

ley 1976, Duncan 1979). The relatively high number of juvenile Red-winged Blackbirds and especially House Wrens in the prey sample suggests selection for juvenile birds.

RESUMEN.—Una pareja de Gavilán Pechirrojo Menor (*Accipiter striatus*), en época de anidar, ha sido observada cerca de Beaverhill Lake, Alberta. El nido estaba ubicado a 2.4 m sobre el suelo en un bajo Alamo Temblón (*Populus tremuloides*) dentro de una área densa de sauces (*Salix* spp.). La hembra puso cuatro huevos, tres de los cuales incubaron bien, y las crías emplumaron hasta volar. El macho fue el que hizo la mayoría de la caza, haciendo presa, predominantemente, de jóvenes Tordos Sargento (*Agelaius phoeniceus*) y de Trogloditas Continental (*Troglodytes aedon*). Se observó que el macho capturaba y consumía grandes polillas.

[Traducción de Eudoxio Paredes-Ruiz]

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ORNATE HAWK-EAGLE FEEDING ON GREEN IGUANA

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The Ornate Hawk-eagle (*Spizaetus ornatus*) is a scarce resident of dense subtropical and tropical forests from southern Mexico to northern Argentina (Eitniear 1986, 1988, Brown and Amadon 1968). The species is stated to

be the rarest of the three hawk-eagles in Belize (Hartshorn et al. 1984). Lyon and Kuhnigk (1985) documented both mammalian and avian prey species but considered the Ornate Hawk-eagle a specialist on birds. This note doc-

uments an additional sighting of the species feeding on Green Iguanas (*Iguana iguana*) in Belize.

On 28 May 1990, we observed an Ornate Hawk-eagle feeding on a Green Iguana while perched in a tree on the banks of the Raspaculo branch of the Rio Guacamayo, 4 km upstream from the confluence of the Raspaculo and Guacamayo. Several minutes after our arrival the hawk-eagle attempted to carry the prey to another branch in a nearby tree. The hawk-eagle was unable to lift the iguana, however, and both plummeted into the underbrush, where the hawk-eagle continued to feed on the lizard. The entire episode was documented on video tape, which is deposited in the video library of the Center for the Study of Tropical Birds, Inc. An earlier sighting was made by Mick Fleming in the fall of 1987. In the same area as the 1990 sighting, Fleming's party observed an Ornate Hawk-eagle flying across the Raspaculo with an adult Green Iguana in its talons. The bird alighted in a nearby tree where it consumed its prey (Fleming 1987).

In Tikal National Park, 70–80 km northwest of the Raspaculo River, Lyon and Kuhnigk (1985) observed Ornate Hawk-eagles feeding upon a young tinamou (Tinamidae), a Plain Chachalaca (*Ortalis vetula*), a young Crested Guan (*Penelope purpurascens*), a Gray-headed Dove (*Lepototila plumbeiceps*) and a leaf-nosed bat (Phyllostomidae). More recently, also in Tikal National Park, Flatten et al. (1989) recorded 52 Ornate Hawk-eagle prey items of which 21 (40.4%) were identified as avian, 24 (46.1%) as mammalian, and 7 (13.5%) were unidentifiable. Klein et al. (1988) reported that 63.5% of prey items were avian, including macaws (*Ara* spp.). The Ornate Hawk-eagle has been reported to feed upon Great Curassow (*Crax rubra*) (Russell 1964), Kinkajou (*Potus flavus*) (Brown and Amadon 1968), and Guiana Cock-of-the-Rock (*Rupicola rupicola*) (Trail 1987). An additional report of this species feeding on a reptile was made by Klein et al. (1988) who mentioned that the hawk-eagle fed upon an unidentified snake and a lizard (Teiidae) in Manaus, Brazil.

Since previous studies of this raptor have not been conducted along rivers where Green Iguanas are abundant, our sighting (despite abundant avian prey items) suggests that the Ornate Hawk-eagle, like most raptors, will take vulnerable prey species when they become available. Therefore, the Ornate Hawk-eagle should be considered more opportunistic than previously believed.

RESUMEN.—Los autores observaron un Aguila Elegante (*Spizaetus ornatus*) consumir una iguana (*Iguana iguana*)

en Belice. Se considera que esta especie se alimenta principalmente de aves. Sin embargo, este registro, así como los dos documentados y publicados previamente, indican que el águila exhibe el mismo comportamiento oportunista documentado en aves rapaces que habitan zonas de clima templado del norte.

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