

## Singapore Raptor Report Autumn Migration, October 2009

Summary:

The surprised find for the month were the two **Greater Spotted Eagles** at Lorong Halus by Alfred Chia on 13<sup>th</sup> during his lunch break. His record was earlier than the one recorded on the 25<sup>th</sup> in 1992 at Punggol. As with most of this *Aquila*, they were immatures. Other first records for the season included an **Eastern Marsh Harrier** at its favourite hunting ground at Changi on 12<sup>th</sup> by Lee Tiah Khee; a **Chinese Sparrowhawk** at Bukit Timah Summit on 11<sup>th</sup> reported by Danny Lau and Jia Sheng and a **Grey-faced Buzzard** migrating southwest on 18<sup>th</sup> by Martti at Sungei Buloh (SBWR). The **Black Bazas** finally made it on the last day of the month with Howard Banwell's report of a single bird at Changi Business Park and another three over at SBWR seen by Martti Siponen. Chung Cheong had our regular **Common Buzzard** back at Changi Airport on 24<sup>th</sup>. We had 10 species totaling 94 visiting raptors including 9 unidentified for the month. The **Oriental Honey-buzzards** topped the list with 44. Mike Bush had a flock of 15 over at Thomson Road on 31<sup>st</sup>, an unusual sighting of such a large group. This was followed by 16 **Japanese Sparrowhawks** and 8 **Ospreys** making the top three. The **Peregrine Falcons** gave a strong showing with 6 records including the returning ones at Pulau Ubin and Bishan. Except for 2 reports of the rare Crested Serpent Eagle, which seems to be more visible during the migration season, other resident species are not covered in this report.



*An Osprey soaring over Singapore Quarry by Martti Siponen graced this month cover*

**Table 1**

S/N	Species	Count	S/N	Species	Count
1	<b>Oriental Honey-buzzard</b>	44	7	<b>Greater Spotted Eagle</b>	2
2	<b>Japanese Sparrowhawk</b>	16	8	<b>Common Buzzard</b>	1
3	<b>Osprey</b>	8	9	<b>Grey-faced Buzzard</b>	2
4	<b>Peregrine Falcon</b>	6	10	<b>Chinese Sparrowhawk</b>	1
5	<b>Black Baza</b>	4	11	<b>Unidentified Raptors</b>	9
6	<b>Eastern Marsh Harrier</b>	1		<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>94</b>

*Note : The numbers are indicative only with similar species in the same area discounted to prevent duplication.*