

Singapore Raptor Report Autumn Migration, October 2011

Summary for migrant species:

A total of 93 migrant raptors of 8 species were recorded this month. For a change, the **Japanese Sparrowhawk** took the top spot with 31 birds. The **Oriental Honey Buzzard** was relegated to number two with 26 birds. Third was the **Black Baza** with 22 birds.

Con Foley photographed the first **Eastern Marsh Harrier** of the season at Changi on 25 Oct. On the next day, 26 Oct, Lim Kim Keang photographed another on migration at Bidadari, a new site for the species. Danny Lau, Jia Sheng and Kok Hui recorded the first **Common Buzzard** for the season on 22 Oct at Changi. On the next day, 23 Oct, Tay Choon Guan photographed a pale type Common Buzzard flying over, again, Bidadari! This is also a new site for the species.

Of the 4 **Peregrine Falcons** recorded, one put up a good show at Japanese Garden over a few days, feeding on birds. Sun Chong Hong had been looking out for the **Peregrine Falcon** that he had seen in Spring 2009, Autumn 2009, Spring 2010 and Autumn 2010 in Bishan and he was not disappointed as the falcon turned up on 21 Oct. There were also 4 **Chinese Sparrowhawks** and 3 **Ospreys**.



Common Buzzard, juvenile, at Bidadari, 231011, by Tay Choon Guan



Crested Serpent Eagle, at Malcolm Park, 261011, by Tay Choon Guan

Highlights for sedentary species:

This was a good month for the **Crested Goshawk**. A total of 7 were recorded, an unusually high number given its rarity in Singapore. 6 were seen and 1 heard. The presence of at least two adults and an immature at Jurong Lake indicate a possibility of breeding in that area. Sembawang was added as a recent site for this species with 2 recorded by Margie Hall on 26 Oct and 1 adult photographed on 30 Oct. Margie also had the privilege of seeing one bird as it called. In addition, a juvenile was photographed at Mount Faber on 2 Oct and another at Bidadari on 26 Oct. See page 3 for photos of all the 6 Crested Goshawks seen.



Crested Goshawk, at Japanese Garden, 211011, by Tan Gim Cheong

The Malcolm Road **Crested Serpent Eagle** was seen again on 9, 22 and 26 Oct. On 22 Oct, the CSE was photographed eating a frog. The **Grey-headed Fish Eagle** recorded at Serangoon by Danny Lau and Kok Hui represents a new site for the species. As always, the Brahminy Kite, White-bellied Sea Eagle, Changeable Hawk-eagle and Black-winged Kite were also recorded.

Table 1

S/N	Species	No.	S/N	Species	No.
1	Osprey	3		<i>Residents / Sedentary Species</i>	
2	Black Baza	22	9	Black-winged Kite	6
3	Oriental Honey Buzzard	26	10	Brahminy Kite	21
4	Eastern Marsh Harrier	2	11	White-bellied Sea Eagle	11
5	Chinese Sparrowhawk	4	12	Grey-headed Fish Eagle	8
6	Japanese Sparrowhawk	31	13	Crested Serpent Eagle	1
7	Common Buzzard	2	14	Crested Goshawk	7
8	Peregrine Falcon	4	15	Changeable Hawk-eagle	11
				<i>Unidentified</i>	
			16	Unidentified Accipiters	5
			17	Unidentified Raptors	3
Total for Migrants		94	Grand Total		177

Compiled by Tan Gim Cheong

Many thanks to Tay Choon Guan, Danny Lau, Lim Kim Keang, Mark Chua, Jason Cho, Chong Yih Yeong, Nicholas Tan, and "christmaslovebird" for the use of their photos.

Photospot Feature – Crested Goshawks recorded in October 2011



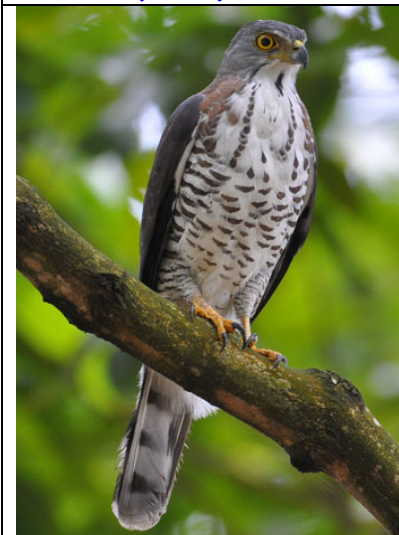
*Crested Goshawk, juvenile,
021011, Mt Faber,
by Danny Lau*



*Crested Goshawk, juvenile,
261011, Bidadari,
by Lim Kim Keang*



*Crested Goshawk, adult, 301011,
Sembawang Park,
by "christmaslovebird"*



*Crested Goshawk, adult, 211011,
Japanese Garden,
by Tan Gim Cheong*



*Crested Goshawk, immature,
281011, Old Jurong Lake Park,
by Mark Chua*



*Crested Goshawk, adult, 301011,
Japanese Garden,
by Jason Cho*



Crested Goshawk, adult, Japanese Garden, 291011, by Chong Yih Yeong



*Crested Goshawk, adult, Japanese
Garden, 311011, by Nicholas Tan*