

Singapore Raptor Report Spring Migration, January 2009

Summary

Following a report of a mini invasion of 16 Himalayan Griffon Vultures to Thailand by Chaiyan of the Thai Raptor Group, we were hoping to see a few coming down our way. Unfortunately, none appeared. There were also no reports from Peninsula Malaysia. We also missed the Jerdon's Baza this month. Both were recorded in January 2008. As with the start of the Spring migration, the numbers and species count were low. We had 9 species totaling 92 raptors including 7 unidentified. The two reports of the **Booted Eagle** stood out for this month. It appeared to be more common than before. The **Black Bazas** again top the count as expected, with a single roosting flock of 16 at Changi Cove. The **Ospreys** were still enjoying their stay at the Kranji area while the **Peregrine Falcons** were reported elsewhere. Good counts of 19 **Oriental Honey-buzzards** were reported at various locations with one *Torquatus* race at Bidadari. We had a small number of **Japanese Sparrowhawk** (3) and **Chinese Sparrowhawk** (2) still hanging around the island. A single **Common Kestrel** and at least 3 **Eastern Marsh Harriers** were reported at Changi Cove. This site proved to be a magnet for raptors with 8 species recorded this month.



Two Eastern Marsh Harriers taken at Changi Cove on 21st Jan by Lee Tiah Khee graced this month cover.

Migrant Raptors

Table 1

S/N	Species	Count	S/N	Species	Count
1	Black Baza	45	6	Booted Eagle	2
2	Oriental Honey-buzzard	19	7	Chinese Sparrowhawk	2
3	Osprey	5	8	Eastern Marsh Harrier	3
4	Peregrine Falcon	5	9	Common Kestrel	1
5	Japanese Sparrowhawk	3	10	Unidentified Accipiter Raptor	7
				TOTAL	92

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