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WORKING LIST OF THE BIRDS OF NEW MEXICO

With the publication in September 1983 of the sixth edition of the American Ornithologists' Union's Check-list of North American Birds the nomenclature and taxonomy of North American birds have been changed significantly. There are the usual lumpings and splittings, which birders may find frustrating, but most of the changes do not fall into this arena. The lion's share of the changes involve English names or taxonomic order.

Many name changes apparently reflect a preference on the part of the A.O.U. Committee on Classification and Nomenclature for descriptive rather than patronymic or geographic epithets, but even more are the result of the professed "global viewpoint" of the Committee. This has resulted in the sinking of several well-known American names to promote nomenclatorial consistency for widespread species, and to eliminate redundancies in application of English names. Many new taxonomic categories (e.g. infraorder, tribe) have appeared, and some familiar families have disappeared. The new hierarchy should prove useful, however, once we become accustomed to it.

To facilitate adoption of the new nomenclature and order, we present below a list of all species that have been reported in New Mexico. Please use the nomenclature and order of this list in submissions to both NMOS journals. Almost all species will be recognizable. In the few cases of drastic changes a distinctive part of the old name is given in parentheses.

This is not an official state list. Hubbard (1978, NMOS Publ. No. 6) and subsequent updates in the Bulletin are the sources for the status of New Mexican birds.

--Arch McCallum, Editor, Bulletin
Rollie Goodman, Editor, Field-Notes

Order GAVIIFORMES

Family Gaviidae

Gavia stellata. Red-throated Loon
Gavia arctica. Arctic Loon
Gavia immer. Common Loon

Order PODICIPEDIFORMES

Family Podicipedidae

Tachybaptus dominicus. Least Grebe
Podilymbus podiceps. Pied-billed Grebe
Podiceps auritus. Horned Grebe
Podiceps grisegena. Red-necked Grebe
Podiceps nigricollis. Eared Grebe
Aechmophorus occidentalis. Western Grebe

Order PELECANIFORMES - Suborder PELECANI

Family Pelecanidae

Pelecanus erythrorhynchos. American White Pelican
Pelecanus occidentalis. Brown Pelican

Family Phalacrocoracidae

Phalacrocorax auritus. Double-crested Cormorant
Phalacrocorax olivaceus. Olivaceous Cormorant

Family Anhingidae

Anhinga anhinga. Anhinga

Suborder FREGATAE

Family Fregatidae

Fregata magnificens. Magnificent Frigatebird

Order CICONIIFORMES - Suborder ARDEAE

Family Ardeidae - Tribe Botaurini

Botaurus lentiginosus. American Bittern
Ixobrychus exilis. Least Bittern

Tribe Ardeini

Ardea herodias. Great Blue Heron
Casmerodius albus. Great Egret
Egretta thula. Snowy Egret
Egretta caerulea. Little Blue Heron
Egretta tricolor. Tricolored Heron (Louisiana)
Bubulcus ibis. Cattle Egret
Butorides striatus. Green-backed Heron (Green)

Tribe Nycticoracini

Nycticorax nycticorax. Black-crowned Night-Heron
Nycticorax violaceus. Yellow-crowned Night-Heron

Suborder THRESKIORNITHES
Family Threskiornithidae
Subfamily Threskiornithinae
Eudocimus albus. White Ibis
Eudocimus ruber. Scarlet Ibis
Plegadis chihi. White-faced Ibis

Suborder CICONIAE
Family Ciconiidae - Tribe Mycteriini
Mycteria americana. Wood Stork

Order ANSERIFORMES - Suborder ANSERES
Family Anatidae - Subfamily Anserinae
Tribe Dendrocygnini
Dendrocygna bicolor. Fulvous Whistling-Duck
Dendrocygna autumnalis. Black-bellied
Whistling-Duck

Tribe Cygnini
Cygnus columbianus. Tundra Swan (Whistling)
Cygnus buccinator. Trumpeter Swan
Tribe Anserini
Anser albifrons. Greater White-fronted Goose
Chen caerulescens. Snow Goose
Chen rossii. Ross' Goose
Branta bernicla. Brant
Branta canadensis. Canada Goose

Subfamily Anatinae - Tribe Cairinini
Aix sponsa. Wood Duck

Tribe Anatini
Anas crecca. Green-winged Teal
Anas rubripes. American Black Duck
Anas fulvigula. Mottled Duck
Anas platyrhynchos. Mallard
Anas acuta. Northern Pintail
Anas discors. Blue-winged Teal
Anas cyanoptera. Cinnamon Teal
Anas clypeata. Northern Shoveler
Anas strepera. Gadwall
Anas penelope. Eurasian Wigeon
Anas americana. American Wigeon

Tribe Aythyini
Aythya valisineria. Canvasback
Aythya americana. Redhead
Aythya collaris. Ring-necked Duck
Aythya marila. Greater Scaup
Aythya affinis. Lesser Scaup

Tribe Mergini
Histrionicus histrionicus. Harlequin Duck
Clangula hyemalis. Oldsquaw
Melanitta nigra. Black Scoter

Melanitta perspicillata. Surf Scoter
Melanitta fusca. White-winged Scoter
Bucephala clangula. Common Goldeneye
Bucephala islandica. Barrow's Goldeneye
Bucephala albeola. Bufflehead
Lophodytes cucullatus. Hooded Merganser
Mergus merganser. Common Merganser
Mergus serrator. Red-breasted Merganser
Tribe Oxyurini
Oxyura jamaicensis. Ruddy Duck
Oxyura dominica. Masked Duck

Order FALCONIFORMES - Suborder CATHARTAE
Superfamily CATHARTOIDEA
Family Cathartidae

Coragyps atratus. Black Vulture
Cathartes aura. Turkey Vulture

Suborder ACCIPITRES - Superfamily ACCIPITROIDEA
Family Accipitridae - Subfamily Pandioninae
Pandion haliaetus. Osprey
Subfamily Accipitrinae

Elanoides forficatus. American Swallow-tailed
Kite
Elanus caeruleus. Black-shouldered Kite
(White-tailed)
Ictinia mississippiensis. Mississippi Kite
Haliaeetus leucocephalus. Bald Eagle
Circus cyaneus. Northern Harrier
Accipiter striatus. Sharp-shinned Hawk
Accipiter cooperii. Cooper's Hawk
Accipiter gentilis. Northern Goshawk
Buteogallus anthracinus. Common Black-Hawk
Parabuteo unicinctus. Harris' Hawk
Buteo nitidus. Gray Hawk
Buteo lineatus. Red-shouldered Hawk
Buteo platypterus. Broad-winged Hawk
Buteo swainsoni. Swainson's Hawk
Buteo albicaudatus. White-tailed Hawk
Buteo albonotatus. Zone-tailed Hawk
Buteo jamaicensis. Red-tailed Hawk
Buteo regalis. Ferruginous Hawk
Buteo lagopus. Rough-legged Hawk
Aquila chrysaetos. Golden Eagle

Suborder FALCONES
Family Falconidae - Tribe Polyborini
Polyborus plancus. Crested Caracara
Tribe Falconini
Falco sparverius. American Kestrel

Falco columbarius. Merlin
Falco femoralis. Aplomado Falcon
Falco peregrinus. Peregrine Falcon
Falco mexicanus. Prairie Falcon

Order GALLIFORMES - Superfamily PHASIANOIDEA
Family Phasianidae - Subfamily Phasianinae
Tribe Perdicipini

Perdix perdix. Gray Partridge
Francoelinus francoelinus. Black Francolin
Francoelinus pondicerianus. Gray Francolin
Alectoris chukar. Chukar

Tribe Phasianini

Phasianus colchicus. Ring-necked Pheasant
Subfamily Tetraoninae

Dendragapus obscurus. Blue Grouse
Lagopus leucurus. White-tailed Ptarmigan
Centrocercus urophasianus. Sage Grouse
Tympanuchus pallidicinctus. Lesser
Prairie-Chicken

Tympanuchus phasianellus. Sharp-tailed Grouse
Subfamily Meleagridinae

Meleagris gallopavo. Wild Turkey
Subfamily Odontophorinae

Cyrtonyx montezumae. Montezuma Quail
Colinus virginianus. Northern Bobwhite
Callipepla squamata. Scaled Quail
Callipepla douglasii. Elegant Quail
Callipepla gambelii. Gambel's Quail
Oreortyx pictus. Mountain Quail

Order GRUIFORMES

Family Rallidae - Subfamily Rallinae

Coturnicops noveboracensis. Yellow Rail
Aterallus jamaicensis. Black Rail
Rallus limicola. Virginia Rail
Porzana carolina. Sora
Porphyryula martinica. Purple Gallinule
Gallinula chloropus. Common Moorhen (Gallinule)
Fulica americana. American Coot

Family Gruidae - Subfamily Gruinae

Grus canadensis. Sandhill Crane
Grus grus. Common Crane
Grus americana. Whooping Crane

Order CHARADRIIFORMES - Suborder CHARADRII

Family Charadriidae - Subfamily Charadriinae

Pluvialis squatarola. Black-bellied Plover
Pluvialis dominica. Lesser Golden-Plover
Charadrius alexandrinus. Snowy Plover

Charadrius semipalmatus. Semipalmated Plover
Charadrius melodus. Piping Plover
Charadrius vociferus. Killdeer
Charadrius montanus. Mountain Plover

Family Haematopodidae
Haematopus palliatus. American Oystercatcher

Family Recurvirostridae
Himantopus mexicanus. Black-necked Stilt
Recurvirostra americana. American Avocet

Suborder SCOLOPACI - Superfamily SCOLOPACOIDEA

Subfamily Scolopacinae - Tribe Tringini

Tringa melanoleuca. Greater Yellowlegs
Tringa flavipes. Lesser Yellowlegs
Tringa solitaria. Solitary sandpiper
Catoptrophorus semipalmatus. Willet
Actitis macularia. Spotted Sandpiper

Tribe Numeniini

Bartramia longicauda. Upland Sandpiper
Numenius phaeopus. Whimbrel
Numenius americanus. Long-billed Curlew

Tribe Limosini

Limosa haemastica. Hudsonian Godwit
Limosa fedoa. Marbled Godwit

Tribe Arenariini

Arenaria interpres. Ruddy Turnstone

Tribe Calidridini

Calidris canutus. Red Knot
Calidris alba. Sanderling
Calidris pusilla. Semipalmated Sandpiper
Calidris mauri. Western Sandpiper
Calidris minutilla. Least Sandpiper
Calidris fuscicollis. White-rumped Sandpiper
Calidris bairdii. Baird's Sandpiper
Calidris melanotos. Pectoral Sandpiper
Calidris alpina. Dunlin

Calidris himantopus. Stilt Sandpiper
Tryngites subruficollis. Buff-breasted Sandpiper

Tribe Limnodromini

Limnodromus griseus. Short-billed Dowitcher
Limnodromus scolopaceus. Long-billed Dowitcher

Tribe Gallinagonini

Gallinago gallinago. Common Snipe

Tribe Scolopacini

Scolopax minor. American Woodcock

Subfamily Phalaropodinae

Phalaropus tricolor. Wilson's Phalarope
Phalaropus lobatus. Red-necked Phalarope
Phalaropus fulicaria. Red Phalarope

Suborder LARI

Family Laridae - Subfamily Stercorariinae

Stercorarius pomarinus. Pomarine Jaeger
Stercorarius parasiticus. Parasitic Jaeger
Stercorarius longicaudus. Long-tailed Jaeger

Subfamily Larinae

Larus atricilla. Laughing Gull
Larus pipixcan. Franklin's Gull
Larus philadelphia. Bonaparte's Gull
Larus heermanni. Heermann's Gull
Larus canus. Mew Gull
Larus delawarensis. Ring-billed Gull
Larus californicus. California Gull
Larus argentatus. Herring Gull
Larus thayeri. Thayer's Gull
Larus occidentalis. Western Gull
Larus glaucescens. Glaucous-winged Gull
Larus hyperboreus. Glaucous Gull
Rissa tridactyla. Black-legged Kittiwake
Xema sabini. Sabine's Gull

Subfamily Sterninae

Sterna caspia. Caspian Tern
Sterna dougallii. Roseate Tern
Sterna hirundo. Common Tern
Sterna forsteri. Forster's Tern
Sterna antillarum. Least Tern
Chlidonias niger. Black Tern

Subfamily Rynchopinae

Rynchops niger. Black Skimmer

Order COLUMBIFORMES - Suborder COLUMBAE

Family Columbidae

Columba livia. Rock Dove
Columba fasciata. Band-tailed Pigeon
Streptopelia risoria. Ringed Turtle-Dove
Zenaida asiatica. White-winged Dove
Zenaida macroura. Mourning Dove
Columbina inca. Inca Dove
Columbina passerina. Common Ground-Dove

Order PSITTACIFORMES

Family Psittacide - Subfamily Arinae

Myiopsitta monachus. Monk Parakeet
Rhynchopsitta pachyrhyncha. Thick-billed Parrot

Order CUCULIFORMES

Family Cuculidae

Coccyzus erythrophthalmus. Black-billed Cuckoo
Coccyzus americanus. Yellow-billed Cuckoo

Subfamily Neomorphinae
Geococcyx californianus. Greater Roadrunner
Subfamily Crotophaginae
Crotophaga sulcirostris. Groove-billed Ani

Order STRIGIFORMES

Family Tytonidae

Tyto alba. Common Barn-Owl

Family Strigidae

Otus flammeolus. Flammulated Owl
Otus asio. Eastern Screech-Owl
Otus kennicottii. Western Screech-Owl
Otus trichopsis. Whiskered Screech-Owl
Bubo virginianus. Great Horned Owl
Glaucidium gnoma. Northern Pygmy-Owl
Micrathene whitneyi. Elf Owl
Athene cunicularia. Burrowing Owl
Strix occidentalis. Spotted Owl
Asio otus. Long-eared Owl
Asio flammeus. Short-eared Owl
Aegolius acadicus. Northern Saw-whet Owl

Order CAPRIMULGIFORMES

Family Caprimulgidae - Subfamily Chordeilinae

Chordeiles acutipennis. Lesser Nighthawk

Chordeiles minor. Common Nighthawk

Subfamily Caprimulginae

Phalaenoptilus nuttallii. Common Poorwill

Caprimulgus ridgwayi. Buff-collared Nightjar

Caprimulgus vociferus. Whip-poor-will

Order APODIFORMES

Family Apodidae - Subfamily Cypseloidinae

Cypseloides niger. Black Swift

Subfamily Chaeturinae

Chaetura pelagica. Chimney Swift

Chaetura vauxi. Vaux's Swift

Subfamily Apodinae

Aeronautes saxatalis. White-throated Swift

Family Trochilidae

Cyananthus latirostris. Broad-billed Hummingbird

Hylocharis leucotis. White-eared Hummingbird

Amazilia yucatanensis. Buff-bellied Hummingbird

Amazilia violiceps. Violet-crowned Hummingbird

Lampornis clemenciae. Blue-throated Hummingbird

Eugenes fulgens. Magnificent Hummingbird

(Rivoli's)

Calothorax lucifer. Lucifer Hummingbird

Archilochus alexandri. Black-chinned Hummingbird
Calypte anna. Anna's Hummingbird
Calypte costae. Costa's Hummingbird
Stellula calliope. Calliope Hummingbird
Selasphorus platycercus. Broad-tailed Hummingbird
Selasphorus rufus. Rufous Hummingbird

Order TROGONIFORMES

Family Trogonidae

Trogon elegans. Elegant Trogon (Coppery-tailed)
Euptilotus neoxenus. Eared Trogon

Order CORACIIFORMES

Suborder ALCEDINES - Superfamily ALCEDINOIDEA

Family Alcedinidae - Subfamily Cerylinae

Ceryle alcyon. Belted Kingfisher

Order PICIFORMES - Suborder PICI

Family Picidae - Subfamily Picinae

Melanerpes lewis. Lewis' Woodpecker
Melanerpes erythrocephalus. Red-headed Woodpecker
Melanerpes formicivorus. Acorn Woodpecker
Melanerpes uropygialis. Gila Woodpecker
Melanerpes aurifrons. Golden-fronted Woodpecker
Melanerpes carolinus. Red-bellied Woodpecker
Sphyrapicus varius. Yellow-bellied Sapsucker
Sphyrapicus ruber. Red-breasted Sapsucker
Sphyrapicus thyroideus. Williamson's Sapsucker
Picoides scalaris. Ladder-backed Woodpecker
Picoides pubescens. Downy Woodpecker
Picoides villosus. Hairy Woodpecker
Picoides stricklandi. Strickland's Woodpecker
(Arizona)
Picoides albolarvatus. White-headed Woodpecker
Picoides tridactylus. Three-toed Woodpecker
Colaptes auratus. Northern Flicker
Dryocopus pileatus. Pileated Woodpecker

Order PASSERIFORMES - Suborder TYRANNI

Superfamily TYRANNOIDEA

Family Tyrannidae - Subfamily Elaeniinae

Campostoma imberbe. Northern
Beardless-Tyrannulet

Subfamily Fluvicolinae

Contopus borealis. Olive-sided Flycatcher
Contopus pertinax. Greater Pewee (Coues'
Flycatcher)
Contopus sordidulus. Western Wood-Pewee
Contopus virens. Eastern Wood-Pewee
Empidonax flaviventris. Yellow-bellied Flycatcher

Empidonax traillii. Willow Flycatcher
Empidonax minimus. Least Flycatcher
Empidonax hammondi. Hammond's flycatcher
Empidonax oberholseri. Dusky Flycatcher
Empidonax wrightii. Gray Flycatcher
Empidonax difficilis. Western Flycatcher
Empidonax fulvifrons. Buff-breasted Flycatcher
Sayornis nigricans. Black Phoebe
Sayornis phoebe. Eastern Phoebe
Sayornis saya. Say's Phoebe
Pyrocephalus rubinus. Vermilion Flycatcher
 Subfamily Tyranninae
Myiarchus tuberculifer. Dusky-capped Flycatcher
 (Olivaceous)
Myiarchus cinerascens. Ash-throated Flycatcher
Myiarchus crinitus. Great Crested Flycatcher
Myiarchus tyrannulus. Brown-crested Flycatcher
 (Wied's)
Pitangus sulphuratus. Great Kiskadee
Myiodynastes luteiventris. Sulphur-bellied
 Flycatcher
Tyrannus couchii. Couch's Kingbird
Tyrannus vociferans. Cassin's Kingbird
Tyrannus crassirostris. Thick-billed Kingbird
Tyrannus verticalis. Western Kingbird
Tyrannus tyrannus. Eastern Kingbird
Tyrannus forficatus. Scissor-tailed Flycatcher
 Subfamily Tityrinae
Pachyramphus aglaiae. Rose-throated Becard

Suborder PASSERES

Family Alaudidae

Eremophila alpestris. Horned Lark

Family Hirundinidae - Subfamily Hirundininae

Progne subis. Purple Martin
Tachycineta bicolor. Tree Swallow
Tachycineta thalassina. Violet-green Swallow
Stelgidopteryx serripennis. Northern Rough-winged
 Swallow
Riparia riparia. Bank Swallow
Hirundo pyrrhonota. Cliff Swallow
Hirundo fulva. Cave Swallow
Hirundo rustica. Barn Swallow

Family Corvidae

Perisoreus canadensis. Gray Jay
Cyanocitta stelleri. Steller's Jay
Cyanocitta cristata. Blue Jay
Aphelocoma coerulescens. Scrub Jay

Aphelocoma ultramarina. Gray-breasted Jay
(Mexican)

Gymnorhinus cyanocephalus. Pinyon Jay
Nucifraga columbiana. Clark's Nutcracker

Pica pica. Black-billed Magpie

Corvus brachyrhynchos. American Crow

Corvus cryptoleucus. Chihuahuan Raven
(white-necked)

Corvus corax. Common Raven

Family Paridae

Parus atricapillus. Black-capped Chickadee

Parus sclateri. Mexican Chickadee

Parus gambeli. Mountain Chickadee

Parus wollweberi. Bridled Titmouse

Parus inornatus. Plain Titmouse

Parus bicolor. Tufted Titmouse

Family Remizidae

Auriparus flaviceps. Verdin

Family Aegithalidae

Psaltriparus minimus. Bushtit

Family Sittidae - Subfamily Sittinae

Sitta canadensis. Red-breasted Nuthatch

Sitta carolinensis. White-breasted Nuthatch

Sitta pygmaea. Pygmy Nuthatch

Family Certhiidae - Subfamily Certhiinae

Certhia americana. Brown Creeper

Family Troglodytidae

Campylorhynchus brunneicapillus. Cactus Wren

Salpinctes obsoletus. Rock Wren

Catherpes mexicanus. Canyon Wren

Thryothorus ludovicianus. Carolina Wren

Thryomanes bewickii. Bewick's Wren

Troglodytes aedon. House Wren

Troglodytes troglodytes. Winter Wren

Cistothorus platensis. Sedge Wren (Short-billed
Marsh)

Cistothorus palustris. Marsh Wren

Family Cinclidae

Cinclus mexicanus. American Dipper

Family Muscicapidae - Subfamily Sylviinae

Tribe Sylviini

Regulus satrapa. Golden-crowned Kinglet

Regulus calendula. Ruby-crowned Kinglet

Tribe Polioptilini

Polioptila caerulea. Blue-gray Gnatcatcher
Polioptila melanura. Black-tailed Gnatcatcher

Subfamily Turdinae

Sialia sialis. Eastern Bluebird
Sialia mexicana. Western Bluebird
Sialia currucoides. Mountain Bluebird
Myadestes townsendi. Townsend's Solitaire
Catharus fuscescens. Veery
Catharus minimus. Gray-cheeked Thrush
Catharus ustulatus. Swainson's Thrush
Catharus guttatus. Hermit Thrush
Hylocichla mustelina. Wood Thrush
Turdus migratorius. American Robin
Ixoreus naevius. Varied Thrush

Subfamily Timaliinae

Chamaea fasciata. Wren Tit

Family Mimidae

Dumetella carolinensis. Gray Catbird
Mimus polyglottos. Northern Mockingbird
Oreoscoptes montanus. Sage Thrasher
Toxostoma rufum. Brown Thrasher
Toxostoma bendirei. Bendire's Thrasher
Toxostoma curvirostre. Curve-billed Thrasher
Toxostoma dorsale. Crissal Thrasher

Family Motacillidae

Anthus spinoletta. Water Pipit
Anthus spragueii. Sprague's Pipit

Family Bombycillidae

Bombycilla garrulus. Bohemian Waxwing
Bombycilla cedrorum. Cedar Waxwing

Family Ptilonotidae

Phainopepla nitens. Phainopepla

Family Laniidae - Subfamily Laniinae

Lanius excubitor. Northern Shrike
Lanius ludovicianus. Loggerhead Shrike

Family Sturnidae - Subfamily Sturninae

Sturnus vulgaris. European Starling

Family Vireonidae - Subfamily Vireoninae

Vireo griseus. White-eyed Vireo
Vireo bellii. Bell's Vireo
Vireo vicinior. Gray Vireo
Vireo solitarius. Solitary Vireo

Vireo flavifrons. Yellow-throated Vireo
Vireo huttoni. Hutton's Vireo
Vireo gilvus. Warbling Vireo
Vireo philadelphicus. Philadelphia Vireo
Vireo olivaceus. Red-eyed Vireo

Family Emberizidae - Subfamily Parulinae

Vermivora pinus. Blue-winged Warbler
Vermivora chrysoptera. Golden-winged Warbler
Vermivora peregrina. Tennessee Warbler
Vermivora celata. Orange-crowned Warbler
Vermivora ruficapilla. Nashville Warbler
Vermivora virginiae. Virginia's Warbler
Vermivora luciae. Lucy's Warbler
Parula americana. Northern Parula
Dendroica petechia. Yellow Warbler
Dendroica pensylvanica. Chestnut-sided Warbler
Dendroica magnolia. Magnolia Warbler
Dendroica tigrina. Cape May Warbler
Dendroica caerulescens. Black-throated Blue Warbler
Dendroica coronata. Yellow-rumped Warbler
Dendroica nigrescens. Black-throated Gray Warbler
Dendroica townsendi. Townsend's Warbler
Dendroica occidentalis. Hermit Warbler
Dendroica virens. Black-throated Green Warbler
Dendroica fusca. Blackburnian Warbler
Dendroica dominica. Yellow-throated Warbler
Dendroica graciae. Grace's Warbler
Dendroica pinus. Pine Warbler
Dendroica discolor. Prairie Warbler
Dendroica palmarum. Palm Warbler
Dendroica castanea. Bay-breasted Warbler
Dendroica striata. Blackpoll Warbler
Dendroica cerulea. Cerulean Warbler
Mniotilta varia. Black-and-white Warbler
Setophaga ruticilla. American Redstart
Protonotaria citrea. Prothonotary Warbler
Helmitheros vermivorus. Worm-eating Warbler
Seiurus aurocapillus. Ovenbird
Seiurus noveboracensis. Northern Waterthrush
Seiurus motacilla. Louisiana Waterthrush
Oporornis formosus. Kentucky Warbler
Oporornis agilis. Connecticut Warbler
Oporornis philadelphia. Mourning Warbler
Oporornis tolmiei. MacGillivray's Warbler
Geothlypis trichas. Common Yellowthroat
Wilsonia citrina. Hooded Warbler
Wilsonia pusilla. Wilson's Warbler
Wilsonia canadensis. Canada Warbler

Cardellina rubrifrons. Red-faced Warbler
Myioborus pictus. Painted Redstart
Myioborus miniatus. Slate-throated Redstart
Icteria virens. Yellow-breasted Chat
Peucedramus taeniatus. Olive Warbler
 Subfamily Thraupinae - Tribe Thraupini
Piranga flava. Hepatic Tanager
Piranga rubra. Summer Tanager
Piranga olivacea. Scarlet Tanager
Piranga ludoviciana. Western Tanager
 Subfamily Cardinalinae
Cardinalis cardinalis. Northern Cardina.
Cardinalis sinuatus. Pyrrhuloxia
Pheucticus ludovicianus. Rose-breasted Grosbeak
Pheucticus melanocephalus. Black-headed Grosbeak
Guiraca caerulea. Blue Grosbeak
Passerina amoena. Lazuli Bunting
Passerina cyanea. Indigo Bunting
Passerina versicolor. Varied Bunting
Passerina ciris. Painted Bunting
Spiza americana. Dickcissel
 Subfamily Emberizinae
Pipilo chlorurus. Green-tailed Towhee
Pipilo erythrophthalmus. Rufous-sided Towhee
Pipilo fuscus. Brown Towhee
Pipilo aberti. Abert's Towhee
Sporophila torqueola. White-collared Seedeater
Aimophila botterii. Botteri's Sparrow
Aimophila cassinii. Cassin's Sparrow
Aimophila carpalis. Rufous-winged Sparrow
Aimophila ruficeps. Rufous-crowned Sparrow
Spizella arborea. American Tree Sparrow
Spizella passerina. Chipping Sparrow
Spizella pallida. Clay-colored Sparrow
Spizella breweri. Brewer's Sparrow
Spizella pusilla. Field Sparrow
Spizella wortheni. Worthen's Sparrow
Spizella atrogularis. Black-chinned Sparrow
Poocetes gramineus. Vesper Sparrow
Chondestes grammacus. Lark Sparrow
Amphispiza bilineata. Black-throated Sparrow
Amphispiza belli. Sage Sparrow
Calamospiza melanocorys. Lark Bunting
Passerculus sandwichensis. Savannah Sparrow
Ammodramus bairdii. Baird's Sparrow
Ammodramus savannarum. Grasshopper Sparrow
Ammodramus leconteii. Le Conte's Sparrow
Passerella iliaca. Fox Sparrow
Melospiza melodia. Song Sparrow
Melospiza lincolni. Lincoln's Sparrow

Melospiza georgiana. Swamp Sparrow
Zonotrichia albicollis. White-throated Sparrow
Zonotrichia atricapilla. Golden-crowned Sparrow
Zonotrichia leucophrys. White-crowned Sparrow
Zonotrichia querula. Harris' Sparrow
Junco hyemalis. Dark-eyed Junco (includes Gray-headed)

Junco phaeonotus. Yellow-eyed Junco
Calcarius mccownii. McCown's Longspur
Calcarius lapponicus. Lapland Longspur
Calcarius pictus. Smith's Longspur
Calcarius ornatus. Chestnut-collared Longspur
Plectrophenax nivalis. Snow Bunting

Subfamily Icterinae

Tribe Dolychonychini

Dolichonyx oryzivorus. Bobolink

Tribe Agelaiini

Agelaius phoeniceus. Red-winged Blackbird
Sturnella magna. Eastern Meadowlark
Sturnella neglecta. Western Meadowlark
Xanthocephalus xanthocephalus. Yellow-headed Blackbird

Euphagus carolinus. Rusty Blackbird
Euphagus cyanocephalus. Brewer's Blackbird
Quiscalus mexicanus. Great-tailed Grackle
Quiscalus quiscula. Common Grackle
Molothrus aeneus. Bronzed Cowbird
Molothrus ater. Brown-headed Cowbird

Tribe Icterini

Icterus spurius. Orchard Oriole
Icterus cucullatus. Hooded Oriole
Icterus graduacauda. Audubon's Oriole
Icterus galbula. Northern Oriole
Icterus parisorum. Scott's Oriole

Family Fringillidae - Subfamily Carduelinae

Leucosticte arctoa. Rosy Finch
Pinicola enucleator. Pine Grosbeak
Carpodacus purpureus. Purple Finch
Carpodacus cassinii. Cassin's Finch
Carpodacus mexicanus. House Finch
Loxia curvirostra. Red Crossbill
Loxia leucoptera. White-winged Crossbill
Carduelis flammea. Common Redpoll
Carduelis pinus. Pine Siskin
Carduelis psaltria. Lesser Goldfinch
Carduelis lawrencei. Lawrence's Goldfinch
Carduelis tristis. American Goldfinch
Coccothraustes vespertinus. Evening Grosbeak

Family Passeridae

Passer domesticus. House Sparrow

FIXATION ON SPECIES-LEVEL TAXA; EXACERBATION OF DATA GAPS

John P. Hubbard
2016 Valle Rio
Santa Fe, NM 87501

There are many good reasons for scientists, bureaucrats, and birders to focus on species when it comes to selecting a point of emphasis among the world's avian entities. However, to do so almost exclusively can create, enlarge, and perpetuate data gaps, notably for age and sex classes, populations, and infraspecies taxa (i.e. subspecies). Inasmuch as the revised A. O. U. Check-list of North American Birds (to be published in the fall of 1983) could add even more emphasis to a species-level focus, I think it timely to bring to your attention the need for a broader outlook.

I do not think that I need to argue the merits of a broader infraspecific focus in birds. It is obvious that we need data on age and sex classes to discover populational structure and trends, just as we need to know numbers, dates, and localities for occurrences. Even from a strictly birding standpoint, the annotation of ages and sexes of birds may prove quite useful--especially in evaluating identifications and the probabilities of their being correct. I might add that identification of plumages other than those reflecting a given age or sex should also be noted in this regard. For example, among adults of many kinds of birds there are breeding (or summer) and nonbreeding (or winter) plumages. Color phases are also worthy of singling out, although this is not a large category for New Mexican birds.

Making a case for focusing on populations and subspecies should require even less argument, for this sort of information is invaluable in studying distribution, abundance, and related areas of interest. Of these two categories, the identification of populations is clearly more difficult than that of subspecies. For one thing, field identification of populations is apt to rest on more subtle characters than characterize many subspecies. For another, there are fewer populations that are so identifiable than there are of subspecies. In terms of identifying subspecies I am of course referring to those that are field-identifiable. The fact is, many subspecies--especially those formerly treated as species--are no more difficult to distinguish than are many species.

Subspecies in birds are perhaps the most obvious

victims of a fixation on species-level taxa, judging from my experience as an editor of bird records over the last few years. Phrases like "how soon they are forgotten" go through my head, as I plow through reports of such species as the Dark-eyed Junco, wondering to which of the four major subspecies complexes the records refer. With the anticipated merging of the Gray-headed Junco under this encompassing name, the information gap in listing records merely as Dark-eyed Junco can be expected to grow even larger.

Other field-identifiable subspecies complexes that are being generalized out of existence are those in such broader-named species as Northern (Common) Flicker, Yellow-rumped Warbler, and Northern Oriole. I shudder at the prospect of losing sight of even more infraspecific taxa, but the threat is real enough, e.g. in reports that may simply say, "Rosy Finch."

In order to help rekindle interest in categories below the level of species, I have put together the following list. My emphasis is on subspecies that are field-identifiable, but included where appropriate are other categories. I would urge everyone to give some thought to the categories of the birds that they see, with the idea of providing as much information as is possible and as may be of interest. In addition to field-identifiable subspecies, you should also note age, sex, seasonal plumage, color phase, and/or population, depending on what can be determined in the field. The list below follows the new A. O. U. Check-list in regard to taxonomy and nomenclature. (Editor's note--see the preceding article for a synopsis of the new Check-list's impact on taxonomy and nomenclature of New Mexican birds.)

Western Grebe: color phases.
Double-crested Cormorant: color of head plumes in spring adults; also age and seasonal plumage.
Little Blue Heron: ages.
night-herons: ages (also true of other herons).
Snow Goose: color phases.
Canada Goose: size/color classes.
Mallard: "Mexican duck" and its hybrids with Mallard; sexes.
Bald Eagle: ages.
Northern Harrier: ages and sexes.
Red-tailed Hawk: "Harlan's hawk;" also color phases and ages (also true of other buteos).
Merlin: ages and sexes; also pale versus "normal" races.
American Kestrel: sexes.
Sandhill Crane: size classes and ages.

Whooping Crane: ages.
 shorebirds: ages and seasonal plumages; also sex where possible.
 jaegers: ages and phases.
 gulls: ages and seasonal plumages.
 woodpeckers: ages and sexes.
 Yellow-bellied Sapsucker: "red-naped" (Sphyrapicus varius nuchalis) vs. "yellow-bellied" (S. v. varius complex) birds; also ages and sexes.
 Northern Flicker: "yellow-shafted" vs. "red-shafted" and hybrids; sexes.
 Purple Martin: ages and sexes.
 Cliff Swallow: forehead color in adults.
 Bushtit: "black-eared" vs. "normal" birds.
 Winter Wren: medium-brown vs. rich-brown birds.
 Swainson's Thrush: grayish vs. reddish birds.
 Hermit Thrush: pale vs. dark and/or small vs. large birds--especially in winter.
 Water Pipit: immaculate vs. streak-breasted males in breeding plumage.
 Solitary Vireo: grayish (plumbeus) vs. greenish birds; the latter can sometimes be further distinguished by experienced observers into eastern (solitarius complex) vs. western (cassini) types.
 Yellow-rumped Warbler: "myrtle" vs. "Audubon's" types, ages, sexes, and seasonal plumages.
 Northern Waterthrush: yellowish vs. white-ventered birds.
 Summer Tanager: large, pale (Piranga rubra cooperi) vs. small, dark (P. r. rubra) birds; ages and sexes.
 Rufous-sided Towhee: unspotted vs. spotted races; sexes.
 Sage Sparrow: pale vs. dark birds.
 Lark Bunting: ages, sexes, and seasonal plumages.
 Fox Sparrow: reddish vs. grayish birds.
 White-crowned Sparrow: dark-lored vs. light-lored birds; ages.
 Dark-eyed Junco: subspecies groups--"slate-colored," "white-winged," "pink-sided," "Oregon," and "gray-headed." With experience, one can identify pale vs. dark races of Oregon and gray-headed juncos, plus such intergrade populations as pink-sided X gray-headed juncos.
 Northern Oriole: "Baltimore" vs. "Bullock's" types; ages and sexes.
 Rosy Finch: "gray-crowned," "Hepburn's," "black," and "brown-capped" races; ages and sexes.

This list is by no means complete, especially in signalling species or groups in which age, sex, and seasonal plumage should be noted. However, it will

serve as a guide to what is needed. In seeking information on distinguishing categories, you will need to study publications, photos, specimens, and live birds. Do what you can, for every extra detail may be helpful in some way--even if just for yourself.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT (CBC) DATES

Christmas Bird Counts are planned for many localities around the state. The Bulletin has received dates and compilers for the following: 17 December: Bluewater Lake (Arch McCallum, 277-2938), Bosque del Apache (Chuck Hundertmark, 897-2818), Las Vegas (John Gavahan, 425-8813); 18 December: Sandia Mtns. (Kay Anderson, 821-1606), Santa Fe (Rollie Goodman, 982-5825), Zuni (NEW COUNT, contact A. McCallum; compiler is John Trochet); 26 December: Espanola (Burt Lewis); 31 December: Albuquerque (Jim Karo, 294-2777).

1984 ANNUAL MEETING TO BE IN ALBUQUERQUE

The annual meeting of NMOS will be held at the Department of Biology, University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, on 3-4 March 1984. As usual, paper sessions will highlight the program on Saturday, while Sunday will be devoted to fieldtrips. Abstracts and estimates of time required for presentation of papers should reach Mary Alice Root at the Biology Department, UNM, Albuquerque, NM 87131 by 1 February.

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NEW MEXICO ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY, INC.

President:

Dustin Huntington, 11 Calle Pueblo Pinado NW
Albuquerque, NM 87120, 831-5755

Vice-President:

Charles A. Hundertmark, 6 Tumbleweed
Albuquerque, NM 87120, 897-2818

Secretary:

W. Burton Lewis, P. O. Box 665
Los Alamos, NM 87544

Treasurer:

Ross L. Teuber, 1612 Kentucky NE
Albuquerque, NM 87110, 265-8000

Directors-at-large:

Donna Schmitt, 811-5 Calle Saragosa
Santa Fe, NM 87501, 982-0480

Bo West, 10 Kachina
Los Alamos, NM 87544, 988-1454

James R. Travis, 9420 Avenida de la Luna
Albuquerque, NM 87111, 821-5213

Editor, Field-notes:

Roland A. Goodman, Route 3, Box 91F
Santa Fe, NM 87501, 982-5825

Editor, Bulletin:

Arch McCallum, Dept. of Biology, UNM
Albuquerque, NM 87131,
277-2938

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