

Singapore Raptor Report Spring Migration, February 2015

Summary for migrant species:

In February, 30 raptors of 9 migrant species were recorded. Surprisingly, there were no records of the Osprey. But that was more than made up for by a vagrant **Himalayan Vulture** recorded at Fort Canning on the 14th by visiting Canadian birder Gareth Puth. Among the rarities was the juvenile **Jerdon's Baza** recorded by See Toh Yew Wai at Lorong Halus Wetlands and a **Common Kestrel** at Pulau Punggol Barat on the 7th photographed by Zacc HD. Another highlight was the **Booted Eagle**, for which a dark morph was recorded by Horst Flotow at Biopolis on the 3rd; another dark morph was photographed by Alan Ng on the 15th at Pulau Punggol Barat, and Zacc HD recorded one on the 22nd, possibly the same bird, still hanging on the area despite the greatly reduced tree cover.

There were 11 birds for both the **Oriental Honey Buzzard** and the **Black Baza**, the numbers being similar to last month. As for the uncommon **Peregrine Falcon**, there was a single record at Pulau Ponggol on the 21st by Aldwin Recinto. Danny Lau recorded a **Chinese Sparrowhawk** at Mount Faber on the 1st, a nice record considering that none were recorded last month. The last raptor species was a **Japanese Sparrowhawk** recorded by See Toh Yew Wai at Lorong Halus Wetlands on the 14th.

Highlights for sedentary species:

For the rare **Crested Goshawk**, the adult recorded at Tampines Eco Green last month was still around. A fresh juvenile was recorded at West Coast Park, suggesting nesting activity in the area. There were also additional records of an adult at Hort Park on the 8th and at Pasir Ris Park on the 23rd and 27th. For the other rare resident raptor, the **Grey-headed Fish Eagle**, there were 5 records, interestingly, the one at Lorong Halus Wetlands was mobbed by a dark morph **Changeable Hawk-eagle**. Nesting activity was recorded for the **Black-winged Kite**, with 4 chicks seen on a nest at Tuas. The other resident raptors recorded included the **Brahminy Kite** and **White-bellied Sea Eagle**.

Table 1

S/N	Species	No.	S/N	Species	No.
1	Jerdon's Baza	1		<i>Residents / Sedentary Species</i>	
2	Black Baza	11	10	Black-winged Kite	7
3	Oriental Honey Buzzard	11	11	Brahminy Kite	11
4	Himalayan Vulture	1	12	White-bellied Sea Eagle	8
5	Japanese Sparrowhawk	1	13	Grey-headed Fish Eagle	5
6	Chinese Sparrowhawk	1	14	Crested Goshawk	5
7	Booted Eagle	2	15	Changeable Hawk-eagle	6
8	Common Kestrel	1			
9	Peregrine Falcon	1	16	Unidentified Accipiter	1
Total for Migrants		30	Grand Total		73