



# Steppe Eagle

MALE

*Aquila nipalensis*

July 2005

## “Luca”

*All mouth, and no bite.*

**ENDANGERED**

### DESCRIPTION & IDENTIFICATION

A large Eagle with brown upper parts, and blackish flight feathers and tail. The Steppe Eagle is larger and darker than the Tawny Eagle. It has a pale coloured throat which differs from the Tawny Eagle. Immature birds are less contrasted than adults, however, both show a variation in plumage colour.

### HABITAT & LOCATION

From Eastern Europe to Russian and central Asian steppe to Mongolia. Favours open dry habitats such as desert, semi-desert, steppe or savannah. Migrates from Russia during winter to North Africa

### NATURAL DIET

Most prey taken on the ground, however can catch birds in full flight, including flamingos. Will eat anything from termites to dead elephants. They will kill animals up to the size of hare, gazelle calf, and as small as grass mice. Will take game birds, some reptiles, amphibians and locusts.

### WEIGHTS & DIMENSIONS

**Weight** : 5 lb, (2,270 g), - 7 lb, (3,180 g). **Height** : 24.5", (62 cm) – 30", (75 cm).

**Wingspan** : 65". (165 cm) – 74". (190 cm).