

Singapore Raptor Report March 2022



Northern Boobook, at Gardens by the Bay, 27 Mar 2022, by Lam SG

Summary for migrant species:

In March 2022, 146 raptors of eleven migrant species were recorded. A shy **Northern Boobook** *Ninox japonica* was photographed at Gardens by the Bay on the 27th, while an **Oriental Scops Owl** *Otus sunia* was photographed at Thomson Nature Park on the 4th and 5th.

Wintering migrant raptors that were still around included the juvenile **Grey-faced Buzzard** *Butastur indicus* at Telok Blangah Hill Park on the 11th; two **Rufous-bellied Eagles** *Lophotriorchis kienerii* – a sub-adult and a juvenile at the Dairy Farm Nature Park / Singapore Quarry area; the female **Chinese Sparrowhawk** *Accipiter soloensis* at Ang Mo Kio on the 5th (another four **Chinese Sparrowhawks** were recorded, probably passing through); three **Jerdon's Baza** *Aviceda jerdoni* were still at Coney Island on the 12th (while another four – two at Sentosa on the 9th, and 2 at Ubin on the 30th were recorded).

There were also four **Western Ospreys** *Pandion haliaetus*, seven **Peregrine Falcons** *Falco peregrinus*, 17 **Japanese Sparrowhawks** *Accipiter gularis*, 33 **Black Baza** *Aviceda leuphotes*, and 68 **Oriental Honey Buzzards** *Pernis ptilorhynchus*.



Grey-headed Fish Eagle, Ulu Pandan, 2 Mar 2022, by Julian Wong.

Highlights for sedentary species:

Breeding-related activities were observed for four resident raptor species. The two chicks of the **Black-winged Kite** *Elanus caeruleus* nest at Turut Track had fledged and were seen grabbing prey from their parent's talons in mid-air on the 26th. The chick of the **Brahminy Kite** *Haliastur Indus* nest at East Coast Park had also fledged by the 11th. A chick of the **Changeable Hawk-Eagle** *Nisaetus cirrhatus* fledged at the Dairy Farm area on the 9th. And there were two nests of the **White-bellied Sea Eagle** *Haliaeetus leucogaster* – one at Lorong Halus had 1 chick, while the one at Sungei Buloh Wetland Reserve had 2 chicks.

March was a good month for the **Crested Serpent Eagle** *Spilornis cheela*, with records from Sungei Buloh Wetland Reserve on the 5th (adult), Kent Ridge Park on the 15th (adult), Pasir Ris Park on the 16th, Telok Blangah on the 17th, Goldhill Avenue on the 20th, Changi Business Park on the 24th (immature), Botanic Gardens on the 25th (adult), and Choa Chu Kang park on the 28th. The other diurnal resident raptors recorded were the **Crested Goshawk** *Accipiter trivirgatus*, and **Grey-headed Fish Eagle** *Haliaeetus ichthyaetus*, both reported from various localities.

At Hampstead Wetlands on the 12th, an adult **Buffy Fish Owl** *Ketupa ketupu* was on the ground ‘sunning’ its feathers, and it was apparently a daily routine. In the leafy compounds at the zoo, two **Spotted Wood Owl** *Strix seloputo* were spotted in late March.



Buffy Fish Owl ‘sunning’ its feathers on the ground, Hampstead Wetlands, 31 Mar 2022, by Wong Sangmen.

Table 1

S/N	Species	No.	S/N	Species	No.
1	Western Osprey	4		<i>Residents / Sedentary Species</i>	
2	Jerdon's Baza	7	12	Black-winged Kite	5
3	Black Baza	33	13	Brahminy Kite	C*
4	Oriental Honey Buzzard	68	14	White-bellied Sea Eagle	C*
5	Chinese Sparrowhawk	5	15	Grey-headed Fish Eagle	10
6	Japanese Sparrowhawk	17	16	Crested Serpent Eagle	7
7	Grey-faced Buzzard	1	17	Crested Goshawk	18
8	Rufous-bellied Eagle	2	18	Changeable Hawk-Eagle	5
9	Peregrine Falcon	7			
10	Oriental Scops Owl	1		<i>Nocturnal Raptors</i>	
11	Northern Boobook	1	19	Buffy Fish Owl	2
			20	Spotted Wood Owl	6
Total for Migrants		146	Grand Total		199

* C = Common

1. Western Osprey *Pandion haliaetus* (4)

Date	No.	Location and Details	Reported By
5	1	SBWR	Yuh Woei Chong
8	1	Rower's Bay Park	Herman Phua
13	1	Rower's Bay Park	Benny Ng
13	1	KRP	Kaeden Sim
13	1	Kranji Sanctuary Golf Course	Jeff Tan
16	2	Rower's Bay Park	Steven Cheong

2. Jerdon's Baza *Aviceda jerdoni* (7)

Date	No.	Location and Details	Reported By
9	2	Sentosa	Vincent Yip
12	3	Coney Island	Cheryl Goh
30	2	Pulau Ubin	Julie Edgley

3. Black Baza *Aviceda leuphotes* (33)

Date	No.	Location and Details	Reported By
3	2	Alexandra Woodland	Shereen Chang
4	1	Ulu Pandan	Tay Kian Guan
5	1	TNP	Zhang Licong
6	1	AMKTGW	Low Zhi Hao
6	1	Lorong Halus	Kaeden Sim
10	2	NTU	Yip Jen Wei
13	3	SBWR	Lim Kim Chuah
16	16	TBHP	Chen RX
16	1	PRP	Reuter Chua
16	2	PRP	Lee Zhi Heng
19	1	KM	Wai Heng Lua
20	1	TEG	Russell Boyman
27	3	CBP	Mac Ng

4. Oriental Honey Buzzard *Pernis ptilorhyncus* (68) *orientalis* unless indicated otherwise
PM = pale morph, DM= dark morph

Date	No.	Location and Details	Reported By
1	1	TEG	Lim Kim Keang
1	1	Pasir Ris Town Park, male PM	Alvin Seng
3	1	AMKTGW, female PM	Sc Tan
4	2	Bah Soon Pah Road	Han YK
6	2	Lorong Halus	Chen Boon Chong
8	1	DFNP	Lynn Tan
8	1	Changi Beach	Vincent Yip
9	2	Sentosa	Vincent Yip
9	2	Rail Corridor near Mandai Road	Tan Gim Cheong
9	3	PRP, PM males	Alvin Seng
10	1	SBG vicinity, female PM	Cheng Li Ai
10	1	Pelton Canal	Vincent Yip

11	1	BAMK, immature PM	Kenneth Cheong
12	3	JLG	Martti Siponen
13	2	KRP	Kaeden Sim
13	1	Yishun Pond, male DM	Amelia Choon
13	3	SBG	Aakash Lamba
13	2	HW	Benjamin Lee
15	2	PRP	Kwok Tuck Loong
15	1	CBP	Ramesh T.
16	2	TBHP, 1 PM, 1 DM	Chen RX
18	1	Telok Blangah Skywalk, male PM	Art Toh
20	1	PRTP, male PM	Alvin Seng
21	1	BAMK, juvenile PM	Vincent Chin
21	1	NTU	Yip Jen Wei
22	3	Jelutong Tower	Jeff Tan
22	1	Bedok Close	Ramesh T.
23	2	SBWR	Martti Siponen
27	1	TEG, female PM	Alvin Seng
27	21	Thermalling towards Bukit Timah Hill	Lim Lee Lee
27	2	SBTB	Sylvester Goh
28	1	Dover Rd, immature PM	Tay Kian Guan
30	1	Labrador Park, juvenile female PM	Tan Gim Cheong

5. Chinese Sparrowhawk *Accipiter soloensis* (5)

Date	No.	Location and Details	Reported By
5	1	AMKTGW, adult female	Chen Boon Chong
16	1	TBHP, adult	Chen RX
17	1	Holland Plain	Lynn Tan
26	2	Old Upper Thomson Road	Tan Gim Cheong

6. Japanese Sparrowhawk *Accipiter gularis* (17)

Date	No.	Location and Details	Reported By
2	1	Singapore Quarry, adult female	Vincent Yip
4	2	Choa Chu Kang Park	Kaeden Sim
4	1	NTU	Yip Jen Wei
5	1	AMKTGW, adult female	Chen Boon Chong
6	1	SBG	Adrian Silas Tay
12	1	Pulau Ubin	Vincent Yip
16	1	TBHP, adult female	Chen RX
17	2	JLG, 1 adult female	Brenda Chua
18	1	Yishun	Benjamin Lee
20	1	Jelutong Tower	Joshua Chong
20	1	TBHP	Vincent Yip
23	1	SBWR	Martti Siponen
26	1	JLG	Martti Siponen
26	1	KRP	Alan OwYong
30	1	Lorong Halus, adult female	Ramesh T.

7. Grey-faced Buzzard *Butastur indicus* (1)

Date	No.	Location and Details	Reported By
11	1	TBHP	Thio HB

8. Rufous-bellied Eagle *Lophotriorchis kienerii* (2)

Date	No.	Location and Details	Reported By
2	1	DFNP, juvenile	Siew Mun
9	2	DFNP, 1 sub-adult at 9:05am, 1 juvenile	Siew Mun
12	1	Singapore Quarry, sub-adult	Tan Kok Hui

9. Peregrine Falcon *Falco peregrinus* (7) migrants unless otherwise stated

Date	No.	Location and Details	Reported By
1	1	NTU	Yip Jen Wei
5	1	Thomson Nature Park	Vincent Ng
5	1	KM	Benjamin Lee
10	1	Jurong West, adult <i>japonensis</i>	Philip Toh
19	1	Coney Island, adult <i>japonensis</i>	Han YK
21	1	Tuas South	Martti Siponen
23	1	SBWR	Martti Siponen

10. Oriental Scops Owl *Otus sunia* (1)

Date	No.	Location and Details	Reported By
4	1	Thomson Nature Park	Andros Tan
5	1	Thomson Nature Park	Kenneth Cheong

11. Northern Boobook *Ninox japonica* (1)

Date	No.	Location and Details	Reported By
27	1	SBTB	Lam SG

Resident raptors**12. Black-winged Kite *Elanus caeruleus* (5)**

Date	No.	Location and Details	Reported By
4	1	MED, juvenile	Norhafiani A. Majid
15	3	NTHL, 1 adult, 2 juvenile	Kaeden Sim
26	2	Turut Track, 1 adult, 1 juvenile attempting mid-air food transfer	Lai Yeu Huan
29	2	Turut Track, successful mid-air food transfer from adult to juvenile	Alex Tay
31	1	SBTB	Siew Mun

13. Brahminy Kite *Haliastur indus*

Date	No.	Location and Details	Reported By
		-- Common raptor --	
8	1	ECP, chick preparing for maiden flight	SB Lim
11	3	ECP, Chick fledged, adults	SB Lim
17	1	ECP, Chick fledged	SB Lim

14. White-bellied Sea Eagle *Haliaeetus leucogaster*

Date	No.	Location and Details	Reported By
		-- Common raptor --	
20	2	Lorong Halus, 1 chick on nest, 1 adult nearby	Darren Leow
31	3	SBWR, adult with 2 chicks on nest	Lanceflare

15. Grey-headed Fish Eagle *Haliaeetus ichthyaetus* (10)

Date	No.	Location and Details	Reported By
2	1	Rower's Bay Park	Benny Ng
6	1	Ulu Pandan, adult	Julian Wong
6	1	BAMK	Matt Carlson
11	2	Ulu Pandan	Tay Kian Guan
12	1	DFNP, adult	Yuh Woei Chong
20	1	Lorong Halus	Mike Hooper
26	1	SBG	Chan Mei Yee
26	1	BBNP	Anselm Nair
26	1	SBWR, adult	Yuh Woei Chong
26	1	JLG	Martti Siponen
27	1	Holland Plain	Lynn Tan

16. Crested Serpent Eagle *Spilornis cheela* (7)

Date	No.	Location and Details	Reported By
5	1	SBWR, adult	Chien N Lee
15	1	KRP, adult	Evelyn Lee
16	1	PRP	Yip Jen Wei
17	1	Telok Blangah Forest Walk	Ros Qian
20	1	Goldhill Avenue	Sylvester Goh
24	1	CBP, immature	Tan Gim Cheong
25	1	SBG, adult	Benjamin Lee
28	1	Choa Chu Kang Park	Kaeden Sim

17. Crested Goshawk *Accipiter trivirgatus* (18)

Date	No.	Location and Details	Reported By
2	1	AMKTGW, adult	Kenneth Cheong
3	1	SBG	Carine Oh
10	1	127D Kim Tian Road	Sylvester Goh
13	1	PRP, juvenile	SB Lim
13	1	Goldhill Avenue, juvenile	Matthew Teng
17	4	PRP	Elisha Lee
17	1	NTU	Frank Chen
23	1	Dover Road	Tay Kian Guan
25	3	Bukit Panjang Park	Tim S.
25	1	Kingsmead Road	Susan de Silva
26	1	Sentosa, juvenile	John Marriott
27	2	TBHP	Lucas Oh
28	1	Blk 84A, Toa Payoh Lorong 2, 4:29pm	Drew Su

18. Changeable Hawk-Eagle *Nisaetus cirrhatus* (5)

Date	No.	Location and Details	Reported By
8	1	PRP, PM	Alvin Seng
9	1	Dairy Farm, chick fledged	Chelvan P Tamil
27	1	Sembawang, PM	Keith Hutton
28	1	Labrador, PM	Art Toh
30	1	PRP, dm	Herman Phua

19. Buffy Fish Owl *Ketupa ketupu* (2)

Date	No.	Location and Details	Reported By
2	1	HWL, fledgling in and out of nest	Vincent Ng
12	1	HWL, adult on ground with feathers spread out – ‘sunning’	Kwoh Bin Keong

20. Spotted Wood Owl *Strix seloputo* (6)

Date	No.	Location and Details	Reported By
Late March	2	Mandai (Zoo compounds)	Andy Chew
20	4	PRP	Evelyn Lee

Abbreviations

BBNP – Bukit Batok Nature Park
 BTNR – Bukit Timah Nature Reserve
 CBD – Central Business District
 CBP – Changi Business Park
 DFNP – Dairy Farm Nature Park
 ECP – East Coast Park
 GBTB – Gardens by the Bay
 JLG – Jurong Lake Gardens
 HWL – Hampstead Wetlands
 KM – Kranji Marsh
 KRP – Kent Ridge Park
 LCK L3 – Lim Chu Kang Lane 3

MED – Marina East Drive
 NTHL – Neo Tiew Harvest Lane
 NTU – Nanyang Technological University
 PRP – Pasir Ris Park
 SBG – Singapore Botanic Gardens
 SBTB – Satay by the Bay
 SBWR – Sungei Buloh Wetland Reserve
 TBHP – Telok Blangah Hill Park
 TEG – Tampines Eco 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 Lam SG, Julian Wong, and Wong Sangmen for the use of their photos.