

West African Ornithological Society Société d'Ornithologie de l'Ouest Africain



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clear grey-buff edges to the feathers, appearing much greyer than in Golden Plover and more like Ruff Philomachus pugnax. The breast was lightly streaked, especially on the sides, but often appeared uniform pale buff. Belly and under tail-coverts were white. An indistinct pale bar showed across the primaries in flight, similar to but less contrasted than in the Golden Plover. Tail and rump were dark, the former narrowly barred darker. Before rising and after landing it held its wings momentarily vertically, showing clearly on three occasions the grey under-wing coverts shading to smoky grey axillaries.

The build and colour of the underwing identified it as a Lesser Golden Plover <u>Pluvialis dominica</u> ssp. While it would be wrong to identify the race positively from a field observation, the greyish appearance and large size, approaching that of a Greenshank, together with the western location suggest the nominate American form <u>dominica</u> rather than the Siberian <u>fulva</u> (Hollom 1968, The Popular Handbook of British Birds, Witherby).

M. A. Macdonald

APPEAL FOR INFORMATION ON WAHLBERG'S EAGLE

The Wahlberg's Eagle (Aquila wahlbergi) is a medium-sized raptor, which in southern Africa is commonly seen in its breeding season from August to February. During this period it is possibly the most numerous breeding raptor in the sub-continent. However when it leaves the breeding area with its young in March-April, little is known of where it moves to. In southern Africa Peter Steyn suggests they fly north, while in Kenya Dr Leslie Brown suggests that they fly south.

In an attempt to obtain some information on the movements of this Eagle we are embarking on a colour tagging scheme in which a coloured strip of Darvie plastic is fixed to the "wrist" section of the wing. The tag will be visible both in flight and while the bird is perched. The main colour of the tag will represent the area in which the bird was

captured and tagged, while its individual number will be engraved on the tag in a contrasting colour. This will allow a bird to be traced to a particular area, while closer observation will enable individual recognition of the bird.

We are therefore appealing to all bird watchers in the Central African region to keep a lookout for any Wahlberg's Eagles which may have a coloured lag attached to one of its wings. The information desired is: the location of the sighting, colour of the tag and on which wing, and the individual number engraved on the tag.

Anyone seeing a marked Eagle is asked to kindly send information to A. J. Anthony, c/o 180 St John's Road, Edinburgh, EH12 8BE, Scotland, UK.

All correspondence will be acknowledged.

CORRIGENDUM

Dry Season Birds at Enugu and Nsukka. Bull. Nigerian Orn. Soc. 13 (43) (1977), p.62;

My identification of Quelea quelea at Enugu is probably in error for nonbreeding males of <u>Vidua macroura</u>. Pending further observations this record should therefore be ignored and <u>Q</u>, quelea deleted from the Enugu list.