

## Singapore Raptor Report January 2017



*Oriental Scops Owl, rufous morph (left) roosting, grey morph (right) was more alert and often opened its eyes, Dairy Farm Nature Park, 10 Jan 2017, by Tan Gim Cheong*

### Summary for migrant species:

The highlight for January was the two **Oriental Scops Owls** at Dairy Farm Nature Park first seen on the 10th. Amazingly, both the grey and rufous morph of this rare migrant were present, roosting on the same tree next to the Wallace Education Centre!

All in, a total of 106 migrant raptors of 8 species were recorded. The **Black Baza** claimed the top spot with 43 birds, relegating the **Oriental Honey Buzzard** to the second place with 40 birds. There were 11 **Japanese Sparrowhawks**, including a juvenile feeding on a Zebra Dove at Pasir Ris Park on the 2nd.

Two **Jerdon's Bazas** were first photographed at Chek Jawa on the 14th, and 2 birds photographed at Pasir Ris Park on the 18th were most likely the same individuals. The juvenile **Eastern Imperial Eagle** was still at Pulau Sekudu on the 1st and 2nd. Unfortunately, there was an oil spill on the 3rd which affected the area and the eagle was not seen again until the 8th when it appeared briefly in the afternoon and was photographed. After that it was not seen again.

There were 4 **Peregrine Falcons**, including a juvenile in pursuit of a Grey Plover in level flight at Pulau Ubin. The young Peregrine failed to catch the agile Grey Plover. Of the 3 **Ospreys**, 1 was at Pulau Ubin and 2 at Kranji Marshes. The absence of the Chinese Sparrowhawk was notable.



*Crested Goshawk, male (left), female (right), Bedok North, 23 Jan 2017, by Tan Gim Cheong.*

#### Highlights for sedentary species:

January was a good month for the rare **Crested Serpent Eagle** as 4 birds were recorded - one at Pulau Ubin, one at the Kent Ridge area and two at Sembawang. Amazingly, 12 **Crested Goshawks** were recorded, probably the highest number ever in a month! Two adults and 2 juveniles at West Coast Park, a chick on a nest near the top of a raintree at the Botanic Gardens and a pair with 2 young chicks on a nest among the thick foliage of a tree in the car park of an HDB estate in Bedok North bode well for the population of this uncommon resident.

A single adult male *torquatus* **Oriental Honey Buzzard** was photographed at Jelutong Tower on the 6th, and a single **Black-winged Kite** was recorded at Pulau Punggol on the 14th. On the 26th, 8 **White-bellied Sea Eagles** comprising 3 adults and 5 immatures were present at the same time at Chek Jawa, with a number of them harassing a Great-billed Heron which had caught a catfish. The **Grey-headed Fish Eagle**, **Brahminy Kite** and **Changeable Hawk-Eagle** completed the roundup for the month.

**Table 1**

S/N	Species	No.	S/N	Species	No.
1	Osprey	3		<b>Residents / Sedentary Species</b>	
2	Jerdon's Baza	2	9	Black-winged Kite	1
3	Black Baza	43	10	Brahminy Kite	20
4	Oriental Honey Buzzard	40	11	White-bellied Sea Eagle	17
5	Japanese Sparrowhawk	11	12	Grey-headed Fish Eagle	3
6	Eastern Imperial Eagle	1	13	Crested Serpent Eagle	4
7	Peregrine Falcon	4	14	Crested Goshawk	12
8	Oriental Scops Owl	2	15	Changeable Hawk-Eagle	8
				<b>Unidentified</b>	
			16	Unidentified Raptors	7
<b>Total for Migrants</b>		<b>106</b>		<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>178</b>

### 1. Osprey *Pandion haliaetus* (3)

Date	No.	Location and Details	Reported By
21	1	Pulau Ubin, Pekan Quarry	Xu Weiting
30	2	Kranji Marshes	Zhang Licong

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

Date	No.	Location and Details	Reported By
14	2	Chek Jawa, Pulau Ubin	Khaleb Yordan, Lim Kim Chuah
18	2	Pasir Ris Park	Alvin Seng

### 3. Black Baza *Aviceda leuphotes* (43)

Date	No.	Location and Details	Reported By
2	2	Changi Business Park	Keita Sin
6	3	Jelutong Tower, morning	Tan Kok Hui, Danny Lau, Lau Jiasheng
7	2	Kranji Marshes	Lim Kim Chuah
7	2	Pasir Ris Park	Alvin Seng
8	5	Changi Business Park	Keita Sin
14	1	Pulau Punggol	Tan Kok Hui, Danny Lau
15	3	Kranji Marshes	Keita Sin
22	26	Kranji Marshes, morning	Keita Sin
26	4	Tampines Eco Green	Alvin Seng
26	1	Kent Ridge Park	Keita Sin
Jan	1	Woodlands Ave 10	Wang HengMount

### 4. Oriental Honey Buzzard *Pernis ptilorhyncus* (40)

Date	No.	Location and Details	Reported By
3	1	Singapore, adult female pale morph	Tony Chua
6	1	Jelutong Tower, adult male <i>torquatus</i>	Francis Yap
6	1	Pulau Ubin, juvenile pale morph	Tan Gim Cheong
6	1	West Coast Park	Keita Sin
6	1	West Coast Park, afternoon	Jamie Tan
7	4	Jelutong Tower	Lau Jiasheng
8	1	Changi Business Park	Keita Sin
8	1	Jelutong Tower	Keita Sin
9	5	West Coast Park, 3 adult pale morphs & 2 juvenile dark morphs, morning	Jamie Tan
10	2	Chek Jawa, Pulau Ubin, at least 1 adult male, heading NW, 2:34pm	Henrietta Woo, Jacky Soh, Ayuwat Jearwattanakanok
12	3	Kent Ridge Park	Keita Sin
12	1	West Coast Park, morning	Jamie Tan

14	1	Kranji Reservoir, adult male pale morph	James Tann
15	1	Changi Business Park	Keita Sin
16	1	Jelutong Tower	Keita Sin
16	1	Jelutong Tower, morning	Jamie Tan
18	1	Kent Ridge Park	Keita Sin
19	1	Ang Mo Kio Town Garden, adult male, 10:45am	Jacqueline Chua
20	1	Kent Ridge Park, juvenile pale morph, evening	Jamie Tan
21	5	Kranji Marshes	Keita Sin
21	1	Pulau Ubin, juvenile	Gavan Leong
21	1	Pulau Ubin, near Butterfly Hill, 8:20am	Kerry Pereira
25	1	Kent Ridge, adult male	Gavan Leong
26	3	National University of Singapore	Keita Sin
27	2	Dairy Farm Nature Park	Keita Sin
29	2	Bedok, 1 adult female, 1 immature female, both pale morphs	Teh Hong Tiong
30	2	Hort Park, juveniles	Alan OwYong
30	1	Pasir Ris Park, adult male pale morph	Phil Viles

#### 5. Japanese Sparrowhawk *Accipiter gularis* (11)

Date	No.	Location and Details	Reported By
2	1	Pasir Ris Park, juvenile with Zebra Dove prey, afternoon	Wong Sang Chin
2	1	Changi Business Park	Keita Sin
4	1	Jelutong Tower, adult female, headed NE	Francis Yap
7	1	Dairy Farm Nature Park, juvenile	Lim Kim Chuah
16	1	Jelutong Tower	Keita Sin
17	1	Dempsey Road, adult female	Zahidi Hamid
18	1	Kent Ridge Park	Keita Sin
19	1	Pulau Ubin	Gavan Leong
22	1	Yishun Dam, juvenile	Wang HengMoung
25	1	Chinese Gardens	Dawn
25	1	Bidadari, juvenile, morning	Lim Kim Keang

#### 6. Eastern Imperial Eagle *Aquila heliaca* (1)

Date	No.	Location and Details	Reported By
1	1	Pulau Sekudu, Pulau Ubin, juvenile, flew to Changi, morning	Wong Chung Cheong
2	1	Pulau Sekudu, Pulau Ubin, juvenile, flew from Changi to Pulau Sekudu at 3:45pm, then to Pulau Ubin at 3:57pm	Gavan Leong & Andrew Chow
8	1	Pulau Sekudu, Pulau Ubin, juvenile, around 4pm	Wang Wee Woan

#### 7. Peregrine Falcon *Falco peregrinus* (4)

Date	No.	Location and Details	Reported By
1	2	Pulau Ubin	Low Choon How
early	1	Singapore, juvenile	Cindy Yeo

6	1	Pulau Ubin, juvenile	Tan Gim Cheong
10	1	Chek Jawa, Pulau Ubin, juvenile, pursued a Grey Plover unsuccessfully, 4:24pm	Henrietta Woo, Jacky Soh, Ayuwat Jearwattanakanok
14	1	Dairy Farm Nature Park	Tan Kok Hui, Con Foley, Danny Lau
15	1	Tampines Eco Green	Zhang Licong
26	1	Chek Jawa, Pulau Ubin, juvenile, afternoon	Tan Gim Cheong

### 8. Oriental Scops Owl *Otus sunia* (2)

Date	No.	Location and Details	Reported By
10	2	Dairy Farm Nature Park, 1 grey & 1 rufous morph	Adrian Silas Tay, Francis Yap
11	2	Dairy Farm Nature Park, 1 grey & 1 rufous morph	Sreedharan
12	2	Dairy Farm Nature Park, 1 grey & 1 rufous morph	Frankie Lim
15	2	Dairy Farm Nature Park, 1 grey & 1 rufous morph	Saravanan Krishnamurthy
16	2	Dairy Farm Nature Park, 1 grey & 1 rufous morph	Terence Tan
17	2	Dairy Farm Nature Park, 1 grey & 1 rufous morph	Tan Chee Huat
21	2	Dairy Farm Nature Park, 1 grey & 1 rufous morph	Wong Chung Cheong
22	1	Dairy Farm Nature Park, grey morph	Leslie Loh

### Resident raptors

#### 9. Black-winged Kite *Elanus caeruleus* (1)

Date	No.	Location and Details	Reported By
14	1	Pulau Punggol	Tan Kok Hui, Danny Lau

**10. Brahminy Kite *Haliastur indus* (20)**

Date	No.	Location and Details	Reported By
6	2	Jelutong Tower, morning	Tan Kok Hui, Danny Lau, Lau Jiasheng
6	1	West Coast Park, afternoon	Jamie Tan
9	2	West Coast Park	Jamie Tan
10	3	Chek Jawa, Pulau Ubin, afternoon	Henrietta Woo, Jacky Soh, Ayuwat Jearwattanakanok
14	3	Pulau Punggol	Tan Kok Hui, Danny Lau
20	2	Kent Ridge Park, 1 adult, 1 juvenile, evening	Jamie Tan
21	2	Pulau Ubin, Pekan Quarry, 9:20am	Kerry Pereira
22	7	Kent Ridge Park	Thio Hb
23	1	West Coast Park, evening	Jamie Tan
24	1	West Coast Park, evening	Jamie Tan
26	1	Chek Jawa, Pulau Ubin, immature, afternoon	Tan Gim Cheong
28	3	Coney Island, 11:32am	Kerry Pereira
30	1	Mt Faber, adult	Ovaltine Bing

**11. White-bellied Sea Eagle *Haliaeetus leucogaster* (17)**

Date	No.	Location and Details	Reported By
6	2	Jelutong Tower, morning	Tan Kok Hui, Danny Lau, Lau Jiasheng
6	1	Dairy Farm Nature Park, morning	Jamie Tan
10	4	Chek Jawa, Pulau Ubin, afternoon	Henrietta Woo, Jacky Soh, Ayuwat Jearwattanakanok
14	3	Pulau Punggol	Tan Kok Hui, Danny Lau
16	1	Jelutong Tower, adult, morning	Jamie Tan
20	1	Woodlands	Yong Jun Zer
21	2	Pulau Ubin, Sensory Trail, 1 adult & 1 juvenile, 11:30am	Kerry Pereira
26	8	Chek Jawa, Pulau Ubin, 3 adults & 5 immatures, afternoon	Tan Gim Cheong
28	5	Coney Island, 11:35am	Kerry Pereira

**12. Grey-headed Fish Eagle *Haliaeetus ichthyaetus* (3)**

Date	No.	Location and Details	Reported By
7	1	Upper Pierce Reservoir, adult	Alan Tang
18	1	Bukit Batok Town Park (Little Guilin), adult perched on its usual bush on the cliff, morning	Ulf Remahl
30	1	Faber Crest	Peng Ah Huay

**13. Crested Serpent Eagle *Spilornis cheela* (4)**

Date	No.	Location and Details	Reported By
5	1	Pulau Ubin	Subha & Raghav Narayanswamy
8	1	Gilman Barracks, flying towards Kent Ridge, 9:55am	Danny Lau
10	1	Kent Ridge	Francis Yap
30	2	Sembawang	Lim Kim Keang

**14. Crested Goshawk *Accipiter trivirgatus* (12)**

Date	No.	Location and Details	Reported By
4	3	West Coast Park, 2 adults fighting and fell to the ground, 1 juvenile on the tree	Kristie Yeong
6	2	West Coast Park, juveniles, afternoon	Jamie Tan
7	1	Changi, adult, 5pm	Francis Kayano Chia
8	1	BKE near Eco-Link, adult in flight	Geoff Lim
8	1	Botanic Gardens, adult	Laurence Eu
21	1	West Coast Park, adult	Alok Mishra
22	1	Botanic Gardens, 1 young chick in white down	Laurence Eu
22	2	Bedok North, a pair	Thio Hb
23	2	Bedok North, a pair	Tan Gim Cheong
25	1	Kent Ridge, juvenile	Gavan Leong
25	1	Bedok North, adult female feeding on Javan Myna	Adrian Tan
26	2	Bedok North, a pair, 2 young chicks in white down feathers seen on nest	Tan Gim Cheong
27	1	Bedok North, adult female feeding on Javan Myna	Adrian Tan
27	2	Bedok North	Jonathan Kuah
27	2	Bedok North, adult male brought a bat	Tan Chee Huat
29	2	Bedok North, adult male	Lim Kim Seng

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

Date	No.	Location and Details	Reported By
6	1	Bidadari, juvenile pale morph	Zahidi Hamid
6	2	Pulau Punggol	Tan Kok Hui
10	1	Chek Jawa, Pulau Ubin, adult pale morph, 4:16pm	Henrietta Woo, Jacky Soh, Ayuwat Jearwattanakanok
14	1	Bukit Batok Nature Park, dark morph	Tan Kok Hui, Con Foley, Danny Lau
16	1	Jelutong Tower, juvenile, morning	Jamie Tan
26	2	Gardens by the Bay, 1 adult, 1 juvenile	Keita Sin

## **16. Unidentified Raptors (7)**

<b>Date</b>	<b>No.</b>	<b>Location and Details</b>	<b>Reported By</b>
7	1	28 Scotts Road	Matthew Edwards
18	1	NTU park, 8:30am	Patricia Lorenz
21	1	Pulau Ubin, Pekan Quarry, 8:30am, suspect juvenile GHFE	Kerry Pereira
26	2	Paya Lebar MRT, very high, heading NE, 11:55am	Kerry Pereira
28	1	Coney Island, very high, heading N, 11:38am	Kerry Pereira
28	1	Punggol Waterway Woodcress, 11:59am	Kerry Pereira

*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.*