

Singapore Raptor Report Early Autumn Migration, July-September 2022



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Oriental Honey Buzzard, Potong Pasir, 23 September 2022, by Tan Gim Cheong

Summary:

Seven **Japanese Sparrowhawks** *Accipiter gularis* were recorded in September, with the first arrival on 16 September. These are probably the only migrants from north Asia.

A total of 37 observations were made for the **Oriental Honey Buzzard** *Pernis ptilorhyncus* during the July to September period: 11 in July, 10 in August and 26 in September. Where photographs were available, the honey buzzards could be aged as sub-adults (2nd calendar year), right up to end September, so these are over-summering birds. Moulting of the primaries (feathers) was consistent with last two years' observation. From the photographs, up to six non-migratory *torquatus* **Oriental Honey Buzzard** were noted.

There were two records of the **Peregrine Falcon** *Falco peregrinus* of the *ernesti* (non-migratory) subspecies – one adult photographed at Pulau Ubin on 21 July, and another far away at Toa Payoh Town Park on 3 August. Another record on 18 September at Sentosa was not identified to subspecies.

An immature **Rufous-bellied Eagle** *Lophotriorchis kienerii* was recorded at the Upper Bukit Timah area through the 3-month period. There were only two reports of the **Western Osprey** *Pandion haliaetus*, one on 8 July and the other on 6 August, both on Pulau Ubin.

The rare **Crested Serpent Eagle** *Spilornis cheela* was recorded thrice – an adult at Springleaf Nature Park on 13 July, an adult at Simpang Kiri PCN on 11 September, and an individual on Pulau Ubin on 22 September.

There were nesting-related records for a number of species of diurnal raptors. At Gardens by the Bay, a pair of **Black-winged Kites** *Elanus caeruleus* was nest-building in late September and often harassed by crow. For the **White-bellied Sea Eagle** *Haliaeetus leucogaster*, there were two big eaglets in a nest at Fort Canning on 17 July.

A pair of mixed morph **Changeable Hawk-Eagle** *Nisaetus cirrhatus* was near a nest at Dover East forest on 12 July and 2 August, and another pair at a nest near Dairy Farm Nature Park on 2 August also. Mating was observed for a pair of **Crested Goshawks** *Accipiter trivirgatus* in late September.

In July, an immature **Grey-headed Fish Eagle** *Haliaeetus ichthyaetus* was seen fighting with a White-bellied sea Eagle at a stretch of river at Potong Pasir. The common **Brahminy Kites** *Haliastur Indus* were ever present during this period.



Brown Fish Owl, Hindhede Nature Park, 7 July 2022, by HP Tan

For nocturnal raptors, a **Brown Fish Owl** *Ketupa zeylonensis* was photographed at Hindhede Nature Park on 7 July and 22 July. A **Brown x Buffy Fish Owl** hybrid offspring, probably the second of its kind in Singapore, was also photographed at Hindhede on 17 July.

A fledgling **Sunda Scops Owl** *Otus lempiji* was seen in the vicinity of a nature reserve on 17 July, and another fledgling was photographed at Pasir Ris Park on 9 September. At Hindhede Nature Park, a family of three **Brown Hawk-Owls** *Ninox scutulata*, including 1 fledgling, was photographed on 8 July and 31 July.

For the **Buffy Fish Owl** *Ketupa ketupu* family at Ulu Pandan, the chick was first observed on 10 September, ended up on the ground on 2 days, “rescued”, and by 27 September was perched high up.

For the **Spotted Wood Owl** *Strix seloputo*, a family of 3, with one fledgling, was recorded at NTU on 8 July. Another chick at Changi Coast ended up on the ground on 27 July, was “rescued”, and fledged on 13 August.

Lastly, at Thomson Nature Park, a **Barred Eagle Owl** *Bubo sumatranus* was seen on 9 July feeding on a plantain squirrel.



*Brown x Buffy Fish Owl hybrid offspring,
Hindhede Nature Park, 17 July 2022, by Hubert Pak*

1. Western Osprey *Pandion haliaetus* (1)

Date	No.	Location and Details	Reported By
8 Jul	1	Ubin	Rupali Madhavi
6 Aug	1	Ubin	Michael Schrock

2. Oriental Honey Buzzard *Pernis ptilorhyncus (orientalis mainly)* (11, 10, 26, +6R)

Date	No.	Location and Details	Reported By
1 Jul	1	Jelutong Tower	Lee Zhi Heng
3 Jul	1	Central Catchment	Ong Jun Ze
15 Jul	1	West Coast Park, immature female pale morph	Dave Koh
16 Jul	1	Labrador Nature Reserve	Chong Yuh Woei
16 Jul	1	Crown Bakery, Bukit Timah	Darius Lee
17 Jul	1	Ubin, immature pale morph, symmetrical moult, new P1-P4, P5 missing, old P6-P10	Fernandez Francis
22 Jul	1	Bukit Timah, dark morph	Joshua Chong
22 Jul	1	Dover Forest, dark morph	Yip Jen Wei
23 Jul	1	Springleaf Nature Park, <i>torquatus</i>	Chong Yuh Woei
24 Jul	1	Upper Seletar Reservoir Park	Evelyn Lee
28 Jul	1	Jelutong Tower	Jamie Allot
30 Jul	2	Upper Seletar Reservoir Park, at least 1 <i>torquatus</i>	Frank Chen
31 Jul	1	Central Catchment	Mike Hooper
2 Aug	1	Mandai Track 7, adult <i>torquatus</i> tweeddale morph	Kok M Lee
5 Aug	1	West Coast Park	Tay Kian Guan
5 Aug	1	Bukit Timah, immature male	Joshua Chong
6 Aug	1	Ulu Pandan, immature male pale morph, new P1-P6, P7 missing, old P8-P10	Shahrul Kamal
9 Aug	1	Central Catchment	Jayden Kang
10 Aug	2	Sarimbun	CN Lee
11 Aug	1	Jelutong Tower, immature <i>torquatus</i>	Francis Yap
15 Aug	1	SBG, adult male <i>torquatus</i>	Siew Mun
15 Aug	1	East Coast Park, immature male pale morph	Tracy Heng
22 Aug	1	Bishan-AMK Park, immature female pale morph	Steven Cheong
26 Aug	1	Bedok Rise	Ramesh T.
31 Aug	1	Satay by the Bay, immature male pale morph, new P1-6, old P7-10	Siew Mun
1 Sep	1	Marina East	Chong Yuh Woei
3 Sep	1	Woodlands Ring Road	Han YK
3 Sep	1	Marina South, pale morph	John Marriott
4 Sep	1	Botanic Gardens, dark morph	Russell Boyman
4 Sep	1	Dairy Farm Nature Park	Low Zhi Hao
6 Sep	1	Lorong Halus	Wee Ki Yi
8 Sep	1	East Coast Park, immature male, P7 growing, P8 missing, old P9 & P10	SB Lim
9 Sep	1	Ubin	Kaeden Sim
10 Sep	2	Changi Business Park	Mac Ng

13 Sep	1	Pinnacle @ Duxton, immature female, new P1-P7, P8 missing, old P9 & P10	Richard Lee
16 Sep	3	Central Catchment	Yip Jen Wei
18 Sep	1	SBWR	Troy Shortell
19 Sep	1	West Coast Park Marsh Garden, immature female pale morph	Art Toh
20 Sep	1	Admiralty Park	Ong Jun Ze
23 Sep	1	Potong Pasir, immature female pale morph, P8 growing, P9 missing	Tan Gim Cheong
24 Sep	1	Eastwood Estate, immature female dark morph, P9 on both wings missing	Herman Phua
24 Sep	1	Ubin	Jacky Soh
24 Sep	2	Botanic Gardens	Lim Kim Seng
24 Sep	1	Jurong Lake Gardens	BY Tan
25 Sep	1	Marina East	John Marriott
29 Sep	1	Gardens by the Bay, adult male	Koh Lian Heng
30 Sep	1	Botanic Gardens, <i>torquatus</i>	Art Toh
30 Sep	1	West Coast Drive	Tay Kian Guan

3. Japanese Sparrowhawk *Accipiter gularis* (7)

Date	No.	Location and Details	Reported By
16 Sep	1	Ubin, adult male	Vincent Yip
19 Sep	1	Central Catchment	Yip Jen Wei
23 Sep	1	Changi Business Park, adult male	Ramesh T.
23 Sep	1	Jelutong Tower, juvenile	Francis Yap
24 Sep	1	Jurong Lake Gardens, adult female	Zhang Yi
29 Sep	1	Lorong Halus Wetlands	Feroz Ghazali
30 Sep	1	Pasir Ris Park, male	Dennis Lim

4. Rufous-bellied Eagle *Lophotriorchis kienerii* (1)

Date	No.	Location and Details	Reported By
27 Jul	1	Hindhede Quarry, immature	Art Toh
30 Jul	1	Bukit Timah hill top, immature	Wai Heng Lua
13 Aug	1	Jalan Asas, immature	Emily Chung
23 Sep	1	Bukit Timah, immature	Francis Yap

5. Peregrine Falcon *Falco peregrinus* (3)

Date	No.	Location and Details	Reported By
21 Jul	1	Ubin, <i>ernesti</i> adult	Yip Jen Wei
3 Aug	1	Toa Payoh Town Park, <i>ernesti</i>	Fadzrun A.
18 Sep	1	Sentosa	Laurent Esselen

Resident Raptors

Black-winged Kite *Elanus caeruleus*

Date	No.	Location and Details	Reported By
11 Jul	1	Satay by the Bay	Chen Boon Chong
9 Aug	2	Lorong Halus	Fernandez Francis
13 Sep	2	Kranji Marsh	Lim Kim Seng
17 Sep	2	Gardens by the Bay	Julian Wong
19 Sep	1	Gardens by the Bay, carrying nesting materials, harassed by crows	Han Yuan
19 Sep	2	Gardens by the Bay, nest observed, harassed by crows, caught a rat	SB Lim
25 Sep	1	Gardens by the Bay	Tan Chin Kong
29 Sep	2	Lorong Halus	Feroz Ghazali

Brahminy Kite *Haliastur indus*

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

White-bellied Sea Eagle *Haliaeetus leucogaster*

Date	No.	Location and Details	Reported By
		-- common resident --	
17 Jul	2	Fort Canning, nest with two big eaglets	Lawrence Chew

Grey-headed Fish Eagle *Haliaeetus ichthyaetus*

Date	No.	Location and Details	Reported By
23 Jul	1	Potong Pasir, immature fighting with WBSE	Alan Tan
24 Jul	1	Potong Pasir, immature	Jaydon Soo
7 Aug	1	Potong Pasir, immature	Jaydon Soo
26 Aug	1	Botanic Gardens Symphony Lake, adult	Siew Mun
28 Aug	1	Botanic Gardens, juvenile	Siew Mun
August	2	Ulu Pandan, 2 adults	Benny Ng
August	1	Potong Pasir, immature	Benny Ng
22 Sep	1	Swan Lake, SBG, adult	Siew Mun

Crested Serpent Eagle *Spilornis cheela*

Date	No.	Location and Details	Reported By
13 Jul	1	Springleaf Nature Park, adult	Wee Ki Yi
11 Sep	1	Simpang Kiri PCN, adult	Daniel Neo
22 Sep	1	Ubin	Feroz Ghazali

Crested Goshawk *Accipiter trivirgatus*

Date	No.	Location and Details	Reported By
3 Jul	1	Kent Ridge Park Canopy Walk, adult male	Chng Eng Keong
3 Jul	1	Sentosa, adult female	Ros Qian
16 Jul	1	NTU, immature	Frank Chen
16 Jul	1	Labrador Nature Reserve, adult	Chong Yuh Woei

19 Jul	1	Labrador Nature Reserve, juvenile	Chong Yuh Woei
21 Jul	1	Fort Canning, female	Linda Hayes
30 Jul	1	Jurong Lake Gardens, immature	Lee Chin Pong
5 Aug	2	West Coast Park	Tay Kian Guan
18 Aug	1	Botanic Gardens, juvenile	Siew Mun
20 Aug	1	Fort Siloso, Sentosa, adult female	Zhang Licong
27 Aug	1	Kent Ridge Park, juvenile	Evelyn Lee
5 Sep	2	Telok Blangah Forest Walk	Tan Kok Hui
11 Sep	1	Botanic Gardens, adult male	Chong Yuh Woei
18 Sep	1	Jervois Road, adult	Art Toh
24 Sep	1	Bukit Timah hill top, female	Low Chong Yang
25 Sep	1	Singapore, mating observed for few days prior, nest near apartment window	Mike Soh

Changeable Hawk-Eagle *Nisaetus cirrhatus*

Date	No.	Location and Details	Reported By
8 Jul	1	One North, dark morph	Chng Eng Keong
12 Jul	2	Dover East Forest, 1 pale morph, 1 dark morph, (1 on nest, the other close by)	Chng Eng Keong
20 Jul	1	Changi Business Park, dark morph	Philip Ng
6 Aug	2	Dairy Farm Nature Park HVCP, 1 adult pale morphs	Kimberly Jingchun Xie
7 Aug	1	Choa Chu Kang, dark morph	Andy Lee
18 Aug	1	Tampines Eco Green, juvenile pale morph	Tok Sock Ling
27 Aug	2	Botanic Gardens, at least 1 dark morph	Siew Mun
August	2	Dover East Forest, 1 dark & 1 pale morph perched near a nest	Chng Eng Keong
August	2	Dairy Farm Nature Park, 1 adult & 1 juvenile pale morph near a nest	Chng Eng Keong
4 Sep	1	Gardens by the Bay, juvenile pale morph	Siew Mun
12 Sep	1	Botanic Gardens, dark morph	Siew Mun
13 Sep	1	Pinnacle @ Duxton, immature pale morph	Angie Cheong
27 Sep	1	Bukit Timah hill top, immature pale morph	Angie Cheong

Nocturnal Raptors

Sunda Scops Owl *Otus lempiji*

Date	No.	Location and Details	Reported By
17 Jul	1	Nature Reserve, chick fell from nest, landed on the ground	Gemma Rake
9 Sep	1	Pasir Ris Park, fledgling	Benny Ng
24 Sep	2	Pasir Ris Park, 1 adult and 1 fledgling	Ethan Teo

Barred Eagle Owl *Bubo sumatranus*

Date	No.	Location and Details	Reported By
9 Jul	1	Thomson Nature Park, feeding on a plantain squirrel	Marcel Finlay

Buffy Fish Owl *Ketupa ketupu*

Date	No.	Location and Details	Reported By
1 Aug	2	Ulu Pandan, 1 adult on nest, other adult nearby	Julie Edgley
10 Sep	3	Ulu Pandan, 2 adults, 1 chick on nest	Julie Edgley
13 Sep	2	SBWR	Lee Van Hien
16 Sep	3	Ulu Pandan, 2 adults, fledgling fell from nest tree 3 times, brought to vet and returned to nest tree 4 hrs later	Julie Edgley
19 Sep	1	Ulu Pandan, chick fell to the ground, rescued by NParks	GaoJian LiuJia
25 Sep	2	Mating observed	Eddy Moey
27 Sep	3	Ulu Pandan, 2 adults, 1 fledgling perched high	Julie Edgley

Brown Fish Owl *Ketupa zeylonensis*

Date	No.	Location and Details	Reported By
8 Jul	1	Hindhede Nature Park	Tan HP, Joyce Le Mesurier
22 Jul	1	Hindhede Nature Park	Hubert Pak

Brown Fish Owl x Buffy Fish Owl Hybrid *Ketupa zeylonensis* x *Ketupa ketupu*

Date	No.	Location and Details	Reported By
17 Jul	1	Hindhede Nature Park, immature, most probably a second hybrid offspring	Hubert Pak

Spotted Wood Owl *Strix seloputo*

Date	No.	Location and Details	Reported By
8 Jul	3	NTU, 2 adults, and apparently 1 fledgling	Zhang Kiri
23 Jul	1	Changi Coast, chick spotted on nest	Ng Boon Siong
27 Jul	1	Changi Coast, chick fell to the ground	Tok Sock Ling
6 Aug	2	Pasir Ris Park	YC Sim
13 Aug	1	Changi Coast, chick fledged	Tok Sock Ling
16 Sep	2	Pasir Ris Park	Lim Kim Seng

Brown Hawk-Owl *Ninox scutulata*

Date	No.	Location and Details	Reported By
8 Jul	3	Hindhede Nature Park, 2 adults, 1 fledgling	Norhafiani A. Majid
31 Jul	3	Hindhede Nature Park, 2 adults, 1 fledgling	Shashank Mohan

Compiled by Tan Gim Cheong

Many thanks to everyone for their records, and to HP Tan and Hubert Pak for the use of their photos.