



The bald eagle is the national bird of the United States of America. Bald eagles are not actually bald; the name comes from an older meaning of the phrase "white headed". Their typical wingspan is between 5 ft 11 in and 7 ft 7 in and they normally weigh between 6.6 and 13.9 lb. The females are about 25 percent larger than males. The bald eagle feeds mainly on fish, which it swoops down and snatches from the water with its talons. It builds the largest nest of any North American bird and the largest tree nests ever recorded for any animal species, up to 13 ft deep and 8.2 ft wide. In the late 20th century it was on the brink of local extinction in the contiguous United States. It was removed from the List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife in 2007.



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