

Greater Spotted Eagle...

It is possible that it is overlooked in Gujarat due to identification difficulties. Further records of this rare morph of Greater Spotted Eagle will help in understanding its status in Gujarat.

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Sighting of a juvenile skua at Madhavpur, Porbandar

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Pomarine Skua is shown to be a winter migrant to Pakistan coast (Grimmett *et al.* 2011). There are only few previous records of Skuas from Gujarat. A juvenile Skua (*Stercorarius sp.*) was recorded at Diu (Mundkur *et al.* 2010). Arctic Skua (*Stercorarius parasiticus*) was recorded at Nalsarovar (Trivedi put & Sama 2010) and at Venasar, Little Rann of Kachchh (Ganpule 2011). Hence this is an important record for Gujarat.



Arctic Skua (*Stercorarius parasiticus*) was recorded at Nalsarovar (Trivedi put & Sama 2010) and at Venasar, Little Rann of Kachchh (Ganpule 2011). Hence this is an important record for Gujarat.

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We visited Madhavpur coastal area (Dist: Porbandar) for birding on 30 January 2006 There we saw a gull-like bird sitting on the beach. It had pale brown mask, dark-brown crown, neck, mantle and wing; and greyish bill. One of us (RT) took few photographs. After referring to field guides (Kazmierczak 2000, Grimmett *et al.* 2011), we suspected it to be a juvenile skua (*Stercorarius spp.*). A skua is also sometimes called as a 'jaeger' but it is referred to as a skua here, based on Grimmett *et al.* (2011). Further, a Parasitic Jaeger is also known as Arctic Skua.

We sent the images to various birdwatchers but since other features were not seen in the photos, it was tentatively identified as a juvenile Pomarine Skua (*Stercorarius pomarinus*) (Praveen, J. and Dipu, K., *in litt.*, *pers. comm.*, email dated 7 January 2014)