

THIRTY-THIRD SUPPLEMENT TO THE
AMERICAN ORNITHOLOGISTS' UNION CHECK-LIST
OF NORTH AMERICAN BIRDS

THIS Supplement covers changes in names of bird taxa approved by the Committee on Classification and Nomenclature since the publication of the Thirty-second Supplement (1973, Auk 90: 411-419) and the Corrections and Additions to that Supplement (1973, Auk 90: 887). Almost all the changes in scientific names result from taxonomic decisions generally adopted or proposed previously in the major literature; one is a change in spelling based on the International Code of Zoological Nomenclature, which fortunately removes a confusing discrepancy; another conforms the English group-name with that presently favored by waterfowl students. Citation of publications does not mean that these are the first or the only works proposing the taxonomic treatment here adopted; we have selected well-known publications, or those providing reasons for the change or citing useful earlier authors. In almost all cases the treatment here adopted has had use in important current literature.

In cases of merger into one species of forms (or groups of forms) treated as separate species in the last Check-list, we have indicated an English name for the entire species entity; we also have suggested in quotation marks a name that may be used to designate the subspecies groups or distinctive subspecies until recently regarded as separate species, when separate designation by an English name is felt desirable (the quotation marks need not be employed). In the list below page references on the margin refer to pages of the Fifth (1957) edition of the Check-list.

Dean Amadon was replaced on the Committee by Lester L. Short in the latter part of 1975, and Emmet R. Blake subsequently resigned and was replaced by Burt L. Monroe, Jr. in 1976. Both Amadon and Blake participated in the discussions involving the listed changes (except the final vote as to *Himantopus* and the English name for *Dendrocygna*); Short and Monroe did not participate (except Short as to *Himantopus* and both as to *Dendrocygna*). The following constitute the present Committee:

EUGENE EISENMANN,
Chairman
RICHARD C. BANKS
THOMAS R. HOWELL
NED K. JOHNSON

KENNETH C. PARKES,
Vice-chairman
GEORGE H. LOWERY, JR.
BURT L. MONROE, JR.
ROBERT W. STORER

LESTER L. SHORT, Secretary

LIST OF CHANGES

Pages

- 43-44 *Butorides virescens* is considered conspecific with *Butorides striatus* (breeding from Panama through much of South America and warmer parts of the Old World), and on the first reviser principle *Butorides striatus* (Linnaeus) becomes the specific name (see Payne 1974, Bull. Brit. Ornithol. Club 94: 81-88; cf. Parkes 1955, Ann. Carnegie Mus. 33: 289). *Butorides striatus* is to be included as the binomen of all subspecies of the *virescens* group. The English name Green Heron is retained for the combined species, with "Northern Green Heron" available to distinguish the *virescens* group, and "Striated Green Heron" the *striatus* group.
- 63 *Branta nigricans* is considered a subspecies of *Branta bernicla* (see Palmer 1976, Handbook North Amer. Birds, vol. 2: 244-250; Johnsgard 1975, Waterfowl North America: 149-159; Delacour and Mayr 1945, Wilson Bull. 57: 3-55). *B. nigricans* becomes *B. bernicla nigricans*. The English name for the species remains Brant, but "Black Brant" remains available for *nigricans*.
- 68-70, 646 The English name for the subfamily Dendrocyginae (possibly only a tribe) becomes Whistling-Ducks, and the group-name Whistling-Duck replaces "Tree Duck" in the English name of all species of the genus *Dendrocygna*: *D. autumnalis* becomes Black-bellied Whistling-Duck; *D. bicolor*, Fulvous Whistling-Duck; *D. arborea*, West Indian Whistling-Duck; and *D. viduata*, White-faced Whistling-Duck. This conforms with the preference among waterfowl students in America and the Old World (Scott 1961, A Coloured Key to the Wildfowl of the World: 34; Delacour 1965, Waterfowl of the World, vol. 1: 27-49; Johnsgard 1975, Waterfowl of North America: 41-50; Palmer 1976, Handbook North Amer. Birds, vol. 2: 8, 15-37).
- 101 *Ictinia mississippiensis* reverts to its correct spelling *Ictinia mississippiensis*, thus removing the confusion resulting from the adoption of the "original" but incorrect spelling in the fourth edition of the A.O.U. Check-list. The erroneous spelling "*Mississippiensis*" (appearing only once) in the original description of Wilson's American Ornithology, vol. 3, p. 80 (1811), was an "inadvertent error" (probably the printer's), as is clearly evident from the original publication itself, hence to be corrected [Intern. Code Zool. Nomenclature Article 32(a) (ii) and (c), 1961, as amended 1972]. On the page containing the original description, on the plate, and on pages 81 and 82 (four times) the species is called "Mississippi Kite," and in the beginning of the same volume (p. xvi), in the table designated "Index," Wilson corrected the textual misspelling of the scientific name, as follows: "Mississippi Kite . . . *Falco Mississippiensis* . . . 80." The volume was published as a unit (not in fascicles); other errors were also corrected in this "Index" (see Faxon 1901, Auk 18: 216-218). Further confirmation that Wilson intended *mississippiensis* as the correct spelling is found in volume 6 of the same work (1812), where his "List of Land Birds of the United States" includes: "Mississippi Kite, *F. Mississippiensis* iii. 80." For over a century that was the spelling universally used.

- 209 *Himantopus mexicanus* becomes *H. mexicanus mexicanus*, as *knudseni* of Hawaii and *melanurus* of southern South America are considered conspecific (see Berger 1972, Hawaiian Birdlife: 92; Hellmayr and Conover 1948, Field Mus. Nat. Hist. Zool. Ser. 13, part 1, No. 3: 212, note 2). (Conspecificity of these forms with the Old World *H. himantopus*, proposed by various writers, needs further study.) The English name of the New World species remains Black-necked Stilt.
- 240-241 *Thalasseus* and *Hydroprogne* are merged in the genus *Sterna*, but are retained as subgenera (see Moynihan 1959, Amer. Mus. Novitates No. 1928; Voous 1960, Atlas of European Birds; Vaurie 1965, Birds of the Palearctic Fauna Non-Passeriformes: 490; Mayr and Short 1970, Publ. Nuttall Ornithol. Club No. 9: 49). *Thalasseus maximus* and *T. m. maximus* become *Sterna maxima* and *Sterna m. maxima*. *Thalasseus elegans* becomes *Sterna elegans*. *Thalasseus sandvicensis* and *T. s. acuflavidus* become *Sterna sandvicensis* and *Sterna s. acuflavida*. *Hydroprogne caspia* becomes *Sterna caspia*.
- 282-283 *Speotyto* is merged in the genus *Athene*, but is retained as a subgenus (see Voous op. cit., Mayr and Short op. cit.: 51-52). *Speotyto cunicularia* and its included subspecies become respectively *Athene cunicularia*, *Athene c. hypugaea*, and *Athene c. floridana*.
- 316-318,
320 *Centurus* and *Asyndesmus* are merged in the genus *Melanerpes* (see Mayr and Short op. cit.: 56-57; Peters 1948, Checklist of Birds of the World, vol. 6; Meyer de Schauensee 1966, Species of birds of South America: 223-224. *Centurus carolinus* becomes *Melanerpes carolinus* (with subspecies *zebra*, *carolinus*, *perplexus*, and *harpaceus*). *Centurus aurifrons* becomes *Melanerpes aurifrons* (with subspecies *incanescens* and *aurifrons*). *Centurus uropygialis* becomes *Melanerpes uropygialis* (with subspecies *uropygialis*, *albescens*, *cardonensis*, and *brewsteri*). *Asyndesmus lewis* becomes *Melanerpes lewis*.
- 323-329 *Dendrocoptes* is merged in the genus *Picoides* (see Short 1971, Bull. Amer. Mus. Nat. Hist. 145: 109-114; Delacour 1951, Auk 68: 49-51; cf. Goodwin 1968, Bull. Brit. Mus. (Nat. Hist.): 28). *Dendrocoptes villosus* becomes *Picoides villosus* (with subspecies *septentrionalis*, *terraenovae*, *monticola*, *villosus*, *audubonii*, *sitkensis*, *picoideus*, *harrisi*, *hyloscopus*, *leucothorectis*, and *icastus*). *Dendrocoptes pubescens* becomes *Picoides pubescens* (with subspecies *glacialis*, *nelsoni*, *medianus*, *pubescens*, *leucurus*, *gairdnerii*, and *turati*). *Dendrocoptes scalaris* becomes *Picoides scalaris* (with subspecies *scalaris*, *cactophilus*, *symplectus*, *eremicus*, and *lucasanus*). *Dendrocoptes nuttallii* becomes *Picoides nuttallii*. *Dendrocoptes arizonae* becomes *Picoides arizonae* (with included subspecies *arizonae*). *Dendrocoptes borealis* becomes *Picoides borealis* (with subspecies *borealis*, and *hylonomus*). *Dendrocoptes albolavatus* becomes *Picoides albolavatus* (with subspecies *albolavatus* and *gravirostris*).
- 331 *Campephilus principalis* becomes *C. principalis principalis*, as *bairdii* of Cuba is considered conspecific (see Peters 1948, Check-list of Birds of the World, vol. 6: 231; Bond 1957, Check-list of Birds of West Indies: 103; Mayr and Short op. cit.: 58).

- 380-381 *Corvus cornix* is considered conspecific with *Corvus corone* of much of Eurasia (Meise 1928, J. Ornithol. 76: 1-203; Vaurie 1959, Birds of the Palearctic Fauna, Passeriformes: 170-173). The species name becomes *Corvus corone* Linnaeus. *C. cornix cornix* becomes *C. corone cornix*. The English name for the combined species becomes Eurasian Crow, with "Hooded Crow" remaining available for the *cornix* groups and "Carrion Crow" for the *corone* group.
- 390-391 *Parus atricristatus* is considered conspecific with *Parus bicolor* (Dixon 1955, Univ. California Publ. Zool. 54: 125-206; Snow 1967, Check-list of Birds of the World, vol. 12: 122; cf. Sutton, Oklahoma Birds: 390-391). *Parus atricristatus* becomes *P. bicolor atricristatus*, with the binomen *P. bicolor* to be included in the name of other subspecies of the *atricristatus* group (*paloduro*, *dysleptus*, and *sennetti*). The English name for the combined species becomes Tufted Titmouse, with "Black-crested Titmouse" remaining available for the *atricristatus* group and "Eastern Tufted Titmouse" becoming available for nominate *bicolor*.
- 417 *Telmatodytes* is merged in the genus *Cistothorus* (Hellmayr 1934, Field Mus. Nat. Hist. Zool. Ser. 13, part 7: 114, note 1; Paynter 1960, Check-list of Birds of the World, vol. 9: 391-395; Phillips et al. 1964, Birds of Arizona: 119). *Telmatodytes palustris* becomes *Cistothorus palustris* (with subspecies *palustris*, *waynei*, *griseus*, *marianae*, *thryophilus*, *disseptus*, *iliacus*, *plesius*, *paludicola*, and *aestuarinus*).
- 430 *Turdus musicus* becomes *Turdus iliacus* Linnaeus, Syst. Nat., 12th ed., 1766, p. 292, because *Turdus musicus* Linnaeus 1758 has been placed on the Official Index of Rejected and Invalidated Names in Zoology (Op. 551, 1959, Ops. Intern. Comm. Zool. Nomenclature 20: 199-200). *T. musicus coburni* and *T. m. musicus* become respectively *T. iliacus coburni* and *T. i. iliacus*.
- 519-520 *Septophaga picta* is transferred to the genus *Myioborus* and becomes *Myioborus pictus*; *Septophaga picta picta* becomes *Myioborus pictus pictus* (see Parkes 1961, Wilson Bull. 73: 374-379; Lowery and Monroe 1968, Check-list of Birds of the World, vol. 14: 53; cf. Phillips et al. op. cit.: 161).
- 537-538 *Cassidix* is merged in the genus *Quiscalus*, but retained as a subgenus (Blake 1968, Check-list of Birds of the World 187-192; Mayr and Short op. cit.: 77; see 32nd Suppl. 1973, Auk 90: 417). *Cassidix major* becomes *Quiscalus major* (with subspecies *major* and *torreyi*), and *Cassidix mexicanus* becomes *Quiscalus mexicanus* (with subspecies *nelsoni*, *monsoni*, and *prosopidicola*).
- 542 *Tangavius* is merged in the genus *Molothrus* (see Parkes and Blake 1965, Fieldiana: Zool., 44: 207-216; Blake 1968, Check-list of Birds of the World, vol. 14: 195-200; Mayr and Short op. cit.: 77). *Tangavius aeneus* becomes *Molothrus aeneus* (with *Molothrus a. aeneus*). The subspecies name *milleri* being preoccupied in the genus *Molothrus*, Parkes and Blake (op. cit.: 211-212) supplied the replacement name *loyei*, so *Tangavius a. milleri* becomes *Molothrus aeneus loyei* Parkes and Blake 1965.

- 548 *Pyrrhuloxia* is merged in the genus *Cardinalis* (see Phillips et al. op. cit.: 177; Paynter 1970, Check-list of Birds of the World, vol. 13: 224; cf. Gould 1961, Condor 63: 246-256; Bock 1964, Wilson Bull. 76: 50-56). *Pyrrhuloxia sinuata* becomes *Cardinalis sinuatus* (with subspecies *sinuatus*, *fulvescens*, and *peninsulae*).
- 567-573 *Acanthis* and *Spinus* are merged in the genus *Carduelis*, but retained as subgenera (see Howell and Paynter 1968, Check-list of Birds of the World, vol. 14: 250-251, note; Mainardi 1960, Atti V Riunione Scien' A.G.I. [Pavia]: 3-8; Ackermann 1967, J. Ornithol. 108: 430-473). *Acanthis hornemanni* becomes *Carduelis hornemanni* (with subspecies *hornemanni* and *exilipes*). *Acanthis flammea* becomes *Carduelis flammea* (with subspecies *flammea*, *rostrata*, and *holboelli*). *Spinus pinus* becomes *Carduelis pinus* (with subspecies *pinus* and *macroptera*). *Spinus tristis* becomes *Carduelis tristis* (with subspecies *tristis*, *pallida*, *jewetti*, and *salicamans*). *Spinus psaltria* becomes *Carduelis psaltria* (with subspecies *psaltria* and *heterophila*). *Spinus lawrencei* becomes *Carduelis lawrencei*.
- 577-578 *Chlorura* is merged in the genus *Pipilo* (see Sibley 1955, Auk 72: 420-423; Paynter 1970, Check-list of Birds of the World, vol. 13: 168). *Chlorura chlorura* becomes *Pipilo chlorurus*.

A limited number of reprints, with covers, of the Thirty-third supplement to the A.O.U. Check-list is available for \$1.25 each from Glen E. Woolfenden, Assistant to the Treasurer of the A.O.U., Department of Biology, University of South Florida, Tampa, Florida 33620.