

## GOLDEN EAGLE (*AQUILA CHRYSAETOS*)

DFG: Fully protected



Similar in size to the bald eagle, golden eagles are dark brown with gold or light brown over the back of the head and neck. The eye and beak are dark. Females are often noticeably larger than males. Immatures have a whitish tail with a dark band along the tip; the adult tail is dark. White is also visible on the undersides of the wings of immatures - visible in flight. Total length ranges from 30 inches (76

cm) to 40 inches (102 cm), with wingspans ranging from 80 inches (203 cm) to 88 inches (224 cm).

Golden eagles are found in a variety of habitats in California, including shrublands and grasslands. They primarily feed on rabbits, hares, and ground squirrels, but also eat birds and reptiles.

The golden eagle is a resident throughout California, and can be found in all counties of the San Joaquin Valley.

Photo: © Rosalie Faubion

### *Photos*

