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Common Redshank on 1 March 2009 at Sungei Buloh Wetland Reserve by Tan Gim Cheong



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Bird Report

March 2009

By Chow Chong Peck and Lim Kim Chuah

SINGAPORE HIGHLIGHTS



Blue-eared Kingfisher on 23 March 2009 at Lower Peirce Reservoir by Lim Kim Chuah

After an exciting February, activity in March was slow in comparison. The boardwalk at Lower Pierce Reservoir continued to receive attention but this time besides the confiding **Black-backed Kingfisher**, there was the bonus of a pair of **Blue-eared Kingfishers** attempting to build a nest - the first time this has been observed in Singapore. Other highlights in other parts of the island included a **Mangrove Pitta** on Pulau Ubin, **Greater and Lesser Green Leafbirds** in Sime Forest, **Blue-rumped Parrots** at Bukit Timah Nature Reserve and **White-shouldered Starlings** on Pulau Ubin. This month also saw some of our winter visitors moulting into their summer plumage. This is helpful in differentiating between the two species of Pond Herons found here proving that both **Chinese** and **Javan Pond Herons** winter in Singapore.

SUMMARY

This report covers noteworthy bird sightings in March 2009 for Singapore and the surrounding region. In general, the report will include but are not limited to the following categories: rarities, breeding or nesting records, arrival and departure dates for migratory species, new locality records, escapees and unusual behaviour.

In addition, contributors are also advised to be as precise as possible concerning records. Please remember to include details such as how many birds were seen, the plumage, sex and age of the birds, the type of habitat in which they were observed, the food they were eating (if possible, identify the plant or animal), the weather encountered (what was the wind direction, tide conditions, etc.). Although it is not necessary to have such details for all record submissions, it is a good habit to cultivate and is normally required for very rare or unusual species.

Please send all your records of interest to Lim Kim Seng @ ibisbill@yahoo.com or Lim Kim Chuah @ pittalover@yahoo.com.sg or Yong Ding Li at zoothera@yahoo.com. Alternatively you can also post your sightings at the NSS Bird Group website at <http://wildbirdsingapore.nss.org.sg> Please send your records no later than one week after the end of every month. Your contributions will be greatly appreciated and acknowledged.

Unless stated otherwise, nomenclature and systematic follow K.S. Lim's (2007) "Pocket Checklist of the birds of the Republic of Singapore (Second Edition)", K.S. Lim & K.C. Lim's (1999) "Pocket checklist of the birds of Johor, Peninsular Malaysia" for Johor, and B.L. Monroe Jr. & C.G. Sibley's (1993) "A World Checklist of Birds " for the rest of the region.

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ABBREVIATIONS USED:

BBW	Bukit Batok West	MP	Malcom Park
BBNP	Bukit Batok Nature Park	NTL2	Neo Tiew Lane 2
BP	Bishan Park	PFR	Panti Forest Reserve
BTNR	Bukit Timah Nature Reserve	POY	Poyan
CCNR	Central Catchment Nature Reserve	PU	Pulau Ubin
CG	Chinese Garden	PUN	Punggol
KB	Khatib Bongsu	SBWR	Sungei Buloh Wetland Reserve
KRP	Kranji Park	SER	Serangoon North
LH	Lorong Halus	SF	Sime Forest
LSR	Lower Seletar Reservoir	SP	Sembawang Park
MF	Mount Faber	TB	Telok Blangak
MMF	Mandai Mudflat		

SINGAPORE

RED JUNGLEFOWL *Gallus gallus*

15 counted on 15/3 during ABC 2009 at PU.

RUFOUS WOODPECKER *Celeus brachyurus*

8 counted on 15/3 during ABC 2009 at BBW/MP/KB/PUN/NTL2/SBWR.

LINEATED BARBET *Megalaima lineata*

10 counted on 15/3 during ABC 2009 at BBW/KRP/MP/POY. 1 seen at Hindhede Nature Park on 26/3 (LKS).

ORIENTAL PIED HORNBILL *Anthracoceros albirostris*

12 counted on 15/3 during ABC 2009 at PU. 1 seen 26/3 perched on a lamp post at Braddell flyover (LEL),. This could possibly be an escapee. 2 seen 27/3 at Pasir Ris Park (HoB). The male was observed perched on a tree in the mangrove area.

COMMON KINGFISHER *Alcedo atthis*

5 counted on 15/3 during ABC 2009 at BP/LH/CG/SBWR. 1 seen 21/3 at NTL2 (DA/Shb).

BLUE-EARED KINGFISHER *Alcedo meninting*

1 seen on 15/3 at Sime Forest (HF). A pair was observed digging a hole at Lower Pierce Reservoir, 23/3 (LKC). Unfortunately this nesting attempt was not successful.

BLACK-BACKED KINGFISHER *Ceyx erithacus*

1 seen at a forest stream at Lower Peirce Reservoir on 13/3 (SA/LKS).

STORK-BILLED KINGFISHER *Pelargopsis capensis*

20 counted on 15/3 during ABC2009 at PU/SBG/KB/CG/POY/SBWR.

BLACK-CAPPED KINGFISHER *Halcyon pileata*

2 counted on 15/3 during ABC 2009 at CG/NTL2. 1 seen 21/3 at NTL2 (DA/Shb).

BLUE-THROATED BEE-EATER *Merops viridis*

54 counted on 15/3 during ABC 2009 at BTNR/BBW/PU/MF/MP/KB/PUN/LH/NTL2/POY/MMF.

BLUE-TAILED BEE-EATER *Merops philippinus*

51 counted on 15/3 during ABC 2009 at PU/KP/SBG/LSR/CG/NTL2/POY. 150 seen 11/3 at CCNR (JS), gathering just before roosting.

BANDED BAY CUCKOO *Cacomantis sonnerati*

1 heard in albizia woods at Dairy Farm Road on 14/3 (LKS). 2 counted on 15/3 during ABC 2009 at BBW.

PLAINTIVE CUCKOO *Cacomantis merulinus*

1 counted on 15/3 during ABC 2009 at LH/POY.

RUSTY-BREASTED CUCKOO *Cacomantis sepulcralis*

3 counted on 15/3 during ABC 2009 at BBW/POY/NTL2.

VIOLET CUCKOO *Chrysococcyx xanthorhynchus*

1 heard at Hindhede Nature Park on 26/3 (LKS). 2 seen at Dairy Farm Road, 14/3 (LKC).

ASIAN DRONGO CUCKOO *Surniculus lugubris*

1 heard at Dairy Farm Road on 10/3 (LKS) and 1 heard at Lower Peirce Reservoir, 13/3 (LKS). 1 counted on 15/3 during ABC 2009 at BTNR. 1 heard at Hindhede Nature Park, 8/3 (LKC). 1 at the summit of BTNR, 14/3 (LKC).

CHESTNUT-BELLIED MALKOHA *Phaenicophaeus sumatranus*

1 seen at Sime Road on 15/3 (JL/LKS). 2 counted on 15/3 during ABC 2009 at POY.

RAINBOW LORIKEET *Trichoglossus haematodus*

5 counted on 15/3 during ABC 2009 at BTNR/MP. 5 at Dairy Farm Road, 14/3 (LKC).

YELLOW-CRESTED COCKATOO *Cacatua sulphurea*

3 counted on 15/3 during ABC 2009 at MF. 1 seen at Hindhede Nature Park, 8/3 (LKC).

TANIMBAR CORELLA *Cacatua goffini*

9 counted on 15/3 during ABC 2009 at MP/SBG/SP.

BLUE-RUMPED PARROT *Psittinus cyanurus*

7 seen flying over Belukar Track, BTNR, on 14/3 (LKS). 3 counted on 15/3 during ABC 2009 at BTNR.

BLUE-CROWNED HANGING PARROT *Loriculus galgulus*

1 seen at Nee Soon, 1/3 (LKS), 2 over at Sime Road on 15/3 (JL/LKS). 18 counted on 15/3 during ABC 2009 at BTNR/BBW/SF/KRP/TB/MP/SBG. 1 seen at Hindhede Nature Park on 26/3 (LKS).

RED-BREASTED PARAKEET *Psittacula alexandri*

21 counted on 15/3 during ABC 2009 at BBW/PU/MP/KB/LSR/NTL2/PY. 5 seen on 7/3 at Burgundy Hill Estate (DA). 1 of the males observed to feed on the fruit of a Rose of India.

LONG-TAILED PARAKEET *Psittacula longicauda*

72 counted on 15/3 during ABC 2009 at BTNR/BBW/SF/PU/KRP/MP/SBG/KB/SP/PUN /NTL2/POY/SBWR.

BARN OWL *Tyto alba*

1 counted on 15/3 during ABC 2009 at KPR.

COLLARED SCOPS OWL *Otus lempiji*

4 heard on 11/3 at CCNR (JS).

BUFFY FISH OWL *Ketupa ketupu*

1 seen on 11/3 at CCNR (JS).

BROWN HAWK-OWL *Ninox scutulata*

1 seen on 8/3 at MacRitchie Reservoir (LKC).
6 heard on 11/3 at CCNR (JS).

GREY NIGHTJAR *Caprimulgus indicus*

1 counted on 15/3 during ABC 2009 at CG.

RED TURTLE DOVE

Streptopelia tranquebarica

8 counted on 15/3 during ABC 2009 at BBW/PUN/NTL2/SBWR.

COMMON EMERALD DOVE

Chalcophaps indica

5 counted on 15/3 during ABC 2009 at PU/SBWR.

RED-LEGGED CRAKE *Rallina fasciata*

1 counted on 15/3 during ABC 2009 at SBWR. 2 at Mandai Zoo, 22/3 (LKC/YDL).

SLATY-BREASTED RAIL *Gallirallus striatus*

2 counted on 15/3 during ABC 2009 at BBW/POY.



Brown Hawk-owl on 8/3 at MacRitchie Reservoir by Lim Kim Chuah

WATERCOCK *Gallicrex cinerea*

1 seen 21/3 at NTL2 (DA/Shb).

PIN-TAILED SNIPE *Gallinago stenura*

1 counted on 15/3 during ABC 2009 at LH.

COMMON SNIPE *Gallinago gallinago*

1 counted on 15/3 during ABC 2009 at LH.

WHIMBREL *Numenius phaeopus*

106 counted on 15/3 during ABC 2009 at MMF/SBWR.

A few seen on 29/3 at MMF (WCC).

COMMON REDSHANK *Tringa totanus*

80 counted on 15/3 during ABC 2009 at KB/SBWR. 1 photographed on 1/3 at SBWR (TGC).

MARSH SANDPIPER *Tringa stagnatilis*

32 counted on 15/3 during ABC 2009 at LH/MMF/SBWR.

COMMON GREENSHANK *Tringa nebularia*

137 counted on 15/3 during ABC 2009 at KB/LSR/SER/LH/MMF/SBWR.

WOOD SANDPIPER *Tringa glareola*

2 counted on 15/3 during ABC 2009 at LH.

TEREK SANDPIPER *Tringa cinerea*

2 counted on 15/3 during ABC 2009 at MMF.

COMMON SANDPIPER *Tringa hypoleucos*

42 counted on 15/3 during ABC 2009 at BBW/BP//PU/LSR/SER/LH/NTL2/MMF/SBWR.

PACIFIC GOLDEN PLOVER *Pluvialis fulva*

136 counted on 15/3 during ABC 2009 at SER/LH/MMF/SBWR.

LITTLE RINGED PLOVER *Charadrius dubius*

4 counted on 15/3 during ABC 2009 at LH.

LESSER SAND PLOVER *Charadrius mongolus*

48 counted on 15/3 during ABC 2009 at MMF.

RED-WATTLED LAPWING *Vanellus indicus*

6 counted on 15/3 during ABC 2009 at BBW/MMF. 2 seen on 21/3 at NTL2 (DA/Shb), in flight together.

LITTLE TERN *Sterna albifrons*

2 counted on 15/3 during ABC 2009 at NTL2.

OSPREY *Pandion haliaetus*

5 counted on 15/3 during ABC 2009 at LSR/NTL2/MMF/SBWR. 1 seen 11/3 at CCNR (JS). 1 seen 21/3 at NTL2 (DA/Shb), in flight over the reservoir.

BLACK BAZA *Aviceda leuphotes*

20 counted on 15/3 during ABC 2009 at BTNR/BBNP/PU/KRP/SP/PUN/SER/POY/SBWR. 1 seen 23/3 at SF (JS). 5 soaring over the summit of BTNR, 14/3 (LKC)

CRESTED HONEY-BUZZARD *Pernis ptilorhyncus*

1 seen 6/3 at Japanese Gardens (JS). 4 counted on 15/3 during ABC 2009 at BP/PUN/SER. 8 seen on 15/3 thermaling over Queensway (JS). There were later observed to head towards north-west. 43 seen on 18/3 at Tuas South (MaS). 1 seen on 26/3 at Alexandra Road (JS), perched on the roof of a house.

GREY-HEADED FISH EAGLE *Ichthyophaga ichthyaetus*

1 seen on 12/3 at MacRitchie Reservoir (JS). 1 seen 8/3 at Lower Peirce Reservoir (BL). 1 seen 12/3 at Kranji Marsh (BL), with a squirrel.

CHINESE SPARROWHAWK *Accipiter soloensis*

1 male seen on 12/3 at MacRitchie Reservoir (JS).

JAPANESE SPARROWHAWK *Accipiter gularis*

3 counted on 15/3 during ABC 2009 at KB/SBWR. 1 male and 1 female seen on 12/3 at MacRitchie Reservoir (JS).

CHANGEABLE HAWK-EAGLE *Spizaetus cirrhatus*

1 seen on 2/3 at Mandai Tekong Park (CyN). 1 seen 11/3 at CCNR (JS). 8 counted on 15/3 during ABC 2009 at BTNR/BBW/SR/PU/MP/KB/NTL/POY. 1 seen at Sime Road on 15/3 (JL/LKS). 1 adult pale morph seen 21/3 at NTL2 (DA/Shb). 1 seen 23/3 at SF (JS).

PEREGRINE FALCON *Falco peregrinus*

1 counted on 15/3 during ABC 2009 at PU. 1 seen on 15/3 over Stevens Road at Queenstown (JS). 1 seen on 29/3 at Pulau Ubin (JS).

LITTLE GREBE *Tachybaptus ruficollis*

1 counted on 15/3 during ABC 2009 at LH.

LITTLE EGRET *Egretta garzetta*

33 seen on 1/3 at SBWR (TGC). 150 counted on 15/3 during ABC 2009 at BBW/BP/PU/KB/LSR/SER/LH/CG/NTL2/MMF/SBWR. A few seen on 29/3 at MMF (WCC), one of which was seen with red feet.

GREY HERON *Ardea cinerea*

98 counted on 15/3 during ABC 2009 at PU/LSR/PUN/SER/LH/CG/MMF/SBWR. 1 photograph 9/3 at Pasir Ris Beach Park (LJY), with a huge catch. A few seen on 29/3 at MMF (WCC).



Grey Heron on 9 March at Pasir Ris Beach Park by Lim Jit Yin (Koel)

PURPLE HERON *Ardea purpurea*

7 counted on 15/3 during ABC 2009 at CG/NTL2/MMF/SBWR.

GREAT EGRET *Casmerodius albus*

14 counted on 15/3 during ABC 2009 at LSR/SER/LH/NTL2/MMF/SBWR.
1 on 1/3 at SBWR (TGC). A few seen on 29/3 at MMF (WCC).

YELLOW-BILLED EGRET *Egretta intermedia*

4 counted on 15/3 during ABC 2009 at LSR/SER/ SBWR. 1 seen 21/3 at NTL2 (DA/Shb), on the bund.

CATTLE EGRET *Bubulcus ibis*

36 counted on 15/3 during ABC 2009 at SER/LH/CG/NTL2/MMF.

POND HERON *Ardeola spp.*

16 counted on 15/3 during ABC 2009 at BP/LH/CG/NTL2/SBWR.

A few seen in winter plumage 28/3 at Pasir Ris (MiP) together with both **Chinese** and **Javan Pond Herons** in summer plumages. 1 on 29/3 at MMF (WCC).

CHINESE POND HERON *Ardeola bacchus*

A few seen 28/3 at Pasir Ris (MiP), in summer plumage. 2 in summer plumage seen on 29/3 at MMF (WCC). 2 in summer plumage at Mandai Zoo, 22/3 (LKC/YDL).



Chinese Pond Heron (left) and **Javan Pond Heron** (right) on 28/3 at Pasir Ris by Mick Price

JAVAN POND HERON *Ardeola speciosa*

1 in summer plumage photographed 28/3 at Pasir Ris (MiP).

STRIATED HERON *Butorides striatus*

49 counted on 15/3 during ABC 2009 at BP/PU/KB/LSR/SER/LH/CG/MMF/SBWR.

BLACK-CROWNED NIGHT HERON *Nycticorax nycticorax*

11 counted on 15/3 during ABC 2009 at PU/SBG/CC/SBWR.

YELLOW BITTERN *Ixobrychus sinensis*

7 counted on 15/3 during ABC 2009 at KRP/SBG/LS/LH/CG/NTL2/SBWR.

MANGROVE PITTA *Pitta megarhyncha*

1 counted on 15/3 during ABC 2009 at PU.

ASIAN FAIRY BLUEBIRD *Irena puella*

5 counted on 15/3 during ABC 2009 at BTNR.

GREATER GREEN LEAFBIRD *Chloropsis sonnerati*

1 seen 23/3 at Sime Forest (JS).

LESSER GREEN LEAFBIRD *Chloropsis cyanopogon*

1 counted on 15/3 during ABC 2009 at Sime Forest.

BLUE-WINGED LEAFBIRD *Chloropsis cochinchinensis*

5 counted on 15/3 during ABC 2009 at BTNR/Sime Forest.

TIGER SHRIKE *Lanius tigrinus*

4 counted on 15/3 during ABC 2009 at PU/TB/NTL2. 1 seen 21/3 at NTL2 (DA/Shb).

BROWN SHRIKE *Lanius cristatus*

14 counted on 15/3 during ABC 2009 at BBW/MF/PUN/SER/LH/CG/NTL2/POY. 1 seen 21/3 at NTL2 (DA/Shb).

LONG-TAILED SHRIKE *Lanius schach*

1 counted on 15/3 during ABC 2009 at LH. 1 seen 21/3 at NTL2 (DA/Shb).

ASHY MINIVET *Pericrocotus divaricatus*

123 counted on 15/3 during ABC 2009 at BTNR/BBW/PU/KRP/MP/KB/PUN/POY/MMF/SBWR. 1 seen 21/3 at NTL2 (DA/Shb). 5 at Hindhede Nature Park on 26/3 (LKS).

CROW-BILLED DRONGO *Dicrurus annectans*

3 counted on 15/3 during ABC 2009 at KB/SBWR.

ASIAN PARADISE FLYCATCHER *Terpsiphone paradisi*

1 seen 23/3 at SF (JS).

ASIAN BROWN FLYCATCHER *Muscicapa dauurica*

25 counted on 15/3 during ABC 2009 at BBW/BP/SF/TB/MF/MP/SBG/SP/PUN/SER/CG/PUN/MMF/SBWR.

YELLOW-RUMPED FLYCATCHER *Ficedula Zanthopygia*

3 counted on 15/3 during ABC 2009 at KRP/KB.

SIBERIAN BLUE ROBIN *Luscinia cyane*

1 counted on 15/3 during ABC 2009 at BTNR.

ORIENTAL MAGPIE-ROBIN *Copsychus saularis*

31 counted on 15/3 during ABC 2009 at PU/MF/MP/SBG/KB/SP/PUN/LH/POY/SBWR.

WHITE-RUMPED SHAMA *Copsychus malabaricus*

5 counted on 15/3 during ABC 2009 at SF/PU. 3 seen 23/3 at SF (JS).

DAURIAN STARLING *Sturnus sturninus*

188 counted on 15/3 during ABC 2009 at BTNR/BP/SF. 30 seen on 12/3 at MacRitchie Reservoir (JS). 2 seen 23/3 at SF (JS).

WHITE-SHOULDERED STARLING *Sturnus sinensis*

9 counted on 15/3 during ABC 2009 at BP/PUN.

COMMON HILL MYNA *Gracula religiosus*

2 over Belukar Track, BTNR, on 14/3 (LKS). 27 counted on 15/3 during ABC 2009 at BTNR/SF/PU/KRP/MF/MP/SBG/KB.

BARN SWALLOW *Hirundo rustica*

82 counted on 15/3 during ABC 2009 at BTNR/BBW/BP/PU/SBG/LSR/PUN/NTL2/MMF.

PACIFIC SWALLOW *Hirundo tahitica*

190 counted on 15/3 during ABC 2009 at BBW/BP/PU/KRP/TB/MP/KBS/SP/LSR/SER/LH/CG/NTL2/POY/MMF/SBWR.

STRAW-HEADED BULBUL *Pycnonotus zeylanicus*

At least 2 seen on 8/3 at BBNP (CCP) feeding on a fruiting tree by the quarry pond. 55 counted on 15/3 during ABC 2009 at BTNR/PU/TB/MF/MP/KB/POY/SBWR. 3 seen at Hindhede Nature Park on 26/3 (LKS) and 2 on 8/3 (LKC).



Straw-headed Bulbul feeding on a fruiting tree by the quarry pond at on 8 March at BBNP by Andrew Chow

BLACK-CRESTED BULBUL *Pycnonotus melanicterus*

1 heard from the summit of BTNR, 14/3 (LKC).

OLIVE-WINGED BULBUL *Pycnonotus plumosus*

63 counted on 15/3 during ABC 2009 at BTNR/SF/PU/MP.

CREAM-VENTED BULBUL *Pycnonotus simplex*

7 counted on 15/3 during ABC 2009 at BTNR/SF. 1 seen 23/3 at SF (JS).

ASIAN RED-EYED BULBUL *Pycnonotus brunneus*

3 counted on 15/3 during ABC 2009 at BTNR/KRP.

ORIENTAL WHITE-EYE *Zosterops palpebrosus*

8 counted on 15/3 during ABC 2009 at MF/MP/CG/SBWR. 2 seen feeding on white flowers along Hindhede Road, 8/3 (LKC)

ORIENTAL REED WARBLER *Acrocephalus orientalis*

4 counted on 15/3 during ABC 2009 at LH.

RUFOUS-TAILED TAILORBIRD *Orthotomus sericeus*

9 counted on 15/3 during ABC 2009 at BTNR/KRP/MP/KB/SBWR.

ARCTIC WARBLER *Phylloscopus borealis*

20 counted on 15/3 during ABC 2009 at BTNR/BBW/BP/SF/TB/SER/MMF/SBWR. More than 5 seen 23/3 at SF (JS).

WHITE-CRESTED LAUGHINGTHRUSH *Garrulax leucolophus*

21 counted on 15/3 during ABC 2009 at BTNR/BBW/TB/MF/MP/NTL2/POY.

SHORT-TAILED BABBLER *Malacocinda malaccensis*

1 seen on 7/3 at MacRitchie Reservoir (LKC), taking a bath in a stream. 3 counted on 15/3 during ABC 2009 at SF.



Short-tailed Babbler on 7/3 at MacRitchie Reservoir by Lim Kim Chuah

COPPER-THROATED SUNBIRD *Nectarinia calcostetha*

16 counted on 15/3 during ABC 2009 at PU/SBWR.

LITTLE SPIDERHUNTER *Arachnothera longirostris*
8 counted on 15/3 during ABC 2009 at BTNR/SF.

FOREST WAGTAIL *Dendronanthus indicus*
1 counted on 15/3 during ABC 2009 at SBWR.

GREY WAGTAIL *Motacilla cinerea*
1 counted on 15/3 during ABC 2009 at BBW.

BAYA WEAVER *Ploceus philippinus*
31 counted on 15/3 during ABC 2009 at BBW/NTL2/POY.

ESCAPEES

PAINTED STORK *Mycteria leucocephala*
3 counted on 15/3 during ABC 2009 at CG/SBWR.

GREAT COMMORANT *Phalacrocorax carbo*
1 counted on 15/3 during ABC 2009 at MMF.

RED JUNGLEFOWL *Gallus gallus*
3 counted on 15/3 during ABC 2009 at BBW/MP/NTL2.

LESSER WHISTLING DUCK *Dendrocygna javanica*
2 counted on 15/3 during ABC 2009 at SBG.

BLACK SWAN *Cygnus atratus*
2 counted on 15/3 during ABC 2009 at SBG.

MUTE SWAN *Cygnus olor*
4 counted on 15/3 during ABC 2009 at SBG.

RHINOCEROS HORNBILL *Buceros rhinoceros*
1 counted on 15/3 during ABC 2009 at BTNR.

AFRICAN GREY PARROT *Psittacus erithacus*
1 counted on 15/3 during ABC 2009 at MP.

PIED IMPERIAL PIGEON *Ducula bicolor*
7 counted on 15/3 during ABC 2009 at CG.

JAPANESE WHITE-EYE *Zosterops japonicus*
2 counted on 15/3 during ABC 2009 at BP.

BREEDING / NESTING REPORTS

BLUE-EARED KINGFISHER *Alcedo meninting*

1 seen 23/3 digging a nest hole at Lower Peirce (LKC).

BLUE-CROWNED HANGING PARROT *Loriculus galgulus*

1 pair seen 12/3 at City Hall area (CyN). They were observed inspecting a hole on a tree at St. Andrew's Cathedral. They flew off about 5 minutes later.

PURPLE HERON *Ardea purpurea*

About 23 nests counted at Mandai Zoo, 22/3 (LKC/YDL). There were also several Grey Heron and at least 1 nest of Milky Stork.

COMMON HILL MYNA *Gracula religiosa*

1 seen with nest material near a tree cavity at Hindhede Nature Park on 26/3 (LKS).

JOHOR

GREAT ARGUS *Argusianus argus*

1 heard at Lenggong Forest Reserve, Kahang, on 21/3 (LKS).

LESSER WHISTLING DUCK *Dendrocygna javanica*

Up to 100 seen daily in freshwater ponds at Kahang Organic Rice Farm, 20-21/3 (LKS/SBS).

WHITE-BELLIED WOODPECKER *Dryocopus javensis*

A pair seen at Bunker Track, 8/3 (LKS).

CRIMSON-WINGED WOODPECKER *Picus puniceus*

1 at Bunker Track, 8/3 (DA/JC/AC/LKK/LKS/SSL/TPL/TJL/WC).

BLACK HORNBILL *Anthracoceros malayanus*

1 heard at Lenggong Forest Reserve, Kahang, on 21/3 (LKS).

WREATHED HORNBILL *Aceros undulatus*

1 seen being mobbed by a Greater Racket-tailed Drongo at Lenggong Forest Reserve, Kahang, on 21/3 (LKS).

BLUE-EARED KINGFISHER *Alcedo meninting*

1 seen by the irrigation channel at Lenggong Forest Reserve, Kahang, on 21/3 (LKS).

BANDED KINGFISHER *Lacedo pulchella*

1 heard at Bunker Track, 8/3 (DA/JC/AC/LKK/LKS/SSL/WC).

BLUE-RUMPED PARROT *Psittinus cyanurus*

5 at Bunker Track, 8/3 (DA/JC/AC/LKK/LKS/SSL/WC) and 10 at Lenggong Forest Reserve, Kahang, on 21/3 (LKS).

BARRED EAGLE OWL *Bubo sumatranus*

1 seen well in broad daylight at Lenggong Forest Reserve, Kahang, on 21/3 (LKS).

CINNAMON-HEADED GREEN PIGEON *Treron fulvicollis*

A male seen at Bunker Track, 8/3 (LKS).

BLACK BAZA *Aviceda leuphotes*

2 seen at Lenggong Forest Reserve, Kahang, on 21/3 (LKS).

CHANGEABLE HAWK EAGLE *Spizaetus cirrhatus*

A dark morph at Bunker Track, 8/3 (DA/JC/AC/LKK/LKS/SSL/TPL/TJL/WC). Another heard at Lenggong Forest Reserve, Kahang, on 21/3 (LKS).

BLACK-THIGHED FALCONET *Microhierax fringillarius*

2 seen at Lenggong Forest Reserve, Kahang, on 21/3 (LKS).

BANDED BROADBILL *Eurylaimus javanicus*

1 heard at Bunker Track, 8/3 (DA/JC/AC/LKK/LKS/SSL/TPL/TJL/WC).

BLACK-AND-YELLOW BROADBILL *Eurylaimus ochromalus*

A pair seen adding to a nearly complete nest 7 metres up a tree at Bunker Track, 8/3 (DA/JC/AC/LKK/LKS/SSL/TPL/TJL/WC).

BLACK MAGPIE *Platysmurus leucopterus*

1 heard at Lenggong Forest Reserve, Kahang, on 21/3 (LKS).

SPOTTED FANTAIL *Rhipidura perlata*

1 seen at Bunker Track, 8/3 (LKS). It was heard to give a harsh, scolding “cheek!”.

ASIAN PARADISE FLYCATCHER *Terpsiphone paradisi*

3 at Bunker Track, 8/3 (DA/JC/AC/LKK/LKS/SSL/TPL/TJL/WC).

ASIAN BROWN FLYCATCHER *Muscicapa dauurica*

1 at Bunker Track, 8/3 (DA/JC/AC/LKK/LKS/SSL/TPL/TJL/WC) and 1 at Lenggong Forest Reserve, Kahang, on 21/3 (LKS).

ARCTIC WARBLER *Phylloscopus borealis*

1 at Bunker Track, 8/3 (DA/JC/AC/LKK/LKS/SSL/TPL/TJL/WC) and 1 at Lenggong Forest Reserve, Kahang, on 21/3 (LKS).

EASTERN CROWNED WARBLER *Phylloscopus coronatus*

2 at Bunker Track, 8/3 (DA/JC/AC/LKK/LKS/SSL/TPL/TJL/WC). One bird was seen singing a canary-like song.

Report on the 24th Annual Bird Census

By Lim Kim Seng

The Nature Society (Singapore)'s Bird Group conducted its 24th Annual Bird Census (ABC) on 15th March 2009 in generally fair weather. It saw the involvement of a total of 40 people at 23 sites, down from 46 observers and 27 sites in 2008. In all, 7,135 birds from 144 species were recorded, the lowest since 2005.

Of the 23 sites counted, Ubin West and Neo Tiew Lane 2 were the most diverse with 57 species each followed by Buloh 2 with 53 species. The least diverse sites were Telok Blangah Hill Park with 27 species recorded, followed by Sime Road with 30 species and Sembawang Park, with 31 species.

The most bird populous site was, as expected, Sungei Mandai. It had 665 birds, a tremendous drop from 1,896 birds of 2008. Whether this drastic drop is a one-off occurrence will depend on future census results but this is the first time in recent years that numbers had dropped below 1,000 birds for this site. In second place was Neo Tiew Lane 2 with 590 birds and third was Botanic Gardens with 433 birds. The least populous sites were Telok Blangah Hill Park with 180 birds counted, followed by Mount Faber with 205 birds and Bukit Timah Nature Reserve (213).

Pulau Ubin and Sungei Buloh were two megabiodiversity protected areas which had two sites each in ABC 2009 but it was Sungei Buloh which had a better overall diversity this round with 71 species compared to Pulau Ubin's 67. However, in terms of abundance, Pulau Ubin was well ahead with 766 birds compared to Buloh's rather poor 489.

Because of the lack of observers and other unforeseen circumstances, Bukit Batok Nature Park, Kranji Dam, Marina City Park, Marina East, Nee Soon, Pasir Ris Park, Sentosa, Simpang Grassland and Upper Seletar Reservoir were not covered in this year's census. It is hoped that the pool of leaders can be increased in the years ahead, with the involvement of more people from the birding community.

What then was Singapore's most numerous bird? Well, it was none other than our ubiquitous sturnid yet again. The **White-vented Myna** retained its pole position for the third successive year with a score of 1,161 birds, down from 1,364 birds of 2008. Second was **Asian Glossy Starling** with 481 birds, a decrease from the 607 birds last year. Coming in third to fifth positions were **Pink-necked Green Pigeon** (389), **Yellow-vented Bulbul** (382) and **Black-naped Oriole** (190). All the birds in the top five positions scored less when compared with 2008 (Lim, K.S. 2008).

The remaining top ten birds were **Pacific Swallow**, in sixth place with 190 birds, up from 162 in 20-08, **Spotted Dove** (188), **Daurian Starling** (188), **Little Egret** (150) and **Common Pigeon** (143).

Perhaps the most dramatic fall of all was that of the **Pacific Golden Plover**. This year, it scored 136 birds to hold 13th position. It was runners-up last year with 1,038 birds. Its decline was also reflected in the other waterbirds. Only the **Little Egret** (and not a single wader) was in the Top Ten this year. Whether this is just a blip or the start of a decline is unknown.

The most dramatic rise was shown by the **White-headed Munia**. No birds were counted in 2008 but 120 birds were counted this year, enabling it to rise to 18th position. Also noteworthy was the rise of the migrant sturnid, **Daurian Starling**, which scored 188 birds to rise to 9th place, a remarkable performance considering that only 5 birds were present in 2008.

The top 20 birds of 2009 are listed below (Table 1) together with comparative numbers and rankings from 2008:

#	SPECIES	ABC 2009	ABC 2008
1	WHITE-VENTED MYNA	1161	1364 (1)
2	ASIAN GLOSSY STARLING	481	607 (3)
3	PINK-NECKED GREEN PIGEON	389	448 (5)
4	YELLOW-VENTED BULBUL	382	468 (4)
5	BLACK-NAPED ORIOLE	190	243 (6)
6	PACIFIC SWALLOW	190	162 (13)
7	SPOTTED DOVE	188	210 (8)
8	DAURIAN STARLING*	188	5 (107)
9	LITTLE EGRET*	150	190 (11)
10	COMMON PIGEON	143	112 (20)
11	HOUSE CROW	141	191 (10)
12	COMMON GREENSHANK*	137	202 (9)
13	PACIFIC GOLDEN PLOVER*	136	1038 (2)
14	COLLARED KINGFISHER	131	165 (12)
15	OLIVE-BACKED SUNBIRD	124	127 (17)
16	ASHY MINIVET*	123	128 (16)
17	COMMON IORA	120	132 (15)
18	WHITE-HEADED MUNIA	120	0 (unplaced)
19	WHIMBREL*	106	232 (7)
20	ASIAN KOEL	102	100 (22)

Table 1: Top 20 Most Numerous Birds in ABC 2009
(Note: Species marked with an asterisk indicate migrants.)

The total number of migrant species recorded was 37 species or 25.7% of the total of 144 species counted. 106 species were resident and one, a non-breeding visitor.

Of the 56 nationally threatened species, 20 species (down from 21 in 2008) or 35.7% were recorded. The most abundant nationally threatened species was the Grey Heron with a count of 98 birds, down from 115 birds in 2008 and falling to 21st position overall. The only globally threatened species encountered in this year's census was Straw-headed Bulbul of which 55 birds were recorded, up slightly from 51 in 2008 and 50 in 2007 and putting it in 32nd position. It was also the second most numerous nationally threatened species recorded this year. Our third most numerous nationally threatened species was the Oriental Magpie Robin, which was placed 49th with its nation-wide count of 31 birds. It was 50th in 2008 with a similar score of 34 birds.

The most exciting birds observed during ABC 2009 were a **Barn Owl** at Kent Ridge Park, a **Grey Nightjar** at Chinese Garden, a **Mangrove Pitta** at Ubin Central and **White-shouldered Starlings** at Bishan Park (1 bird) and Punggol (8) and a **Grey Wagtail** at Bukit Batok West.

The following people led or assisted in ABC 2009 and made it a success:

Doreen Ang, Chan Kim Cheng, Chan Mei Yee, Chen Jinwen, Alfred Chia, Geoffrey Davison, SC Fang & family, Con Foley, Willie Foo, Margie Hall, James Heng, Ho Hua Chew, Kenneth Kee, Nessie Khoo, Maurice Kwan, Danny Lau, Lee Ee Ling, Jimmy Lee, Lim Kim Chuah, Lim Kim Keang, Lim Kim Seng, Alan Owyong, Peng Ah Huay, SK Phang, Rehan Yusoff, Jane Rogers, John Spencer, Tan Ju Lin, Tan Kok Hui, Mendis Tan, Tan Siew Kwang, Tan Soon Im, Teh Kiam Poh, Wee Sau Cheng, Wing Chong, Wong Chung Cheong and Yang Pah Liang.

Thanks once again to all who helped ensure the success of this 24th edition of the ABC. I hope you had fun and see you again in our special 25th edition in 2010!

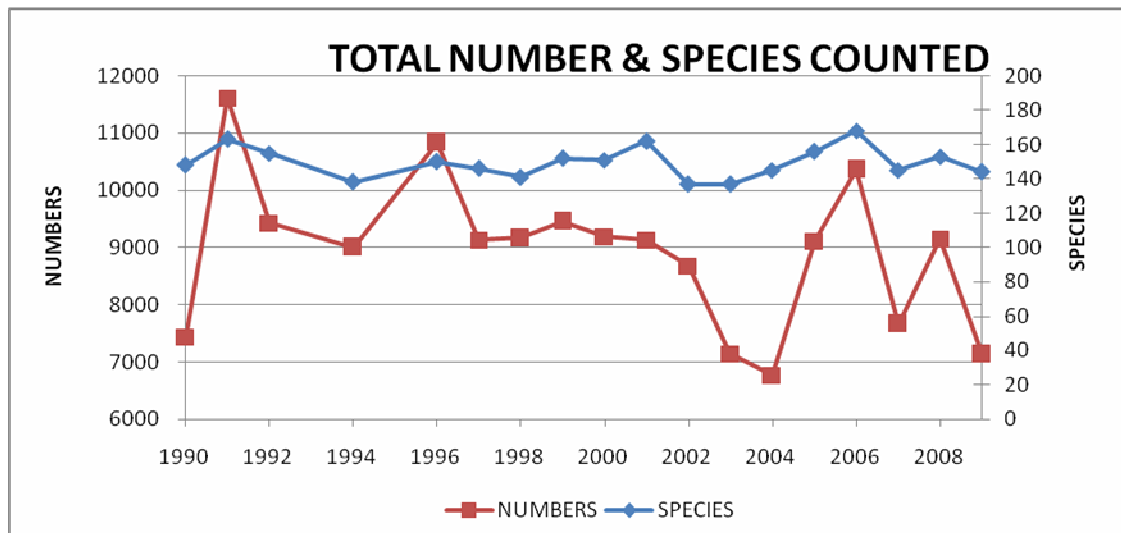


Figure 1: Total bird numbers and species of Annual Bird Census, 1990-2009

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Singapore Raptors Report Spring Migration, March 2009

Reported by Alan OwYong and edited by Kenneth Kee

SUMMARY

We finally had our first migrating flock of **Oriental Honey-buzzards** for Spring, thanks to Martti Siponen. On 22nd afternoon at Tuas South, he counted a total of **359** OHBs flying along the western coast of Tuas towards Johore in the north. Largest single group counted was 40 raptors. This could be part of the larger flocks that migrate over from Sumatra to Tanjong Tuan, Malacca in March every year and maybe forced to the south by change of prevailing winds. We will make it a point to do a count at Tuas next March. Martti met a casual birder who told him that he counted 159 “eagles” flying over Ang Mio Kio Town Gardens on the same morning. With Martti’s count, the Honey-buzzards top the list for the first time with a total record of **429** counted. This gave us a grand total of **499** raptors for March, the highest monthly count since we started compiling records in October 2007. We had a total of 8 species with single record of **Chinese Sparrowhawk** and a late **Common Buzzard**. A pair of **Eastern Marsh Harriers** were reported wintering at Tuas Grasslands. **Peregrine Falcons** were recorded in the resident area of Bishan and downtown Novena. **Black Bazas** were seen by many observers all over Singapore during the Annual Bird Census. **Ospreys** were spotted at Sime Forest and Tuas beside its usual haunt in Kranji while **Japanese Sparrowhawks** were still reported wintering at three locations.



A pair of **Black-winged Kites** in aerial combat at Changi Cove by Lee Tiah Khee graced this month cover.

Migrant Raptors

Table 1

S/N	Species	No.	S/N	Species	No.
1	Oriental Honey-buzzard	429	6	Chinese Sparrowhawk	1
2	Black Baza	43	7	Common Buzzard	1
3	Peregrine Falcon	8	8	Eastern Marsh Harrier	2
4	Osprey	5	9	Unidentified Raptors	6
5	Japanese Sparrowhawk	4		Total	499

Note: The numbers are indicative only with similar species in the same area discounted to prevent duplication

Oriental Honey Buzzard (429)



Migrating flocks of OHBs over Tuas by Martti Siponen

- 1st One seen at Chek Jawa flying ENE by Martti Siponen
- 5th Two soaring birds over Holland Village by Martti Siponen
- 6th One reported at the Japanese Gardens by John Spencer
- 15th Eight were seen thermaling over Queensway by John Spencer. The flock then headed North West.
- 15th One over at Serangoon by Kok Hui
- 18th 34 migrating across Tuas South flying to NE by Martti Siponen
- 21st Three reported at Japanese Gardens attacked by crows by Martti Siponen.
- 22nd One flying to WNW at SBWR by Martti Siponen

22nd The largest ever migrating flock of 359 OHBs reported at Tuas South by Martti Siponen between 3.00pm and 6.00pm. All were flying towards Johore to the north.

Check out his short video clip posted @ <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=X6v2Roe0EYM>

24th The last group of 17 over the same area at Tuas South by Martti Sipoden.

26th One reported perched on a roof at Alexandra Road by John Spencer.

27th One flying over the AYE at Clementi by Martti Siponen.

Black Baza (43)

- 1st Four at Chek Jawa, Pulau Ubin by Martti Siponen
8th A total of 14 birds reported by Martti at Sungei Buloh (SBWR)



Black Baza at Japanese Gardens by Martti Siponen

- 10th Two seen swooping around Tiup Tiup Trees at South Buona Vista side of KRP by Margie Hall
15th Four reported by Martti at Pulau Ubin.
15th During the Annual Bird Census (ABC), Wing Chong and SK Phang reported 4 at Bukit Batok West. Kok Hui had 3 thermaling over Serangoon.

- 15th *Continued from ABC*, Con Foley and Danny Lau reported three birds over at Poyan, with one at Sembawang Park by Margie Hall. John Spencer got two at SBWR route 2 while Mendis Tan and Kenneth Kee got 1 at SBWR route 1, likely the same bird seen by John. Two more birds were seen soaring at BTNR by Lim Kim Chuah. A single bird at Pulau Ubin was reported by SK Kwang and in Ubin West another single bird noted by Willie Foo and SC Fang.
16th One over at CCK Christian Cemetery by Alfred Chia
21st Two seen at Japanese Gardens by Martti Siponen.
21st Pah Liang reported one flying over the food court at Botanic Gardens
23rd One spotted flying over Sime Forest by John Spencer

Peregrine Falcon (8)



Peregrine Falcon at Pulau Ubin's Jetty by Martti Siponen

- 1st One seen at the Jetty of Pulau Ubin by Martti Siponen, was spotted again on the 15th.
3rd One seen over at Novena Square by Piet Opstaele
6th One perched on antenna at Bishan by Sun Chong Hong.
15th One reported at Pulau Ubin by SK Kwang during ABC
15th One seen above Steven's Road by John Spencer.

- 21st One at Tuas South seen hunting by Martti with another reported on 24th.

- 28th A pair seen having an aerial duel over at Kranji by Alan OwYong
29th One seen at Pulau Ubin by John Spencer, most likely the same bird spotted during ABC.
29th Two reported at Bishan by Sun Chong Hong. *Note: Falcon was still around in April.*

Osprey (5)

- 11th One was spotted from the Jelutong Tower at Sime Forest by John Spencer
15th Doreen and Ah Huay reported one fishing at Seletar Dam area
15th Mendis Tan and Kenneth Kee sighted one at SBWR during ABC
21st One seen hunting at Neo Tiew Lane 2 by Doreen and Sherub.
25th One seen carrying fish over at Tuas by Martti Siponen.
29th One reported at SBWR by Martti, probably the same bird sighted on the 15th.

Japanese Sparrowhawk (4)

- 2nd A male was seen circling above Camden Park by Piet Opstaele
12th Two reported at MacRitchie by John Spencer
15th One at SBWR by Mendis Tan during ABC. John Spencer sent in another report, likely the same one over at SBWR.

Chinese Sparrowhawk (1)

- 12th A single male was seen flying across MacRitchie by John Spencer.

Common Buzzard (1)

- 5th One was seen harassed by crows at Sembawang camp by Avian Chia.

Eastern Marsh Harrier (2)



- 24th A second year bird was seen hunting at Tuas South grasslands by Martti Siponen.

- 25th A male reported at Tuas South by Martti. Could be the same Harrier reported there last month.

Eastern Marsh Harrier hunting at Tuas by Martti Siponen

Unidentified Raptors (6)

- 1st One Sparrowhawk species seen at Chek Jawa by Martti.
 8th Two Sparrowhawks species seen at SBWR by Martti
 21st One Sparrowhawk species over at Japanese Gardens by Martti.
 22nd One Sparrowhawk species at SBWR by Martti.
 28th A possible juvenile Rufous-bellied Eagle soaring over Kranji Marshes reported by Alan OwYong.

Resident Raptors

Nesting records of the **White-bellied Sea Eagles** (Yishun and Mandai), **Brahminy Kites** (Seletar Air Base with fledglings) and the **Changeable Hawk-eagles** (Laguna Golf Club) were still reported for March. The Changeable Hawk-eagle nest reported last month near Bukit Batok Park was observed to have successfully fledged. Thanks to the Annual Bird Census held on the 15th, there were good numbers of resident raptors reported from all over the island. The Kranji Marshes area retained the top spot for the highest species count for both the migrant and resident raptors. The **Crested Serpent Eagle** was again spotted this month at Chestnut Water Works followed by a posting in Stomp website of one perched on a lamp-post at Lentor Avenue in early April. The **Grey-headed Fish Eagles** were reported flying over at Holland Village and Pulau Ubin while the **Black-winged Kites** were doing well at Sungei Buloh, Changi and Tuas.

Table 2

S/N	Species	No.	S/N	Species	No
10	White-bellied Sea Eagle	34	13	Grey-headed Fish Eagle	9
11	Brahminy Kite	23	14	Black-winged Kite	9
12	Changeable Hawk-eagle	11	15	Crested Serpent Eagle	1
				Total	87

Note: The numbers are indicative only with similar species in the same area discounted to prevent duplication

White-bellied Sea Eagle (34)

- 1st Martti started the month with report of three adults and three juveniles at Pulau Ubin.
 7th Lena Chow reported two at Lower Pierce.
 8th Martti had two adults and two juveniles at SBWR
 10th Raj Krishnan reported a juvenile flying over Changi Beach
 11th John Spencer sighted two adults and one juvenile from Sime Forest's Jelutong Tower
 12th A juvenile attacked by crows reported by Ben Lee at Kranji Marshes
 12th A large nest with a pair of adults was photographed by Poh Bee at Yishun Ave 6.
 15th We had good records during ABC at various locations: One bird at Seletar Dam by Doreen and Ah Huay. A juvenile over the Eco Pond at Botanic Gardens by Pah Liang. two at Lorong Halus by Alfred Chia. two at Serangoon from Kok Hui. One at Poyan from Con Foley and Danny Lau. One from Sembawang Park by Margie Hall. One from SBWR by Kenneth Kee and Mendis Tan. Two were seen over at

- Pulau Ubin West with one in nest by Willie Foo and SC Fang. Note that Martti also reported an adult and three juveniles at Pulau Ubin on the same day.
- 17th An adult over at Holland Village by Martti Siponen
- 20th Two adults and one juvenile over at SBWR by Martti.
- 21st Two adults at Japanese Gardens by Martti.
- 21st A pair of adults over at Neo Tiew Lane 2 by Doreen and Sherub. Three were also seen flying over Kranji reservoir by Alan OwYong
- 22nd One over at SBWR in the morning and another over at Tuas in the afternoon by Martti.
- 24th An adult over at Tuas South by Martti and again on 25th and 26th.
- 28th Two reported at the Kranji Marshes by Alan OwYong
- 29th Three adults and one juvenile at Pulau Ubin by John Spencer
- 29th An adult at Bukit Batok NPark by Martti.
- 31st Raj Krishnan reported one perched at Mandai Crematorium. Raj suspected it may be nesting nearby.

Brahminy Kite (23)



Juvenile Brahminy Kites at SBWR by Martti Siponen

- 1st Two reported at Pulau Ubin by Martti Siponen.
- 3rd Two at SBWR by Martti Siponen and three on 8th at SBWR
- 6th Two reported over at the Japanese Gardens by John Spencer
- 8th Two fledglings and one adult noted by Lena Chow and Poh Bee at Seletar Air Base. Poh Bee reported one juvenile flying over Bah Soon Pah Road
- 15th ABC counts: Single bird seen at Bukit Batok West by Wing Chong and SK Phang, Seletar Dam by Doreen and Ah Huay, Serangoon by Kok Hui, Poyan by Con Foley and Danny Lau, SBWR by John Spencer, Malcom Road by Jane Rogers, Ubin West by Willie Foo and SC Fang and Ubin by Siew Kwang. (Martti had one bird at Ubin on same day). Two at SBWR was recorded by Kenneth and Mendis (One of which could be the same bird reported earlier by John Spencer)
- 16th One at CCK Christian Cemetery by Alfred Chia
- 21st An adult and two juveniles reported at Japanese Gardens by Martti.
- 22nd An adult and two juveniles at SBWR by Martti.
- 22nd Two reported at Tuas South by Martti and again the next three days.
- 25th One at Murai Farmway by Alfred Chia.
- 26th Two adults at Tuas South by Martti and the next two days.

- 28th A juvenile seen together with the same pair of adults at Tuas South by Martti.
- 28th One at Kranji Marshes by Alan OwYong
- 28th Two adults at the Japanese Gardens by Martti.
- 29th Two reported by John Spencer at Pulau Ubin. Could be the same birds seen earlier by Martti.

Changeable Hawk-Eagle (11)

- 1st A dark morph reported at Pulau Ubin by Martti Siponen
- 4th Cyril reported a nest at Laguna Country Club together with an adult nearby.
- 8th Two individuals reported at SBWR by Martti.
- 11th One over at Sime Forest's Jelutong Tower by John Spencer
- 12th One over at Kranji Marshes by Ben Lee
- 15th ABC counts: One at Bukit Batok West by Wing Chong and SK Phang, one at Poyan by Con Foley and Danny Lau, one heard over at Malcom Road by Jane Rogers and a dark morph at Bukit Timah nature reserve by Lim Kim Chuah.
- 21st An adult dark morph over at Neo Tiew Lane2 by Doreen Ang and Sherub.
- 27th William reported the successful fledgling of the pair at Bukit Batok. Their nesting was reported in last month report.

Grey-headed Fish-Eagle (9)

- 7th One over at Lower Pierce Reservoir by Lena Chow
- 8th One also reported at Lower Pierce by Ben Lee
- 8th Two reported over Bukit Batok by Martti Siponen
- 12th Ben Lee reported an individual flying off with a squirrel on its talon at Kranji Marshes. This appears to be exceptional as this species is normal a fish-eater.
- 12th One reported by John Spencer over at MacRitchie Reservoir



Grey-headed Fish Eagles at Lower Pierce by Lee Tiah Khee

- 14th A pair was photographed by Lee Tiah Khee at Lower Pierce after being attracted by their noisy calls

- 15th One over at Pulau Ubin by Siew Kwang
17th Two seen by Martti flying north over at Holland Village

Black-winged Kite (9)

- 1st One at Pulau Ubin reported by Martti Siponen.
3rd One at SBWR reported by Martti Siponen
8th A pair at SBWR by Martti Siponen
13th A pair was photographed fighting over at Changi Cove by Lee Tiah Khee (front cover)
19th One over at Tuas by Martti Siponen.
21st One at Neo Tiew Lane2 by Doreen and Sherub.
22nd Two at Tuas reported by Martti and again on 25th & 27th followed by individual sightings on 24th, 26th, 28th and 29th, all at Tuas.
25th One hovering the green field along Choa Chu Kang Road by Alfred Chia.

15. Crested Serpent Eagle (1)

- 15th One perched high up at Chestnut Water Works reported by Eddy Lee.
On 7th April, Victor Kuah posted a picture of one perched on a lamp post at Lentor Avenue in the Stomp website. Sun Chong Hong alerted us on this post.

** The numbers in brackets besides the bird name indicates the total number seen for this month. Different reports of the same raptors from the same area are discounted to prevent duplication.*

*Compiled by Alan OwYong from reports sent in to the WildbirdSingapore e-forum.
Edited by Kenneth Kee. Many thanks to those who sent in their reports and special thanks to Lee Tiah Khee & Martti Siponen for the use of their photographs and video clip.*