

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

This fourth supplement after the 6th edition (1983) of the AOU "Check-list of North American Birds" consists of changes adopted by the Committee on Classification and Nomenclature between 1 March 1989 and 1 March 1991. The changes fall into eight categories: (1) five species (*Ixobrychus sinensis*, *Porphyryla flavirostris*, *Sterna bergii*, *Streptopelia orientalis*, and *Ficedula narcissina*) are added to the main list because of new distributional information; (2) six species (*Pterodroma cervicalis*, *Ortalis wagleri*, *Lophornis brachylopha*, *Corvus sinaloae*, *Cinclocerthia gutturalis*, and *Loxops caeruleirostris*) are added to the list because of the splitting of species previously in the list; (3) one extinct species (*Dysmorodrepanis munroi*) is added to the list because of re-identification of the unique type; (4) one scientific name (*Speotyto cunicularia*) is changed because of generic splitting; (5) one scientific name (*Phalacrocorax brasilianus*) is changed for nomenclatural reasons, accompanied by a change in English name; (6) the spelling of one scientific name (*Neocrex colombianus*) is corrected; (7) two other English names are changed or corrected; and (8) one sequencing change is made. No new distributional information is included except as noted above (i.e. minor changes of distribution or distributional records within North America are not included). The twelve additions bring the number of species recognized as occurring within the Check-list area (main list) to 1957.

AOU numbering system: The AOU Committee on Classification and Nomenclature has adopted the world numbering system published in Sibley and Monroe (1990, *Distribution and taxonomy of birds of the world*, New Haven, Yale University Press, pp. xix-xx, 785-848). The world numbering system incorporates all existing AOU numbers, so there will be no changes in current AOU numbers. All species in the world that lacked AOU numbers have been assigned world numbers in the format of a four-digit number or, if a digit is necessary following the decimal, a five-digit number. The initial digit for old AOU numbers is now understood to be zero (0); existing computer programs using AOU number entries will need to

change only in providing capacity for the additional initial digit for newly added species. Henceforth, no new numbers will be created for species added to the AOU Check-list area (as defined by the 5th edition of the Check-list, plus Hawaii); instead, their world numbers will be used. In the 7th edition, all species will be assigned world numbers, but in supplements until that time (beginning with this one), world numbers will be provided only for those species treated in supplements. Persons requiring numbers for other species should refer to the complete world list of numbers in Sibley and Monroe (op. cit.), where a full explanation of the world numbering system may be found.

The following changes from the 6th edition (page numbers refer thereto) result from the Committee's actions:

p. 16. The studies of Imber (1985) indicate that, based on internal morphology, *Pterodroma externa* and *P. cervicalis* are not closely related. Replace the *Pterodroma externa* account with the following two accounts:

Pterodroma externa (Salvin). JUAN FERNANDEZ PETREL. [98.7.]

Estrelata externa Salvin, 1875, *Ibis*, p. 373. (Islands of Masafuera and Juan Fernandez.)

Habitat & Distribution.—Breeds on Más Afuera Island in the Juan Fernandez Islands off Chile, and ranges in the South Pacific, occasionally north as far as lat. 21°N.

Casual . . . [as stated under "externa group"]; there are additional sight reports from Hawaiian waters.

Notes.—English names for this and *P. defilippiana* were confused in the 37th Supplement (1989, *Auk* 106: 532, 537) but were corrected later (1990, *Auk* 107: 274). See comments under *P. cervicalis*.

Pterodroma cervicalis (Salvin). WHITE-NECKED PETREL. [6003.1.]

Estrelata cervicalis Salvin, 1891, *Ibis*, p. 192. (Is. Kermadec.)

Habitat & Distribution.—Breeds on Raoul Island in the Kermadec Islands north of New Zealand, and ranges in the South Pacific, occasionally north as far as lat. 21°N.

Casual in the Hawaiian Islands (between Midway

and Laysan, 3 November 1984, photograph; Pyle and Eilerts, 1986, *'Elepaio* 46: 182); there are additional sight reports from Hawaiian waters.

Notes.—Often considered conspecific with *P. externa*, but these two species are apparently not closely related (Imber, 1985, *Ibis* 127: 197–229).

pp. 18, 777. In the *Pterodroma defilippiana* entry following *P. cookii* (added in 37th Supplement, p. 532) and in Appendix B (37th Supplement, p. 537), change the English name from JUAN FERNANDEZ PETREL to DEFILIPPE'S PETREL (1990, *Auk* 107: 274).

p. 38. Change name, citation, and "Notes" section of *Phalacrocorax olivaceus* to read:

Phalacrocorax brasiliensis (Gmelin). NEOTROPIC CORMORANT. [121.]

Procellaria brasiliensis (Gmelin, 1789, *Syst. Nat.*, 1(2): 564. Based on "Maiaque" Piso, *De Indiae Utriusque re Naturali Medica*, etc., p. 83. (north-eastern Brazil.)

Notes.—Also known as OLIVACEOUS CORMORANT. For acceptance of the name *P. brasiliensis* over *P. olivaceus* (Humboldt), 1805, see Browning (1989, *Wilson Bull.* 101: 101–106). The English name is changed herein to conform to widespread use among ornithologists working with Neotropical birds and to remove the misleading connotation that the species is "olivaceous." See comments under *P. auritus*.

p. 43. Before *Ixobrychus exilis*, insert:

Ixobrychus sinensis (Gmelin). YELLOW BITTERN. [2027.]

Ardea Sinensis Gmelin, 1789, *Syst. Nat.*, 1 (2), p. 642. Based on the "Chinese Heron" Latham, *Gen. Synop. Birds*, 3(1), p. 99. (China.)

Habitat & Distribution.—Breeds in swamps, marshes, and reed beds from southern and eastern Asia south to Indonesia and southwestern Oceania, and winters in the southern portions of the breeding range.

Accidental in Alaska (Attu, Aleutian Islands, 17–22 May 1989, specimen; 1989, *Am. Birds*, 43: 524).

Notes.—Also known as the CHINESE LITTLE BITTERN or CHINESE BITTERN. See comments under *I. exilis*.

pp. 128–129. Based on karyotypic similarity between *Falco mexicanus* and *F. peregrinus*, move the former to a position immediately preceding the latter (Schmutz and Oliphant, 1987, *J. Heredity* 78: 388–390).

pp. 130–131. The two allopatric forms of *Ortalis poliocephala* are phenotypically distinct at a

level comparable to or greater than that of other species in the genus (Banks 1990, *Condor* 92: 749–753). Apparent hybrids are from a locality with no naturally occurring *Ortalis* and may have been man-assisted. Replace the *Ortalis poliocephala* account with the following two accounts:

Ortalis wagleri Gray. RUFOUS-BELLIED CHACHALACA. [1057.2.]

Ortalia wagleri G. R. Gray, 1867, *List Birds Br. Mus.*, pt. 5, p. 12. (California and Mexico = western Mexico).

Habitat.—Dense scrub, second growth, and forest in semi-arid regions, generally found near water (Tropical Zone).

Distribution.—Resident in western Mexico from southern Sonora, Sinaloa, and western Durango south to northern Jalisco.

Notes.—For treatment of *O. wagleri* as a species distinct from *O. poliocephala*, see Banks (1990, *Condor* 92: 749–753).

Ortalis poliocephala (Wagler). WEST MEXICAN CHACHALACA. [1057.]

Penelope poliocephala Wagler, 1830, *Isis von Oken*, col. 1112. (Mexico.)

Habitat.—Dense scrub, second growth, and forest in semi-arid regions, generally found near water (Tropical Zone).

Distribution.—Resident in western Mexico from central Jalisco and Michoacán south to Morelos, western Puebla, Oaxaca, and extreme western Chiapas (vicinity of Tonalá).

Notes.—If *O. wagleri* is lumped with *O. poliocephala*, the species is called WAGLER'S CHACHALACA. See comments under *O. wagleri*.

p. 156. Correct spelling of current name and original citation of *Neocrex columbianus* to *Neocrex colombianus*.

p. 158. The specimen of the South American *Porphyryula flavirostris* taken in New York has been regarded as a natural vagrant (Remsen and Parker, 1990, *Wilson Bull.* 102: 380–399). After *Porphyryula martinica*, insert:

Porphyryula flavirostris (Gmelin). AZURE GALLINULE. [4081.]

Fulica flavirostris Gmelin, 1789, *Syst. Nat.*, 1(2): 699. (Cayenne.)

Habitat & Distribution.—Breeds in grassy marshes along rivers, lakes, and ponds in South America along the Amazon River from Ecuador and Peru east to eastern Brazil, and in coastal regions of the Guianas

and northeastern Brazil, and ranges seasonally to northern Bolivia, northern Argentina, and Paraguay, and the llanos of eastern Colombia and Venezuela.

Accidental in New York (Fort Salonga, Suffolk County, 14 December 1986; Spencer and Kolodnicki, 1988, *Am. Birds* 42: 25-27).

p. 229. After *Sterna elegans*, insert:

***Sterna bergii* Lichtenstein.** GREAT CRESTED-TERN. [2255.]

Sterna Bergii Lichtenstein, 1823, *Verz. Doubl.*, p. 80. (Cape of Good Hope.)

Habitat & Distribution.—Breeds from the southern African and Indian Ocean regions east to the western Pacific and Australian regions, and ranges at sea in the Indian and western Pacific oceans.

Accidental in Hawaii (Oahu, 21 October 1988–March 1989, photograph and description; Pyle, 1990, *’Elepai* 50: 21-22).

p. 254. A pattern of natural vagrancy in *Streptopelia orientalis* has been established by the three Alaskan records. Before *Streptopelia risoria*, insert:

***Streptopelia orientalis* (Latham).** ORIENTAL TURTLE-DOVE. [2291.]

Columba orientalis Latham, 1790, *Index Ornithol.*, 2, p. 606. (China.)

Habitat & Distribution.—Breeds in open forest and savanna in Asia from the Ural Mountains east of the Sea of Okhotsk and Japan, and south to southern Asia, and winters in the southern part of the breeding range.

Casual in Alaska in the Pribilof Islands (St. Paul Island, 23 June–18 July 1984, photograph, W. E. Headstrom), at sea about 50 miles from the Pribilof Islands (individual came aboard a fishing vessel, about 20–26 July 1986, photograph, S. G. Speckman), and in the Aleutian Islands (Attu, 20 May–12 June 1989, photograph; 1989, *Am. Birds* 43: 525).

p. 300. Replace generic entry for *Athene* with:

Genus **SPEOTYTO** Gloger

Speotyto Gloger, 1841, *Gemein. Handb.-und-Hilfsb.*, p. 226. Type, by monotypy, *Strix cucularia* Molina.

Notes.—Sometimes merged in the Old World genus *Athene* Boie, 1822, but karyotypic studies suggest generic status for *Speotyto* (S. M. Schmutz, J. Maker, and J. K. Schmutz, 1989, Abstracts of Annual Meeting of Genetic Society of Canada, Canadian Society for Plant Molecular Biology, Univ. of Calgary, June 1989, p. 54).

p. 322, 783. To conform to international usage, change English name of *Aerodramus vanikorensis* from GRAY SWIFLET to UNIFORM SWIFLET.

p. 334. The form *brachylopha* is a locally endemic, phenotypically distinct population traditionally merged with *Lophornis delattrei*. Its “nearly complete lack of adornment on the crown and throat” (Banks 1990) makes it the plainest member of the genus. Plumage adornments are assumed to be important species-isolating mechanisms in hummingbirds. Replace the *Lophornis delattrei* account with the following two accounts:

***Lophornis brachylopha* Moore.** SHORT-CRESTED COQUETTE. [1260.]

Lophornis delattrei brachylopha Moore, 1949, *Proc. Biol. Soc. Washington*, 62: 103. (San Vicente de Benitez, altitude 1,500 feet, Guerrero, Mexico.)

Habitat.—Evergreen subtropical forest.

Distribution.—Resident in southwestern Guerrero.

Notes.—Banks (1990, *Auk* 107: 191-192) recognized *L. brachylopha* as a species distinct from *L. delattrei*.

***Lophornis delattrei* (Lesson).** RUFIOUS-CRESTED COQUETTE. [1260.]

Ornismya (Lophorinus) De Lattrei Lesson, 1839, *Rev. Zool.* [Paris] 2: 19. (No locality given = Peru.)

Habitat.—Humid forest edge and open woodland.

Distribution.—Resident locally in central Costa Rica (San José region, known from four specimens; unrecorded since 1906) and Panama (throughout, but most frequent in central Panama), and along the base of the eastern Andes from northern Colombia to central Bolivia.

Notes.—See *L. brachylopha*.

p. 510. *Corvus sinaloae* has a distinctive voice compared with its close relatives, *C. imparatus* and *C. ossifragus* (Davis 1958, Webber and Hardy 1985, Hardy 1990a), but has generally been considered conspecific with *C. imparatus*. Hardy (1990b) contended that *C. imparatus* (s.s.) is more closely related to *C. ossifragus* than it is to *C. sinaloae*. We treat these as three members of a superspecies. Replace the *Corvus imparatus* account with the following two accounts:

***Corvus imparatus* Peters.** MEXICAN CROW. [489.1.]

Corvus imparatus Peters, 1929, *Proc. Biol. Soc. Washington*, 42, p. 123. New name for *Corvus mexicanus* Auct. (not Gmelin) [= *Quiscalus mexicanus*]. (Rio La Cruz, Tamaulipas, Mexico.)

Habitat.—Arid scrub, riparian woodland, cultivated lands, and around human habitation, especially garbage dumps (Tropical Zone).

Distribution.—*Resident* on the Gulf coast from Nuevo León, Tamaulipas, and southern Texas (Brownsville) south to San Luis Potosí and northern Veracruz.

Regular postbreeding vagrant in southern Texas north to Starr and Kenedy counties.

Notes.—*C. sinaloae*, *C. imparatus*, and *C. ossifragus* constitute a superspecies. See comments under *C. sinaloae*.

Corvus sinaloae Davis. SINALOA CROW. [1635.1.]

Corvus sinaloae Davis, 1958, Wilson Bull. 70: 163. (Escunapa [=Escuinapa], Sinaloa, Mexico.)

Habitat.—Arid scrub, riparian woodland (Tropical Zone).

Distribution.—*Resident* on the Pacific coast of Mexico from Sonora south to Colima.

Casual in the Tres Marias Islands (María Madre Island).

Notes.—Differs from *C. imparatus* in vocalizations and appears to represent a distinct species (Davis, 1958, Wilson Bull. 70: 151–167; Webber and Hardy, 1985, Avicultural Mag. 91: 191–198; Hardy, 1990a, Voices of the New World jays, crows, and their allies, family Corvidae, Audiocassette, ARA 9, Gainesville, Florida; Hardy, 1990b, Florida Field Nat. 18: 74–80). See comments under *C. imparatus*.

p. 545. Before *Ficedula parva*, insert:

Ficedula narcissina (Temminck). NARCISSUS FLYCATCHER. [2632.]

Muscicapa narcissina Temminck, 1835, Planches Color., livr. 97, pl. 577, fig. 1. (Japan.)

Habitat & Distribution.—*Breeds* in mountain forest, generally near water, in eastern Asia, and *winters* in southeastern Asia, Indonesia, and the Philippines.

Accidental in Alaska (Attu, Aleutian Islands, 20 May 1989, specimen; Am. Birds, 43: 526, 1989).

p. 575. Differences in morphology, vocalizations, and behavior between two forms in *Cinclocerthia* are comparable to those at the species level elsewhere in the Mimidae (Storer 1989). Replace the *Cinclocerthia ruficauda* account with the following two accounts:

Cinclocerthia ruficauda (Gould). BROWN TREMBLER. [1719.]

Sternorhynchus ruficauda Gould, 1836, Proc. Zool. Soc. London (1835), p. 186. (No locality given =Dominica.)

Habitat.—Primarily humid forest, less frequently second-growth forest and open woodland.

Distribution.—*Resident* in the Lesser Antilles from Saba, St. Eustatius (where possibly extirpated), and St. Kitts south to Dominica; and on St. Vincent.

Notes.—See comments under *C. gutturalis*.

Cinclocerthia gutturalis (Lafresnaye). GRAY TREMBLER. [1719.1.]

Ramphocinclus gutturalis Lafresnaye, 1843, Rev. Zool. [Paris] 6: 67. (des Antilles = Martinique.)

Habitat.—Primarily humid forest, less frequently second-growth forest and open woodland.

Distribution.—*Resident* in the Lesser Antilles on Martinique and St. Lucia.

Notes.—Although *C. ruficauda* and *C. gutturalis* usually have been considered conspecific [*Cinclocerthia ruficauda*, TREMBLER], we treat these distinctive forms as allospecies (Storer, 1989, Auk 106: 249–258).

p. 757. After *Psittirostra psittacea*, insert:

Genus **DYSMORODREPANIS** Perkins

Dysmorodrepanis Perkins, 1919, Ann. Mag. Nat. Hist., ser. 9, 3, p. 250. Type, by monotypy, *Dysmorodrepanis munroi* Perkins.

†**Dysmorodrepanis munroi** Perkins. LANAI HOOBILL. [776.1.]

Dysmorodrepanis monroi Perkins, 1919, Ann. Mag. Nat. Hist., ser. 9, 3, p. 251. (Kaiholena Valley, Island of Lanai.)

Habitat.—Presumably forest.

Distribution.—EXTINCT; known only from a single specimen taken in 1913 on Lanai, in the Hawaiian Islands.

Notes.—Formerly thought to be based on an aberrant specimen of *Psittirostra psittacea* but shown to be a valid species by James et al. (1989, Wilson Bull. 101: 159–179).

p. 762. *Loxops caeruleirostris*, of Kauai, is so conspicuously different in morphology, ecology, and behavior from the other three insular populations of Akepa that full species status is warranted (Pratt 1989). The other three populations, on Maui, Hawaii, and (formerly) Oahu, are tentatively treated as distinct “groups” within *Loxops coccineus*. Replace the *Loxops coccineus* account with the following two accounts:

Loxops caeruleirostris (Wilson). AKEKEE. [796.]

Chrysomitridops caeruleirostris Wilson, 1890, Proc. Zool. Soc. London, p. 373. (Kauai.)

Habitat.—Forest (primarily ohia or koa) in mountainous regions.

Distribution.—*Resident* in the Hawaiian Islands in

the mountains of Kauai (Kokee, and the Alakai Swamp region).

Notes.—Sometimes called the KAUI AKEPA. *Loxops caeruleirostris*, formerly merged with *L. coccineus*, was recognized as a distinct species by Pratt (1989, Condor 91: 933–940).

Loxops coccineus (Gmelin). AKEPA. [795.]

Fringilla coccinea (Gmelin, 1789, Syst. Nat., 1(2), p. 921. Based on the "Scarlet Finch" Latham, Gen Synop. Birds, 2(1), p. 270. (in insulis Sandwich = Hawaii.)

Habitat.—Forest (primarily ohia or koa), especially in mountainous regions.

Distribution.—Resident in the mountains [*rufus* group] on Oahu (formerly, not recorded since the early 1900s); [*ochraceus* group] on eastern Maui (very rare and local); and [*coccineus* group] on Hawaii (uncommon).

Notes.—Sometimes called the COMMON AKEPA. The three groups may be specifically distinct, *L. rufus* (Bloxam, 1826) [OAHU AKEPA, 795.1], *Loxops ochraceus* Rothschild, 1893 [MAUI CREEPER, 795.2], and *L. coccineus* [HAWAII CREEPER, 795]. See comments under *L. caeruleirostris*.

pp. 798–809, the following AOU number corrections/entries should be made:

- 121. *P. brasilianus*
- 218.1 *P. flavirostris*
- 378. *Speotyto cunicularia*
- 776.1. *Dysmorodrepanis munroi*
- 795.1 = 795 [†*rufus*]
- 795.2 = 795 [†*ochraceus*]
- 796. *L. caeruleirostris*
- 1057. *Ortalis poliocephala*
- 1057.2 *O. wagleri*
- 1260. *Lophornis delattrei*

- 1260.1 *L. brachylopha*
- 1635.1 *Corvus sinaloae*
- 1719. *Cinclocerthia ruficauda*
- 1719.1 *C. gutturalis*
- 2027. *Ixobrychus sinensis*
- 2255. *Sterna bergii*
- 2291. *Streptopelia orientalis*
- 4081. *Porphyryla flavirostris*
- 6003.1 *Pterodroma cervicalis*

Still under study by the Committee are the following: classification of the Phalacrocoracidae; generic limits in *Strix-Ciccaba*; species limits in *Butorides striatus*, *Dendragapus obscurus*, *Pluvialis dominica*, *Larus glaucooides/thayeri*, *Gygis alba*, several hummingbird groups, *Margarornis bellulus/squamiger*, *Dendrocincla fuliginosa*, *Lepidocolaptes lacrymiger/affinis*, *Schiffornis turdinus*, *Manacus vitellinus*, *Corapipo leucorrhoea*, *Stelgidopteryx ruficollis*, *Aphelocoma coerulescens*, and *Icterus galbula*; relationships (placement) of *Sapayoa aenigma*, *Catharopeza bishopi*, and *Microligea palustris*; and numerous higher category changes (above genus) as proposed by recent molecular and genetic studies.

The Committee also voted to maintain the status quo with respect to the spelling of *Ptilogonys* (and Ptilogonatidae) over *Ptiliogonys* (and Ptiliogonatidae), as recommended by Browning (1989, Auk 106: 743–746); the Committee is following the suggestion of Sibley and Monroe (1990, op. cit., p. 506) that *Ptilogonys* be considered an incorrect original spelling and will petition the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature for preservation of the current spelling and usage.

Committee:

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