

Singapore Raptor Report Spring Migration, January 2016



Japanese Sparrowhawk, immature male, showing a mix of old (brown) and new (grey) feathers, Bidadari, 14 Jan 16, by Con Foley.

Summary for migrant species:

The highlight for January must be the single juvenile **Himalayan Vulture** that turned up at Toa Payoh on the 5th, greatly emaciated and unable to stand firm. It was rescued and given medical treatment at the Jurong Bird Park. A total of 96 migrant raptors of 13 species were recorded. The **Black Baza** claimed the top spot with 41 birds, relegating the **Oriental Honey Buzzard** to the second place with 32 birds.

There were 6 **Japanese Sparrowhawks** including an immature showing an interesting mix of brown and grey feathers. 3 **Jerdon's Bazas** were wintering in the Tampines-Lorong Halus area and 3 **Ospreys** frequented the northern shores. 3 **Peregrine Falcons** and 2 **Chinese Sparrowhawks** were also reported.

Now for the single birds. An adult dark morph **Common Buzzard** was photographed at Tuas on the 8th. A juvenile **Booted Eagle** was photographed on the 25th at Punggol Barat. The juvenile **Rufous-bellied Hawk-Eagle** was still present at the Bukit Timah area, photographed on the 10th and the 24th. A male **Common Kestrel** was wintering at Pulau Punggol Barat, making appearances in the late afternoon/sunset period, on the 5th and 25th. Lastly, a nocturnal raptor, the **Northern Boobook** was photographed at Pasir Ris Park mangroves on the 31st.



*Oriental Honey Buzzard, torquatus tweeddale morph,
Pasir Ris Park, 10 Jan 16, by Lim Kim Seng.*

Highlights for sedentary species:

January was a good month for the rare **Crested Serpent Eagle** as 3 birds were recorded - one at SBWR, one at Pasir Ris Park and one at Kent Ridge Park. There were 2 records of juvenile **Crested Goshawks**, one at NTU and the other at Sentosa, indications of successful breeding. Last month's Crested Goshawk records were all adults. The *torquatus tweeddale morph* **Oriental Honey Buzzard** was photographed a few times and the other *torquatus* **OHB** at Bidadari was still present. The young **Grey-headed Fish Eagle** at Little Guilin had left the nest but was still in the vicinity. It will probably still depend on its parents for food for a while more. The **White-bellied Sea Eagle, Brahminy Kite, Changeable Hawk-Eagle** and **Black-winged Kite** completed the roundup for the month.

Table 1

S/N	Species	No.	S/N	Species	No.
1	Osprey	3		<i>Residents / Sedentary Species</i>	
2	Jerdon's Baza	3	14	Black-winged Kite	2
3	Black Baza	41	15	Brahminy Kite	10
4	Oriental Honey Buzzard	32	16	White-bellied Sea Eagle	12
5	Himalayan Vulture	1	17	Grey-headed Fish Eagle	10
6	Chinese Sparrowhawk	2	18	Crested Serpent Eagle	3
7	Japanese Sparrowhawk	6	19	Crested Goshawk	5
8	Common Buzzard	1	20	Changeable Hawk-Eagle	8
9	Booted Eagle	1			
10	Rufous-bellied Hawk-Eagle	1		<i>Unidentified</i>	
11	Common Kestrel	1	21	Unidentified Raptors	3
12	Peregrine Falcon	3	22	Unidentified <i>Accipiters</i>	2
13	Northern Boobook	1			
Total for Migrants		96	Grand Total		151

1. Osprey *Pandion haliaetus* (3)

Date	No.	Location and Details	Reported By
23	1	Punggol Barat, morning	Low Choon How
23	1	Mandai mudflats, afternoon	Lim Kim Keang
23	1	Kranji Marsh	Lee Ee Ling
26	1	Punggol Barat, morning	Tan Gim Cheong
31	2	Punggol Barat	Zahidi Hamid

2. Jerdon's Baza *Aviceda jerdoni* (3)

Date	No.	Location and Details	Reported By
1	2	Tampines Eco Green	Lim Kim Keang
2	3	Lorong Halus, 1 adult & 2 juveniles	Lau Jia Sheng, Danny Lau & Tan Kok Hui
2	2	Tampines Eco Green	Low Choon How
31	1	Tampines Eco Green	Ananth Ramasamy

3. Black Baza *Aviceda leuphotes* (41)

Date	No.	Location and Details	Reported By
6	5	Bidadari, afternoon	Tan Gim Cheong
7	7	Sungei Buloh Wetland Reserve, evening	Alan OwYong
9	5	Lorong Halus	KC Ling
10	1	Bidadari, morning	Tan Gim Cheong
17	3	Bidadari, morning	Tan Gim Cheong
18	2	Pasir Ris Park	Alvin Seng
23	12	Punggol Barat, morning	Low Choon How
23	5	Sungei Loyang/Loyang Lane	Jimmy Lee
24	4	Kent Ridge Park	Jimmy Lee
24	1	Mount Faber	Jimmy Lee
25	3	Punggol Barat, afternoon	Tan Gim Cheong
27	1	Jurong Eco Garden	Chan Boon Hong
17	2	Bidadari, morning	Tan Gim Cheong

4. Oriental Honey Buzzard *Pernis ptilorhyncus* (32) *orientalis* unless indicated otherwise

Date	No.	Location and Details	Reported By
1	1	Kovan, adult male, morning	Tsang Kwok Choong
1	1	Choa Chu Kang	Cheong Shu Min
4	1	Pasir Ris Park, juvenile <i>orientalis</i>	Alvin Seng
4	1	Pasir Ris Park, <i>orientalis</i> , morning	Tan Gim Cheong
4	1	Satay by the Bay, <i>orientalis</i> , afternoon	Tan Gim Cheong
7	1	Tampines Eco Green, juvenile <i>orientalis</i>	Alvin Seng
9	2	Old Holland Road	Geoff Lim
9	1	Bidadari, <i>torquatus</i> , late morning	Siew Mun
10	1	Singapore, <i>torquatus</i> tweeddale, afternoon	Lim Kim Seng
10	1	Teck Whye Lane, female <i>orientalis</i>	Sathiananthen
10	2	Bukit Timah summit	Keita Sin

10	1	Bidadari, <i>torquatus</i> , morning	Tan Gim Cheong
13	1	Pasir Ris Park, <i>orientalis</i>	Tan Gim Cheong
13	1	Old Choa Chu Kang Road	Jimmy Lee
14	1	Tampines Expressway near Old Tampines Road, juvenile <i>orientalis</i> dark morph	Tan Gim Cheong
17	2	Bidadari, morning	Tan Gim Cheong
18	1	Yishun Park, juvenile	Edwin Choy
18	1	Lorong Halus	Lim Kim Seng
20	1	Rifle Range Road & Dunearn Road junction, <i>orientalis</i> pale morph	Rex Martens
22	2	Newton Area	Mei Hwang
22	1	Bidadari, <i>torquatus</i>	Dean Tan
22	2	Lorong Halus, <i>orientalis</i>	Tan Gim Cheong
23	1	Kent Ridge Park, <i>orientalis</i> pale morph	Henrietta Woo
24	1	Bukit Batok Town Park (Little Guilin), adults, 8:50am - 10:30am	Ulf Remahl
25	5	Punggol Drive & Punggol East junction, 12:26pm	Kerry Pereira
25	1	Coney Island, 12:45pm	Kerry Pereira
29	1	Khatib Bongsu, morning	Edwin Choy
31	1	Gerald Drive, juvenile <i>orientalis</i> with honeycomb	Edmund Teo Wei Pin
31	1	Yio Chu Kang Road & Jalan Kayu junction, 3pm	Nicholas Tan
31	1	Venus Drive	Henrietta Woo, Cheong Shu Min



Oriental Honey Buzzard, juvenile (note the equally spaced thin dark tailbands), Tampines Eco Green, 7 Jan 16, by Alvin Seng.

5. Himalayan Vulture *Gyps himalayensis* (1)

Date	No.	Location and Details	Reported By
5	1	Toa Payoh, the emaciated bird was sent to Jurong Bird Park for treatment	Wandee Sofea

6. Chinese Sparrowhawk *Accipiter soloensis* (2)

Date	No.	Location and Details	Reported By
1	1	Pandan River	Yap Euhian
8	1	Pulau Ubin, adult, gliding south	Jacky Soh

7. Japanese Sparrowhawk *Accipiter gularis* (6)

Date	No.	Location and Details	Reported By
2	1	Chinese Garden, juvenile	Cindy Yeo
6	1	Jelutong Tower, juvenile	Francis Yap
14	1	Bidadari, immature male	Con Foley
25	1	Punggol Barat, juvenile, evening	Tan Gim Cheong
27	1	Pasir Ris Park, morning	Tan Gim Cheong
30	1	Kent Ridge Park	Alan OwYong



Japanese Sparrowhawk, juvenile, Punggol Barat, 25 Jan 16, by Tan Gim Cheong.

8. Common Buzzard *Buteo buteo* (1)

Date	No.	Location and Details	Reported By
8	1	Tuas, adult dark morph	Muller Luqman

9. Booted Eagle *Hieraeetus pennatus* (1)

Date	No.	Location and Details	Reported By
25	1	Punggol Barat, evening	Tan Gim Cheong

10. Rufous-bellied Hawk-Eagle *Lophotriorchis kienerii* (1)

Date	No.	Location and Details	Reported By
10	1	Bukit Timah summit, juvenile	Keita Sin
24	1	Bukit Batok Town Park, juvenile, 1:56pm	Tan Tze Siong

11. Common Kestrel *Falco tinnunculus* (1)

Date	No.	Location and Details	Reported By
5	1	Punggol Barat, male, evening before sunset	Zahidi Hamid
25	1	Punggol Barat, male, evening	Tan Gim Cheong

12. Peregrine Falcon *Falco peregrinus* (3)

Date	No.	Location and Details	Reported By
2	1	Tampines Eco Green, with prey (rat)	Low Choon How
2	1	Tuas	Low Choon How
14	1	Sungei Buloh Wetland Reserve	Cindy Yeo
23	1	Kranji Marsh	Lee Ee Ling
24	1	Tuas, evening	Low Choon How

13. Northern Boobook *Ninox japonica* (1)

Date	No.	Location and Details	Reported By
31	1	Pasir Ris mangroves	Jack Lai

Resident raptors

14. Black-winged Kite *Elanus caeruleus* (2)

Date	No.	Location and Details	Reported By
7	1	Neo Tiew Lane 3	Tan Gim Cheong
14	1	Punggol Barat	Tan Gim Cheong
23	1	Kranji Marsh	Lee Ee Ling
26	1	Punggol Barat, morning	Tan Gim Cheong

15. Brahminy Kite *Haliastur indus* (10)

Date	No.	Location and Details	Reported By
5	1	Coney Island, adult	Tan Gim Cheong
13	2	Jalan Bahtera	Jimmy Lee
17	2	Forest patch near MINDEF/Phoenix Heights, birds at/near nest, feeding on an Earless Agamid, 8:30am	Ulf Remahl
19	1	Rail Corridor/MINDEF	Ulf Remahl
19	2	Pulau Ubin	Tan Gim Cheong
23	1	Kranji Marsh	Lee Ee Ling
23	2	Sungei Buloh Wetland Reserve	Lim Kim Chuah
24	1	Kent Ridge Park	Jimmy Lee
25	1	Commonwealth Secondary School	Henrietta Woo
25	2	Coney Island, 12:41pm	Kerry Pereira
25	2	Waterway next to SAFRA Punggol, dark morph, 4:50pm	Kerry Pereira
26	1	Lorong Halus red bridge, 10:35am	Sarah Martens

16. White-bellied Sea Eagle *Haliaeetus leucogaster* (12)

Date	No.	Location and Details	Reported By
1	2	Satay by the Bay, adult, evening	Adrian Gopal
5	1	Coney Island, adult	Tan Gim Cheong
7	1	Dairy Farm Nature Park	Tan Gim Cheong
7	1	Sarimbang Scout Camp	Tan Gim Cheong
13	1	Jalan Bahtera	Jimmy Lee
19	2	Pulau Ubin	Tan Gim Cheong
22	1	Toa Payoh East, adult	Henrietta Woo
23	1	Kranji Marsh	Lee Ee Ling
23	2	Sungei Buloh Wetland Reserve	Lim Kim Chuah
25	2	Coney Island, 12:44pm	Kerry Pereira
25	1	Pioneer Sector Lane & Pioneer Sector 2 junction, 9:22am	Kerry Pereira
26	1	Lorong Halus red bridge, 10:52am	Sarah Martens
30	1	Punggol Barat	Timothy Chua Jia Yao

17. Grey-headed Fish Eagle *Haliaeetus ichthyaetus* (10)

Date	No.	Location and Details	Reported By
2	1	Chinese Garden, juvenile	Nicholas Tan
5	1	Mandai Road	Zahidi Hamid
7	1	Sarimbang Scout Camp	Tan Gim Cheong
14	1	Punggol Barat	Tan Gim Cheong
19	1	Pandan Canal, 12:03pm	Kenneth Lumb
23	1	Sungei Buloh Wetland Reserve, adult	Tan Gim Cheong
23	1	Kranji Marsh	Lee Ee Ling
23	1	Lorong Halus	Wong Chung Cheong
23	1	Chek Jawa, Pulau Ubin	Willie Foo
24	2	Bukit Batok Town Park (Little Guilin), adults, 8:50am - 10:30am. The recently fledged eaglet was not seen.	Ulf Remahl
25	2	Sungei Buloh Wetland Reserve, adults	GaoJian LiuJia
24	3	Bukit Batok Town Park (Little Guilin), 2 adults & 1 juvenile.	Ulf Remahl
29	1	Bukit Batok Town Park, adult, late morning	Andrew Chow

18. Crested Serpent Eagle *Spilornis cheela* (3)

Date	No.	Location and Details	Reported By
10	1	Sungei Buloh Wetland Reserve	Lim Kim Seng
13	1	Pasir Ris Park	Tan Gim Cheong
21	1	Kent Ridge Park, afternoon	Gavan Leong

19. Crested Goshawk *Accipiter trivirgatus* (5)

Date	No.	Location and Details	Reported By
3	2	Nanyang Technological University, 1 adult & 1 juvenile	Low Choon How
3	1	Sentosa near Skywalk Bridge of Fort Siloso, juvenile, morning	Zhang Licong
16	1	Botanic Gardens	Andrew Tay
24	1	Nanyang Technological University, morning	Low Choon How
31	1	Venus Drive	Henrietta Woo, Cheong Shu Min

20. Changeable Hawk-Eagle *Nisaetus cirrhatus* (8)

Date	No.	Location and Details	Reported By
2	2	Sarimbun Scout Camp, adult pale morphs	Yap Euhian
5	1	Jurong Eco Garden, afternoon	Tan Gim Cheong
6	1	Jelutong Tower	Tan Gim Cheong
7	1	Dairy Farm Nature Park	Tan Gim Cheong
7	1	Sarimbun Scout Camp	Tan Gim Cheong
13	1	Jalan Bahtera	Jimmy Lee
14	1	Punggol Barat	Tan Gim Cheong
19	1	Pulau Ubin	Tan Gim Cheong

20	1	Lower Pierce Reservoir, dark morph with yellow eyes	Jacky Soh
22	1	Lorong Halus	Tan Gim Cheong
23	1	Hume Avenue, dark morph, 9:15am	Ulf Remahl
25	1	Waterway next to SAFRA Punggol, dark morph, 4:50pm	Kerry Pereira
31	1	Cental Catchment Forest	Lim Kim Seng

21. Unidentified Raptors (3)

Date	No.	Location and Details	Reported By
1	2	Choa Chu Kang	Cheong Shu Min
23	1	Kent Tidge Park	Henrietta Woo

22. Unidentified Accipiters (2)

Date	No.	Location and Details	Reported By
22	1	Lorong Halus	Tan Gim Cheong
25	1	Singapore	Kim

Compiled by Tan Gim Cheong

Note: The numbers in brackets beside the bird names indicates the total number seen for this month. Different reports of the same raptors from the same area have been discounted to avoid duplication.

Many thanks to everyone who had reported their sightings in one way or another, and especially to Con Foley, Lim Kim Seng and Alvin Seng for the use of their photos.