

The OSME Region List of Birds – 3rd Edition Consultative Draft June 2008 – Hypothetical Taxa, non-passerines and passerines – occurrence unproven – until and unless adequate documentation provided and accepted. Likelihood of occurrence varies with individual species.

The taxa in the Table below have not been documented sufficiently as occurring in the OSME Region. Some, especially the seabirds, probably have occurred in that part of the Indian Ocean above 10°N and west of 61°24'N (longitude of Pakistan-Iran border coastline). Others have been suggested by knowledgeable observers as possible vagrants or wanderers. However, for quite a few species, the likelihood of such vagrancy is much reduced by shrinking distribution ranges. Furthermore, much habitat degradation has taken place in areas of specialist dry open forests, where human population movements across these areas have seen the trees and bushes disappear as firewood. Moreover, the paucity of observations over much of the OSME Region means that former and present distributions often are poorly known, and often patchily at best. It is therefore vital that any sightings are recorded comprehensively and forwarded for scrutiny. On-line reports are insufficient evidence by themselves; many such reports have been examined - some claimed species are not included here. To be accepted, records require authors to respond to genuine enquiry and to be prepared for often lengthy correspondence and discussion. For details of References cited, see the Reference Lists in the main Non-passerine or Passerine sections of the ORL as appropriate.

Key: In the first column of the Tables below, N = Non-passerine, P = Passerine. **NB1** IOC English names not used are placed in curly brackets {...}. **NB2** Green shading (eg Black-billed Capercaillie) indicates likely former presence in the OSME Region, Rose shading (eg White-throated Laughingthrush) indicates increasing evidence of unlikely occurrence in the OSME Region, Red font indicates material added since the previous ORL version on the OSME website, and in the Working Notes column is used to indicate that further documentation is essential. **NB3** PT=Parent Taxon (used because many records will antedate splits, especially from recent research) – we use the concept PT with a degree of latitude, roughly equivalent to the formal term *sensu lato*, 'in the broad sense'. For explanations of other conventions, see [Ornithological Basis](#) of the ORL. **NB4** Distribution maps in many references are imprecise. **NB5** We also list separately those taxa that we have deleted from the hypothetical list because the evidence does not support their candidacy.

Please contact us if you have any further information that supports the presence of these or any other unlisted species in the OSME Region.

NON-PASSERINES, English Name	Family, Species or Taxon	Working Notes – additional information to standard references. NB secondary references often unvalidated.
	Phasianidae	
N1 Black-billed Capercaillie	<i>Tetrao parvirostris</i>	Unlikely any modern records due to severe range contraction, but has reached 86°30' E, 67°30' N in Krasnoyarsk Republic Rogacheva 1992.
N2 Rain Quail (Black-breasted Quail)	<i>Coturnix coromandelica</i>	Possible irregular late Jun early Jul irruptive overshoot into Afghanistan and Iran from regular (?) migrant breeders in Pakistan in years of exceptional monsoons – projection from text in Roberts 1991
	Anatidae	
PT Spot-billed Duck PT	<i>Anas poecilorhynca</i>	NB Split to Eastern <i>A.p. zonorhynca</i> (below) and Indian Spot-billed Duck <i>A. (p.) poecilorhynca, qv.</i>
N3 Eastern Spot-billed Duck	<i>Anas (poecilorhynca) zonorhynca</i>	Likely wanderer from western limit of eastern range. Often commensal. Possibly overlooked NE CA – similar to ♀ Mallard A. <i>platyrhynchos</i> . See Shimba 2007.
N4 Baer's Pochard	<i>Aythya baeri</i>	Single confirmed record from red-tide district Quetta, Punjab, Pakistan, 1987 – seen in NB4 Roberts 1991
	Procellariidae	
N5 White-headed Petrel	<i>Pterodroma lessonii</i>	R&A 2005 note unconfirmed occurrence Sri Lanka. Highly unlikely in OSME Region.
N6 Trinidade Petrel	<i>Pterodroma aminjoniana</i>	Probable Indian Ocean record of 30 at 10°S, 69°E 11 Jul 1958, E of OSME Region – <i>Sea Swallow</i> 12: 9 (1959); (Sighting Reports) – WRP Bourne pers comm. R&A 2005 treat as hypothetical in Indian Ocean & refer to 'recent unpublished report'.
N7 Barau's Petrel	<i>Pterodroma barau</i>	2 RNBWS reports Jul 64, at 3°S near Seychelles, so misoriented wanderers possible in austral winter. No confirmed RNBWS records known by WRP Bourne (pers comm) in OSME Region. Two recorded 11°07'N, 63°44'E just beyond OSME Region van den Berg <i>et al</i> 1991 & E to 100°E, see also Stahl & Bartle 1991. R&A 2005 note 'ranges to N Indian Ocean'.
N8 Mascarene Petrel	<i>Pseudobulweria aterrima</i>	RNBWS reports (different observers) Sep (12:50:0.0N+45:0:0.0E) & Dec 57 (15:0:0.0N+65:0:0.0E) attributed to this species, originally identified in previous taxonomy as Réunion Petrel <i>Pterodroma aterrima</i> , but <i>Sea Swallow</i> Sighting reports sceptical, as ID character and status of Jouanin's Petrel <i>Bulweria fallax</i> became known. R&A 2005 treat as hypothetical in Indian Ocean. NB in 1950s, Réunion Petrel known only from four 19 th -century specimens – WRP Bourne pers comm.
N9 Tahiti Petrel	<i>Pseudobulweria rostrata</i> (formerly <i>Pterodroma rostrata</i>)	Abundant species occurring of northern coasts of Western Australia, probably breeds in the Bismarck Sea & thus likely to occur in northern Indian Ocean (JA Bartle pers comm cited in van den Berg <i>et al</i> 1991).
N10 Short-tailed Shearwater	<i>Puffinus tenuirostris</i>	Beached bird records: Omara 64°30' E Pakistan w of Karachi (1889; Roberts 1991, Ali & Ripley 1968/1983, originally assigned as <i>chlororhynchus</i> ssp of Wedge-tailed Shearwater <i>P. pacificus</i> [<i>Procellaria pacifica</i>], Short-tailed Shearwater) & also Sri Lanka (Ali & Ripley 1968/1983) Michael Gallagher pers comm, Bourne 1960, R&A 2005.
N11 Bulwer's Petrel	<i>Bulweria bulwerii</i>	RNBWS reports in Sep (10:55:0.0N+56:20:0.0E), Nov 83 (13:56:0.0N+51:0:0.0E) & Feb 01 (11:54:0.0N+51:42:0.0E) & entries in <i>Sea Swallow</i> possible misidentifications of Jouanin's Petrel <i>B. fallax</i> (ID characters & status then not known), with which it may share wintering grounds – full scrutiny of reports and records essential – WRP Bourne pers comm. Indian Ocean records from E of 100°E van den Berg <i>et al</i> 1985.
	Hydrobatidae	
N12 Matsudaira's Storm Petrel	<i>Oceanodroma matsudairae</i>	Two RNBWS reports both just S of 10:00:00N (Mar 64) & E (Sep 87) of 61:24:00E (just outside OSME Region). O&S 2007 map to 10°N off Somalia. May share wintering grounds with Jouanin's Petrel <i>Bulweria fallax</i> – full scrutiny of reports and records essential, WRP Bourne pers comm.
	Ardeidae	
N13 Dimorphic Egret (Mascarene Reef-egret)	<i>Egretta dimorpha</i>	RNBWS report dark-morph May 95 Aden at 12:52:0.0N+45:1:0.0E, but database entry does not eliminate Western Reef Heron <i>E. gularis</i> .
	Falconidae	
N14 African Hobby	<i>Falco cuvierii</i>	2 RNBWS reports: Jun 73 Red Sea off Eritrea at 17:46:0.0N+40:26:0.0E & Nov 77 of bird on board for 2 days off Salalah at 15:12:0.0N+56:48:0.0E – misidentification possible given the state of knowledge of identification criteria at the time.
	Accipitridae	
N15 Red-headed Vulture (King Vulture)	<i>Sarcogyps calvus</i> (formerly <i>Torgos calvus</i>)	Formerly recorded in Pakistani Balochistan, which adjoins Iranian Baluchistan, pre-1950s. Roberts 1991. This region's pre-1950s characteristic open woodland has now largely disappeared due to human population increases causing deforestation. Observed <i>Parakeet Desert Pakistan 2003</i> (Hudson <i>et al</i> 2007). Diclofenac poisoning renders recurrence in OSME Region unlikely Chris Bowden Nov 2007 pers comm.
N16 Pied Harrier	<i>Accipiter melanoleucus</i>	One sight record of straggler in not too distant Salt Range in N-C Pakistan Dec 85, Mark Mallalieu <i>in litt</i> to TJ Roberts
N17 Japanese Sparrowhawk	<i>Accipiter gularis</i>	<i>A.g sibiricus</i> breeds pine forests N of Kazakhstan W to c80°E (F-L&C 2005), uncommon-rare, but regular breeder Krasnoyarsk Republic (c85°E) Rogacheva 1992. Likely wanderer to easternmost Kazakhstan.
PT Lesser Spotted Eagle PT	<i>Aquila pomarina</i>	PT follows Parry <i>et al</i> 2002, Väli 2006
N18 Indian Spotted Eagle	<i>Aquila (pomarina) hastata</i>	Although sedentary, immatures may wander and probably have occurred in OSME Region when habitats were more complete. Iranian collections may hold specimens under Lesser Spotted Eagle A. pomarina.
	Rallidae	
N19 Ruddy-breasted Crake	<i>Porzana fusca</i>	Small breeding population in reed-choked waterbodies on Pakistani side, at Thal – worth checking similar habitats Afghan side, Taleban permitting?
	Scolopaciidae	
N20 Nordmann's Greenshank	<i>Tringa guttifer</i>	Very unlikely, but like congeners, capable of wandering long distances – worth checking warm water coasts. Documentation?
N21 Grey-tailed Tattler	<i>Tringa brevipes</i> (formerly <i>Heterosceles brevipes</i>)	(Change of taxonomy Sangster <i>et al</i> 2007) Notorious wanderer. Permanent breeding grounds known near 86°30' E, 67°30' N in Krasnoyarsk Republic Rogacheva 1992.
	Sternidae	
N22 Black-naped Tern	<i>Sterna sumatrana</i>	Off Socotra? Arabian Sea coast? Masirah? Documentation? Several RNBWS reports S&E of 10:00:00N 61:24:00E (SE corner of OSME Region). One 1960 RNBWS report within OSME Region, Daimaniyat Islands at 23:55:0.0N+57:59:0.0E, but not possible to confirm ID from old description; likely misidentified, WRP Bourne pers comm. Likely vagrant off SW India R&A 2005.
N23 Black-bellied Tern	<i>Sterna acuticauda</i>	Given that River Tern <i>S. aurantia</i> , largely sharing the same distribution in Pakistan, has been recorded in Iran, Occurrence in Region possible.
N24 Angel Tern (White Tern, Fairy Tern)	<i>Gygis alba</i>	RNBWS record Mar 64 at Menai Island Seychelles at 9:24:0.0S+46:15:0.0E, S of OSME Region. Unlikely - strong possibility of misidentification, WRP Bourne pers comm.
	Stercorariidae	

N25	Subantarctic Skua (Brown Skua)	<i>Stercorarius lonnbergi</i> (formerly <i>Catharacta (antarcticus) lonnbergi</i>)	Probably already recorded in the OSME Region but wrongly attributed to another 'large skua' sp. Lack of genetic differentiation, due to relatively recent divergence as southern group from Great (<i>S. skua</i>) and Pomarine (<i>S. pomarinus</i>) Skuas. Consequently, any treatment as species must recognise that mobility and extent of hybridisation will prevent many individuals from being identified by morphology, plumage characters, or at all.
		Columbidae	
N26	Speckled Wood Pigeon	<i>Columba hodgsonii</i>	Possibly E Afghanistan, HBW4 map; likely very rare there R&A 2005, uncommon in west of range. A&M map range well into Gilgit, very close to Afghanistan. However, main habitat is dense temperate or tropical deciduous forest, which is now largely absent in E Afghanistan. Perhaps historical Bates & Lowther 1952. Relevance? Documentation? Subject to irregular movements, Grimmett <i>et al</i> 1998. NB Roberts & Arlott M Himalaya following track map up to 3000m Roberts 1991
N27	Ring-necked Dove	<i>Streptopelia capicola</i>	RNBWS report Farasan Islands Feb 82 (16:15:0.0N+41:3:0.0E) in limbo until confirmed record obtained; misidentification?
N28	Yellow-footed Green Pigeon	<i>Treron phoenicopterus</i>	Regular winterer E-C Pakistan, has increased wintering range to new irrigation projects (Roberts 1991), which now are common in OSME Region.
		Cuculidae	
N29	Greater Coucal	<i>Centropus sinensis</i>	Distribution of this common and adaptable species has increased, following irrigation projects, in Pakistan close to Afghan border, especially near Khyber Roberts 1991. May occur for that reason in OSME Region.
		Strigidae	
N30	Oriental Scops Owl	<i>Otus sunia</i>	Map in König <i>et al</i> (1999) covers E Afghanistan and Tadjikistan, Shimba (2007) map suggests S Kyrgyzstan, but R&A 2005 excludes it by some distance, as does Grimmett <i>et al</i> 1998. Documentation?
N31	Spot-bellied Eagle Owl (Spot-bellied Eagle-Owl) (Forest Eagle Owl)	<i>Bubo nipalensis</i>	Although map in König <i>et al</i> (1999) covers E Afghanistan, Uzbekistan and Tadjikistan, text does not support this, rather agreeing with R&A 2005, where mapped as remote even from Pakistan in C Himalayas.
N32	Dusky Eagle Owl (Dusky Eagle-Owl)	<i>Bubo coromandus</i>	Map in König <i>et al</i> (1999) covers northeasternmost Afghanistan, also HBW5. Range in R&A 2005 much further to S. Documentation? Apparent 'quarantine corridor' between this and <i>Eurasian Eagle Owl B. bubo</i> from coast mid-Pakistan N to Kashmir then SE to Nepal. R&A 2005 maps of the 2 spp are suspiciously parallel. However, maps in R&A 2005, Grimmett <i>et al</i> 1998 and Roberts 1991 suggest <i>coromandus</i> unlikely in OSME Region – well watered woodland now scarce in Afghanistan. Relevance, species has adapted to plantations Roberts 1991. Historical?
N33	Rock Eagle Owl (Dusky Eagle Owl)	<i>Bubo bengalensis</i>	Not IOC split. Taxonomy follows König <i>et al</i> (1999) & R&A 2005. Although map in König <i>et al</i> (1999) covers the SE quadrant of Afghanistan and Iranian Baluchistan, text does not support this; R&A 2005 map it quite close to the Khyber Pass in Pakistan. Documentation?
N34	Brown Hawk Owl	<i>Ninox scutulata</i>	Map in Shimba 2007 suggests close to E Tadjikistan and S Kyrgyzstan borders.
		Caprimulgidae	
N35	Savanna Nightjar	<i>Caprimulgus affinis</i>	As an abundant breeding migrant to Pakistan almost to border near Thal (Roberts 1991), overshoots are likely at times.
		Apodidae	
N36	Himalayan Swiftlet	<i>Aerodramus brevirostris</i> (formerly <i>Collocalia brevirostris</i>)	Swiftlets reported Socotra Nov 2007, following a cyclone, possibly this species (Hugh Buck pers comm). Documentation awaited.
		Indicatoridae	
N37	Yellow-rumped Honeyguide	<i>Indicator xanthonotus</i>	Reported on-line Afghanistan. Possible, but nearest documented population (NE Pakistan) thought extinct. Documentation? R&A 2005 say no. NB Roberts & Arlott E Dickinson pers comm
		Picidae	
N38	Lesser Goldenback	<i>Dinopium benghalense</i>	Resident in main vale of Peshawar Roberts 1991, which distribution area similar to Sind Woodpecker (Sind Pied) <i>Dendrocopos affinis</i> – (formerly?) in similar habitat on Afghan side of Khyber?
PASSERINES, English Name			
		Family, Species or Taxon	Working Notes; additional info to standard references. NB Secondary references often unvalidated
		Campephagidae	
P1	Rosy Minivet	<i>Pariorocotus roseus</i>	Afghanistan - Asian Area Checklist (AAC). HBW10 maps only in India, but unusually for HBW, text differs – N Pakistan; R&A 2005 support text. Map in Grimmett <i>et al</i> 1998 for 'rare & local' in NE Pakistan, very close to W end of Afghanistan's 'China strip' (Wakhan panhandle). Documentation? In H&M3 Afghan corrigenda E Dickinson pers comm.
		Incertae sedis	Family unknown – IOC
P2	Common Woodshrike	<i>Tephrodornis pondicerianus</i>	Though sedentary in Pakistani wooded lowlands, does penetrate ravines & occurs close to Afghan border near Thal & at Khyber Roberts 1992
		Laniidae	
P3	Chinese Grey Shrike	<i>Lanius sphenocercus</i>	Map in Shimba 2007 suggests likely wanderer to E Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan & Tadjikistan.
		Rhipiduridae	
P4	White-throated Fantail	<i>Rhipidura albicollis</i>	Occurs up to 2300m R&A 2005. Map (very small scale) in Arlott 2007 suggests; that in R&A just reaches Pakistan from E. Range of similar White-browed Fantail <i>R. aureola</i> (up to 1500m) actually much further W
		Corvidae	
P5	Azure-winged Magpie	<i>Cyanopica cyanus</i>	Westward range expansion increases likelihood of vagrancy, probable vagrants noted at c 100°E at 56°N Rогоcheva 1992. Map M&P 2000 westernmost limit 200km E of Kazakhstan. Map in Shimba 2007 suggests likely wanderer to easternmost Kazakhstan.
P6	Yellow-billed Blue Magpie (Gold-billed Magpie)	<i>Urocissa flavirostris</i>	Occurs up to 3500m R&A 2005. Map in Arlott 2007 suggests; R&A 2005 map almost reaches E to Pakistani Khyber. Indication of some support in M&P 2000. However, likely map in Roberts 1992 (p420) has been misread – 2 species on 1 map, but shading densities not greatly different – Eurasian Magpie <i>Pica pica</i> is mapped to border, but <i>U. flavirostris</i> in only 3 small patches of moist temperate forest 150-300km from border.
P7	Rufous Treepie (Indian Tree-pie)	<i>Dendrocyttus vagabunda</i>	Hills of SE Iran, E Afghanistan? M&B say Pakistani Hazara is western limit. Roberts 1992 maps to Afghan border at S Kurram. Documentation?
P8	Biddulph's Ground Jay	<i>Podoces biddulphi</i>	Probably in dry valley areas on Kazakhstan-China border, E of Zharkeit area, where M&B 1994 map neatly stops. Perhaps coincidentally, M&P 2000 also map it to E end of Wakhan, but also ESE Kazakh border. Documentation!!!
P9	Cape Crow	<i>Corvus capensis</i>	Two reported Egypt 29 Nov 07 at Shalateen (notified to Sandgrouse Around the Region). Documentation?
		Paridae	NB Sensu strictu, the dismemberment of the genus Parus is premature, for confirmatory work has yet to be done in places.
P10	Green-backed Tit	<i>Parus monticolus</i>	Occurs locally above 3300m R&A 2005. Very similar appearance to European populations of Great Tit <i>P. major</i> . Map in Arlott 2007 suggests occurrence; R&A 2005 map easternmost limit exactly at Afghan border S of western end of Wakhan, as does map in HBW 12. Sedentary, little altitudinal migration, avoids drier Himalayan forests Roberts 1992.
P11	Groundpecker (Hume's Ground-Jay) (alternatively Ground-tit or Ground Tit – HBW 12)	<i>Parus humilis</i> (formerly <i>Pseudopodoces humilis</i>)	Previously classed as a small corvid. HBW 12 retain <i>Pseudopodoces</i> genus. Possibly just in E Kyrgyzstan near Kara-Say on China border (up to 5300m M&B 1994, up to 5500m R&A 2005, who map up to 200km E of Wakhan). M&P 2000 map species in E end of Wakhan. Small-scale map Arlott 2007 supportive, as is HBW 12 map, but are errors compounding? Documentation!!! NB1 Confusion possible between multiple Kara-says. NB2 any record must establish taxon , K Roselaar pers comm.
		Aegithalidae	
P12	White-throated Bushtit (White-throated Tit)	<i>Aegithalos niveogularis</i>	Occurs up to 4000m R&A 2005. Map in Arlott 2007 suggests; R&A 2005 map westernmost limit of mid-Kashmir.
		Alaudidae	
P13	Mongolian Lark	<i>Melanocorypha mongolica</i>	On-line report for Kyrgyzstan, but more likely to be vagrant easternmost Kazakhstan, which is 750km nearer species' western range limit which lies another 400km further E in Mongolia). Documentation?
P14	Tibetan Lark	<i>Melanocorypha maxima</i>	Arlott 2007 map shows extensive area just SE of Wakhan, but <i>Melanocorypha</i> spp prone to wander widely. R&A map cut off just N of Afghanistan. M&P 2000 maps distribution as being S of Wakhan but probably on Pakistan-China border – a guess?
		Cisticolidae	
P15	Chinese Hill Warbler (Chinese Bush-dweller, HBW 12)	<i>Rhopophilus peginensis</i>	Breeds westernmost China, may occur where Toxkan He river enters Kyrgyzstan, or on E slopes above river Dar' yoi Oqsu in Tadjikistan; extrapolate from Baker 1997. Map, Arlott 2007, suggests may breed close to E end of Wakhan; M&P 2000 map westernmost limit at E end Wakhan. Shimba 2007 map suggests resident along these borders but also in easternmost Kazakhstan. HBW 12 suggests just reaches Region as above, but places in Timaliidae (Babblers). Documentation!
P16	Rufous-fronted Prinia	<i>Prinia buchanani</i>	On-line claim Afghanistan – not supported in Baker 1997, but mapped Pakistan along border at Khyber, R&A 2005, the same; map Grimmett <i>et al</i> 1998 on NE Pakistan-Afghanistan border. Roberts 1992 maps into Afghanistan at Khyber and nearly so at Thal to S. Documentation?

		'Incertae sedis'	Family uncertain
P17	Common Tailorbird (Formerly Indian Tailorbird)	<i>Orthotomus sutorius</i>	Roberts 1992 maps almost to Afghan border At Thal & Khyber. Species adaptable to most deciduous habitats
		Sylviidae	
P18	Brown-flanked Bush Warbler (Brownish-flanked or Strong-footed Bush Warbler)	<i>Cettia fortipes</i>	Occurs up to 3300m R&A 2005. Map in Arlott 2007 suggests narrow breeding area Afghanistan; R&A map westernmost limit W corner Kashmir. Roberts 1992 map suggests Afghan breeders most likely in Nurestan, WSW of Chitral in Pakistan.
PT	Spotted Bush Warbler PT	<i>Bradypterus thoracicus</i>	Recent split into <i>B. (t.) thoracicus</i> (extralimital, E of central Himalayas) and Baikal Bush Warbler <i>B. (t.) davidi</i> , which is Siberian Bush Warbler of HBW11 & IOC.
P19	Baikal Bush Warbler (Siberian Bush Warbler)	<i>Bradypterus (thoracicus) davidi</i>	Northeasternmost breeding range near source of Ob, Altai S-C Russia, within reasonable distance of easternmost Kazakhstan, Flint <i>et al</i> 1984, also Sayan Mts Krasnoyarsk Republic Rogacheva 1992. Shimba 2007 map suggests in easternmost Kazakhstan (as Spotted Bush Warbler <i>B. thoracicus</i>). Documentation?
P20	Chinese Bush Warbler	<i>Bradypterus tac snowskius</i>	Vagrant in Sayan Mts Krasnoyarsk Republic, not far from easternmost Kazakhstan Rogacheva 1992. NB A wintering population crosses Himalayas to winter S Nepal, N India R&A 2005. Shimba 2007 map suggests westernmost range limit roughly at 90°E.
P21	Gray's Grasshopper Warbler	<i>Locustella fasciolata</i>	Easternmost breeding range fairly close to NE Kazakhstan, Flint <i>et al</i> 1984, Shimba 2007. Documentation? Occurs Krasnoyarsk Republic Rogacheva 1992. NB Rare vagrant to WP, Harrop 2007. Arlott 2007 map tentatively suggests easternmost Kazakhstan.
P22	Tickell's Leaf Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus affinis</i>	Occurs up to 4800m R&A 2005. Western limit of breeding range depicted as exactly on N Pakistan-Afghanistan border (Nurestan-Badakhshan & E Wakhan - 'China strip' Roberts 1992); strong likelihood of wandering, but habitat declining - occurs up to 5000m, Baker 1997. R&A 2005 & Arlott 2007 maps depict similarly. Documentation?
PT	Crowned Warbler PT	<i>Phylloscopus coronatus</i>	NB See ORL Passerine List for Western Crowned Warbler <i>P. (c.) occipitalis</i>
P23	Eastern Crowned Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus (coronatus) coronatus</i>	Rare vagrant to WP, Harrop 2007 - almost certainly crosses the OSME Region. NB Sikkim Meinertzhagen record fraudulent (see history in Garfield 2007), also in Assam Meinertzhagen records misidentified Blyth's Leaf-Warbler <i>P. reguloides</i> - R&A 2005 (see also Garfield 2007).
P24	Grey-hooded Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus xanthoschistos</i> (formerly <i>Seicercus xanthoschistos</i>)	Occurs up to 2700m R&A 2005. Map in Arlott 2007 suggests wintering area NE Afghanistan; R&A 2005 map westernmost limit W corner of Kashmir, similarly M&P 2000.
PT	Marmora's Warbler PT	<i>Sylvia sarda</i>	NB See ORL Passerine List for Marmora's Warbler <i>S. (s.) sarda</i>
P25	Balearic Warbler (Marmora's Warbler)	<i>Sylvia (sarda) balearica</i> (formerly <i>S. sarda balearica</i>)	Very unlikely to reach OSME Region from W Mediterranean, but very strong spring westerlies in Mediterranean not uncommon when depressions over northern Mediterranean countries (eg 35 days out of 42 Cyprus Apr-May 2008). Documentation!!
P26	Tristram's Warbler	<i>Sylvia deserticola</i>	Winters W Libya, Shirihai <i>et al</i> 2001. Possibly W Egypt. NB Balearic Warbler <i>Sylvia balearica</i> (formerly <i>S. sarda balearica</i>) unlikely to reach OSME Region. Documentation!
		Timaliidae	
P27	Striated Babbler	<i>Turdoides earlei</i>	Mapped to Afghan border NE of Jalalabad Roberts 1992 - breeds up to 1800m & becomes dominant in irrigated forest plantations.
P28	White-throated Laughingthrush	<i>Trochalopteron albogularis</i> (formerly <i>Garrulax albogularis</i>)	Taxonomy follows R&A 2005. Map in Arlott 2007 suggests in ORL. Possible error of map swap in Arlott 2007 with Variegated Laughingthrush <i>T. (g.) variegatus</i> (qv in ORL Passerines)? Arlott 2007 may have used maps or same source data as M&P 2000, whose texts agree with R&A texts but not with maps. R&A 2005 maps & species accepted here as correct - westernmost limit isolated (& declining?) population NE Pakistan. NB Roberts 1992 - no Pakistan record after 1965 of this noisy & conspicuous species. H&E 1970 speculate Vaurie accepted 1 record.
P29	Green Shrike-Babbler	<i>Pteruthius xanochlorus</i>	Occurs up to 3350m R&A 2005. Map in Arlott 2007 suggests narrow breeding area Afghanistan; R&A map westernmost limit S Kashmir as does HBW 12 map. Roberts 1992 tends to support, but notes declining population of already rare sp.
		Zosteropidae	
P30	African Yellow White-eye (Senegal White-eye)	<i>Zosterops senegalensis</i>	African species, reported on-line in Arabia. Documentation? No records Oman, Jens Eriksen pers comm.
P31	Socotran White-eye (Abyssinian White-eye, White-breasted White-eye)	<i>Zosterops (abyssinicus) ???</i>	Socotran form of African species. Case ending, David & Gosseiln 2002. (Hugh Buck pers comm)
		Sturnidae	
P32	Daurian Starling	<i>Sturnus sturninus</i>	Rare vagrant WP Harrop 2007 - must cross OSME Region. Vagrant N Pakistan near Wakhan R&A 2005. Commonly traded cagebird.
		Turdidae	
P33	Grey-winged Blackbird	<i>Turdus boulboul</i>	NE Afghanistan - map Clement & Hathway 2002, likely habitat, ban oak <i>Quercus incana</i> , HBW10, but not supported R&A 2005. Grimmett <i>et al</i> 1998, 'common, but very local' in Pakistan. Roberts 1992 text suggests unlikely, as it prefers Himalayan-type moist forest community.
		Muscicapidae	
P34	White-bellied Redstart	<i>Hodgsonia phoenicuroides</i>	Not recorded Afghanistan, but a known Pakistan breeding site at 3350m tree limit is very close to S side of Wakhan where much little-known land is at this altitude Roberts 1992.
P35	White-throated Bush Chat (White-throated Bushchat, Hodgson's Bushchat)	<i>Saxicola insignis</i>	Assessed as vagrant (E) Kazakhstan (K-M&K 2005) & breeding easternmost Kazakhstan, HBW10. However, these conclusions appear based on skin (1928) in Leningrad, but the original label has been replaced without documented reason, Vladimir Arkhipov pers comm, W&O 2007. Species now requires documentation. R&A 2005 map wintering range as S slopes C & E Himalayas.
P36	Grey Bush Chat (Grey Bushchat)	<i>Saxicola ferreus</i> (formerly <i>Saxicola ferrea</i>)	Occurs up to 3000m R&A 2005. Map in Arlott 2007 suggests narrow breeding area reaches Afghanistan; R&A 2005 map westernmost limit in Pakistan W of Kashmir. Roberts 1992 map not too near Afghan border, E of Chitral.
P37	Mugimaki Flycatcher (Black-and-Orange Flycatcher)	<i>Ficedula mugimaki</i>	Rare vagrant to WP, Harrop 2007 - almost certainly crosses the OSME Region. Breeds abundantly in southern taiga & Sayan Mts to N of Region Rogacheva 1992. Map in Shimba 2007 covers easternmost Kazakhstan - error?
P38	Slaty-blue Flycatcher	<i>Ficedula tricolor</i>	Extreme W of wintering area to NE Afghanistan? - map in R&A 2005, some support Grimmett <i>et al</i> 1998, none in Roberts 1992. Documentation?
P39	Grey-headed Canary-Flycatcher (Grey-headed Flycatcher)	<i>Culicicapa ceylonensis</i>	Occurs up to 2700m R&A 2005. Map in Arlott 2007 suggests breeding area reaches Afghanistan; R&A 2005 map westernmost limit SE Kashmir, Roberts 1992 less optimistic.
		Passeridae	
P40	Père David's Snowfinch (Small Snowfinch)	<i>Pyrgilauda davidiana</i> (formerly <i>Montifringilla davidiana</i>)	Westernmost Russian breeding range, where scarce, very close to easternmost Kazakhstan, Flint <i>et al</i> 1984, Clement <i>et al</i> 1993. M&P 2000 map close to NE Kazakhstan border. Documentation?
P41	Blanford's Snowfinch (Plain-backed Snowfinch)	<i>Pyrgilauda blanfordi</i> (formerly <i>Montifringilla blanfordi</i>)	Occurs up to 5500m R&A 2005. Map in Arlott 2007 suggests resident close to E end of Wakhan; R&A 2005 map westernmost limit E of Kashmir. M&P 2000 map in China to Pakistan border just S of Wakhan.
		Prunellidae	
P42	Robin Accentor	<i>Prunella rubeculoides</i>	Occurs up to 5300m R&A 2005. Arlott 2007 map suggests breeding Afghanistan; R&A 2005 map westernmost limit C Kashmir. M&P 2000 map N of Kashmir. Roberts 1992 map suggests possibility of occurrence Afghan E Wakhan/China border, S side.
		Motacillidae	
P43	White-browed Wagtail	<i>Motacilla maderaspatensis</i>	NE Afghanistan in map in A&M (2003); some indication of support in Grimmett <i>et al</i> 1998 ('summer visitor' above '1700m', 'resident, locally common' 'NW Pakistan'). Roberts 1992 maps at or close to Pakistan/Afghan border S & N of Khyber. Documentation?
		Fringillidae	
P44	Dark-breasted Rosefinch	<i>Carpodacus nipalensis</i>	Apparently occurs up to 3300m R&A 2005. Map in Arlott 2007 suggests breeding E Afghanistan; R&A map westernmost limit 200km E of easternmost Pakistan, as does M&P 2000 and also Roberts 1992, where scarce at c.3000m.
P45	Pink-browed Rosefinch	<i>Carpodacus rodochroa</i>	On-line reports for Kyrgyzstan, Tadjikistan, Uzbekistan, unsupported Clement <i>et al</i> 1993. Mapped Arlott 2007 in a narrow NE-SW breeding area Uzbekistan, Tadjikistan Afghanistan. To 3000m Pakistan, Grimmett <i>et al</i> 1998. Documentation?
P46	White-browed Rosefinch	<i>Carpodacus thura</i>	On NE Afghanistan-Pakistan border R&A 2005 (<i>C. t. blythii</i>) (NB no link to Blyth's Rosefinch, now <i>C. grandis</i> formerly <i>C. rhodochlamys grandis</i>), NE Afghanistan, Clements <i>et al</i> 1993; Mapped E Afghanistan Arlott 2007 maps in band Kyrgyzstan, Tadjikistan Afghanistan; also by Grimmett <i>et al</i> 1998, as <i>C. t. blythii</i> following Roberts 1992, who maps it in Pakistani N Kurram on Afghan border and suggests eastern Afghan Safed Koh (western slopes) range at 2400-3350m & H&E 1970 fairly emphatic about breeding 3000-5000m here. However, distribution & allocation of populations variously treated as <i>blythii</i> not well documented. NB Despite above, no accepted documentation of occurrence in Afghanistan, K Roselaar pers comm, but on H&M3 corrigenda list E Dickinson pers comm.
P47	Orange Bullfinch	<i>Pyrrhula aurantiaca</i>	Occurs up to 3500m R&A 2005. Map in Arlott 2007 suggests non-continuous band Uzbekistan, Tadjikistan, Afghanistan; R&A 2005 map almost reaches Afghani Wakhan, N Chitral Roberts 1992.

Emberizidae			
P48	Crested Bunting	<i>Melophus lathamii</i>	Although known to breed no closer than 150km from Afghan border in Swat district, Pakistan, closely associated with 'Chir' pine <i>Pinus roxburghii</i> tracts at 1000-1800m asl. Satellite IR-response analysis of general area could identify <i>P. roxburghii</i> tracts in nearby Afghanistan.
PT	House Bunting PT	<i>Emberiza striolata</i>	Not IOC split. NB See ORL Passerine List for Striolated Bunting <i>E.(s.) striolata</i>
P49	House Bunting	<i>Emberiza (striolata) sahari</i>	Post-split <i>sahari</i> populations remote from OSME Region in NW Africa – very unlikely to occur.
P50	Yellow-browed Bunting	<i>Emberiza chrysophrys</i>	Rare WP vagrant Harrop 2007 – must cross the OSME Region. Common mid-taiga Krasnoyarsk Republic to N of Region Rogacheva 1992.

Forecast Hypothetical Taxa – additional notes

- Conspicuous by their absence from the OSME Region are a whole range of migratory Nearctic breeding taxa that have occurred as vagrants in Europe. Also, many eastern Palearctic migrants have demonstrated 180° misorientation (Berthold 1999). A Great Circle course brings them through the Region, where there is a very low observer density. Other vagrant migrant types expected in the Region are western (especially Alaskan) Nearctic taxa, such as American Pipit (IOC = Buff-bellied Pipit) *Anthus (r.) rubescens*, which if amongst Palearctic *A. (r.) japonicus* in a flock would not only be easy to overlook, but also might not even be searched for by the very few birdwatchers and ornithologists in the vastnesses of the OSME Region. Doubtless readers can think of other candidates, but it would not be unreasonable to predict a *Vireo* sp or *Dendroica* sp occurring in the OSME Region in future. In the north of the Region, we might reasonably expect misoriented North American forest specialist species, because quite a number have occurred as vagrants in Europe, having crossed the Atlantic, probably often driven by strong westerly winds. Furthermore, the appearance of Nearctic taxa in the OSME Region is more likely than might be at first thought if we take as an example the annual migration cycle of the Alaskan population of Northern Wheatear *Oenanthe oenanthe* – these birds migrate across Asia to winter south of the Sahara (Bairlein 2008) and on their return. **In any case, analysis of the stable-isotope ratios of feathers of vagrants might indicate accurately the breeding and wintering areas - see Fox & Bearhop (2008).**
- Improvements in seabird ID criteria will increase accuracy of Indian Ocean sightings (ORL boundaries: southern 10°S, eastern 61°24'E), but numbers of potential observers have greatly reduced (fewer RN ships, fewer RNBWS members, automation reducing merchant ship crews) and so annual totals of such pelagic records will be greatly reduced. **This worldwide problem requires addressing by a specialist group – BirdLife International to lead?**

Species removed from Hypothetical List

Campephagidae			
A	Short-billed Minivet	<i>Pericrocotus brevirostris</i>	Paludan 1959 lists as summer visitor E Afghanistan, ssp <i>brevirostris</i> , 6 being collected Nurestan 1948, but subsequently only Long-tailed Minivet <i>P. ethologus</i> shown to occupy western range; earlier ID confusion now apparent.