

Singapore Raptor Report

Autumn Migration, November 2010

Summary:

A total of 450 migrant raptors representing 10 species were recorded this month. Leading the pack are the **Black Bazas** with 291 birds. This included, at Tuas, an impressive kettle of 180 birds! As usual, **Oriental Honey Buzzards** came in second in terms of numbers with a total of 105. The third most recorded migrant raptor was the **Japanese Sparrowhawk** with 28 birds.

November 2010 was an exceptional month for the rare **Jerdon's Baza**. A total of 4 of these were recorded. The first two were seen together on the casuarinas trees in Changi on the 20th, an adult and a 'pale-faced' juvenile. This sets the early date for this species back by 10 days. One week later, on the 27th, another 'dark-faced' juvenile was seen near the same spot. On the 30th, an adult was seen at Bidadari. All these four individuals were also photographed. Little is known about the movements of this species which is distributed disjointedly across India and Southeast Asia.



Jerdon's Baza, juvenile, in flight, at Changi on 27 Nov 10, by Tan Kok Hui

Bidadari also presented another goodie this season – a **Booted Eagle**! It was seen and photographed on the 10th. This was preceded by a record on the 5th at Seletar West, the usual haunt for this species. **Eastern Marsh Harriers** were recorded from the usual haunts at Changi Cove / Tanah Merah and Pulau Semakau. Similarly, **Common Buzzards** were recorded from their usual haunts at Changi. Other migrant raptors recorded this month included **Chinese Sparrowhawk**, **Osprey** and **Peregrine Falcon**.

For the resident species, it was good to have another sighting of our rare **Crested Goshawk**. This time, a juvenile was seen at Ang Mo Kio Town Garden West on the 27th. **Grey-headed Fish-Eagles** continue to hold out at the MacRitchie Reservoir to Bukit Batok belt. Note that the counts for the 1-day Raptor Watch on 7th November were not included in this report. It is available as a separate report.



Eastern Marsh Harrier, Changi Cove, 03 Nov 10, by Lee Tiah Kee

Table 1

S/N	Species	No.	S/N	Species	No.
1	Osprey	3		<i>Residents / Sedentary Species</i>	
2	Jerdon's Baza	4	11	Black-winged Kite	12
3	Black Baza	291	12	Brahminy Kite	33
4	Oriental Honey Buzzard	105	13	White-bellied Sea Eagle	16
5	Eastern Marsh Harrier	5	14	Grey-headed Fish Eagle	3
6	Chinese Sparrowhawk	5	15	Crested Goshawk	1
7	Japanese Sparrowhawk	28	16	Changeable Hawk-eagle	12
8	Common Buzzard	2		<i>Unidentified</i>	
9	Booted Eagle	2	17	Unidentified Raptors	6
10	Peregrine Falcon	5	18	Unidentified <i>Accipiters</i>	4
Total for Migrants		450	Grand Total		537

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

1. Osprey *Pandion haliaetus* (3)

Date	No.	Location and Details	Reported By
5	1	Seletar West	Tan Kok Hui, Con Foley, Danny Lau
12	1	Sungei Buloh Wetland Reserve	Lim Kim Seng
14	1	Tuas View Drive	Martti Siponen

2. Jerdon's Baza *Aviceda jerdoni* (4)

Date	No.	Location and Details	Reported By
20	2	Changi, 1 adult, 1 juvenile perched on casuarinas tree, 9am, overcast conditions. Juvenile has pale face.	Danny Lau, Tan Kok Hui, Con Foley
27	1	Changi, juvenile with dark face	Danny Lau, Tan Kok Hui
30	1	Bidadari, adult	Anon.



*Jerdon's Baza, adult, Changi
20 Nov 10, by Danny Lau*



*Jerdon's Baza, 'pale-faced'
juvenile, Changi 20 Nov 10,
by Danny Lau*



*Jerdon's Baza, 'dark-
faced' juvenile, Changi
27 Nov 10,
by Tan Kok Hui*

3. Black Baza *Aviceda leuphotes* (291)

Date	No.	Location and Details	Reported By
2	180	Tuas, a kettle of them at 13:15pm.	Peter Jones
2	8	Tuas	Peter Jones
5	1	Seletar Expressway, Seletar West Exit	Con Foley
10	2	Telok Blangah Hill, 8:25am	Doreen Ang
11	2	Kent Ridge Park	Lam Hon Pui
12	2	Kranji Marsh	Lim Kim Seng
14	1	Tuas View Drive, migrating SE at 10:00am	Martti Siponen
16	10	Normanton Park, 7:30am	Horst Flotow
20	6	Along Changi Coastal Road, 4 were thermalling in a kettle	Danny Lau, Tan Kok Hui, Con Foley
20	1	Pasir Ris Farmway, perched	Tan Kok Hui
20	1	Tampines Expressway near Lorong Halus	Tan Kok Hui

21	2	Neo Tiew Lane 2	Jane Rogers, Doreen Ang, Nessie, Ah Huay, Ian and Freda Rickwood
21	15	Plant nursery off Clementi Road, 5:45pm	Horst Flotow
21	1	Bidadari, afternoon	Jean-Marc Chavatte
24	6	Rail Mall, Upper Bukit Timah Road, soaring about 200-300m high, 8:30am	Gerard Francis & Anthony Chia
27	3	Changi	Danny Lau, Tan Kok Hui
27	51	Upper Pierce Reservoir <i>“On Saturday morning I saw 51 Black Bazas between 8am and 9am above Upper Pierce Reservoir. There was a group of 23, then a group of 9 and then a further group of 19. They all circled for a while before moving off in a general southwest direction.”</i>	Jeremy Lewis
27	3	Sungei Buloh Wetland Reserve	Alan Owyong, Jimmy Chew, Lee Ee Ling
27	1	Bidadari, circling	Wong Chung Cheong

4. Oriental Honey Buzzard *Pernis ptilorhyncus* (105)

Date	No.	Location and Details	Reported By
1	3	Lower Delta Road, 3 birds thermalling, 11:30am	Con Foley
1	1	Serangoon Gardens, morning	Wong Loong Tat
1	1	Pulau Ubin, 1 pale juv.	Robert Teo
2	11	Tuas	Peter Jones
3	1	City area	Peter Jones
6	2	King's Avenue, Sembawang, 2 circling and calling, afternoon	Margie Hall
12	1	Central Catchment	Lim Kim Seng
12	1	Chinese Gardens	KP
12	2	Old Jurong Railway	Alan Owyong, Doreen Ang, Wing Chong, Nessie, Jimmy Chew & Stanley
15	1	Serangoon North	Fang Sher Chyet
16	17	Tuas South Avenue 9, flock of 17 migrating SE at 11:30am	Martti Siponen
17	2	Tuas South Avenue 12, separate individuals migrating SE at 13:04pm and 13:15pm	Martti Siponen
18	1	Yio Chu Kang Road	Fang Sher Chyet
20	38	Tuas View Lane and South Avenue 12, 1 flying south at 9:38am, 19 flying SE at 11:45am, 18 flying SE at 12:30pm & 1 flying SE at 12:42pm	Martti Siponen
20	2	Kian Teck Way, Jurong	Low Choon How
21	6	Tuas South Avenue 14, circling and calling, 9am	Allan Teo

21	3	Singapore Quarry, separate individuals migrating south at 9:45am, 9:55am & 10:14am.	Martti Siponen
22	2	Kent Ridge Park, in flight	Lam Hon Pui
27	2	Changi	Danny Lau, Tan Kok Hui
28	2	St. John's Island	Alan Owyong, Jimmy Chew, Lee Ee Ling
28	8	Lazarus Island, thermalling	Alan Owyong, Jimmy Chew, Lee Ee Ling
28	1	Rifle Range Road	Jeremy Lewis

5. Eastern Marsh Harrier *Circus spilonotus* (5)

Date	No.	Location and Details	Reported By
3	1	Changi Cove	Lee Tiah Kee
5	3	Tanah Merah, 1 male, 1 female, 1 juv.	Nicholas Tan
6	3	Tanah Merah, 1 male, 1 female, 1 juv.	Nicholas Tan
12	1	Tanah Merah, 1 male	Nicholas Tan
21	2	Pulau Semakau, 1 male & 1 juvenile circling over grassland	Lee Ee Ling, Azmi Mohamed
27	1	Changi, 1 male quartering	Danny Lau, Tan Kok Hui



Eastern Marsh Harrier, juvenile, in flight at Tanah Merah on 05 Nov 10, by Nicholas Tan

6. Chinese Sparrowhawk *Accipiter soloensis* (5)

Date	No.	Location and Details	Reported By
5	1	Seletar West, adult male feeding on a bird	Tan Kok Hui, Con Foley, Danny Lau
20	1	Pasir Ris Farmway, 1 perched female	Tan Kok Hui

27	1	Changi, 1 juvenile which chased away a Jerdon's Baza	Danny Lau, Tan Kok Hui
27	1	Bidadari	Wong Chung Cheong
28	1	St. John's Island, female, flying across the island	Alan Owyong, Jimmy Chew, Lee Ee Ling
30	1	Bidadari, juvenile	Myron Tay

7. Japanese Sparrowhawk *Accipiter gularis* (28)

Date	No.	Location and Details	Reported By
1	2	Jurong	Peter Jones
2	4	Tuas	Peter Jones
5	1	Neo Tiew Lane 2, 1 juvenile chasing a bird but missed	Tan Kok Hui, Con Foley, Danny Lau
9	1	Bidadari	Lee Tiah Kee
12	1	MacRitchie Reservoir golf course	Lim Kim Seng
12	1	Chinese / Japanese Gardens	KP
12	2	Old Jurong Railway	Alan Owyong, Doreen Ang, Wing Chong, Nessie, Jimmy Chew & Stanley
14	1	Tuas View Drive, 1 hunting and caught a bird	Martti Siponen
17	2	Bukit Timah summit	Danny Lau, Lau Jia Sheng, Tan Kok Hui
17	3	Tuas South Avenue 12, 3 separate individuals migrating SE at 12:25pm, 12:37pm & 12:55pm	Martti Siponen
20	1	Jurong	Low Choon How
20	3	Changi	Danny Lau, Tan Kok Hui, Con Foley
20	2	Tuas View Lane and South Avenue 12, 1 flying SE 10:32am & 1 flying SE at 11:03am	Martti Siponen
21	1	Singapore Quarry, migrating south at 10:07am.	Martti Siponen
21	2	Kent Ridge Park, morning	Jeremy Lewis
21	1	Singapore Botanic Gardens, Eco Lake	Fang Sher Chyet
21	1	Pulau Semakau	Lee Ee Ling, Azmi Mohamed
28	1	Lazarus Island, thermalling	Alan Owyong, Jimmy Chew, Lee Ee Ling

8. Common Buzzard *Buteo buteo* (2)

Date	No.	Location and Details	Reported By
20	2	Changi, 1 smart bird hiding under airport tower platform during rain, 1 along Changi Coastal Road	Danny Lau, Tan Kok Hui, Con Foley
27	1	Changi	Danny Lau, Tan Kok Hui

9. Booted Eagle *Hieraaetus pennatus* (2)

Date	No.	Location and Details	Reported By
5	1	Seletar West, 1 dark morph	Tan Kok Hui, Con Foley, Danny Lau
10	1	Bidadari, with photos	Anon.

10. Peregrine Falcon *Falco peregrinus* (5)

Date	No.	Location and Details	Reported By
5	1	Tanah Merah grassland	Nicholas Tan
12	1	Old Jurong Railway	Alan Owyong, Doreen Ang, Wing Chong, Nessie, Jimmy Chew & Stanley
19	1	Millenia Tower, perched on ledge outside office window, afternoon	Carrie Chan
20	1	Tuas View Lane and South Avenue 12	Martti Siponen
25	1	Tuas South Avenue 9	Martti Siponen
28	1	Marina Barrage, bird flew towards Sentosa	Alan Owyong, Jimmy Chew, Lee Ee Ling

Resident raptors**11. Black-winged Kite *Elanus caeruleus* (12)**

Date	No.	Location and Details	Reported By
3	5	Changi Cove	Lee Tiah Kee
5	1	Neo Tiew Lane 2	Tan Kok Hui, Con Foley, Danny Lau
5	1	Seletar West	Tan Kok Hui, Con Foley, Danny Lau
5	2	Tanah Merah grassland	Nicholas Tan
14	2	Tuas View Drive	Martti Siponen
20	3	Changi	Danny Lau, Tan Kok Hui, Con Foley
20	2	Tuas View Lane and South Avenue 12	Martti Siponen
21	2	Pulau Semakau	Lee Ee Ling, Azmi Mohamed
24	1	Old Tampines Road	Fang Sher Chyet
27	5	Changi	Danny Lau, Tan Kok Hui

12. Brahminy Kite *Haliastur indus* (33)

Date	No.	Location and Details	Reported By
5	2	Seletar West, 1 adult, 1 juv.	Tan Kok Hui, Con Foley, Danny Lau
12	1	Tanah Merah, 1 juv	Nicholas Tan
12	2	Chinese / Japanese Gardens	KP
12	1	Old Jurong Railway	Alan Owyong, Doreen Ang, Wing Chong, Nessie, Jimmy Chew & Stanley
14	10	Tuas View Drive	Martti Siponen
20	2	Changi	Danny Lau, Tan Kok Hui, Con Foley
20	1	Pasir Ris Farmway	Tan Kok Hui
20	5	Tuas View Lane and South Avenue 12	Martti Siponen
21	1	Neo Tiew Lane 2, immature	Jane Rogers, Doreen Ang, Nessie, Ah Huay, Ian and Freda Rickwood
21	1	Bidadari, afternoon	Jean-Marc Chavatte
21	2	Pulau Semakau	Lee Ee Ling, Azmi Mohamed
21	2	Kent Ridge Park, morning	Jeremy Lewis
27	5	Changi	Danny Lau, Tan Kok Hui
28	3	St. John's Island	Alan Owyong, Jimmy Chew, Lee Ee Ling
28	2	Lazarus Island	Alan Owyong, Jimmy Chew, Lee Ee Ling
28	2	Upper Seletar Reservoir, afternoon. 2 adults harassing a lone juv. WBSE	Jean-Marc Chavatte
28	1	MacRitchie Reservoir	Jeremy Lewis

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

Date	No.	Location and Details	Reported By
5	2	Neo Tiew Lane 2, adults	Tan Kok Hui, Con Foley, Danny Lau
5	1	Seletar West	Tan Kok Hui, Con Foley, Danny Lau
5	2	Tanah Merah grassland	Nicholas Tan
7	2	Bedok Reservoir	Fang Sher Chyet
12	1	Chinese / Japanese Gardens	KP
14	1	Fort Canning Park	Yoshio Yamane
14	1	Tuas View Drive	Martti Siponen
20	2	Changi	Danny Lau, Tan Kok Hui, Con Foley
20	1	Bukit Batok Nature Park	Fang Sher Chyet

20	2	Tuas View Lane and South Avenue 12	Martti Siponen
21	2	Neo Tiew Lane 2	Jane Rogers, Doreen Ang, Nessie, Ah Huay, Ian and Freda Rickwood
21	3	Singapore Quarry, 2 adults & 1 subadult	Martti Siponen
27	2	Changi	Danny Lau, Tan Kok Hui
27	1	MacRitchie Reservoir, 9:30am	Jeremy Lewis
28	3	Upper Seletar Reservoir, afternoon. 2 adults, 1 juv.	Jean-Marc Chavatte
28	2	Bukit Batok	Jeremy Lewis

14. Grey-headed Fish Eagle *Ichthyophaga ichthyaetus* (3)

Date	No.	Location and Details	Reported By
12	2	MacRitchie Reservoir golf course , very vocal	Lim Kim Seng
20	1	Bukit Batok Nature Park	Fang Sher Chyet
21	1	Singapore Quarry	Martti Siponen
28	1	MacRitchie Reservoir	Jeremy Lewis

15. Crested Goshawk *Accipiter trivirgatus* (1)

Date	No.	Location and Details	Reported By
27	1	Ang Mo Kio West Park, juvenile	Tan Kok Hui

16. Changeable Hawk-eagle *Spizaetus cirrhatus* (12)

Date	No.	Location and Details	Reported By
3	2	Changi Cove, 1 pale and 1 dark morph	Lee Tiah Kee
5	2	Neo Tiew Lane 2, 1 pale young and 1 heard	Tan Kok Hui, Con Foley, Danny Lau
5	1	Seletar West, heard	Tan Kok Hui, Con Foley, Danny Lau
5	2	Tanah Merah grassland, 1 pale and 1 dark morph	Nicholas Tan
12	1	MacRitchie Reservoir golf course, heard	Lim Kim Seng
15	1	Bukit Timah Hill	Con Foley
17	1	Tuas South Avenue 12, pale morph at 13:14pm	Martti Siponen
20	2	Changi, 1 pale juv, 1 dark morph	Danny Lau, Tan Kok Hui, Con Foley
20	1	Pasir Ris Farmway, perched	Tan Kok Hui
21	1	Neo Tiew Lane 2, dark morph	Jane Rogers, Doreen Ang, Nessie, Ah Huay, Ian and Freda Rickwood
21	1	Pulau Semakau, pale morph	Lee Ee Ling, Azmi Mohamed
21	1	Singapore Quarry, 1 dark & 1 pale morph.	Martti Siponen
27	4	Changi, 2 dark morph perched, 2 pale morph	Danny Lau, Tan Kok

		circling	Hui
28	1	St. John's Island, dark morph, circling	Alan Owyong, Jimmy Chew, Lee Ee Ling
28	1	Lazarus Island, pale morph, circling	Alan Owyong, Jimmy Chew, Lee Ee Ling

17. Unidentified Raptors (6)

Date	No.	Location and Details	Reported By
2	1	Tuas, an unidentified falcon, possibly a Peregrine but very far away	Peter Jones
7	5	West, possibly OHBs, circling high in the sky.	Doreen Ang

18. Unidentified Accipiters (3)

Date	No.	Location and Details	Reported By
2	1	Tuas	Peter Jones
3	1	City area	Peter Jones
21	1	Pulau Semakau	Lee Ee Ling, Azmi Mohamed
21	1	Singapore Quarry, migrating south at 9:42am.	Martti Siponen

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 those who have sent in their reports and especially to Tan Kok Hui, Lee Tiah Kee, Danny Lau and Nicholas Tan for the use of their photos.