

RED TAILED HAWK

Phylum: Chordata, Class: Aves, Order: Falconiformes, Family: Accipitridae,
Buteo jamaicensis

Range: Red tailed hawks are found throughout North America and into Central America

Habitat: Large wood lots next to open fields

Size: 19-24 inches with females being 25% larger than the males.

Diet: Small rodents, reptiles, and other birds

Life Span: form 10-21 years in the wild

Facts:

- Buteo is Latin for hawk. Jamaicensis refers to its range from Alaska to Jamaica
- Red tailed hawks reach sexual maturity at three years old
- Red tailed hawk pairs mate for life
- Nests are often used year after year
- 1-5 eggs are laid each season
- Can spot a mouse from 100 feet
- their eyesight is 8 times better than humans

References: Arnold, D. 2002. "Buteo jamaicensis" (On-line), Animal Diversity Web. Accessed August 30, 2004 at http://animaldiversity.ummz.umich.edu/site/accounts/information/Buteo_jamaicensis.html.

<http://museum.nhm.uga.edu/gawildlife/birds/falconiformes/bjamaicensis.html>

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