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[\[Wildlife Conservation\] "Cape" Gray-Faced Buzzard-Eagles' Voyage Paths Have Been Captured for the First Time](#)

[Wildlife Conservation] "Cape" Gray-Faced Buzzard-Eagles' Voyage Paths Have Been Captured for the First Time ([Chinese Version](#))

Forestry Bureau Newsletter & Taiwan Environmental Information Center (2009/07/09) Raptor Research Group of Taiwan (RRGT) and Forestry Bureau have begun the cooperation on the satellite trace program of the Gray-Faced Buzzard-Eagles' migration paths since October 2008. Eight months later, three of the five Gray-Faced Buzzard-Eagles with trackers have succeeded in taking down three different over-nine-thousand-kilometer migration paths. RRG T Secretary General Wen-hung LIN points out that the establishment of the path model is going to solve the greatest mystery about Gray-Faced Buzzard-Eagle and moreover to help build an international wildlife conservation network.

Credit: Raptor Research Group of Taiwan

Gray-Faced Buzzard-Eagle is under the category of CITES Appendix II and also listed as the Rare and Valuable Animal Species in Wildlife Conservation Act. Gray-Faced Buzzard-Eagle as the highest predator in the food chain is thus also ecologically significant. They appear in various areas in South-Eastern Asia, but the existing records in the studies on global migration of birds still stay unclear about the voyage paths of Gray-Faced Buzzard-Eagles. In order to investigate such a mystery, RRG T and Forestry Bureau have begun the cooperation on the satellite trace program of the Gray-Faced Buzzard-Eagles' migration paths since October 2008. The researchers set free five Gray-Faced Buzzard-Eagles that each carried a satellite tracker respectively in Kenting and Baguashan (八卦山). The five were named Cape No. 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5. The researchers lost connection with Cape No. 3 and Cape No. 4 on their way northwards. Cape No. 1 arrived at Chang-bai Shan (長白山) area in Jilin Province; Cape No. 2 & 5 arrived at North Korea. The signal from Cape No. 3 vanished when it entered Bashi Channel (巴士海峡), and Cape No. 4 got lost in Huang Hai (the Yellow Sea, 黃海) after departing from Shandong Province. This indicates that there are plenty of dangers in the migration of birds, especially when crossing the sea.

The research is still ongoing. So far it becomes yet clear that the Gray-Faced Buzzard-Eagles passing Taiwan are not all from Japan, and the migration paths vary from individual to individual. The findings have drawn much international attention, and the research team has been invited to various countries to demonstrate the findings. Forestry Bureau emphasizes that such a few samples do not exhaust the species; continuous tracks and investigation are needed. Satellite track makes the project very expensive. Forestry Bureau nonetheless promises to go on supporting the research, hoping as well that more support from the enterprises may join the grand occasion altogether.

Credit: Raptor Research Group of Taiwan

Further Information:

[RRGT Official Website](#) (Chinese)

[Forestry Bureau Newsletter 2009/07/09](#) (Chinese)

[Taiwan Environmental Information Center 2009/07/09](#) (Chinese)

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