

Singapore Raptor Report Autumn Migration, November 2016

(additional insertions highlighted in yellow)



Jerdon's Baza, at Jelutong Tower, 30 Nov 2016, by Francis Yap.

Summary for migrant species:

The highlight of the month was the very rare **Eurasian Sparrowhawk** over Henderson Waves on the 17th, photographed by Keita Sin. This is the second record of this species in Singapore.

November being the peak month for migrant raptors in Singapore, saw the arrival of the **Jerdon's Baza**, **Black Baza**, **Black Kite** and **Booted Eagle**. The first Jerdon's Baza was photographed at Punggol Barat on the 13th and the second at Jelutong Tower on the 30th. The first Black Baza was recorded on the 8th, a rather late date compared to previous years. The only Black Kite was photographed at Tuas South on the 27th; it was a juvenile, as with most records for this species. A dark morph Booted Eagle was first photographed at Punggol Barat on the 6th and recorded several times later in the month; it will probably winter there.

A juvenile **Eastern Marsh Harrier** was recorded on video making many low passes over Kranji Marshes on the 19th. At Tuas South, a **Common Kestrel** was recorded on the 8th and the 16th, likely the same individual. Three **Peregrine Falcons** were recorded and the one at Millenia Tower right outside an office window presented a fantastic photo-opportunity.

Seven **Ospreys** were recorded, around the northern coast and Pulau Ubin. For the other *accipiters*, twenty **Japanese Sparrowhawks** and five **Chinese Sparrowhawks** were recorded. At Potong Pasir on the 7th, a juvenile Japanese Sparrowhawk collided into a window pane, carrying food, luckily it recovered after 10 minutes and flew off. Lastly, the **Oriental Honey Buzzard**, our most common migrant raptor, was represented by 193 birds.



Oriental Honey Buzzard, a young torquatus tweeddale morph, at Ang Mo Kio Town Garden West, 25 Nov 2016, by Ender Tey.

Highlights for sedentary species:

A smart-looking, young *torquatus* tweeddale morph **Oriental Honey Buzzard** was photographed at Ang Mo Kio on the 25th, while an adult was photographed at Pasir Ris Park on the 30th. The rare **Crested Serpent Eagle** was photographed at three localities this month, at Kent Ridge on the 10th, at Sembawang on the 14th and at Rifle Range Road on the 18th. The uncommon **Crested Goshawk** was photographed at the Botanic Gardens (adult male and female) and Pasir Ris Park (juvenile). A pair of **Grey-headed Fish Eagles** are nesting high up on a tall tree at Little Guilin and we hope for a successful nesting. There was a sight report of a Blyth's Hawk-Eagle, on the 14th at dawn, which cannot be verified due to the possibility of confusion with other similar-looking species. Other resident raptors recorded were **Black-winged Kite**, **Brahminy Kite**, **White-bellied Sea Eagle** and **Changeable Hawk-Eagle**.

Table 1

S/N	Species	No.	S/N	Species	No.
1	Osprey	7		Residents / Sedentary Species	
2	Jerdon's Baza	2	13	Black-winged Kite	6
3	Black Baza	27	14	Brahminy Kite	10
4	Black Kite	1	15	White-bellied Sea Eagle	5
5	Oriental Honey Buzzard	202	16	Grey-headed Fish Eagle	5
6	Eastern Marsh Harrier	1	17	Crested Serpent Eagle	3
7	Chinese Sparrowhawk	5	18	Crested Goshawk	3
8	Japanese Sparrowhawk	23	19	Changeable Hawk-Eagle	8
9	Eurasian Sparrowhawk	1	20	<i>Blyth's Hawk-Eagle</i>	(1)
10	Booted Eagle	2			
11	Common Kestrel	1	21	Unidentified <i>Accipiters</i>	14
12	Peregrine Falcon	3	22	Unidentified Raptors	2
Total for Migrants		275	Grand Total		331

1. Osprey *Pandion haliaetus* (7)

Date	No.	Location and Details	Reported By
8	2	Pekan Quarry, Pulau Ubin, heading southeast, 11:30am - 1pm	Jacky Soh, Lioe Kim Swee
13	1	Punggol Barat, morning	Md Nasir
15	1	Punggol Barat, morning	Lee Chuin Ming
24	4	Sungei Buloh Wetland Reserve	Kristie Yeong
25	1	Kranji Marshes	Tanvi Dutta Gupta

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

Date	No.	Location and Details	Reported By
13	1	Punggol Barat, photographed, afternoon	Goh Cheng Teng
30	1	Jelutong Tower, photographed	Francis Yap

3. Black Baza *Aviceda leuphotes* (27)

Date	No.	Location and Details	Reported By
8	4	Kranji Marsh, 7:55am	Gavan Leong
8	2	Pekan Quarry, Pulau Ubin, east to west, 11:30am to 1pm	Jacky Soh, Lioe Kim Swee
8	4	Coney Island, 6pm	Alan Tang
10	2	Lorong Halus, 9:30am to 11am	Keita Sin
15	1	Pasir Ris Park	Alvin Seng
15	1	Jelutong Tower, 11am to 12:30pm	Keita Sin
17	9	Henderson Waves, 8 southbound, 9:20am to 1pm	Keita Sin
19	1	Pasir Ris Park, morning	Loke Peng Fai
24	1	Pasir Ris Park	Terence Tan
26	8	Lorong Halus	Lim Kim Chuah
26	3	Pasir Ris Park	Lim Kim Chuah
27	1	Pasir Ris Park	Alfred Ng
28	1	Pasir Ris Park	Zhang Licong
29	1	Pasir Ris Park	Alvin Seng

4. Black Kite *Milvus migrans* (1)

Date	No.	Location and Details	Reported By
27	1	Tuas South, juvenile	Adrian Silas Tay

5. Oriental Honey Buzzard *Pernis ptilorhyncus* (202) *orientalis* unless indicated otherwise

Date	No.	Location and Details	Reported By
2	1	Zoo	Lim Kim Keang
2	1	Changi Business Park, dark morph adult male, morning	Ted Lee
3	16	Kent Ridge Road	Gavan Leong
5	1	Bukit Timah Nature Reserve, foothill, 5:35pm	Geoff Lim
5	12	Bukit Timah Nature Reserve, foothill, 5:55pm	Geoff Lim

8	2	Tuas South, 9:58am	Zahidi Hamid
8	5	Tuas South, 10:30am	Zahidi Hamid
8	2	Sungei Buloh Wetland Reserve, juvenile, 10:55am	KC Ling
8	1	Tuas South, juvenile, 12:52pm	Zahidi Hamid
8	18	Pekan Quarry, heading southeast, 11:30am to 1pm	Jacky Soh, Lioe Kim Swee
10	1	Lorong Halus, 9:30am to 11am	Keita Sin
10	4	Kent Ridge, 10am - 10:30am	Gavan Leong
11	41	Botanic Gardens, moving east, ahead of rain	Richard White
12	4	Lorong Halus, 9:45am to 10:30am	Gavan Leong
12	1	West Coast Road, 11:22am	Jaime Tan
12	4	Kent Ridge Bus Terminal, 12:30pm	Henrietta Woo
14	2	Lorong Halus, at least 1 adult male, 8am to 9am	Joseph Tan Kok Beng
14	10	Kent Ridge Road, 10:05am before rain	Gavan Leong
15	1	Jelutong Tower, 11am to 12:30pm	Keita Sin
16	8	Tuas South	Frankie Cheong
17	19	Henderson Waves, southbound, 9:20am to 1pm	Keita Sin
17	5-7	National Institute of Education Block 7A	Henrietta Woo
18	1	Zoo	Frankie Cheong
18	1	Jelutong Tower, juvenile pale morph, morning	Lee Chuin Ming
20	1	Tampines Eco Green, juvenile pale morph	Alvin Seng
20	24	Tuas South, mostly juveniles, west to east, 10:40am	Alan OwYong
23	4	Changi South, adult male, 9:30am	Ted Lee
25	1	Ang Mo Kio Town Garden West, young <i>torquatus</i> tweeddale morph	Ender Tey
28	1	Kent Ridge Park	Frankie Cheong
30	1	Toa Payoh East, 9:11am	Henrietta Woo
30	1	Pasir Ris Park, adult <i>torquatus</i> tweeddale morph	Alvin Seng

6. Eastern Marsh Harrier *Circus spilonotus* (1)

Date	No.	Location and Details	Reported By
19	1	Kranji Marshes, juvenile	Lim Kim Chuah

7. Chinese Sparrowhawk *Accipiter soloensis* (5)

Date	No.	Location and Details	Reported By
early	1	Bukit Timah Nature Reserve	Tan Tze Siong
8	1	Bukit Timah hilltop, 8:30am to 9:30am	Keita Sin
12	1	Tanah Merah grasslands, female	Lee Tiah Khee
16	1	Pasir Ris Park, adult female	Alvin Seng
17	1	Pasir Ris Park, adult female	Alvin Seng
17	1	Henderson Waves bridge, 9:20am to 1pm	Keita Sin
27	1	Pasir Ris Park, adult female	Saravanan Krishnamurthy
mid	1	Ang Mo Kio town garden west, adult female	Ender Tey
end	1	Ang Mo Kio town garden west, adult female	Ender Tey

8. Japanese Sparrowhawk *Accipiter gularis* (23)

Date	No.	Location and Details	Reported By
4	2	Pulau Ubin, flying southeast	Jacky Soh
7	1	Senette Estate, Potong Pasir, juvenile, 7:50am <i>"This bird flew into my window panel with food/ headless bird....It recovered and flew off 10mins later, without food."</i>	Sew Kah Chun
8	1	Bukit Timah hilltop, 8:30am to 9:30am	Keita Sin
8	1	Tuas South, 10:30am	Zahidi Hamid
12	1	Kent Ridge Bus Terminal, juvenile, 12:30pm	Henrietta Woo
14	1	Lorong Halus, juvenile, 8am to 9am	Joseph Tan Kok Beng
15	3	Jelutong Tower, 11am - 12:30pm	Keita Sin
17	9	Henderson Waves bridge, 8 southbound, 9:20am to 1pm	Keita Sin
21	1	Punggol Barat, juvenile, 12:30pm after rain	Lawrence Cher
23	2	Punggol Barat	Frankie Cheong
28	1	Pasir Ris Park	Dawn
30	1	Satay By The Bay, juvenile, morning	Tan Eng Boo

9. Eurasian Sparrowhawk *Accipiter nisus* (1)

Date	No.	Location and Details	Reported By
17	1	Henderson Waves bridge, photographed in flight, 9:35am	Keita Sin



Eurasian Sparrowhawk, with 6 'fingers' clearly visible, at Henderson Waves, 17 Nov 2016, by Keita Sin.

10. Booted Eagle *Hieraeetus pennatus* (2)

Date	No.	Location and Details	Reported By
6	1	Punggol Barat, dark morph	Ender Tey
12	1	Punggol Barat, dark morph	Zahidi Hamid
13	1	Punggol Barat, dark morph	Zahidi Hamid
13	1	Punggol Barat, dark morph, morning	Francis Yap
14	1	Pulau Tekong, dark morph	Frankie Cheong
15	1	Punggol Barat, dark morph, morning	Lee Chuin Ming
17	1	Henderson Waves bridge, dark morph, first encounter 11:58am, flew North; second encounter 12:30pm, flew towards Labrador	Keita Sin



Booted Eagle, at Punggol Barat, 13 Nov 2016, by Francis Yap.

11. Common Kestrel *Falco tinnunculus* (1)

Date	No.	Location and Details	Reported By
8	1	Tuas South, 9:32am	Zahidi Hamid
16	1	Tuas South	Frankie Cheong

12. Peregrine Falcon *Falco peregrinus* (3)

Date	No.	Location and Details	Reported By
1	1	Millenia Tower, right outside an office window	Zhang Licong
12	1	Tanah Merah grasslands	Lee Tiah Khee
16	1	Millenia Tower, right outside an office window	Zhang Licong
19	1	Punggol Barat, 6:05pm	Zahidi Hamid



Peregrine Falcon, at Millenia Tower, 1 Nov 2016, by Zhang Licong.

Resident raptors

13. Black-winged Kite *Elanus caeruleus* (6)

Date	No.	Location and Details	Reported By
23	2	Punggol Barat	Frankie Cheong
23	2	Sungei Buloh Wetland Reserve	Tanvi Dutta Gupta
27	2	Tuas South	Tok Sock

14. Brahminy Kite *Haliastur indus* (10)

Date	No.	Location and Details	Reported By
11	1	Marina Barrage, adult	Elvin Tan
12	1	Kent Ridge Bus Terminal, 12:30pm	Henrietta Woo
17	1	National Institute of Education Block 7A, adult	Henrietta Woo
20	2	Tampines Eco Green, adults	Alvin Seng
23	4	Changi South, adult, 9:30am	Ted Lee
24	1	Singapore Science Centre	Ulf Remahl

15. White-bellied Sea Eagle *Haliaeetus leucogaster* (5)

Date	No.	Location and Details	Reported By
8	1	Coney Island, immature, 6pm	Alan Tang
13	1	TPE & KPE junction, 10:13am	Kerry Pereira
17	2	National Institute of Education Block 7A, immatures	Henrietta Woo
23	1	Pasir Ris Park, juvenile	Alvin Seng

16. Grey-headed Fish Eagle *Haliaeetus ichthyaetus* (5)

Date	No.	Location and Details	Reported By
7	3	Bukit Batok Town Park (Little Guilin), nesting, 2 adults and 1 eaglet mostly covered in white down.	Ulf Remahl
11	1	Pandan River, adult	Yap Euhian
20	1	Japanese Garden, adult	Ovaltine Bing
29	3	Bukit Batok Town Park (Little Guilin), nesting, 2 adults and 1 eaglet now fully feathered, no more down, 8:30am to 9:30am.	Ulf Remahl
30	1	Singapore Quarry, morning	Ulf Remahl

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

Date	No.	Location and Details	Reported By
10	1	Kent Ridge, 10am to 10:30am	Gavan Leong
10	1	Kent Ridge	Francis Yap
14	1	Sembawang	Low Choon How
18	1	End of Rifle Range Road	Francis Yap

18. Crested Goshawk *Accipiter trivirgatus* (3)

Date	No.	Location and Details	Reported By
10	1	Botanic Gardens, Healing Garden, adult male, feeding on a Peaceful Dove	Laurence Eu
mid	1	Pasir Ris Park, juvenile	Siew Mun
24	1	Botanic Gardens, female	Laurence Eu
25	1	Botanic Gardens, female	Laurence Eu
26	1	Botanic Gardens, adult male with prey (rodent)	Laurence Eu



Crested Goshawk, at Botanic Gardens, feeding on a Peaceful Dove, 10 Nov 2016, by Laurence Eu.

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

Date	No.	Location and Details	Reported By
10	1	Kent Ridge, 10am to 10:30am	Gavan Leong
14	1	Pulau Tekong, dark morph	Frankie Cheong
17	2	Singapore Quarry, 1 dark morph seen, other bird heard only, frequently calling, morning	Ulf Remahl
17	1	National Institute of Education Block 7A	Henrietta Woo
20	1	Tampines Eco Green, dark morph	Alvin Seng
23	1	Portsdown Road, juvenile found dead on the ground, suspected to have flown into a tall building nearby	Geraldine Hebras
30	1	Singapore Quarry, heard only, morning	Ulf Remahl
30	1	Bidadari, dark morph	Dawn

20. Blyth's Hawk-Eagle *Nisaetus alboniger* (1)

Date	No.	Location and Details	Reported By
14	1	MacRitchie Golf Course, 7am, no photos. <i>Unconfirmed report. The possibility of confusion with other similar-looking species cannot be ruled out.</i>	Serin Subaraj

21. Unidentified *Accipiters* (14)

Date	No.	Location and Details	Reported By
8	11	Pekan Quarry, Pulau Ubin, heading southeast, 11:30am to 1pm	Jacky Soh, Lioe Kim Swee
11	2	Botanic Gardens, moving east, ahead of rain	Richard White
17	1	Singapore Quarry, morning	Ulf Remahl

22. Unidentified Raptors (2)

Date	No.	Location and Details	Reported By
9	1	Central Expressway near Jalan Bahagia, raptor in a glide, very bulky bird with very long fingers, very thick wings and wide wedged tail	Adrian Silas Tay
28	1	Singapore	Alyce Ang

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 prevent duplication.

Many thanks to everyone who had reported their sightings in one way or another, and especially to Francis Yap, Ender Tey, Keita Sin, Zhang Licong and Laurence Eu for the use of their photos.