### The Ornithological Society of the Middle East, the Caucasus and Central Asia (OSME)


The scale of illegal bird killing annually in the OSME Region is significant in conservation terms: Brochet et al. 2016 (also cited as 2017) provide estimates for Mediterranean countries (11-36 million birds) & Brochet et al. 2019 for Arabia, Iran & Iraq (879,000-31,000,000 passerines).

## Relevant changes in IOCTO1.1 list are included

A full explanation is given in Explanation of the ORL, but briefly, Bright green shading of a row (e.g Syrian Ostrich) indicates former presence of a taxon in the OSME Region. Light gold shading in column A indicates sequence change from the previous ORL issue. For taxa that have unproven and probably unlikely presence, see the Hypothetical List. Red font indicates added information since the previous ORL version or the Conservation Threat Status (Critically Endangered = CE, Endangered = E, Vulnerable = V and Data Deficient = DD only).

Not all synonyms have been examined. Serial numbers (SN) are merely an administrative convenience and may change. Please do not cite them in any formal correspondence or papers. NB: Compass cards (e.g N = north, SE = southeast) are used.

- Rows shaded thus and with yellow test indicate recent or data-driven major conservation concerns.
- Rows shaded thus and with white text contain additional explanatory information on problem taxa groups as and when necessary.

A broad orange line, as below, indicates the last taxon in a new or suggested species split, or where sup are best considered separately.

The Non-passerine Reference List follows as Part B, & includes References for Hypothetical non-passerines [List in Part E]. It explains Abbreviated References cited in the species accounts. Notes, & Status abbreviations → EM=Breeding Migrant, SB/SV=Summer Breeder/Visitor, PM=Passage Migrant, WV=Winter Visitor, RB=Resident Breeder

1. PT=Parent Taxon (used because many records will antedate splits, especially from recent research) – we use the concept of PT with a degree of latitude, roughly equivalent to the formal term sensu latu, ‘in the broad sense’.

2. The term ‘report’ or ‘reported’ indicates the occurrence is unconfirmed or not yet formally accepted.

3. English names. We use the recommended names in the International Ornithological Congress World List (see www.worldbirdnames.org) with very few exceptions. The OSME preference is always listed first. We suggest that national lists for countries in the OSME Region adopt the OSME preference, but there is no compulsion to do so! Please note that unusual IOC names appear in curly brackets (…), alternative names in round brackets (…), superseded (re-allocated) names in square brackets […].

4. Scientific names: we use square brackets […] to indicate superspecies that comprise two or more allopecies – we use the same convention for semispecies and we use round brackets (…) where the status of a taxon is not entirely clear-cut; eg the evidence may not be wholly convincing and subject to debate, it may not yet be fully available, we may have overlooked it or not found it, or the evidence on one part of a taxon’s range may differ from that in another. In its simplest form this is our ‘Don’t know’ category. (Terms such as ‘superspecies’ are explained in the *Oriphological Basis of the ORL*, where examples are given).

5. As more information is received, the use of abbreviations for countries concerned will increase. See the Country and Territory Abbreviations for details.

6. Many distributions will be diminished by continuing habitat loss, but note that many local extensions occur subsequent to construction of canal, dam and other irrigation works, and that the breeding and wintering distributions are likely to change, often radically, with climate change (Huntley et al 2007).

### Explanation of the ORL

- Rows shaded thus and with white text contain additional explanatory information on problem taxa groups as and when necessary.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SN</th>
<th>English Name</th>
<th>Family or Species Comment</th>
<th>Working Notes</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Hazel Grouse (Hazel Hen) (Northern Hazel Grouse &amp; HUM)</td>
<td>Tetrao urogallus (formerly Bonasa bonasia)</td>
<td>9 ssp; 7 extralimital. N Kazakhstan-Madge &amp; McGowan (M&amp;M) 2002, uraleusis &amp; taczanowskiii WOOG 2007 (Ayé et al. unpublished) endemic areas to N &amp; NE Siberia, W Siberia distribution as far as N Korea. (Billed Capercaillie T. urogallus is extralimital, although has reached 86.5°E, 67.5°N, but is in serious decline Rogacheva 1992: uraleusis has priority over panarcticus H&amp;M4: a population in Nogoonnuur, W Mongolia at 49.8°N, 89.6°E.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Western Capercaillie (Capercaillie, formerly Capercaillize)</td>
<td>Tetrao urogallus</td>
<td>9 ssp; 7 extralimital. N Kazakhstan-Madge &amp; McGowan (M&amp;M) 2002, uraleusis &amp; taczanowskiii WOOG 2007 (Ayé et al. unpublished) endemic areas to N &amp; NE Siberia, W Siberia distribution as far as N Korea. (Billed Capercaillie T. urogallus is extralimital, although has reached 86.5°E, 67.5°N, but is in serious decline Rogacheva 1992: uraleusis has priority over panarcticus H&amp;M4: a population in Nogoonnuur, W Mongolia at 49.8°N, 89.6°E.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Caucasian Grouse
Alectoris melanocephala

Rock Ptarmigan
Lagopus muta

Willow Ptarmigan (Willow Grouse)
Lagopus lagopus

Snow Partridge
Lerwa lerwa

Caucasian Snowcock
Tetraogallus caucasicus

Caspian Snowcock
Tetraogallus caspius

Tetraogallus tibetanus

Boesman 2019 reveals existence of 2 vocal groups, eastern & western, split in southern Iran. For the two
Alectoris graeca

23 sspp: only Francolinus francolinus
Monotypic. Easternmost Kazakhstan, M&M 2002, very rare resident
Arend Wassink
Extralimital, 3 sspp. Introduced, ancestry unknown, Masse el Shouf Lebanon 1995-6, now declining, further

Sand Partridge
Arabian Partridge
{Cyrenaican Partridge}, Cyrenaic Partridge
Barbary Partridge
Chukar Partridge (Chukar)
Rock Partridge
Altai Snowcock
Tibetan Snowcock

Caucasian Black Grouse
Alectoris (barbara) barbata

OSME Region)
Alectoris chukar

Lagopus lagopus

2 sspp: nominate in Region; major China. E Afghan-HBW2, possibly NE Afghanistan R&A 2005, R&A
easternmost Wakhan, S side (from maps in Roberts 1991, R&A 2012). However, Ayé et al 2012 consider
discourts doubtful, yet BLDZ Mar 2018 maps at E end of Wakhan, S side, & an isolate in massif W of Mt
Sikaram straddling Afghan/Pakistani border above the Kabul road.. Ample habitat Afghanistan above 3000m.

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Sikaram straddling Afghan/Pakistani border above the Kabul road.. Ample habitat Afghanistan above 3000m.
23 'Middle Eastern Black Francolin'  
Francolinus (francolinus) francolinus  

24 'Asian Black Francolin'  
Francolinus (francolinus) asiaticus  
The eastern group comprises bogdanovi W through SE Iran into S Afghanistan then extralimitally to Pakistan as hennici, which then occurs in E Afghanistan down to north-westernmost India; assai then occurs south to N Gujarat & E across India to N Bangladesh where melanotus is present. Forcina et al 2012 noted that genetically the western group genetically uniform in mtDNA, but differs from most of the eastern group significantly. Forcina et al 2019, using microsatellite DNA, reveal that eastern populations comprise 2 separate clades, west to east as bogdanovi + hennici. populations from Pakistan eastwards are of unmapped size and unknown stability, they make no decision on the taxonomic status within eastern populations. However, if later these become full species, the populations in S Iran would become F. (x) hennici. Afghanistan (bogdanovi) Paludan 1959, HBW2, E Iran R&A 2005, Scott & Adhami 2006. NB1 UAE, introduced Gregory 2002: Boesman 2019 map suggests bogdanovi. NB2 Bonaparte 1856 seemingly described assai & hennici in the same paper. Until a First Reviser is needed to establish nomenclatural priority, we'll adopt the pragmatic alphabetical solution.

26 Grey Francolin  
Francolinus pondicerianus  
3 spp, only mecranensis in Region, others Indian subcontinent. One old vagrancy record SE Afghanistan M&M 2002; R&A 2012 map very close to Afghanistan at Khyber), SE Iran R&A 2005, Scott & Adhami 2006. Some introduced UAE (Aspinal 1996); certainly present since 5th century AD (Pedersen & Aspinal 2010) but may even then have been introductions Lever 2005. Bred Dhahran 2006; Jennings 2008a; possibly introduced Oman, but before 1886 Jennings 2010, expanding SW from E Oman OBL7. NB Very well adapted to aridity Roberts 1991

26 Grey Partridge  
Perdix perdix  

27 Daurian Partridge  
Perdix dauurica  

28 Common Quail  
Coturnix coturnix  

29 Harlequin Quail  
Coturnix delegorguei  
2 remote extralimital ssp in Africa, arabica wholly in SW Arabia on Red Sea littoral, ssp arabica, HBW2, present winter S Yemen Warsaw 1992. Probably at least 1000 bp Jennings 2010, vagrant Oman OBL7. Reported Socotra Feb 07. Calling birds heard responses to playback obtained in Jun & Jul 2015 & 2016 from same fields near Babya, Jizan, SW Saudi Arabia; males & females seen Babbington 2018a; circumstantial evidence suggests resident population SW Saudi Arabia/westernmost Yemen (not migratory as previously suggested), but darker than given in the sparse literature on Yemen birds; either arabica is not a valid ssp or those in Saudi Arabia are a different ssp Babington 2018.

30 Koklass Pheasant  
Pucrasia macrolopha  

31 Himalayan Monal  
Lophophorus impeanus  

32 Cheer Pheasant  
Catreus wadihii  
4 inst. upper E Yemen, including the Jabal Dafjar, S Wadi Hadhramaut & SE Bab–Hudaydah R&D 2012. We observed this species from Wadi Dakhil, S Hadhramaut R&D 2012. Also HBW2 (cheer pheasant text) & R&A 2012. HBW Alive McGowan et al 2018 confirms taxon is not present in Arabian Peninsula. BLDZ map Feb 2018 indicating range was previously more widespread in E-M Yemen, Pakistan. Pre-perm urbanisation in SE Yemen

PT Common Pheasant  
Phasianus colchicus  
PT. IOC2.1 recognises Dickinson 2003 split of extralimital Green Pheasant P. e. versicolor. NB Global extent of uncontrolled commercial intensively bred stock of uncertain ancestry has blurred identity of many wild ssp. Annual releases in UK alone average 30-35 million birds GWCT Sep 2016 (Homepage). Consequent predator culling (illicit or legally approved) is often undertaken without understanding of the dynamics of ecosystems dominated by artificially reared, superabundant non-native game species Lees et al 2013

33 Common Pheasant (formerly Ring-necked Pheasant)  
Phasianus [colchicus] colchicus  
At least 30 spp, & 11 in Region: septentrionalis N Caucasus, W Caspian to Volga-Ural interfluve; nominate Tragopan indicus E to WNW China; delacouri EASEE Azerbaijan-CN Iran; persicus SW Turkmenistan, NW Iran; principalis SE Turkmenistan, NW Afghanistan; chryosomaes W Uzbekistan, N Turkmenistan; zanduiy E Turkmenistan Amudarya’ya valley; bianchi SE Uzbekistan, SW Tajikistan, NE Afghanistan; zerafshanicensis Uzbekistan Buhkara & Samarkand; luristanicus S Kazakhstan Syrdarya’ya valley to Ferghan Basin; mongolicus SE Kazakhstan, N Kyrgyzstan. In all Caucasus & Central Asia Republics in OSME Region M&M 2002, NW, NC Afghanistan R&A 2005, Iran Scott & Adhami 2006. NB Large-scale introductions or reared stock Kazakhstan W&O 2007.

34 Indian Peafowl (Common Peafowl, Peacock)  
Pavo cristatus  
Monotypic. Introduced in several locations Arabia Jennings 2008b, but sustaining a feral & (tolerated) population only in UAE Jennings 2010. Feral suburban populations UAE Aspinal 2010

Anatidae  
Gonzalez et al 2009 analyse relationships within Anatidae; H&M sequence (ORL taxa) is Oxyura, Cygnus, Branta, Anser, Clinuca, Somateria, Melanitta, Bucephala, mergellus, Mergus, Allophoenic, Tadorna, Marmarornetta, Netta, Aythya, Spatula, Sibirionetta, Mareca, Aix, Nettapus. We remain with IOC sequence. H&M also re-sequence within genera. NB1 Since 1990s, many spp now overwinter CA at recently-built irrigation reservoirs (EK-M pers comm). NB2 Many anatid spp continue to be introduced, particularly because many cultures have a long history of bird-keeping, but also because of developing prosperity funding the trade in exotics Blackburn et al 2015.
Fulvous Whistling Duck

**Dendrocygna bicolor**


Lesser Whistling Duck

**Dendrocygna javanica**


True geese phylogeny

**PT Branta spp & Anser spp**

Despite a partially collective consensus (including H&M4) to treat in 3 groups; extralimital Black Brant (or Brent) Goose (nigricans & ‘orientalis’ NE Siberia-Canada), Dark-bellied Brent (bernicla NW Europe-N-C Siberia) & Light-bellied Brent (hrota NE Canada & Greenland, some winter Europe), as per Clements 2011, we cautiously address each taxon separately, thus nigricans is Nearctic ‘Black Brant’ & orientalis is E Paleartic ‘Grey-bellied Brant’; therefore the latter is the rare PM from E Siberian population Kazakstan W&O 2007. However, Wassink 2015b omits mention, possibly on reassessment of records to nigricans.

Claden Branta: also includes extralimital Hawaiian Goose B. sandvicensis, Canada Goose B. canadensis & Cackling Goose B. hutchinsi (one B. hutchinsi photographed Mighan, Markhari, Iran Dec 2016 of uncertain status.)

- Dark-bellied Brent Goose (Brant Goose)

**Branta (bernicla) bernicla**


- Pale-bellied Brent Goose (Light-bellied Brent Goose)

**Branta (bernicla) hrota**

Nearctic breeder; some populations winter NW Europe E to Denmark, straggle further E. Identified in Iran by HJ Speyer in 1960, a bird typically feeding on beach-washed weed, Roselaar & Alibandian 2010. (Speyer was familiar with both Brent Goose and Red-breasted Goose B. ruficollis from his native Denmark.)

- Black Brant

**Branta (bernicla) nigricans**

Rare straggler E Kazakstan from E Siberian population W&O 2007, although Arend Wassink et al Branta (bernicla) nigricans Anser anser ‘Clade Grey Geese’; also includes extralimital Pink-footed Goose A. anser.

‘Clade White Geese’: also includes extralimital Emperor Goose A. canagui, Ross’s Goose A. rossii.

- Red-breasted Goose

**Branta ruficollis (Rufibrenta ruficollis some Russian references)**


- Barnacle Goose

**Branta leucopsis**


Basal taxon to Clades ‘White’ & ‘Grey’ Geese

- Bar-headed Goose

**Anser indicus (Éulabia indica in some Russian references)**


‘Clade White Geese’: also includes extralimital Emperor Goose A. canagui & Ross’s Goose A. rossii.

- Snow Goose

**Anser caerulescens (IOC6:3 formerly Chen caerulescens)**

Ottenburghs et al 2016 found that ancestral Bar-headed Goose A. indicus split from ancestral Brants, becoming basal to all other true geese, which later formed 2 Clades, the white geese (including A. caerulescens) and the grey geese. Snow Goose is therefore nested in Anser, with 2 ssp: atlanticus Nearctic, nominate vagrant Kazakstan G&G 2005, W&O 2007; no adequate written description, no specimens, no photographs Kazakstan, so confirmation withheld Wassink 2015b: 1st record Iran 2007 Winkel & de Weerd 2007. 1st reported Israel Nov 2018-Jan 2019 young bird - Yoav Perlman in litt.

‘Clade Grey Geese’: also includes extralimital Pink-footed Goose A. brachyrhynchos.

- Greylag Goose PT

**Anser anser**

Parent Taxon: possible potential split, but separation distance 1%, strongly supporting ssp status Rowekon et al 2010; treated here as separate groups within A. anser. NB Coastal 2013 cautions conflict on conflicting morphological/reproductive isolation and molecular data as to assigning rank.

- Eastern Greylag Goose (Greylag Goose) (Siberian Greylag Goose)

**Anser anser rubrinitris**


- Swan Goose

**Anser cygnoides (A. cygnoides H&M4, Cygnopsis cygnoides some Russian refs)**

Anser fabalis

EBRC.

Anser fabalis

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58. Cotton Pygmy Goose (Cotton Teal)
Nettapus coromandelianus

59. Deconstruction of Anas
This change makes Anas monotypic
IOC 3.7 accepts the H&M4 deconstruction of Anas by the erection of 3 new genera. Baikal Teal now forms the monotypic genus Siberioida; Garganey, Blue-winged Teal and Northern Shoveler are transferred to Spatula as the OSME Region representatives; Gadwall, Falcated Duck and Eurasian Wigeon likewise become the OSME Region representatives of Mareca.

60. Baikal Teal
Sibirionetta formosa (IOC/7.3, H&M4) (formerly Anas formosa )

61. Garganey
Spatula querquedula (IOC/7.3, H&M4) (formerly Anas querquedula) (Querquedula querquedula)

62. Northern Shoveler
Spatula clypeata (IOC/7.3, H&M4) (formerly Anas clypeata)
Monotypic. Breeds Caucasus, N CA (Afghanistan R&A 2005), winters further S, HBW1.Introduced Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, may now be extinct, Lever 2005, but probably breeds secretive in small numbers Jennings 2010; some migrants may stay to breed. Abundant WW & PM Oman OBL7, uncommon RB, very common PM, WW Iran Khaleghidazahe et al 2017. Egypt Avib, BE.

63. Gadwall
Mareca strepera (IOC/7.3, H&M4) (formerly Anas strepera)

64. Falcated Duck (Falcated Teal)
Mareca falcata (IOC/7.3, H&M4) (formerly Anas falcata)

65. Eurasian Wigeon
Mareca penelope (IOC/7.3, H&M4) (Mareca penelope)
Monotypic. Breeds NE Kazakhstan, winters locally in N OSM Region, HBW1, also to S Africa & R&A 2005; fairly common WW Oman OBL7. Egypt Avib, BE.

66. Spot-billed Duck PT
Anas poecilorhyncha

67. Mallard
Anas platyrhynchos
Monotypic. Only nominate of 3 ssp in Region. Almost ubiquitous breeder N hemisphere, winters in ice-free areas to S, 1st breeding record Kuwait Apr 2013 SG3(2) ATR, possibly 1st breeding record Iraq Feb 2017 al-Obeidi 2018; abundant, HBW1. WW Arabia, any breeding from escapes & feral birds Jennings 2010. Egypt Avib, BE.

68. Feral Duck
Anas platyrhynchos forma domestica
Ubiquitous, abundant, commensal, & little studied or reported; probably has significant effect on genetic identity of A. platyrhynchos & congeners and potentially serious effect on gene pool of many duck species capable (though unlikely otherwise in the wild) of hybridisation. This form increasing in Arabia, especially near cities Jennings 2010. 1st breeding Kuwait Apr 2013 KORC. Egypt Avib, BE.

69. Cape Teal
Anas capensis

70. Red-billed Teal (Red-billed Duck)
Anas erythrorhyncha

71. Northern Pintail
Anas acuta
Monotypic. Breeds Caucasus, N CA (Afghanistan R&A 2005), but further N than A. clypeata, HBW1, winters to S, abundant WW & PM Oman OBL7. Egypt Avib, BE. NB Long-term decline of Eurasian and Neartic populations thought to be driven by breeding habitat loss Zwarts et al 2009.

72. Eurasian Teal (Common Teal)
Anas crecca
Monotypic. Breeds summer resident throughout NE Europe to S Asia and N USA R&A 2005; common winter European & EA in Israel. OCC 2.0 accepts split; also R&A 2005, AOJ. NB BOU recognise Green-winged Teal A. [crecca] eremophila as incertae sedis.

73. Marbled Duck (Marbled Teal)
Marmaronetta angustirostris
Monotypic. CA, N Iran, N Iraq (Ararat et al 2011), Caucasus, moult migration unpredictable, winters Black/Peackiceans, southern CA (Ayé et al 2012), mostly India (R&A 2005); 2nd Kuwait record 13 Sep 16 Jaha Pools DB38(6): 393. KORC. 3rd Qatar record Dec 2017 GBRC, uncommon WW & PM Oman OBL7. Egypt Avib, BE. NB Although species generally regarded as monotypic, W European and CA populations are generally distinct Gay et al 2004.

74. Red-crested Pochard
Netta rufina
Monotypic. CA, N Iran, N Iraq (Ararat et al 2011), Caucasus, moult migration unpredictable, winters Black/Peackiceans, southern CA (Ayé et al 2012), mostly India (R&A 2005); 2nd Kuwait record 13 Sep 16 Jaha Pools DB38(6): 393. KORC. 3rd Qatar record Dec 2017 GBRC, uncommon WW & PM Oman OBL7. Egypt Avib, BE. NB Although species generally regarded as monotypic, W European and CA populations are generally distinct Gay et al 2004.

75. Southern Pochard
Netta erythrophthalma

76. Common Pochard
Aytha ferina
77. Ferruginous Duck
Aythya nyroca
Near-Threatened. 1000-5000 killed or taken annually in Iraq Brochet et al 2019. Monotypic. Turkey also has records in Syria.

78. Tufted Duck
Aythya fuligula
Monotypic. Breeds in N OSME Region, winters extensively to S, M&B 1988, fairly common in Winter in Oman OBLT.

79. Greater Scaup
Aythya marila

80. King Eider
Somateria spectabilis

81. Common Eider
Somateria [mollissima] mollissima

82. Harlequin Duck
Histrionicus histrionicus

83. Velvet Scoter
Melanitta fusca

84. Stejneger's Scoter
Melanitta stejnegeri (formerly Melanitta deglandi) stejnegeri & M. fusca (deglandi)

85. Common Scoter (Black Scoter)
Melanitta [nigra] nigra
Monotypic. Very rare winterer W OSME Region, but H&E 1970 suggest occasionally in Black & Caspian Seas (former winterer (?) Schüz 1959), 1st documented winterer near Bautino, Kazakhstan Caspian 10 Jan 2015 Wassink 2016b, 2nd there Nov 2019 DB41(6): 423. NB M. americana is American Scoter, HBW1, IOC.

86. Long-tailed Duck (in USA, former name Olsouquag derogatory)
Clangula hyemalis

87. Common Goldeneye
Bucephala clangula
2 ssp: nominate in Region, americana Nearctic. Taiga hole-nester, widespread breeder in N OSME Region, winters to S (1st records E Kazakhstan W&O 2008), sometimes wanders far, eg Afghanistan, 6 records Madge 1980, M&B188.

88. Smeew
Mergellus albellus

89. Goosander (Common Merganser)
Mergus merganser

90. Red-breasted Merganser
Mergus serrator

91. Red-breasted Merganser
Oxyura jamaicensis
Escapes and captures in Eurasia of uncertain origin and ancestry. 3 ssp in New World. Oxyurineae closer to Anserinae (Anser, Branta, Cygnus) than to any other tribe. Bibuzo et al 2009, hence H&M4 place before Anserinae. Two records from Cyprus (Colin Richardson pers com), that for Dec 2011 accepted by Cyprus Rarities Subcommitee as 1st for Cyprus; vagrant from a feral population in mainland Europe, as is Israel (undated) record Mitchell 2017. NB the large UK feral population has been reduced from an estimated 4000 birds to a lump of 60; it is highly likely that earlier occurrences from Ukraine to Portugal, given the timings of these records, were largely from UK-origin birds that had reverted to migratory behaviour, eg overwintering groups in Italy. The likelihood of birds from established feral populations reaching the OSME Region is thus now much diminished.
**White-headed Duck**

**Oxyura leucocephala**

Endangered. 50-100 killed or taken annually in Iran Brochet et al. 2019. Monotypic. Breeds Turkey (Gürsoy-Ergen 2019 reveals a reversal of population decline in Turkey, but concentrated at many lakes in western Anatolia) also Syria Murdoch & Betton 2008, CA (also N Iraq, N Iran); winters to S, even to Afghanistan, HBV1. Egypt Avlb, BE. Vagrant Kyrgyzstan, Ven 2002. Mostly declining, with local increases Kazakhstan W&O 2007, W&O 2008, formerly widespread Wassink 2015b, but over 20 000 counted 13-16 Sep 2016 on lakes in Tengiz-Korgalzhyn Region DB338(7): 447. SG39(1)ATR, more than known world population; high counts were also obtained in 2017 Koshkina et al. 2019, who noted that these were on relatively few sites in N-C Kazakhstan, and thus indicated a vulnerability to development or mining. The 1st Revision to the Species Action plan Sheldon et al. 2018 includes this threat. Rare non-annual PM & WV Cyprus CBRR1. Jan 1973 count at Lake Burdur, Turkey of 6986 birds Hökön 2018: the 1970s waterbird counts in Turkey at locations that became IBAs was 1 million birds Hökön 2018. Apparent eastward shift of breeding (E Kreuzburg-Mukhina pers comm), and to lesser extent, wintering Israel (Haddad & Moyal 2007) locally common Perlman & Meyrav 2009, grounds supported by modelling climatic effects: Huntley et al. 2007, likely reason for reassessment of threat status BLDZ Jul 2018. 1st Israel breeding record July 2017 DB839(5): 335. 1st for Lebanon shot Nov 2017 Ramadan & Ilans 2018; breeding again in Armenia since 1972, at least 12 males at Armass carp onds Jun 2018 Aghababayan 2019.

**Caprimulgidae**

**European Nightjar**

**Caprimulgus europaeus**


**Egyptian Nightjar**

**Caprimulgus aegyptius**


**Sykes’s Nightjar**

**Caprimulgus mahistrattensis**


**Nubian Nightjar**

**Caprimulgus nubicus**


**Montane Nightjar**

**Caprimulgus poliocephalus**


**Indian Nightjar**

**Caprimulgus asiaticus**


**Alcedinidae**

**Apodidae**

**Himlayan Swiftlet**

**Aerodramus brevirostris** (formerly Cypsiurus brevirostris)

Swiftlets reported Socotra Nov 2007. Following a cyclone, assessed as this extantillimal species (Hugh Buck pers comm), likely ssp brevirostris Himalayan foothills Himachal Pradesh & points E SSE. Occurrence accepted in Redman et al. 2009, Porter & Aspinall 2010. NB Known spring wanderer well to E of normal range (Japan) Brazil 2009.

**White-throated Needletail**

**Hirundapus caudatus**


**African Palm Swift**

**Cypsiurus parvus**

African species with population ssp parvus in SW Arabia, HBW5, essentially Tihama (beyond old BWP WP boundary), some 15 000bp Jennings 2010; distribution linked to that of doun palm Hyphaene thebaica for nesting & roosting. No acceptable records Egyptian Khats et al. 2010b, EORC 2011. NB Mills et al. 2019 split off Malagasy Palm Swift C. gracilis & Comoros Palm Swift C. griveaudi.
104 Alpine Swift  
Tachymarptis melba (formerly Apus melba)  

105 Common Swift  
Apus apus  
Widespread. A.a. pekinensis Turkmenistan 1996, Afghanistan Paludan 1995, this (S Kazakhstan) & apus N Kazakhstan W&O 2007. Nominate in Caucasus, CA, Iran, Iraq, Afghanistan, HBW5. Egypt Avib BE. NB1 Colony at Amangeldy W-C Kazakhstan where breeding distribution of both ssp adjoin & hold birds resembling both ssp; interbreeding (suggested in Wagt. Salimb 2015b). This species has the highest lift/drag ratio (13.3:1) of any bird so far measured: Hennigsson et al 2008. NB3 Separation from A. pallidus made on morphology, nestling diet, foraging behaviour in mixed colonies, and voice; Páckert et al 2012 suggested genetic distances were fairly low from mtDNA cytb , but Pellegrino et al 2017 found considerable differences in mt DNA markers COI, ND2 & control region, all aligning with an estimated separation some 2MYa.

106 Pallid Swift  
Apus pallidus  
spp brehmorum breeds Cyprus, NW&ASC Turkey, NW Egypt H&M; elsewhere ssp pallidus eg Syria Murdoch & Betton 2008, Egypt to Iran H&M4. In Middle East (Jennings 2010 suggests in N & A Ca only, all other records in S Arabia attributed to A. berlozii)? estimated populations: A. pallidus may account: probable localised SB to coastal cliffs & offshore islands Oman (certain PM) but confusion with A. berlozii requires clarification OBL7. Colonised towns UAE Aspinall 1996, S Iran (where seemingly resident Porter & Aspinall 2010), winters sub-Saharan Africa, some (resident Scott & Adhami 2006) in SE Iran, HBW5, Pakistan Mekran coast R&A 2012, possibly also eastern Azerbaijan, Russia. Rare in Iranian Alps, uncommon Salim et al 2012, Egypt Avib, BE NB See above species for genetic separation between A. pallidus & A. apus.

107 Forbes-Watson’s Swift  
(Dhofar Swift)  
Apus berlozii  
spp berlozii resident Socotra, encountered occasionally in S of Region, HBW5, reported 2006 islands near Aden Jennings 2007b. Jennings 2010 revise breeding distribution to include S Arabian coast, noting history of confusion with A. pallidus, and suggests 2500bp as conservative estimate: fairly common summer breeder cliffs S Oman (and inland) OBL7; resident Socotra BLDZ map Feb 2018. Probably breeds locally Somalia, some thought to winter E Africa Redman et al 2009: BLDZ Feb 2018 maps resident along much of SE Somali coast.

108 Pacific Swift (Fork-tailed)  
PT  
Apus pacificus  
IOC2.10 reverts to English name Pacific Swift for only 2 taxa. pacificus (breeding in Kazakhstan in Alatai) & extralimital (?) (which now amended to kanoi, because the type collected for pacificus sensu latio may have been within kurodai H&M4); split off are Salim Al's A. s. pacificus & Cook's A. cookii (see NB2 below). Leader 2011 (on morphological grounds). Taxon leucoryn (breeds Pakistan) probably wanders to OSME Region & possibly occurs (via ITZC cycles) in Iran, UAE & Oman (see Hypothetical List); how many taxa have definitely occurred is unclear; taxa would have to be examined in the hand. NB1 ID character aid: pacificus broad white head (15-25mm) rump Luiten 2017; salimii narrow white throat patch (Wikipedia); leucoryn narrow (10-15mm) white broad rump (Wikipedia); pacificus narrow (10mm) white rump (Wikipedia). NB2 H&M4 suggests taxon cookii relates more to Dark-rumped Swift A. acucauda (both extralimital); indeed Páckert et al 2012 emphasises that cookii and acucauda are closer than to the other pacificus taxa, but also note that more distinctive molecular markers for separation may be needed.

109 Little Swift [House Swift]  
Apus affinis  

110 White-rumped Swift  
Apus caffer  

111 Great Bustard  
Otis tarda  
Kessler et al establish a sizeable genetic difference between the 2 ssp, tarda & dybowskii , based on DNA sequence data from the mit cytb gene & the mtDNA control region to estimate the degree of mDNA differentiation and rates of female gene flow between the ssp. They conclude that the evidence is strong enough for the 2 taxa to at least be recognized as units. Even if they were considered a single species, their distinctiveness suggest that O.T. dybowskii and O.T. tarda may be distinct species, but other DNA techniques are needed to validate that. Despite an ambiguously-worded sentence in the Kessler et al 2018 Abstract, dybowskii has never been recorded in the OSME Region (AE Kessler pers comm).

112 Great Bustard  
Otis (tarda) tarda  
Vulnerable (likely Endangered in Asia). Rare summer breeder ssp tarda scattered areas Kazakhstan Ayé et al 2012, very rare BM, PM, resident, WV Wassink 2015b (declining Kazakhstan W&O 2007, Tajikistan Abdusalamov 1988), rare PM Uzbekistan Martin et al 2014, Kyrgyzst, W Iran (scarce Scott & Adhami 2006, now virtually confined to A Azad?), c provencia San Khaledzhiev Prov. NB2 et al 2012 (former breeder), formerly (?) Syria Murdoch & Betton 2008: some other ssp dybowskii from Russian Altai eastwards genetically (mtDNA) and in structure and plumage differs sufficiently for the two taxa to be considered separate Evolutionary Units Kessler et al 2018. Collart et al 2018 note extinction status in several Russian provinces, with perhaps fewer than 200 birds in the whole of Altai area. Population increases are thought due to an influx from the few Kazakhst hotspots. However, the Kazakhst population status is uncertain, from 80 to 1000 adults. In Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan, Tajikistan and Kyrgyzst, the species status is Critically Endangered. Recently a small population, 30 birds, was discovered near Shayvan, S Kazakhstan, at the Shek Khalifa Houbara Breeding Center Martín et al 2018. Winters to S of Region, HBW3, possibly incl Afghanistan R&A 2005, 2012, Ayé et al 2012; vagrant Israel Perlman & Meyrav 2009, sharp population decline Iran, perhaps 40 individuals left Barati et al 2015. Rare breeder, migrant Kyrgyzst Ven 2002, Egypt Atta 1992, accepted EORC 2011. NB PM to N&C Mongolia, breeding in at least 7 disparate locations Gombobaatar & Leahy 2019, probably all taxon dybowskii, the nearest to easternmost Kazakhstan being near Myangad, at 360km.

Collar et al (=31 authors) 2018 analyse the threats to Asian bustards and detail what is required to halt pending extinctions. The paper covers bustard populations in OSME Region countries as well as those in the Indian subcontinent, China to Mongolia & SE Asian countries, & in Russian Asia.
112 Arabian Bustard  
Ardeotis arabs

113 Houbara Bustard PT  
Chlamydotis undulata

114 Macqueen's Bustard  
(‘Eastern Houbara’, Asian Houbara)  
Chlamydotis macqueenii

115 Little Bustard  
Tetrax tetrax

116 Senegal Coucal  
Centropus senegalensis

117 White-browed Coucal  
Centropus superciliosus

118 Chestnut-winged Cuckoo  
Clamator coromandus

119 Great Spotted Cuckoo  
Clamator glandarius

120 Pied Cuckoo (Jacobin Cuckoo)  
Oxypholus jacobinus [Clamator jacobinus]

PT Houbara Bustard PT  
Chlamydotis undulata

PT Common Koel PT  
Eudynamys scolopacea
Eudynamys [scolopaceus] scolopaceus

Cohen 2011 comprehensively analyses Monotypic. E Tajikistan K-M&K (2005), Afghan Wakhan Ayé Early treatment encompassed many taxa (composition of which & specific name not universally agreed); now Cuculus [saturatus] optatus (Himalayan Cuckoo)

130 Tibetan Sandgrouse

Synthæpes tibetanus


131 Pallas’s Sandgrouse

Synthæpes paradoxus


132 Black-bellied Sandgrouse

Synthæpes orientalis (Ptéroides orientalis)

Common Woodpigeon (Common Wood Pigeon)  
Columba palumbus  
C.p. iranica & casiodruck Turkmennistan, Bukreev 1997,  
casiodruck Asia Palmitad 1959. Much of CA,  
Caucasus, Afghanistan, Gibbs et al (2001) palumbus (Common BM, PM) in N & casiodruck (common BM) in SE  
Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b, extension (common) into Uzbekistan Martin et al 2014, Resident S Caspian  
Egypt Khounganian & Meininger 1992, accepted  
EORC 2011. In Arabia, WV, but resident population Oman (Uncommon, localised N Oman mountains, rare  
WV OBL7), has bred Kuwait Jennings 2010. IOC division of English name cumbersome. NB  
suggested supported by some as separable.  

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**Spilotelis senegalensis** (formerly Stigmatopelia senegalensis & Streptopelia senegalensis)


**Geopelia striata**


**Namaqua Dove**

Oena capensis


**Zapornia parva**


**160**

**161**

**162**

**163**

**Water Rail**

**H&M resequences families, genera & within genera, but we remain with IOC sequencing.**

**PT**

**Re Parent Taxon, IOC2.0 accepts split of extralimital Brown-cheeked Rail (Eastern Water Rail) Rallus indicus (see ORL Hypothetical section), proposed Livezey 1998, R&A 2005; Sangster et al. 2011, H&M4 agree. Species delimitation is supported by genetics, morphology and vocalizations Tavares et al. 2010; Brazil 2009 as Eastern Water Rail**

**163A**

**African Water Rail**

**Crex egregia**

Monotypic. One found exhausted Eilat 02 Jan 20, treated & released 18 Jan 20 Yoav Perlman & Meyrav 2009, Qatar 11Mar 07.

**164**

**165**

**Water Rail**

**Rallus [aquaticus] aquaticus**


**163A**

**Comoros Pigeon**

**Citrinae**

**Catreus crex crex**


**166**

**Western Baillon’s Crane**

**Zapornia intermedia**

Monotypic. **BDZ** map Mar 2018 has 2 isolated summer breeding areas in N Turkey, S coast of Sea of Marmara & around Bafa, S Black Sea; resident populations shown in Iran Khaleghi 2016; resident populations shown in Iran Khaleghi 2016; 4th Mar 2019 QBC, fairly common; WO Oman OBL7. Winters Pakistan, India. Egypt Avib. BE.

**167**

**Eastern Baillon’s Crane**

**Zapornia putula**


**168**

**Little Crane**

**Zapornia parva**

169 | Ruddy-breasted Crane | Zapornia fusca (Porzana fusca) | Bates & Lowther 1959 record as occurring "from the Afghan Frontier" in Pakistan, old records Afghanistan Madge 1980 (single record) Ayé et al 2012. Small breeding population in reed-choked waterbodies on Pakistan side, at Thal, likely similar habitats Afghan side, Taleban permitting. R&A 2012 map wintering birds fairly close to Khyber, but annotate 'movements unclear'. Brief mention to this area N-C & NE Pakistan, and a much smaller adjoining summer breeding area centred NE of Bannu, but extending to less than 20km of Afghan border on River Kaitu. On WBD8 2008 Afghanistan country checklist as vagrant. In Nov 2012 (present 23 Nov-4 Dec) 1st modern record for the OSME Region from Oman OBL7, Olsson 2015, 2nd Ward Darbl May 2017 OBR7. Likely sp ssp bakeri! (H&M4), occurs in W Pakistan, zeylonica W India.


171 | Striped Crane | Aenigmatolimnas marginalis | 1st record for Kuwait & OSME Region 1 Jan 2015 (originally identified as Spotted Crane Porzana porzana) correctly identified Apr 2016 KORC. This occurrence begs the question as to how many Spotted Crane records between Kuwait and (mostly) sub-Equatorial Africa were actually Striped Crane. Until recently, placed in Amoura. Nearest previous record is one NW Libya Feb 1970 Issenmann et al 2016.


173 | Western Swamphen | Porphyrio [porphyrio] porphyrio | One record near Istanbul 1893, Kiwan et al 2008, NB P. porphyrio sensu stricto occurs to the west of OSME Region.


175 | Grey-headed Swamphen (Purple Swamphen) [Purple Gallinule] | Porphyrio [porphyrio] poliocephalus | Garcia & Trewick 2015 include 186 species in the genus Porphyrio, 19 species in the P. poliocephalis group, which H&M4 does not support. We accept these 3 spp, all of which have been recorded (poliocephalus sensu stricto) to have spread to E Arabia in the Region. Garcia & Trewick 2015 synonymise seistanicus & poliocephalus, but extend taxon limits of poliocephalus group to the Region. Further, they note that rapid differentiation in plumage colour due to local selection pressures is prevalent in poliocephalus (including seistanicus). Moreover, their conclusions strongly support a separate clade for poliocephalus (including poliocephalus, seistanicus): IOC3.5 agrees. NB1 Specimen feathers from E Saudi Arabia sent by Jem Babbington to Steve Trewick for analysis confirmed as poliocephalus sensu lato (Steve Trewick in litt June 2015). NB2 Name Purple Gallinule now allotted to World P. martinae.


177 | Common Moorhen | Gallinula chloropus | IOC2.8 splits extralimital New World Common Gallinule C. [c] galerita, following SACC, also DB 32(3): 205.


180 | Eurasian Coot (Common Coot) | Fulica atra | Resident (ssp atra) Turkey, Caucasus, Iran, S Iraq (small numbers) Salim et al 2012, Afghanistan, resident Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan, Afghanistan) and breeder through CA, very common PM & VW, Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b, wintering Iran & round Gulf. In Arabia, first mid-1970s, now widespread & resident Jen 1979-1980, common to abundant VW rare local breeder Oman OBL7, 2nd breeding Kuwait May 2013 SG35(2) ATR. Common passage migrant across E OSME Region SW Siberia to India (Veen et al 2005) (Route?). Egypt Avib, BE.

Gruidae | The findings of Krajevski et al 2010 are acknowledged by IOC7.2, reversing the conclusions of two papers co-authored earlier by Krajevski, thus restoring Leucogeranus, Antigone & Anthipeodes. Some gruid spp continue to be introduced, particularly because many cultures have a long history of bird-keeping, but also because of developing prosperity funding the trade in exotics Blackburn 2015. NB Crane conservation and taxonomic remedies are informed by Coates & Archibald 1996, as refined or informed by subsequent fieldwork and genetic research, but many populations remain little-studied and poorly sampled.

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NB: OBL refers to the Oman Bird List, which is a comprehensive list of birds recorded in Oman. The list is maintained and updated by experts in the field, providing a valuable resource for birders, ornithologists, and researchers.

PT: Reference to a publication or a specific text section.

BS: Bird species.

OSME: Oriental Stork, European Mute Swan.

Library et al: Reference to a larger dataset or study.

Eg: Egypt.

KORC: Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

T&V: Tristram & Vanstone.


NB: Notes or background information.
181 Grey Crowned Crane

Balearica regulorum


182 Siberian Crane (Siberian White Crane)

Leucogeranus leucogeranus (HMM4) (Grus leucogeranus) (Also formerly Bugeranus leucogeranus)

Critically Endangered. Monotypic. Bugeranus is embedded in Grus, IOC 2.6 Krajewski et al 2010. Originally, sole OSME wintering grounds thought to be in Iran (HBW3), & last survivor recorded Oct 2011 (SG34(1)AR1).


Although IOC4.4 lumped all Common Crane ssp in monotypicity aligning with Meine & Archibald 1996, by v7.2 there appears to be no cited IOC reference since 2010. Mudrik et al 2015 make a reasonable case for monotypicity on genetic grounds, while calling for populations to be treated as evolutionary significant units. We remain tentatively with ssp names thus 'archibaldi' for these populations pro tem.

183 White-naped Crane

Antigone vipio (HMM4) (Grus vipio)

PT

ICOC 3.7 split extralimital taxa tricolor & collaris as Tricolored Grebe T.f.j; Tricolour in South-East Asia; IOC4.4 lists 7 ssp under T. ruficollis; H&MM4 also consider debate on differentiation of ssp of T. ruficollis sensu lato (10 ssp) not settled.

184 Demoiselle Crane

Grus virgo (Anthropoides virgo)


185 Common Crane

Grus grus

192 Greater Flamingo
Phoenicopterus roseus (formerly P. ruber roseus)

193 Lesser Flamingo
Phoeniconaias minor (formerly Phoenicopterus minor) (May be junior synonym of Phoeniconaias Torres et al 2014)

194 Common Buttonquail
(Small Buttonquail, Kurichane Buttonquail)
Turnix sylvaticus
Possibly E Iran, HBW3, may breed Scott & Adhami 2006 perhaps sps dissuemer (Pakistan). Recorded 19th century S Yemen Warr 1992, probably resident in small numbers W Yemen, three 2013 records suggest likely residency in SW Saudi Arabia Babbington & Roberts 2014 (leopranus or syriacus?)); also at Saya Saudi Arabia Apr 2014 in same fields as in 2013 (leopranus/sylvaticus ?) SG36(2) ATR: 2-record vagrant Oman (1974,1999) OBL7 (dissuemer ?); mapped Pakistan close to Khyber R&A 2012. NB Breeds Ethiopia Ash & Atkins 2009. NB2 Former English names also include Andalusian Hemipode, Little Buttonquail (now name for T. velox of Australia) & Little Bustard Quail. Present English name as agreed by IOC 2.6 & HBW.<br />

195 Eurasian Stone-curlew
(Black-winged Stilt)
Burhinus oedicnemus

196 Senegal Thick-knee
Burhinus senegalensis

197 Spotted Thick-knee (Spotted Dikkop)
Burhinus capensis
(Great Stone Plover)
Esacus recurvirostris
Monotypic. SE Iran coastal region, HBW3, scarce resident Scott & Adhami 2006, most Oman records from Shinas (Ian Harrison in litt.), but also to tip of Musandam peninsula (Oman) Delany et al 2009; UAE Sep 2011, Feb-March 2012 EORC. RNW51S report Nov 87 at sea off Masirah.

199 Eurasian Oystercatcher
Hematopus ostralegus
Livezey 2010 strongly supports (see Inskipp et al 2011) separation of Korean Oystercatcher H. osculans, whose Far Eastern breeding distribution does not disqualify use of "Eurasian Oystercatcher" for remaining taxa. Separation criteria need wider discussion/acceptance.

200 Black-headed Stilt
Himantopus himantopus

201 Black-winged Stilt
Himantopus himantopus

202 Pied Avocet (Avocet)
Recurvirostra avosetta
Monotypic. Breeds Caucus, across N CA, scarce PM, BM Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b: also Afghanistan (R&A 2005), Iraq Salim et al 2012, Iran Scott & Adhami 2006; breeding in Arabia since 1970s, now probably under 200bp, but irregularly Jennings 2010; winters mostly Gulf or E Africa. HBW3, uncommon winter Israel, scarce breeder Perlman & Meyrav 2009: fairly common PM & VW Oman OBL7. Egypt Avib, BE

203 Northern Lapwing
Vanellus vanellus
204 Spur-winged Lapwing (Spur-winged Plover)
Vaneillus spinosus (formerly Hippotopius spinosus)


205 Black-headed Lapwing
Vaneillus turcicus (formerly Hippotopius turcicus)


206 Grey-headed Lapwing
Vaneillus cinereus

Monotypic. Vagrant from Far East, 1st record 03 Jan 12 Sahnewat Farm Salalah Hanne & Jens Eriksen OBL7 - 1st record for Oman, Middle East, OSME Region & extended WP. 2nd record at Kuzilmak Delta, Batra, Samsun, Turkey Mar 2018: found & image by Emin Yoğurt çoğlu.

207 Red-wattled Lapwing (Red-wattled Plover)
Vaneillus indicus


208 Sociable Lapwing (Sociable Plover)
Vaneillus gregarius (formerly Chettusia gregaria)


209 White-tailed Lapwing (White-tailed Plover)
Vaneillus leucurus (formerly Chettusia leucura)


210 Eurasian Golden Plover (European Golden Plover)
Pluvialis apricaria


211 Pacific Golden Plover (Lesser Golden Plover)
Pluvialis fulva


212 American Golden Plover
Pluvialis dominica


213 Grey Plover
Pluvialis squatarola

Migrates (ssp squatarola) over Region to and from warm sea-coast wintering grounds, HWB3, scarce PM Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b, abundant PM & VW Oman OBL7. Egypt Avib, BE. NB wintering grounds of Wrangel Island ssp tomkovichi not known, but likely Far East.

214 Common Ringed Plover
Charadrius hiaticula

Usually Arctic or northern temperate breeder from Chukotoky W through Kola, Iceland to Greenland Delany et al 2009, sammradoma (¿?) possibly vagrant to Egypt, hiaticula possibly so, but tundrara (Tomkovich et al 2018) occurs throughout Region. Winters S Caspian, Iran, Iraq S to Africa Delany et al 2009, scarce PM tundrara Kazakhstan W&Q O2007, Wassink 2015b, Widespread passage migrant through Middle East, some summerer, Porter et al 1996; abundant PM & VW Oman OBL7. Migrant through Afghanistan R&A 2005. Egypt Avib, BE. NB Tomkovich et al 2018 show geolocator data for tundrara migration round trip from the Chukotsky Region (via Arabia) to Horn of Africa up to 25,000 km travelled.

215 Little Ringed Plover
Charadrius dubius

Widespread summer breeder (mostly curriculus) in CA region, HWB3, common BM, PM Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b, including Afghanistan R&A 2005, Iran Scott & Adhami 2006, curriculus widespread, buy likely jrondri in SE corner if Iran Khaleghizadeh et al 2017; in Iraq, breeds mostly in N, passage, winters Salim et al 2012, in Arabia, artificial wetlands support perhaps 5000p Jennings 2010. 1st bred Kuwait Apr 2012 Khaled Ahfghan in litt.; casual breeder, abundant PM & VW Oman OBL7. Geolocators on S Swedish breeders show a wide spread of migration to winter quarters, from Nigeria across to Egypt, the Levant and Saudi Arabia, with those wintering in Pakistan and India passing through the Caucasus, Iraq and Iran Hedenström et al 2013. Egypt Avib, BE NB taxon jrondri may wander from Pakistan near Khyber R&A 2012.
The text is too long to display here in its entirety. However, it contains detailed information on various bird species, including their distributions, breeding habits, and migration patterns. The text also includes references to scientific literature and field observations. If you need specific information from the text, please let me know, and I can provide a summary or answer specific questions based on the content.
227 Pheasant-tailed Jacana Hydrophasianus chirurgus


228 Eurasian Whimbrel Numenius (phaeopus) phaeopus

Most passage in Region (phaeopus) breed W Russia Arctic, scattered areas to SAE, common PM Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b, Afghanist Favienni 1969; winters warm shores E Africa & Arabia van de Kam et al 2004, common PM N Iran, uncommon WV S & coast Khaleghizadeh 2017. It was thought doubtful if ever bred Afghanistan Paludan 2017, one recorded there Mar 2016, fitted with tracker; tag fell off in Aden, Yemen Callan Cohen in litt 2017 (2 records); one possible 30km off Khor Kalba (image) SG41(1)ATR: 149. One reported Yemen (undated) Callan Cohen in litt, 2016 DB39(1): 35. Two seen Maputo, Mozambique Alpolt 2017, one captured there Mar 2016, fitted with tracker ABC Bird 23(2): 135; called mostly differed from taxon phaeopus; tag fell off in Aden, Yemen DB42(2): 127. English name informal@OSME.

229 "Steppe Whimbrel" Numenius alboaxillaris

This pale-breasted, pale-underwing taxon likely low in numbers & declining, possibly through interbreeding with phaeopus. It was thought doubtful if ever bred Afghanistan Paludan 2017. 6bp recorded 1997 some 400km N of Kazakhstan at Bashkiri (Orenburg longitude) Morozov 2000. 5 Kazakhstan records since 1985 Wassink 2015b, but very likely under-recorded. Vagrant Iran Khalheghizadeh et al 2017 (2 records); one possible 30km off Khor Kalba (image) SG41(1)ATR: 149. One reported Yemen (undated) Callan Cohen in litt, 2016 DB39(1): 35. Two seen Maputo, Mozambique Alpolt 2017, one captured there Mar 2016, fitted with tracker ABC Bird 23(2): 135; called mostly differed from taxon phaeopus; tag fell off in Aden, Yemen DB42(2): 127. English name informal@OSME.

230 Hudsonian Whimbrel Numenius (phaeopus) hudsonicus

One recorded at Naqsholim, Israel Dec 2013-Mar 2014 DB36(2):123-124, SG36(2) ATR.

231 Little Curlew (Little Whimbrel) Numenius minutus


232 Eastern Curlew (Far Eastern Curlew) Numenius madagascariensis


233 Bar-tailed Godwit Limosa lapponica

Livezey 2010 strongly supports separation of Siberian Bar-tailed Godwit L. baueri; Livezey's use of 'lapland Bar-tailed Godwit' for lapponica group seems useful, but its adoption has little been discussed; see Inskipp et al 2011. Separation criteria need wider discussion/acceptance.

234 Eurasian Curlew Numenius arquata

Scarrce BM, PM Kazakhstan (orientalis); suschkini not identifiable in the field & often not in the hand; many intermediates) Wassink 2015b (Transvolga breeding population in rapid decline Belik 1998, Delaney et al 2009); common WV to N Iran & Gulf shores Khalheghizadeh et al 2017; most winter on warm shores, abundant PM & WV Oman OBL7; occurs (mostly 7 orientalis) on migration widely, HWB3 (eg Afghanistan Paludan 1989). Eritrea, BE.
{

235  ('Sāmpri') Bar-tailed Godwit (Lapland Bar-tailed Godwit)
Limosia (lapponica) lapponica
Paleartic Arctic breeder, scarce PM, non-breeding SV Kazakhstan Wassinck 2015b; winters along warm OSME Region shores mostly taimyrensis as in, south coast Khelegizhadeh et al 2017, occurs mostly as migrant (a few vagrant lapponica?) in Region, HBW3; accidental vagrant Cyprus CBR1, abundant PM & WV (lapponica) Oman OBL7, rare Israel Perlman & Meyrov 2009. Egypt Avib, BE. The name "Sāmpri" describes the land recognized by the Sami reindeer-herding peoples of northernmost Norway, Sweden, Finland and of the Kola Peninsula, Russia and largely coincides with the breeding area of L. lapponica.

236  'Siberian' Bar-tailed Godwit
Limosia (lapponica) baueri
Monotypic if split: L. lapponica common WV Oman OBL7.3. Where baueri also occurs in small numbers. NB Alaskan baueri radotracked migrating non-stop (13 days) to New Zealand (11 700km) , returning via nonstop leg to Yellow Sea (10 800km).

237  'European' Black-tailed Godwit
Limosia (lmosa) limosa
Common BM, PM very rare resident, WV S half Kazakhstan (ssp lmosa C&N) Wassinck 2015b, writers from S Casplian latitudes southwards, HBW3; common PM & WV Iran Khelegizhadeh et al 2017 & Oman OBL7. Writers also SW Afghanistan R&B 2005. Egypt Avib, BE. Decline of western breeding populations (4% per annum) continues due to breeding habitat loss and clutch losses (grass-mowing now over a much earlier than 1960s; in Sahel drought years, shooting of en-route migrants probably significant) Zwarts et al 2009. NB Occupants (islandica) of best breeding areas also occupy best wintering areas - stable isotope ratio study, Inger & Bearhop 2008.

238  'Siberian' Black-tailed Godwit
Eastern Black-tailed Godwit
Limosia (lmosa) melanuroides
Taxonomically melanuroides 5-record vagrant Kazakhstan Wassinck 2015b; smallest of the 3 taxa, but females noticeably larger than males Groen et al 2006. Winters SE Asia to Australasia, but vagrancy likely in E OSME Region. NB Breast 2015 Brazilian elevated melanuroides as Eastern Black-tailed Godwit.

239  Ruddy Turnstone
Anrenaria interpres
Arctic Breeder, ssp interpres migrant though Region (scarce PM Kazakhstan Wassinck 2015b) to winter on most shores below 40°N in OSME Region, HBW3; common to abundant PM & WV Oman OBL7.

Calidris Clade 1 (Huang & Tu 2016, sp. Sooplagasidae above). Includes Nearctic extralimital 1st Sandpiper C. minutilla.

240  Sandpiper
Calidris alba (Ereneutes albus) (formerly Croechtha alba by some)
Winters warm coasts OSME Region (ssp alba); widespread migration migrant mostly in small numbers. HBW3, though common to abundant PM & WV Oman OBL7. Egypt Avib, BE.

241  Little Stint
Calidris minutia (Ereneutes minutus)
Monotypic. Winters warm coasts and at S inland waters of OSME Region, also quite common widespread migrant, HBW3; abundant PM & WV Oman OBL7. Autumn migrant Kyrgyzstan, Ven 2002, abundant PM Kazakhstan Wassinck 2015b. Egypt Avib, BE.

242  White-rumped Sandpiper
Calidris fuscicollis (Ereneutes fuscicollis)

Calidris Clade 2 (Huang & Tu 2016, sp. Sooplagasidae above). Includes Nearctic extralimital Rock Sandpiper C. ptilocnemis.

243  Dunlin
Calidris alpina (Ereneutes alpina)
Widespread Holarctic Arctic breeder, and warm coasts and ice-free inland waters in winter (1st winter records Karakol Kazakhstan 2008 Karpov & Kovshar 2009 Wassinck); sssp alpina & centrals common migrants in OSME Region, HBW3, centrals common PM Kazakhstan Wassinck 2015b, abundant PM & WV Oman OBL7. Egypt Avib, BE.

244  Purple Sandpiper
Calidris maritima (Ereneutes maritimus)

Calidris Clade 3 (Huang & Tu 2016, sp. Sooplagasidae above). Includes Nearctic extralimital Western Sandpiper C. maritima.

245  Semipalmated Sandpiper
Calidris pusilla (Ereneutes pusillus)

Calidris Clade 4 (Huang & Tu 2016, sp. Sooplagasidae above); technically a subclade. Includes Nearctic extralimital Still Sandpiper C. hirundinopus.

246  Pectoral Sandpiper
Calidris melanotos (Ereneutes melanotos)

Calidris Clade 5 (Huang & Tu 2016, sp. Sooplagasidae above) Includes Nearctic extralimital Ambit Sandpiper C. nigroaeneus.

247  Curlew Sandpiper
Calidris ferruginea (Ereneutes ferruginea) (Erolia ferruginea)
Monotypic. C & E Nearctic Arctic breeder, widespread southern wintering areas, expected in OSME Region anywhere on migration, HBW3; abundant PM & WV Oman OBL7; common PM Kazakhstan Wassinck 2015b, autumn migrant Kyrgyzstan, Ven 2002; the recently-created Al Wathba Wetland Reserve, Abu Dhabi, has become a significant stopover site in the return migration, some 1000 birds assembling in Apr & May Campbell et al 2014, Egypt Avib, BE.

248  Sharp-tailed Sandpiper
Calidris acuminata (Limmola acuminata)

249  Baird's Sandpiper
Calidris Bairdi (Ereneutes bairdii)

Calidris Clade 6 (Huang & Tu 2016, sp. Sooplagasidae above).

250  Red-necked Stint
(Formerly Rufous-necked Stint)
Calidris ruficollis (Ereneutes ruficollis)
Monotypic. Vagrant OSME Region, HBW3; but Ayé et al 2012 assess as passage migrant for CA; rare passage migrant Kazakhstan G&B 2005, 9 records, 12 birds by Jan 2013 Wassinck 2013, Wassinck 2015b. However, the application of modern ID criteria standards would remove all but one record as unproven, the exception being the photographed bird at lake Sorbulak, Almaty Province sep 2012, Wassinck 2019. Vagrant UAE Mitchell 2017. NB1 westward breeding range expansion to c60°E Rogacheva 1992. NB2 Two 1941 'lost' specimens from Iran rediscovered Kirwan 2007, followed by belated recognition of 2010 inland record Gholami et al 2017.

251  Temminck's Stint
Calidris temminckii (Ereneutes temminckii)
Monotypic. Winters on warm coasts & S inland waters in OSME Region; fairly common widespread migrant, HBW3, common PM Kazakhstan Wassinck 2015b; abundant PM & WV Oman OBL7. Egypt Avib, BE.

252  Long-toed Stint
Calidris subminuta (Ereneutes subminuta)


Calidris canutus

Gallinago megala

Monotypic. Scarce BM NE-most Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b, may migrate through E OSME Region, HBW3, monotypic. Similar to Xenus cinereus.

Calidris canutus

Gallinago media


Ruff

Monotypic. Widespread Arctic, subarctic & accidental BM NW Kazakhstan, where abundant PM Wassink 2015b; common migrant OSME Region, winters walt sea inland waters, HBW3, abundant PM & VW Oman OBL7. Egypt Avib, BE. European breeding populations only 10% of 1900; decline continues (2002-8); in Sahel, vulnerable to trapping (up to 60% of winterers) on margins of today's artificially reduced annual floods Zwarts et al 2009. NB BOU place in Calidris; Sangster et al. 2012.

Broad-billed Sandpiper


Asian Dowitcher (Asiatic Dowitcher)

Linnodromus semipalmatus


Long-billed Dowitcher

Linnodromus scolopaceus


Eurasian Woodcock

Scolopax rusticola


Jack Snipe

Lymnocryptes minimus


Solitary Snipe

Gallinago solitaria (formerly Capella solitaria by some authors)


Pin-tailed Snipe (Pintail Snipe)

Gallinago sternura


Swinhoe’s Snipe

Gallinago megalis


Great Snipe

Gallinago media

Monotypic. Formerly bred E-Most Kazakhstan, but not in N B&W Wassink 2015b, Ayé et al 2012, status very rare PM Wassink 2015b; most migrate through W OSME Region, HBW3; rare autumn PM Oman OBL7, very rare migrant Iran Perman & Meyrav 2009, Jordan Mitchell 2017, Iran Salim et al. 2012, one Behesti-e Masoumeh wetland Qom Province Iran Apr 2016 IBCRC, uncommon VW, PM & NW Iran Khaleghizadeh et al. 2017. Species known for high site fidelity on migration, its occurrence at many marshes in spring on Cyprus may reflect more than one breeding population in transit (Found at two specific sites over several years on a first visit to check its presence MB pers obs). Possibly former breeder Kazakhstan KORC 2007; no recent records Arend Wassink in litt. No proof breeds Kyrgyzstan, Ven 2002. Often in regular small numbers Aden Bundy & War 1979, N Yemen Porter & War 1965. Egypt Avib, BE.

PT Common Snipe PT

Gallinago gallinago


Common Snipe

Gallinago [gallinago] gallinago (formerly Capella gallinago by some authors)


Terek Sandpiper

Xenus cinereus

Wilson's Phalarope
Steganopus tricolor (formerly Phalaropus tricolor)
Monotypic. HBW & Livestock 2010 cite Steganopus, also H&M, Menkhorst et al. 2017. Nearctic vagrant
Turkey, 2-record vagrant Oman OBL7: 1st report UAE Dec06 PH pers comm, 1st accepted record Jan 2010
Campbell 2010.

Red-necked Phalarope
Phalaropus lobatus
Monotypic. Holartic Arctic breeder, winters in Arabian Sea (Boume 1988b), off Iran Winkel et al. 2010, migrant
across OSME Region, HBW3: Scandinavian breeders stage Caspian Sea (up to 36 days outward migration, 8-
10 return migration) en route to Arabian Sea of Venezuela Stemmelen et al 2016; one radiolagged from Fennoscandia
to Arabian Sea DB4(2): 127. Very common PM Iran wetlands, common WSW southern Gulf, Gulf of Oman
Kazakhstan W&O 2007; c 40 000 counted Zhumay Lake Kazakhstan May 2014 SG36(2) ATR, uncommon
migrant Iraq Salim et al 2012, Israel Perlman & Meyrav 2009. Egypt Avib, BE. Scarce but regular migrant
through Cyprus Peter Flint pers comm, common PM & W&W OBL7. Passage Afghanistan Paludan 1959; given
regularity as offshore winterer Pakistan (Baluchistan Roberts 1991), likely regular elsewhere SE Iran.

Grey Phalarope (Red Phalarope)
Phalaropus fulicarius
Monotypic. Case-ending fulicarius David & Gosselin 2002. E Paleartic/Nearctic Arctic breeder, very PM
Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b, rare PM & WV Oman, second to fourth records Cyprus 2011/2012 CRC. 5th
Turkey record Apr 2014 SG36(2) ATR, for Azerbaijan Gzyzlyagach Jul 2017 DB39(5): 344; vagrant most of
OSME Region (eg 1943 record Basra Iraq Moro & Boswell 1956, occasionally up to 100 birds Iran coast

Common Sandpiper
Actitis hypoleucos
Monotypic. IOC, BOU revert to Actitis. Breeds Caucasus, CA, Iran, Afghanistan, HBW3, common PM, BM
Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b, likely N Iraq,also widespread migrant Salim et al 2012, abundant PM & WV Oman

Spotted Sandpiper
Actitis macularius
Monotypic. IOC BOU revert to Actitis. Vagrant OSME Region HBW3, 1 accepted record Turkey Kirwan et al 2008.

Tringa Clade 1 (Huang & Tu 2016: gq Scopoliaceae above). Includes Nearctic extralimital Solitary Sandpiper T. solitarius.

Green Sandpiper
Tringa ochropus

Tringa Clade 2 (Huang & Tu 2016: gq Scopoliaceae above).

Common Redshank
Tringa totanus
Breeds WA, widespread migrant, winters just S and beyond, HBW3 totanus & semiannularis breed & on passage
Kazakhstan W&O 2007; abundant PM & WV Oman OBL7. Breeds NE Afghanistan (tunivus & eurhina )
Niehhamer 1973; eurhina likely migrant from Pamirs H&M4; isolated breeders SE R&A 2005; probably
breeds Bamiyan Busuttil & Ayé 2009. Egypt Avib, BE. BP. Populations bear divergent cytchrome c oxidase 1
(1CO1) lineages, potentially including cryptic taxa Kerr et al 2009.

Marsh Sandpiper
Tringa stagnatilis
Monotypic. Common BM, PM Kazakhstan W&O 2007, most migrate directly across Region, few stopover
hence relatively few records & most in spring eg Afghanistan Paludan et al 2008. However, 4020 counted Gzyzlyagach Aug 2017 DB39(5): 344; Common PM Iran wetlands Khaleghizadeh et al 2017; winters widely along warm shores S (common PM & WV Oman OBL7) to S Africa and Australia. HBW3.

Wood Sandpiper
Tringa glareola
Monotypic. Similar to T. stagnatilis, HBW3, common passage Kazakhstan W&O 2007, but no breeding
records Arend Wassink in litt.; common widespread Iran PM, fairly common WV Khaleghizadeh et al 2017,

Tringa Clade 3 (Huang & Tu 2016: gq Scopoliaceae above). Includes extralimital Greater Yellowlegs T. melanoleucra, Willet T. semipalmata, Grey-tailed Tattler T. brevipes (see ORL Hypothetical section) & Wandering Tattler T. incana.

Common Greenshank
Tringa nebularia
Monotypic. Although many map as breeding Kazakhstan, no breeding records Arend Wassink in litt.; scarce PM
Wassink 2015b, 1st Kazakh Caspian wintering record Lake Karakol 12 Aug 1991; 16 Wassink 2016b; most
migrate directly across Region, but more numerous than T. stagnatilis, more stopping over, abundant PM &
W&W Oman OBL7; larger breeding area to E & N, HBW3, passage & wintering Afghanistan Paludan 1959. Egypt Avib, BE.

Lesser Yellowlegs
Tringa flavipes

Spotted Redshank
Tringa erythropus
Monotypic. Widespread on migration to & from Arctic breeding areas, 2nd Kazakhstan winter record Lake
Sorbukal, Almaty, Wassink 2015b, fairly common PM & WV Oman OBL7; many winter Iran, Iraq, HBW3,
some Afghanistan R&A 2005. Egypt Avib, BE.

Dromadidae

PB Considerable resequencing of genera within a revised Lari (which would include this family) proposed by

Crab-plover (Crab Plover)
Dromas ardeola
Monotypic. Closely related to Glareolidae Pereira & Baker 2010. Rarely more than 1km from sea, HBW3 (but
one inland record S of UAE border Pambour 5 & alkairi 1991, c 30 km from just W of Ruwais island directly
SE across the Empty Quarter to Barr al-Hikman Kwarteng et al 2015), warm OSME shorelines, E Iraq
coast R&A 2005 (resident and summer breeder Iran Scott & Adhami 2006), Iraq Gulf Salim et al 2012, UAE
Assilani 1996. BM, c4000bp Arabian coasts & islands, mostly in 20 colonies Jennings 2010, local
winterers along SW Arabian coast & on passage & wintering Afghanistan Paludan 1959; PB. Many winter Iraq
Salim et al 1996; one radiotagged from Fennoscandia satellite-tracked to Aldabra, Indian Ocean Javed et al 2011: data-logged birds wintering Barr al-Hikman, Oman, were tracked to Iran to breed, & also to Iraq, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, Qatar & UAE; a Barr al-Hikman
colour-ringed bird was registered Gulf of Mannar between India & Sri Lanka Bomb & Van Gils 2013, vagrant
Turkey Kirwan et al 1999, Israel Perlman & Meyrav 2009 5th record Eagle May 2016 SG36(2): 232, 6th (1st for
Jordan) of 3 birds May 2016 DB40(3): 183. Breeds islets off Elba Protected Area, Egypt BinE Jan 2011, 1st
breeding record SG33(1). NB Species requires firm sandy/soft earth substrate into which it excavates
obliquely downwards for 35cm, burrow length being up to 3m Ticehurst et al 1926.

Glareolidae

PB Considerable resequencing of genera within a revised Lari (which would include this family) proposed by
Sangster et al 2012. Livezey 2010 places Small Pratincole in Subgareola. NB Considerable resolvesing of genera within a revised Lari (which would include this family) proposed by Sangster et al 2012.

1 PT Cream-coloured Curlew
Cursorus cursor
Breeds (ssp bogobolovii) SE Anatolia Turkey Kirwan et al 2008, Syria, uncommon & local S Israel Perlman &
1992. Kuwait: status in Arabia (cursor) widespread and fairly common RB, less so Yemen, up to 40 000bip
plus WV Jennings 2010; note that Socotran population c 1000 birds breeds September-July Porter &
Suleiman 2014; uncommon widespread RB, fairly common PM & W&W Oman OBL7. C. c. bogobolovi
Turkmenistan, Bukrev 1997, & Iran, Afghanistan HBW3, NW Afghanistan (resident in SE) R&A 2005. 1st
single-record vagrant WSW Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b. Egypt Avib, BE.
Glareola pratincola (formerly Glareola glareola by some) is a species of bird in the family Laridae. It is found in wetlands and is a common migrant in Egypt, Israel, and Peru & Meyr 2009: small Arabian breeding population (c.200b) at irregular locations, but mainly migrant

Sweetman et al. 2017 assess ocean warming trends as likely to impact southern oceans, particularly the Indian Ocean, by steadily reducing both organic food. Lary 2017: assess ocean warming trends as likely to impact southern oceans, particularly the Indian Ocean, by steadily reducing both organic food.

Brown Noddy (Common Noddy) Anous stolidus is a species of bird in the family Sternaeidae. It is found in tropical and subtropical regions of the world and is a common migrant in Egypt, Israel, and Peru & Meyr 2009: small Arabian breeding population (c.200b) at irregular locations, but mainly migrant

Lesser Noddy (Soody Noddy) Anous minutus is a species of bird in the family Sternaeidae. It is found in tropical and subtropical regions of the world and is a common migrant in Egypt, Israel, and Peru & Meyr 2009: small Arabian breeding population (c.200b) at irregular locations, but mainly migrant

Indo-Pacific Noddy (White Noddy, White Christmas) Gygis alba is a species of bird in the family Sternaeidae. It is found in tropical and subtropical regions of the world and is a common migrant in Egypt, Israel, and Peru & Meyr 2009: small Arabian breeding population (c.200b) at irregular locations, but mainly migrant

Indian Skimmer Rynchops niger is a species of bird in the family Rynchopidae. It is found in tropical and subtropical regions of the world and is a common migrant in Egypt, Israel, and Peru & Meyr 2009: small Arabian breeding population (c.200b) at irregular locations, but mainly migrant

Black-legged Kittiwake (Kittiwake) Rissa tridactyla is a species of bird in the family Laridae. It is found in Arctic and sub-Arctic regions and is a common migrant in Egypt, Israel, and Peru & Meyr 2009: small Arabian breeding population (c.200b) at irregular locations, but mainly migrant

Sabine’s Gull Xema sabini (formerly Larus sabini) is a species of bird in the family Laridae. It is found in coastal and sub-coastal regions and is a common migrant in Egypt, Israel, and Peru & Meyr 2009: small Arabian breeding population (c.200b) at irregular locations, but mainly migrant

Steller’s Gull Chroicocephalus resplendens (formerly Larus canus) is a species of bird in the family Laridae. It is found in Arctic and sub-Artic regions and is a common migrant in Egypt, Israel, and Peru & Meyr 2009: small Arabian breeding population (c.200b) at irregular locations, but mainly migrant

Golden Plover Pluvialis apricaria is a species of bird in the family Charadriidae. It is found in tundra and open grasslands and is a common migrant in Egypt, Israel, and Peru & Meyr 2009: small Arabian breeding population (c.200b) at irregular locations, but mainly migrant

The use of Sternaeidae below aligns with BOU TSC8. Since Pons et al. 2005, there have been no similar-scale papers that challenge the bulk of their conclusions. The IOC have adopted all except the genus proposéd for the extralimital Saunders’s Gull; we now align with that view as the main exceptions are the BOU & Dutch Birding: H&M resequences families, genera & within genera, but we remain with IOC sequencing. Some explanation of the non-alignment of biometric and morphological data (eg as consistently documented by Pierre Yéou) appears in Sonsthagen et al. 2016, where hybridisation events as an evolutionary force do not lead to lack of reproductive fitness in white-headed gulls, resulting in much haplotype sharing, yet breeding populations remain strongly associated with geographical locations in distinct clades despite small genetic differences. It appears somewhat unusual that just a few genes are driving the speciation process within this complex (although 9.2% of all species are known to hybridise), the incidence of hybridisation resulting in 41.6% of species within some orders Grant & Grant 1992, NB For useful overview of lack of taxonomic clarity of gut taxa, see Newton 2003. Also see Kerr et al 2007 for results of genetic barcode large-scale trial species.
Hydrocoloeus minutus
Leucophaeus pipixcan
Ichthyaetus audouinii
Ichthyaetus relictus

Monotypic. Mostly Red Sea, S Arabia (Darsa in Socotran archipelago: around 2000bp, regionally & globally
Monotypic. Breeder mostly C & E CA, but with significant Caspian population at risk from restoration of sea-

Ichthyaetus melanocephalus

Gull taxa in Sonsthagen

inter-species ancestry (including next 2 spp) between certain populations, citing past & present geographic distributions. Ancestral relationships of other large gull taxa in Sonsthagen

NB Sternkopf et al. 2010 show complex ancestral genetic differentiation between intra-specific populations of species of large Holarctic gulls and much shared inter-species ancestry (including next 2 spp) between certain populations, citing past & present geographic distributions. Ancestral relationships of other large gull taxa in Sonsthagen et al. 2016.
Great Black-backed Gull

Larus marinus


Glaucous Gull

Larus hyperboreus


The relationships between the large white-headed gull taxa are complex. Some taxa may be unifiable in terms of species or subspecies, but nevertheless include diagnosable populations, making a broader view necessary, as outlined in Sonsthagen et al. 2016. Our ‘PT’ approach allows complexities to be highlighted & so aligns with published analyses only where these are not in disagreement for taxa that occur in the OSME region. Although our approach may be seen as an eclectic mix of the radical and the traditional, we note that complex relationships occur in other groups (eg the large grey shrikes and the flaumicites wagtails), which also merit taking the broader view.

Herring/Yellow-legged/Armenian/Caspian/Americ Herring Gull

PT

Larus argentatus

Parent Taxon issue ongoing and long-term, with nested PT groups. We note, re the large white-headed gulls, Yésou 2002 (Malling Olsen & Larson (MO&L) 2004 largely in alignment), the modifications proposed by Collinson et al. 2008 & subsequent thoughtful (yet unproven) thinking like (since excellent summary by Bourne 1996) of large-scale systematic observations of large-white-headed gulls wintering in Europe shows that uncertainty on conclusions, but Kralj et al. 2013 studying Adriatic Yellow-legged Gulls L. michahellis provide increased understanding of factors (eg food source stability, population pressure, nest-site availability) influencing post-breeding movements & dispersal that may also apply to many other taxa. Liebers-Helbig et al. 2010 provide convincing origins of going to supersede ring-species theory.

European Herring Gull

Larus argentatus


American Herring Gull

Larus smithsonianus

PT follows BOU here; see Sangster et al. 2007. Collinson et al. 2008 (who note that the case for vegae as a species awaits further research). Pierre Yésou (pers comm) is certain that the strong diagnostic phenotypic differences between these Asian and N American taxa recorded in Alaska demand a different conclusion, namely L. vegae vegae & L. v. mongolicus: we note that this view does not rule out earlier descent of these taxa from a common ancestor of L. smithsonianus. Full diagnosability criteria for these 3 taxa in relation to each other yet to be proved Parkin & Knox 2010. See also Liebers-Helbig et al. 2010. We expect much remains to be discovered. H&M include vegae & mongolicus in smithsonianus.

East Siberian Herring Gull

Larus (smithsonianus) vegae

Here we agree with Yésou 2002 (pers comm) who advises taxonomic uncertainties in white-headed gulls will be long-standing; taxa are prime candidates for combined genetics/field/museum studies (including breeding biology & statistical analysis of phenotypical variations). Although Rogacheva 1992 suggested PT breeds as far W as Anabar River mouth in Arctic, ‘clear hybrids not being uncommon’, ID knowledge at this time was less clearcut - Pierre Yésou pers comm. NB1 separation from L. argentatus on midiDNA grounds alone, far from clear-cut (Sangster et al. 2007), but other DNA criteria & morphology (Collinson et al. 2008) make strong case. NB2 Sangster et al. 2007 (BOU) and Collinson et al. 2008, Liebers-Helbig et al. 2010 also make the case for the PT for L. (smithsonianus/vegae) vegae (see Hypothetical List) and L. (s.m.) mongolicus to be American Herring Gull L. smithsonianus. NB3 L. (smithsonianus) vegae is prone to wandering: one recorded Wexford, Ireland 10 Jan 2016 by Killian Mallamore.

Mongolian Gull (Vega Gull)

Larus (smithsonianus/vegae) mongolicus


Caspian Gull

Larus cachinnans

132 Yellow-legged Gull (Western Yellow-legged Gull)  
Larus michahellis  
Now widely acknowledged as distinct from l. argentatus, MÖL 2004, Collinson et al 2008, Pierre Yéou pers comm. In Region, ssp michahellis breeds Black Sea, Eastern Mediterranean (sedentary); declining Cyprus Hellicar 2016, may also wander to Red Sea, MÖL 2004. Most colonies Turkey this taxon Kirwan et al 2008, Kralj et al 2013 show that Adriatic ringed birds dispersed widely to N, E & W, adults to N & E, creating potential for range expansion. 1st colony for Egypt at the outer sandbar of Lake El Mallahaj, just E of Port Fouad, Port Said Habibi 2017b. NB1 Methodic & populative taxon surprisingly absent from many records submitted to national records committees. NB2 Serra et al 2016 document conservation measures adopted in some parts of distribution, while noting the species attaining pest status in others & having deleterious effects on some breeding passerines and non-passerines.

133 Armenian Gull  
Larus amarus  

134 Lake Beysehir Gull  
Larus amarus × michahellis  
Small, probably stabilised, fertile hybrid population (known since 1964, with some michahellis pairs) on islands in Lake Beysehir, Turkey (MB pers obs 1996), likely to have arisen from secondary contact between amarus and colonising michahellis, Liebers & Helbig 1999, Collinson et al 2008; no other known hybridisation site despite quite extensive (Kirwan et al 2008) range overlap in SW inland Turkey. English name informal @OSME.

135 “Western Lesser Black-backed Gull”  
Larus fuscus graellsii  

136 “Continental” Lesser Black-backed Gull (Lesser Black-backed Gull (Intermediate Black-backed Gull)  
Larus fuscus intermedius  
Following Collinson et al 2008 & MOBL 2004, Wanderers to E Mediterranean in small numbers Kirwan et al 2008. We retain intermedius as ssp (under the 75% rule [not the 90% rule] of diagnosable individuals in population), Yéou 2002.

137 Baltic Gull (Lesser Black-backed Gull)  
Larus fuscus fuscus  

138 Heuglin’s Gull PT  
Larus (fuscus) heuglini  
Probably recorded under l. cachinnans, l. amarus or ‘taimyrensis’ in past, Yéou 2002. Sangster et al 2007, Collinson et al 2008 note that low levels of gene flow with fuscus still apparent despite ecological separation. Egypt Avib, BE. Pierre Yéou’s pers comm argues a dissenting line, noting there are clear phenotypical differences between parapatric Heuglin’s Gull and Lesser Black-backed Gull as well as a quite marked ecological segregation, leading to the lack of proven hybridisation & forcing the case for speciation. We note both views, but essentially we remain undecided. Liebers et al 2001 found heuglini barabensis & ‘taimyrensis’ to be very closely related, while Liebers-Helbig et al 2010 documented enough distinctiveness of populations. IOC4.1 omits mention taimyrensis. Van Dijk et al 2011 provide a reasoned framework for recognition of taimyrensis, Liebers-Helbig et al 2010 noting its distinct (if close to heuglini) haplotype.

139 Heuglin’s Gull (Lesser Black-backed Gull) (Siberian Gull)  
Larus (fuscus/michahellis) heuglini  
MOBL 2004, occurs Kazakhstan, Turkmenistan (K-M&M 2005); PM, WV in Region: N Kyrgyzstan, rare, Ven 2002; Kazakh Caspian & Aral Seas, rare PM Kazakhstan Wassinik 2015b, 1st winter record Aqtau, Caspian, 1 Dec 2015; Jan 16 Wassinik 2016b, 2nd record same area Dec 2017 Wassinik 2018; Mozambique Perlman & Meyrav 2009, Jordan JBCR; heuglini common winterer S Arabia, Gulf (abundant PM & WV Oman OBL7) fairly common PM S Caspian Iran, fairly common WV Iran Gulf Bushehr & to E Khaleghizadeh et al 2017, Red Sea W India coasts, hence must cross Iraq Salim et al 2012; darker heuglini in Gulf, ‘taimyrensis’ (qv) suggested mostly E India coasts (Boivie 1996), but now thought to winter in Pacific Han & Han et al 2011, ‘taimyrensis’ x Vega Gulf L. vegae hybrids declining phenomenon; Parkin & Knox 2010 note argument of ‘taimyrensis’ (qv) as invalid taxon (Yéou 2002), but see van Dijk et al 2011. Migrant Afghanistan R&A 2005. Link L. (c) barabensis records? Pierre Yéou’s pers comm (heuglini) phenotypically different from neighbouring fuscus; also various arguments re taimyrensis, but see van Dijk et al 2011. Above DNA conclusions re armenicus dismisses rationale of barabensis/armenicus hybrids (as was suggested WRP Bourne, pers comm). Collinson et al 2008 summary analysis of ssp argument for L. fuscus to include heuglini and barabensis in the present state of knowledge, but see also Dubois 2003.

140 Steppe Gull (Baraba Gull) (Lesser Black-backed Gull)  
Larus (fuscus/heuglini) barabensis (L. (cachinnans) barabensis has been proposed)  
Likely superspecies with L. f. heuglini (? MOBL 2004). Common PM Kazakhstan Wassinik 2015b, who adopts this taxon as ssp of l. cachinnans citing MOBL 2003 (2004f) & Clements 2014. Wintering birds reach S Arabia, status there unclear, possibly wintering S Iran. In Region at Oman in 2005/6 observed in OBL7 under Larus l. cachinnans; recorded Bandar Abbas area Iran Khehlighadeh et al 2017. Taxonomy uncertain: while acknowledging DNA case to treat as fuscus ssp (Collinson et al 2008) & recognising the biometric & morphological differences from heuglini (see Kirwan et al 2008) (suggesting either it is a ssp of L. heuglini or is a species in its own right), we can’t rule out circumstantial isolation unproven, Yéou 2002. Pierre Yéou’s pers comm) notes barabensis diagnosable in the field from heuglini, but since they are not parapatric, he guesses they are different species. R&A 2012 map suggests specimens collected just within E&E Afghanistan. NB1 WRP Bourne (pers comm) suspects intergrades with ‘taimyrensis’ (qv), heuglini winter in Gulf, barabensis being dominant in S Kazakhstan & cachinnans areas; however, see Dubois 2003. NB2 Those ‘cachinnans’ ringed Lake Chany, SW Siberia & recovered E Caspian & Uzbekistan, & those recovered near Chany but ringed in SE Kazakhstan & also attributed to ‘cachinnans’, may be barabensis taxon: Veen et al 2005.
Sternidae

Polytypic. Bridge Thalasseus sandvicensis

Sternula albifrons (328 326 325 321)

[Sooty Tern

Eastern Bridled Tern

Little Tern

Sandwich Tern

Lesser Crested Tern

Gull-billed Tern]

PT

Gull-billed Tern

PT

Gelochelidon nilotica (formerly Sterna nilotica)

Rogers et al 2005 set out a comprehensive ID methodology of differentiating between migrant spp to Australia anna & resident macrorranea, noting that the differences were distinct. Inskip & Collar 2015 split taxon macrocyra as Australian Gull-billed Tern law of Hoyo & Collar 2014b on Tobias et al 2010 criteria (as does BLDD), adding modifier ‘Common’ to remaining. IOC2.2 opts for ‘Australian Tern’. NB ID criteria are well set out in Rogers et al 2015.

[PT]

Gull-billed Tern (Common Gull-billed Tern)

Gelochelidon nilotica


PT

Sandwich Tern

PT

Thalasseus sandvicensis

New World extralimital polytypic Cabot's Tern S. acutiflavus now split Sangster et al 2011

[PT]

Sandwich Tern

Thalasseus sandvicensis (formerly Sterna sandvicensis)


PT

Little Tern

Sterna albifrons (formerly Sterna albifrons) albifrons

Bridge et al 2005. Widespread breeder & PM (ssp albifrons) through N OSMNE Region (including Afghanistan R&A 2005), less so further S, in Arabia, a few in Red Sea, but mostly in Gulf (2005b) Jennings 2010, fairly common S Red Sea waters N Iran Khaleghizadeh et al 2017, uncommon PM & VW Oman OBL7 (also Iraq Salim et al 2012, winters along warm coasts, HBW3. Egypt's Port Said colonies declining through construction and disturbance Habib 2012b; new colony at Lake Nassar Bull ABC; 93; plumage characteristics of this population (and seemingly as far as Kuwait), suggest it may be a new taxon. DNA results await formal publication (Norman Dean van Swielms in litt Jan 2019). Egypt Avib, BE

[PT]

Saunders’s Tern

Sterna sandvicensis (formerly Sterna sandvicensis) Saunders


PT

Eastern Bridled Tern

Oonychophrion (anaethetus) (formerly Sterna anaethetus)

Howell & Zulfit provisionally split into 2 polytypic ssp within a superspecies, Western O.Ja & melanoperus + ssp helvius (Caribbean & W Africa) & Eastern nominate (also Iraq Perlman & Meyrow 2007), & Vagrant Israel Perlman & Meyrow 2009, breeding Egyptian Sinai Skakuj & Stawarcyk 1997, Israel Perlman & Meyrow 2009. Rare breeding S Arabia among O. anaethetus colonies OBL7. Waders late autumn Iran Scott & Adhami 2006, vagrant Khaleghizadeh et al 2017. Fewer than 30tp, mostly Musandam Island Oman although has been recorded occasionally from S Red Sea to Gulf; many past records now thought better attributed to O. anaethetus Jennings 2010.
330 River Tern
Sterna aurantia


331 Roseate Tern
Sterna dougallii

Mostly around E & S Oman waters in winter, HBW3, but fairly common summer breeder sp. ardeinae (also in Seychelles & Madagascar) offshore islands Oman OBL7. Brought declining Jennings 2010, vagrant Israel Perlman & Meyrav 2009, vagrant UAE Mitchell 2017. Egypt Avib, BE.

332 Black-razed Tern
Sterna sumatrana

ssp mathewsii/ breeds on W Indian Ocean islands H&M4, also on the Lakshadweep archipelago off SW India (08°16’-13°56’, 71°44’-74°24’) BLDZ (which also maps the main peltic area of occurrence as including the OSME Region deep-sea extension). Thus likely incidentally off South & AE. Threat status as a group from Great (S. hirundo) & South Polar (S. longicauda) Skuas. Numbers may be subject to displacement at sea by violent tropical storms. 1960 RNWBS report in OSME Region, Dainmaniayal Islands at 23°55.0’N 57°59.0’E, but old description inadequate; perhaps misidentified, WR Bourne pers comm. Plausible report Masirah 1970 of small numbers in summer & part of SE 25 Aug close inshore Rockland 1976 Gulf of Oman report, but not accepted by current standards. We seek first acceptably-documented observations. Several RNWBS reports 8E of 10:00:00N 61:24:00W (well within deep-ocean extension of OSME Region). May have occurred off Somal E coast Redman et al 2009. Likely vagrant from SW India R&A 2005. NB Mapped HBW3, BLDZ Jul 2015 as occurring in much of SE of deep-ocean extension of Region.

333 Common Tern
Sterna hirundo

Breeds extensively also PM Turkey Kilian et al 2008 (ssp Hirundo) N Iran KhaleghiZadeh et al 2017, in N OSME region, also Afghanistan R&A 2005, but some; Iran Scott & Adhami 2006, Iraq Salim et al 2012 (ssp uncertain), winters to S HBW3, 1st Kazakhstans winter record 1953 Dec. 14 Tenkent Delta Almaty Province Wassinik 1961b; common PM Uncommon WV, SV Oman OBL7. Egypt Avib, BE. NB ssp ibertantina (all-black bill), recorded Iran Seistan Zaruny 1911 likely migrant from breeding grounds to NE & E of Tibetan plateau.

334 White-cheeked Tern
Sterna repressa


335 Arctic Tern
Sterna paradisaea


336 Whiskered Tern
Chlidonias hybrida

ssp hybrida breeds locally in much of N OSME Region, scarce BM W half of Kazakhstan Wassinik 1955. (indica Afghan Paladan 1959: now included in hybrida), irregular migrant Kyrgyzstani, Ven 2002, common to abundant SV Iran (KhaleghiZadeh et al 2017), IR, disperse widely, some remain in Gulf, HBW3; abundant PM & WV Oman OBL7. Egypt Avib, BE.

337 White-winged Tern
(White-winged Black Tern)
Chlidonias leucopaster

Monotypic. Has similar contiguous breeding area to C.niger common PM Iran KhaleghiZadeh et al 2017, breeds high elevation Turkey Hering & Buckley 2013, but scarcer over slightly smaller area; abundant BM, PM Kazakhstan Wassinik 2015b, summer-breeder/resident S Salim et al 2012, almost regular migrant Kyrgyzstani, Ven 2002, Afghanistan Reeb 1977. Winters Gulf or disperses further, eg India & African HBW3 although has bred Gulf Jennings 2010; common PM & WV Oman OBL7. Egypt Avib, BE.

338 Black Tern
Chlidonias niger


Stercorariidae

339 South Polar Skua
Stercorarius maccormicki
(formerly Catharacta maccormicki)

Single genus Cohen et al 1997 derived from multiple evidence strands: mt & nuclear DNA, enzyme variations, feather lice, behavioural studies & calls (Parkin & Knox 2010). NB1 9 species were recognized by KBW3, the following 3 large skuas (plus Chilean S. chilensis), acknowledging that further research is warranted. NB2 South Polar (maccormicki) and particularly Brown (antarcticus), Chilean (chilensis), Tristan (hammitoni) and Subantarctic (ionnberghi) Skuas have a relative lack of genetic differentiation, due to their relatively recent divergence as a group from Great (skua) and Pomarine (pomarina) Skuas. Any treatment as separate species must recognise that their mobility and the extent of hybridisation means many individuals are not identifiable by morphology, plumage characteristics, or at all.

340 Brown Skua
(Santarctic Skua)
Stercorarius antarcticus
(formerly Catharactus antarcticus)


341 Great Skua
Stercorarius skua
(formerly Catharacta skua)

Alcidae

Alcidae

IOC 5.1 places these species in new family Gaviidae. 4 spp, 2 likely in Region: nominate of Madagascar, Mauritius, Seychelles; Kennedy & Spencer 2004 place Fratercula arctica Egypt Avib, BE, vagrant Egypt (dead birds 1908-09 winter BinE). WBDB 2008 checklist. Extralimital vagrant Phaethontidae Alca torda would also be badly affected.

density & oxygen content per decade through to 2100. Such trends would reduce resident and at-sea roosting seabird populations. Human fishing communities would also be badly affected.

Phaethontidae

Kennedy & Spencer 2004 place P. aethereus as basal to the other 2 spp. Some evidence P. a. indicus may be full species, but very little subsequent molecular data available. NB IOC 2.0 places Phaethontidae under Phoenicopteridae.

Sweetman et al 2017 assess ocean warming trends as likely to impact southern oceans, particularly the Indian Ocean, by steadily reducing both organic food density & oxygen content per decade through to 2100. Such trends would reduce resident and at-sea roosting seabird populations. Human fishing communities would also be badly affected.
Wilson’s Storm Petrel

Oceanites oceanicus

Howell & Zufelt 2019 provisionally recognise several species within the Oceanites complex (galaegaenois/howeis/loweis gracilis Elliot’s, chilensis Fuegian, pinocyae Pincaya), but apart from O.o. oceanicus, none are at all likely in the Indian Ocean of OSME. Zapp, both in all main oceans, nominate & exasperatus, latter breeding much further S Antarctic Region. Ubiquitous ocean wanderer, HWB1, in Region mostly Arabian Sea Portor & Aspinall 2010, vagrant Israel Perlman & Meyrav 2009, 3rd record at Elat 12 Sep 16 DB3/39) 5: 341 SG38|1ATR, common 20km off UAE Gulf of Oman coast Campbell et al 2017, fairly common 5 common OBL7, eg 900 off Masirah Sep 2016 SG38|1ATR. Off E Iran coast (wintering Zardunty 1911) RSA 2005 & vagrant Iran, last recorded 2007 Khaleghizadeh et al 2017, Bab-el-Mandab Ash & Atkins 2009, Saudi Arabia, Jordan Mitchell 2017, Egyt Avib, BE. Heavy passage Cormorins Phillips 1950, Sri Lanka Sep van den Berg et al 1982b probably typical. 354

Australian Storm Petrel

(White-faced Storm Petrel, Frigate Petrel)

Pelagodroma | marina | dulciae

Howell & Zufelt 2019 provisionally recognise 8 taxa & 6 spp in this complex;only dulciae likely to occur in Region from SW Australia Island population. Regular off S Arabia, HWB1; Bourne 1960, one examined in hand May 1960 at 8.7°N, 73° Bailey & Bourne 1963, Prasad 2003. Vagrant Oman 2 records OBL7.3. 3rd Jun 2017 Al Harni Island OBRC. English name from MBZ & Zufelt 2017, MBZ & Zufelt 2014, Zufelt & MBZ 2012. 355

Inaccessable Storm Petrel

(White-bellied Storm Petrel)

Fregata | grallaria | leucogaster | (melanoleuca)

Howell & Zufelt 2019 provisionally recognise 6 taxa & 5 spp in this complex. Likely sex taxon in Region is leucogaster from Il St Paul & Il Amsterdam (now thought not to be from Gough Island: see NB1 below) populations. Rare vagrant to S OSME Region coasts, HWB1. Earliest in-hand examination Indian Ocean at 09°N, 72.5° SE of Region 9 Sep 1960 Bailey & Bourne 1963. Redecision on lack records off Socotra 4th Oman record June 2017 Al-Hallaniyah Island OBRC. Austral WV to sub-equal Indian Ocean islands & Linquard 2013 NB1. The application of melanoleuca (previously considered a sub of F. tropica Black-bellied Storm Petrel qu’) or leucogaster as species names to this taxon or to Gough Storm Petrel of S Atlantic is unclear, perhaps because labels of specimens may be insufficiently discriminate. NB2 Visual separation this taxon essential from white-bellied individuals next taxon Bourne 2000 (may hybridise WRB Bourne pers comm). which concern apparent in Prasad 2003: this sp has a dark-bellied morph Menkhorst et al 2017. 356

Black-bellied Storm Petrel

Fregata tropica

Howell & Zufelt recognise this taxon as monotypic species in the grallaria/tropica complex. F. tropica vastly outnumberes ’melanoleuca’ (See above) of Gough Island & breeds on many cumpolar Antarctic islands. Regular off S Arabia, HBW1: vagrant (3 records of 6 birds) Oman OBL7 OBRC. One examined in hand Sep 1960 at 8.05°N, 72.5° Bailey & Bourne 1963. Many earlier records attributed to other spp likely this taxon (may hybridise with previous taxon Bourne 2000) WRB Bourne pers comm; Prasad 2003 appropriately cautious. However, 1964 record (Redman 1998 ’97 record) (Redman et al 2009) probably valid (Details not known to OSME). Austral WV to sub-equal Indian Ocean islands & Linquard & 2013 NB1 This sp is thought to have a pale-bellied form, whether a mor or not was uncertain, but it may be a part of F. grallaria population, given Howell & Zufelt 2019 provisional taxonomy, geographic distribution also unknown, but no confirmed records of this form yet in Region. 357

Tasmanian Shy Albatross’ (Shy Albatross)

Thalassarche cautae sensu stricto (t.c. cautae)

H&M note that taxa eremita & salvinii together may merit separation from T. cautae, but retain all in sensu lato under ‘White-capped Albatross’. IOC4.4 splits to 3 species: Shy Albatross T. cautae sensu stricto, with 2 spp, nominate & atead; monotypic Chatham Albatross T. eremita breeding E off New Zealand; monotypic Salvinia Albatross T. salvinii, also 5 of New Zealand. Unfortunately H&M taxa distributions differ considerably. IOC cite T. cautae in non-breeding range as widespread in Indian Ocean. We surmise that the former is more likely in OSME Region. Identified as sub-adult T.c. cautae (Meeth & Meeth 1988) Sep 86 at 11:50.0.0.N+51:35:0.0.E (off Cape Guardafui). – WRB Bourne pers comm. In: Meeth & Meeth 1988: one Diomedea c. cautae noted Nov 86 off Mombasa, citing GR Cunningham-van Someren Bull. Brit. Orn Cl. 108 18-19, another 20 Feb 81 seen Gulf of Aqaba found dead 15 days later, citing MC Jennings Saud Arab Nat. Hist. Soc J. 2(4) 14-17. Single vagrant 1986 33km off Ras Casey Somalia Redman et al 2009, Thalassarche sp (Diomedea sp in 2000) Oman Occ 2000 OBL7. Claimed Egypt Avib, BE. NB1 The previous lack of consensus on visual separation of sp cautae (Tasmanian Albatross) from steadi (White-capped) is partially resolved in Menkhorst et al 2017, wherein adult cautae usually has a pale to strong yellow wash to the upper mandible. NB2 Status of albatross taxa ‘far from settled’. English name from cautionary checklist in Tickell 2000 App1, O’S 2007 declining to provide one. 358

Hydrobatidae

Parent Taxon aspects abound within this family, but extent disputed. In any case, record below has insufficient data to distinguish lowest-level taxon - here guided by caution of Tickell 2010. Resequenced to follow Oceanitidae IOC5.1, Hackett et al 2008, NB BL 2008, O&S 2007, IOC v3.2 separate cautae from eremita (Chatham Albatross) and salvinii (Salvin’s). Some regard each taxa as valid species. 359

Tasmanian Shy Albatross’ far from settled, HBW1. English name from QV

Hydrobatidae

H&M resequences families, genera & within genera; we apply IOC5.1 resequencing, a reduced Parent Taxon

Clade 4 of Wallace et al 2017 includes extralimital Fork-tailed Storm Petrel H. furcata [N Pacific]

PT European Storm Petrel PT

Hydrobates pelagius

Re PT, Robbins & Mullaney 2008 suggest split of Mediterranean Storm Petrel H. melitensis on basis of voice differentiation, heavier bill, breeding timing differences and preponderance of blackish rather than brownish feathering. Howell & Zufelt 2019 support this split to the extent of being superspecies. IOC4.4, H&M unchanged, lack of voice analysis; further evidence needed. NB melitensis probably has reached Region 360

European Storm Petrel

(British Storm Petrel)

Hydrobates (pelagius) pelagius (H. [pelagius] pelagius H&Z 2019)

Monotypic if split. Regular in E Mediterranean, HWB1, accidental Cyprus Flint & Stewart 1992, vagrant Israel Perlman & Meyrav 2009 9th record Oct 2016 Halla SG38|1ATR, likely occurs Turkish waters. Up to 2012, all records credited as ‘European Storm Pax’ until 2010notes wrongly, largely based on HF Raurin & Hickey 1965, also S of New Zealand. Unfortunately, HBW1, 2017’s 4 Clades, Clade 2 is wholly extralimital (Black Storm Petrel H. melanis [E Pacific], Markham’s Storm Petrel H. markhami [E Pacific], Least Storm Petrel H. microsoma [NE Pacific] & Wedge- tailed Storm Petrel H. tetua [E Pacific].

Mediterranean Storm Petrel

Hydrobates (pelagius) melitensis (H. [pelagius] melitensis H&Z 2019)

Monotypic if split. Robbins & Mullaney 2008 concede that ID difficulties considerable unless bird in hand or found on beach, essentially making this a cryptic species/taxon. However, it does display sexual dichromatism Albores-Barajas et al 2010. Matlovic et al 2017 suggested that cyclic weather oscillations in Mediterranean likely to favour breeders from W Med spending non-breeding period in E Med. Lago et al 2019 dattedalated Malta breeders, but all records from 9 birds in non-breeding period from ocean wanderer, HWB1, known to breed as far E as 24°E. Evvoia in Agean, making occurrence in OSME Region highly probable; we assume that some Turkish vagrancy records (Kirwan 2008, Kirwan et al 2014 & Israeli records (eg Shihai 1999) are this taxon. Kirwan 2008 remained unconvinced by proposed split; accepted by DB 2009 & review by IOC. However, when Hemery & Elbett 1965, mass & Cataliniano 1986a, 1986b, Bernet 1988, Cagnon et al 2004, Robbins et al 2007 & Parkin & Knox 2010 are taken together, the case for separate species is reasonable; curiously, melitensis not mentioned in Svosnossen et al 2009. NB1 proven to wander to Atlantic Robb & Mullaney 2008, Lago et al 2019. NB2 Principal diet in breeding season in Mediterranean is small fish caught 10m down, unlike krill for Atlantic taxa; breeds (600dp) in many viewable on Google Street-view photos on Marretino Island (W of Sicily) Albores-Barajas et al 2011. 361
Procellariidae

361 Band-rumped Storm Petrel (Madeiran or Harcourt’s Petrel)

Hydrobates castro (Wallace et al 2017, originally Oceanodroma castro) (Oceanodroma castro)

Original Parent Taxon split from Madeiran Storm Petrel O. castro sensu lato covered smaller (northern hemisphere hol-season breeder) Bolton et al 2008, IOC V5.2 (probably extratropical). Second Parent Taxon split (IOC2.8) of Atlantic/Band-Rumped Storm Petrel O. castro sensu stricto covered two extratropical taxa, Cape Verde Storm Petrel O. jabejabe (IOC v2.3) & Grant’s Petrel O. sp novo (IOC proposal: as yet nondescript); Robb & Mullarney 2008 separated by distinct voices and by different (holoseason) breeding periods, supported by Sangster et al 2019 to support data to H&M4 subsisting Oceanodroma in Hydrobirds. IOC8.1 remains with Oceanodroma. NB The allochronic breeding cycles of these taxa mean that adult seasonal plumage wt time of year for sighting species identity. Curious that Svensson et al 2009 omitted mention of any putative split, yet book is dedicated to the eponymous Grant’s memory.

362 Swinhoe’s Storm Petrel

Hydrobates leucorhoa (Formerly Oceanodroma leucorhoa) (Oceanodroma leucorhoa) May move to Cymnochorea

Monotypic. Oman small numbers Gulf & S coast (14 Oman 1997-2006) mainly Aug-Nov (IH in litt) two records, off Somalia & Djibouti Redman et al 2009, vagrant (all records Red Sea, dead or moribund birds Yoav Perlman in litt Nov 09); Israel Perlman & Meyrav 2009: 331, 7th on 12 November 2009. H. homochroa (Formerly Oceanodroma monorhis) 2017, supported by Howell & Zufelt 2019; these two species appear to be allochronic in the Indian Ocean, or on unusual weather events (e.g. Errant Inter-Tropical Convergence Zone) driving southern ocean species N. Individuals do wander widely above the 25°S normal northern limit in Indian Ocean, HBW1. Detailed breeding data are needed to determine the origin of these records.

363 Leach’s Storm Petrel

Hydrobates leucorhoeus (Formerly H. leucorhoa) (Oceanodroma leucorhoa) May move to Cymnochorea, which would require a return to species name leucorhoa

Vulnerable. 2 ssp, nominate & chapmani (extratropical San Benito Island Pacific Mexico W), most likely nominate wanderer to E Mediterranean, HBW1, Gulf of Aqaba where rare Israeli Perlman & Meyrav 2009 Porter & Aspinall 2010, but 40 reported Halifa Feb 2012; few records Egypt’s Mediterranean coast Goodman & Kleinepinner 1985, UAE (Gulf) & Indian Ocean Laphoter a et al 1970, 2nd record 60km off Calba May 2018 SG40(2): 207. One moribund Sharjah airfield (UAE) Jun 1969 (Bundy & Warr 1979); one photographed off Fujairah May 2018 Campbell & Smiles 2019b. Egypt Avib, BE.

364 Matsudaira’s Storm Petrel

Hydrobates matsudairae (Oceanodroma matsudairae) (Formerly Oceanodroma matsudairae) May move to Halocyptena

Vulnerable. One record Oman OBLT.8. Species range in BL Mar IBA e-atlas shows deep-ocean occurrence in Region below 12°N. Considered quite common equatorial western Indian Ocean 1963-5 Bailey et al 1968, whose lat/long list has 4 records in Region, 12 of 40 close, but their map shows 18 within the Region! Several recorded between 7.2°N & equator, e.g. 1967, 2nd record 60km off Calba May 2018 SG40(2): 207. One moribund Sharjah airfield (UAE) Jun 1969 (Bundy & Warr 1979); one photographed off Fujairah May 2018 Campbell & Smiles 2019b. Egypt Avib, BE. Known near breeding populations NW Brunswick & Newfoundland in NW Atlantic, & N Japan in NW Pacific BLDZ Jul 2019, but Atlantic birds mapped as passing Cape Agulhas just into South Indian Ocean. AOU C Jackson 1998, 2th recorded 2017, former sp to full sp status, soconorochla Townsend’s Storm Petrel & chimpannus, Ainsley’s Storm Petrel confirmed genetically by Taylor et al 2017, supported by Howell & Zufelt 2019; these two species appear to be allochronic on Guadeloupe Island, Pacific Mexico W, NB Scientific name follows HBW Alive/BLI

Procellariidae

365 Cape Petrel (Formerly Cape Pigeon, Pintado Petrel)

Daption capense

Endangered. Monotypic. 2 ssp. warmer-water australis the likelier to occur. One record Israel AERCAT 2011 WP List. Ship-follower, often for long distances. Occurrence in Region likely partly dependent on food availability (often seasonal in IN Indian Ocean), or on unusual weather events (eg errant Inter-Tropical Convergence Zone) driving southern ocean species N. Individuals do wander widely above the 25°S northern limit in Indian Ocean, HBW1. One IRWS report 18N, 7.2°E & equator 1967, recorded at 6000m off Ras Beirut 1989, 15.47N, 52.25E Bailey et al 1970, 1 record 60km off Calba May 2018. One specimen 15.47N, 52.25E Bailey et al 1970, 1 record 60km off Calba May 2018. One record Oman 1997-2006; four records Egypt’s Mediterranean coast Goodman & Kleinepinner 1985, UAE (Gulf) & Indian Ocean Laphoter a et al 1970, 2nd record 60km off Calba May 2018. Three RNWBS reports, all N of 10.000; one (Mar 64) in E half of deep-ocean OSME Region, the others (10 birds, Sep 87) on successive days in E. at 68-70°E. O&S 2007 map to 10°N off Somalia. 14 recorded together northernmost Seychelles 2014 Bull ABC 22(1) p109. May share wintering grounds with Juanin’s Petrel Bulweria fallax – full scrutiny of records and records essential. WRP Bourne pers comm. IOC1.1 locates non-breeding western distribution as ‘C Indian Ocean’, but calling unlikely away from colonies. Israel 1963 record (& corpse also enter Mediterranean. Rare EC Atlantic species, but individuals seem to wander widely except to S; suggested as yet undescribed. enclosure.

366 Atlantic Petrel (Formerly Schlegel’s Petrel)

Pterodroma incerta

Monotypic, although O&S 2007 list 2 ssp, that in Indian Ocean attributed as P.m. dubia, but suggested as simply a colour-phase WRP Bourne pers comm. Immatures thought to wander widely in Indian Ocean, HBW1. One record Oman 1997-2006; four records Egypt’s Mediterranean coast Goodman & Kleinepinner 1985, UAE (Gulf) & Indian Ocean Laphoter a et al 1970, 2nd record 60km off Calba May 2018. Three RNWBS reports, all N of 10.000; one (Mar 64) in E half of deep-ocean OSME Region, the others (10 birds, Sep 87) on successive days in E. at 68-70°E. O&S 2007 map to 10°N off Somalia. 14 recorded together northernmost Seychelles 2014 Bull ABC 22(1) p109. May share wintering grounds with Juanin’s Petrel Bulweria fallax – full scrutiny of records and records essential. WRP Bourne pers comm. IOC1.1 locates non-breeding western distribution as ‘C Indian Ocean’, but calling unlikely away from colonies. Israel 1963 record (& corpse of specimen found Dead Sea; Shihrai 1999) recorded as P. (mollis) feae Bourne 1983 (Only Israel record Yoav Perman in litt Nov 09).

369

Trinidad Petrel (Round Island Petrel)

Pterodroma arminjoniana

370

Barau’s Petrel

Pterodroma baraui


371

Tahiti Petrel

Pseudobulweria rostrata

(formerly Pterodroma rostrata)

1st for Region photographed by Bill Simpson just S of Mitab, Dhofar, Oman February 2019 OBRC, bird considered ssp trousseanii, which breeds in New Caledonia Howell & Zufelt 2019. Abundant species, ssp rostrata occurring off northern coasts of Western Australia, Carr 2015, probably breeds in the Bismarck Sea & thus likely to occur in northern Indian Ocean (JA Bartle pers comm cited in van den Berg et al 1991); other ssp trousseanii wholly extralimital, breeds Vanuatu. Occurred SE Indian Ocean off Durban in 2018.

372

Streaked Shearwater

(Formerly White-faced Shearwater)

Calonectris leucomelas (formerly Procellaria leucomelaena)

Ardenna gravis


Ardenna carneipes IOC5.4 (Formerly Puffinus carneipes)


Ardenna gravis IOC5.4 (Formerly Puffinus gravis)

Monotypic. Although Atlantic species, regular vagrant into Indian Ocean, HBW1, vangrant Israeli Perlman & Meyrav 2009, one Elliot Jun 2018, confirmed by Perlman in litt, Lebanon Porter & Aspinall 2010; confirmed records elsewhere somewhat lacking. NB Christidis & Boles 2008 placed in Ardea.

Puffinus sensu stricto now monophyletic

PT Puffinus pennis

First formal suggestion to split Puffinus in Christidis & Bowles 2008 after extensive studies mainly of Australian shearwaters. Adopted in IOC5.4

Puffinus pennis

One 27 May-20 Jun 2015 North Beach, Eilat, Israel, 1st for Israeli & OSME Region (Barak Granit http://www.birds.co.il/article-page.php?articleid=225, submitted to IRDC. Its Red Sea occurrence fitness with its preference for the western Mediterranean and the Atlantic - presumably this bird’s sojourn in the Southern Ocean had in it heading north again, but in the Indian Ocean

PT Yelkouan Shearwater PT

Puffinus yelkouan

PT reported Egypt Avib also BinE without any reason for dismissing yeolkouan. However, P. puffinus now known to be more closely related to other Atlantic shearwaters than to the following two taxa (Robb & Mullaney 2008), hence earlier PT more literary than genetic. H&M4 notes subsequent split, but treats next 2 taxa as ssp. However, Milliaud et al 2014 applying stable isotope analysis within integrative taxonomy achieved species ID successfully. NB1 Tiny Menorcan population (Menorcan Shearwater) (smaller & darker) may be stabilised (?) hybrid of mauretanicus × yeolkouan, 2 mtDNA linages being present: DNA sequencing of all Mediterranean forms may help (Robb & Mullaney 2008), but this aspect unmentioned in Svensson et al. 2009. NB2 3 extinct closely-related taxa, Ibiza P. rectori, Hole’s P. holeti (ibberia) & Lava P. olansii (Canary Islands) shearwaters Robb & Mullaney 2008.

Puffinus [yeolkouan] mauretanicus

Vulnerable. Resident E Mediterranean, Richard Porter pers comm (eg Syria Murdoch & Betton 2008). Israel uncommon Med, rare Aqaba Perlman & Meyrav 2009, May 2012 record Hurghada Egypt (SG34(2) ATR). Breeds close to OSME Region near Turkish Aegean. 29 on passage Esentepe Cyprus Sep 2018 SGA77(1). Egypt Avib, BE RNWBS report large numbers S Black Sea 41°00.00E, where H&E 1970 note regularly; summer breeder. Regular Black Sea WRP Bourne pers comm, lankov 2007. PT listed as vagrant Caspian Sea (doubtful) Schalow 1890 (tx of Bogdanov 1879) would have been this taxon. However, tracking has revealed extensive overland activity N, S & E of Black Sea BLSTD Nov 2014

Puffinus [yeolkouan] mauretanicus

Critically Endangered. Small & declining population, probably only on a few W Mediterranean islands, HBW1. Spends non-breeding season in Atlantic. One record Israel 1982, Shirihai 1996. 1st for Egypt where H&E 1970 note seen regularly; summer breeder. Regular Black Sea WRP Bourne pers comm, Iankov SGATR41(1). Breeds close to OSME Region near Turkish Aegean. 29 on passage Esentepe Cyprus Sep 2018 SGA77(1). Egypt Avib, BE RNWBS report large numbers S Black Sea 41°00.00E, where H&E 1970 note regularly; summer breeder. Regular Black Sea WRP Bourne pers comm, lankov 2007. PT listed as vagrant Caspian Sea (doubtful) Schalow 1890 (tx of Bogdanov 1879) would have been this taxon. However, tracking has revealed extensive overland activity N, S & E of Black Sea BLSTD Nov 2014

PT Yelkouan Shearwater (Levantine or Mediterranean Shearwater)

Puffinus [yeolkouan] yelkouan

Conciliated incomplete taxonomic history. In 1990s, ID conclusions from few pelagic observations often mislead. Many subtle ID characteristics now teased out, as is genetic makeup. Since 2009, we have treated these taxa separately: Audubon’s as Atlantic form (in litt) now separated from extralimital (Atlantic) Macaronian P. lherminieri P. bailloni, & Boyd’s and Barolin’s P. lherminieri P. bailloni (closely related but separable by voice: Robb & Mullaney 2008). Now, IOC9.2 sequencing separately than lherminieri into 6 spp to the extent that the old concept of a superspecies is probably not viable for all 6. Austin et al 2004 offered plausible taxonomicity, but kept Indian Ocean ssp (bailloni, nirolgi, templator, col testimoni), in P. lherminieri, not in P. assimilis. We now follow the lead of O&S 2007, but align with the subsequent arrangement suggested in Howell & Zufelt 2019. NB BLSTD Sep 2019 treat Persian and Tropical shearwaters as full spp, but include all Pacific taxa in Tropical Shearwater iaw Carboneras et al 2018. Howell & Zufelt 2019 erect all 4 as full spp (extralimital) & treat Little Shearwater Puffinus assimilis (as per IOC3.2) as comprising 4 ssp of WP Pacific/S Australian waters, all extralimital to Region.

Puffinus [bailloni] peracicus (formerly P. lherminieri peracicus)


Puffinus [bailloni] bailloni (formerly considered P. lherminieri bailloni)


Puffinus [bailloni] bailloni

Polytypic as per Howell & Zufelt 2019. Nominate more widespread in Indian Ocean than ssp col testimoni, which is considered rare and mostly confined to waters around Mohéli, Comoros. However, breeding in OSME Region waters. The nominate is therefore the taxon previously recorded in the OSME Region as Tropical Shearwater P. [lherminieri] bailloni.

Puffinus bailloni (formerly within Macaronian Shearwater PT)

Puffinus bailloni (formerly considered Puffinus [lherminieri] bailloni/boydi)

PT (Originally lumped with many other taxa under Audubon’s Shearwater P. lherminieri, firstly Macaronian Shearwater P. assimilis, then to the nominate, now complex, then to the nominate, this taxon split with ssp bailloni, thus leaving lherminieri as the monotypic Audubon’s Shearwater (English name restored). Howell & Zufelt 2019 suggest this complex best treated as 3 full ssp. H&M4 noted case for splits, listing 3 groups under P. lherminieri. BLSTD Sep 2019 remain with 3-taxa lumped P. lherminieri
**Ciconiidae**

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**391** Yellow-billed Stork  
*Mysticetes ibis*

Monotypic. Widespread resident African species (HBW1), occasional Egypt Goodman & Meininger 1989, but 50+ Abu Simbel May 2011 SG33(2), 76 in 2012 SG34(2) ATR & 500+ May 2016 DB38(4) p245; juvenile at Ras Gharib, Gulf of Suez Red Sea Apr 2017 DB39(2); 286 March 2016 DB38(2); 2 summered in Israel 2017 DB39(5); 341, Jordan Mitchell 2017: 186, vagrant S Turkey. Qatar Helter 2000 & UAE are escapes Aspinall & Porter 2011, two records of which in Oman are same birds OBL7. Egypt Avib, BE. RNWBS report one shipboard SE of Aden Sep 74 at 11:30:0.0N+46:0.0E.

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**392** African Openbill  
*Anastomus lamelligerus*

2 ssp. madagascanicus of W Madagascar & nominate whose nearest known breeding population Ethiopia. One photographed 26 May 2009 Crocodile Island, Luxor, Egypt, Steffen 2010, 1st for WP; accepted OBL7, SE of Socotra August Dec 2016 identifies small sea area off Ras' Fartak.

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**393** Abdim’s Stork  
*Ciconia abdimii*


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**PT** Woolly-necked Stork  
*Ciconia episcopus*

As well as forming an established superspecies with Storm's Stork C. stormi, Woolly-necked Stork has been split by HBW Alive into monotypic African Woollyneck *C. microlepis* and debiately polytypic Asian Woollyneck *C. episcopus*; extralimital spp neglecta (Far East, Sundas) may not be diagnosable. The HBW new English names are for birding insiders, but will be confusing to people whose first language is not English. We prefer to treat the split as potential, given that full justification has not been published, although subsection of EORC Collar 2015 note split published in del Hoyo & Collar 2014b on Tobias et al 2010 criteria. We know of no record of taxon microlepis in the Region, but it could wander into lower Egypt from Ethiopia & Eritrea, where fairly common migrant Ash & Atkins 2009.

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**PT** White Stork  
*Ciconia ciconia*

Recorded extensively in E of region as just ‘White Stork’ where a solution distributed, but consideration of species limits of ciconia & asialica requires all populations to be documented. Pread to make scrupulous observations to discover extent of anycline, hence separate entries here. R PT, split of extralimital Asian White Stork C. boyciana long accepted.

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**394** Western White Stork  
*Ciconia ciconia*

C & E Europe, Caucasus, Turkey, N&W Iraqi Salim et al 2012, Iran Khaleghizadeh et al 2018. Winters sub-Saharan Africa, funnel migration (see Berthold 1999) Levant, HBW1, common PM & VW Oman OBL7, some winter Pakistan regularly. Eastern European population migrating via Egypt & W Arabia less vulnerable to Sahel droughts than Western European population, because E Sahel used only as stopover in droughts, the wintering grounds extending beyond Ethiopia to E & S Africa Swets 2009, over 120,000 spring migration Zait Bay 260km S of Suez, Egypt Helgeroh et al 2009.. Egypt. Avib, BE.

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**395** Eastern White Stork  
*Ciconia ciconia asiatica*

Turkmenistan. Tajikistan, SE Kazakhstan (S Kazakhstan WAO 2007, very rare BM Wassin 2015b) 2nd winter record flock of 12 Zhambyl Province Wassin 2018, writers S Iran (Schuz 1959 cites 1913 record), Zarudny 1993 records breeding at Sistan (long since dry) which Khaleghizadeh et al 2017 consider probable. Winters Pakistan, India, HBW1; R&A 2012 presume wintering India is asialica, but unconfirmed. Scarce breeder E of Ferghan, Kyrgyz, Bukreex 2005 as forecasted Ven 2002 - also mapped passage Afghanistan R&A 2005 (rare migrant 1995 H&E), R&A 2012 map suggests summer breeder T Turkmenistan, S Uzbekistan. Predicted to occur UAE & Oman. 

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Sweetman et al 2017 assess ocean warming trends as likely to impact southern oceans, particularly the Indian Ocean, by steadily reducing both organic food density & oxygen content per decade through to 2100. Such trends would reduce resident and at-sea roosting seabird populations. Human fishing communities would also be badly affected.

Leptoptilos crumenifer
Fregatidae

Great Frigatebird
Fregata Minor

Lesser Frigatebird
Fregata ariel

Microcarbo pygmaeus
(Phalacrocoracidae

Fregatidae


Sula dactylatra

Sulidae

Sulidae

Phalacrocoracidae

Microcarbo basanus

Northern Gannet
Sula dactylatra

Cape Gannet


Microcarbo capensis

Monotypic. Occasional E Mediterranean coasts, HBW1, Syria to Egypt H&E 1970, eg Cyprus Apr 2011


Microcarbo niger


Phalacrocorax albus

Phalacrocoracidae

Microcarbo fuscicollis


Microcarbo capensis


Microcarbo capensis


Microcarbo capensis


Microcarbo capensis


Microcarbo capensis


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409 White-breasted Cormorant

Phalacrocorax [carbo] lucidus

Monotypic. African taxon reaches Region on Yemen side of Bab-al Mandab (Redman & Porte 2009) also Perim Island?) & probably irregular along adjacent E Red sea coast; vagrant Socotra Redman et al. 2009. One record inland Saudi Arabia Stagg 1985 Jennings 2010. NB1 Some individuals, possibly intermixes with taxon carbo, have little or no white. NB2 May reach southernmost Egyptian Lake Nasser; recorded in Sudanese part Nikolaou 1987.

410 Socotra Cormorant

Phalacrocorax nigrogularis

Vulnerable. Monotypic. SW Arabian waters, Socotra archipelago (not proven on Socotra islands) numbers 2750+ (globally significant) Porter & Suleiman 2014, breeds Gulf (27 300bp reported Hawar, Bahrain Jennings 2007b, 250,000 in 1972 on the then-uninhabited Zirku (Zurukh) island Stewart-Smith 1997, in 2016 almost none), southern Gulf coast, UAE Aspinall 1999 2010. Jenin 2010 prudently assesses Arabian as status 110,000bp, given mobility of species & disturbance-related avoid behaviour with 22K bp King 2018; usually commonly visit Oman, large winter roosts & flocks OBL7. Very local breeder S Iran coast, where 29jus recorded Jan 2009 Winkler et al. 2010, HBW1, confirmed scarce resident Iran Scott & Adhami 2006, Khaleghizadeh et al. 2017. NB earlier change to Leucocorax genus in limbo; for temp, they refer to some southern hemisphere taxon only; resolution awaited.

411 European Shag

Gulius aristotelis (Phalacrocorax aristotelis) (formerly Phalacrocorax aristotelis)

Only desmarestii of 3 ssp expected in Region. E Mediterranean, W Turkey (Nelson 2005), declining Cyprus H&M4 resequences families, genera & within genera, but we remain with IOC sequencing. Position of this taxon now resolved by Kennedy and Spencer 2014 who erect monotypic genus Gulius. NB desmarestii sometimes called ‘Mediterranean Shag’.

Anhingidae

412 Oriental Darter

Anhinga melanogaster

Monotypic. Recently reliably recorded in Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan 2014; considered accidental Aye et al 2012 Appendix 1. R&A 2012 mapped as wintering in Pakistan within 200km of Khyber: BLDZ map Jul 2017 shows presence just NE of Bannu, within 50km of Afghan border. NB Numerous isolated mangrove sites remain along coast from Pakistan through Iran to Oman. Parent Taxon: split is to extralimital monotypic Malagasy Sacred Ibis T. a. belgica, BL 2008, H&M4 (who resequence genera).

413 African Darter (Darter)

Anhinga melanogaster


Threskiornithidae

414 African Sacred Ibis

Threskiornis [aethiopicus] aethiopicus


415 Black-headed Ibis

Threskiornis melanopis

Sporadic vagrant Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan Avib 2014

416 Northern Bald Ibis (Formerly Waldrapp)

Geronticus eremita

**Little Bittern** *Ixobrychus minutus*

3 ssp, only nominate in Region. HM&4 surely in error list payesi as breeding in Yemen, since Jennings 2010 has no breeding records at all for Yemen; perhaps its occurrence on Socotra has misled? Breeds Caucasus, CA (common SB Kazakhstan Wassin 2015b), Iran, Iraq Salim et al 2012 (Afgahan Pakisn 1998 H&E 1970 R&A 2005), Perlim & Meyrav 2009, migrants expected en route to India, HBW1. Juvenile recorded Socotra 1996 Kiwran 1998. Thrily widespread migrant in Arabia, but increasingly breeding artificial wetlands Jennings 2010 as residents. Fairly common SM sometimes breeding Oman OBL7. Egypt Avib, BE.

**Yellow Bittern** *Ixobrychus sinensis*

Monotypic. Indian & SE Asian species, occasionally wanders W, following water availability, HBW1; biology Bubulcus ibis.

**Cinnamon Bittern** (formerly Chestnut Bittern) *Ixobrychus cinnamomeus*


**Dwarf Bittern** *Ixobrychus sturnii*


**Black Bittern** *Ixobrychus flavicollis* (Formerly Dupelov flavicollis )


**Cinnamon Crowned Night Heron** (formerly Night Heron) *Nycticorax nycticorax*

4 ssp, only nominate in western hemisphere. Breeds Caucasus, CA (common BM S half Kazakhstan Wassin 2015b), Iraq, N Iran, (Afgahan R&A 2005, 2012), Middle East, SB N Kyrgyzstan, Ven 2002, widely dispersive, winters to S CA, to Africa, including Red Sea, HBW1. Resident? & winters to S CA, may become common PM & WV, occasionally (since late 1980s) breeder Jennings 2010; common PM & WV Oman, some breeding OBL7. Egypt Avib, BE.

**Striated Heron** *Butorides striata*

1-26 ssp, only two resident in Region: brevipes (also in Somalia) Red Sea (including Aqaba Perlim & Meyrav 2005), now breeding Medcitkeval 2015, though BA Harrap & Butler 2013, 2014; breeding dispersal, HBW1; javanica (priority over chloropeus) increasingly fairly common resident in Gulf mangroves & islands Khaleghizadeh et al 2017, but birds in Gulf in winter may be from large Indian population javanica; see R&A 2005, 2012 (who map breeding very close to SE Afghan border in Pakistan); S-record vagrant Jordan JBRC, now regular in Aqaba.

**Intermediate Egret** *Casmerodius brevipes* (also in Somalia) Red Sea (including Aqaba Perlman & Meyrav 2005), now breeding Medcitkeval 2015, though BA Harrap & Butler 2013, 2014; breeding dispersal, HBW1; javanica (priority over chloropeus) increasingly fairly common resident in Gulf mangroves & islands Khaleghizadeh et al 2017, but birds in Gulf in winter may be from large Indian population javanica; see R&A 2005, 2012 (who map breeding very close to SE Afghan border in Pakistan); S-record vagrant Jordan JBRC, now regular in Aqaba.

**Squacco Heron** *Ardeola ralloides*


**Indian Pond Heron** *Ardeola grayii*


**Chinese Pond Heron** *Ardeola bacchus*

Monotypic. One record in Kyrgyzstan G&G 2005 considered uncertain Koblik & Arkhipov 2014; possibility of wanderers to Arabia from Mongolian population. Vagrant Oman, 2nd record Sep 2012 OBL7. One caught & released 2011 in Pakistan's Qumarber (Karamber) NP at a location less than 5km from the Wakhan palanhand, Afghanistan Khan et al 2015. NB Species' status in area between Mongolia and SE Asia was not known R&A 2012, but now rare, increasing PM large swathe of C Mongolia Gombobaatar & Leahy 2019.

**Malagasy Pond Heron** (formerly Madagascar Pond Heron) *Ardeola idae*

Endangered. Monotypic. Despite breeding Madagascar & wintering in E Africa N only to equator (HBW1), has been reached Arabia, specifically Socotra Applilai et al 2004. Ash 1983 logged 130 records in Somalia, even as far N as Haragey only 215km from southernmost Yemen. PT Cattle Egret PT

**Eastern Cattle Egret** *Bubulcus ibis* (May become Ardea ibis)

Easternmost records will refer to PT and may include coromandus, IOC4:1, R&A 2005 accept split, H&M4 does not. For ID & status, see Ahmed 2011a. NB Zhou et al 2014 place Bubulcus close to Ardea, thus questioning the validity of the former genus. However, Huang et al 2016 using bar-coding suggest that Bubulcus is closer to Egretta & Egretta is distinct from Ardea, while placing Great Egret in Casmerodius and intermediate Egret in Abrigothy; this paper did not look at the paper and was not examined, but instead relies upon referenced published bar-code sequences & an unpublished 2013 paper by Huang. Nevertheless Hruschka 2018 (thesis) strongly supports Zhou 2014 re close relationship to Ardea.

**Western Cattle Egret** (Cattle Egret) *Bubulcus ibis* (May become Ardea ibis)


**Eastern Cattle Egret** (Indian Cattle Egret) *Bubulcus ibis* coromandus (=B ibis coromandus) (May become Ardea ibis coromandus)


**Grey Heron** *Ardea cinerea*

Only nominate of 4 ssp recorded in Region. Colonial; widespread; sometimes local breeder N OSM Region, also Iran, Afghanistan (R&A 2005) WV common further S, HBW1, E European and Asian birds more likely to migrate long distances Zwarts et al 2009. 1st bred May 2016 DB38(4) p245. Status in Arabia: commonPM&WV, but perhaps some 2000p mostly Kuwait Jennings 2010; abundant PM & WV OBL7. Egypt Avib, BE.
Ardea melanophedra

Goliath Heron
Ardea goliath
Monotypic, African population extends to SW Arabia; drought-driven nomadism eg 30 Apr 43 Kut, Iraq Moore & Boswell 1941-46. Also breeds S Iraq (rare Salim et al., 2012, Iran HBW1 where decreasing Khaleghizadeh et al. 2017, vagrant Israel Perlman & Meyrav 2009, Egypt SG53(2) AT, breeding recorded Wadi Lahami, Egypt SW coast apr 2006 Crochet et al. 2018: one recorded there May 2018 DB40(4); 259. Status in Arabia: 27-30bp in Red Sea, semi-captive population PA Ain Zia UAE. 5 records Oman OBL7, 6th record Jan 2016 SG38(2); 232. 2 Mar 2016 IBRC. Egypt Avib. BE. NB Very rare winters birds in Bangladesh & coastal E India may be from Iraq or Iran breeding population.

Purple Heron
Ardea purpurea

PT Great Egret (Great White Egret) PT
Ardea alba
IOC1.6 raised Ardea (alba) modesta to full species. Eastern Great Egret; adopted Dong et al. 2010, but IOC2.10 reverted to subspecies status (aligning with the cautious argument of Pratt 2011 who suggests species limits of New World taxon are not well established), which we observe, pro tem; to this end, IOC3.5 proposes split of American Egret A. erythros. NB1 BirdLife, DB38(2) adopted A. NB2 Parkin & Knox 2010 note molecular data (Sheldon et al. 2008) & osteological analysis (McCracken & Sheldon 1998) indicate closer affinity with Ardea.

'Western Great Egret' (Great White Egret) (Great Egret)
Ardea (alba) (formerly Egretta alba)

'Eastern Great Egret' (Great Egret)
Ardea (alba) modesta

PT Intermediate Egret PT
Ardea intermedia (AOU prefers Mesophoyx)
del Hoyo et al. 2014b split to Yellow-billed Egret of Africa. Brachyryncha; Intermediate Egret of Indian subcontinent & extralimital Plumed EgretPlumigera; somewhat full species initiative at perlman et al. 2018. NB2 Sangster et al. 2015a note close phenotypic proximity of Intermediate and Great Egrets whose genetic divergence is no greater than that between Grey & Purple Herons, mitigating against separate genera for the former pair, given that reciprocal monophyly between the proposed Casmerodius & Ardea remains poorly supported; Intermediate Egret is thus best placed in Ardea. H&M agree, as does IOC6.2.

Intermediate Egret
Ardea (intermedia) intermedia
Accidental or vagrant in Region from Indian subcontinent, HBW1, but fairly common PM & WV Oman OBL7. 1st Qatar record Jan 2014 Morris 2014a, 2nd Mar 2019 QBR, 4th UAE record Al Badia, Dubai, 5th record Ras Al Khor Nov 2018 EBRC. 1st Iran record at K 127. NB Australian-New Guinea extralimital populations split as Plumed Egret A. plumifera by del Hoyo & Collar 2014b on Tobias et al. 2010 criteria: noted also in Inskipp & Collar 2015.

Yellow-billed Egret
Ardea (intermedia) brachyryncha

Black Heron (Black Egret)
Egretta ardesiaca
Monotypic. Sedentary African species has occurred Israel Shirihi 1999, HBW1, 1st record for Arabia adolphus 1964, Khaleghizadeh et al. 2017, abundant PM & WV Oman OBL7. Quite widespread in N Somalia Ash 1983, if differing names (Farakaro/Quardin) old & current gazetters are linked. Egypt Avib. BE.

Little Egret
Egretta garzetta
Only nominate of 3 spp recorded in Region. Breeds locally CA, winters Gulf, resident populations round Arabian coasts, HBW1, N&C Iran Khaleghizadeh 2009. 1st Oman record OBL7, resident W Afghanistan R&A 2005, 2012 (who also map TKM Amur Darya on N AFG border). Noticeable shift northwards of western wintering populations, thus vulnerable to cold weather rather than Sahel droughts Zwarts et al. 2009. Egypt Avib. BE. Koparde & Yésou 2017 record many probable hybrids with Indian Reef Egret E.(g.) schistacea in India & Sri Lanka. NB Huang et al 2016 note that garzetta shares one barcoding sequence with Neotropical Snowy Egret E. thula. Dutch Birding suggest that lumping may be called for, but because only 2 of the 4 garzetta samples in the COI phylogenetic tree align with the thula samples, interpretation of the results awaits deeper investigation.

PT Western Reef Heron PT
Egretta gularis
Monotypic. Widespread population on allopatry pro tem; extralimital 'Western Reef Egret' E.(g.) gularis occurs western Africa. Dimorphic Egret E.(g.) dimorpha Madagascar islands. del Hoyo et al. 2014c separate E. gularis from Pacific (Eastern) Reef Heron E. sacra, but retain as ssp schistacea & dimorpha. Further to Parkin & Knox 2010 who cited phylogeny of Little Egret E. garzetta molecular analysis (as would placement of extralimital Pacific Reef Egret E. sacra), Collinson et al. 2016 from shed feather of E.(g.) schistacea in Israel found closer affinities with two Little Egret E. garzetta from China than from Little Egrets from their western distribution, but a greater separation from extralimital Eastern Reef Heron E.(g.) sacra. Their E. gularis & E. garzetta subspp, were distant from all other Egretta spp, the closest of which was E. thula, Snowy Egret: these findings, and those of Huang et al 2016 (see above NB comment in Little Egret ORL entry) indicate that much needs to be learnt about the evolutionary history of all garzetta & gularis populations. It would be premature and unhelpful to amend ORL entries based on either Huang et al 2016 or Collinson et al 2016.

Indian Reef Heron (Indian Reef Egret)
Egretta (gularis) schistacea
Monotypic on grounds of fundamental allopatry from Dimorphic Egret E.(g.) dimorpha, although very limited overlap (Occasional)? - No interbreeding documented? E African coast. However, Koparde & Yésou 2017 record many probable hybrids with Little Egret E. garzetta in India & Sri Lanka, the closest of which was E. thula, Snowy Egret; these findings, and those of Huang et al 2016 (see above NB comment in Little Egret ORL entry) indicate that much needs to be learnt about the evolutionary history of all garzetta & gularis populations. It would be premature and unhelpful to amend ORL entries based on either Huang et al 2016 or Collinson et al 2016.

Scopidae

Hamerkop
Scopus umbretta

Pelecanidae

Hamerkop
Scopus umbretta

Pink-backed Pelican


Dalmatian Pelican

Endangered. Only taxon percruperoerus in region: scarce to rare summer breeder CA, Iran F-L&C (2005), southernmost Kazakhstan 80-100bp Wissink 2015b, range extension SW Kazakhstan Kyzylkum Martin et al 2018, commoner Afghanistan Argandeval 1983, once sporadically common Iraq Moore & Boswell 1956, breeds now only in N Salim et al 2012. Apr-Jun 2016 survey of Qara Dag & Khoshk mountain areas, a ridge between Kirkuk & Sulaymaniya found 500p SG39 (1ATR) sometimes winters Kyrgyzstan, Ven 2002, locally fair common BM Uzbekistan Martin et al 2014, uncommon BM Israel Perlman & Meyrav 2009, resident population Arabia mainland c 2000bp only 10% of 1960 figures Jennings 2010 (+ 500bp Soocator; c 800 pairs/1900 birds Porter & Suleiman 2012, regionally significant and at 3-9% of world population, globally significant Porter & Suleiman 2014) 2 pps. The records confirms Cyprus Sep 2015 180, 2 pps. The records confirm that the population of the place is increasing. As of now, the population is stable and the species is not considered endangered.

European Honey Buzzard (Formerly Western Honey-buzzard)

Neophron percnopterus

Gyps rueppelli


Crested Honey Buzzard (Formerly Oriental or Eastern Honey Buzzard)

Pernis apivorus

Pernis ptilorhyncus


Crested Honey Buzzard

Gyps himalayensis

Gyps bengalensis

Himalayan Griffon Vulture (Himalayan Vulture)

Griffon Vulture

Gyps fulvus

Taxon fulvus Caucasus, Iran, CA rare SE Kazakhstan W&O 2005 80-100bp Wissink 2015b, Iraq Moore & Boswell 1956. Apr-Jun 2016 survey of Qara Dag & Khoshk mountain areas, a ridge between Kirkuk & Sulaymaniya found 500p SG39 (1ATR) sometimes winters Kyrgyzstan, Ven 2002, locally fair common BM Uzbekistan Martin et al 2014, uncommon BM Israel Perlman & Meyrav 2009, resident population Arabia mainland c 2000bp only 10% of 1960 figures Jennings 2010 (+ 500bp Soocator; c 800 pairs/1900 birds Porter & Suleiman 2012, regionally significant and at 3-9% of world population, globally significant Porter & Suleiman 2014) 2 pps. The records confirm that the population of the place is increasing. As of now, the population is stable and the species is not considered endangered.

Endangered Asian Griffon Vulture (Griffon Vulture)

Gyps fulvus

Endangered. Only taxon percruperoerus in Region: scarce to rare summer breeder CA, Iran F-L&C (2005), southernmost Kazakhstan 80-100bp Wissink 2015b, range extension SW Kazakhstan Kyzylkum Martin et al 2018, commoner Afghanistan Argandeval 1983, once sporadically common Iraq Moore & Boswell 1956, breeds now only in N Salim et al 2012. Apr-Jun 2016 survey of Qara Dag & Khoshk mountain areas, a ridge between Kirkuk & Sulaymaniya found 500p SG39 (1ATR) sometimes winters Kyrgyzstan, Ven 2002, locally fair common BM Uzbekistan Martin et al 2014, uncommon BM Israel Perlman & Meyrav 2009, resident population Arabia mainland c 2000bp only 10% of 1960 figures Jennings 2010 (+ 500bp Soocator; c 800 pairs/1900 birds Porter & Suleiman 2012, regionally significant and at 3-9% of world population, globally significant Porter & Suleiman 2014) 2 pps. The records confirm that the population of the place is increasing. As of now, the population is stable and the species is not considered endangered.

NE Afghanistan R&A 2005 rare Critically Endangered
462 Cinereous Vulture (Eurasian Black Vulture) Aegypius monachus


463 Lappet-faced Vulture (Nubian Vulture) Torgos trachelotus (formerly Torgos tracheliotus, Aegypius tracheliotus)

Endangered. Reversion to Torgos IOC v2.3. Sub-Saharan African spp tracheliotus wanders F-L&C 2005, to E Egypt H&M4, spp negevensis UAe Aspinall 1996: reintroduction scheme Israel releases post-2016; c600bp, mostly C Arabia, also some UAE, Oman (where common breeding resident & WV OBL7) & E Yemen, until 1980s reported as Eurasian Griffon Vulture Gyps fulvus; plains inhabitant, population seemingly increasing Arabia Jennings 2010. Egypt 20 reported Apr 2010 Bir Shalatein Halabi Triangle DB32(3): 205, 19 in Feb 2016 DB39(2): 126, resident Halabi Triangle Dropa 2019. NB Final spotting tracheliotus IOC3.2 (Roockmaier 1980 citing Forsler 1796 in which tracheliotus is badly printed (p362, last line), the second ‘o’ having an open loop).

464 Short-toed Snake Eagle (Short-toed Eagle) Circaetus gallicus

C. heptneri claimed Turkmensitan, Bukreev 1997, but now subsumed within nominate Dickinson 2003, but extralatral spp sacerotis now known from Lesser Sundas, Caucasus, CA (rare Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b), BM Afghanistan Madge 1980, probably Afghanistan F-L&C (2005), likely rare/ancient Argandeval 1983 in Afghan Pammiri (resident Indian population also reaches SE Afghanistan R&A 2005), fairly common SV Caspian lowlands Iran, scarce elsewhere Khaleghizadeh et al 2017, Iraq Ararat et al 2011, Israel & (passage) Perlman & Meyrav 2009. Status in Arabia: passage migrant, winterer, but a few scattered breeding records, where birds may be resident (historical lack of observers?) Jennings 2010: common PM & WV Oman, has bred OBL7. Egypt Avib, BE

465 Bateleur Terathopius ecaudatus

Monotypic. Recorded Egypt, west coast of Gulf of Suez, Red Sea, near Ras Shuqeir, some 120 kms north of Hieraaetus wahlbergi

466 Mountain Hawk-Eagle Nisaetus nipalensis

BLDZ maps close (3km) to Afghan border in Pakistan, SSW Mirkhani-Arandu for 22km & S into Afghanistan below Arandu for 10km, then SSEE for 10km within 5km of Afghan border Jan 2020. We interpret this as the occurrence of the nominate. In Claro, javan hystaspis is basal.

Lerner et al. 2017 erect a new phylogeny and taxonomy of the Accipitridae. In Claro, javan hystaspis is basal.

467 Lesser Spotted Eagle Clanga pomarina (formerly Aquila (pomarina) pomarina)


468 Greater Spotted Eagle Clanga clanga (formerly Aquila clanga)


469 Indian Spotted Eagle Clanga beli (formerly Aquila (pomarina) beli)

Vulnerable. Monotypic. IOC v2.3, BirdLife 2007, R&A 2005 accept Indian Spotted Eagle as A. beli, as per Viti 2006, now as IOC. Zarudny 1911 assessed as rare breeder in southern Iranian Baluchestan. We note Ayé et al 2012 Aye 1 citing Afghanistan & Turkmenistan reports of pomarina/hastata but give Sangster of 2013 cautioning: we speculate these records should be viewed as possible sightings. Although breeding Azerbaijan, these may still winter. Many records in western Iran when wintering were complete. Iranian collections may hold specimens under Lesser Spotted Eagle A. pomarina: may be closer to African genus Lophaetus Helbig et al 2005. Lerner & Mindell 2005. Endangered >=500 but Mike Maciorowski 2018 assessed: R&A 2012 show fairly continuous reduced to W of NW India, Gilgit-Shahs, but acknowledge many records to NW Afghanistan & Tajikistan, largely based on scarce & (incipient) distribution maps close (3km) to Afghan border in Pakistan, SSW Mirkhani-Arandu for 22km & S into Afghanistan below Arandu for 10km, then SSEE for 10km within 5km of Afghan border Jan 2020. We interpret this as the occurrence of the nominate. In Claro, javan hystaspis is basal.

470 Wahlberg’s Eagle Hieraaetus wahlbergi


471 Booted Eagle Hieraaetus pennatus (recently Aquila pennata, which had superseded earlier treatment as Hieraaetus pennatus)


PT Tawny/Indian Tawny/ Steppe Eagle PT Aquila rapax/vindhiana/nipalensis

Older records of Parent Taxon likely unclear as to which present-day taxon was recorded, but significant skull structure differences suggest separation of nipalensis was ancient. Prudent to treat separately pro tem.
**Indian Tawny Eagle**

*Aquila (rapax) vindhiana*

**Vulnerable.** Sedentary Indian subcontinent; treated here separately from sedentary SW Arabian *A. (r.) belisarius*: R&A 2012 retain in rapax, mapping residency near Khyber. Iraqi record Ticehurst et al 1921-23. One collected Iran 1901 (Zarudny), Roselaar & Alibandian 2010, 1970s sight records Iran (D Scott, R. Porter pers obs). Jennings 2010 suggests *A. rapax* records from E Africa (Nov-Mar) likely include vindhiana, BOL7 concurs. Lerner et al 2017 note minimal plumage and genetic differences with *A. rapax* in Africa. Nevertheless, in the absence of evidence of gene flow other than by stragglers between the S Asia and (largely) African populations, we invoke the null hypothesis that these are separate conservation units worthy of recognition. Earlier status, breeding or rare resident Iran Scott & Ashdadi 2006; (Jul 2016) & Khahezhizadeh et al 2016 agree. Has probably bred SE Iranian Baluchestan since Zarudny 1911, always in small numbers. Mapped wintering to SE Iran Arlot 2002 & rec 2010. At least 5 recorded Gwadar near Pakistan border 2009 or slightly further W along Iran coast winter Jan 2009 Lantsheer & Vermoolen 2009, which document is in final version of Amini & van Roojen 2009. In addition to these recent sight records, BLDZ map Jul 2017 indicates presence in SW Iran over an area ofc 1600km². Intriguingly, it excludes the Bahouказal Protected Area, a 35km-wide buffer zone near the Pakistan Border. Khahezhizadeh et al 2017 assess as local resident in SE Iranian Baluchestan.. NB1 1901 Zarudny specimen in AMNH New York. NB2 Iran ‘Zarudny specmen may be nipalensis A Khahezhizadeh pers comm). NB3 Destruction of open woodland since 1960s likely deters wanderers. NB4 BLDZ Jul 2017 maps in Pakistan to within 90km of Afghan border near Gwadar, & rare resident near W Pakistan-Iran border & resident Pakistan Khyber Naoroji 2006. Roberts 1991 map suggests breeding likely in tiny area of Afghanistan N of Khyber; Paludan 1959 notes one sight record, but by Meinezharnen & so is discounted. H&E 1970 mapped Iran from Straits of Hormuz to Pakistan to c28°N.

**'African Tawny Eagle'**

*Aquila (rapax) rapax*

**Vulnerable.** In OSME Region, ssp belisarius uncommon sedentary resident SW Arabia (ssp rapax largely sub-equatorial Africa) F-L&C 2005, Jennings E 2010 (c). Has occurred Egypt, latest being May 2015 Marsa Alam EORC; earlier records doubtful, including putative 1st record of Meinezharnen. Israeli vragrant Perlman & Meyraov 2009, 6th record NW Negev July 2016 DB315(5): 331 SG331ATR. Pre-split from Stepp Eagle *A. nipalensis* F-L&C 2001 map this sp also as occurring near Iran-Pakistan coast. F-L&C (2005) omit this area but indicate that the line of separation for Indian Tawny Eagle *A. (r.) vindhiana* covers that location in Iran and also E Oman: Jennings 2010 suggests records (Nov-Mar) from E Arabia likely *A. (r.) vindhiana*, BOL7 concuring. Wintered Iran Seistan & N Baluchestan Zarudny 1911, but that likely relates to all 33 taxa being treated as a single species. Egypt Avib, BE 1924 record Ew, but associated with Meinezharnen, all of whose records are suspect unless verifiable - Garfield 2007.

**Steppe Eagle**

*Aquila nipalensis*


**Eastern Imperial Eagle**

*(Asian Imperial Eagle)*

*Aquila heliaca*


**PT Golden Eagle PT**

*Aquila chrysaetos*

Lerner & Mindell 2005 refined raptor relationships, then with advanced techniques, Nebeel et al 2015 examined the mtDNA lineage of Golden Eagles, finding bias towards Palearchestic taxon *A. (c.)* belisarius, northern haplotype that largely coincided with the distribution of homeyeri, & a northern haplotype that appeared in all other Holarctic populations. The 2 haplotypes likely originated from separate glacial refugia that reconfigured different regions at different times. Other molecular techniques would be required to determine if there was any evidence to discriminate in favour of the ssp chrysaetos, daphiana, kamschatcica, although Nearctic birds and kamschatcica are similarly sized. Doyle et al 2016 analyse the genetic structure in Nearctic Golden Eagle populations and find 4 distinct populations within taxon canadensis: the preservation of their genetic variability would require each population to be treated as a distinct management unit. Sonsthagen et al 2012 studied a population of Golden Eagles that had colonised offshore islands in California (max sea crossing 42km), finding rapid reduction of genetic diversity in only 15 years, gene-flow from the main breeding having stopped because all island territories were occupied and defended. These 3 papers provide a circumstantial basis for listing separately the 3 groupings occurring in the OSME Region. NB1 H&M4 recognise 6 Golden Eagle ssp: chrysaetos (Europe [less Iberia] to Yenisey: daphiana to SW & C China, S to WAC kamschatcica, NE China); Japenese, Mongolian, Russian (Korea, Japan); homeyeri (Iberia, N Africa, Middle East, Arabia to Caucasus Iran & E Uzbekistan & isolate in Ethiopia); canadensis Alaska, Canada, US, NW Mexico. NB2 Nebeel et al 2015 comment on closeness of canadensis & kamschatcica. NB3 Many Golden Eagle populations remain unsampled or poorly known.

**'Northern Golden Eagle'**

*Aquila (chrysaetos) chrysaetos*

English name informal@OSME. Palearchestic taxon boundaries are uncertain, hence contradictory conclusions between pre-2012 authors re taxon distributions. We tentatively accept daphiana, taxon japaonica being of uncertain affinity. Nebeel et al 2015 found homeyeri haplotype distribution extended N of Mediterranean to Alps & E to Turkey, noting presence of chrysaetos haplotypes within some northern homeyeri populations, but whether this represents long-established or more recent gene-flow is not yet known. All non-homeyeri' populations in Region share mtDNA with Europe & rest of Eurasia including some at least of North America (which may have a 3rd or more lineages) Nebeel et al 2015, Doyle et al 2016. English name informal@OSME. NB1 kamschatcica we regard as occurring Altiay & may be synonymous with canadensis [‘American Golden Eagle’ English name informal@OSME], perhaps one reason for Wassink 2015 allotting E Kazakhstan birds to canadensis: that if there is transboundary movement of American Swallow Hirundo (rustica) erythrogaster, Northern Shrike Lanius borealis & American Herring Gull/Vega Gull Larus (smithsonianus) vegae. NB2 taxon daphiana we regard as probably occurring Tajikistan/Kyrgyzst/Zoubekistan/Afghanistan/Afghanistan mountains.
**Aquila verreauxii** (Verreaux's Eagle) which English name informal@OSME; certainly Nebel et al 2015 noted closeness of canadensis & kamtschatica, which pro tem we infer is therefore within the canadensis group. This appears to be the reason for Wassink 2015 allotting E Kazakhstani birds to canadensis: that should be born out, 'American Golden Eagle' would mirror the Eastern Paleartic distributions of American Swallow Hirundo rustica) erythropus, Northern Shrike Lanius borealis and American Herring Gull/Vega Gull Larus smithsonianus) wage.

**Accipiter badius** (Levant Sparrowhawk) Tihama Shikra) (English name informal@OSME, less than annual PM Cyprus. However, the Tihama Shikra may well qualify either as a separate ssp, or even as a full species, due to。

**Aquila fasciata** (formerly Micronisus gabar) (Caucasus, Iraq Ararat et al 2011 fairly common & widespread in Iranian mountains Khaledzhadeh et al 2017, CA) (Kazakh ssp sphenura & daphanea Ayé et al 2012, but Wassink 2015gs gives sphenura [N half Kazakhstan] & canadensis instead of daphanea [S half], the implications of which, as a taxon previously considered solely Nearctic, are considerable, Iran, F-L&C (2005) exist as far as Buhlan Nacroo 2006. Recent resident & visitor Israel Perlman & Meyrav 2009: Status in Arabia: locally widespread uncommon resident (c.250bp) population trend uncertain, possible Oman montane decline possibly offset by increased carrion from irrigated area stock farms Jennings 2010, but OBL7 confirms decline, possibly to non-breeder. Egypt Avib, BE. NB ssp sphenura likely occurs sporadically in N Kazakhstan (it occurs from Europe to Yeniseyi valley H&M).
489 **Eurasian Sparrowhawk** (Northern Sparrowhawk)  

**Accipiter nisus**  

May move to  

tachypiza  

Breman et al. 2012 suggest non-monophyly of *A. nisus*, but complexity demands more detailed research. *A. nisus* is a complex of birds that differs in plumage, behavior, and vocalizations, and has been divided into several subspecies.  

490 **Northern Goshawk**  

**Accipiter gentilis**  

Circus pygargus  

Milvus milvus  

Circus cyaneus  

PT  

**Northern Goshawk PT**  

Within *A. gentilis* Breman et al. 2012 find two strongly diverged haplotypes (c.2.8%) that correspond to the taxa *A. g. atricapillus* (*atricapillus, laiong, apache*) from N America and W Mexico & to *A. gentilis* (*gentilis, marginatus, schvedowi, buteoides *3 extralimital taxa) that occur in Europe, Asia & extreme NW Africa. This DNA bar-coding study, though strong, would benefit from support from other taxonomic groups. Kunz et al. 2019 examine all taxa of the Northern Goshawk *A. gentilis* superspecies: the Holarctic Northern Goshawk *A. gentilis*, & the extralimital Meyer's Goshawk *A. meyerianus* (New Guinea), Henst's Goshawk *A. henstii* (Madagascar) & Black Goshawk *A. melanoceus* (rare in the arid & montane region of SE Sudan, Eritrea, Djibouti) just into Somalia to C Ethiopia & NE South Sudan): the 3 Neartic taxa formed a monophyletic group distinct from all other taxa, thus supporting Breman et al. 2012; other DNA techniques would need to confirm this, but *pro tem* we recognise *A. gentilis* *atricapillus* informally as “North American Goshawk”. “Eurasian Goshawk” *A. gentilis* taxa are all quite closely related. There is some evidence that Meyer’s Goshawk from the extreme NW African region, and the extralimital Goshawks, may be related to each other, and thus a close to “Eurasian Goshawk” but as a single species, this remains uncertain. Any future reassessment of its relationship to OSME Region taxa will have little practical effect. NB Black Sparrowhawk *C. melanoleucus* (Africa) is closely related to *A. gentilis*, but not to *A. atricapillus* Breman et al. 2012: BLDZ Apr 2019 map suggests occurs along or close to Gulf of Ader/Red Sea coast west from Jiddh in NE Somalia to Tokar in E Sudan and is a potential vagrant via islands in OSME Region. However, map in Kunz et al. 2019 indicates a much more reduced & fragmentary distribution in that area, away from the coast entirely except, oddly for a much larger NE Somalia distribution, E to Maydh.  

491 **Western Marsh Harrier** **Circus aeruginosus**  


492 **Eastern Marsh Harrier** **Circus splonoton** (formerly C. aeruginosus splonoton)  

Monotypic (Oatley et al. 2015 removed ssp spolthorax, reassigning it to the Pacific [Australasian] Harrier *C. approximans*). Probably occurs E Kazakhstan, E Tajikistan, E Kyrgyzstan, F-L&C (2005); single-vagrant E Kazakhstan Wassin 2015b; two collected Iran 1986, 1990 Zeruza et al. 2006; hybrid occurred in Egypt, Avib, BE.  

493 **Northern Harrier PT**  

**Circus cyaneus**  

Split in IOC2.11 monotypy to Northern Harrier C. (*c*.) hudsonicus and Hen Harrier C. (*c*.) cyaneus del Hoyo et al. 2014 & reinforced by Oatley et al. 2015, who show C. hudsonicus to be sister taxon to Cinerous Harrier C. cinnereus, the pair being sister group to C. cyaneus. Sangster et al. 2015b agrees. Etherington & Mobley 2016 provide evidence for separate species.  

494 **Hen Harrier (Northern Harrier)**  

**Circus c. cyaneus**  


495 **Palid Harrier** **Circus macrourus**  


496 **Montagu’s Harrier** **Circus pygargus**  


497 **Red Kite** **Milvus milvus**  

Probably not common in Region & now mostly irregular and rare. Uncommon summer & passage migrant Turkey Kirwan et al. 1999, no evidence of breeding Kirwan et al. 2014. Vagrant Israel Perlman & Meyrav 2009. Best regarded as former vagrant to Iraq, F-L&C (2005). S spring migrants 1956 S Caspian Schüz 1959. Persistent poorly-documented sightings Afghanistan R&A 2005. Winter vagrancy Iran (Scott & Adhami 2006) rare S Caspian WV Klhaghiehdez et al. 2017 (see also).species needs more work (qv) or reddish-tailed (migratory) individuals, but note first that Scheider et al. 2004, 2009 confirmed that “African Black Kite” M. [marginals] parasitic is closer to Red Kite M. milvus than M. migrans; Scheider 2009 also suggest that aegyptius origin perhaps from M. milvus (interbreeding) with M. migrans taxa possibly continuing) & that lineages closer to govidiana than to migrans. Also note that Johnson et al. 2005 revealed differences between parasitic and M. [m.] aegyptius populations; perhaps former may be closer to Red Kite and the latter to Black Kite. Egypt Avib, BE.
Milvus migrans

Old & quite recent records both may refer only to Parent Taxon and include lineatus under migrans. IOC2.7 split of Yellow-billed Kite M. aegyptius. Hereenberg et al 2016: sampling 311 birds from C Europe (mtDNA & nuclear DNA of 184 M. milvus, 124 M. migrans and 3 F1 hybrid individuals) found populations of both examined species were characterized by a high gene flow within populations, with all of the major haplotypes widely distributed. They did not find mtDNA of one species in individuals with the plumage of the other species, except in F1 hybrids, which agrees with Haldane's Rule. Andreyenkova et al 2019 suggest from small sample that taxon relationships complex & call for further study. NB1 Even with hundreds of birdwatchers present in Dec 2010 in Gujrat, I alone showed interest in trying to ID the next 3 taxa (NB pers oba) NB3 Andreyenkova et al 2018, in a preliminary examination of data-depleted populations from the eastern Palearctic and India, found ancestral genetic connection between migrans, lineatus and goinda populations; & several specimens may have two lines of ancestry (heteroplasmy). Andreyenkova et al 2019 consider the taxon aegyptius & parasitus perhaps are separate species, but together they are separate from migrans.


501 White-tailed Eagle (Formerly White-tailed Fish or Sea Eagle) **Haliaeetus albicilla** Bred Turkey – E Iran H&E 1970. Rare, quite widespread rare or scarce breeder Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b, likely also Tajikistan, Kyrgyzstan, F-L&C (2005); former Kyrgyzzstan breeder, but common winterer Ven 2002, uncommon resident common WW S Caspian Iran, less so elsewhere KhaleghiZadeh et al 2017. Severe decline in breeding population in Iran Arshoo et al 2019a. Re-introduced Israel Perlman & Meyrav 2009, 1st wild pair for 70 years bred 2015 DB37(4), 3rd record Kuwait Nov 2015 (all juveniles), 4th Jahlra Feb 2017 KORC, 5th there Dec 2017 KORC; in winter Afghanistan R&RA 2005, on passage Kabul Region Argandeval 1983 also wintering Indian subcontinent Naoroji 2006, Rare breeder, common winterer Iran Scott & Adhami 2006, Egypt Avib, BE


**PT** Buzzard Superspecies PT **Buteo [buteo/rufinus/hameliasus/oroepilus]** Haring et al 1999 first proposed from a detailed genetic study that Common Buzzard Buteo buteo, Long-legged Buzzard B. rufinus, Upland Buzzard B. hemeliasus (then classed as B. rufinus) & Mountain Buzzard B. oroepilus formed a superspecies; B. oroepilus is extralimital to the OSMS Region, in eastern & southern African 'sky islands'. However, the relationships between Buteo taxa remained undefined. Riesing et al 2003 examined relationships between Buteo taxa within the Nearctoc and Paleartic, finding inter aila that japonicas, hemeliasus & refecus were close to all taxa within the then-defined B. buteo. Jowers et al 2019 (accepted paper) focused on the taxa within the Buzzard superspecies via a battery of DNA techniques. Among other results, the authors best considered an allotypes of Common Buzzard (buteo, vulpinus), although is has two lines of ancestry, the other being Long-legged Buzzard (rufinus); the Buzzard superspecies concept as here considered is valid, as is the separate identity of B. hemeliasus.

**PT** Buzzard/Common Buzzard PT **Buteo [buteo] buteo** Superspecies as per Jowers et al 2019. Although taxon buteo is molecularly close to vulpinus, the range of techniques applied has been limited, but menetriesi clusters with vulpinus Kruckenhauser et al 2004, since that paper, little work has been done on the vulpinus/menetriesi relationship & so we list each taxon separately pro tem. Note that since menetriesi in Turkey breeds almost as far west as goes further north, the informal names of 'Northern' and 'Southern' are more appropriate than earlier versions.


507 'Southern Steppe Buzzard' (Southern Steppe Buzzard, 'Caucasian Buzzard') **Buteo buteo menetriesi** Seditary. Turkey Kirwan et al 2008; B. b. menetriesi Turkmenistan, Bukreev 1997. Turkey, Caucasus to Iran, common resident S Caspian Iran KhaleghiZadeh et al 2017, Iraq Ararati et al 2011 (likely cline vulpinus/menetriesi). English name informal@OSME. NB DB 2009 call ssp menetriesi Caucasian Buzzard, which Schüz 1995 reported as common breeder in foothills of S Caspian.

508 'North African Buzzard' **Buteo [buteo] cirtensis** Jowers et al 2019 confirm two lines of ancestry in taxon cirtensis: buteo+vulpinus + rufinus; balance of genetic information obtained clearly supports taxon cirtensis placement as allotypes of B. buteo & not of B. rufinus. Taxon cirtensis (N Africa & recently S Spain taxon) casual breeder in Region, scarce passage, winter Egypt (Istvan Moldován in litt); one cirtensis ringed Eliy Yosef et al 2002, one Qatar Nov 2016 QBCR, uncommon breeding resident Oman OBL7,3, rare breeding resident UAE EBCR. English name informal@OSME, based on Jowers et al assignment as allotypes of B. buteo. Dutch Birding 2011 WP list assigned name Atlas Long-legged Buzzard.

**PT** Long-legged Buzzard PT **Buteo rufinus** Formerly considered within Parent Taxon to form superfamilies with Upland Buzzard B.(r.) hemeliasus, but now placed closer to B.(b.) japonicas; although rufinus/hemeliasus hybridisation does occur; likely also with japonicas in places?

**Upland Buzzard**

*Buteo [buteo] hemilasius*


**Eastern Buzzard PT (Common Buzzard)**

*Buteo japonicus*

Jowers et al 2019 propose full species. PT previous history: IOC2.0, H&M4 accepted split of *B. japonicus* and also of Himalayan Buzzard *B. (b.) refectus* Lermer et al 2008; IOC2.7 revised as *B. brunicus*; this name claimed as priority (Penhallurick & Dickinson 2008) over *refectus*: the priority case therein was compiled & inserted by the lead author alone; this disc 2012, superseded by Dickinson & Svensson 2012, in which the name *B. hodgsoni* is erected for (extralimital) eastern Himalayan populations. However, exactly which populations comprise brunicus, japonicus, or even hemilasius is far from clear. BLDZ Sep 2018 maps Himalayan Buzzard (as *B. refectus*) along Himalayan southern flank from Islamabad Pakistan E to Arunachal Pradesh in NE India, but also maps Japanese Buzzard (as *B. japonicus*) as wintering exactly in the same area (and points E & S). Kruckenhausen et al 2004 note that *B. buteo* can be regarded as a superspecies with rufinus taxa. Nevertheless, Lindholm & Forsten 2013 suggest a practical pro tem arrangement would confine *B. japonicus* to Japan & islands Korea & Manchuria, with brunicus being a BM in N China & Siberia & refectus being the taxon in Himalayas & C China mountains, but as spp of japonicus (Perhaps worth a small wager?). NB Dickinson & Walters 2006 originally had recommended priority for B. plumipes, now superseded by hodgsoni.; H&M4 treat *B. refectus* as full sp.

**Eastern Buzzard (Himalayan Buzzard)**

*Buteo japonicus refectus* (B. refectus H&M4)


**Barn Owl PT**

*Tyto alba*

IOC2.0, H&M4 originally split Barn Owl into Western *Tyto* (alba) alba, extralimital Eastern *T.(a.) deliculata* Barn Owl of Lesser Sundas, Australia & sundaic islands between & also E to Pacific islands (the initial split had referred to *janus* of Malay Peninsula, Greater & (part) Lesser Sundas, but javanica & also stertens of Indian Subcontinent were then grouped in *T. alba*) and extralimital Andaman (Barn) Masked Owl *T.(a.) deroepstorfi*, Wink et al 2004b, Christidis & Boles 2008. Consequently, IOC2.5-6.2 listed javanica & stertens under *T. alba*. However, Aliaabadian et al 2018 from their results devised Clades for the barn owl complex & showed that javanica & stertens belong to the deliculata Clade and not the alba Clade; consequently, the name javanica had priority over deliculata for that geographically much-enlarged Clade; Uva et al 2018 strongly support Aliaabadian et al 2016. Eaton et al 2016 note that good vocal and plumage differences yet to be documented. Note stertens, from the maps in BLDZ & Xeno-canto map for (implied) the resident ssp. The taxon throughout Himalayan chain that R&A 2012 map fairly close to Afghan border at N Nuristan (winter) & Wakhan (breeding) as *T. deliculata*. The taxon throughout Himalayan chain that R&A 2012 map fairly close to Afghan border at N Nuristan (winter) & Wakhan (breeding) as *B. rufinus*. Nevertheless, Lindholm & Forsten 2013 suggest a practical pro tem arrangement would confine *B. japonicus* to Japan & islands Korea & Manchuria, with brunicus being a BM in N China & Siberia & refectus being the taxon in Himalayas & C China mountains, but as ssp of japonicus (Perhaps worth a small wager?). NB See PT Notes above; B. brunicus is included in the ORL Hypothetical List

**Western Barn Owl**

*Tyto (alba) alba*


**Eastern Barn Owl**

*Tyto (alba) javanica*

Only ssp likely in Region stertens H&M4, but antedating Aliaabadian et al 2016, was allocated to T. alba. BLDZ map Jul 2019 for ‘Barn Owl’ & Xeno-canto map for (implied) stertens area Aug 2016 indicate presence in Afghanistan NW of Torkham border post on Peshawar-Jalalabad road (ample habitat just ESE of Jalalabad); only likely taxon is stertens, the presence of Eastern *Tyto* ssp within the ORL Region being strongly supported by attributing ssp stertens & javanica to Eastern Barn Owl, formerly T. deliculata, now through naming priority, T.(a.) javanica, as do Uva et al 2018.

**Collared Scops Owl PT (Indian Scops Owl)**

*Otus bakkamoena*

IOC1.6 splits Collared Scops Owl. English name Collared Scops Owl now applies to extralimital taxon O [b.] lettea. Remaining splits are Indian Scops Owl *Otus [bakkamoena] bakkamoena* (just in Region) and extralimital Japanese Scops Owl O [b.] semitorques and Sunda Scops Owl O [b.] tempiji. H&M4 await better definition of vocal repertoires. NB Pons et al 2013 split Scootan (scootanus) as originating from Indian Ocean/Indo-Malayan clade and Arabian (pamelae) as early offshoot of East African clade.

**Indian Scops Owl**

*Otus [bakkamoena] bakkamoena*

SE Afghanistan ssp deserticolor König et al 1999, König & Weick 2008 (=K&W 2008); may occur SE Iran. R&A suggest Indian subcontinent endemic resident, although mapped exactly to Afghan border, where overlaps with summer-breeding O. scoops. However, BLDZ map May 2017 includes a long sliver of Afghanistan centred on the Golum River, the distribution covering up to 5km from Pakistan.
510. **Pallid Scops Owl** (Striated or Bruce’s Scops Owl)  
*Otus brucei*  
Confirmed as full species Pons et al. 2013, but as early offshoot of Indian Ocean/Indo-Malayan clade. Rare, declining SE Anatolia (obsolescence) Kivanc et al. 2008, N Middle East, once thought rare winterer S Israel Perlman & Meyrv 2009 but now known as sympatric breeder with Eurasian Scops Owl *O.* osp Riff Valley Ben Dov & Kiat 2016, CA (C & S) summer breeder in semi-open areas Ayre et al. 2012, uncommon Turkmenistan Russtats 2015, rare BM Sse Kazakh Wassink 2015b; Afghanistan (Wakhân Paludan 1959) König 1959, formerly (?b) bred for 105; Murdoch & Betton 2010. 10 years Dead Sea area, Israel 5 territories 10 confirmed breeding pairs Ben Dov & Kiat 2016; thinly widespread resident/summer breeder Iraq Salim et al. 2012, probably fairly common resident or SV & E Iran Khaledzadeh et al. 2017; 3100 obs/225 spisites? pairs Armenia Jennings 2007a, revised to 2600obs 2007 Jennings 2016; breeding exuus confirmed only E UAE, NE Oman where uncommon. First photograph between Shalateen and Berenice (Baranis); SE Egypt Dec 2018 SGAATR1(1); records from W Saudi & elsewhere considered migrant obs/obseus from further N. Present all “stains” (K-M & M 2005) brush & SSE of Arabian Flit et al. 1884; resident Uzbekistan (Kreuzburg-Mukhina et al. 2005), exuus NE UAE Aspinall 1996, Iran Scott & Adhami 2006; mostly W Kyrgyzstan; Yemen, 2002; obsolescent breeder S-C & SE Khaledzadeh WAO 2007 to N Afghanistan H&M4. BLIZ map Mar 2018 shows as SB N, NE, E & SE Afghanistan, Egypt Avib, BE.

516. **Arabian Scops Owl**  
*Otus pamelae* (*Otus* [sengalensis] pamelae)  

517. **Eurasian Scops Owl** (European or Common Scops Owl)  
*Otus [scops] scops*  

518. **Cyprus Scops Owl**  
*Otus [scops] cyprinus*  
Cyprus endemic taxon cyprinus H&E 1970, named Cyprus Scops Owl in 2001 by Flint et al. 2001 and listed by Dutch Birding 2011, 2011, 2015 contra Mikkola 2012 suggestion that it occurs Asia Minor. Taxon probably partially migratory, but migratory component may be reduced due to more benign winters in Cyprus Flint & Richardson 2017. Elevated IOC6.3. BLI.

519. **Socotra Scops Owl**  
*Otus [sunnia] socotranus*  

520. **Snowy Owl**  
*Bubo scandiacus* (*formerly* Nyctea scandiaca) IOC1.1  

521. **Eurasian Eagle Owl** (Eurasian Eagle-Owl)  
*Bubo bubo*  

522. **Byzantine Eagle Owl** (Eurasian Eagle-Owl)  
*Bubo (bubo) interopositus*  
523 Pharaoh Eagle Owl (Desert Eagle Owl)

**Bubo ascalaphus**

Monotypic. *Wink et al* 2008 confirm taxonomic status, H&M4, Sangster et al 2013. *Collar & Boesman* 2019 agree. Formerly (still?) from Western Desert Egypt, Goodman et al. 1986 through Egypt N to Syria (note uncommon S IsraelPerlman & Meyrow 2009); E to Gulf, SE to Oman, *WBG*, vagrant Bahrain Mitchell 2017, W Iraq K&W 2008 who note sympatric with *B. (b.) interporitus* (H&E suggest reached al-Hashid in W Iraq); confirmed breeding 2011 al-Shieky 2012. Status in Arabia: widespread resident, c2500pbb Jennings 2010; indications of spread adjacent to irrigated areas; rare widespread resident breeder Oman *OBL*. K&W 2008 treat ascalaphus as monotypic, subsuming desertion (*Desert Owl*); more field research needed, including sizable (*Svensson et al.* 2009) extralimital distribution of Sudan to Ethiopia & W Libya-Tunisia to Chad-Mauritania. Egypt Avib, NE. *NB* May have reached Iran where Iraq border meets Gulf. In addition, the type locality for ‘*B. paradoxus*’ on Iran/Afghan border needs re-examination: the assumption made was that it is subsumed in *B. ascalaphus* Khalidzadeh et al. 2017, who give Domaiwski 1933 as the Original Describer, but the relevant pages are behind a paywall; if neccessary, interpret Domaiwski 1933, is an assumption no longer warranted and that *paradoxus* is a synonym of *ominus* (as in Weick 2006) or nikolskii.

524 'Arabian Spotted Eagle Owl' (Spotted Eagle Owl)

**Bubo milesi**


525 Vermiculated Eagle Owl (Greyish Eagle Owl)

**Bubo (africanus) cinerascens**

Monotypic. One recorded 09:45N, 53:45E 22 Nov 1987 RNBWS report Kuria Muria Is Nov 87. *NB* First bred S Turkey 2009, 1st for WP, imaged & recorded Arnoud van Domaiewski 1933, is an assumption no longer warranted and that *paradoxus* is a synonym of *ominus* (as in Weick 2006) or nikolskii.

526 Western Brown Fish Owl (Turkish Fish Owl Robb & the Sound Approach 2015)

**Bubo (zeylonensis) semenowi** (Ketupa zeylonensis) (**Bubo semenowi Robb & the Sound Approach 2015**)

Monotypic. if split. Occurs from SW Turkey disjunctly to Iran. *BLDZ* Sep 2018 then map Brown Fish Owl sensu lato continuously from NW Pakistan (less than 10km from Afghan border) through S Kasinth & NW India looping S & W to SE Pakistan, Kashmir: no boundary mapped between remaining 3 ssp. Confirmation of the taxonomic identity in NW Pakistan is needed to establish whether that population is *semenowi* or *leschenaulti*. (Eastern Brown Fish Owl: see Hypothetical Section 1999) Genpus change Collinson 2006, K&W 2008, Wink *et al* 2009 (not in ICID.3). Disjunct NW Levant, probably extinct locally by 1950s SV Benson 1970, extinct Israel Perlman & Meyrow 2009; pair collected E of ali al-Gharbi Iraq 1920-23 Ticehurst et al. 1926: last recorded Iraq 1920 Salim 2012 (may still exist); first (ssp semenowi) known in Region from SE Turkey Yünten 2007; suggestion of breeding; van den Berg 2009, population, 3 by 2014 *DB36*(3): p200. First bred S Turkey 2009, 1st for WP, imaged & recorded Arnoud van den Berg pers comm, Kinnan et al 2014 note multiple (10+*) sites now known. Declared extinct Syria Murdo & Betton 2008, possibly relic in N near Turkish record, or has recolonised. Iran König et al. 1999, SE Iran (scarse Scott & Adhami 2006), a male brought from 'Gach-i-Turush' (2750 F, but current location name not found) by Capitano in NE Gulf Iran Jul 1924 (Capitano 1931); one recorded Rafsanjan, Kerman Province Iran Oct 2015 *IBRC*, another in Khazaed Protected Area, Zagros Kohlgjuge & Buyer-Ahmad Province Iran Nov 2016 *IBRC*, now known on 10+ sites in Iran *DB39*(5): 348; also recorded Bushrout *DB40*(1): 51; 1st proven breeding Iran at Khazaed, Kohlgjuge, Buyer-Ahmad May 2010 *DB40*(4): 263; first fully documented record from 1977 photographs at Dez River, Dezful, Khuzistan *DB31*(4): 428. On-line report for S Afghanistan (leschenaulti) - corrected spelling in H&M3 Afghanistan corrigenda E Dickinson pers comm.

527 Tawny Owl PT (Wood Owl)

**Strix aluco**


528 Tawny Owl (Wood Owl)

**Strix [aluco] aluco**

528 Omani Owl (Hume's Tawny Owl)

Strix [butleri] butleri

Data Deficient. Discovered in northern Oman in 2013 Robb et al 2013 and then named S. omanensis; seemingly tiny relict population in remote and rocky ravine-wadis, further calling heard here Oct & Nov 2012, 3 newly-discovered pairs Apr 2013 DB36(3): p200. Second locality identified from calls heard (but not then attributed) 2008, 33km N of first discovery van Eijk 2013. However, Robb et al 2016 showed by molecular analysis that the type specimen of S. butleri, the population attributed as S. omanensis and an owl trapped near Masihad Jan 2015 are all the same species. Musavi et al 2016 confirmed that the Masihad bird and another seen in 2000 near Minab Hormozgan, and another found at Jam Game Guard Station Bushehr are all Oman Owl: 3rd record Mehriz Yazid Province Oct 2015 IBRC, another Jan 2016 Bahg, Yazid Province, one Bandar-e-Leenge, Hormozgan Province Aug 2016 IBRC (another photographed there Jul 2016 DB40(4): 263, one at Shabd, Dasht, Khuzestan recovered & released from same border DB41(1): 56; first-ever juvenile photographed Kangan, Bushehr, Iran May 2019 DB41(3): 198; new photographed Dez Dam Oct 2019 DB41(4): 428. 1st record UAE Mar 2015 EBRC, heard in Wadi Wurayah, Fujairah in mountainous area some 15km wide between the E89 (al-Halah) & E99 (al-Abdya) roads DB39(3): 209. 2nd record there Mar 2017 EBRC. Circumstantial evidence of its occurrence at the eastern end of the tower plateau of Jebel Sarah, north 1km circle to NE of, the birds are at least 12 similar canyon complexes Jennings 2018. The previous attribution of the type specimen of Hume's Tawny Owl was in error. The name omanensis is thus a junior synonym of S. omanensis. NB1 English name proposed by Robb et al 2015 & noted by IOC is here adopted pro tem; assigning the eponym to any of the Tawny Owl species would compound confusion. NB2 The breeding distribution of S. butleri sensu stricto is unknown; other adjacent Strix taxon may yet be discovered. NB3 The map in Doña et al 2014 of Tawny Owl world distribution places S. aluco wilkonskii in NW Iran sympathetically with the Masshad Omani Owl. Some re-evaluation of the Iran wilkonskii population may be called for.

529 Desert Owl (Hume's Tawny Owl, Desert Tawny Owl, formerly treated also as Hume's Owl)

Strix [butleri] hadorami

Monotypic. This taxon, known as butleri for decades until Kirwan et al 2015 showed it to be a separate species-level taxon from its type specimen (for which see entry for butleri above): patchily from SE Egypt, Sinai K&W 2008, S Sinai & Qesm Marsa Alam, Red Sea Governate Habib et al 2018, where sedentary on territory year-round, S Israel to Arab Peninsula, HBW5 (1700bp patchily widespread Arabia Jennings 2007a. (Saud Arabia, Yemen, W Oman), revised from survey work to c 3500bp Jennings 2010); breeds also Sinai, Palestine, Jordan Mitchell 2017, uncommon breeding resident SW Oman OBL7. Suggested occurs Iran König et al (1999), but unlikely, Derek Scott pers comm: latter vindicated by Robb et al 2015. Aural report S Oman Wad A’Shawwamiyah Dec 06, 2 Khor Mughsayl Jan 07, IH pers comm. Detailed breeding biology studied in Israel 2015-16 Ben Dov et al 2017. NB1 Neither Kirwan et al 2015 nor Robb et al 2015 obtained specimens or samples from Eastern Province Saudi Arabia populations previously attributed to S. butleri sensu lato, & so pro tem, we leave these unsampled populations designated as Strix taxon inquirenda. NB2 English name proposed by Robb et al 2015 & noted by IOC is here adopted pro tem: assigning the eponym to any of the Tawny Owl species would compound confusion. NB3 The Eastern Province Saudi Arabia populations previously attributed to S. butleri sensu lato, are technically unidentified and need to be confirmed, but more important is that the current relationship between hadarami & butleri sensu stricto populations is unknown. Is there allopatry, sympathy or a separate taxon?

530 Ural Owl

Strix uralensis

N Kazakhstan (K-M&K 2005), HBW5; rare resident & NE Kazakhstan Wassinck 2015b (Originally rejected W&O 2007 Arend Wassinck in litt as rare breeder E Kazakhstan province, but uralesis confirmed breeder in N Kazakhstan Zuban 2013, NE Wassinck 2014; just inside NE Kazakhstan border Flint et al 1984). NB Characteristically very local and in small numbers in parts of Europe, and so may exhibit same behaviour in underwatched southern taiga zone of Region.

531 Great Grey Owl PT

Strix nebulosa

Paleartica lapponica separated by molecular analysis from Nearctic taxas (nebulosa & yesemitan) by Nijman & Alabadiyan 2013, named Lapland Owl & separated by voice by Robb & the Sound Approach 2015; no recognition of this split IOCT7.1. NB Hull et al 2014 formally recognise yesemitan as sp nov, IOCT6.1 noting further consideration needed, but still awaited in IOCT10.1.

532 Lapland Owl (Great Grey Owl)

Strix [n.] lapponica (Strix nebulosa)


533 Northern Hawk-Owl

Surnia ulula


534 Eurasian Pygmy Owl

Glaucidium passerinum


535 Collared Owllet

Glaucidium brodiei


This highly complex group has much apparent individual plumage variation. Taxa breeding distributions are poorly known, as are extent of sympathy, allopatry and hybridisation. There are also indications of song variation that need to be validated in the field. Our tentative listing is unlikely to be final, but it keeps the uncertainties in view.
PT Little Owl PT NB
Suspicion that many records will continue under PT; field experience suggests many populations cryptically similar in appearance and plumage variations within populations not well documented.

Athene noctua
K&W 2008 make A.(n.) lilith a species (qv) as in Wink et al. 2008. Wink in van Nieuwenhuyse et al. 2009 differs [little in detail; genetic analyses of A. noctua] & A. cucularia ([Nearctic Burrowing owl] taxon incomm. [Wink et al. 2009, Michael Wink pers comm June 2009]). Because of detected phylogeographic variation in both complexes, more detailed study across whole distribution range will reveal more complex pattern of several distinct species & subspecies; of particular interest (to OSME) are glauc, lilith & indigena; glauc & lilith appear genetically close Wink et al. 2008), thus we list the taxa occurring in the Region separately pro temp. For Wink 2011 lists noctua, lilith & plumipes: in Nov’10 recorded Israel K&W 2008, Wink et al. 2009 suggest A.(n.) plumipes (qv) too may be separable; occurs from Altai eastwards. Extra limital Ethiopian Little Owl A.(n.) spilogaster may also be species (qv Hypothetical List). H&M note that limited taxon-sampling delays subspecies-group recognition. NB1 Other DNA research under way on Athene owls; more song data is being collected. NB2 On this IOC3.3 does not include the plumages of birds near sea level noticeably darker than of those in the low hills away from the coast (NB pers obs).

PT Proposed alternative PT Little Owl
Athene (noctua) noctua
Robb et al. 2015 name the western European taxon Athene (noctua) vistalida as ‘Little Owl’ sensu stricto (extra-limital to OSME Region) and A.(n.) vistalida ‘Cucumaiu’, & lump glauc & lilith. Re the latter point, we’ll await establishment of taxa breeding boundaries.

535 Little Owl (‘Cucumaiu’; Robb et al. 2015)
Athene (noctua) noctua
A.n. bactriana & orientalis Turkmenistan, Bukrew 1997, bactriana common resident S half Kazakhstan orientalis resident rare E Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b, bactriana Afghanistan Paludan 1959. CA, Caucasus, Afghanistan König et al. (1999), E Iran R&A 2005, Iran K&W 2008, Iran Salim et al. 2012. Fairly common widespread resident breeder Oman OBL7. In Arabia, lilith (qv) may be the taxon in N-C Arabia, saharae seemingly in E; however, various morpha may exist, requiring investigation as to ssps ID Jennings 2010. Informal English name ‘Saharan Little Owl’ used elsewhere subsequently extinguished by IOC3.3. lilith sister taxon does not occur in the Region. NB2 Dutch Birding proposed ‘Italian Little Owl’ for taxon noctua ‘seemingly superseded by ‘Cucumaiu’ in Robb et al. 2015), ‘Byzantine Little Owl for indigena & subsueme lilith in glauz as Lilith’s Owl; because ssp distributions limits far from agreed: 1st, English name choices debated; 2nd, English name admirable should species rank be attained; 3rd, lumping awaits confirmation of status of lilith & glauz.

536 ‘Byzantine Little Owl’ (Little Owl)
Athene (noctua) indigena
(Monotypic). See PT Notes above. English name informal @OSME - the extent of the early Byzantine empire encompasses much of the taxon’s distribution (from Michael Wink pers comm) of the Balkans, Greece, Crete, W Turkey & Cyprus (Plegelino et al. 2015 map two different genotype clusters in Cyprus populations linked to clusters centred on Sardinia and Italy). This taxon cited as present in NW CA (presumably Kazakh hinterland of N Caspian) Ayé et al. 2012, very rare resident, NW WV Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b; also thought to be the NW in Iran Khaleghizad et al. 2017. May occupy sparser and lower-altitude habitats than lilith. NB specimen obtained by Radde in ‘SW Caspian’, but there A.n. bactriana (also then collected) now sole expected taxon.

537 Liiliit Owlet (Little Owl, Lilith Owl)
Athene (noctua) lilith
See PT Notes above. K&W 2008 map SE Turkey (much of E Turkey, Michael Wink pers comm), Cyprus (Plegelino et al. 2015 map two different genotype clusters in Cyprus populations linked to clusters centred on Sardinia and Italy). E Sina, E to Iraq (possibly this taxon in Moore & Wink photographed in SE Iraq desert 2010 Salim et al. 2012) & SW Iran on Gulf, & S to C Arabia: saharae said to be in E Arabia, uncertain which taxa in Yemen & W Oman Jennings 2010, reinforced in OBL7; Mikkola 2012 assigns lilith to all Arabia. 5700bp (all taxa) Arabia Jennings 2007a, 5000-6000bp Jennings 2010. Scarse resident breeder Gaza et al-Safadi 2008, lilith-type SE Turkey 2009, lilith-type breeding Qatar Jan 2014 SG36(2) ATR, taxon undeclared UAE Aspinall 1996. K&W separation on DNA, song, sympathy with A.n. noctua ssps. May occupy drier and hillier habitats than indigena.

538 ‘Northern Little Owl’ (Little Owl)
Athene (noctua) plumpizes
Monotypic. See PT Notes above. rare resident NE-most Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b, Ayé et al. 2012, Mikkola 2012. K&W 2008 suggest elevation possible & note extralimital distribution stretches from Altai to S of Lake Baikal, Mongolia, China to Korea. NB English name informal@OSME, but used elsewhere subsequently egBirding Asia 14 Dec 2010.

539 ‘North African Little Owl’ (Little Owl, ‘Lilith Owl’)
Athene (noctua) glaux
English name here informal@OSME, but based on distribution information from Michael Wink pers comm. NB DB 2009 citing van Nieuwenhuyse et al. 2009 list Liiliit Owl as A. glauz, sspx glaux & indigena (latter sometimes called Cucumai Little Owl), treating lilith under glauz (priority), but see PT Notes above. Individual variation in Western Desert Egypt masks differences between glauz and taxon saharae Goodman et al. 1986, possibly why some authors subsueme saharae into glauz. However, HBW (Albe) & IOC7 treat saharae separately, hence we add it as the next entry. Taxon glauz occurs coastal Israel, probably C to S Sinai from opinion attributed to Vaurie. May be unsafe to separate from lilith.

540 ‘Kleinschmidt’s Little Owl’ (Desert Little Owl, Saharan Little Owl’)
Athene (noctua) saharae
HBW (Albe) gives taxon distribution as N & C Sahara (S to Mauritania, Mali, Niger, Chad & Sudan), E, discontinuously, into Arabian Peninsula, IOC7.2 as Morocco to W Egypt, C Arabia, aligning well with earlier assumption of N. saharae being present in Egypt (not Nile Valley) & C Arabia; Birds resembling this taxon deemed common in Al Nams, Ass Prov, Saudi Arabia SG41(1)ATR; 147. English name informal@OSME & relating to type specimen description.

541 Spotted Owlet (Spotted Little Owl)
Athene brama
ssp indica SE Iran (Baluchestan Mikkola 2012), Afghanistan König et al. (1999), R&A 2005, 2012 say Afghan verification (specimen) needed. Ayé et al. 2012 agree, mapped Grimmett et al. 1998, 2000. K&W 2008 less informative; no mention of Afghanistan, but they map distribution exactly to Pakistan/Afghanistan border in two places. This change is mirrored in BL12 map, where the 2 affected taxon distributions runs parallel to (but c20km from) the western Pakistan border for 130km (mostly in the Bahookat Protected Area), whereas that in Pakistan occurs on the coast from 325km eastwards and then northeastwards to the Sadda-Peshawar area, neatly matching much of the Afghan border. Despite this wide geographical separation, the 2 populations belong to the same ssp, indica.

PT Boreal Owl PT

Aegolius funereus

From Nijman & Aliabadi 2013 molecular analysis, Robb & the Sound Approach 2015 (voice), split Paleartic tax. (funereus), Tengmalm’s Owl from Nearctic taxa (richardsoni), Boreal Owl.

Aegolius funereus

Asio otus


543 Long-eared Owl (Northern Long-eared Owl; distinguishing from African Long-eared Owl, aka Abyssinian Owl)
Asio otus

sasp flammus CA, Caucasus, towards Afghanistan König et al. (1999); HBW5 has wintering not breeding CA, Iran Afghanistan: widespread winterer Iraq Salim et al. 2012, K&W 2008 have breeding in Iran not far from NW Afghanistan, but given as WW S to Khuzestan Khaleghizad et al. 2017, Ayé et al 2012 map breeding Kazakhstan only, but widely, Wassink 2015b details common BM, PM, rare resident, WW Kazakhstan, E Afghanistan, Avil, BE. Rare to uncommon PM & WW Oman OBL7; recorded winter Iraq Moore & Boswell 1956, likewise Israel Perlman & Meytv 2009, 1st record for 40 Nov 2014 Lebanon Ramdan-Jaradi & Iltini 2016.

Upupidae

IDCC2.0 recognised extralimital African and Madagascar Hoopoes (U Alicornia, U margarita); H&M4 does not.
**Bucerotidae**

450 **Afghan Grey Hornbill**

Lophoceros nasutus (formerly Tockus nasutus)

Genus revision Gonzalez et al 2013a, 2013b. African species,ssp nasutus resident population Sw Arabia, HBW5. Likely steady slow range contraction, essentially Tihamah only; perhaps 8000bp Arabia Jennings 2010. Egypt escapes, no breeding record Robel 1997, EORC 2018 have rejected all records as insufficiently documented.

455 **Indian Roller**

Coracias benghalensis

Polytypic; nominate & extralimital indicus of C & S India. Former ssp affinis found to be separate species Indochinese Roller, sister to extralimital Purple-winged Roller C. terménnici of Sulawesi Johansson et al 2018. Nominate resident Iraq (parts), Iran (mapped Martins & Hirschfeld 1998), Oman, HBW6, NE UAE; Aspinall 2010; status in Arabia, resident N UAE & Oman, greatly increased since 1970s in irrigated areas, but possible recent reduction to below 15 000bp Jennings 2010, declining rapidly Oman OBL7.NE Afghanistan Violand 1999, R&A 2005, mapped Khyber area Ayé et al 2012, R&A 2012. 1 accepted record Turkey Kirwan et al 2008, vagrant 1998 Soostra Redman et al 2008. 1995-8 Yemen War results in likely affinis split by Inskipp & Colar 2015, del Hoyo & Collar 2014b now either synonym of C. benghalensis or included in ecorom, winters Africa, HBW6; in boreal autumn some, likely taxon semenowi may be trans-oceanic migrant Brazil-E Africa (loop migration) preying on dragonflies exploiting ITZH movement Anderson 2009; this hypothesis would explain virtual absence central Arabia in spring Jennings 2010; nevertheless, occasional breeder Kuwait, NE Oman, N Oman Jennings 2010, where common to abundant PM Oman OBL7. Egypt Avib. NB 1 Nebel et al 2019 show genetic decline through inbreeding in dimensioned habitat causes population extinction. NB2 This species in areas of good-quality resources can thrive in agricultural areas (eg southern Hungary), not their usual habitat, if nest-boxes are available, because the change in arthropod/insect spectrum post-harvesting is more nutritious than in traditional habitats Kiss et al 2014.

460 **European Roller**

Coracias garrulus

Clade C. Johansson et al 2018 revise relationships within Coraciidae, but postpone endorsement of taxonomic revisions save to recommend re-evaluation of Dollarbird Euryomis orientalis species limits. Clade names here are informal/EOSME.

465 **Purple (Rufous-crowned) Roller**

Coracias naevius

African species, vagrant Yemen, HBW6, nearest known breeding population ssp naevius Somalia HM4.

470 **Clade B. Johansson et al 2018 show that extralimital Purple-winged Roller C. terménnici of Sulawesi groups with taxon affinis (Indochinese Roller) as sister to C. benghalensis.**

475 **Clade C. Johansson et al 2019 group the 3 listed below as sister to Asian Coracias rollers.**

480 **Upupa epops**

ssp epops breeds Asia Minor-Afghanistan, Caucasus, CA (common BM, PM throughout Kazakhstan accidental resident, WV Wissink 2015b), but resident in suitable habitat many locations S&A CA Aye et al 2012, UAE Aspinall 1996, widespread summer breeder Iraq Salim et al 2012, ssp major breeds Egypt, but epops of eastern Libya mates, wide range contraction & likely range expansion into irrigated area. Wang et al 2017 conclude that except for Arabian populations, all the European populations exhibited an adedymorphic photogenic pattern; genetic restriction may separate Armenian birds from all other populations. Widespread also as migrant, perhaps 46 000bp overall Jennings 2010, abundant PM & WV, scarce breeder Oman OBL7. Iran (somer Porter & Aspinall 2010, epops & orientalis Paludan 1959; orientalis now either synonym of corythornis or included in epops), winters to S resident Arabia, HBW6. Egypt Avib, BE. ssp senegalensis occurs Somalia & may wander to SW Arabia.

**Coraciidae**

451 **Eurasian Hoopoe**

Upupa epops

455 **African Grey Hornbill**

Lophoceros nasutus (formerly Tockus nasutus)

460 **European Roller**

Coracias garrulus

465 **Purple (Rufous-crowned) Roller**

Coracias naevius

470 **Clade B. Johansson et al 2018 show that extralimital Purple-winged Roller C. terménnici of Sulawesi groups with taxon affinis (Indochinese Roller) as sister to C. benghalensis.**

**Alcedinidae**

450 **Broad-billed Roller**

(Cinnamon Roller)

Eurystomus glaucurus


455 **White-throated Kingfisher**

(White-breasted Kingfisher, Smyrna Kingfisher)

Halcyon smyrnensis

Resident, ssp smynensis, E Mediterranean coasts, probably Syria Murdoch & Bettion 2008, Iraq, Kuwait, NE Afghanistan, HBW6 (syrnensis Khyber-Kabul Ayé et al 2012), easternmost UAE Aspinall 1996; Kuwait numbers small (Jennings 2010), but increased sightings elsewhere in E Arabia suggest slow range expansion. Rare migrant visitor Cyprus CBR11, 1st Masirah, Oman Nov-Dec 2015 OBR3. Egypt Avib, BE.

460 **Grey-headed Kingfisher**

Halcyon leucocephala

Resident African species, with breeding populations, endemic Arabian ssp leucocephala, SW Arabia S Yemen just to Oman, HBW6; breeds foothills, perhaps 6000bp in Arabia Jennings 2010; common breeding SV Arabia. Recorded Oman 2004, 4th reported 11 Jan 2010 SG 32(2)-7 record vagrant Oman OBL7.

465 **Collared Kingfisher**

(White-collared Kingfisher)

Todiramphus chloris

CBR11. 1st Masirah, Oman Nov-Dec 2015 OBR3. Egypt Avib, BE.

470 **Malachite Kingfisher**

(African Malachite Kingfisher)

Corythomis cristatus (Alcedo cristata)

Taxonomy follows Moyle et al 2007, IOC 2.6. African species, 2 records, likely ssp cyanostigma of Sudan to Ethiopia (resident?) Yemen, HBW6, but mis-labeling more than possible in one case Warr 1992. Has bred S Yemen, probably opportunistically, but perhaps 100bp needed in any single area for viable population Jennings 2010. Recorded Oman 2004, 4th reported 11 Jan 2010 SG 32(2)-7 record vagrant Oman OBL7.

475 **Common Kingfisher**

(European Kingfisher)

Alcedo atthis

Only ssp atthis known in Region; Turkey-Afghanistan, scarce BM, PM, rare resident, WV in suitable habitat in SE Kazakhstan Wissink 2015b, 2nd winter record Lake Karakol, Caspian V Kazakhstan Wissink 2018, resident Caucasus, SE Iraq (ubcun mon Salim et al 2012), SW & NW Iran; breeds drak, resident, permanent waters S-C & CA Ayé et al 2012, Afghanistan (palasi Paludan 1959; atthis now includes palasi), winters N Red Sea, Gulf, S Iran, HBW6; common PM & WV Oman OBL7. May have bred NW Saudi Arabia where permanent streams Jennings 2010. Egypt Avib, BE.

480 **Crested Kingfisher**

Megaceryle lugubris


485 **Pied Kingfisher**

Ceryle rudis


**Meropidae**

450 **Marks et al 2007 confirmed status of ORL taxa (M. orientalis , pre-split).**
560 White-throated Bee-eater
Merops albicollis

PT Green Bee-eater PT
(Madagascar Bee-eater)
Merops orientalis
Split by del Hoyo et al 2014d, BLDZ into superspecies, African Green Bee-eater M. [o.] viridisissimus (2 ssp, nominate & cleopatra, latter in Region), Arabian Green Bee-eater M. [o.] cyanocephala (2 ssp nominate & muscatensis) & Asian Green Bee-eater M. [o.] orientalis (4 ssp, only beludschicus reaching Region, the rest from India to China.). IOC7.1 remains lumped.

562 Arabian Green Bee-eater
Merops [orientalis] viridisissimus
Only ssp in Region cleopatra Nile Valley Egypt H&M & Occidentale, has occurred Western Desert Egypt Goodman et al 1986; nominate S Sudan west to Senegal, E to Ethiopia.

563 Asian Green Bee-eater
Merops [orientalis] orientalis
Only beludschicus of 4 ssp reaches Region in S Iran, where resident S lowlands Khahgheidzadeh et al 2018, from Pakistan border NW past Bandar Bushehr, noted NE Gulf, Iran Feb-Mar & October 1924-28 Capito 1931; possibly also in southern E Afghanistan R&A 2005, BLDZ Mar 2018, ssp beludschicus vagrant Iraq Salim et al 2012, vagrant CA Ayé et al 2012, but may reach Oman hidden among resident muscatensis ssp of Arabian Green Bee-eater.

564 Blue-cheeked Bee-eater
(Persian Bee-eater)
(Persian Bee-eater)
Dendrocopos assimilis
Monotypic. Breeds Asia Minor–Afghanistan incl Caucasus, common BM much of Kazakhstan Wassinck 2015b; much of Middle East; declining UAE, Oman below 1990s max of 2000pp Jennings 2010, Now almost uncommon BM N Batim Oman, fairly common PM OBL7, CA (incl NE Kazakhstan Flint et al 1984), Iran, Afghanistan, winters Africa, HBW6, E Iran, Avib, BE.

565 European Bee-eater
Merops aplaplaster
Monotypic. Breeds Asia Minor–Afghanistan incl Caucasus, common BM much of Kazakhstan Wassinck 2015b; much of Middle East; declining UAE, Oman below 1990s max of 2000pp Jennings 2010, Now almost uncommon BM N Batim Oman, fairly common PM OBL7, CA (incl NE Kazakhstan Flint et al 1984), Iran, Afghanistan, winters Africa, HBW6, E Iran, Avib, BE.

566 Eurasian Wryneck
Pica pica
Winkler et al 2013 revise Picidae, mostly via mtDNA, but link to other molecular studies. Genera sequence changes follow Winkler et al 2014 Appendix 2.

567 Speckled Piculet
Vividus nominate (formerly Picumnus nominateus)

568 Eurasian Three-toed Woodpecker
Picoides tridactylus

569 Arabian Woodpecker
Dendrocopos dorae (formerly Dendrocopos dorae, Dendrocopus dorae)
Vulnerable. Monotypic. Genus change: Fuchs & Pons 2015 refine Winkler et al 2013, while noting further work may confirm or revert. SW Arabia, E Red Sea coast, HBW7. Arabian endemic resident where acacia breeds Asia Minor Kirwan et al 2008, Middle East, E Caucasus, W, C & S CA Ayé et al 2012; (not C & N Kazakhstan Flint et al 1984, but common BM W & S Kazakhstan WASS 2007, Wassink 2015b, rare breeder Volga Zwarts 2016). Iran, Iraq, Afghanistan, winters Africa, HBW6. Rare breeder N Kyrgyzst, Ven 2002; Summer breeder Kuwait, N UAE, Oman, perhaps 1500pp Jennings 2010; common breeding SV to N Batim Oman, common to abundant PM OBL7. 1 shot Lebanon (1st record for 70 years) Dec 2016 Ramadan-Jaradi et al 2017. Egypt Avib. SE. NB1 DB 2009 call ssp chrysocerca Saharan desert migrant. NB2 Name Madagascar Bee-eater was applied to extralimital M. percarus, but since has been superseded as Olive Bee-eater, which sp occurs as intra-tropical breeder in NW Somalia and parts of Ethiopia and coastal Eritrea Redman et al 2009. NB3 In boreal autumn some percarus are trans-oceanic migrants India-E Africa (loop migration) preying on dragonflies exploiting ITCP movement Anderson 2014. NB4 shows that the possibility that individuals may join existing largely sedentary populations in Arabia for a season or two (or permanently) before continuing their return migration to India.

570 Brown-fronted Woodpecker (Brown-fronted Pied Woodpecker)
Dendrocopos auriceps (formerly Leiopticus auriceps, Dendrocopos auriceps)

571 ‘European Middle Spotted Woodpecker’
Dendrocopos [medius] medius
Monotypic. Taxon medius limited in OSME Region to European Turkey.

572 ‘Asian Middle Spotted Woodpecker’
Dendrocopos [medius] sanctijohannis
Polypytic: 3 ssp: sanctijohannis Iran, Kermanshah to Shiraz, scarce into E Iran, caucasicus N Turkey (from Ayvakk S), then E along Mediterranean S & S again into coastal N Iran in thin strip as far as northernmost Lebanon). Geographically, the distributions are separated by continuous water through the Dardanelles, Sea of Marmara, Black Sea and Sea of Azov. The overwater distances between Krasnodar & northernmost Lebanon, winters Africa, HBW7. Arabian endemic resident where acacia breeds Asia Minor Kirwan et al 2008, Middle East, E Caucasus, W, C & S CA Ayé et al 2012; (not C & N Kazakhstan Flint et al 1984, but common BM W & S Kazakhstan WASS 2007, Wassink 2015b, rare breeder Volga Zwarts 2016). Iran, Iraq, Afghanistan, winters Africa, HBW6. Rare breeder N Kyrgyzst, Ven 2002; Summer breeder Kuwait, N UAE, Oman, perhaps 1500pp Jennings 2010; common breeding SV to N Batim Oman, common to abundant PM OBL7. 1 shot Lebanon (1st record for 70 years) Dec 2016 Ramadan-Jaradi et al 2017. Egypt Avib. SE. NB1 DB 2009 call ssp chrysocerca Saharan desert migrant. NB2 Name Madagascar Bee-eater was applied to extralimital M. percarus, but since has been superseded as Olive Bee-eater, which sp occurs as intra-tropical breeder in NW Somalia and parts of Ethiopia and coastal Eritrea Redman et al 2009. NB3 In boreal autumn some percarus are trans-oceanic migrants India-E Africa (loop migration) preying on dragonflies exploiting ITCP movement Anderson 2014. NB4 shows that the possibility that individuals may join existing largely sedentary populations in Arabia for a season or two (or permanently) before continuing their return migration to India.

573 Lesser Spotted Woodpecker
Dryobates minor (formerly Dendrocopos minor)
Genus change to Dryobates follows Brazil 2009, Winkler et al 2013 & Fuchs & Pons 2015: all other ssp in genus are New World spp. Resident (darford) much of Turkey (Nofec), Kirwan et al 2008, quadriocinctus SE Arizona, colicius NE Arizona & SW (E Israel Arai et al 2011, N Arabian Oman & Morocco) Iran HBW7; NW & NE Kazakhstan ssp kamtschatkensis rare resident, WV Wassink 2015b.

574 Himalayan Woodpecker
Dendrocopos himalayensis

575 Sind Woodpecker (Pied Woodpecker)
Dendrocopos assimilis
Dendrocopos syriacus
IOC2.11draft suggested split of
H&M4, IOC4.2 place
Perktas & Quintero 2012, in a wide-ranging study, find initial indications that
Falconidae
accidental electrcution
McGrady 2018 addresses risks to diurnal raptor migration across the Arabian Peninsula from illegal shooting, trapping, accidental or deliberate poisoning and

Perktas & Quintero 2012 propose 4 provisional clades comprising Great Spotted Woodpecker

Dendrocopos major
Perktas & Quintero 2012; in a wide-ranging study, find initial indications that
D. major comprises 4 clades headed by: major (Eurasia & N Africa), poelzami (Azerbaijan & Iran), japonicus (Japan [nearly China?] &
cabanius (China): supporting studies probably needed, suggested also in Gorman 2014 & in Winkler et al. 2014, the latter additionally citing caution until relationships of some major/leucopterus taxa are clarified.
NB
Populations bear divergent cytochrome c oxidase 1 (COI) lineages, potentially including cryptic taxa Kier et al. 2009.

PT
Great Spotted Woodpecker
Dendrocopos major
Perktas & Quintero 2012
POELZAMI

Great Spotted Woodpecker
Dendrocopos (major) major
Sole taxon from major clade in Region is brevirostris, common resident N Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b; Kyrgyzstan (brevirostris), HBW7, Iran Scott & Adhami 2006. NB1 Wassink 2015b has 'tianshanica' scarce resident SE-most Kazakhstan but this taxon may be a hybrid of brevirostris with White-winged Woodpecker D. leucopterus Ayé et al. 2012.

Great Spotted Woodpecker
Dendrocopos (major) poelzami

D. leucotos

White-winged Woodpecker
Dendrocopos leucopus

White-winged Woodpecker

White-winged Woodpecker

'Scally-bellied Woodpecker
Picus squamatus
P. flavirostris SE Turkey, Caucasus, NE Iraq (but see status above), HBW7, Turkey-Levant & W&S Iran, Caucasus & Trasncaucasia, &

PT
White-backed Woodpecker

White-backed Woodpecker
PICUS viridis

White-backed Woodpecker

White-backed Woodpecker

Black Woodpecker
Dryocopus martius

Black Woodpecker

European Green Woodpecker

European Green Woodpecker

European Green Woodpecker (Eurasian Green Woodpecker)

European Green Woodpecker (Eurasian Green Woodpecker)

Zagros Green Woodpecker (Iranian Green Woodpecker)

Zagros Green Woodpecker (Iranian Green Woodpecker)

Grey-headed Woodpecker

Grey-headed Woodpecker

Grey-headed Woodpecker

Scally-bellied Woodpecker

Scally-bellied Woodpecker

Falconidae

Falconidae

Lesser Kestrel
Falco naumanni

Lesser Kestrel
Falco naumanni

Common Kestrel
Falco tinnunculus

Common Kestrel
Falco tinnunculus
Falco chicquera


Falco eleonorae


Falco vespertinus

IOC4.4, H&M separate the next two taxa: Fuchs et al 2015 apply multiple molecular techniques to show a distant relationship, noting also the very different plumages.

Falco [vespertinus] vespertinus


Falco [vespertinus] amurensis


Falco eleonorae


Falco concolor


Falco columbarius

Mindell et al 2018 propose split of American Merlin F. columbarius sp novo reductio & Eurasian Merlin F. aesalon sp novo. We await further acceptance pro tem

Falco columbarius (F. aesalon Mindell et al 2016)


Falco biarmicus, F. jugger, F. cherrug, F. rusticolus

The term Parent Taxon here accommodates the findings of Nittinger et al 2005 & Nittinger et al 2007 whose studies’ wide range of genetic-markers show little similarity. Hence it is feasible to regard the assemblage as a superspecies Extrapontial Prairie Falcon F. mexicanus was found to be related more closely to Peregrine F. peregrinus (contra some earlier studies) & so is not unequivocally a hierofalcon; any shared ancestry is recent.

Corso et al 2018 documents by inference greater decline of Lanner falcon, brevipes, taitensis & rufiventer populations than previously considered.
559 Lanner Falcon Falco biarmicus
See PT notes above. Corso 2018 through circumstantial analysis indicates rapid decline of feldreggi & tanypterus populations in OSME Region & of erlangeri population in N Africa towards impending extinction. A proximate cause is illegal poaching for falconry mostly in Arabia, the problem made worse by lack of studies in the remote breeding areas in the Region and by confusion of observers with Saker F. cherrug and with the calidus type of Peregrine F. peregrinus. Documented breeding records: 1 Egyptian, 1 Israeli & 1 Cypriot; Egypt, Israel, Palestinian Authority & Iraq, 3 extralimital spp HM4. The analysis of Fuchs et al 2015 indicates that F. biarmicus is not monophyletic. Scattered populations Turkey (c 200p Corso 2018), Middle East, Caucasus, NE Iraq F-L&C 2005, rare IsraelPerlman & Meyrov 2009, scarce resident Iran Scott & Adhami 2006, but few recent records Khaleghizadeh et al 2017. Nov rare but still common breeding records now only SW Yemen & SW Saudi Arabia, best estimate <100p. Jennings 2010: rare PM & WV Oman, escapes also occur OBL7. Prime habitat (less steep open slopes than preferred by Peregrine F. peregrinus) & secondary habitat characteristics unquantified, thus affecting conservation starkey Amati et al 2014, Egypt eg Sándor & Molvádov 2010.

559 Laggar Falcon Falco jugger

FT Saker Falcon PT NB Pfeffer 2009 notes uncritical acceptance of earlier incomplete acceptances of taxa distribution; he revives calidus & erects aralocaspia, inter alia. Support from Igor Karyakin & Evgeny Potapov.

Falco cherrug
Parent Taxon rare in winter Oman eg Dec 06 IH pers comm. Nittinger et al 2007 strongly suggest not only PT is not definable from rim haplotypes in both cherrug & milvipes populations, but that the two spp are not upheld by microsatellite analyses. However, they also suggest that besides genetic drift, morphological and phenotypic traits characteristic of the spp evolved quickly (but with long gradual W-Ecline) as adaptations to changing environmental conditions and hunting behaviour (as for some other raptors). However, Zhan et al 2015 examined exonic & intronic single nucleotide polymorphism in many Saker populations concluding that the species essentially is monotypic and that any differences between these populations do not match any hypothesised subspecies’ distribution: plumage differences are clinal between populations previously identified as cherrug & milvipes; furthermore datasets are available in supplementary info and in GenBank. Pro tem, the ORL will refer to ‘cherrug-type’ and ‘milvipes-type’ populations, while accepting the clines described in Zhan et al 2015. On those grounds PT is applied as an informal label for these groups. That said, the analysis of Fuchs et al 2015 indicates that F. cherrug is not monophyletic. Note also that Karyakin 2011 does provide convincing phenotypical & molecular rationales to regard ‘altaicus’ as but two colour morphs that appear in a variety of appropriately-marked broods in several Saker taxa both inside and beyond breeding areas previously hypothesised as being core ‘altaicus’ range: pro tempore, discount all earlier hypothetical hypotheses on this form, eg Nittinger et al 2007. Saker sensu lato shares ancestry with F. biarmicus, jugger, separation recent Nittinger et al 2007, Kovács et al 2014 present a detailed & viable conservation action plan, but several nations declined to respond to their questionnaire, thus weakening the likely implementation. NB One drawback of Karyakin 2011 is that the main thrust of the paper, that all spp are valid, is weakened by the lack of data presented for the molecular conclusions reached therein. NB2 Given the maps in Karyakin 2011, the modifiers ‘Eastern’ and ‘Western’ are hideously inappropriate & are superseded by the informal@OSME modifiers ‘Northern’ and ‘Southern’ respectively. NB3 Sielecki et al 2009 demonstrate extensive mobility & movements of radiotracked individuals over hundreds of km, Hungarian birds reaching Spain & Ukraine.

568 ‘Northern Saker Falcon’ (‘Western Saker Falcon’) (Saker Falcon) Falco cherrug (‘cherrug-type’)
Endangered. See hierofalcon PT notes above. Group comprises only the remarkably homogenous cherrug-type: saceroides is an invalid taxon, being in a narrow zone of hybridisation from the Altai along the Russia-Mongolia border with milvipes-type. Up to the 1970s, cherrug-type occupied a continuous area from SW Germany to eastern Mongolia, but is now absent from western Russia, possibly as an inevitable effect of cutting the steppes under agriculture. PM: WV Turkmistan Rastamov 2005; Meyrov 2009; uncommon PM & WV Oman, escapes also occur OBL7. NB cline cherrug/milvipes intergrades C Kazakhstan W&O 2007, Egypt Avib. BE.

569 ‘Southern Saker Falcon’ (Eastern Saker Falcon) (Saker Falcon), (Shangar Falcon) Falco cherrug (‘milvipes-type’)

600 Gyrfalcon Falco rusticolus

PT Peregrine Falcon PT Falco peregrinus Parent Taxon here included pellegrinoides due to highly unclear status of this taxon, but IOCA4 treated as nominate of Barbary Falcon F. pellegrinoides. However, IOCA2 2.0 follows Wink 2018. HM4 list 18 spp, including babylonicus & pellegrinoides, but many taxa are poorly known. Wink 2018 presents a phylogeny of Falconidae and a phylogeography of Peregrine Falcons; taxa radiation & evolution relatively recent.


DB41(2): 133. Argandeval 1983 gives PT as breeding Nuristan (Afghanistan). Egypt Avib, BE; NB all Peregrine taxa probably recently diverged from common ancestral population (Narooji 2006). NB2 DB 2009 call ssp calidus Tundra & brookei Mediterranean Peregrine Falcons. NB3 The Socotra resident taxon morphologically resembles F.p. minor specimens; taxon minor has been suggested as occurring Yemen, but calidus is the migrant and WV in Arabia Jennings 2010; taxonomic position examined in Porter & Forsman in prep. Oman breeding records possibly assignable to escapes.
Falco peregrinus pelegrinoides


Monotypic. Introduced. Breeds freely private location Arabia Jennings 2008d, Salalah, S Oman & Doha Qatar

Many cockatoos & parrots continue to be introduced, particularly because many cultures have a long history of keeping, but also because of developing prosperity funding the trade in exotics Blackburn et al. 2015.

Cacatuidae

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Psittacidae

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Psittaculidae

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