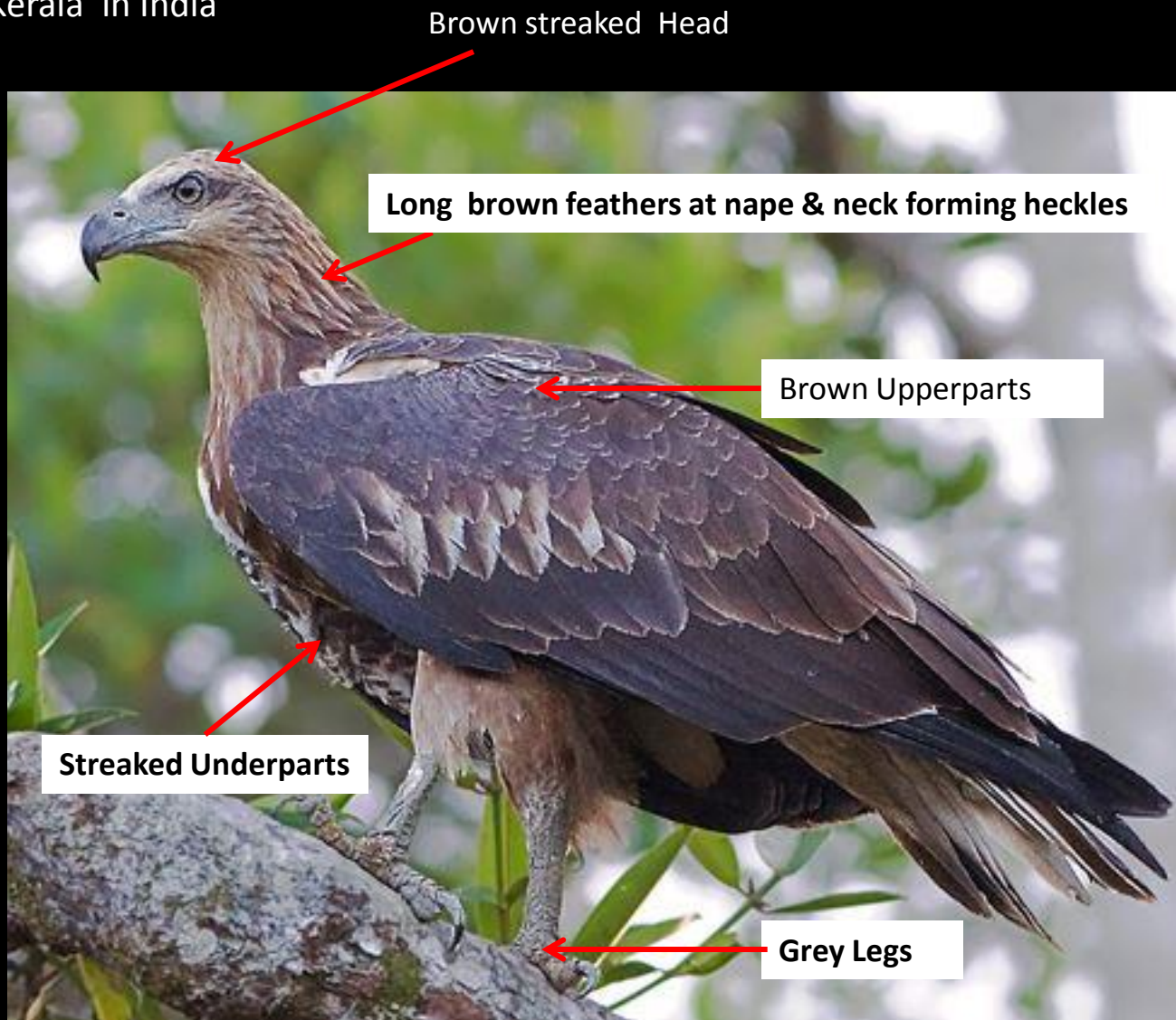
## Fish Eagles Height Comparison ( Avg.)



# Grey-headed Fish Eagle

## Grey-headed Fish Eagle Identification Tips : Juvenile

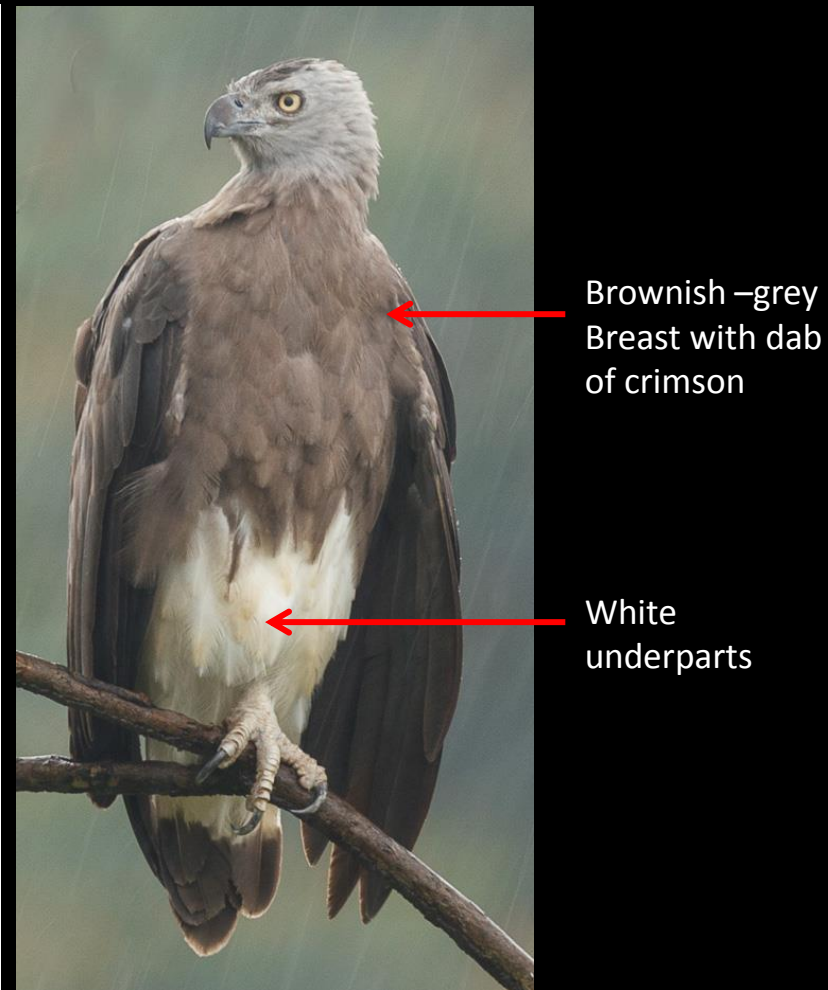
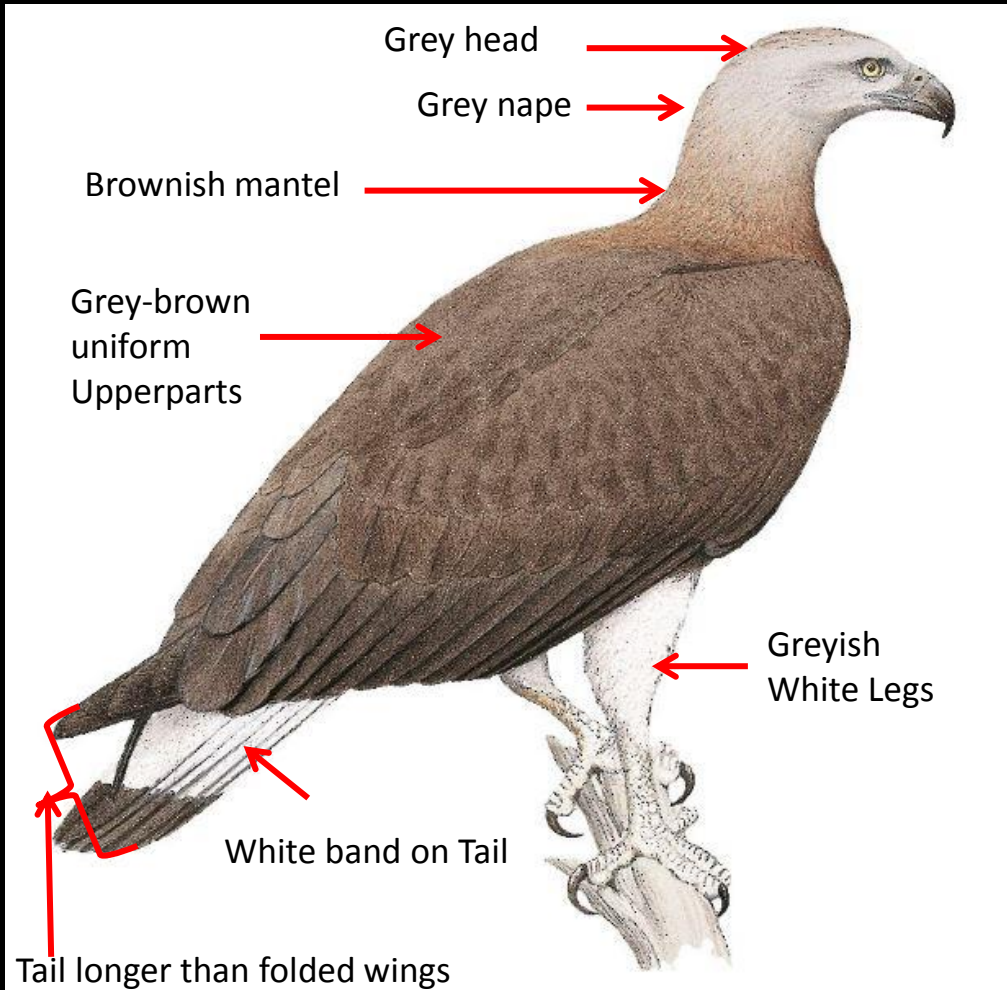
**Grey-headed Fish Eagle : *Ichthyophaga ichthyaetus***: Resident of East, North east, Madhyapradesh, Costal Karnataka & Kerala in India





## Grey-headed Fish Eagle Identification Tips : Adult

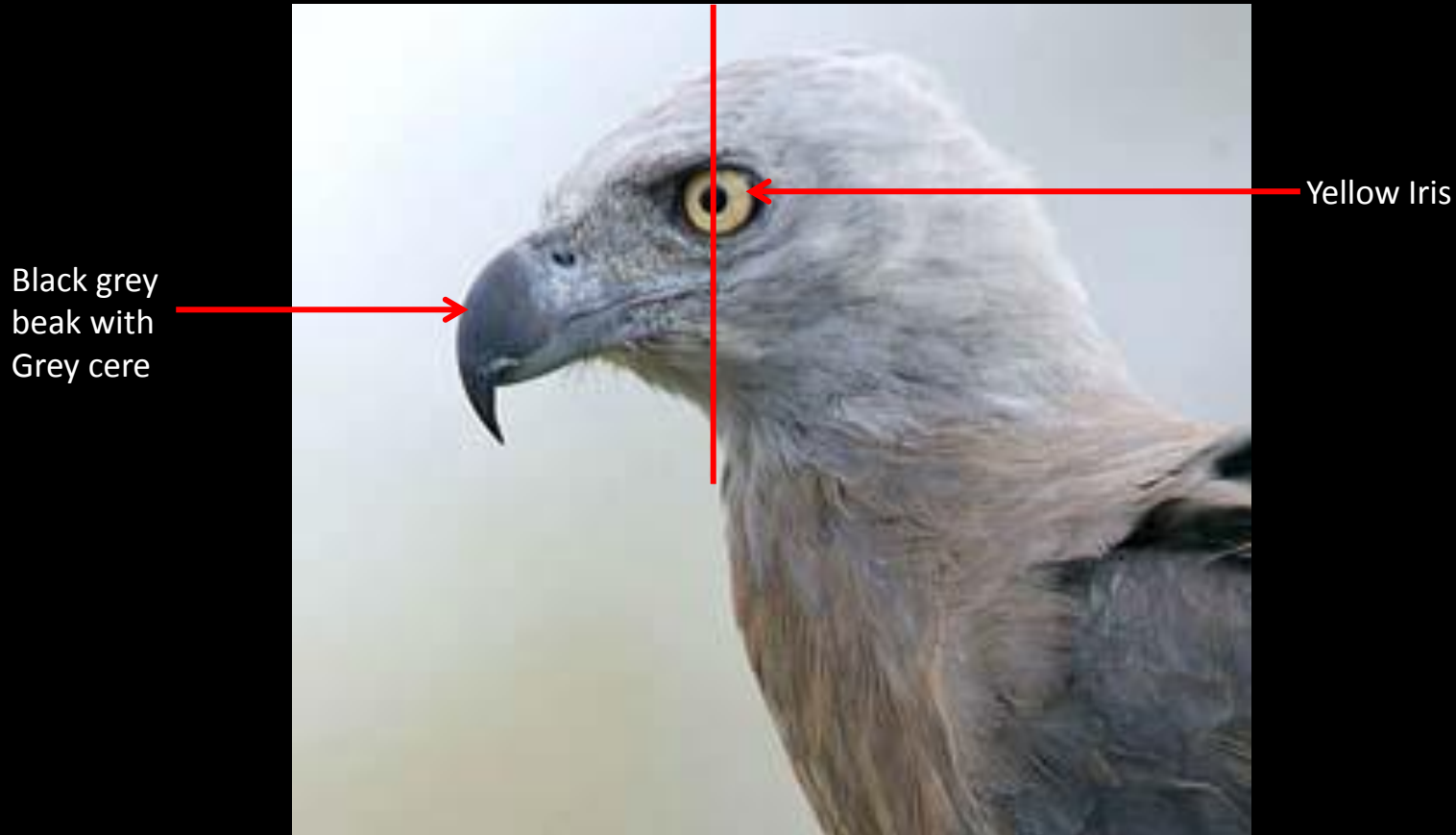
**Grey-headed Fish Eagle : *Ichthyophaga ichthyaetus*:** Resident of East, North east, Madhyapradesh, Costal Karnataka & Kerala in India





## Grey-headed Fish Eagle Identification Tips : Face

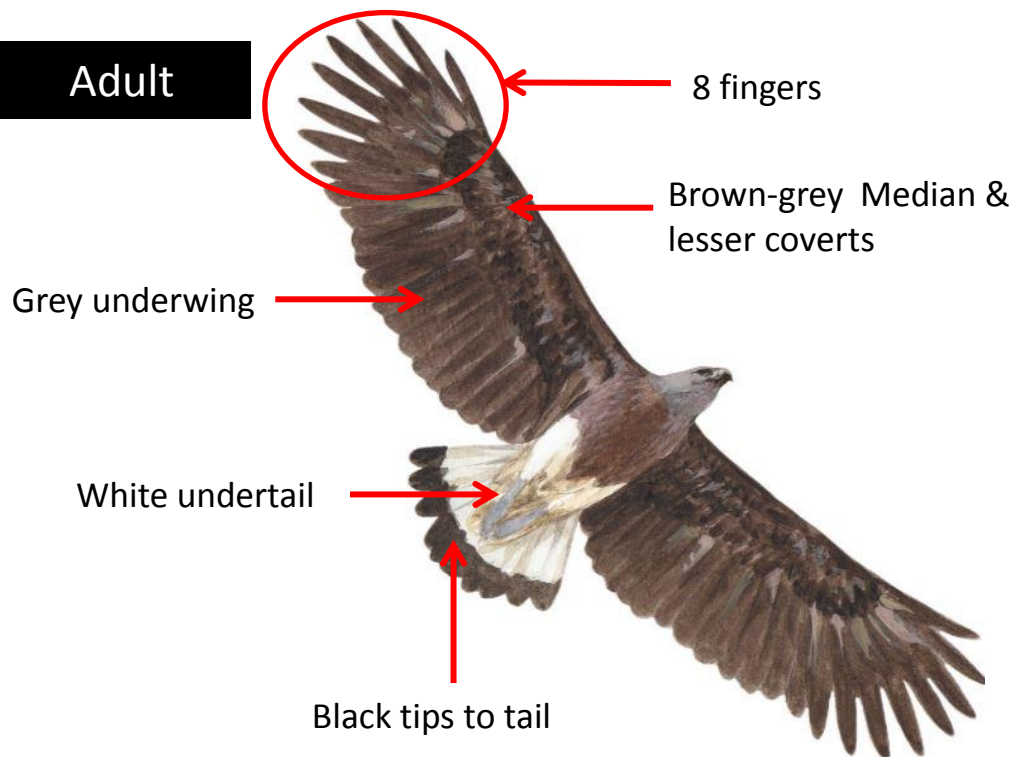
**Grey-headed Fish Eagle : *Ichthyophaga ichthyaeetus*:** Resident of East, North east, Madhyapradesh, Costal Karnataka & Kerala in India



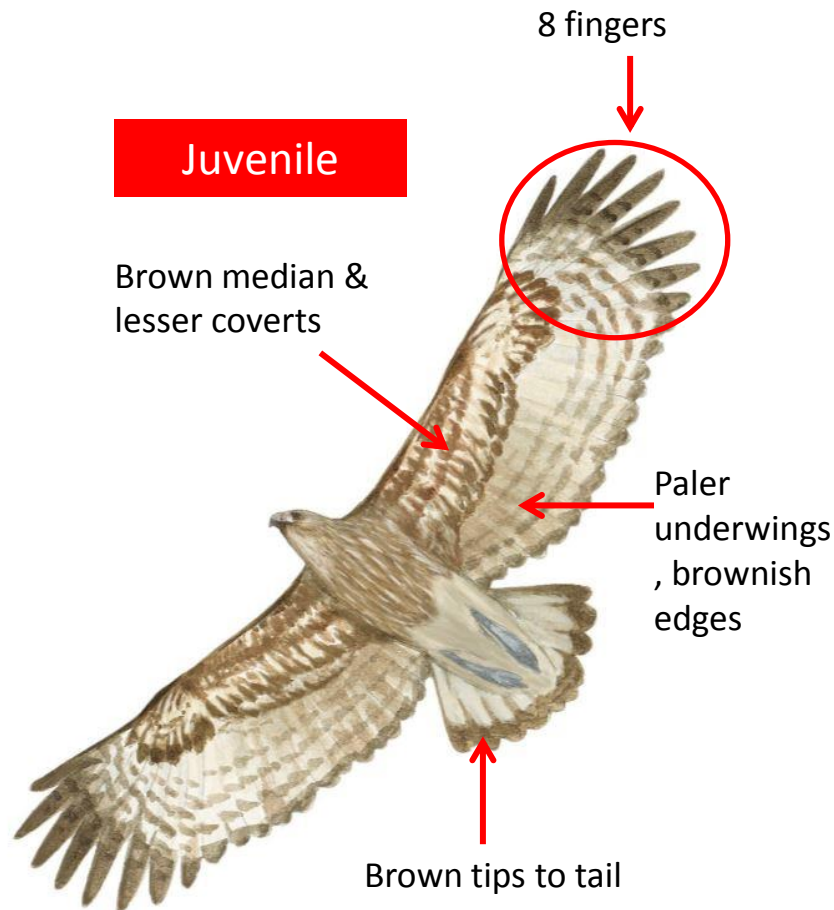
## Grey-headed Fish Eagle Identification Tips : Flight from below

**Grey-headed Fish Eagle : *Ichthyophaga ichthyaeetus***: Resident of East, North east, Madhyapradesh, Costal Karnataka & Kerala in India

Adult



Juvenile

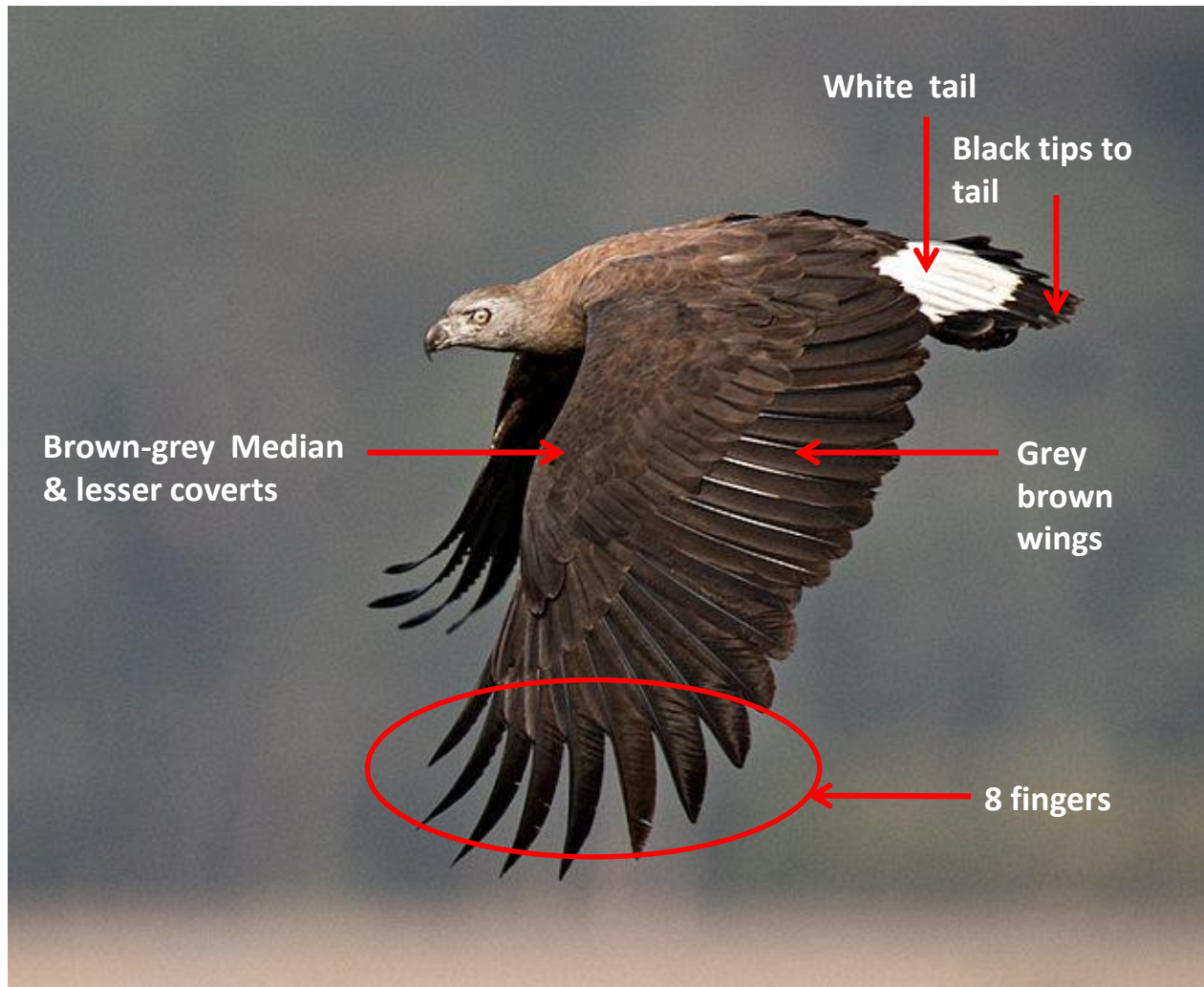


Reference : Birds of Indian Subcontinent  
Inskipp and Grimmett  
[www.HBW.com](http://www.HBW.com)

## Grey-headed Fish Eagle Identification Tips : Flight from Above

**Grey-headed Fish Eagle : *Ichthyophaga ichthyaetus***: Resident of East, North east, Madhyapradesh, Costal Karnataka & Kerala in India

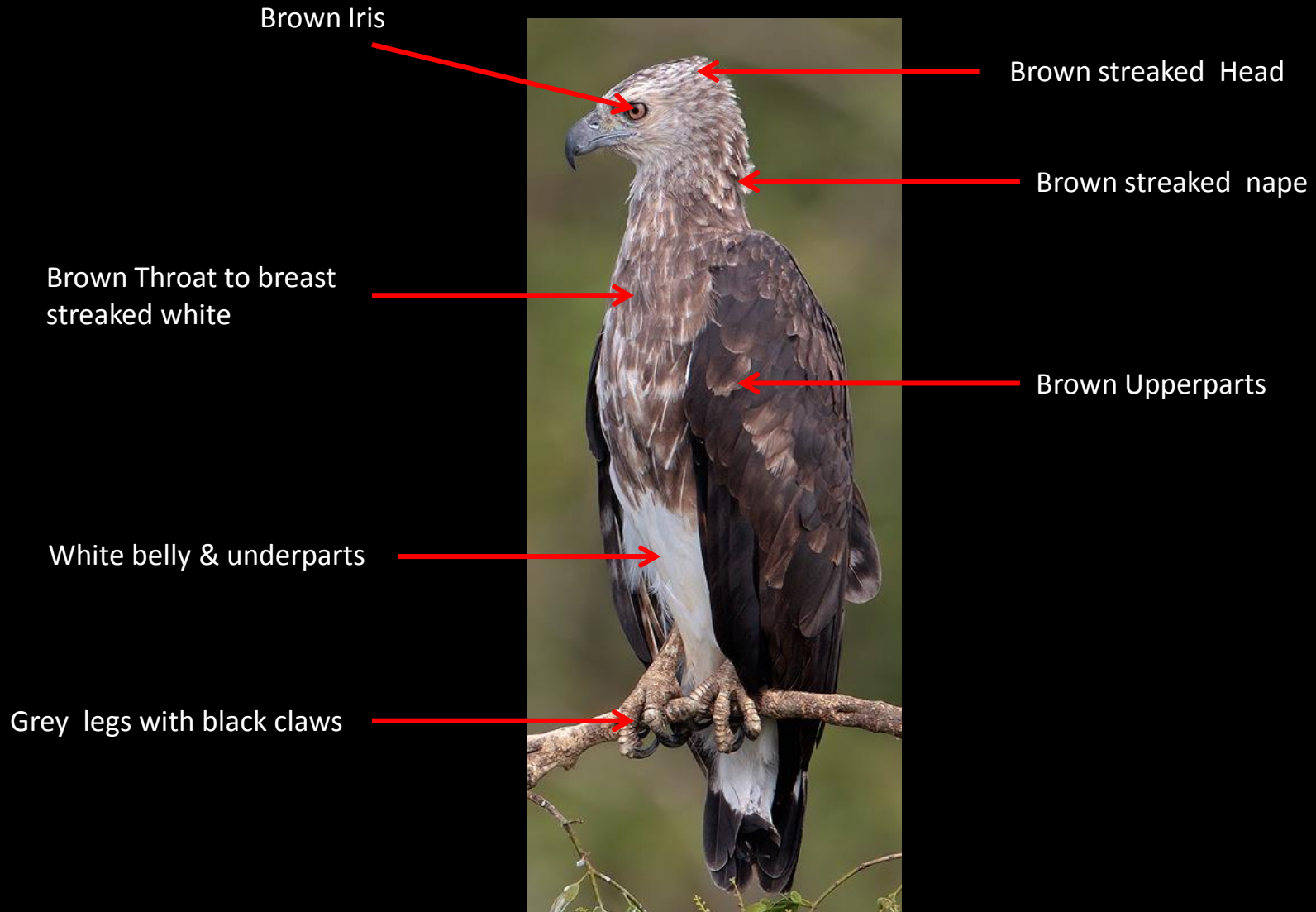
Adult



# Lesser Fish Eagle

## Lesser Fish Eagle Identification Tips : Juvenile

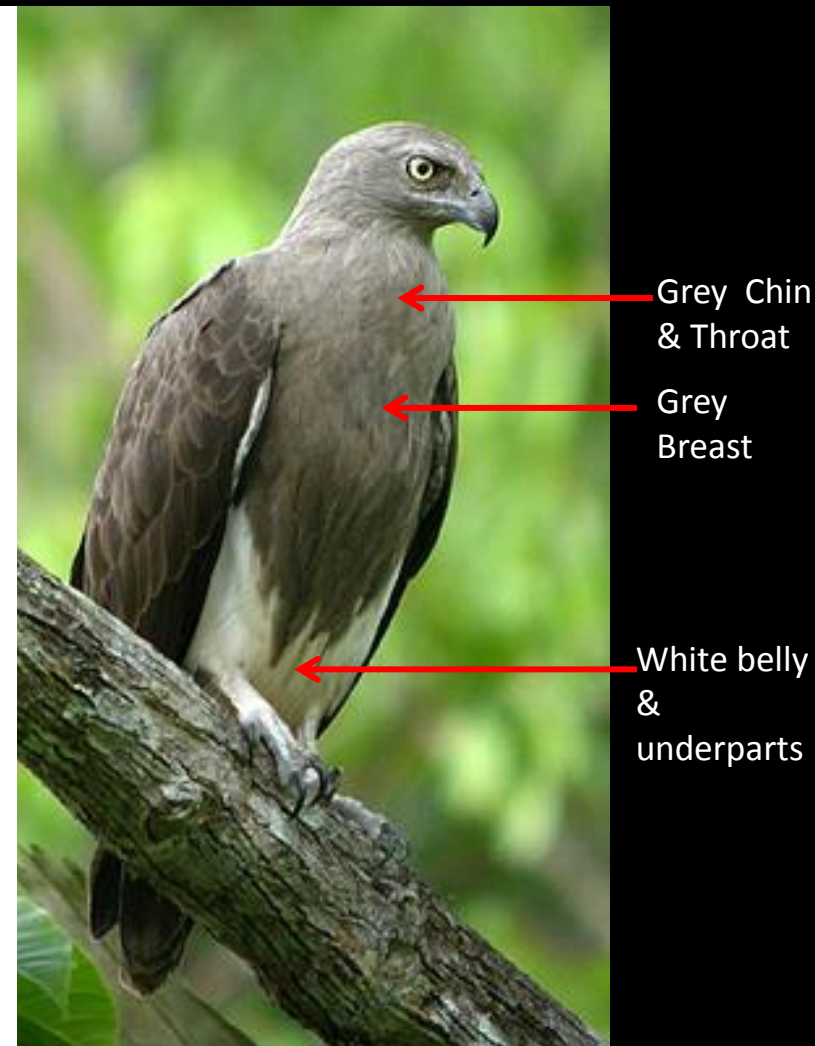
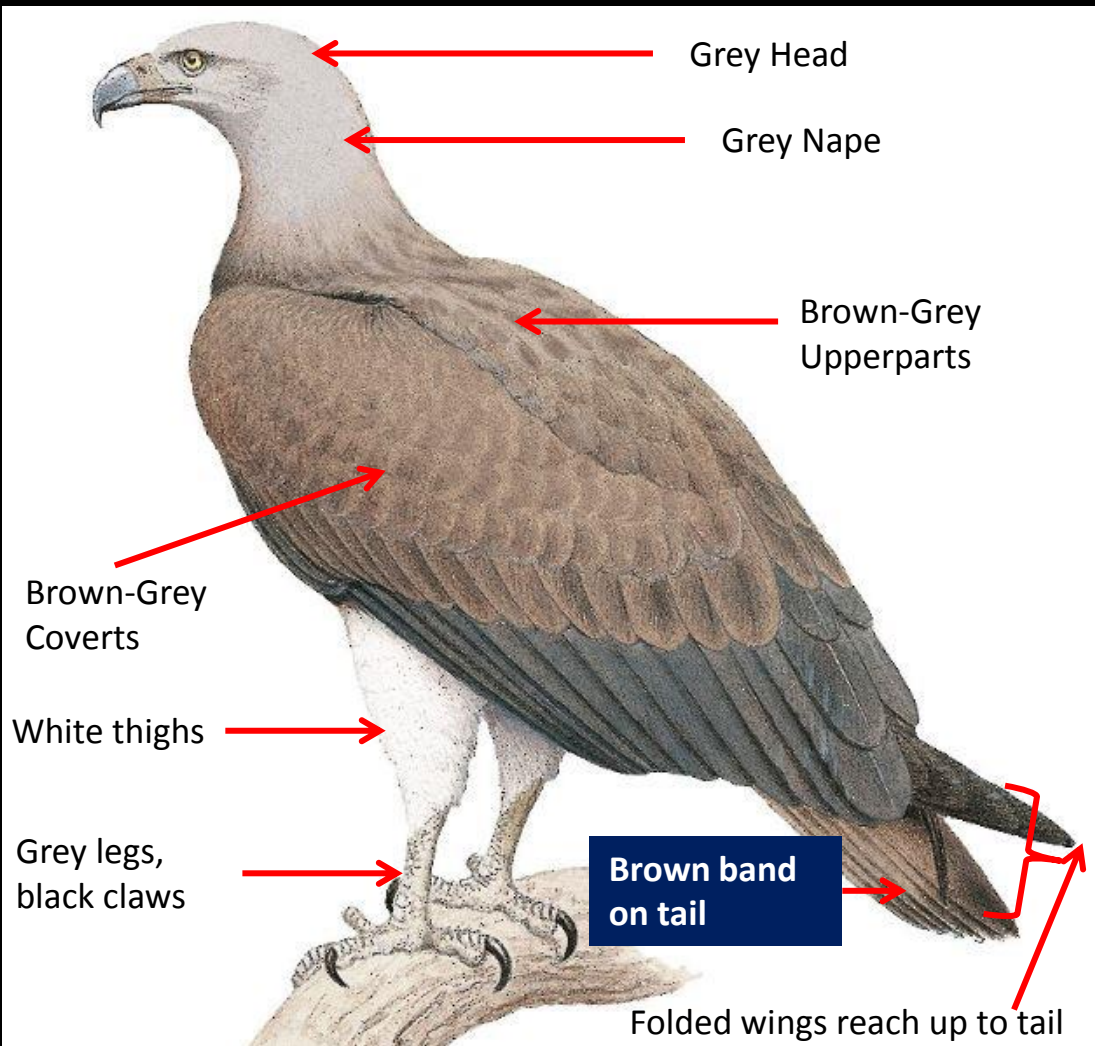
Lesser Fish Eagle : *Haliaeetus humilis* : Resident of Himalayas & South West India





## Lesser Fish Eagle Identification Tips : Juvenile

Lesser Fish Eagle : *Haliaeetus humilis* : Resident of Himalayas & South West India



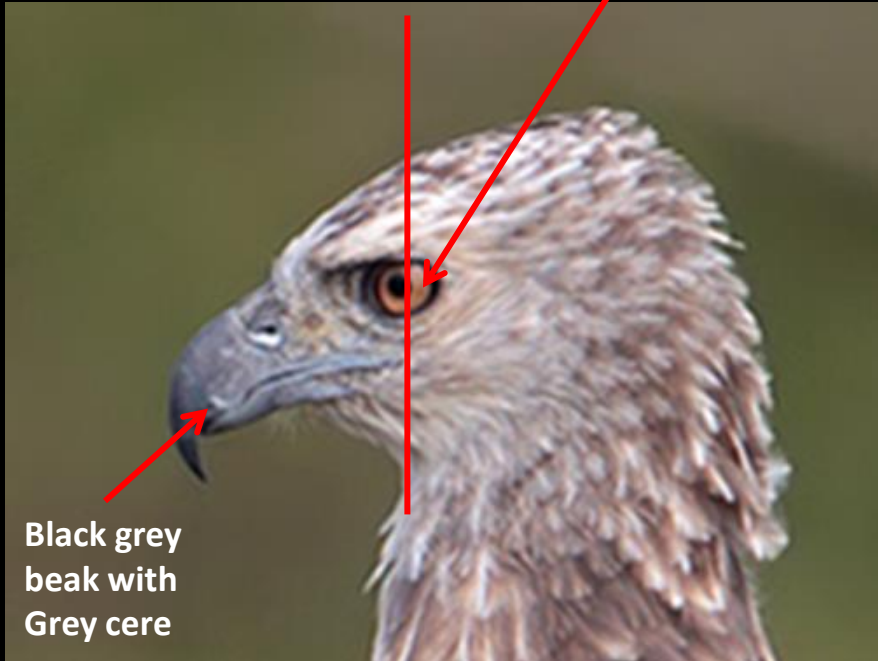


## Lesser Fish Eagle Identification Tips : Juvenile

Lesser Fish Eagle : *Haliaeetus humilis* : Resident of Himalayas & South West India

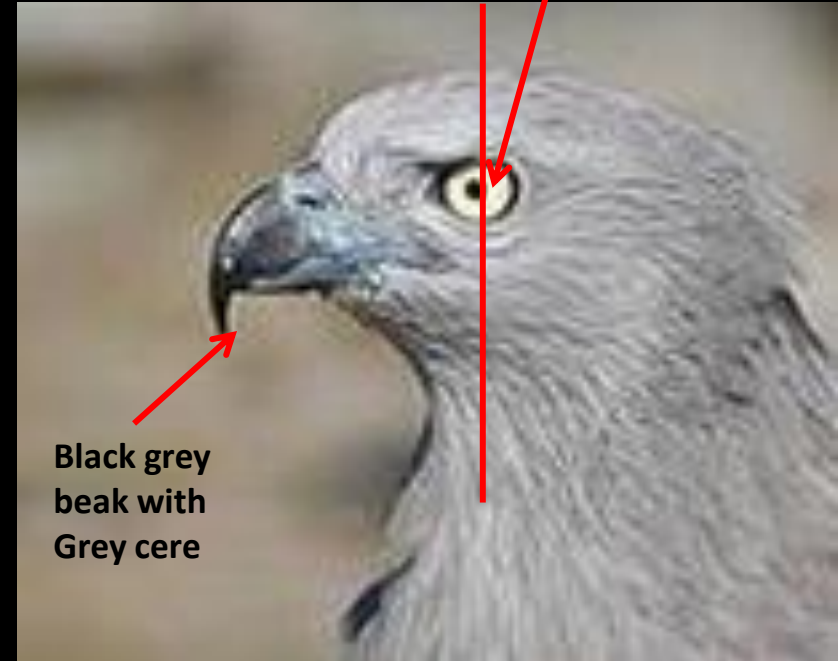
Juvenile

Brown iris



Adult

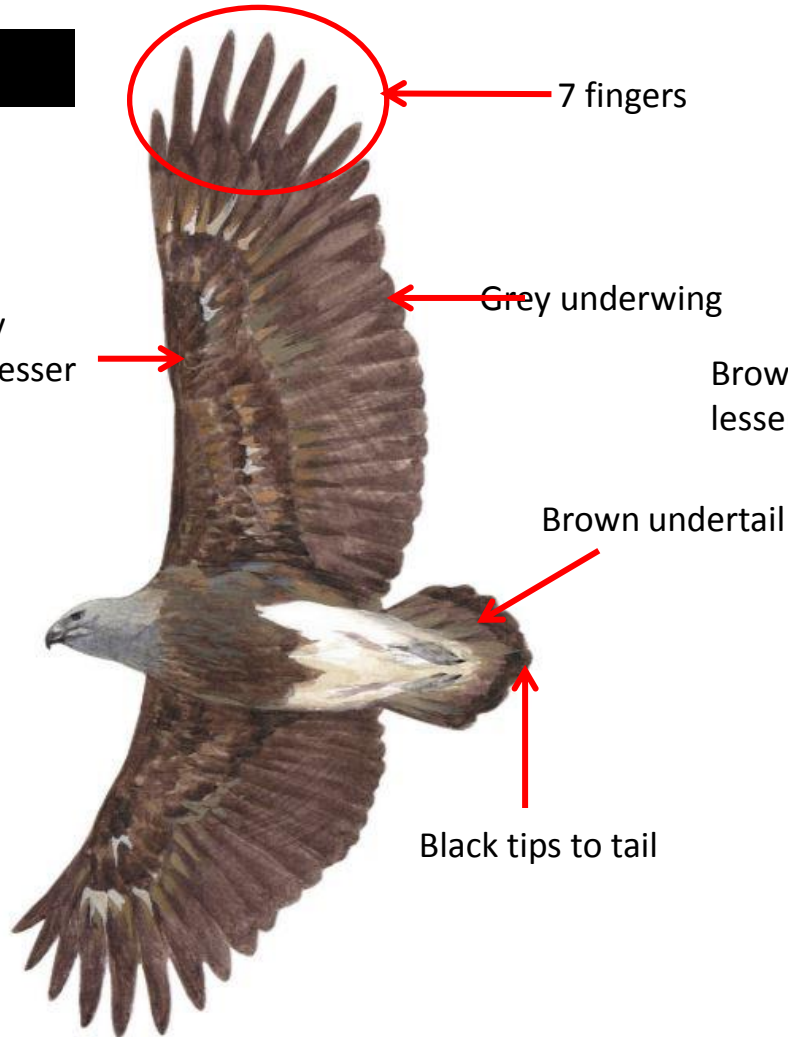
Yellow iris



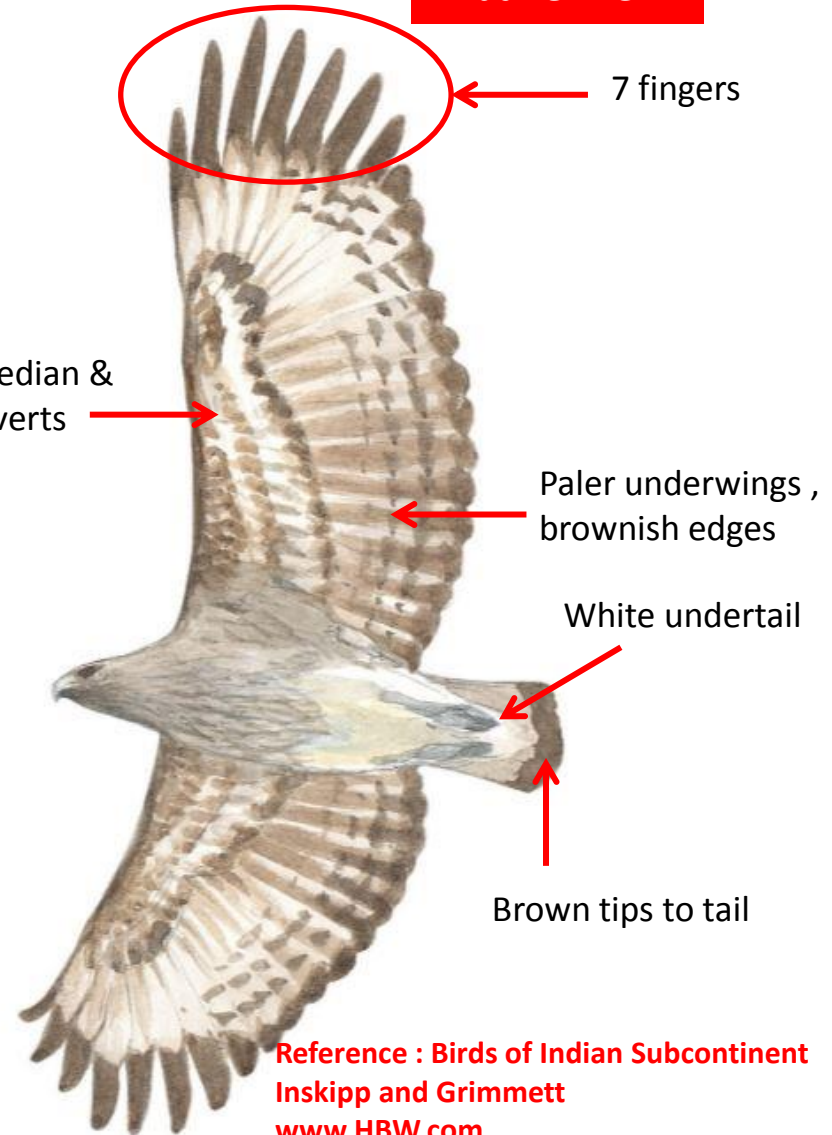
## Lesser fish Eagle Identification Tips : Flight from below

Lesser fish Eagle : *Haliaeetus humilis* : Resident of Himalayas & South West India

Adult



Juvenile

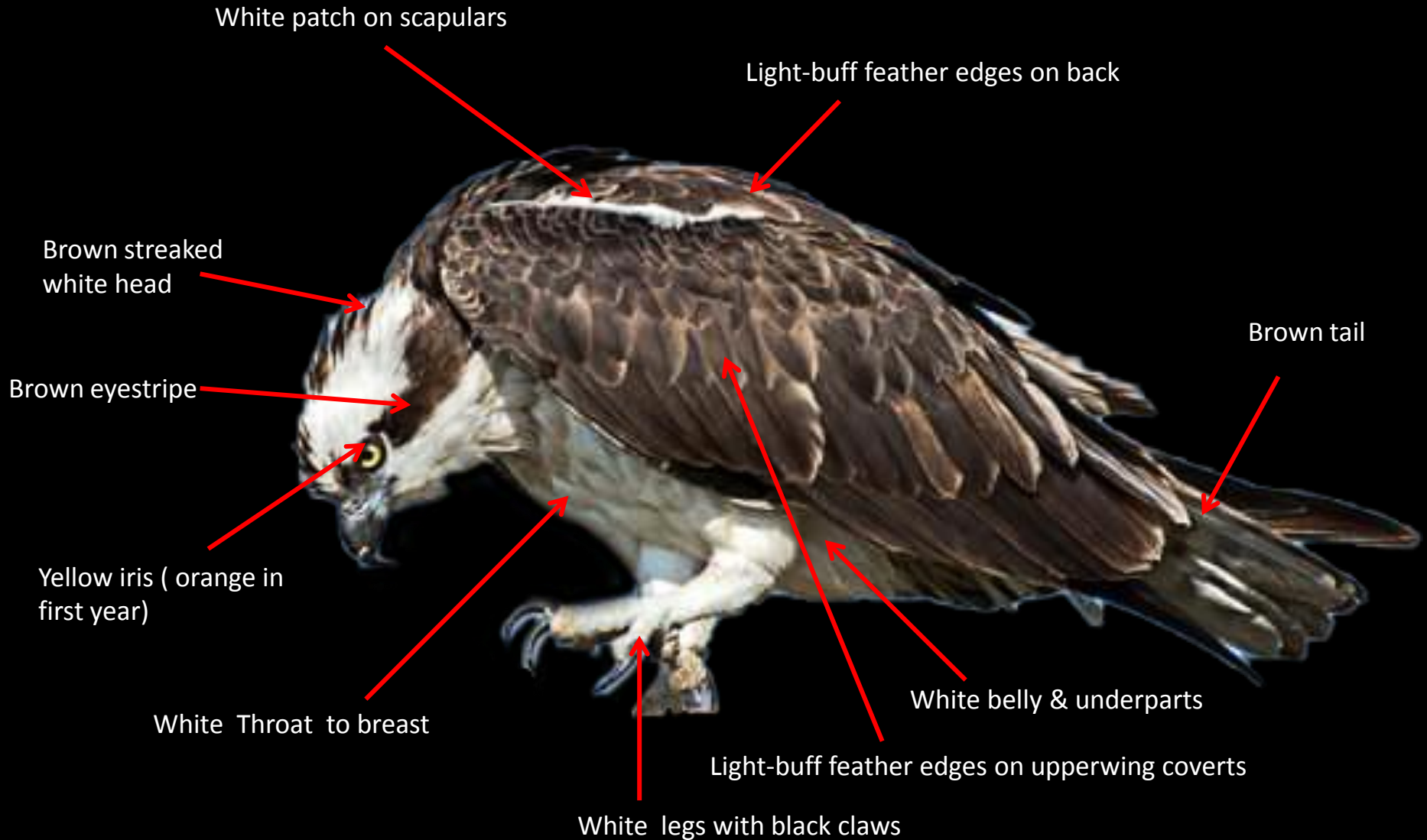


Reference : Birds of Indian Subcontinent  
Inskipp and Grimmett  
[www.HBW.com](http://www.HBW.com)

**OSPREY**

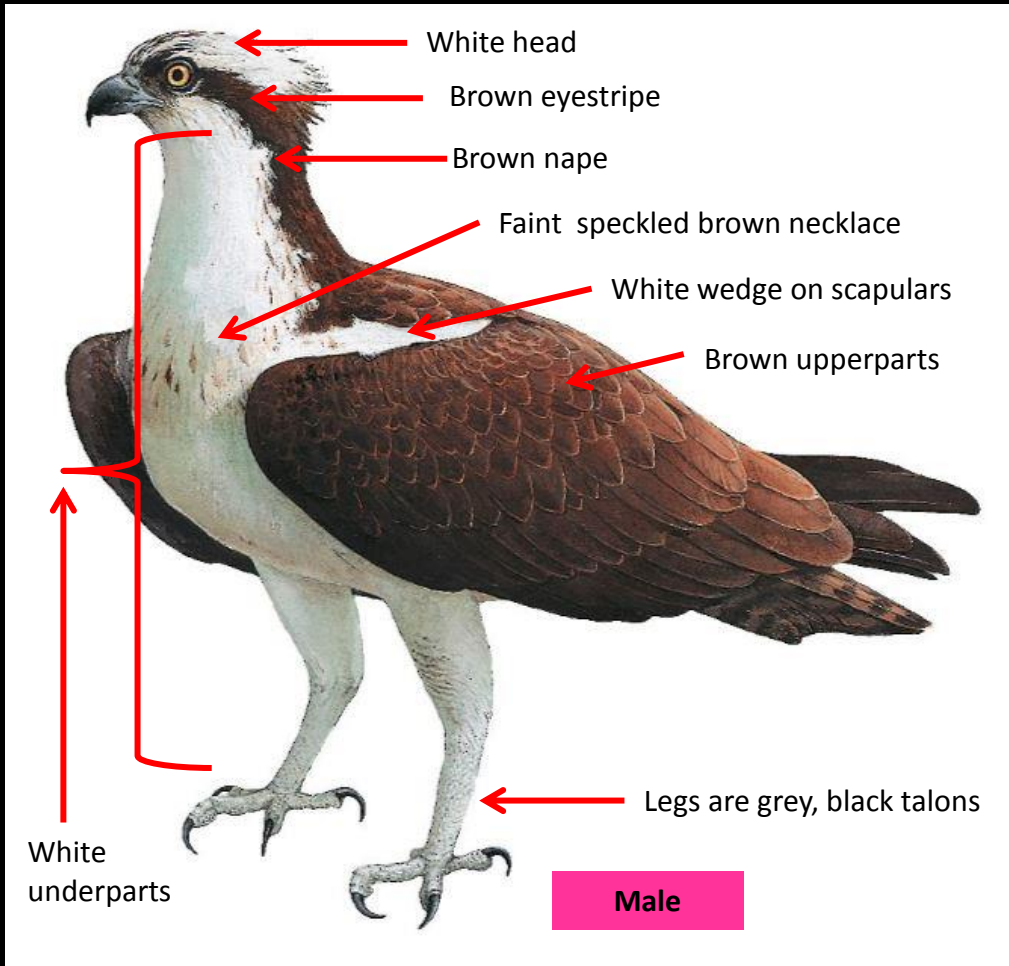
## Osprey Identification Tips : Juvenile

Osprey : *Pandion haliaetus* : Widespread Resident in India

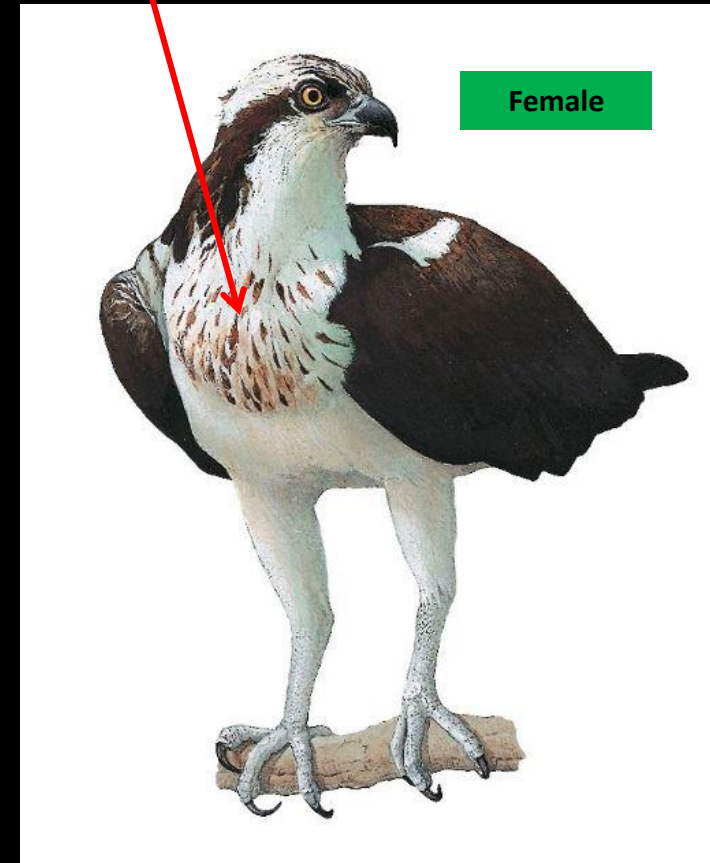


## Osprey Identification Tips : Juvenile

Osprey : *Pandion haliaetus* : Widespread Resident in India



Prominent speckled brown necklace



Difference from male

Important id point

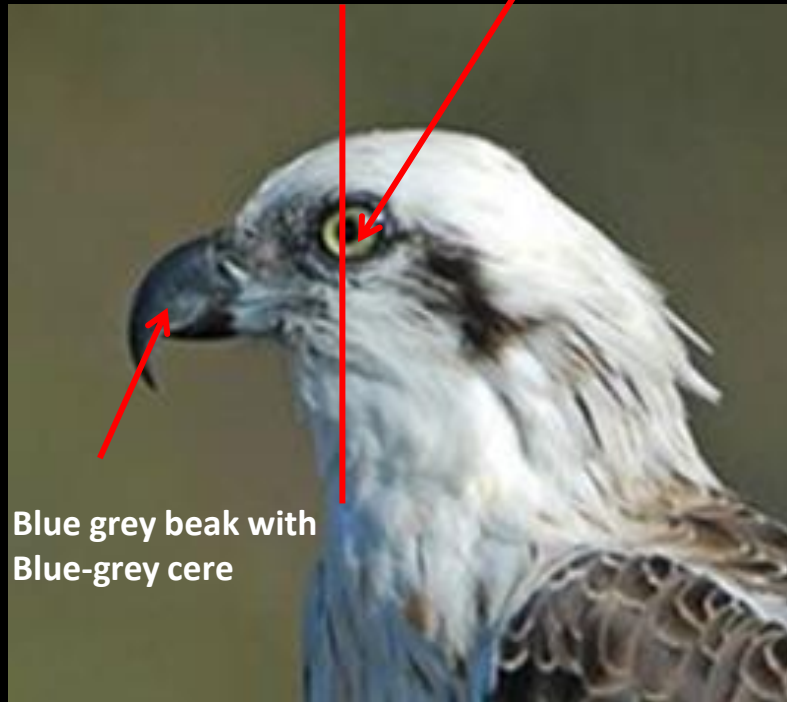
Reference : Birds of Indian Subcontinent  
Inskipp and Grimmett  
[www.HBW.com](http://www.HBW.com)



## Osprey Identification Tips : Juvenile

Osprey : *Pandion haliaetus* : Widespread Resident in India

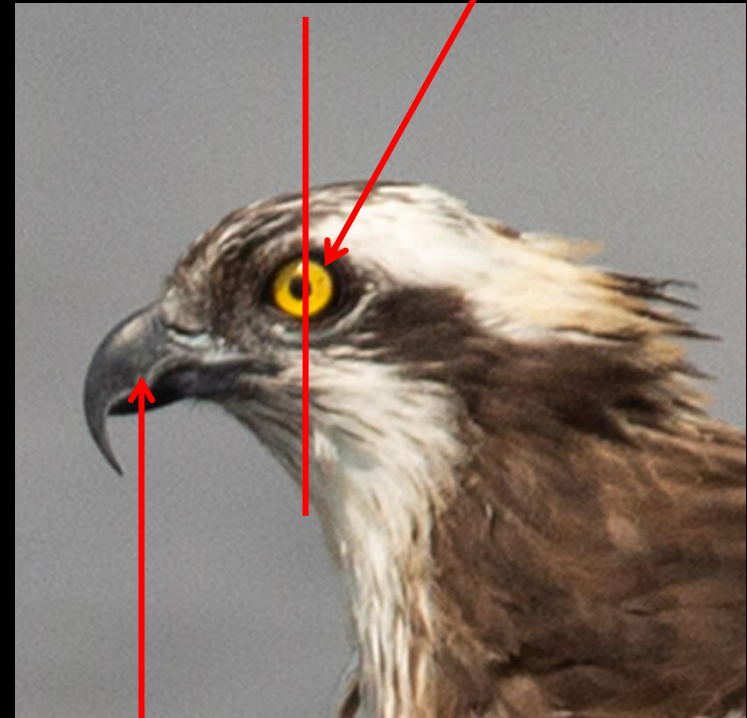
**Adult**



Light Yellow Iris

Blue grey beak with  
Blue-grey cere

**Juvenile**



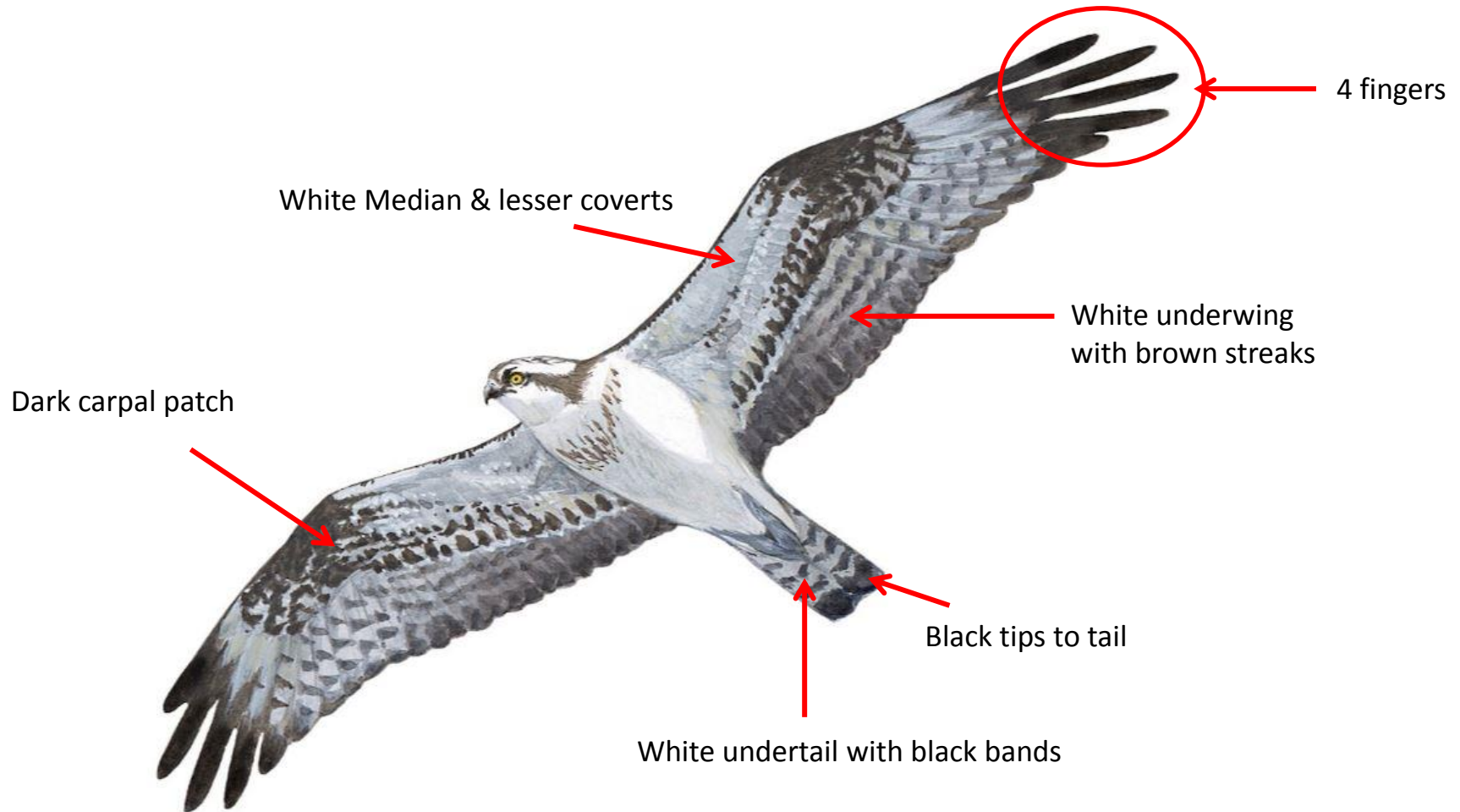
Dark Yellow Iris (Orange iris in first year)

Blue grey beak with Blue-grey cere



# Osprey Identification Tips : Flight from below

Osprey : *Pandion haliaetus* : Widespread Resident in India



## Osprey Identification Tips : Flight from Above

Osprey : *Pandion haliaetus* : Widespread Resident in India

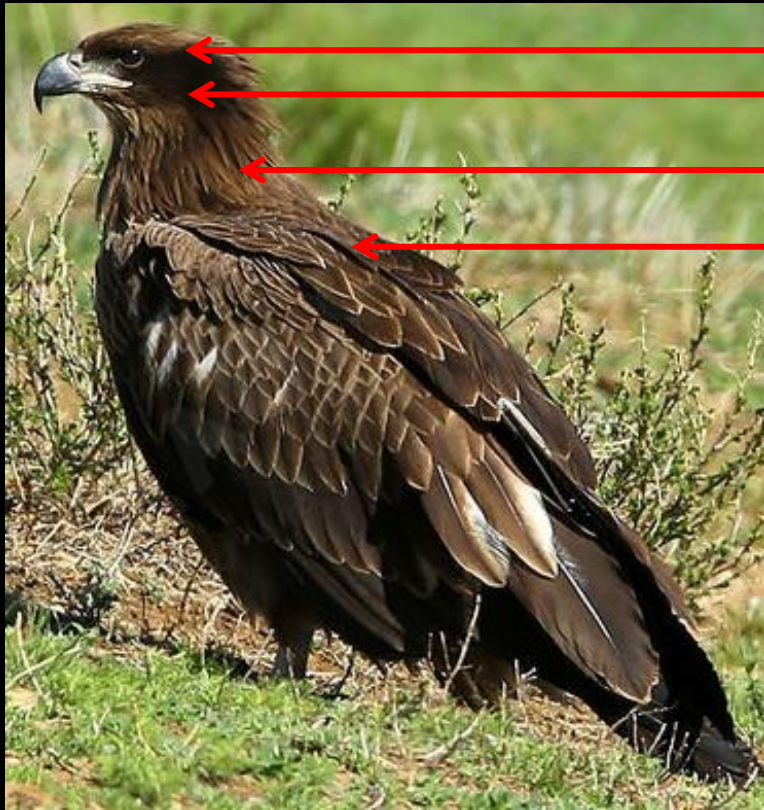


# Pallas's Fish Eagle



## Palla's Fish Eagle Identification Tips : Juvenile

Palla's Fish Eagle : *Haliaeetus leucoryphus* : Resident of North & East India



Brown head

Dark brown Ear Coverts

Long rufous brown feathers at nape & neck forming heckles

Uniform brown upperparts

Brown underparts

Legs are off-white



## Palla's Fish Eagle Identification Tips : Juvenile

Palla's Fish Eagle : *Haliaeetus leucoryphus* : Resident of North & East India

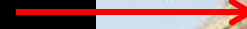
Head golden sandy buff



Neck golden sandy buff



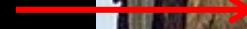
Long light brown feathers at neck forming hackles



Rufous Mantel



Grey-brown underparts



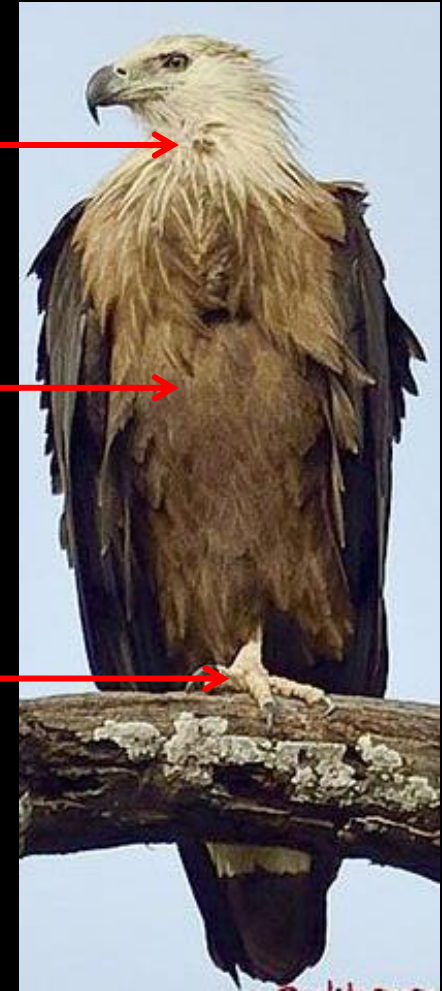
Dark Brown Upperparts



Legs whitish to dirty yellow

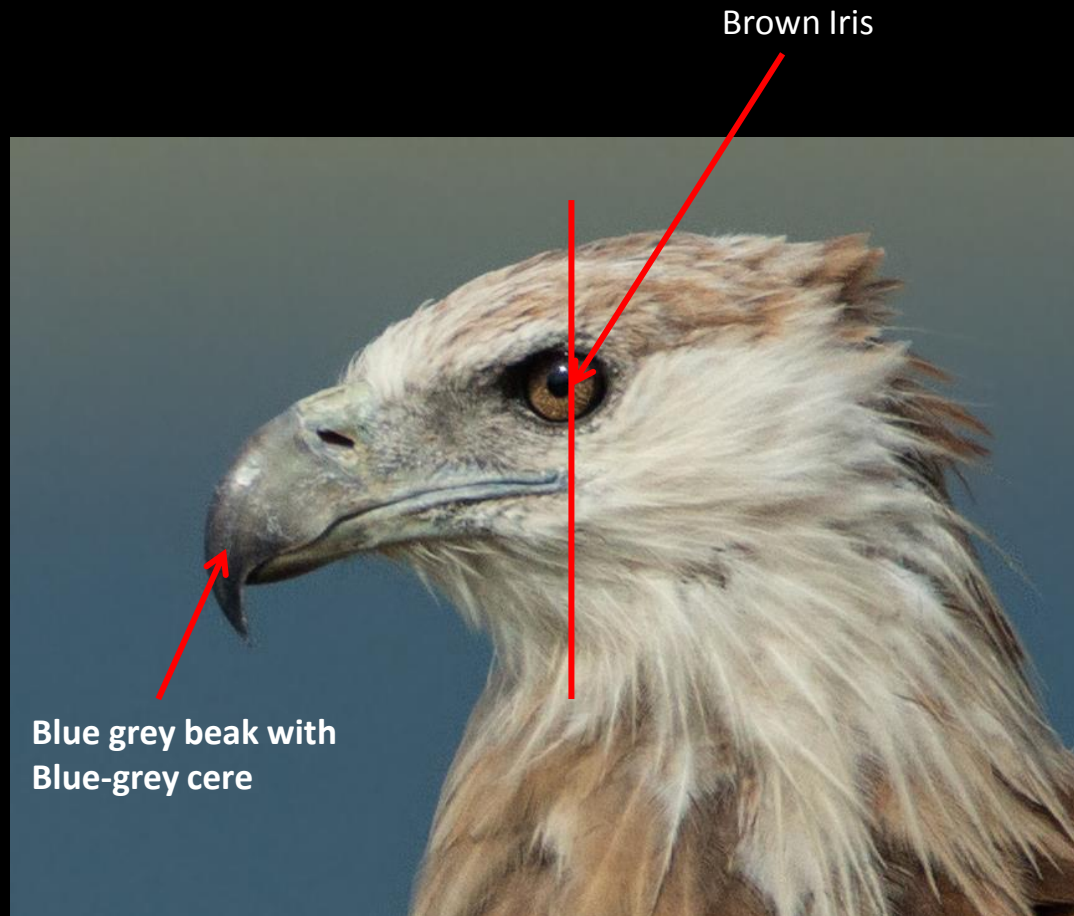


Rounded tail dark brown with conspicuous broad white band



## Palla's Fish Eagle Identification Tips : Face

Palla's Fish Eagle : *Haliaeetus leucoryphus* : Resident of North & East India



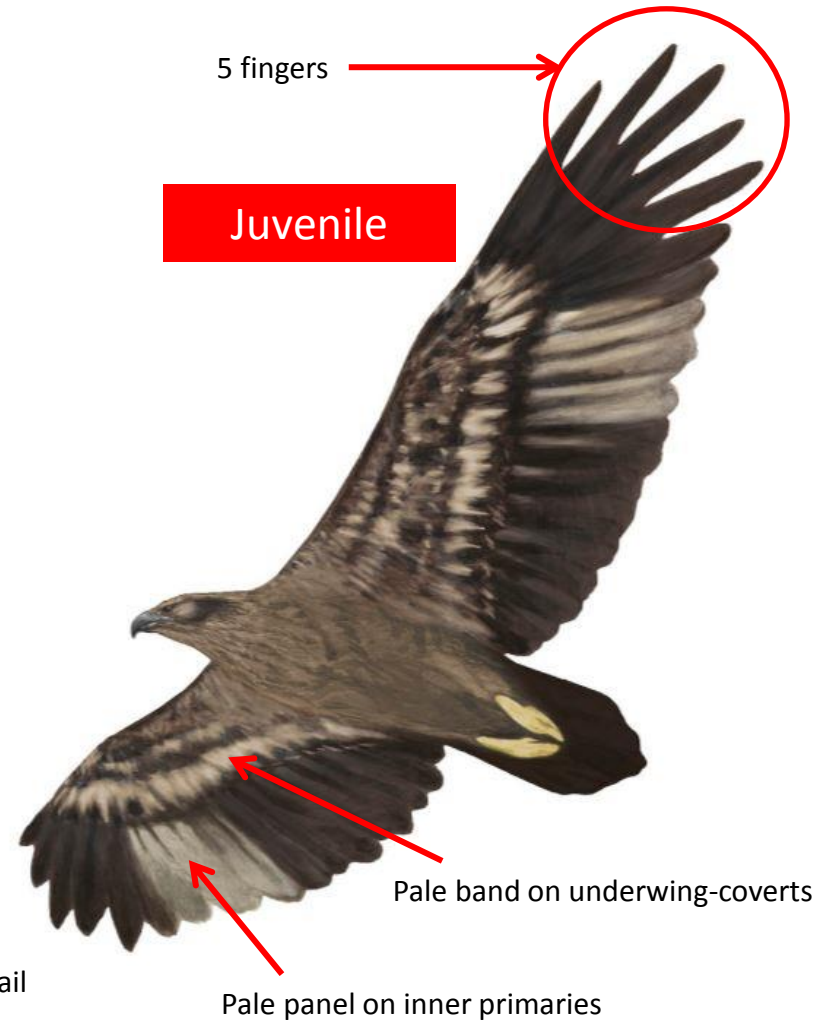
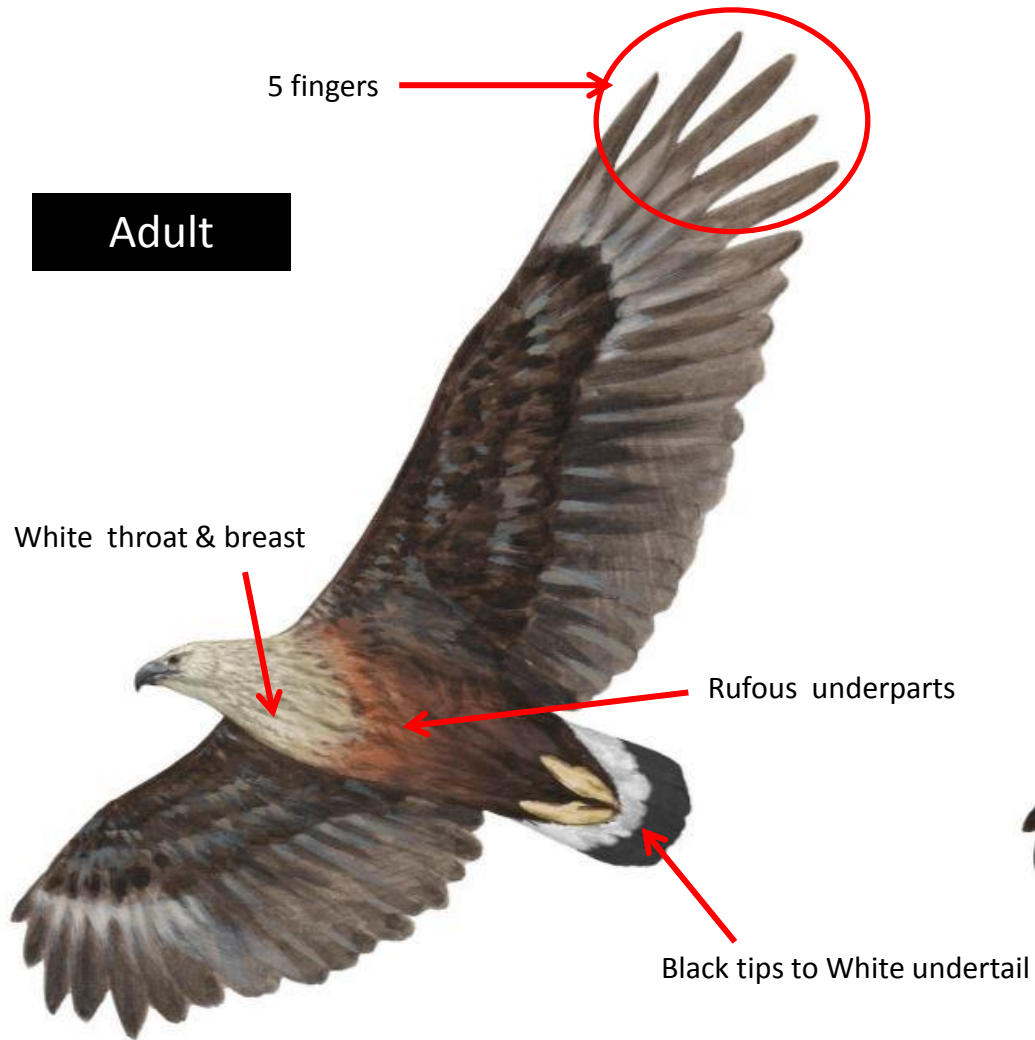
Brown Iris

Blue grey beak with  
Blue-grey cere



## Palla's Fish Eagle Identification Tips : Flight from below

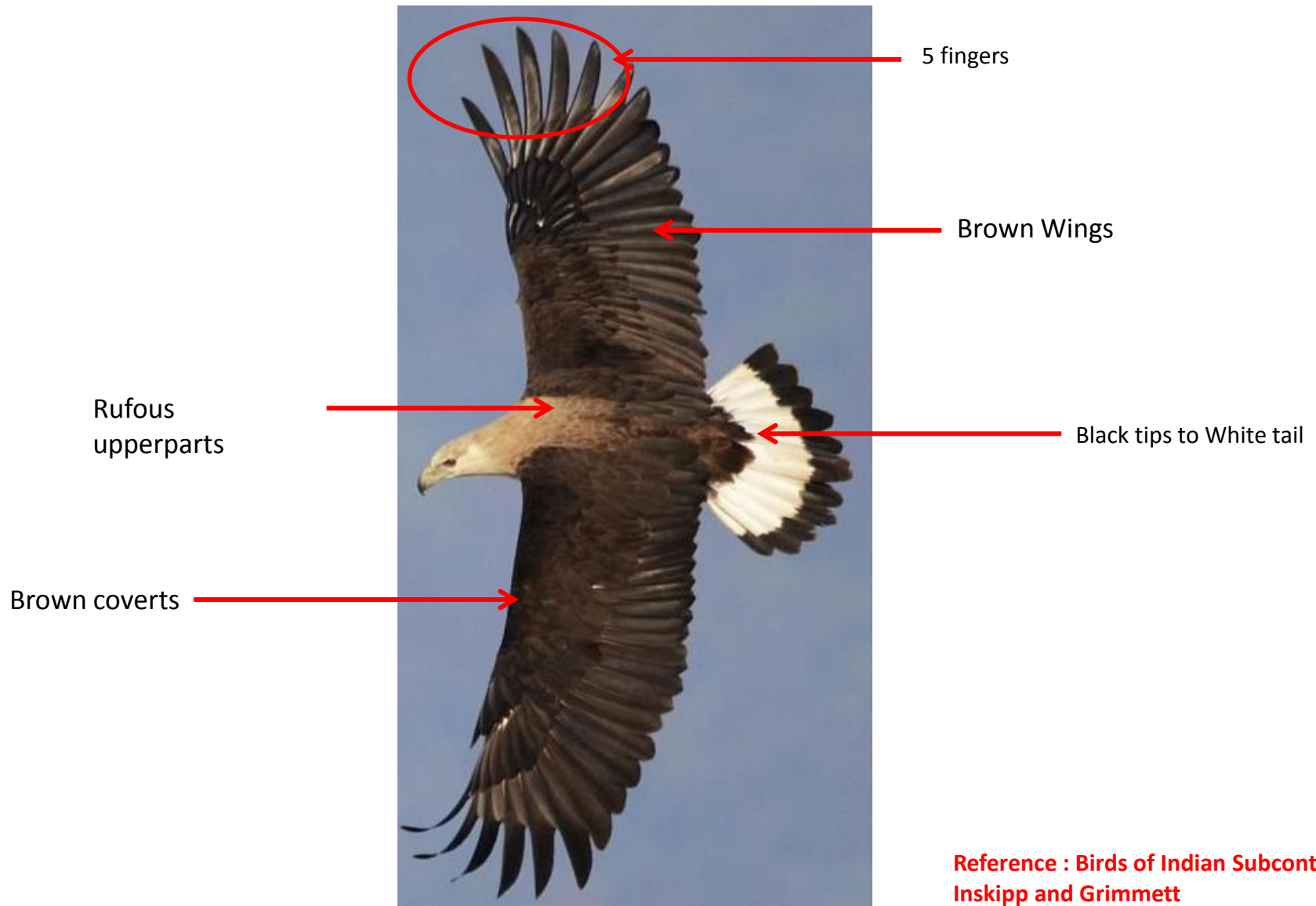
Palla's Fish Eagle : *Haliaeetus leucoryphus* : Resident of North & East India



Reference : Birds of Indian Subcontinent  
Inskipp and Grimmett  
[www.HBW.com](http://www.HBW.com)

## Palla's Fish Eagle Identification Tips : Flight from Above

Palla's Fish Eagle : *Haliaeetus leucoryphus* : Resident of North & East India

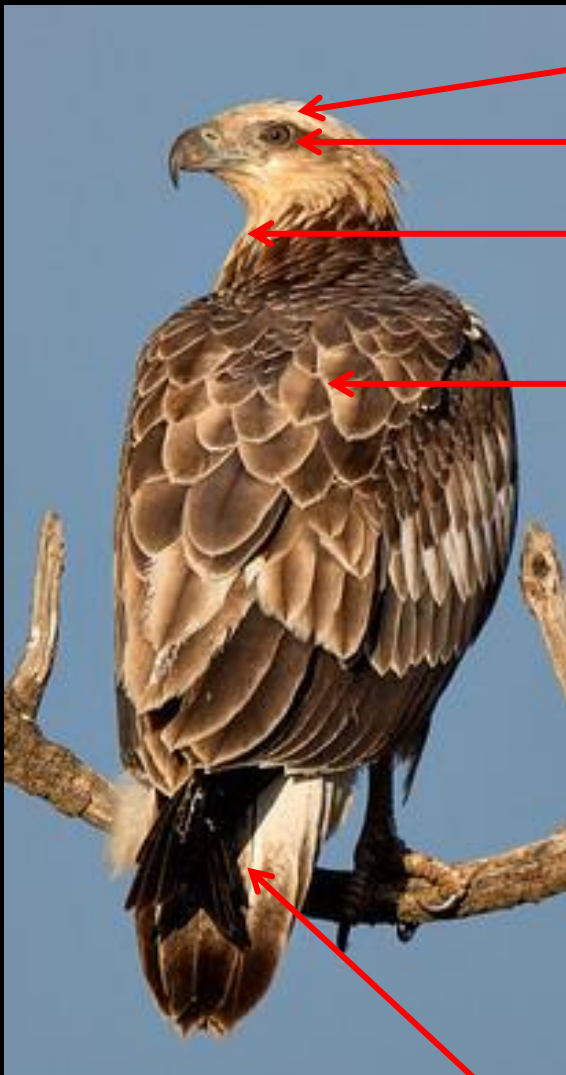


Reference : Birds of Indian Subcontinent  
Inskipp and Grimmett  
[www.HBW.com](http://www.HBW.com)

# **White-bellied Sea Eagle**

# White-bellied Sea Eagle Identification Tips : Juvenile

White-bellied Sea Eagle : *Haliaeetus leucogaster* : Resident of coasts & islands of India



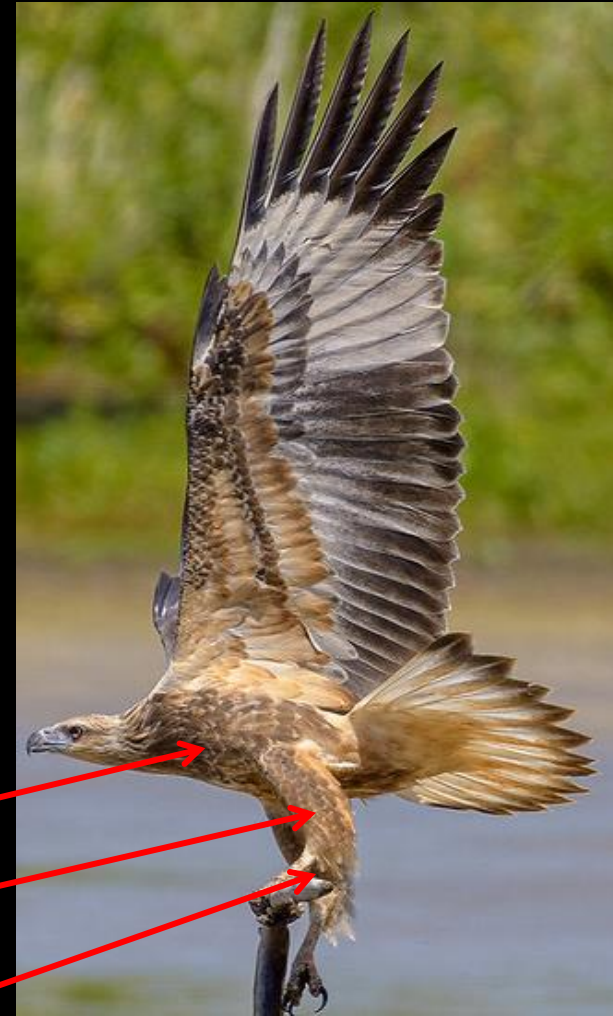
Brown head

Dark eyestripe

Long rufous brown feathers at nape  
& neck forming heckles

Uniform brown upperparts  
with buff streaks

White tail, brown band at tip



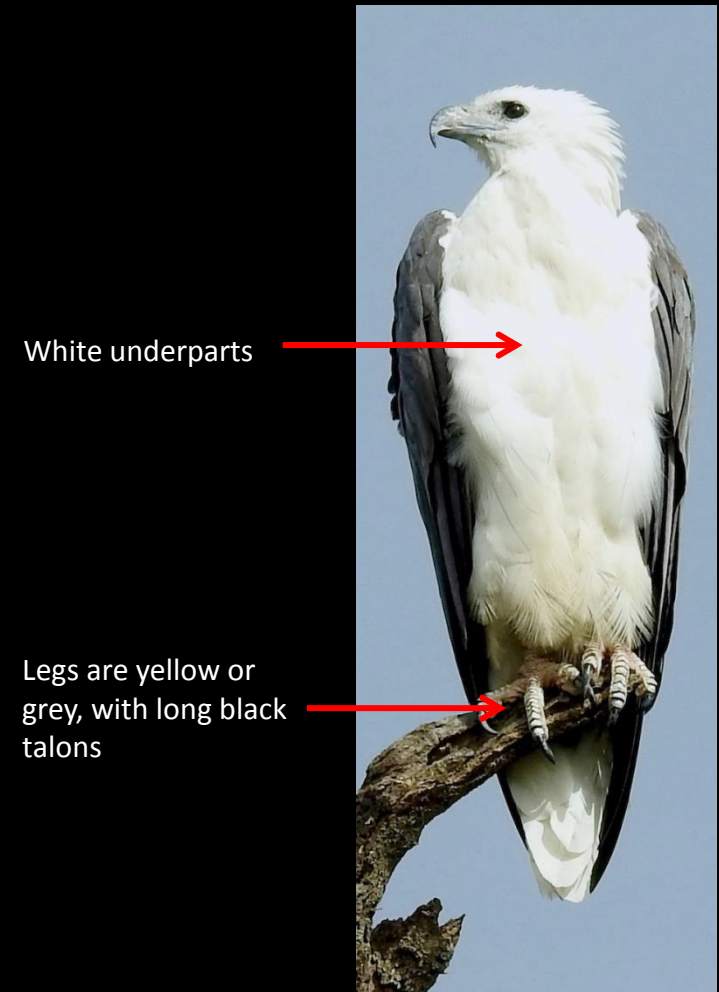
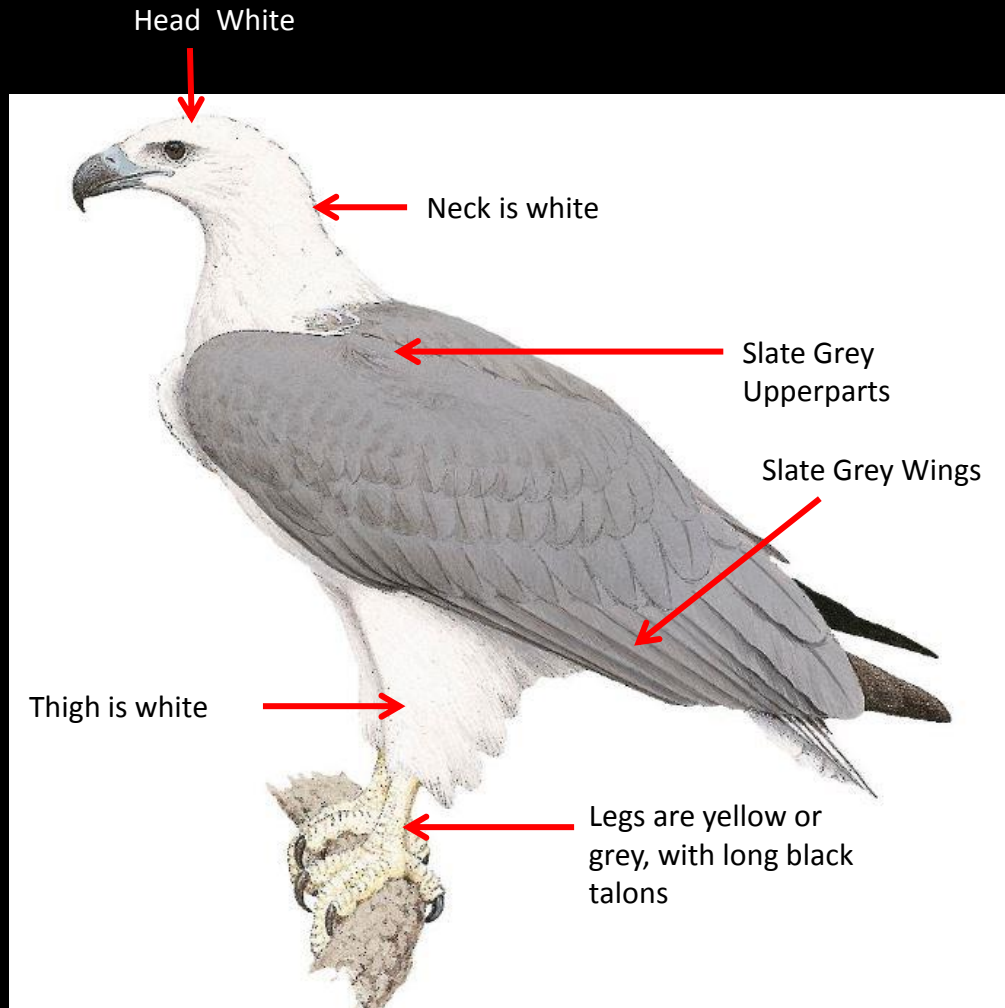
Light brown belly and breast

Light brown thighs

Legs are yellow or grey, with  
long black talons

# White-bellied Sea Eagle Identification Tips : Adult

White-bellied Sea Eagle : *Haliaeetus leucogaster* : Resident of coasts & islands of India





## White-bellied Sea Eagle Identification Tips : Face

White-bellied Sea Eagle : *Haliaeetus leucogaster* : Resident of coasts & islands of India  
Adult

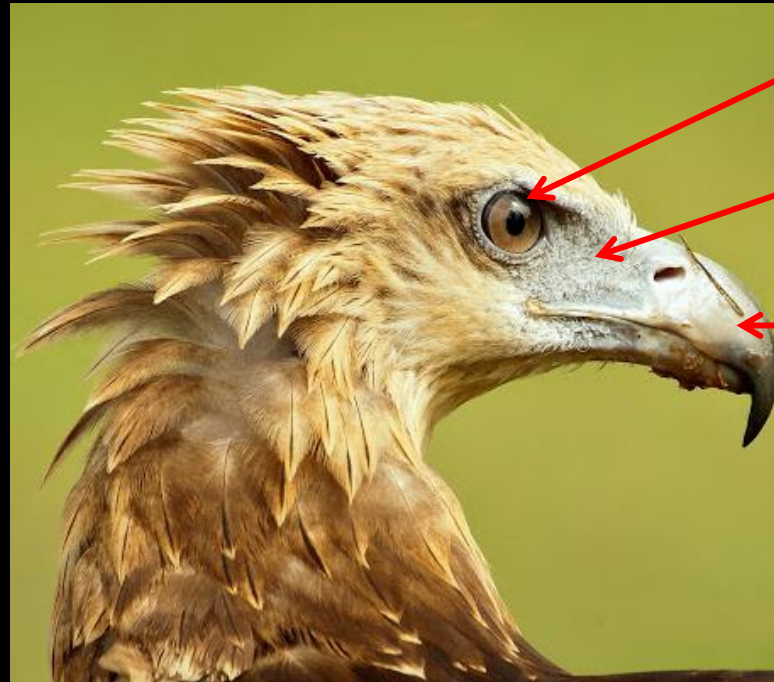


Iris is dark brown

Leaden blue-grey cere

Leaden blue-grey bill with a darker tip

## Juvenile



Iris is lighter brown

Leaden blue-grey cere

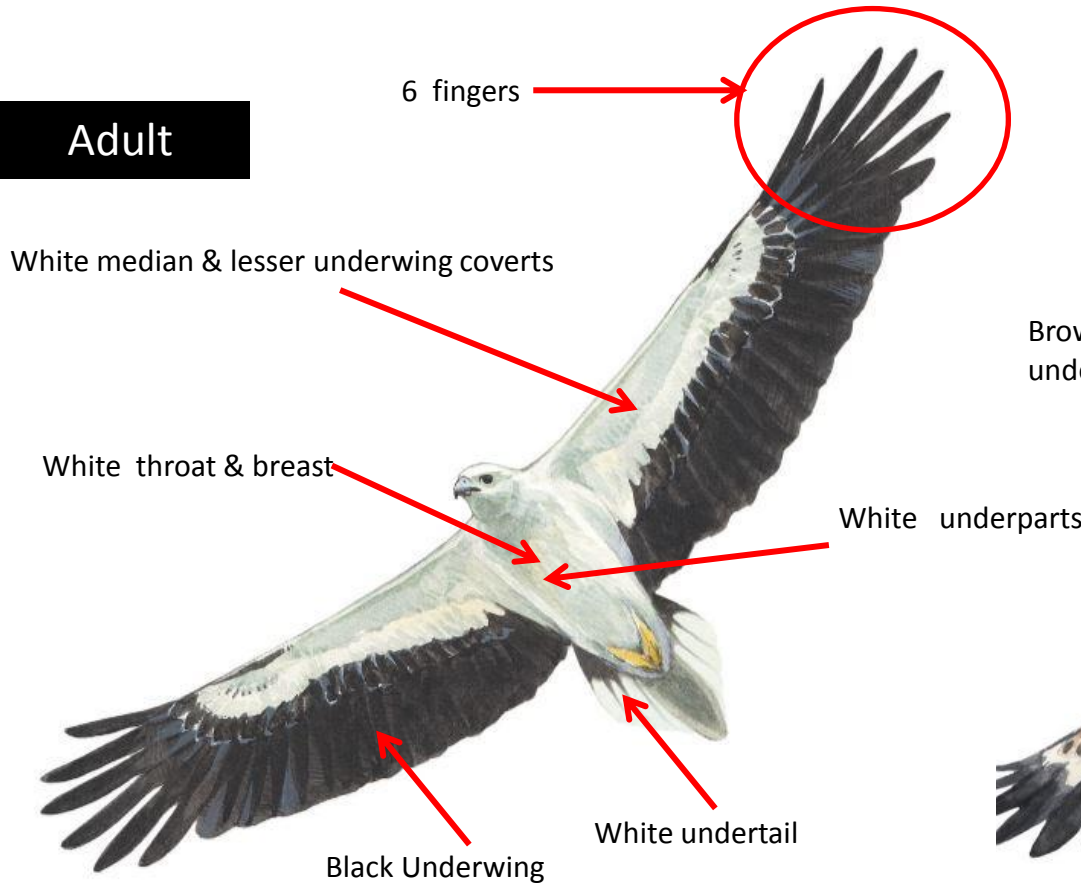
Leaden blue-grey bill with a darker tip



# White-bellied Sea Eagle Identification Tips : Flight from below

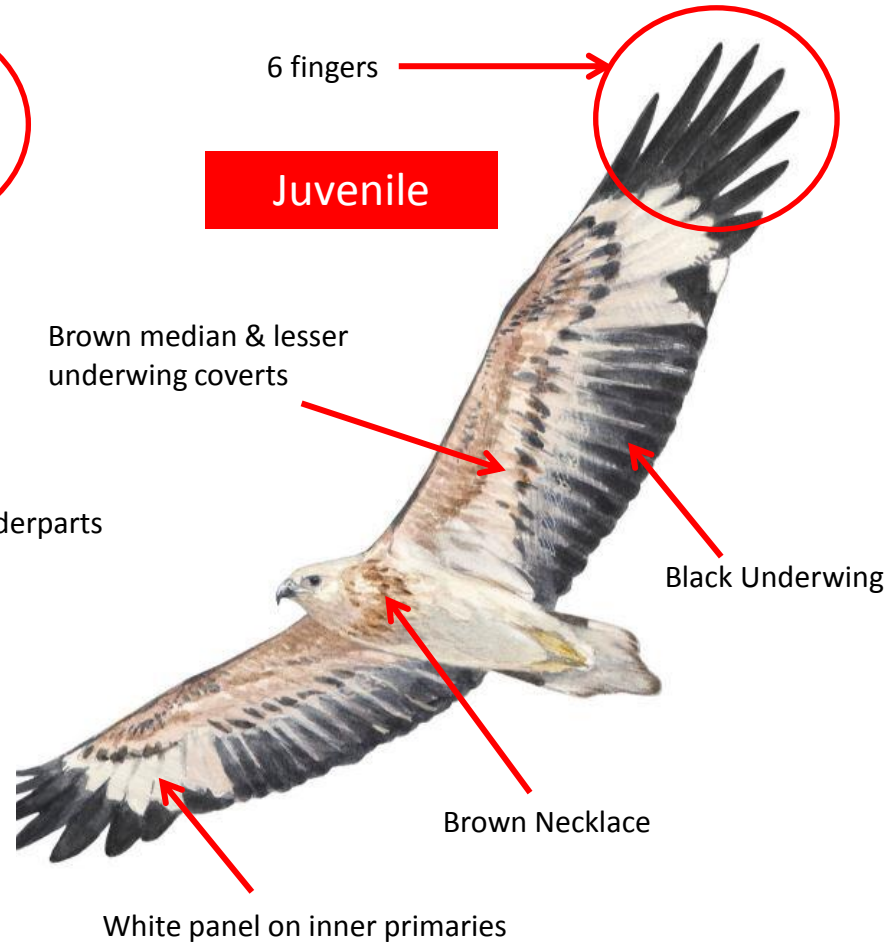
## White-bellied Sea Eagle : *Haliaeetus leucogaster* : Resident of coasts & islands of India

Adult



6 fingers

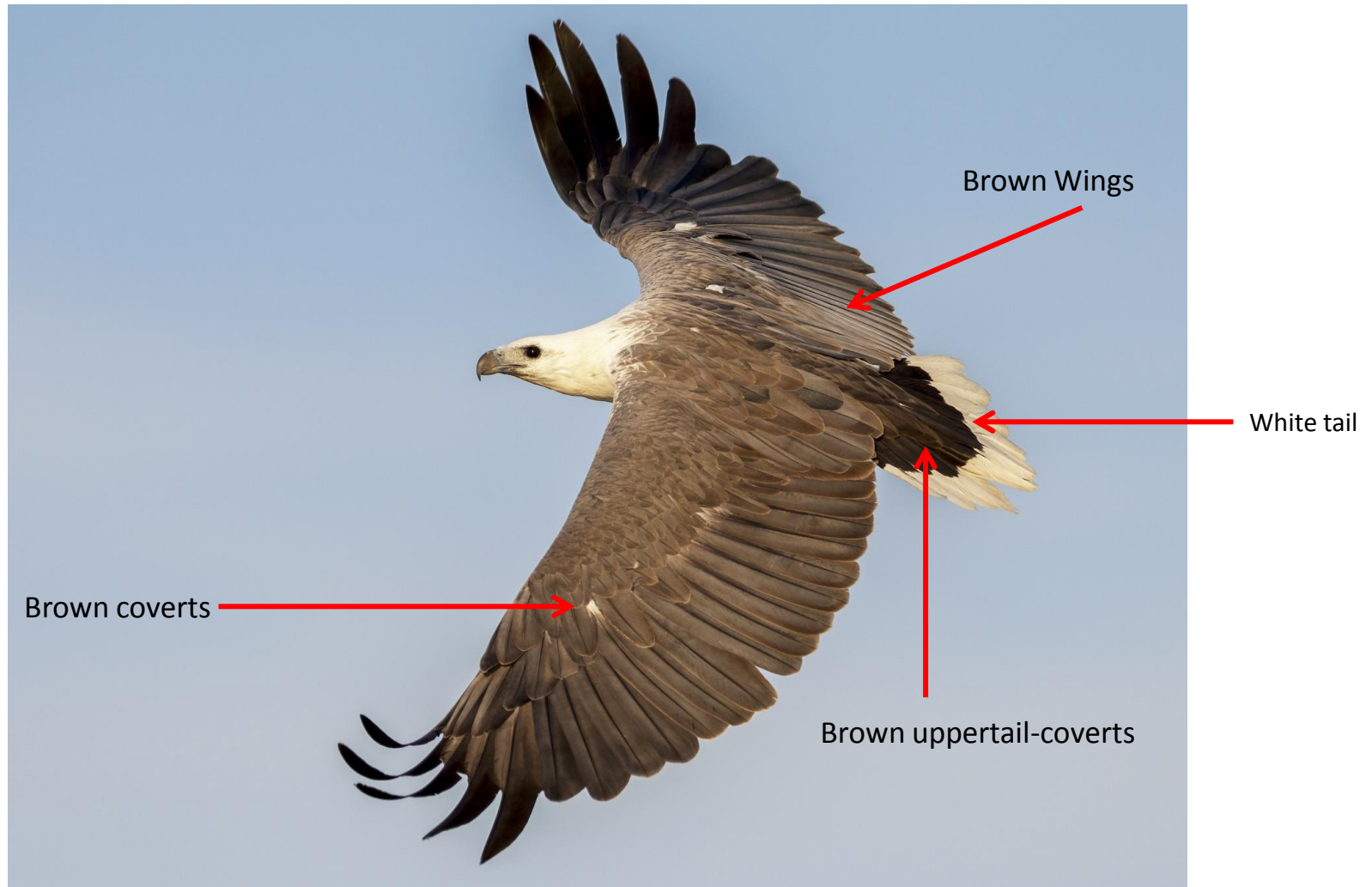
Juvenile



Reference : Birds of Indian Subcontinent  
Inskipp and Grimmett  
[www.HBW.com](http://www.HBW.com)

## White-bellied Sea Eagle Identification Tips : Flight from Above

White-bellied Sea Eagle : *Haliaeetus leucogaster* : Resident of coasts & islands of India

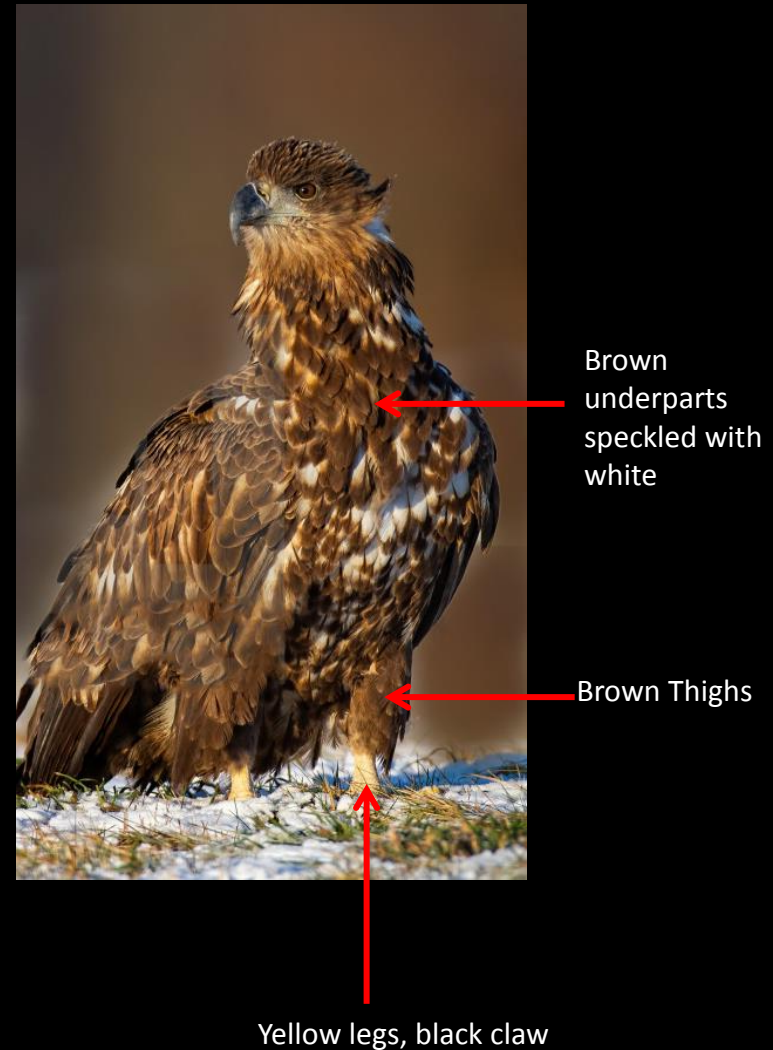
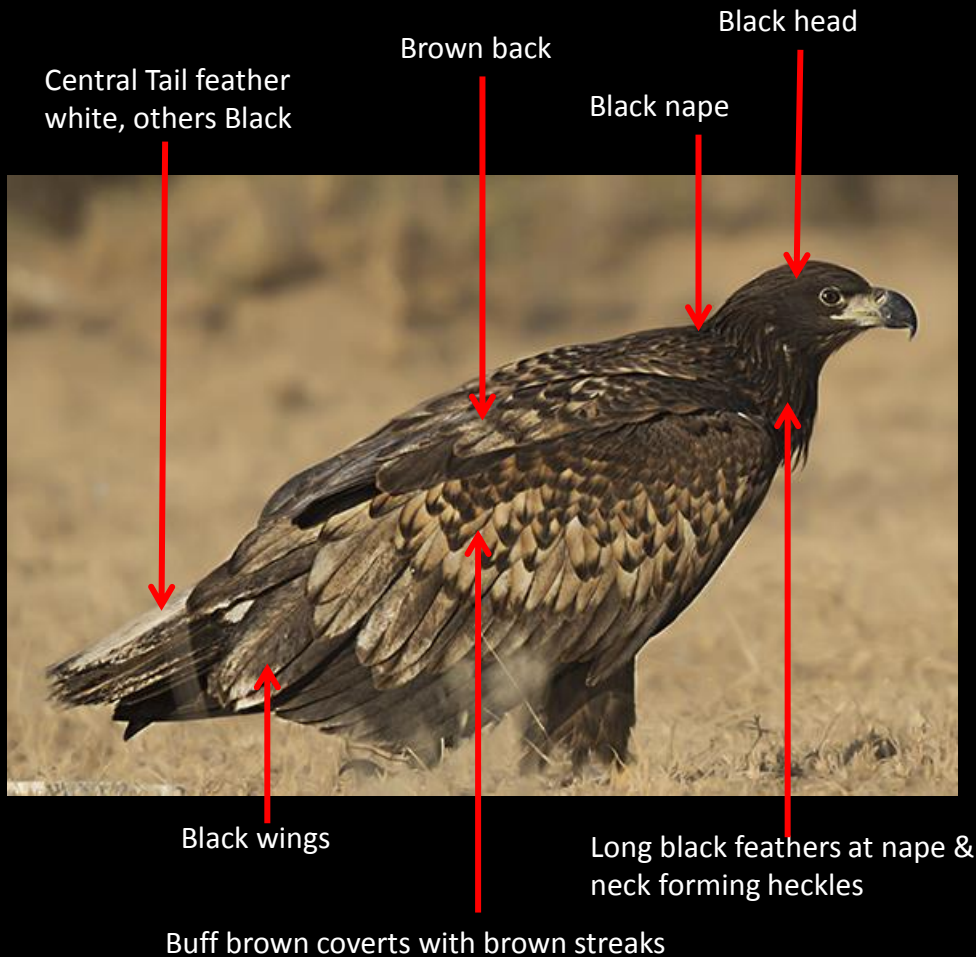


Reference : Birds of Indian Subcontinent  
Inskipp and Grimmett  
[www.HBW.com](http://www.HBW.com)

# **White-tailed Eagle**

## White-tailed Eagle Identification Tips : Juvenile

**White-tailed Eagle : *Haliaeetus albicilla*:** Widespread Resident (sporadic) resident in India





## White-tailed Eagle Identification Tips : Adult

**White-tailed Eagle : *Haliaeetus albicilla*:** Widespread Resident (sporadic) resident in India

Buff head with brown hue

Buff nape with brown hue

Light brown Upperparts

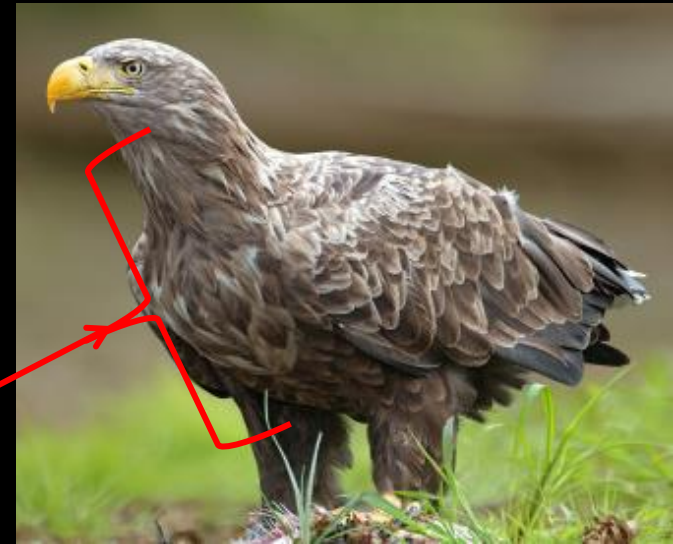
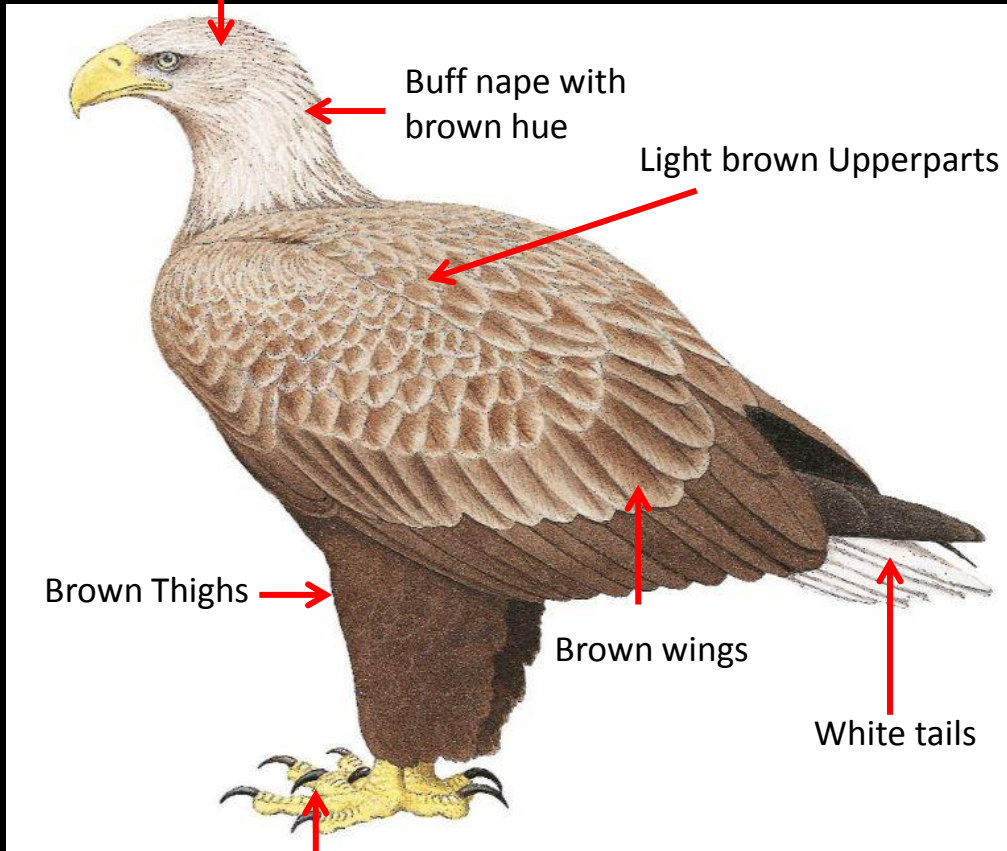
Brown Thighs

Brown wings

White tails

Legs are yellow with black talons

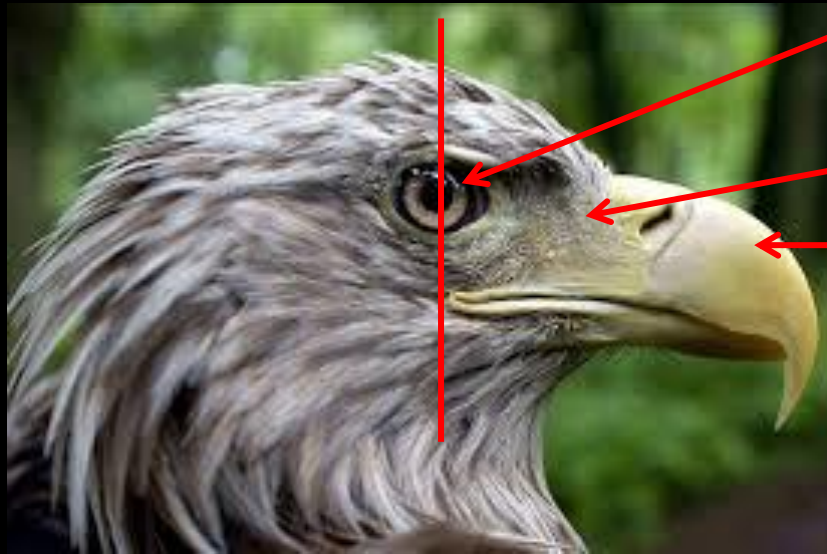
Underparts are greyish mid-brown





## White-tailed Eagle Identification Tips : Face

**White-tailed Eagle : *Haliaeetus albicilla*:** Widespread Resident (sporadic) resident in India  
**Adult**

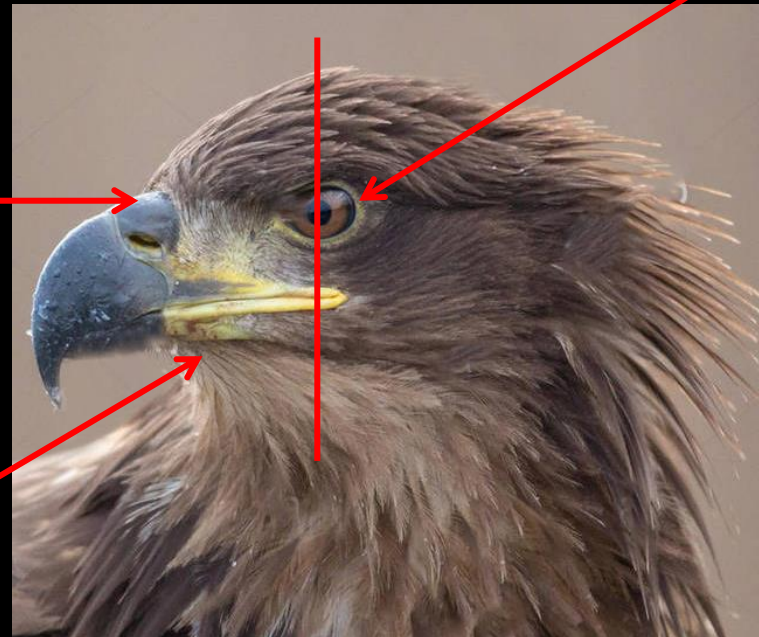


Iris is yellow/ light brown

Yellow Cere

Yellow beak

## Juvenile



Iris is lighter brown

Leaden blue-grey cere

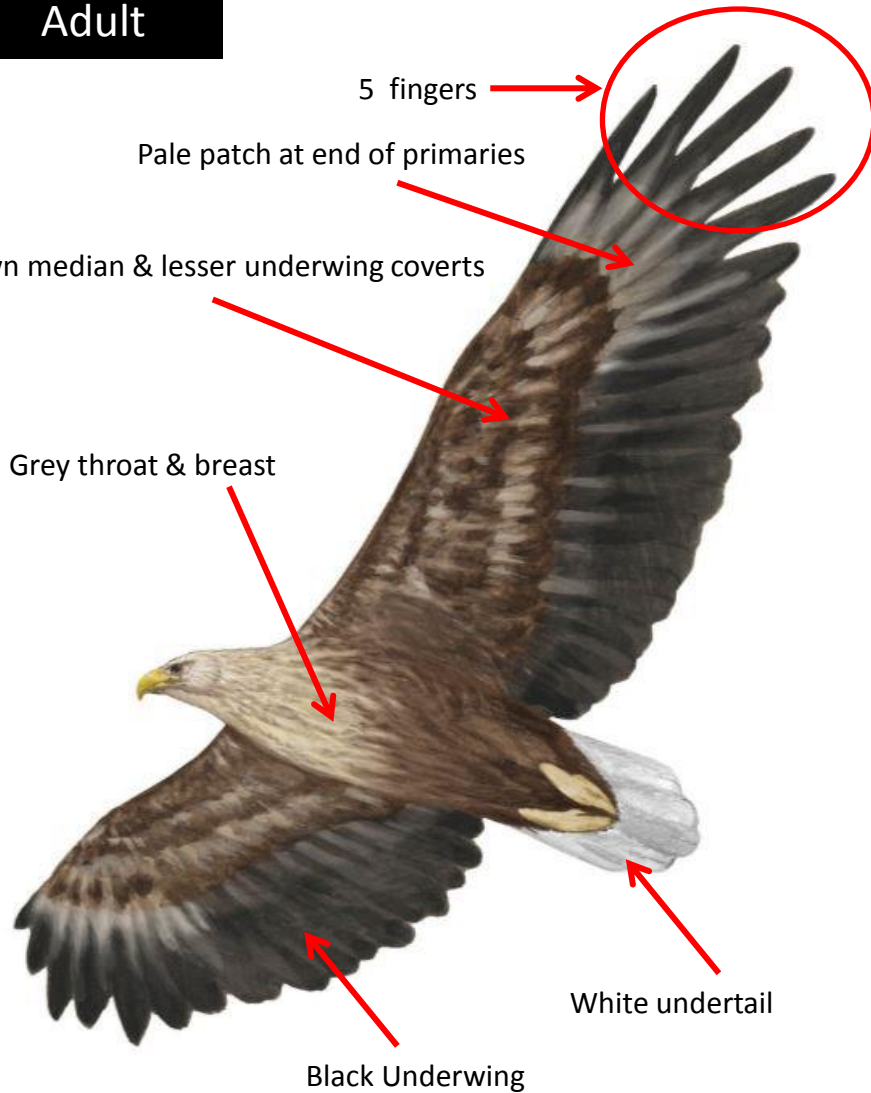
Leaden blue-grey  
bill with a darker tip

Yellow gape

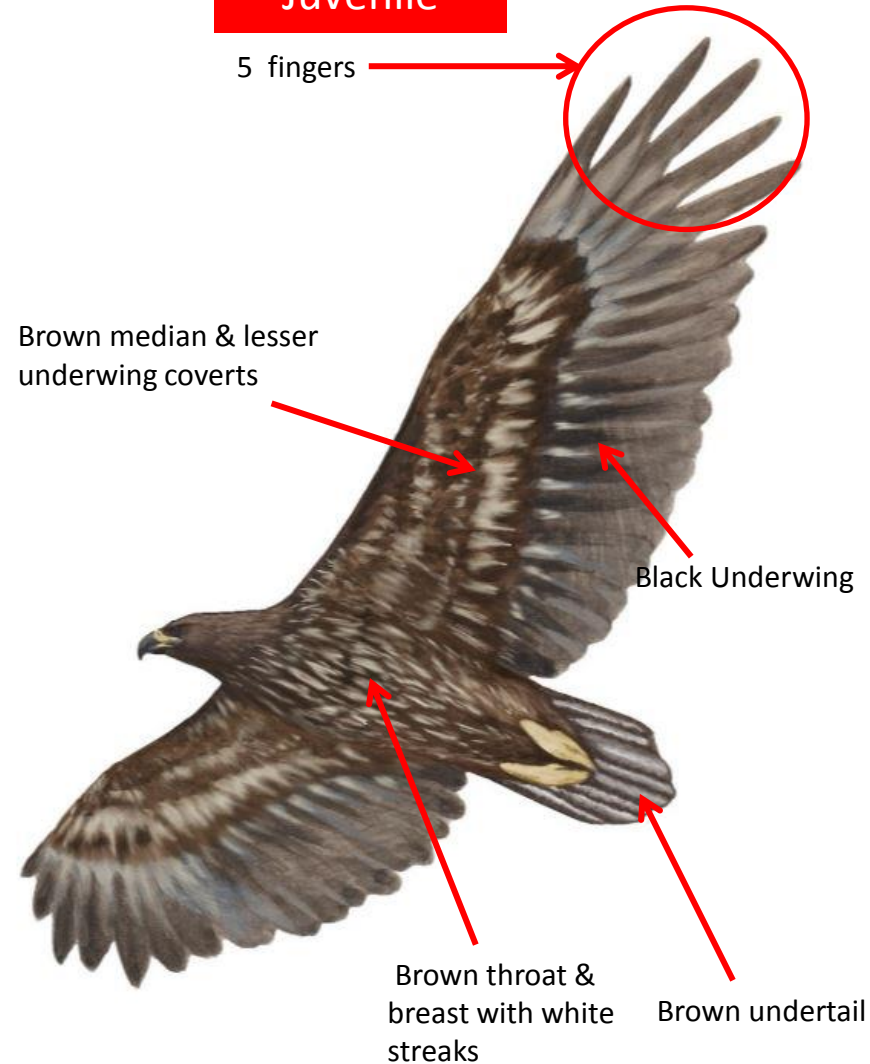
# White-tailed Eagle Identification Tips : Flight from below

**White-tailed Eagle : *Haliaeetus albicilla*:** Widespread Resident (sporadic) resident in India

## Adult



## Juvenile

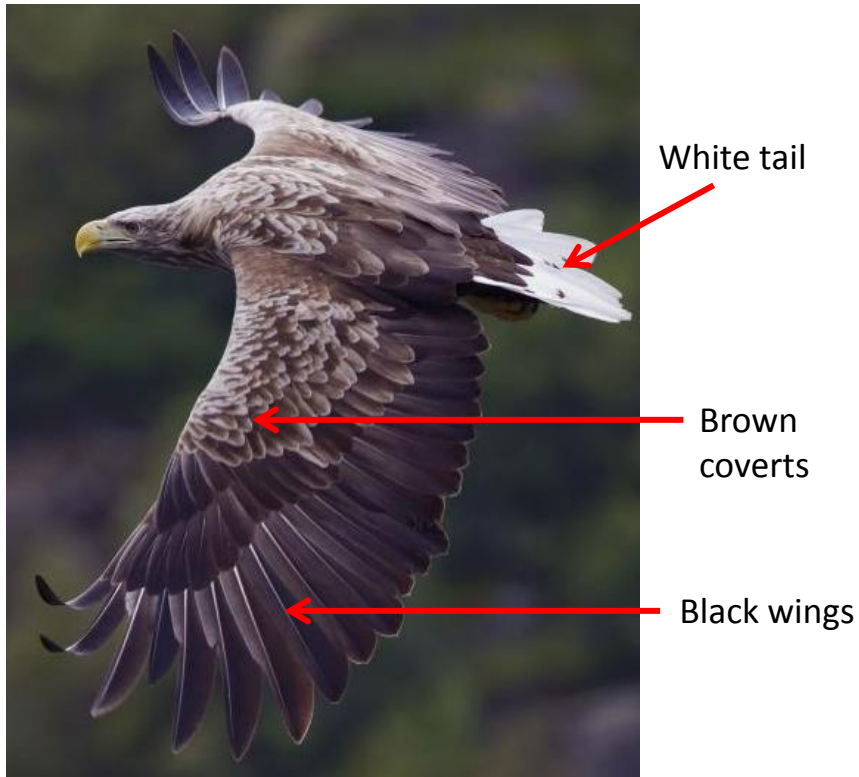


Reference : Birds of Indian Subcontinent  
Inskipp and Grimmett  
[www.HBW.com](http://www.HBW.com)

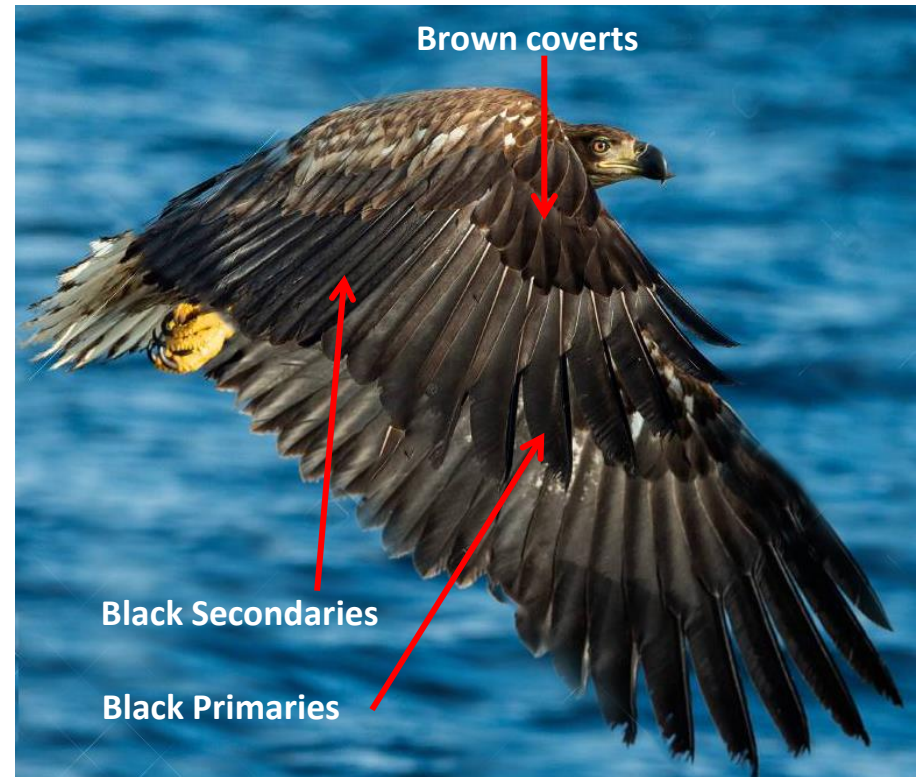
## White-tailed Eagle Identification Tips : Flight from Above

**White-tailed Eagle : *Haliaeetus albicilla*:** Widespread Resident (sporadic) resident in India

Adult



Juvenile





# Grey-headed Fish Eagle Vs Lesser Fish eagle Comparison

Grey-headed Fish Eagle



Breast & Head are  
not concolorous

Breast & Head are  
concolorous

Lesser Fish Eagle



# Grey-headed Fish Eagle Vs Lesser Fish eagle Comparison

Grey-headed Fish Eagle



White tail with black tips

Folded wings fall short of tail

Lesser Fish Eagle



Brown tail

Folded wings reach tail