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**PREDATION OF DAWN-SWARMING BATS BY EURASIAN HOBBY (FALCO SUBBUTEO)**

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The Eurasian Hobby (Falco subbuteo) has a wide distributional range and most individuals are migratory, with western birds wintering in Africa and eastern birds in southern Asia (BirdLife International 2015). It is an uncommon passage migrant and scarce summer visitor in Hong Kong (Carey et al. 2001). This small falcon usually feeds on flying insects and small birds that it catches and eats on the wing (White et al. 1994, MacKinnon et al. 2000, Ferguson-Lees and Christie 2001), but bats are a known prey item in Hong Kong (Carey et al. 2001). I observed a Eurasian Hobby preying on a bat on 3 June 2013, while I was conducting surveys for breeding herons in a large area of commercial fish ponds in the Northwest New Territories, Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (22°29.92′N, 114°03.64′E). Approximately 20 min before official sunrise (0540 H per Hong Kong Observatory), I observed between 70 and 100 small bats swarming at a height of approximately 50 m above one of the fish ponds. I assumed the bats were Japanese pipistrelle (Pipistrellus abramus) based on size, general behavior, and their relative abundance in this habitat. The closest known Pipistrelle roost to the location of swarming bats was approximately 400 m to the south. The purpose of this swarming was not known. I had not observed such high numbers of bats over a single fish pond previously, but bats are frequently seen feeding across this habitat type prior to sunrise. After approximately 5 min, the Eurasian Hobby arrived within the swarm, took one of the bats in its talons, and promptly ate the bat on the wing. It appeared to

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