

Booted Eagle *Hieraetus pennatus* longevity record

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We captured and banded (ringed) a juvenile light-morph Booted Eagle *Hieraetus pennatus* in Elat, Israel (29° 33' N, 34° 58' E) on 16 May 1985. It was found dead on 1 December 2006 in Aksu village, Kestel, Bursa, Turkey (40° 10' N, 29° 17' E) by Suat Okan, who apparently reported this directly to the Israeli ringing scheme, but the file with this correspondence was misplaced and could not be located (Gidon Perlman pers comm). The Turkish national ringing scheme was not aware of this ring recovery (Ilker Ozbahar pers comm).

This eagle was approximately 22 years and six months old when it died. The Euring longevity list (www.euring.org.data_and_codes/longevity.htm) has no longevity record for Booted Eagle; to qualify for this list, the bird has to be more than five years old (Tuomo Kolehmainen pers comm). The longevity record for Booted Eagles ringed in South Africa is five years, but with only three ring recoveries for this species (www.safring.adu.org.za).

Longevity records of similar sized European raptors are 18 years and 9 months for Rough-legged Buzzard *Buteo lagopus*, 23 years and 10 months for Black Kite *Milvus migrans*, 27 years and 11 months for European Honey Buzzard *Pernis apivorus* and 28 years and 8 months for Common Buzzard *Buteo buteo* (www.euring.org.data_and_codes/longevity.htm).

Booted Eagles are migratory and those passing through Israel are most likely to come from eastern Europe or western Asia. This individual must have made 21 round-trips to and from its sub-Saharan Africa winter grounds (Ferguson-Lees & Christie 2001).

Measurements of the eagle when banded were: wing chord 378 mm, body mass 739 g, culmen 25.8 mm, hallux 29.7 mm and tail length 200 mm. The eagle was judged to be a female based on measurements (Cramp & Simmons 1980, Clark & Yosef 1998).

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