

Singapore Raptor Report

Autumn Migration, December 2010

Summary:

A total of 140 migrant raptors representing 11 species were recorded this month. As expected, the most numerous of these were the **Black Bazas** with 93 birds, followed by the **Oriental Honey Buzzards** with 15 birds. Surprisingly, the third most recorded migrant raptor was the rare **Jerdon's Baza**! A total of 7 were recorded on the 11th of this month at Changi by Danny Lau, Lau Jia Sheng, Tan Kok Hui, Con Foley and Yamane Yoshio. This beat last month's record of 4 birds and represents the highest number of Jerdon's Bazas ever recorded for Singapore! The observers also witnessed 2 Jerdon's Bazas being chased by bees. This season's first **Black Kite**, a juvenile, was also seen and photographed on the 11th of the month at Changi by the same group of lucky birders. It was seen again on 19th Dec by Con Foley.

The only record of the **Eastern Marsh Harrier** came from Lee Tiah Khee at Changi. It should be evident by now that the hotspot of the month was Changi and the place continue to be the favoured haunt of 2 **Common Buzzards**. Another surprise was that the **Chinese Sparrowhawks** outnumbered **Japanese Sparrowhawks**, which were usually more common. The dark morph **Booted Eagle** was seen again at Seletar West by Danny Lau and Tan Kok Hui. 3 **Ospreys** and 6 **Peregrine Falcons** completed the line-up for this month's migrant raptors.



A kettle of Black Bazas, Punggol, 05 Dec 10, by Nicholas Tan

For the resident raptors, this month was a good one for the **Crested Goshawk** as 3 were recorded. The juvenile at Ang Mo Kio was still around and was seen / photographed by Fang Sher Chyet on the 4th; and Danny Lau & Lau Jia Sheng on the 5th. Another was seen during a Nature Society (Singapore) outing at Choa Chu Kang Cemetery on the 19th and reported by Jeremy Lewis. The 3rd bird, another juvenile, was seen and photographed at Chinese Gardens on the 31st by Rey Aguila, who was lucky enough to see the raptor hunt a White-breasted Waterhen.



Crested Goshawk, juvenile, Ang Mo Kio, 04 Dec 10, by Fang Sher Chyet



Crested Goshawk, juvenile, Chinese Gardens, 31 Dec 10, by Rey Aguila

Table 1

S/N	Species	No.	S/N	Species	No.
1	Osprey	3		<i>Residents / Sedentary Species</i>	
2	Jerdon's Baza	7	12	Black-winged Kite	8
3	Black Baza	93	13	Brahminy Kite	31
4	Oriental Honey Buzzard	15	14	White-bellied Sea Eagle	14
5	Black Kite	1			
6	Eastern Marsh Harrier	1	15	Grey-headed Fish Eagle	1
7	Chinese Sparrowhawk	6	16	Crested Goshawk	3
8	Japanese Sparrowhawk	5	17	Changeable Hawk-eagle	10
9	Common Buzzard	2		<i>Unidentified</i>	
10	Booted Eagle	1	18	Unidentified Raptors	4
11	Peregrine Falcon	6			
Total for Migrants		140	Grand Total		211