

Singapore Raptor Report January 2023



Oriental Honey Buzzard, torquatus subspecies, at Singapore Botanic Gardens, 5 Jan 2023, by Siew Mun

Summary for migrant species:

Eight migrant raptor species were recorded in January 2023. A **Common Kestrel** *Falco tinnunculus* was photographed at Gan Eng Seng Primary School on the 20th. For the **Jerdon's Bazas** *Aviceda jerdoni* wintering at Coney Island, three were recorded in January, while two at Lorong Halus and one at Pasir Ris Farmway 1 were probably birds from Coney Island venturing out to forage.

Five **Chinese Sparrowhawks** *Accipiter soloensis* were recorded, same as in the previous month, with the one at Ang Mo Kio Town Garden West, and the two at Coney Island seemingly happy with their chosen wintering area.

There were three **Ospreys** *Pandion haliaetus* along the northern areas; eight **Peregrine Falcons** *Falco peregrinus*, many seen perched on buildings; 13 **Japanese Sparrowhawks** *Accipiter gularis*; 32 **Black Bazas** *Aviceda leuphotes*; and 53 **Oriental Honey Buzzards** *Pernis ptilorhyncus*.



*White-bellied Sea Eagle bringing nesting materials for its nest at Labrador,
4 Jan 2023, by Art Toh*

Highlights for sedentary species:

Breeding-related activities were noted for four species. A **Brahminy Kite** *Haliastur Indus* at Woodlands Waterfront (on 31st) and a **White-bellied Sea Eagle** *Haliaeetus leucogaster* at Labrador (on 4th) were photographed in flight with nesting materials. On the 30th, a pair of **Grey-headed Fish Eagle** *Haliaeetus ichthyaetus* at Singapore Quarry was seen mating. At Pasir Ris Park, the **Crested Goshawk** *Accipiter trivirgatus* pair mated on the 9th, despite still caring for a fledgling.

There was only one record of the sedentary *torquatus* subspecies of the **Oriental Honey Buzzard** *Pernis ptilorhyncus*, which was photographed at the Botanic Gardens on the 5th. There were four records of the **Crested Serpent Eagle** *Spilornis cheela*: singles at Sungei Buloh Wetland Reserve on the 6th, at the Botanic Gardens and Telok Blangah Hill Park on the 12th, and at Pulau Ubin on the 21st. The other resident raptors recorded were the **Black-winged Kite** *Elanus caeruleus* and **Changeable Hawk-Eagle** *Nisaetus cirrhatus*.

For nocturnal resident raptors, the **Spotted Wood Owl** *Strix seloputo* pair at Pasir Ris Park produced a chick that fledged successfully, and the family stayed in the vicinity of the nest tree throughout the month. At Hampstead Wetlands, the pair of **Buffy Fish Owl** *Ketupa ketupu* also produced a chick that fledged successfully.

Table 1

S/N	Species	No.	S/N	Species	No.
1	Osprey	3		<i>Residents / Sedentary Species</i>	
2	Jerdon's Baza	3	9	Black-winged Kite	4
3	Black Baza	32	10	Brahminy Kite	C*
4	Oriental Honey Buzzard	54	11	White-bellied Sea Eagle	C*
5	Chinese Sparrowhawk	5	12	Grey-headed Fish Eagle	14
6	Japanese Sparrowhawk	12	13	Crested Serpent Eagle	4
7	Common Kestrel	1	14	Crested Goshawk	12
8	Peregrine Falcon	8	15	Changeable Hawk-Eagle	16
				<i>Nocturnal raptor</i>	
			16	Spotted Wood Owl	3
			17	Buffy Fish Owl	3
Total for Migrants		118	Grand Total		174

* C = Common

1. Osprey *Pandion haliaetus* (3)

Date	No.	Location and Details	Reported By
6	1	Rower's Bay Park	SB Lim
8	1	Pulau Ubin	Michael Fuhrer
8	1	LCK L3	Vincent Yip

2. Jerdon's Baza *Aviceda jerdoni* (3)

Date	No.	Location and Details	Reported By
8	2	Halus	Tan Kok Hui
13	1	Pasir Ris Farmway 1	Andy Lee
15	3	Coney Island	Yuh Woei Chong

3. Black Baza *Aviceda leuphotes* (32)

Date	No.	Location and Details	Reported By
1	3	TEG	Ng Mac
2	15	Coney Island	Leejiah Dorward
5	3	CBP	Ramesh T.
6	1	Coney Island	Lee Hew-Son
20	1	SBG	Lim Kim Seng
29	8	Ulu Pandan PCN	Yeak Hwee Lee
30	2	Changi East Drive	Alexander Muir

4. Oriental Honey Buzzard *Pernis ptilorhyncus* (53+1) *orientalis* unless indicated otherwise

PM= pale morph

DM = dark morph

Date	No.	Location and Details	Reported By
1	2	Luxus Hills Park, 1 female DM, 1 juvenile PM	Evelyn Lee
1	3	TEG, 1 male PM, 1 juvenile PM	Ng Mac
2	1	GBTB East, juvenile PM	Siew Mun
2	5	Loewen Road	Chen Boon Chong
3	1	MED, juvenile PM	Peter Wong
5	1	SBG, male <i>torquatus</i>	Siew Mun
5	1	Halus, juvenile PM	SB Lim
5	4	PRP	Alvin Seng
7	2	Pasir Ris Farmway 1	Vincent Yip
7	5	Coney Island	Ng Mac
7	1	Tampines	Ng Mac
8	3	Halus	Tan Kok Hui
8	1	JLG, juvenile	Angie Cheong
8	3	Sentosa	John Marriott
8	1	Toa Payoh Lorong 8	Veronica Foo
11	1	Jalan Haji Salam, female PM	Tan Eng Boo
11	1	JLG, juvenile DM	Mia Walsh
12	2	HWL	Alan OwYong
14	1	CCNR	Norhafiani A Majid

14	3	MED	Ramesh T.
15	2	Sengkang Riverside Park, 1 juvenile, 1 female	Yuh Woei Chong
16	1	NTHL	Benjamin Lee
16	1	SBG	Vincent Yip
17	1	JLG	Lim Kim Seng
19	1	Khatib Camp	Jeff Tan
19	1	Woodlands Avenue 1	Michelle Hariff
19	1	BAMK Park	Karyne Wee
20	2	Park Royal Beach Road	Tomas Haraldsson
21	1	PRTP, DM male	Alvin Seng
21	2	PRP	Aaron Ching
27	2	Clementi Woods Park, both juvenile PM	Zheng Yifei
28	1	JLG	BY Tan
28	3	KRP	Yuh Woei Chong
28	2	Punggol Park	Vish M.
31	1	CBP	Lim Kim Keang

5. Chinese Sparrowhawk *Accipiter soloensis* (5)

Date	No.	Location and Details	Reported By
7	2	Coney Island	Amelia Choon
8	1	Halus	Tan Kok Hui
9	1	Coney Island, male	Lee Hew-Son
16	1	KRP	Jared Tan
23	1	AMKTGW	Norhafiani A Majid
27	1	Pasir Ris Farmway 1	Anusha Kundargi

6. Japanese Sparrowhawk *Accipiter gularis* (12)

Date	No.	Location and Details	Reported By
1	1	Lorong Lada Hitam	Fadzrun A.
1	1	MED	Oliver Tan
2	1	Sentosa, female missing P7 &8 on right wing and P8 on left wing	John Marriott
7	1	TBHP	Wee Ki Yi
9	1	LCK L3	Jared Tan
9	1	Raffles Hotel	Mia Walsh
11	1	288E Jurong East Street 21	Russell Boyman
13	1	Pasir Ris Farmway 1	Andy Lee
20	1	KRP	Joshua Chong
23	1	Holland Green Linear Park	Geoff Lim
25	2	Hume Avenue, adult female & juvenile	Stella Tay

7. Common Kestrel *Falco tinnunculus* (1)

Date	No.	Location and Details	Reported By
20	1	Gan Eng Seng Primary School, Redhill Close	Adrian Silas Tay

8. Peregrine Falcon *Falco peregrinus* (8) migrants unless otherwise stated

Date	No.	Location and Details	Reported By
2	1	807C Choa Chu Kang Ave 1, adult	Collin Chua
2	1	Skyville @ Dawson	Chen Boon Chong
8	1	Sentosa, juvenile harassing an OHB	John Marriott
20	1	SBG	Lim Kim Seng
21	1	339B Sembawang Close, adult	Mark Yew
Jan	1	Woodlands Waterfront, juvenile	Benny Ng
25	1	GBTB, adult	Hung Kuan Chieh
28	1	West Coast Drive	Tay Kian Guan

Resident raptors**9. Black-winged Kite *Elanus caeruleus* (4)**

Date	No.	Location and Details	Reported By
7	2	Pasir Ris Farmway 1	Jamie Allott
13	1	MED	Peter Kavouras
21	1	KM	Wai Heng Lua

10. Brahminy Kite *Haliastur indus*

Date	No.	Location and Details	Reported By
		-- Common raptor --	
31	1	Woodlands Waterfront Park, adult bringing branches to build nest	Ho Kai Poh

11. White-bellied Sea Eagle *Haliaeetus leucogaster*

Date	No.	Location and Details	Reported By
		-- Common raptor --	
4	1	Labrador, adult flying with nesting materials	Art Toh

12. Grey-headed Fish Eagle *Haliaeetus ichthyaetus* (14)

Date	No.	Location and Details	Reported By
3	1	SBG, juvenile	Mia Walsh
7	2	Pulau Ubin	Mike Hooper
12	1	HWL	Alan OwYong
14	1	MED	James Galea
14	1	Ulu Pandan PCN	Peter Kavouras
17	1	Little Guilin	Ulf Remahl
17	2	LCK L3	Ethan Teo
17	1	JLG	Lim Kim Seng
23	1	KRP	Russell Boyman
29	1	Potong Pasir	Chris Brummitt
30	2	Singapore Quarry, mating observed	Yeak Hwee Lee

13. Crested Serpent Eagle *Spilornis cheela* (4)

Date	No.	Location and Details	Reported By
6	1	SBWR	Bram Piot
12	1	SBG, adult	Shuna Maekawa
12	1	TBHP	David McMullin
21	1	Pulau Ubin, adult	John Marriott

14. Crested Goshawk *Accipiter trivirgatus* (12)

Date	No.	Location and Details	Reported By
6	1	Chuan Lane	Marcel Finlay
7	2	WCP, a pair of adults	Rene Sun
8	2	PRP, male holding junglefowl chick	Alvin Seng
8	1	Sentosa	John Marriott
9	2	PRP, mating observed	Alvin Seng
10	1	Bukit Panjang, juvenile	Jon Pang
10	2	Pasir Panjang, a pair of adults	Aman Mottaqui-Tabar
11	1	PRP, male	SB Lim
12	1	PRP, female	Angie Cheong
12	3	PRP, a pair, and a fledgling in and out of nest	Tan Gim Cheong
15	1	Coney Island	Yuh Woei Chong
16	2	PRP, pair with junglefowl prey	SB Lim
17	3	PRP, a pair and their fledgling	Alvin Seng
18	2	KRP	Tay Kian Guan
19	1	PRP, male	Andrew Hunt
Jan	2	PRP, juvenile eating a bat brought by its parent	Chris Ang
21	1	KRP	Angie Cheong
27	1	Pearl's Hill City Park	S Rama Chandran

15. Changeable Hawk-Eagle *Nisaetus cirrhatus* (16)

PM= pale morph, DM = dark morph

Date	No.	Location and Details	Reported By
2	1	Coney Island	Evelyn Lee
2	2	Loewen Road	Vincent Ng
2	1	Rifle range Link	Fadzrun A.
3	1	WNP	Yip Jen Wei
4	1	Clementi Forest	Rachel Grandey
5	1	Jalan Ulu Sembawang	Yip Jen Wei
5	2	SBG	Bram Piot
6	1	51 Fairways Drive	Chien N Lee
7	1	DFNP, PM adult	Darren Leow
7	2	SBWR	Roger Niessen
7	1	Berlayer Creek	Wee Ki Yi
14	1	DFNP, PM	Michelle Hariff
14	1	Halus	Mike Hooper
15	1	TNP	Chen Boon Chong
16	1	Ulu Pandan PCN	Julie Edgley
17	1	JLG	Lim Kim Seng

18	1	KRP	Tay Kian Guan
21	1	Pulau Ubin	John Marriott
21	2	DFNP	Kaeden Sim
21	2	MED	Ng Yan Ze
22	2	MacRitchie Reservoir	Roger Niessen
26	1	Sentosa	Frank Chen
27	1	TEG	Chien N Lee
27	1	Mount Faber	Ruchir Srivastava
31	1	Barker Road	Darius Lee
31	1	Singapore Quarry, DM	Daryl Yeo

16. Spotted Wood Owl *Strix seloputo* (3)

Date	No.	Location and Details	Reported By
Jan	2	PRP, 1 chick, 1 adult	Benny Ng
12	3	PRP, 2 adults and 1 fledgling	Tan Gim Cheong

17. Buffy Fish Owl *Ketupa ketupa* (3)

Date	No.	Location and Details	Reported By
12	3	HWL, 2 adults and 1 fledgling	Tan Gim Cheong

Abbreviations

AMKTGW – Ang Mo Kio Town Garden West
 BAMK– Bishan-Ang Mo Kio Park
 CBP – Changi Business Park
 DFNP – Dairy Farm Nature Park
 JLG – Jurong Lake Gardens
 HWL – Hampstead Wetlands
 KM – Kranji Marsh
 MED – Marina East Drive
 NTHL – Neo Tiew Harvest Lane
 PRP – Pasir Ris Park
 SBG – Singapore Botanic Gardens
 SBWR – Sungei Buloh Wetland Reserve
 TBHP – Telok Blangah Hill Park
 TEG – Tampines Eo Green
 WCP – West Coast Park

Compiled by Tan Gim Cheong

Note: The numbers in brackets beside the bird names indicates the month's total number. Reports of the same raptors from the same area have been discounted to avoid duplication.

Many thanks to everyone who had reported their sightings in one way or another, and especially to Siew Mun and Art Toh for the use of their photos.