

Singapore Raptors Report for February 2008

Summary:

As expected the numbers of migrating raptors dropped to 82 from 123 for January, for this transition month. Again the **Black Bazas** (59 reported) accounted for 72% of the total. The largest roosting flock of 25 was reported by Tsen Thauming at Admiralty Park. Total species stayed at 7 boosted by a late report and photo of a **Chinese Sparrowhawk** at SBWR by Leslie Fung and the Find of the month- a Female **Pied Harrier** at Tuas by Danny Weng and Jai Sheng. It could be that the new reclaimed land at the western part of Singapore is now attracting these raptors. The **Oriental Honey Buzzards** reports came in from all over the island numbering 10 in total. These buzzards must be wintering here. It looks like the **Peregrine Falcons** and the **Ospreys** are also wintering in Kranji area and Upper Pierce respectively.

The resident raptors numbers (57) stayed almost the same as January (56) with the **White-bellied Sea-eagles** and **Brahminy Kites** maintaining their top two positions. The Crested Serpent Eagle seemed to have returned to the Sime Forest. The nationally threatened **Grey-headed Fish Eagle** was seen at our urban forest at Little Guilin, outside their core forest surroundings by Doreen. What is the implication of this sighting? Nesting activities of our resident raptors came in with some of the sightings but were left out in this report.



Black Baza.

Table 1

No	Migrating Raptors	Total for the month
1	Black Baza	59
2	Crested Honey-buzzard	10
3	Peregrine Falcon	3
4	Japanese Sparrowhawk	2
5	Osprey	4
6	Pied Harrier	1
7	Chinese Sparrowhawk	1
	Unidentified	2
	Total	82

Table 2

No	Resident Raptors	Total for the month
8	White-Bellied Sea Eagle	26
9	Brahminy Kite	19
10	Changeable Hawk-eagle	5
11	Black-winged Kite	3
12	Crested Serpent Eagle	1
13	Grey-headed Fish Eagle	3
	Total	57

Note : The total numbers in Table 1 & 2 are just an indicative figure for this report only as there could be a possibility of double-counting the same bird in a small island like Singapore.

INDIVIDUAL RECORDS

1. Black Baza

Date	No.	Location	Reported by.
2nd	7	Marina East	Mike Hooper
8th	2	Bukit Timah N R	Lim Kim Chuah
9th	4	Seen flying over Turuk Track	KC Tsang
9th	1	Botanic Gardens	Con Foley
10th	4	Neo Tiew Lane 2	Lim Kim Seng
12th	11	This flock was reported roosting at Admiralty Park	Kok Hui
14th	7	Lorong Halus	Lee Taih Khee
17th	5	Seen perched at Springleaf during NSS outing	Willie, Ee ling and HHC
18th	25	Admiralty Park (could be part of the roosting group)	Tsen Thauming
23rd	1	Bukit Timah	Ben Lee
24th	2	Kranji countryside	Sunny Yeo
17th	1	Flying around SBWR	Ee Ling

2. Crested (Oriental) Honey-buzzard



Crested Honey Buzzard by KC Tsang

Date	No	Location	Reported by
7th	2	Pulau Ubin	Con Foley
10th	1	Bukit Timah Quarry	Alan and Kenneth Kee
12th	2	Upper Pierce Reservoir 1 pale and 1 dark morph	Gim Cheong
15th	1	Upper Pierce Reservoir	KS Tsang
25th	1	Over NUS	Ding Li
28th	1	Lower Pierce Reservoir	Con Foley
28th	1	Flying over Macpherson and later perched	Gloria Seow
29th	1	Keppel Club	Alan OwYong

3. Peregrine Falcon



Peregrine Falcon at Upper Pierce by KC Tsang

- 3rd Ee Ling seen one perched high up at Japanese Gardens. Could be the same raptor that is wintering there.
- 5th KC Tsang photographed a flying Peregrine (*ernesti*) at U. Pierce reservoir.
- 10th Ben Lee reported that the Peregrine is still wintering at P. Ubin.

4. Japanese Sparrowhawk

- 2nd Mike Hopper reported a flying over Marina East
- 13th James Heng had an individual flying over Sime Forest

5. Osprey

- 9th One was seen flying over Turuk Track by KC Tsang
9th Same day, Willie Foo had one perched at Lower Pierce Reservoir.
10th One was seen flying at Neo Tiew Lane 2 by Kim Chuah.
10th Kim Seng had two over the same area later. Save to say that a pair is wintering at Kranji
17th One was reported fishing at the Kranji Reservoir by Sunny Yeo.

6. Pied Harrier



Female Pied Harrier taken at Tuas by Danny Weng

- 17th Danny and Jia Sheng photographed a female perched after hunting at the Tuas Grassland. This is the first record for the season. It is good to see the Harriers returning to the western part of the island

7. Chinese Sparrowhawk

- 21st Leslie Fung submitted a photo of one bird taken at Sungei Buloh Wetland Reserve.

Unidentified

10th One pale and one dark unidentified raptor at Neo Tiew Lane 2 reported by KC Tsang

RESIDENT RAPTORS

8. White-bellied Sea Eagle

Date	No	Location	Reported by
?	4	Pioneer JC	Jia Sheng
2nd	1	Juvenile seen at Changi Cove	Ding Li
3rd	1	At Woodlands Ave 7	Cyril Ng
3rd	1	Flying over Japanese Gardens	Ee Ling
6th	1	Circling over Bedok Reservoir	Willie Foo
9th	2	Flying over Turuk Track	KC Tsang
10th	1	Perched by the side of Pierce Reservoir	Willie Foo
16th	1	Flying over Bukit Timah Hill	Alan OwYong
16th	1	Chestnut Drive	Ben Lee
17th	1	Juvenile at SBWR	Ee Ling
17th	1	Springleaf	Willie Foo
17th	2	Kranji Countryside	Sunny Yeo
20th	1	Flying over Clementi Area	Alan OwYong
24th	1	At CCK Cemeteries	Alan & Kenneth Kee
24th	1	Flying over Springleaf during NSS outing	Ee Ling & HHC
24th	1	Juvenile at Upper Pierce	Ben Lee
24th	1	Kranji area	Sunny Yeo
29th	3	In flight over Neo Tiew Lane 2	Chung Cheong
29th	1	Hindhede Park	Lim Kim Chuah

9. Brahminy Kite

Date	No	Location	Reported by
2nd	1	Adult at Changi Cove	Ding Li
3rd	1	Flying over Japanese Gardens	Ee Ling
4th	4	Soaring over Tuas	Kenneth Kee
5th	1	Photographed at U Pierce with a elongated beak	KC Tsang
8th	1	Juvenile at BTBR	Lim Kim Chuah
10th	3	Counted at P.Ubin	Ben Lee
10th	1	Flying over Chinese Gardens	Ee Ling
11th	1	Flying over Alexandra Road	Alan OwYong
16th	1	Upper Pierce	Ben Lee
16th	1	Chestnut Drive	Ben Lee
17th	1	Kranji	Sunny Yeo
17th	1	Flying over SBWR	Ee Ling
20th	1	Clementi	Alan OwYong
24th	1	CCK Cemeteries	Alan & Kenneth

10. Changeable Hawk-eagle

- 10th One dark morph was reported by Willie Foo at Lower Pierce.
13th One heard at Sime Forest by James Heng
19th One at Neo Tiew Lane 2 reported by Doreen.
24th Two was seen perched at Springleaf area during the NSS outing. Reported by Ee Ling.

11. Black-winged Kite

- 10th Two reported at Neo Tiew Lane 2 by Lim Kim Seng.
24th One was seen flying towards Poyang at CCK Cemeteries by Alan and Kenneth.

12. Crested Serpent Eagle

- 3rd One heard at Ranger's Station at Sime Forest by Chung Cheong. Could be the same individual reported by James Heng at Venus Dr. last month.

13. Grey-headed Fish Eagle

- 6th One was seen by Lim Kim Chuah at the LCK Cemeteries
17th A surprised find by Doreen at Little Guilin at Bukit Gombak. One was seen fishing at the lake. First for the area.
23rd One was reported at the Springleaf area by Willie, Joe Lim and HHC.

Compiled by Alan OwYong from postings on WildbirdSingapore e-group. Edited and layout by Kenneth Kee.

Many thanks to the many contributions and reports from the birders and photos from KC Tsang, Lee Tiah Khee and Danny Weng.