

## Singapore Raptor Report Late Spring Migration, April-June 2023



*Black-winged Kite carrying prey, GBTB, June 2023, by Andrew Hunt*

### **Summary:**

Seven migrant raptor species were recorded during this period, compared with four in most other years. The 30 **Oriental Honey Buzzard** (OHB) *Pernis ptilorhyncus* at Mount Faber on 10th April was a surprise, as daily numbers are usually much lesser in April. There were a total of 67 records of the OHB in April, 13 in May and 10 in June.

A **Jerdon's Baza** *Aviceda jerdoni* at Mount Faber on 2nd April set a new late day (by 5 days). For the **Black Baza** *Aviceda leuphotes*, there were two on 2nd April and four on 4th April, at Mount Faber and Telok Blangah Hill Park respectively. There were seven **Chinese Sparrowhawks** *Accipiter soloensis* in April: five at Mount Faber on 2nd April and two at Telok Blangah Hill Park on 4th April.

59 **Japanese Sparrowhawks** *Accipiter gularis* were recorded in April, thanks to observers at Mount Faber who counted 20 on both 2nd April and 10th April. This is a meaningful increase from last year's 14 birds. Small numbers of **Osprey** *Pandion haliaetus* and **Peregrine Falcon** *Falco peregrinus* were also recorded between April to June.



*Crested Serpent Eagles, Jalan Gemala 2, 7 May 2023, by Hong Yijun*

### Sedentary Raptors

There were breeding records for four resident raptors. The **Black-winged Kite** *Elanus caeruleus* pair at Gardens by the Bay successfully raised three chicks in May, all the while fending off the House Crows in the vicinity. A pair of **Crested Goshawks** *Accipiter trivirgatus* at Pasir Ris Park was raising a chick from April to May. The mixed morph pair of **Changeable Hawk-Eagle** *Nisaetus cirrhatus* at Choa Chu Kang Park raised a dark morph chick which fledged successfully in May.

There were seven active nests for the **White-bellied Sea Eagle** *Haliaeetus leucogaster* during this period. The nests at Bedok and Chuan Park held one chick each, the nests at Yishun Avenue 8 and Pasir Ris held two large two chicks each, the nest at Sungei Buloh Wetland Reserve had two fledged young perched nearby, and the nests at Marsiling and Yishun Avenue 1 had the adult sitting on either very young chicks or eggs.

Amazingly, there were six **Crested Serpent Eagle** *Spilornis cheela* during this period. An immature at Admiralty Park in April; while at Pulau Ubin, sn sdult in April, and an immature in April & May, one at Jurong Lake Gardens in April; and two adults at Neo Tiew Road / Jalan Gemala 2 area in May.

In both April & May, the adult **Grey-headed Fish Eagle** *Haliaeetus ichthyaetus* at Potong Pasir was recorded fighting talon-to-talon with the adult White-bellied Sea Eagles over feeding territory at the canal.

Other resident raptors included a **Peregrine Falcon** *Falco peregrinus* of the resident *ernesti* race that was recorded at the southern ridges on 6th & 9th June, and the ubiquitous **Brahminy Kite** *Haliastur indus*.

### Nocturnal Raptors

On 4th May, an injured **Eastern Barn Owl** *Tyto javanicus* was rescued from Tanah Merah Coast Road and handed to NParks for rehabilitation.

#### 1. Osprey *Pandion haliaetus*

Date	No.	Location and Details	Reported By
7 Apr	1	SBWR	Yuh Woei Chong
27 Apr	1	Chek Jawa, Ubin	Troy Shortell
5 May	1	SBWR	Lim Kim Chuah
23 May	1	Seletar Dam	Ramesh T.
2 Jun	1	Pulau Ubin	Jay Wong

#### 2. Black Baza *Aviceda leuphotes*

Date	No.	Location and Details	Reported By
2 Apr	2	Mount Faber	Low Chong Yang
4 Apr	4	TBHP	Wai Heng Lua

#### 3. Jerdon's Baza *Aviceda jerdoni*

Date	No.	Location and Details	Reported By
2 Apr	1	Mount Faber	Low Chong Yang

#### 4. Oriental Honey Buzzard *Pernis ptilorhyncus*

Date	No.	Location and Details	Reported By
1 Apr	1	KM	Chan Mei Yee
1 Apr	1	Choa Chu Kang Park	Yuh Woei Chong
2 Apr	6	Mount Faber	Swee Peng
2 Apr	1	JLG	Lim Qian Xun
3 Apr	1	Marsiling Park	Edward Smith
4 Apr	1	TBHP	Wai Heng Lua
6 Apr	2	Halus Wetlands	Lim Kim Seng
6 Apr	1	TBHP	Wai Heng Lua
7 Apr	1	JLG	Ong Jun Ze

7 Apr	1	GBTB	Ruisheng Choo
8 Apr	1	CBP	Mac Ng
8 Apr	1	TBHP	Tan Kok Hui
8 Apr	1	Marina East	Ian Lee
9 Apr	2	Mount Faber	Low Chong Yang
9 Apr	1	BAMK, immature PM	Frank Chen
10 Apr	30	Mount Faber	Max Buckley
11 Apr	1	JLG, immature PM	Nick
12 Apr	1	CCNR, PM, both wings: new P1, P2 missing	Jayden Kang
12 Apr	1	SBG	Vincent Ng
13 Apr	1	CCNR	Ong Jun Ze
14 Apr	1	Rifle Range Link	Wai Heng Lua
15 Apr	1	MacRitchie	Camilo Jaramillo
15 Apr	1	Dover Road, immature PM	Nick
21 Apr	1	One North	Glen Sim
22 Apr	1	Pulau Ubin	Lim Qian Xun
22 Apr	2	JLG	Elisha Lee
23 Apr	1	BTNR	Samuel Murr
25 Apr	1	GBTB	Peter Crofts
26 Apr	1	SBG, DM	Yip Jen Wei
30 Apr	1	SBWR	Chen Yi Ming

2 May	1	SBG	Atsushi Shimazaki
8 May	1	Newton Circus	M. Tay
15 May	1	Serangoon, immature PM, both wings: new P1-3, P4 missing	John Arifin
20 May	2	GBTB, 1 immature PM with new P1-3, P4 missing on both wings	Ken Endersen
20 May	1	SBWR	Lim Kim Seng
23 May	1	West Coast Drive	Tay Kian Guan
24 May	1	JLG	Max Merrill
27 May	1	GBTB, immature PM, both wings: new P1-2, P3 missing	Kyaw Htay
27 May	1	Halus Wetlands	Ng Yan Ze
29 May	1	Marina Grove, immature PM	Art Toh
30 May	1	Halus Wetlands	Forrest Rowland
31 May	1	Pulau Ubin	Vincent Yip

2 Jun	1	PRP	Glen Sim
4 Jun	1	SBG, immature PM, both wings: new P1-2, P3 missing	Dorothy Fang
8 Jun	1	GBTB, immature PM, both wings: new P1-2, P3 missing	Jim Arnett
11 Jun	1	Rifle Range Link, both wings: new P1-4, P5 missing	Wai Heng Lua
17 Jun	1	PRP, immature PM	Satheesh M. B.
19 Jun	1	CBP	Vish M.
25 Jun	1	Siglap Hill, immature PM	SB Lim
25 Jun	1	Coney Island	Chien N Lee

28 Jun	1	Halus Wetlands, immature PM, both wings: new P1-3, P4 missing	Satheesh M. B.
29 Jun	1	NTHL, immature PM	Art Toh

### 5. Japanese Sparrowhawk *Accipiter gularis*

Date	No.	Location and Details	Reported By
1 Apr	1	Choa Chu Kang Park, female	Yuh Woei Chong
2 Apr	20	Mount Faber	Swee Peng, Low Chong Yang
3 Apr	2	Mount Faber, 1 female, 1 male	Low Chong Yang
4 Apr	2	Rifle Range Link	Wai Heng Lua
4 Apr	2	TBHP	Wai Heng Lua
5 Apr	1	Hindhede Nature Park	Edward Smith
7 Apr	1	Mount Faber, female	Low Chong Yang
8 Apr	1	SBG	Chen Boon Chong
10 Apr	20	Mount Faber	Max Buckley
11 Apr	1	SBWR	Prue Reid
11 Apr	3	JLG	Nick
12 Apr	2	CCNR, at least 1 male	Jayden Kang
12 Apr	1	KM carpark	David Lie
15 Apr	1	Sentosa, female	Prue Reid
26 Apr	1	SBG, male	Yip Jen Wei

### 6. Chinese Sparrowhawk *Accipiter soloensis*

Date	No.	Location and Details	Reported By
2 Apr	5	Mount Faber	Low Chong Yang
4 Apr	2	TBHP	Wai Heng Lua

### 7. Peregrine Falcon *Falco peregrinus*

Date	No.	Location and Details	Reported By
1 Apr	1	KM	Wai Heng Lua
6 Apr	1	SBWR	Cheng Guang Guo
6 Apr	1	TBHP, <i>ernesti</i>	Wai Heng Lua
9 Apr	1	Mount Faber, <i>ernesti</i>	Low Chong Yang
Apr	1	Singapore, adult migrant	Jaydon Soo
12 Apr	1	Choa Chu Kang Crescent, tearing up a pigeon	Sim Sze Kai
22 Apr	1	Pulau Ubin	Ethan Teo
27 May	1	Guillemard Road	Ken Endersen

**Resident Raptors****Black-winged Kite *Elanus caeruleus***

Date	No.	Location and Details	Reported By
1 May	1	Tuas South	Art Toh
14 May	1	SBWR	Martin Harper
17 May	3	GBTB, nest with at least 1 chick, adults fending off about 30 House Crows	Andy Chew
21 May	5	GBTB, same nest, found to have 3 chicks	Andy Chew
26 May	2	Pasir Ris Farmway 3	Vish M.
4 Jun	1	Marina Grove, adult caught a rat	SB Lim
9 Jun	2	Tuas South	Vincent Yip
13 Jun	5	GBTB, pair with 3 fledglings	Evelyn Lee

**Brahminy Kite *Haliastur indus***

Date	No.	Location and Details	Reported By
		-- common raptor --	

**White-bellied Sea Eagle *Haliaeetus leucogaster***

Date	No.	Location and Details	Reported By
		-- common raptor --	
1 Apr	3	Bedok, 1 chick on nest on tall tree with 2 adults perched nearby	Andrew Hunt
11 Apr	2	Marsiling, 2 adults on nest, appears to be incubating or brooding young chick	Tan Gim Cheong
13 Apr	4	Yishun Avenue 8, nest with 2 large chicks	Tan Gim Cheong
13 Apr	1	Yishun Avenue 1, adult sitting on nest, appears to be incubating or brooding young chick	Tan Gim Cheong
13 Apr	3	Pasir Ris, nest with 2 large chicks, 1 adult	Tan Gim Cheong
13 Apr	2	Bedok, nest with 1 large chick, 1 adult nearby	Tan Gim Cheong
20 Apr	2	SBWR, 2 fledged juveniles near nest	Kow Hao Rui
22 Apr	1	Chuan Park woodland, 1 young on nest	Jimmy Tan
May	1	Ulu Pandan, immature flying with a fish, mobbed by two Greater Racket-tailed Drongoes which were nesting	Andrew Hunt
5 May	1	Chuan Park woodland, fledged young near nest	Tan Gim Cheong

**Grey-headed Fish Eagle *Haliaeetus ichthyaetus***

Date	No.	Location and Details	Reported By
2 Apr	1	Ulu Pandan, adult	Julian Wong
3 Apr	1	Potong Pasir, adult fighting with WBSE	SB Lim
3 Apr	2	Little Guilin, adults	Edward Smith
5 Apr	1	JLG	Norhafiani A. Majid
7 Apr	1	Ulu Pandan, adult	Julian Wong
7 Apr	1	Potong Pasir, adult	SB Lim

15 Apr	1	Ulu Pandan, adult caught 2 fish	SB Lim
1 May	1	Ulu Pandan, adult, mobbed by two Greater Racket-tailed Drongoes which were nesting	Alan OwYong
3 May	1	Potong Pasir, adult caught a fish	SB Lim
5 May	2	SBWR	Lim Kim Chuah
7 May	1	Potong Pasir, adult fighting with WBSE	Andrew Hunt
23 May	1	Pulau Ubin, adult	Will Brooks
1 Jun	1	Merlion Park	Kathleen O'Reilly
9 Jun	2	Singapore Quarry	Glen Sim
14 Jun	1	Halus Wetlands	Lim Kim Seng
16 Jun	1	CCNR	Ng Yan Ze
24 Jun	1	SBG	Yuh Woei Chong
25 Jun	1	Turut Track, adult	Art Toh
29 Jun	1	NTHL, adult	Art Toh

### Crested Serpent Eagle *Spilornis cheela*

Date	No.	Location and Details	Reported By
12 Apr	1	Admiralty Park, immature	Low Chong Yang
16 Apr	1	Pulau Ubin, adult	Matilda Yan
21 Apr	1	JLG	Vincent Lao
24 Apr	1	Chek Jawa, Ubin, immature	Zacc HD
1 May	1	Chek Jawa, Ubin, immature	Wong Soong Ming
7 May	2	Jalan Gemala 2, adults	Hong Yijun
12 May	1	Chek Jawa, Ubin, immature	Wai Heng Lua
16 May	1	Neo Tiew Rd, adult	CK Lee
22 May	1	Jalan Gemala 2, adult	Wee Aik Kiat

### Crested Goshawk *Accipiter trivirgatus*

Date	No.	Location and Details	Reported By
1 Apr	1	SBWR	Chan Mei Yee
2 Apr	1	Mount Faber	Low Chong Yang
6 Apr	2	PRP, 1 adult on nest, 1 juvenile nearby	Edward Smith
8 Apr	1	Pulau Ubin	Darren Leow
9 Apr	1	Sembawang Road	Vincent Yip
9 Apr	1	JLG, female	Johnny Goh
10 Apr	1	NUS Central Library	Philippe Vachon
14 Apr	1	Berlayer Creek	Russell Boyman
21 Apr	2	PRP, female feeding changeable lizard to chick in white down on nest	Tan Gim Cheong
27 Apr	1	Goodman Art Centre	Thio HB
5 May	1	PRP, adult caught a lizard	SB Lim
7 May	3	PRP, male caught an escapee bird and passed it to the female, which fed it to the goshawk chick on nest	SB Lim
9 May	3	PRP, pair with their chick on nest	LW Goh
9 May	1	Fort Canning, juvenile	Pat Wills

28 May	1	PRP	Lim Kim Seng
21 May	1	Sentosa	John Marriott
30 May	1	Fort Canning, male	Kate Shulgina
1 Jun	1	Jurong East, juvenile	Yana Safiqur
7 Jun	1	Bukit Timah Road	Geoff Lim
9 Jun	1	PRP, juvenile	Brett Hartl
23 Jun	1	Admiralty Park	Roger Niessen
June	1	JLG, adult	Benny Ng
25 Jun	1	PRP, male caught a junglefowl chick	Tammy Servies

### Changeable Hawk-Eagle *Nisaetus cirrhatus*

Date	No.	Location and Details	Reported By
8 Apr	3	Choa Chu Kang Park, active nest with 1 chick, adult female DM & adult male PM	Christian H.
9 Apr	1	Mount Faber, DM	Low Chong Yang
29 Apr	2	MED, DMs perched together	Angie Cheong
30 Apr	1	KJE, adult PM	Art Toh
2 May	1	Goldhill Avenue, juvenile PM	Art Toh
7 May	3	Choa Chu Kang Park, chick apparently fledged	Chelvan P. Tamil
9 May	3	Choa Chu Kang Park, chick seen on nest	Christian H.
12 May	3	Choa Chu Kang Park, fledged young perched outside nest	Tan Gim Cheong
12 May	1	Goldhill Avenue, adult PM	Art Toh
21 May	2	Jalan Gemala 2, adult PMs	Art Toh
31 May	1	Jalan Mashnor, DM	Jimmy Tan

### Nocturnal Raptors

#### Eastern Barn Owl *Tyto javanica*

Date	No.	Location and Details	Reported By
4 May	1	Tanah Merah Coast Road, injured bird rescued from the roadside and handed to NParks	Rashwinder Singh
14 May	1	Paya Lebar Airbase	Lee Zhi Heng

#### Abbreviations

BAMK – Bishan-Ang Mo Kio Park  
 BTNR – Bukit Timah Nature Reserve  
 CBD – Central Business District  
 CBP – Changi Business Park  
 DFNP – Dairy Farm Nature Park  
 GBTB – Gardens by the Bay  
 JLG – Jurong Lake Gardens  
 HWL – Hampstead Wetlands  
 KM – Kranji Marsh  
 KRP – Kent Ridge Park  
 MED – Marina East Drive



NTHL – Neo Tiew Harvest Lane  
NTU – Nanyang Technological University  
PRP – Pasir Ris Park  
RRL – Rifle Range Link  
SBG – Singapore Botanic Gardens  
SBTB – Satay by the Bay  
SBWR – Sungei Buloh Wetland Reserve  
TBHP – Telok Blangah Hill Park  
TEG – Tampines Eco Green  
TNP – Thomson Nature Park  
WCP – West Coast Park

*Compiled by TAN Gim Cheong*

*For the resident raptors, only selected records of interest are collated here.*

*Many thanks to everyone for posting / sending in / sharing their records, and to Andrew Hunt and Hong Yijun for the use of their photos.*