

Singapore Raptor Report March 2020



Grey-faced Buzzard, at Kranji Marshes, on 8 March 2019, by Martti Siponen

Summary for migrant species:

In March 2020, 131 migrant raptors of ten species were recorded. There were 52 **Oriental Honey Buzzards**, including 7 at Pasir Ris on the 7th. The 27 **Japanese Sparrowhawks** included some, apparently on migration, over the Kent Ridge Park - seven on the 27th and nine on the 30th. There were also 19 **Black Bazas**, including 11 at Kent Ridge Park on the 27th.

The single immature **Rufous-bellied Hawk-Eagle** wintering here was recorded at Dairy Farm Nature Park on the 22nd, and at Ulu Pandan Park Connector on the 24th. At Bedok, Ramesh T. managed to spot the **Common Buzzard** after a few visits, following the uncommon raptor's appearance late last month.



Jerdon's Baza, at Changi Business Park, on 16 March 2020, by Herman Phua

Four **Jerdon's Bazas** were recorded, one each at Halus-Coney Island area, Tampines Eco Green, Changi Business Park and Pulau Ubin. Of the five **Grey-faced Buzzards** reported, one at Sentosa was found injured and taken in for care, one was flying over Pasir Ris on the 4th, two at Kranji Marshes on the 8th, and another at Chek Jawa on the 13th.

Seven **Chinese Sparrowhawks** were recorded, including five on migration over Kent Ridge Park (3 on the 27th, and 2 on the 30th). Nine **Peregrine Falcons** and six **Western Ospreys** rounded up the migrant raptors for March 2020. At Kent Ridge Park on the 27th, eight *Accipiters*, not identified to species level, were likely on northward migration.



*Black-winged Kite, with its striking red eyes well 'captured',
at Kranji Marshes, on 25 Mar 2020, by James Gan*

Highlights for sedentary species:

Breeding-related activities were reported for four resident raptor species. A fledgling dark morph **Changeable Hawk-Eagle** was photographed at the Botanic Gardens on the 2nd. An adult **White-bellied Sea Eagle** was sitting on its nest at Coney Island on the 21st. A fledgling **Grey-headed Fish Eagle** was recorded on its nest at Springleaf on the 4th, with an adult closeby; and there was activity at the nest on the 20th.

For the **Crested Goshawks**, four nests were reported: one at Pasir Ris where an adult was on the nest guarding against a party of Oriental Pied Hornbills, on the 3rd; one at Thomson where an adult brought a Javan Myna for the fledgling, on the 7th; one at Pasir Panjang with two chicks, on the 7th; and on the 29th, another at Sentosa with a fledgling, and it was noted that 'a few days prior', the adults were 'dive-bombing' a party of Oriental Pied Hornbills to keep them away from the nest.

The other sedentary raptors recorded included three **Crested Serpent Eagles**: one at Goldhill Avenue area throughout the month, one adult at Pulau Ubin on the 18th, and one at King Albert Park on the 22nd. There were also six **Black-winged Kites** and the common **Brahminy Kites**.

Table 1

S/N	Species	No.	S/N	Species	No.
1	Western Osprey	6		<i>Residents / Sedentary Species</i>	
2	Jerdon's Baza	4	11	Black-winged Kite	6
3	Black Baza	19	12	Brahminy Kite	*C
4	Oriental Honey Buzzard	52	13	White-bellied Sea Eagle	*C
5	Chinese Sparrowhawk	7	14	Grey-headed Fish Eagle	9
6	Japanese Sparrowhawk	27	15	Crested Serpent Eagle	3
7	Common Buzzard	1	16	Crested Goshawk	14
8	Grey-faced Buzzard	5	17	Changeable Hawk-Eagle	8
9	Rufous-bellied Hawk-Eagle	1			
10	Peregrine Falcon	9		<i>Unidentified</i>	
			18	Unidentified <i>Accipiters</i>	8
	Total for Migrants	131		Grand Total	179

*C=Common

1. Western Osprey *Pandion haliaetus* (6)

Date	No.	Location and Details	Reported By
8	2	Kranji Marshes	Martti Siponen
15	1	Kranji Marshes	Carol Lim
18	2	Ketam Quarry, Pulau Ubin	Yip Jen Wei
25	2	Yishun Dam	Oliver Tan

2. Jerdon's Baza *Aviceda jerdoni* (4)

Date	No.	Location and Details	Reported By
6	1	Lorong Halus	Karis Daniel
15	1	Tampines Eco Green	Alvin Seng
16	1	Changi Business Park	Herman Phua
21	1	Coney Island	Tan Kok Hui
21	1	Pulau Ubin	Timothy Chua Jia Yao

3. Black Baza *Aviceda leuphotes* (19)

Date	No.	Location and Details	Reported By
3	1	Coney Island	Josh Spiler
7	1	One-North	Alan OwYong
8	1	Pasir Ris Park	Norman Wu
9	1	Pasir Ris	Alvin Seng
9	1	Goldhill Avenue, 1pm – 2pm	Angie Cheong
21	1	Pasir Ris Park, morning	Siew Mun
22	2	Sungei Buloh Wetland Reserve	Han YK
24	1	Bukit Timah Nature Reserve	Zacc HD
27	11	Kent Ridge Park, 11:15am	Raghav N.
27	1	Lim Chu Kang Lane 3	Raghav N.

4. Oriental Honey Buzzard *Pernis ptilorhyncus* (52) *orientalis* unless indicated otherwise

Date	No.	Location and Details	Reported By
1	1	Bidadari	Zacc HD
1	2	Botanic Gardens	Han YK
2	2	Bedok North Street 1	Ramesh T.
3	1	Coney Island, juvenile pale morph	Benny Ng
6	1	Goldhill Avenue	Krishna G.
7	7	Pasir Ris	Tay Kian Guan
7	1	Jurong Lake Gardens, dark morph	Peng Ah Huay
8	2	Kranji Marshes	Martti Siponen
8	3	Sengkang Sports Centre, 12:35pm	Kerry Pereira
9	1	Pasir Ris, juvenile pale morph	Alvin Seng
9	1	Central Catchment Nature Reserve	Tay Kian Guan
10	1	Geyland Lorong 28	Kerry Pereira
12	1	Bishan Park, juvenile pale morph	Art Toh
14	2	West Coast Drive, one calling loudly	Tay Kian Guan
14	1	Changi Business Park	Ramesh T.
15	1	Singapore, adult female pale morph	Betty Shaw

15	1	Bishan Park, adult male pale morph	Zhang Licong
15	3	Bishan Park	Peter Bijlmakers
15	1	Sentosa	Glenda Fitzpatrick
15	1	Lorong Halus	Mike Hooper
15	1	Punggol Reservoir, adult male	Geri Lim
15	3	Regent Singapore	William Mahoney
16	3	Henderson Waves, thermalling together, 10:21am	Kerry Pereira
18	1	Marina East	Oliver Tan
20	5	Ulu Pandan Park Connector	RNVK Deepak
24	3	Ghim Moh Road	Josh Spiler
24	2	Bukit Timah Nature Reserve, immatures	Zacc HD
25	1	Bishan Park, juvenile pale morph	Alex Fok
28	1	Kent Ridge Park, immature with tattered flight feathers	John Marriott
29	1	Satay by the Bay	Evelyn Lee
30	2	Kent Ridge Park	Raghav N.

5. Chinese Sparrowhawk *Accipiter soloensis* (7)

Date	No.	Location and Details	Reported By
23	2	Dairy Farm Nature Park	Zacc HD
27	3	Kent Ridge Park, 11:25am	Raghav N.
30	2	Kent Ridge Park, 1 at 10:06am, 1 at 11:02am	Raghav N.

6. Japanese Sparrowhawk *Accipiter gularis* (27)

Date	No.	Location and Details	Reported By
2	1	Bukit Batok Nature Park, immature	Gim Chye
11	1	Central Catchment Nature Reserve	Martin Kennewell
12	1	Springleaf Nature Park	Thio HB
17	1	Kent Ridge Park	Alan OwYong
18	1	Marina East	Oliver Tan
21	1	Kranji Marshes	Martti Siponen
23	1	Changi Business Park, adult female	Choong YT
24	2	Sentosa Cove, adult male	Choong YT
27	7	Kent Ridge Park, singles at around 11am, and two at 11:55am	Raghav N.
29	1	Serangoon River	Tan Kok Hui
30	9	Kent Ridge Park, one at 9:38am, 10:26am, 11:01am & 11:20am, two at 10:06am, three at 11:02am	Raghav N.
30	1	Botanic Gardens, adult female	Choong YT

7. Common Buzzard *Buteo buteo* (1)

Date	No.	Location and Details	Reported By
16	1	Bedok North Avenue 3, pale morph photographed in flight	Ramesh T.

8. Grey-faced Buzzard *Butastur indicus* (5)

Date	No.	Location and Details	Reported By
4	1	Pasir Ris Park, adult in flight	Ang HouBoon
8	2	Kranji Marshes, adults photographed in flight, soaring and then headed NW, 9:25am	Martti Siponen
13	1	Chek Jawa	Millie Cher
18	1	Sentosa, found injured and taken in for care	Khoo Meilin

9. Rufous-bellied Hawk-Eagle *Lophotriorchis kienerii* (1)

Date	No.	Location and Details	Reported By
22	1	Dairy Farm Nature Park	Dillen Ng
24	1	Ulu Pandan Park Connector, immature	Ramesh T.

10. Peregrine Falcon *Falco peregrinus* (9)

Date	No.	Location and Details	Reported By
2	1	Bedok North Street 1, adult	Ramesh T.
3	1	Dairy Farm Nature Park	Richard Davis
7	1	Tai Seng vicinity, adult	EC
14	1	Bishan Park, adult	Tay Kian Guan
15	1	Gardens by the Bay	Mike Hooper
18	1	Marina East	Raghav N.
18	1	Bishan, adult	Esther Ong
24	1	Bukit Timah Nature Reserve	Zacc HD
24	1	Ulu Pandan Park Connector, adult	Choong YT
24	1	Ghim Moh Link, adult, 4:22pm	Angie Cheong
25	1	Yishun Dam	Oliver Tan
25	1	Corporation Drive, immature	Norhafiani A. Majid
27	1	Neo Tiew Road	Raghav N.

Resident raptors

11. Black-winged Kite *Elanus caeruleus* (6)

Date	No.	Location and Details	Reported By
21	2	Tanah Merah Coast Road, adults	Wang HM
25	2	Kranji Marshes	James Gan
29	2	Kranji Marshes	Con Foley
29	2	Jurong Lake Gardens	Martti Siponen

12. Brahminy Kite *Haliastur indus*

Date	No.	Location and Details	Reported By
		-- common raptor --	

13. White-bellied Sea Eagle *Haliaeetus leucogaster*

Date	No.	Location and Details	Reported By
		-- common raptor --	
21	1	Coney Island, adult on nest	Soumen Mondal

14. Grey-headed Fish Eagle *Haliaeetus ichthyaetus* (9)

Date	No.	Location and Details	Reported By
1	2	Sungei Buloh Wetland Reserve	Martti Siponen
3	1	Coney Island	Josh Spiler
4	2	Springleaf Nature Park, fledgling on nest, with adult nearby	Billy Goh
7	2	Sungei Ulu Pandan	Peng Ah Huay
10	1	Lower Seletar Reservoir	William Mahoney
18	1	Botanic Gardens, adult	Fadzrun A.
20	2	Springleaf Nature Park, active nest	Khoo Meilin
29	2	Punggol Promenade across from Coney Island, 10:40am	Kerry Pereira

15. Crested Serpent Eagle *Spilornis cheela* (3)

Date	No.	Location and Details	Reported By
4	1	Goldhill Avenue, 9:45am, adult	Lee Chuin Ming
9	1	Goldhill Avenue, 1pm – 2pm, adult	Chen Boon Chong
18	1	Ketam Quarry, Pulau Ubin, adult	Yip Jen Wei
19	1	Goldhill Avenue, adult	Chee Wei-lin
22	1	King Albert Park	Martin Kennewell
29	2	Goldhill Avenue	Michael Leong

16. Crested Goshawk *Accipiter trivirgatus* (14)

Date	No.	Location and Details	Reported By
3	1	Pasir Ris Park, adult on nest guarding against Oriental Pied Hornbills	Tan Eng Boo
3	2	Pasir Ris Park	Evelyn Lee
7	2	Thomson, adult brought a Javan Myna for the fledgling	Gerald Ng
7	2	Pasir Panjang, chicks on nest, adults not seen, 1:30pm	Shandy Lee
8	2	Southern Ridges, nesting	Kerry Pereira
9	1	West Coast Park, immature	Kok M Lee
11	2	Kent Ridge Park	Oliver Tan
12	1	Botanic Gardens	Philip Howell

13	2	Regent Singapore	William Mahoney
16	1	Southern Ridges, 9:37am	Kerry Pereira
17	1	Thomson, fledgling	Gerald Ng
17	2	Pasir Panjang, chicks on nest, adults not seen, 2pm	Sim Chip Chye
18	4	Pasir Panjang, 2 chicks on nest, 2 adults, chicks about to fledge	Desmond Yap
19	2	Pasir Panjang, 2 chicks fledged	Steve Ang
22	1	Labrador Nature Reserve, adult in flight	John Marriott
28	1	Ulu Pandan Park Connector	Leslie Loh
29	1	Sentosa, fledgling. Seen in nest a couple of days earlier approached by 5-6 hornbills. Adult dive-bombed hornbills to keep them away.	John Marriott

17. Changeable Hawk-Eagle *Nisaetus cirrhatus* (8)

Date	No.	Location and Details	Reported By
2	1	Botanic Gardens, fledgling dark morph	Art Toh
3	1	Kent Ridge Park, adult pale morph	Yip Jen Wei
8	1	Changi Coast Road	Wang HM
17	1	Hindhede Nature Park, dark morph	Benny Ng
26	2	Changi Business Park, included a vocal dark morph	Ramesh T.
27	2	Kent Ridge Park	Raghav N.
29	1	Singapore Quarry, dark morph	Art Toh

18. Unidentified *Accipiters* (8)

Date	No.	Location and Details	Reported By
27	8	Kent Ridge Park, 1 at 11am, 7 at 11:25am	Raghav N.

Compiled by Tan Gim Cheong

Note: The numbers in brackets beside the bird names indicates the total number seen for this month. Different 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 also thanks to Martti Siponen, Herman Phua, and James Gan for the use of their photos.