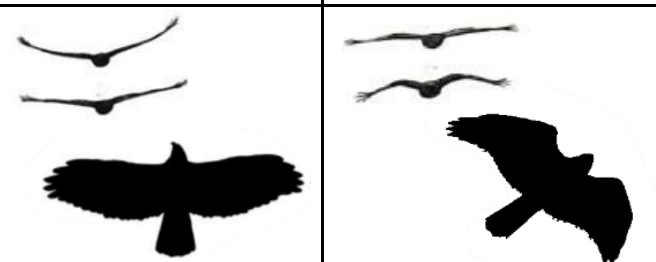
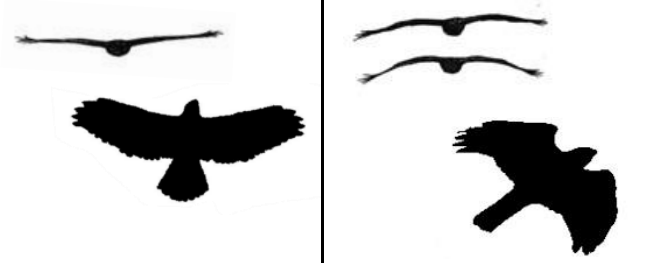



Ontario's Four Common Buteo Species – Flight Behaviour and Silhouettes

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Buteo	Flight Behaviour		Soar	Glide
Red-tailed Hawk RT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Large • Master soarer and less affected by winds than smaller buteos (RS and BW) • Strong, even wing beats 	In a Soar: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • From below, secondary bulge gives “muscular” appearance, wingtips appear round 	In a Glide: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • From below, wings project forward from the wrist • Head on, the wings look arched or cupped 	
Red-shouldered Hawk RS	Medium <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Less stable in the air than larger buteos (RT and RL), will correct its course with wing flaps • Wingbeats appear “batty” and from the wrist 	In a Soar: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • From below, primaries look round, reaching forward (hugging sky) • Looks slender with appearance of longish wings, longest tail of these four buteos • Head on, wings are flat or slightly raised 	In a Glide: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • From below, wrists are thrust forward • Head on, wings are slightly bowed 	
Broad-winged Hawk BW	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Smallest of the four buteos • Less stable in the air than larger buteos (RT and RL), will correct its course with wing flaps • Wingbeats are stiff and choppy • Migrates in large groups (kettles) 	In a Soar: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • From below, wings look short, broad, and more tapered than RT, RS and RL • Shortest tail of the four buteos • Head on, wings look flat 	In a Glide: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • From below, leading edge of the wing is curved akin to a paring knife, primaries are tapered to a point and trailing edge often looks straight • Head on, wings look bowed, starting from the shoulders 	
Rough-legged Hawk RL	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Large buteo with longest wingspan • Adept at powered flight, even in inclement weather • Wingbeats are steady, deep, and rowing 	In a Soar: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • From below, wings appear round and can be held slightly forward • Longest wings of all four buteos • Head on, in a slight dihedral 	In a Glide: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • From below, wrists are thrust forward, primaries are longer than other buteos • Head on, wings are in a modified dihedral (flattened from the wrist to tips) 	