

Countries in this Newsletter

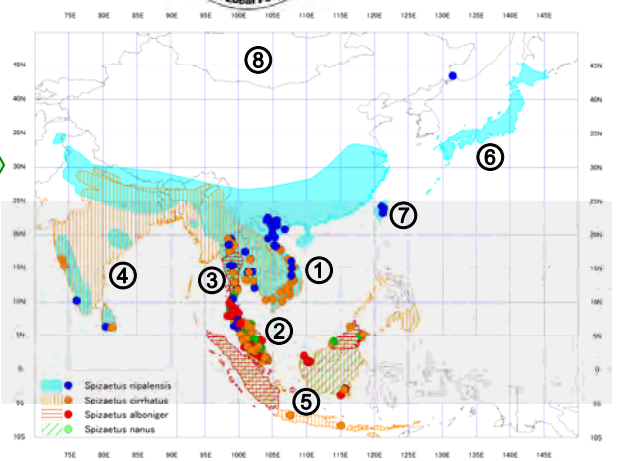
- ① Vietnam
- ② Malaysia
- ③ Thailand
- ④ India
- ⑤ Indonesia
- ⑥ Japan
- ⑦ Taiwan
- ⑧ Mongolia



Accipiter soloensis

Distribution Map of Genus Spizaetus

(Spizaetus Distribution Map and Habitat Analysis Project)



① Raptor Project in Vietnam

Building a Foundation for the Monitoring and Conservation of Raptor Migration in Northern Vietnam

With financial support from the Rufford Small Grant for Nature Conservation and technical support from ARRCN, the project "Building a Foundation for the Monitoring and Conservation of Raptor Migration in Northern Vietnam" will be carried out at three potential Raptor Watch Sites in Vietnam including Hoang Lien Sa Pa, Tam Dao and Cuc Phuong National Parks. The main aim of the project is to set up the first permanent Raptor Watch Sites in Vietnam for long-term monitoring of Migratory Raptor species and to raise the awareness of local people for the conservation of Raptors both within study areas and all of Vietnam.



② Raptor Project in Malaysia

Taiping Raptor Watch, Malaysia

The Taiping Raptor Watch is a raptor migration monitoring programme carried out in conjunction with the Asian Raptor Migration Project of ARRCN. The programme has been carried out in Taiping (N 4° 52', E 100° 44') every autumn migration season since 2000. So far, 16 species of migratory raptors have been recorded in Taiping, with an average annual count of about 24,000 raptors. The Taiping Raptor Watch also includes a public raptor watching event held every year at Scott's Hill, Taiping.



Photo: Cheang Kum Seng

③ Raptor Project in Thailand

Raptor Banding for Infectious Disease Monitoring

The Kasetsart University Faculty of Veterinary Medicine and the Department of National Parks, Wildlife and Plant Conservation will conduct a long-term study of migratory and residential raptors by trapping and leg banding in Thailand. Trapped and then-released raptors will be biometrically measured for taxonomic purpose, collected for biological samples for surveillance of Avian Influenza, West Nile Virus and blood parasites, and banded for movement tracking. Please contact Dr. Chaiyan Kasorndorkbua at trogon@gmail.com for detail.



Thai Raptor Group

Rehabilitation and Release of Raptors in Thailand

Inspired by "Fly the Vulture Home" since January 2007, the first rehabilitation and release of a famous Cinereous Vulture, named "Anakin" and four Himalayan Griffons in Thailand took place. The project is a continuous work that is operated by the Kasetsart University Raptor Rehabilitation Center at the Kasetsart University Faculty of Veterinary Medicine in partnership with the Bird Conservation Society of Thailand and the Thai Raptor Group through "Adopt a Raptor" for financial support. Released raptors will be banded and tracked with appropriate tools: e.g., wing tag and satellite telemetry. Details at www.thairaptorgroup.com



Chumphon's Raptor Watch Festival in southern Thailand.

The Raptor Watch Fest in Chumphon, organized by the Thayang Municipality Administration with ardent assistance from birders nation-wide, the festival has well served the public, locally and country-wide, to promote and create awareness of raptor conservation, has been held for six consecutive years since 2002. More than 500,000 raptors are expected to pass through this globally-significant watch site annually which is one of the largest migration sites of raptors in South-East Asia. Please contact Chukiat Nualsri for detail at bnternstar@gmail.com.



④ Raptor Project in India

Monitoring of Spizaetus Eagles in India

Presently in India, a study on the evaluation of the status of *Spizaetus* eagles is underway under ARRCN. Information is also being collected on the distribution and habitat use of these eagles across the country. The raptor surveys conducted during 2004-2005 and 2005-2007 in the Western Ghats and Assam plains revealed that that *S. spizaetus* is widely distributed in the country while *S. nipalensis* is rare and patchily distributed. During 2008, the surveys will be carried out in western India.



⑤ Raptor Project in Indonesia

In situ - and migration project

A number of activities focused on certain species are still being conducted by Indonesian researchers in conjunction with the Indonesian Raptor Research and Conservation Network (RAIN). Among the species concerned are the Javan Hawk Eagle, the Changeable Hawk Eagle, and the Indian Black Eagle (in Puncak, West Java). The activities in this location have been targeted on monitoring and guarding some occupied nests. Another species currently being studied is the Crested Serpent Eagle. Information on nests of the species is being collected in Central part of Java. In addition, the Birds of Prey Migration Watch (Raptor Watching) is regularly held in Puncak, West Java while conducting an environmental bazaar and campaign.

Ex situ - Raptor Centre and Sanctuary

Panaruban Raptor Centre was first set up in 2006 with the purpose of rehabilitating and releasing confiscated raptors. With some support provided by ARRCN, releases had been done in sites such as Bali and Panaruban. The centre involves local people in monitoring the released species. Another centre formed to handle confiscated raptors is **Raptor Sanctuary** (locally known as Suaka Elang). The Sanctuary is for 'unreleasable' raptors used for educational purposes and limited tourism. Moreover, one important document being prepared collaboratively is the Javan Hawk Eagle Recovery Plan. The document will review the previous strategies and formulate the next plan of action.

Release Project of Confiscated Raptors in Indonesia

One of the threats to almost all raptor communities in Indonesia is hunting and poaching for the illegal wildlife trade even through all raptors in Indonesia is protected by Indonesian law. Since the last decade, Government Organizations and NGOs have been conducting confiscations of all protected animals. The option of management is releasing raptors into their habitat. The release of confiscated raptors has several purposes and benefits; (1). to increase the long-term conservation value of the species and locations including increasing the wild population. (2). to create a strong political and educational statement about the fate of released species. (3). to return ecological and biological functions to released species. Release efforts of confiscated raptors in Indonesia have been conducted in several locations such as Karimunjawa Island, Lake Tamblingan-Bali, Kotok Island-Jakarta and Panaruban forest area-West Java.



Studies:
 Raptor Migration, [Wishnu Sukmantoro wishnu@yahoocom](mailto:wishnu@yahoocom) [Usup Suprman usup@yahoocom](mailto:usup@yahoocom) [n suprman@yahoocom](mailto:nusuprman@yahoocom) Dwi Mulyawati dwi_mulya@yahoo.com and [Adam A. Supriata care@raptor@hotmail.com](mailto:Adam.A.Supriata@hotm.com)

[Crested Serpent Eagle Gunawan gunawan215@yahoo.com](mailto:Crested.Serpent.Eagle.Gunawan215@yahoo.com)
[Chavan Hawk Bagle, Changegable Hawk Bagle, and Black Bagle Usup Suprman, Adam A. Supriata](mailto:Chavan.Hawk.Bagle.Changegable.Hawk.Bagle.and.Black.Bagle.Usup.Suprman,Adam.A.Supriata)
[Fanaruban Raptor Centre Zaini Rahman zaini@ypl.or.id](mailto:Fanaruban.Raptor.Center.Zaini.Rahman.zaini@ypl.or.id)
[Dr Bambang Supriyanto bambang_hahim@yahoo.com](mailto:Dr.Bambang.Supriyanto.bambang_hahim@yahoo.com) and [Pam E. Minnigh M.Sc minnigh@pili.or.id](mailto:Pam.E.Minnigh.M.Sc.minnigh@pili.or.id)

⑥ Raptor Project in Japan

Conservation Project of Crested Serpent Eagle in Japan

Sub-species of the Crested Serpent Eagle, *Spiornis cheela perplexus* which is one of the smallest CSE, inhabit two small southern islands in Japan. Nevertheless, it is designated as a protected species in law and classified as a critically endangered species in the Japanese Red List due to the very small size of the population (only 100 – 200 breeding pairs are estimated). Individuals killed by car accident have increased recently. Moreover, destruction of the foraging area due to development is another serious threat. The Research and conservation project has been conducted since 2005. Comparative study of DNA between the Taiwan Crested Serpent Eagle (*Spiornis cheela hoya*) and this sub-species will commence from 2008.



Network of Raptor Migration Research in Japan

Over 30 NGOs or individuals related to the raptor migration research have been sharing raptor migration information, especially about the Honey Buzzard and the Grey Faced Buzzard, using this internet. The network was founded in November 2001 as "Hawk Migration Network of Japan". The results of migratory raptor censuses from every raptor watch site are sent to the network immediately after completion. Another activity is to provide knowledge or skills of raptor observation to beginner members through the annual meeting. We hope that the results of our network will be useful to promote the ARRCN collaborative raptor research project.

Hawk Migration Network of Japan: <http://www.gix.or.jp/~norik/hawknet/hawknet0.html>
 Secretariat: n.falco@m4.kcn.ne.jp



⑦ Raptor Project in Taiwan

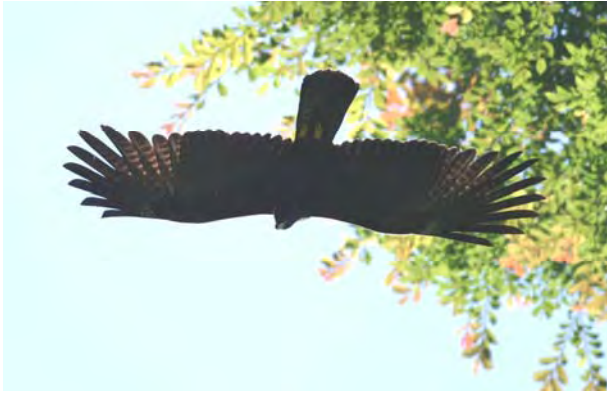
Raptor migration monitoring in Kenting National Park

Located in the southernmost tip of Taiwan, Kenting National Park is one of the best raptor migration watch sites in Asia. Every autumn, more than one hundred thousand raptors from northeastern Asia pass through the park. The most numerous species are the Chinese Goshawk and the Grey-faced Buzzard. Monitoring and census research have been conducted by the Kenting National Park Headquarters and RRGTT every autumn since 1989.



Indian Black Eagle ecology research

The Indian Black Eagle is a magnificent and graceful, but also rare and endangered in Taiwan. In order to solve its little-known status and to enhance its conservation, the "Indian Black Eagle Ecology Research Project" has been conducted by RRGTT since 2004. Because it inhabits remote and steep mountains, the research is very difficult. The project is still proceeding and researchers are hoping to find new nests which can be observed more easily.



Oriental Honey Buzzard (*Pernis ptilorhynchus*) ecology and behavior research

Oriental Honey Buzzard (*Pernis ptilorhynchus*) ecology and behavior research

Research on Oriental Honey Buzzards in central Taiwan since 2004 discovered that this species has both a resident and a migrant population in Taiwan. Their main foods include diverse wasp and hornet larvae. Radio telemetry already produced important ecological and behavioral information on the resident birds. Current efforts are being made to compare resident and migrant populations.



⑧ Raptor Project in Mongolia

Mongolia is heaven for birds of prey. The intact steppe, forest, and mountains provide ample food, safe shelter, and nesting places for raptors. Also there are many globally threatened raptors such as the Eastern Imperial Eagle, Lesser Kestrel, Cinnereous Vulture, Saker Falcon, Greater Spotted Eagle, Pallid Harrier, and Pallas' Fish Eagle in Mongolia. Some comprehensive research and conservation programs for the Cinnereous Vulture (*Aegypius monachus*), Saker Falcon (*Falco cherrug*), Lesser Kestrel (*Falco naumanni*), and Golden Eagle (*Aquila chrysaetos*) are taking place.



Butastur indicus



ARRCN members

173 individuals
 3 organizations
 in 28 countries
 (April, 2008)



<Asian Raptor Research and Conservation Network Website> <http://www.bbiglobe.ne.jp/~raptor/index.htm>