

## **Singapore Autumn Raptor Migration - Early Arrivals July - September 2010.**

### **Summary:**

The 15 Japanese Sparrowhawks reported in September was the most numerous early arriving migrant raptors. This was preceded by two Oriental Honey Buzzards – one in August and one in September. The adult Rufous-bellied Eagle which turned up on 31 July set a new early date for this rare visitor. There were two Osprey sightings – the early one in July could either be a non-breeding visitor or an overstaying migrant.

### **1. Osprey**

Lee Tiah Kee photographed 1 at Kranji Reservoir on 2 July. David Li reported 1 Osprey at Mandai Mudflats during the Fall Migration Bird Census on 12 September. The Osprey is both a migrant and non-breeding visitor to Singapore.

### **2. Oriental Honey Buzzard**

KC Tsang reported an OHB in front of his kitchen on 19 August at Serangoon for the second year running. Andrew Chow reported 1 OHB at Bukit Batok Nature Park during the Fall Migration Bird Census on 12 September.

### **3. Japanese Sparrowhawk**

On 18 September, Martii Siponen saw 4 of these birds on migration at Tuas while Mick Price saw 1 flying overhead at Pasir Ris and Tan Kok Hui reported 1 at Changi. On 19 September, Martii Siponen saw 9 of these birds on migration at Tuas.

### **4. Rufous-bellied Eagle**

Fang Sher Chyet saw and photographed an adult in flight at Singapore Botanic Gardens on 31 July during the practical session of a nature photo course! This record sets the early date back by 4 days (from 4 August)! This species is generally thought to be sedentary, though some authors consider it a partial migrant.



**Adult Rufous-bellied Eagle flying over Singapore Botanic Gardens, 31 July 2010.  
Photo by Fang Sher Chyet.**