

Singapore Raptor Report December 2022



Western Osprey, Rower's Bay Park, 8 Dec 2022, by Rovena Chow

Summary for migrant species:

Nine migrant raptor species were recorded in December 2022. Three **Common Kestrels** *Falco tinnunculus* in a month is pretty good, one at Pasir Panjang on the 5th, one at Marina East on the 12th and 13th, and one at Tuas on the 25th. Six **Jerdon's Baza** *Aviceda jerdoni* were recorded, with four of them wintering at Coney Island through the month, one at Changi Business Park on the 5th, and another at the Botanic Gardens on the 12th.

For the five **Chinese Sparrowhawks** *Accipiter soloensis*, the site faithful at Ang Mo Kio Town Garden West was recorded on the 22nd, one at Jurong Lake Garden on the 16th, one at Neo Tiew Lane 2 on the 21st, and two wintering at Coney Island. Some of the 13 **Japanese Sparrowhawks** *Accipiter gularis* were in moult, showing four or six 'fingers' instead of the usual five.

There were ten **Peregrine Falcons** *Falco peregrinus*, including site faithfuls at Anchorvale and Sembawang. There were also 22 **Black Bazas** *Aviceda leuphotes*, 62 **Oriental Honey Buzzards** *Pernis ptilorhyncus*, and four **Western Ospreys** *Pandion haliaetus*.

For nocturnal raptors, there was a single record of an **Oriental Scops Owl** *Otus sunia* that was rescued from crows and released safely.



Black Baza, Pasir Ris Park, 24 Dec 2022, by Wong Sangmen



Jerdon's Baza, Coney Island, 12 Dec 2022, by Tan Gim Cheong



Peregrine Falcon, Anchorvale Lane, 16 Dec 2022, by Tan Gim Cheong

Highlights for sedentary species:

The most amazing sighting was that of a **Bat Hawk** *Macheiramphus alcinus* photographed in flight at Lim Chu Kang on the 3rd, this being the third verifiable record for Singapore, some 13 years after the second one in 2009.

Breeding-related activities were noted only for the **Crested Serpent Eagle** *Spilornis cheela*, for which a pair at Neo Tiew Road mated on the 9th, this being only the second breeding-related record. The other resident raptors recorded were the **Black-winged Kite** *Elanus caeruleus*, **Grey-headed Fish Eagle** *Haliaeetus ichthyaetus*, **Crested Goshawk** *Accipiter trivirgatus*, **Changeable Hawk-Eagle** *Nisaetus cirrhatus*, and the common **Brahminy Kite** *Haliastur Indus* and **White-bellied Sea Eagle** *Haliaeetus leucogaster*.

For nocturnal raptors, a **Barred Eagle Owl** *Bubo sumatranus* was recorded near Singapore Quarry on the 26th, and the pair of **Buffy Fish Owl** *Ketuo ketupu* at Hampstead Wetlands had a chick on their nest on the 31st.

Escapee

The **Harris's Hawk** *Parabuteo unicinctus* reported in November 2022, a bird with falconry anklets on both tarsi, was still around Mountbatten area on the 26th of December.

1. Western Osprey *Pandion haliaetus* (4)

Date	No.	Location and Details	Reported By
2	1	Rowers' Bay Park	SB Lim
4	1	KM	Tay Kian Guan
8	1	Rowers' Bay Park	Rovena Chow
13	2	SBWR	Chien N Lee
17	1	JLG	Martti Siponen
26	1	Rowers' Bay Park	Tan Chin Kong
28	1	Rowers' Bay Park	SB Lim
28	1	Upper Seletar Reservoir	Han Hui Zhen
31	1	Singapore Quarry	Tan Kok Hui

2. Jerdon's Baza *Aviceda jerdoni* (6)

Date	No.	Location and Details	Reported By
3	1	Coney Island	Angie Cheong
5	1	CBP	Ramesh T.
11	4	Coney Island	Choo Shiu Ling
12	4	Coney Island	Tan Gim Cheong
12	1	Coney Island	Lee Hew-Son
12	1	SBG	JB Lim
16	1	Coney Island	Philip Chua, Khoo Meilin
22	3	Coney Island	Tan Gim Cheong
23	1	Coney Island	Zhang Licong
31	4	Coney Island	Wee Ki Yi

3. Black Baza *Aviceda leuphotes* (22)

Date	No.	Location and Details	Reported By
4	3	Neo Tiew Road	Vincent Yip
5	1	PRP	Wong Sangmen
7	4	CBP	Ramesh T.
11	2	TEG	Alvin Seng
13	1	Coney Island	Herman Phua
16	1	Coney Island	Khoo Meilin
17	4	Coney Island	Chris Ang
21	5	SBG	Evelyn Lee
24	1	PRP	Wong Sangmen
24	5	Coney Island	Vish M
25	1	Ulu Pandan	Benny Ng
27	1	Coney Island	Chris Ang
31	4	PRP	Wilton Farrelly
31	2	Coney Island	Chris Ang

4. Oriental Honey Buzzard *Pernis ptilorhyncus* (62) *orientalis* unless indicated otherwise

PM= pale morph

DM = dark morph

Date	No.	Location and Details	Reported By
1	1	Tuas South	Chien N Lee
2	3	Fort Canning	Metehan Ozen
4	4	KM	Yip Jen Wei
4	2	PRP	Adolfo Castro
4	4	St John's Island	John Marriott
5	2	CBP	Ramesh T.
5	3	SBG	Sng Chen Xi
6	4	TBHP	Wunson
7	1	Sembawang	Esther Ong
7	3	Seletar	Peng Ah Huay
8	4	Halus	Chien N Lee
9	2	CBP	Herman Phua
10	3	SBWR	Matthew Teng
10	1	Springwood Crescent, juvenile PM	Lee Chin Pong
10	4	JLG	Martti Siponen
10	2	Rifle Range Nature Park	Mike Hooper
15	1	Sungei Tengah Road, juvenile PM	Andy Lee
16	1	WCP, juvenile	Dave Koh
17	2	East Coast Park	Benjamin Naden
18	2	DFNP	Chan Mei Yee
19	5	MED	Lim Kim Seng
19	1	SBG, juvenile PM	Siew Mun
21	1	Ulu Pandan, male DM	Siew Mun
23	2	CCNR	Lim Qian Xun
25	4	Mount Faber	Tom Son
26	1	NTHL, juvenile PM	Angie Cheong
26	1	Sungei Pandan Kechil, male PM	Timothy Liu
27	2	Dempsey Hill	Krishna G.
28	1	MED	SB Lim
28	2	Kee Sun Avenue	Alexander Muir
30	3	Hougang Ave 9	Amelia Choon

5. Chinese Sparrowhawk *Accipiter soloensis* (5)

Date	No.	Location and Details	Reported By
13	1	Coney Island, immature	Herman Phua
13	1	Coney Island, immature	Michael Kwee
16	1	JLG	Daryl Yeo
21	1	Neo Tiew Lane 2	Chen Boon Chong
21	1	Coney Island, male, caught a frog	Chris Ang
22	1	AMKTGW, female	Norhafiani A. Majid
24	1	Coney Island, male	Lee Chin Pong

6. Japanese Sparrowhawk *Accipiter gularis* (13)

Date	No.	Location and Details	Reported By
1	1	Tanglin Road	Yong Ding Li
4	1	St John's Island	John Marriott
6	1	LCK L3, juvenile	Jared Tan
8	2	Halus	Chien N Lee
9	1	CBP, adult male with growing P6 on both wings	Ramesh T.
13	1	Mount Faber, juvenile with 6 'fingers'	RX Chen
13	1	Mount Faber, female with 4 'fingers', growing P7	RX Chen
17	1	MED	Tan Kok Hui
18	1	NTHL, juvenile	Art Toh, Herman Phua
21	1	NTHL, male with 4 'fingers'	Chen Boon Chong
31	1	Singapore Quarry	Wai Heng Lua
31	1	Loewen Road	Alan OwYong

7. Common Kestrel *Falco tinnunculus* (3)

Date	No.	Location and Details	Reported By
5	1	Mapletree Business City, Level 18, Pasir Panjang Road	May Swales
12	1	MED	Herman Phua
13	1	MED	Daryl Yeo
25	1	Tuas	Wai Heng Lua

8. Peregrine Falcon *Falco peregrinus* (10) migrants unless otherwise stated

Date	No.	Location and Details	Reported By
4	1	KM	Chien N Lee
5	1	Sembawang, adult with prey (bird)	Esther Ong
7	1	Sembawang, adult with prey (bird)	Esther Ong
12	2	Sembawang	Esther Ong
13	1	Mount Faber, juvenile	RX Chen
16	1	Anchorvale Lane, adult	Tan Gim Cheong
23	1	Coney Island, juvenile	Wai Heng Lua
24	1	Coney Island, juvenile	Andy Lee
26	1	Jurong West Ave 1	Low Choon How
28	1	SBG, juvenile	Siew Mun
30	1	GBTB, adult	Ethan Teo
31	1	Skyville@Dawson, adult	Herman Phua

9. Oriental Scops Owl *Otus sunia* (1)

Date	No.	Location and Details	Reported By
9	1	People's Park Centre, rescued from harassing crows and released safely	Nick Lin

Resident raptors**10. Bat Hawk *Macheiramphus alcinus* (1)**

Date	No.	Location and Details	Reported By
3	1	Neo Tiew Road, photographed in daylight hours in flight	Hou Boon

11. Black-winged Kite *Elanus caeruleus* (10)

Date	No.	Location and Details	Reported By
4	3	Turut Track	Brad R
9	4	MED	Ivana Thng
15	1	Coney Island	Kenneth Cheong
25	2	Tuas South	Wai Heng Lua

12. Brahminy Kite *Haliastur indus*

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

13. White-bellied Sea Eagle *Haliaeetus leucogaster*

Date	No.	Location and Details	Reported By
		-- Common raptor --	
17	1	Singapore, adult caught a Banded File Snake	Teo Chee Yong

14. Grey-headed Fish Eagle *Haliaeetus ichthyaetus* (10)

Date	No.	Location and Details	Reported By
2	1	TEG, adult	W. K. Ang
3	1	TBHP	Yuh Woei Chong
8	1	Little Guilin	Ulf Remahl
21	1	Admiralty Park	Lim Kim Seng
24	1	KM	Tan Kok Hui
24	1	Ulu Pandan	Tay Kian Guan
26	3	SBWR	Julie Edgley
26	1	Potong Pasir, adult	Andrew Hunt
29	2	Singapore Quarry, 1 adult, 1 immature	Art Toh

15. Crested Serpent Eagle *Spilornis cheela* (5)

Date	No.	Location and Details	Reported By
7	1	Rifle Range, immature	Thio HB
9	2	Neo Tiew Road, mating observed	Art Toh
10	2	SBG	Jerome Koh
12	1	Neo Tiew Road	Andy Lee
13	1	Neo Tiew Road	Zoey
15	1	SBG, adult	Siew Mun
28	1	SBG, adult	Siew Mun

16. Crested Goshawk *Accipiter trivirgatus* (8)

Date	No.	Location and Details	Reported By
1	1	SBG	Daryl Yeo
2	1	NUS, juvenile	Philippe Vachon
6	1	NUS, adult	Philippe Vachon
9	1	PRP	Lim Kim Seng
10	1	Berlayer Creek	Chen Zeyuan
11	1	Sembawang Park	Wilson Lau
16	1	Victoria Park Road	Joshua Chong
26	1	Loewen Road	Yip Jen Wei

17. Changeable Hawk-Eagle *Nisaetus cirrhatus* (5)

PM= pale morph

DM = dark morph

Date	No.	Location and Details	Reported By
3	1	Halus, DM	Angie Cheong
11	1	PRP, DM	Zhang Licong
24	1	Halus, DM	SB Lim
25	1	MED, dark morph	Zhang Licong
26	1	Dempsey Hill, juvenile PM	Art Toh
27	1	Potong Pasir, juvenile	Siew Mun
30	1	TBHP, pale morph adult	Angie Cheong
30	1	MED, dark morph	Herman Phua

18. Barred Eagle Owl *Bubo sumatranus* (1)

Date	No.	Location and Details	Reported By
26	1	Along road to Singapore Quarry	Jon Pang

19. Buffy Fish Owl *Ketupa ketupu* (3)

Date	No.	Location and Details	Reported By
31	3	HWL, 1 adult and 1 chick on nest	Timothy Liu

Escapee**20. Harris's Hawk *Parabuteo unicinctus* (1)**

Date	No.	Location and Details	Reported By
26	1	Mountbatten, bird with falconry anklets	Gordon Koh

Abbreviations

AMKTGW – Ang Mo Kio Town Garden West
 BAMK– Bishan-Ang Mok Kio
 BTNR – Bukit Timah Nature Reserve
 CBP – Changi Business Park
 DFNP – Dairy Farm Nature Park
 ECP – East Coast Park
 JLG – Jurong Lake Gardens
 HWL – Hampstead Wetlands
 KM – Kranji Marsh
 MED – Marina East Drive
 NTHL – Neo Tiew Harvest Lane
 NTU – Nanyang Technological University
 PRP – Pasir Ris Park
 SBG – Singapore Botanic Gardens
 SBWR – Sungei Buloh Wetland Reserve
 TBHP – Telok Blangah Hill Park
 TEG – Tampines Eo Green
 WCP – West Coast Park

Compiled by Tan Gim Cheong

Note: The numbers in brackets beside the bird names indicates the month's total number. 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, and especially to Rovena Chow and Wong Sangmen for the use of their photos.