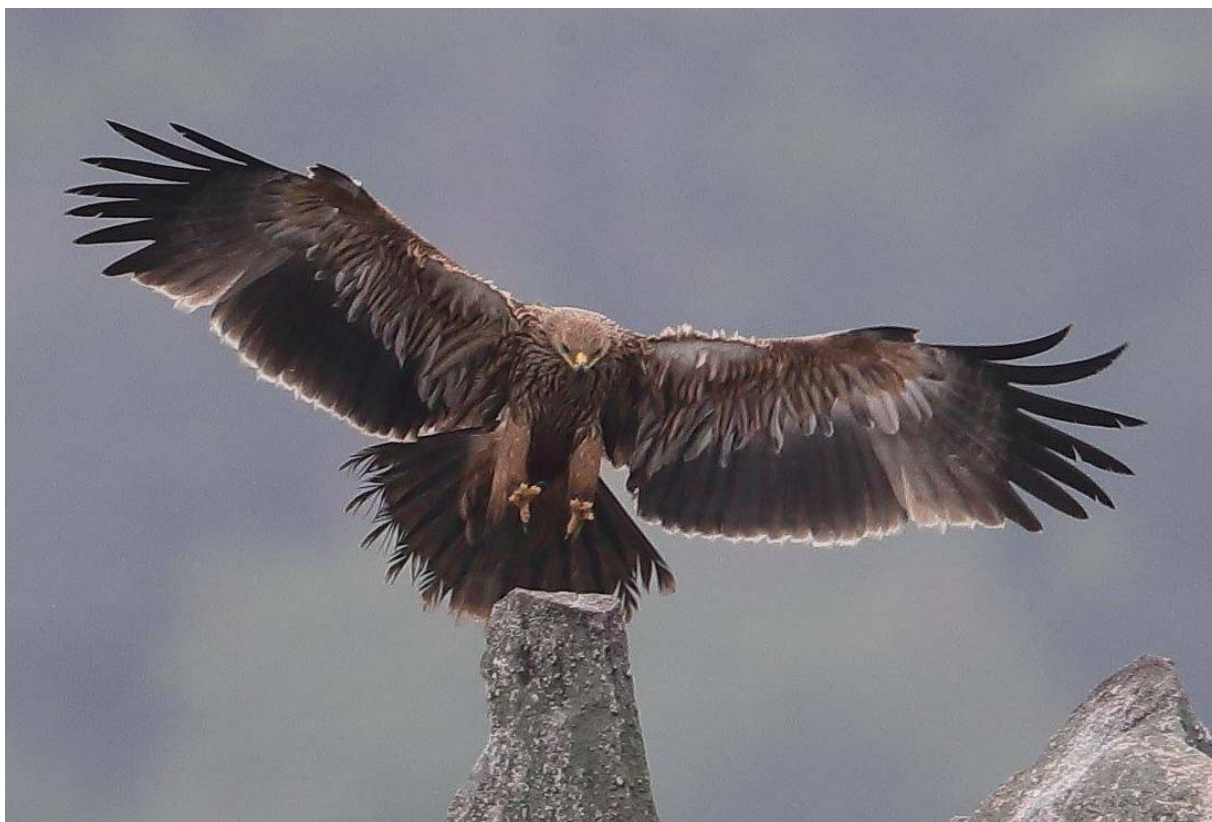


## Singapore Raptor Report Autumn Migration, December 2016



*Eastern Imperial Eagle, juvenile, Pulau Ubin, 28 Dec 2016, by Robin Tan*

### Summary for migrant species:

An uncommon **Grey-faced Buzzard** (adult) photographed by Thio Hui Bing on the 1st on Pulau Ubin after rain was a good start for the month. The next day, on the 2nd, two rare raptors showed up: a grey morph **Oriental Scops Owl** photographed by Gavan Leong in the daytime, also on Pulau Ubin and a juvenile **Black Kite** photographed by Francis Yap at Jelutong Tower.

Not to be outdone, a very rare **Amur Falcon** was photographed by Yip Peng Sun at Yishun Dam on the morning of the 16th - this being the second record for Singapore since the first occurrence on 21 Nov 2007. The streak of rarities culminated with a juvenile **Imperial Eagle**, again on Pulau Ubin. The last record being on 18 Nov 2001, 15 years ago. First photographed on the 19th, the Imperial Eagle was relocated on the 27th at the same spot and appeared there everyday till the 31st, giving birders here a great opportunity to see this rarity. A juvenile Imperial Eagle photographed on the 24th at the eastern part of Singapore main island was most likely the same individual. As is the case with migrant eagles, this individual was occasionally mobbed by resident House Crows and Brahminy Kites.

A dark morph **Booted Eagle** was still wintering at Pulau Punggol Barat and the nearby areas, being recorded on the 3rd, 10th, 17th and 26th. Two **Ospreys** were recorded around the usual areas near the northern coast of Singapore. For the *Accipiters*, six **Japanese Sparrowhawks** were recorded, but none for the Chinese Sparrowhawk. Five **Peregrine Falcons** (3 juveniles, 1 adult, 1 un-aged) were recorded around the island, quite a good number for this uncommon species.

A total of 36 **Black Bazas** were recorded on the northern areas from Sungei Buloh to Pasir Ris, the largest flock being 15-strong at Punggol Barat. For the **Oriental Honey Buzzard**, 45 were recorded, the largest flock comprised 11 birds at Sungei Buloh on the 3rd, probably on migration. On the 15th, there was a sight report of a juvenile Rufous-bellied Hawk-Eagle, which cannot be verified due to the possibility of confusion with other similar-looking species.



*Amur Falcon, Yishun Dam, 16 Dec 2016, by Yip Peng Sun*

#### **Highlights for sedentary species:**

By the 22nd, the **Grey-headed Fish Eagle** chick on the nest at Little Guilin had fledged - another successful nesting for the species at the same locality. Other records of this fish eagle came from Kranji Marshes (on 10th & 26th) and Pulau Ubin (on 15th & 29th).

The **Crested Goshawk** was recorded from the Botanic Gardens (adult on 3rd & 13th), West Coast Park (juvenile on 7th & 20th) and Sengkang Floating Wetlands (juvenile on 17th). There were 2 *torquatus* **Oriental Honey Buzzards**; the adult tweeddale morph recorded at Pasir Ris Park the previous month was still around on the 10th, 17th and 21st, while a juvenile tweeddale morph first recorded last month at Ang Mo Kio was photographed at the nearby Bishan Park on the 24th and 25th.

For the **Changeable Hawk-Eagle**, it was notable that nesting was observed at Mount Faber on the 20th. The **White-bellied Sea Eagle**, **Brahminy Kite**, and **Black-winged Kite** completed the roundup for the month.



*White-bellied Sea Eagle, immature, Pulau Ubin, 27 Dec 2016, by Tan Gim Cheong*

**Table 1**

S/N	Species	No.	S/N	Species	No.
1	Osprey	2		<b><i>Residents / Sedentary Species</i></b>	
2	Black Baza	36	13	Black-winged Kite	5
3	Oriental Honey Buzzard	45	14	Brahminy Kite	24
4	Black Kite	1	15	White-bellied Sea Eagle	11
5	Japanese Sparrowhawk	6	16	Grey-headed Fish Eagle	6
6	Grey-faced Buzzard	1	17	Crested Goshawk	3
7	Eastern Imperial Eagle	1	18	Changeable Hawk-Eagle	9
8	Booted Eagle	1			
9	<i>Rufous-bellied Hawk-Eagle</i>	(1)			
10	Peregrine Falcon	5		<b><i>Unidentified</i></b>	
11	Amur Falcon	1	19	Unidentified <i>Accipiters</i>	1
12	Oriental Scops Owl	1			
<b>Total for Migrants</b>		<b>100</b>	<b>Grand Total</b>		<b>159</b>

*Compiled by TAN Gim Cheong*





*Eastern Imperial Eagle, juvenile, Pulau Ubin, 28 Dec 2016, by Frankie Cheong*