

## Short Article

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## Important Wintering Record of Spotted Sandpiper *Actitis Macularius* from Gujarat, Western India

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**Abstract:** In present article, introducing some interesting wintering records of Spotted Sandpiper *A. macularius*. Observation was carried out from 20-12-12 to 11-2-26, to explore diversity and abundancy of Spotted Sandpiper from Coastal wetland of Gujarat. Very systematically searched Sandpipers. Each site was observed from Early morning from around 8 AM to 10:30 AM, 3:00 PM to 5:30 PM. During these observations, 7 species were observed and photographed. Mostly species were found at nearby coastal areas of Gujarat and Nal Sarovar birds Sanctuary. Birds were predominantly sited during mid-winter.

**Keyword:** Wintering Record, Spotted Sandpiper, *Actitis Macularius*

**Species authority:** - Linnaeus, 1766

**Domain:** Eukaryote

**Genus:** - *Actitis*

**Family:** - Scolopacidae

**Order:** - Charadriiformes

**Class:** - Aves

**Phylum:** - Chordata

**Kingdom:** - Animalia

**Scientific name:** - *Actitis macularius*

**Common name:** - Spotted Sandpiper

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## INTRODUCTION

The Spotted Sandpiper *A. macularius* is rather small sized Wader resembling of Common Sandpiper *A. hypoleucos*. Resident and Breed in North America, Alaska across Canada, to New Foundland, South, Central California, East Arizona, West Mexico, Thence to North Carolina, Winter in US, South through Central America, West Indies to South America, North Argentina and Central Chile, also Galapagos Island – **del hoyo 2014**. Winter Vagrant friendly, regular vagrant in Europe – **Svenson 2009**.

Gujarat has largest coastal area, it is richest of avifauna, can be attributed to large coastal wetland, elongated agricultural field, longest grassland, great marine fauna, all the adjoining area has bare remarkable micro habitation, diversity, habitat, ecosystem, marine habit, fresh water habitat, marshes land, mangroves, prosopis areas open muddy flat, salt panes, tentertidan muddy flat, creeks, sand beaches are particularly attracted by both bird species, resident and migratory.

### Observation:



Greyish yellow legs, greyish bill, lower mandible yellow, black at tip, white eye ring, shorter tail, brownish wing covert.



Bird is in winter plumage. White eye ring, black bill, buff white throat, brownish wing covert and square-ended shorter tail, white below, yellow legs.



Very similar to fig. 3. White belly and lower tail.



Probably juvenile. Yellowish bill, black tip, white eye ring, brownish crown, buff, neck, buff throat, dark brown bearing on wing coverts and square-ended shorter tail, white belly, tertial fringes plain.



Probably juvenile. Very similar to fig. 6. Black spot is very clear on neck, yellowish legs, blackish grey bill.



Yellowish bill and legs, bold eye ring, brownish wing covert and shorter tail, white below.



Probably juvenile. Rufous brown crown, nape and wing coverts, short white supercilium before eye, blackish grey bill, bold white eye ring, white throat, centre of neck.

and below, pale black spot-on brownish neck (first stage of development – breeding), heavily barring on wing

covert and square-ended shorter tail, yellowish legs, primary extend upto tail tip.

Fig.	Date	Site	District	Plumage
1	20-12-12	Charkala	Dwarka	Adult
2	28-10-13	Jakhaoo	Kachchh	Adult
3	12-9-15	Kuchdi	Porbandar	Juvenile
4	21-12-15	Nal Sarovar Birds Sanctuary	Ahmedabad	Adult
5	19-11-21	Dholera	Ahmedabad	Adult
6	23-1-26	Tarakupur	Anand	Juvenile
7	11-2-26	Nal Sarovar Birds Sanctuary	Ahmedabad	Juvenile

Most birds were adult which lack white supercilium. Birds are resident and breed in North America and Canada, vagrant in Europe. Record is not available from West, North-West, Central, South Asia. It is first photographic records from Gujarat, important for its distribution range.

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