

Singapore Raptor Report Spring Migration, January 2016



Japanese Sparrowhawk, immature male, showing a mix of old (brown) and new (grey) feathers, Bidadari, 14 Jan 16, by Con Foley.

Summary for migrant species:

The highlight for January must be the single juvenile **Himalayan Vulture** that turned up at Toa Payoh on the 5th, greatly emaciated and unable to stand firm. It was rescued and given medical treatment at the Jurong Bird Park. A total of 96 migrant raptors of 13 species were recorded. The **Black Baza** claimed the top spot with 41 birds, relegating the **Oriental Honey Buzzard** to the second place with 32 birds.

There were 6 **Japanese Sparrowhawks** including an immature showing an interesting mix of brown and grey feathers. 3 **Jerdon's Bazas** were wintering in the Tampines-Lorong Halus area and 3 **Ospreys** frequented the northern shores. 3 **Peregrine Falcons** and 2 **Chinese Sparrowhawks** were also reported.

Now for the single birds. An adult dark morph **Common Buzzard** was photographed at Tuas on the 8th. A juvenile **Booted Eagle** was photographed on the 25th at Punggol Barat. The juvenile **Rufous-bellied Hawk-Eagle** was still present at the Bukit Timah area, photographed on the 10th and the 24th. A male **Common Kestrel** was wintering at Pulau Punggol Barat, making appearances in the late afternoon/sunset period, on the 5th and 25th. Lastly, a nocturnal raptor, the **Northern Boobook** was photographed at Pasir Ris Park mangroves on the 31st.



*Oriental Honey Buzzard, torquatus tweeddale morph,
Pasir Ris Park, 10 Jan 16, by Lim Kim Seng.*

Highlights for sedentary species:

January was a good month for the rare **Crested Serpent Eagle** as 3 birds were recorded - one at SBWR, one at Pasir Ris Park and one at Kent Ridge Park. There were 2 records of juvenile **Crested Goshawks**, one at NTU and the other at Sentosa, indications of successful breeding. Last month's Crested Goshawk records were all adults. The *torquatus tweeddale* morph **Oriental Honey Buzzard** was photographed a few times and the other *torquatus* **OHB** at Bidadari was still present. The young **Grey-headed Fish Eagle** at Little Guilin had left the nest but was still in the vicinity. It will probably still depend on its parents for food for a while more. The **White-bellied Sea Eagle**, **Brahminy Kite**, **Changeable Hawk-Eagle** and **Black-winged Kite** completed the roundup for the month.

Table 1

S/N	Species	No.	S/N	Species	No.
1	Osprey	3		Residents / Sedentary Species	
2	Jerdon's Baza	3	14	Black-winged Kite	2
3	Black Baza	41	15	Brahminy Kite	10
4	Oriental Honey Buzzard	32	16	White-bellied Sea Eagle	12
5	Himalayan Vulture	1	17	Grey-headed Fish Eagle	10
6	Chinese Sparrowhawk	2	18	Crested Serpent Eagle	3
7	Japanese Sparrowhawk	6	19	Crested Goshawk	5
8	Common Buzzard	1	20	Changeable Hawk-Eagle	8
9	Booted Eagle	1			
10	Rufous-bellied Hawk-Eagle	1		Unidentified	
11	Common Kestrel	1	21	Unidentified Raptors	3
12	Peregrine Falcon	3	22	Unidentified <i>Accipiters</i>	2
13	Northern Boobook	1			
Total for Migrants		96	Grand Total		151

Compiled by TAN Gim Cheong



Oriental Honey Buzzard, juvenile, Tampines Eco Green, 7 Jan 16, by Alvin Seng.



Japanese Sparrowhawk, juvenile, Punggol Barat, 25 Jan 16, by Tan Gim Cheong.