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REPORT OF THE ALASKA CHECKLIST COMMITTEE, 2003–2007

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ABSTRACT: During the five years (2003–2007) since the last report of the Alaska Checklist Committee 21 species or subspecies have been added to the Alaska list, two subspecies have been raised to species status, and one subspecies has been deleted, resulting in a net total of 485 species and 115 additional subspecies of birds we maintain at the beginning of 2008 as occurring or having occurred naturally in Alaska.

THE CHANGING STATUS OF THE GRAY HAWK IN NEW MEXICO AND ADJACENT AREAS

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ABSTRACT: Historical accounts indicate that the Gray Hawk (*Buteo nitidus*) was decidedly rare and irregular in New Mexico, with no certain nesting, through the 1980s. The species began to increase in numbers and distribution in southwestern New Mexico in the 1990s, and was documented nesting there in 2004. It arrived in southeastern New Mexico in the lower Pecos River valley in 2005, first nesting there in 2007. Several reports from the Rio Grande valley in south-central New Mexico in 2006 suggest possible expansion into that area as well. The spread in New Mexico coincides with increased numbers and an expanded range in adjacent Arizona and Texas, suggesting the Gray Hawk has been expanding generally northward and higher in elevation for several decades; recent records from the northern Mexican Plateau indicate interior northern Mexico is also included in this expansion. While improved habitat conditions may have aided this increase in local areas, the scale of the range expansion suggests other factors, possibly including increasingly warmer temperatures, may be facilitating this southern raptor to expand northward.

AN APPARENT HYBRID BLACK × EASTERN PHOEBE FROM COLORADO

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ABSTRACT: From 21 April to 11 May 2007 an apparent hybrid male Black × Eastern Phoebe (*Sayornis nigricans* × *S. phoebe*) was observed in Loveland, Larimer County, Colorado. The bird's plumage was intermediate between the species, with paler upperparts, darker flanks, and a less distinct border between dark and white on the breast than expected on the Black Phoebe and darker upperparts, less head/back contrast, and a darker and more sharply demarcated upper breast than expected on the Eastern. Sonograms of the bird's territorial song show numerous characteristics intermediate between the typical songs of the two species. Although the Colorado bird provides the first strong evidence of hybridization in *Sayornis*, other sightings suggest the Black and Eastern Phoebes may have hybridized on other recent occasions. Range expansions of both species may increase the frequency of hybridization in the future.

NOTES:

OBSERVATIONS OF ADULT PEREGRINE FALCONS CAPTURING STONEFLIES

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A *FREGETTA* STORM-PETREL OFF WESTERN MEXICO

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BOOK REVIEWS:

Festschrift for Ned K. Johnson: Geographic Variation and Evolution in Birds, by Carla Cicero and J. V. Remsen, Jr. (eds.). 2007. Ornithological Monographs no. 63, American Ornithologists' Union. viii + 114 pp. Softback, \$10.00 (\$9.00 for members of the American Ornithologists' Union; add \$4.00 for domestic shipping, \$5.00 for foreign shipping). Available from Buteo Books, 3130 Laurel Road, Shipman, VA 22971. ISBN 978-0-943610-75-7.

Barefoot on Lava: The Journals and Correspondence of Naturalist

R. C. L. Perkins in Hawai'i, 1892–1901, edited by Neal L. Evenhuis. 2007. Bishop Museum Press, Honolulu. 412 pages, 49 figures including black-and-white photographs, maps, and reprints of newspaper clippings and correspondence. Cloth. \$29.95. ISBN 978-1-58178-061-1.

FEATURED PHOTO:

**HYBRIDIZATION OF A YELLOW-CROWNED AND BLACK-CROWNED
NIGHT-HERON IN SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA**

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