Differentiating the Tail Feathers of Mourning, White-winged, and Inca Doves

Three widespread species of North American doves have white-tipped tail feathers. These species can be distinguished by examining the shape, width, and pattern of the tail feathers.

**White-winged**: broad, rounded tail feathers; all but central pair have large white tips. Tail fan shaped.

**Inca**: smallest; tail feathers narrow and pointed, with long white tips. Tail shape long and rectangular.

**Mourning**: tapered tail, with central central feathers longest. Tail feathers broader than Inca’s, with oval white tip dorsally.