

This hawk likes crab for dinner

May 2 2019



In 2016, authors observed a red-shouldered hawk attack and dismember another crustacean, the ghost crab (*Ocypode quadrata*), on a coastal beach in South Carolina, USA. Credit: Julie Larsen Maher/WCS

Red-shouldered hawks (*Buteo lineatus*) feed primarily on mammals, amphibians, reptiles, and invertebrates, the majority of which are insects and crustaceans, with the latter represented to date only by crayfish.

In 2016, authors observed a red-shouldered hawk attack and dismember another crustacean, the ghost crab (*Ocypode quadrata*), on a coastal beach in South Carolina, USA.

This is the first report of a red-shouldered [hawk](#) attacking and presumably consuming any species of crab and the first report of probable ghost crab predation by a raptor in North America.

More information: "'Attack and probable predation on ghost crab (*Ocypode quadrata*) by red-shouldered hawk (*Buteo lineatus*)," *Conservation Science and Practice* (2019). [DOI: 10.1676/18-151](https://doi.org/10.1676/18-151)

Provided by Wildlife Conservation Society

Citation: This hawk likes crab for dinner (2019, May 2) retrieved 9 April 2024 from <https://phys.org/news/2019-05-hawk-crab-dinner.html>

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