

Short-tailed Hawk

Buteo brachyurus



Range: Florida, Mexico to
Argentina

Size: ♂: 22-33 cm (12.6-15.7 in)

♀: 37-44 cm (15-18.5 in)

Wingspan: 83-103 cm

Weight: ♂: .45-.47 kg (1.2 lb)

♀: .42-.53 kg (1.5 lb)

Diet: small mammals and
reptiles

Habitat: Woodlands near
water

Eggs: 2-5

Incubation : 33 days

Fledging: 45 days

Sexual maturity: 2yrs

Breeding: monogamous

Subspecies: 5

Longevity: Captivity: 20 yrs

Wild: 20 years

IUCN: Least Concern



Order: Accipitriformes Family: Accipitridae

There are two color morphs of the short tailed hawk which are unrelated to either sex or subspecies. There is a dark morph which is totally black except for white banding on the ventral side of the wings and tail, and a light morph which is dark above and white below.

There are two subspecies of short-tailed hawk which can be either color morph. The northern subspecies can be found in Florida and Central America and the southern subspecies is found in South America. The northern subspecies is larger and has a longer tail relative to its body.

Although I'd be distributed the species is not considered common anywhere and it's range. However, the population is stable and is listed as Least Concern by IUCN. This talk is protected by the Migratory Bird Treaty Act. The Short-tailed hawk feeds mainly small birds. It rarely hunts from a concealed perch mostly soaring high and stooping onto its prey.