

Spot-Bellied Eagle-Owl

February 16, 2026 • vajiramandravi.com



Spot-Bellied Eagle-Owl Latest News

A rare and mysterious night bird, the Spot-bellied Eagle-Owl, known as the 'Ghost of the Forest', was recently caught on camera in Uttarakhand's Corbett Reserve.

About Spot-Bellied Eagle-Owl

- The spot-bellied eagle-owl, also known as the **forest eagle-owl**, is a **large bird of prey** with a formidable appearance.
- Scientific Name: *Ketupa nipalensis*

Spot-Bellied Eagle-Owl Habitat and Distribution

- It is commonly found in **India, Sri Lanka, Nepal, Bhutan, Bangladesh**, and parts of **Southeast Asia**.
- It can be found in a variety of habitats, including **tropical and subtropical forests, woodlands, and savannas**.

Spot-Bellied Eagle-Owl Features

- It is a **very large owl**. It can be from 50 to 65 cm (20 to 26 in) long. This makes it **one of the longest owls** in the world.
- It also has **very long wings**. Its wingspan can reach up to 1.7 meters.
- The most distinguishing feature is its **striking colouration**. The **upper parts** of its body are a **rich chocolate brown**, speckled with **white spots**.
- The **feathers on its wings and tail** are barred with **alternating shades of brown and white**, creating a stunning pattern that helps it blend in with its surroundings.
- The underside of the owl is where it gets its name; its **belly and breast are a light cream colour**, covered in **bold black spots**.
- It is primarily **nocturnal**.
- It is a **solitary bird** that is **territorial** and maintains a home range.
- It is famous for its **strange, human-like calls**.

Spot-Bellied Eagle-Owl Conservation Status

It is classified as '**Least Concern**' under the IUCN Red List.

Source: **ETVB**

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