INVENTORY OF THE SPECIES AND SUBSPECIES OF ALASKA BIRDS, SECOND EDITION

DANIEL D. GIBSON and JACK J. WITHROW, University of Alaska Museum, Fairbanks, Alaska 99775-6960; avesalaska@gmail.com and jjwithrow@alaska.edu

ABSTRACT: The most recent inventory of the birds known from Alaska discussed 448 species and an additional 110 subspecies of birds recorded through 1996 (Gibson and Kessel 1997). In the 18 years since, many additional species and subspecies have been recorded in Alaska, and molecular studies have brought profound taxonomic changes that supplant many previous perceptions of avian relationships based primarily on morphology. In addition to species and subspecies new to Alaska, we outline here and provide literature citations for all recent changes in the families, genera, species, and subspecies of Alaska birds since the 1997 inventory. We include 505 naturally occurring species and an additional 114 subspecies known from Alaska through 2014.

The northwesternmost political subdivision of North America, Alaska is a vast (586,412 mi²/1,518,800 km²), zoogeographically dynamic, and pivotally important interface between the Old World and New World avifaunas (Figure 1). We have brought this inventory up to date through 2014 to provide a current regional review of the ongoing process of learning and proving the distributions of wild birds—“established by collecting and careful subsequent studies in museums” (Phillips 1986: xxxii). For avian systematists and other ornithologists who will be interested in verifying the bases for ornithological conclusions, as well as for researchers who will seek specimens of avian taxa from northwesternmost North America, we include the numbers and locations of Alaska specimens we deem significant and the bibliographic links between historical perspective (Gibson and Kessel 1997 and citations therein) and contemporary assessments of species and subspecies—including synonymy at either of these taxonomic levels—currently known from Alaska.

Preserved specimens constitute the foundation of this paper. Where italicized, specimen references denote that we have examined the individual specimens ourselves; museums are abbreviated as follows: AMNH (American Museum of Natural History, New York), ANSP (Academy of Natural Sciences
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Figure 1. Map of Alaska outlining the six geographic regions identified in text. Maritime boundaries founded on the 200-nautical-mile exclusive economic zone, as defined by the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea.
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ington Burke Museum, Seattle), YPM (Peabody Museum, Yale University), ZISP (Zoological Institute, Academy of Sciences, St. Petersburg), ZMUH (Zoological Museum, University of Helsinki). For taxa better represented than others in scientific collections by Alaska specimens, we cite institutions holding series (≥10 specimens). Abbreviations for sources of cited published documentary photos are AB (American Birds), ADN (Anchorage Daily News), B (Birding), BW (Birding World), FDNM (Fairbanks Daily News-Miner), FN (National Audubon Society Field Notes), NAB (North American Birds), and WB (Western Birds).

We provide synopses of regional status for all species and subspecies that occur less than annually. Status terms used include intermittent (species that recur nearly annually), casual (species that recur <30% of years), and accidental (species known from just one or two records in Alaska). To avoid narrow categorizations based on limited information, we sometimes use combinations of these terms, e.g., casual or accidental, casual or intermittent. If more than one subspecies of a single species is known from Alaska, we outline the nesting ranges or the status of each. We cite detailed overviews of Alaska taxa when available. We outline synonyms proposed from Alaska, those previously attributed to Alaska, and those named from nearby areas but not included by Gibson and Kessel (1997).

Nomenclature and limits of avian families, phylogenetic sequence, and English names follow the most recent American Ornithologists’ Union Check-list of North American Birds (AOU 1998 and supplements through 2014). Braces enclose type localities. Multiple subspecies are listed chronologically—except those of the Rock Ptarmigan, Pacific Wren, and Fox and Song sparrows, which are arranged generally west to east, by breeding ranges—and are briefly characterized. Subspecies presented in brackets are inferences (e.g., taxa not represented by an extant specimen, taxa for which age/sex of extant specimen/s precludes certain identification to subspecies, or taxa represented only by a partial specimen [remains]). Because Alaska’s avifauna includes examples of more than one facet of recent taxonomic divisions (e.g., Antrostomus/Caprimulgus, Megascops/Otus, Haemorhous/Carpodacus), we provide citations for all nomenclatural changes at the generic or species level since the 1997 inventory, following the now annual (since 2002) AOU Check-list supplements. Changes at the subspecies level involve the individual works cited or are our own assessments.

We define subspecies as “geographic populations diagnosable by one or more [heritable] phenotypic [plumage or morphology] traits” (Remsen 2010:63). Thus the field of molecular genetics is largely beyond the scope of this paper (but see above regarding taxonomy at and above the species level) and irrelevant to assessments of subspecific status (Winker 2009, Patten 2015). Reference to these works is included where we feel it is particularly germane as part of the broader account. We recognize that some of the subspecies discussed here might not meet stringent contemporary standards of diagnosability (see Patten and Unitt 2002, Winker and Haig 2010), but unless and until such examples are examined in more detail and published, we maintain the historical perspective as a working hypothesis.

Thus constituted, this inventory includes 505 naturally occurring species and 114 additional subspecies of birds known from Alaska through 2014.
Order **ANSERIFORMES**—Family **ANATIDAE: DUCKS, GESE, & SWANS**


*Anser albifrons gambelli* Hartlaub, 1852 *(= Veracruz, Mexico)*. Greater White-fronted Goose. Includes subspecies *frontalis* S. F. Baird, 1858 *(Fort Thorn, New Mexico)*, according to Banks (2011). Large and pale. Nests from interior and n Alaska east to Hudson Bay. Series DMNS, MVZ, UAM, USNM.


*Chen canagica* (Sewastianoff, 1802) *(l’Ile Canaga ou Kyktak = Kodiak I.* [Gibson 2002]). Emperor Goose. Series AMNH, CAS, DMNS, MVZ, UAM, USNM. For overview see Gabrielson and Lincoln (1959), Gibson and Byrd (2007), and Petersen et al. (2011).

*Chen caerulescens caerulescens* (Linnaeus, 1758) *(Hudson Bay)*. Snow Goose. Series DMNS, UAM, USNM. For overview see Gabrielson and Lincoln (1959), Johnson and Herter (1989), and Hohenberger et al. (1994).

*Chen rossii* (Cassin, 1861) *(Great Slave Lake, Northwest Territories)*. Ross’s Goose. Casual in se, s-c, and n Alaska (see Willett 1921a, Kessel and Gibson 1978, Johnson and Herter 1989, Hohenberger et al. 1994, Tobish 2002d). No specimen; photos UAM.

*Branta bernicla nigricans* (Lawrence, 1846) *(Egg Harbor, New Jersey)*. Brant. Series CAS, DMNS, FMNH, MVZ, SDNHM, UAM, UMMZ, USNM, YPM. **NOTES:** Alaska reports of light-bellied *B. b. hrota* (O. F. Müller, 1776) *(Iceland)* might be of intergrades (Gabrielson and Lincoln 1959).

*Branta hutchinsii leucopareia* (Brandt, 1836) *(Aleutian Is.)*. Cackling Goose. Small and moderately dark (paler than *minima*); adult usually has a broad white collar. Nests locally in the Aleutians, and in the Semidi Is. Series UAM, USNM. **NOTES:** On the basis of genetic studies of white-cheeked geese as well as on differences in voice, nesting habits, habitat, timing of migration, color, and size, Banks et al. (2004) recognized *B.*
Canada Geese, including in Alaska leucopareia, minima, and taverneri (see Gibson et al. 2008).

B. h. minima Ridgway, 1885 {St. Michael, Alaska}. Smallest; rather dark. Nests in coastal w Alaska “from Nushagak Bay to the vicinity of Wainwright, where it intergrades with ... taverneri, while it does not appear to intergrade in the rest of its range; absent from the Seward Peninsula” (Delacour 1951:9). Series FMNH, UAM, UMMZ. See NOTES under B. h. leucopareia (above).

B. h. taverneri Delacour, 1951 {Colusa, California}. “Resembles B. [canadensis] parvipes, but smaller; coloration variable, usually light as in parvipes, sometimes deeper [= darker?]; a small, usually incomplete white neck ring often present; bill short and high at the base, but broad near the tip, with a small rounded nail. It differs in the last characteristic from the otherwise closely similar ... leucopareia from the Aleutian Is., which has a tapering bill and a long, pointed nail, and also always shows a complete, usually broad white neck ring. Size and proportions highly variable” (Delacour 1951:7). Larger and paler than minima. Nests in nw and n Alaska, away from the coast (Delacour 1954). Series MVZ, UAM. NOTES: On the basis of work referred to under B. h. leucopareia (above), Banks et al. (2004) detached subspecies taverneri from B. c. parvipes, with which it had been synonymized frequently (AOU 1957, Palmer 1976, Kessel 1989, Gibson and Kessel 1997—and see AOU 1983:70 and 1998:60, Gibson et al. 2008).

Branta canadensis parvipes (Cassin, 1852) {Veracruz, Mexico}. Canada Goose. Medium sized; color of underparts variable, but the palest subspecies in Alaska. Nests in interior and n Alaska east to Hudson Bay; not coastal. Extent of overlap of nesting range with B. h. taverneri not known to us. Series UAM. NOTES: See comments under B. h. taverneri (above).


B. c. fulva Delacour, 1951 {Graham I., Queen Charlotte Is. [Haida Gwaii], British Columbia}. Distinctly larger than occidentalis; lighter, more fulvous; bill longer and flatter. Largely resident, se Alaska. At least 29 specimens (AMNH, 9; MVZ, 9; UAM, 6; CAS, 5). NOTES: Following unsuccessful transplants of small numbers of birds in 1973 and 1975 from se Alaska to the Kodiak archipelago (where there was no nesting population of Canada Geese), over 200 birds were introduced there successfully in 1986 by Alaska Dept. of Fish and Game and USFWS (Paul 2009).

Cygnus buccinator Richardson, 1831 {Hudson Bay}. Trumpeter Swan. Series UAM, USNM.

Cygnus columbianus columbianus (Ord, 1815) {below the great narrows of the Columbia River}. Tundra Swan. Adult has yellow spot at base of black bill. Throughout the Alaska nesting range of the species. Series UAM, UMMZ, USNM.


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**Anas penelope** Linnaeus, 1758 [Sweden]. Eurasian Wigeon. Migrant and winter in the Aleutians; rare or intermittent elsewhere in sw Alaska and in w, n, interior, s-c, and se Alaska. Series UAM; photos UAM. For overview see Kessel and Gibson (1978) and Gibson and Byrd (2007).

**Anas americana** J. F. Gmelin, 1789 [New York]. American Wigeon. Series AMNH, UAM, USNM.

**Anas rubripes** Brewster, 1902 [Lake Umbagog, New Hampshire]. American Black Duck. Casual or accidental in se, s-c, and interior Alaska (see Kessel and Gibson 1978, Isleib and Kessel 1989). No specimen; photos UAM. NOTES: A specimen (UAM) from Cordova (Kessel and Gibson 1978) is a hybrid *A. rubripes* × *A. platyrhynchos* (q.v.).

**Anas platyrhynchos platyrhynchos** Linnaeus, 1758 [Sweden]. Mallard. Series UAM, USNM. NOTES: Lavretsky et al. (2014) found *Anas platyrhynchos* and *Anas rubripes* to be identical in 18 genetic markers.


**Anas discors** Linnaeus, 1766 [South Carolina]. Blue-winged Teal. Series UAM. See Kessel and Gibson (1978) for overview.


**Anas clypeata** Linnaeus, 1758 [Sweden]. Northern Shoveler. Series UAM, USNM. See Kessel and Gibson (1978) for overview.

**Anas acuta** Linnaeus, 1758 [Sweden]. Northern Pintail. Series AMNH, CMN, DMNS, FMNH, MCZ, MVZ, UAM, USNM.


Anas crecca crecca Linnaeus, 1758 {Sweden}. Green-winged Teal. Male in definitive alternate plumage has white scapular stripe and narrow white border to green face patch. Old World and the Aleutian Is. Includes nimia Friedmann, 1948 {Kiska I., c Aleutians}. Migrant and resident breeder in the Aleutians. Series UAM, USNM.

NOTES: Peters et al. (2012) and Winker et al. (2013) discussed the relationships of A. c. crecca, A. c. nimia, and A. c. carolinensis as an example of incomplete heteropatric speciation (Figures 2, 3).

A. c. carolinensis J. F. Gmelin, 1789 {South Carolina}. Male has white breast bar, no white scapular stripe or white edge to face patch. Widespread breeder in Alaska, except Aleutians. Intergrades with nominate crecca in the e Aleutians (Gibson and Byrd 2007). Series UAM, USNM.

Aythya valisineria (Wilson, 1814) {United States}. Canvasback. Series UAM. See Kessel and Gibson (1978) for overview.

Aythya americana (Eyton, 1838) {North America}. Redhead. At least 13 specimens {UAM, 8; USNM, 4; CRCM, 1}. See Kessel and Gibson (1978) for overview.


Aythya collaris (Donovan, 1809) {England}. Ring-necked Duck. Series UAM. See Kessel and Gibson (1978) for overview.


A. m. nearctica Stejneger, 1885 {North America}. Male with coarser and more extensive black vermiculation on mantle. The New World subspecies, found throughout the Alaska range of the species. Series FMNH, UAM, USNM.

Aythya affinis (Eyton, 1838) {North America}. Lesser Scaup. Series UAM, USNM.

Polysticta stelleri (Pallas, 1769) {Kamchatka}. Steller’s Eider. Series AMNH, ANSP, CAS, CM, CMN, DMNS, FMNH, HSU, MCZ, MVZ, ROM, SDNHM, UAM, UBC, UCD, UCLA, UMMZ, USNM, UWBM, YPM. For overview see Johnson and Herter (1989), Fredrickson (2001), and Quakenbush et al. (2002).

Somateria fischeri (Brandt, 1847) {St. Michael, Alaska}. Spectacled Eider. Series AMNH, ANSP, CAS, CM, CMN, DMNS, FMNH, MCZ, MVZ, ROM, SDNHM, UAM, UCD, UCLA, UMMZ, USNM, UWBM. For overview see Johnson and Herter (1989) and Petersen et al. (2000).
Somateria spectabilis (Linnaeus, 1758) [Sweden]. King Eider. Series AMNH, ANSP, CAS, CM, CMN, DMNS, FMNH, MCZ, MVZ, SDNHM, UAM, UBC, UCD, UMMZ, USNM, UWBM. See Johnson and Herter (1989) for overview.


S. m. v-nigrum Bonaparte and G. R. Gray, 1855 [Kotzebue Sound, Alaska]. Male has orange bill, sharply pointed bill processes, black throat V. Throughout the Alaska range of the species. Series AMNH, ANSP, CMN, DMNS, FMNH, LACM, MCZ, MVZ, ROM, SDNHM, UAM, UBC, UCD, UMMZ, USNM, UWBM. See Johnson and Herter (1989) for overview. Notes: Bruce and David (2007) established the name’s compound authorship and fixed the date of publication; neuter gender of the noun phrase v-nigrum follows ICZN (1999: Article 31.2.1).

Histrionicus histrionicus (Linnaeus, 1758) [Newfoundland]. Harlequin Duck. Series AMNH, CAS, DMNH, DMNS, FMNH, HSU, KU, LACM, MCZ, MVZ, UAM, UCD, UMMZ, USNM, UWBM.

Melanitta perspicillata (Linnaeus, 1758) [Hudson Bay]. Surf Scoter. Series UAM, USNM.

Melanitta fusca deglandi (Bonaparte, 1850) [North America]. White-winged Scoter. Male has rounded bill tip; bill protuberance rounded, with larger and rounder nares; black on ridge of culmen more abbreviated, wider; maxilla largely pink, yellow below naris, black along bill edge; brown flanks in definitive alternate plumage. Includes dixoni (W. S. Brooks, 1915) [= Griffin Point, arctic Alaska]. Throughout the Alaska range of the species. Series DMNS, UAM, USNM, UWBM.


Melanitta americana (Swainson, 1832) [Hudson Bay at 57°N]. Black Scoter. Monotypic. “Formerly treated as conspecific with M. nigra (Linnaeus, 1758) of Eurasia, but separated on the basis of courtship calls ... and color, form, and feathering of the bill in adult males and most adult females” (Chesser et al. 2010:731). Series FMNH, UAM, UCD, UMMZ, USNM, UWBM.

Clangula hyemalis (Linnaeus, 1758) [n Sweden]. Long-tailed Duck. Series AMNH, ANSP, CAS, CMN, DMNS, FMNH, KU, LACM, MCZ, MVZ, SDNHM, UAM, UCD, UMMZ, USNM, UWBM, YPM.

Bucephala albeola (Linnaeus, 1758) [Newfoundland]. Bufflehead. Series LACM, UAM, USNM.

Bucephala clangula americana (Bonaparte, 1838) [e United States]. Common Goldeneye. Series UAM, USNM. Notes: A specimen (USNM) from the Pribilofs identified (Hanna 1916) as nominate clangula (Linnaeus, 1758) [Sweden], the Old World subspecies, has been reidentified as subspecies americana (Gibson et al. 2013).

Bucephala islandica (J. F. Gmelin, 1789) [Iceland]. Barrow’s Goldeneye. Series LACM, UAM, USNM, UWBM.

Mergellus albellus (Linnaeus, 1758) [near Izmir, Turkey]. Smew. Migrant and winter in w and c Aleutians; casual in the Pribilofs and in s-c Alaska; accidental in n Alaska (see Sladen 1966, Williamson and Emison 1969, Byrd et al. 1974, Kessel and Gibson 1978, Gibson 1981, Isleib and Kessel 1989, Tobish 2002d, Gibson and...
Lophodytes cucullatus (Linnaeus, 1758) {South Carolina}. Hooded Merganser. Nests in se Alaska; casual in s-c and sw Alaska; accidental in the Interior and in w Alaska (see Kessel and Gibson 1978, Tobish 1999b, Heinl and Piston 2009). At least seven specimens (UAM, 6; MVZ, 1).


M. m. americanus Cassin, 1852 {North America}. Male has black bar on greater upper wing-coverts exposed, not concealed by median coverts; nail not so deeply hooked. The North American subspecies. Widespread in southern Alaska, reaches w Alaska and the Interior. Series UAM, USNM.

Mergus serrator Linnaeus, 1758 {Sweden}. Red-breasted Merganser. Series MCZ, MVZ, USNM, USNM.

Oxyura jamaicensis rubida (Wilson, 1814) {Delaware River, near Philadelphia}. Ruddy Duck. Casual breeder in e interior and s-c Alaska; casual in se Alaska (see Willett 1921a, Hansen 1960, Kessel and Springer 1966, Kessel and Gibson 1978, Isleib and Kessel 1989, Tobish 2007b, Heinl and Piston 2009). At least three specimens (USNM, 2; UAM, 1); photos UAM.

Order Galliformes—Family Phasianidae: Grouse

Bonasa umbellus umbelloides (Douglas, 1829) {Henry House, Alberta}. Ruffed Grouse. Darker dorsally and ventrally, tarsi incompletely feathered. Se Alaska at Hyder and on the Stikine and Taku rivers. Five specimens UAM.

B. u. yukonensis Grinnell, 1916 {Fortymile, Yukon River, Yukon Territory}. Grayer and paler, tarsi feathered to toes. Interior Alaska. Series UAM, USNM. NOTES: Over 350 birds were transplanted in the 1980s and 1990s from the Interior to s-c Alaska—to the Matanuska River valley and the Kenai Peninsula, areas beyond the natural range of the species—by Alaska Dept. of Fish and Game (Steen 1995, 1997, Paul 2009).

Falcipennis canadensis canadensis (Linnaeus, 1758) {Hudson Bay}. Spruce Grouse. Male grayer; tail with chestnut terminal band; uppertail coverts not fringed white. Includes osgoodi (Bishop, 1900) {Lake Marsh, Yukon Territory} and atratus (Grinnell, 1910) {Hawkins I., Prince William Sound, Alaska}. Throughout the Alaska taiga in interior and s-c Alaska; reaches sw Alaska and northern se Alaska. Series AMNH, MSB, MVZ, UAM, UWBM.

F. c. isleibi Dickerman and Gustafson, 1996 {Prince of Wales I., Alexander Archipelago, Alaska}. Male blacker; tail without terminal band; uppertail coverts tipped narrowly with white. Includes Alaska birds previously referred to franklinii (Douglas, 1829) {Okanagan, British Columbia}. Resident on Prince of Wales I. and satellites; Zarembo I. Series UAM.

Lagopus lagopus alba (J. F. Gmelin, 1789) {Hudson Bay}. Willow Ptarmigan. Smaller than alascensis, with shorter wing and tail and narrower bill. Winters in e Interior (West et al. 1970). Series AMNH, UAM. NOTES: Long regarded as masculine, the generic name Lagopus is feminine (David and Gosselin 2002).

L. l. alexandrae Grinnell, 1909 {Baranof I., Alexander Archipelago}. Large, autumn coloration darker than alascensis, especially dorsally, and bill slightly smaller and narrower. Includes muriel Gabrielson and Lincoln, 1949 {Nagai I., Shumagin...
Is.). Coastal southern Alaska from easternmost of the Aleutians (Unimak—see Gibson and Byrd 2007), the Shumagin Is., and Alaska Peninsula east, including Kodiak archipelago, to southern se Alaska (Prince of Wales and Revillagigedo islands—see Heinl and Piston 2009). Intergrades with alascensis north of the base of the Alaska Peninsula, and with alba in nw British Columbia (AOU 1957). Series AMNH, CAS, LACM, MVZ, UAM, USNM.

*L. l. alascensis* Swarth, 1926 {Kobuk River Delta, Alaska}. Large; buffier in autumn and with slightly broader bill than alexandrae; the widespread race. Throughout most of mainland Alaska. Maintained as a synonym of nominate lagopus (Linnaeus, 1758) {Swedish Lapland} by Peters (1934) and Hellmayr and Conover (1942). Series CAS, DMNS, MSB, MVZ, SDNHM, UAM, USNM.

*L. l. muta evermanni* Elliot, 1896 {Attu I., w Aleutians}. Rock Ptarmigan. Summer male is blackish, especially ventrally; usually invaded somewhat by brown dorsally. Attu I. Series UAM, USNM. NOTES: From 2003 to 2006 the USFWS transplanted 75 birds to Agattu I., w Aleutians (Kaler et al. 2010).

*L. m. townsendi* Elliot, 1896 {Kiska I., c Aleutians}. Summer male is reddish to orangish, with broader, coarser dark vermiculations than in atkhensis. Includes gabrielsoni Murie, 1944 {Amchitka I., c Aleutians}. Rat Is. (Kiska to Amchitka). Series AMNH, BYU, MCZ, UAM, USNM.

*L. m. atkhensis* Turner, 1882 {Atka I., c Aleutians}. Summer male is dark brown, with fine black/brown vermiculations. Includes sanfordi Bent, 1912 {Tanaga I., c Aleutians} and chamberlaini Clark, 1907 {Adak I., c Aleutians}. Andreanof Is. (Tanaga to Amlia). Series AMNH, CMN, MCZ, UAM, USNM.

*L. m. nelsoni* Stejneger, 1884 {Unalaska I., e Aleutians}. Summer male is dark brown with fine black vermiculations. Includes yunaskensis Gabrielson and Lincoln, 1951 {Yunaska I., e Aleutians} and kelloggae Grinnell, 1910 {Montague I., Prince William Sound}. Ne Asia, n and interior Alaska south to sw and s-c Alaska (to Is. of Four Mountains in e Aleutians, Shumagin Is., Alaska Peninsula, and Kodiak archipelago) and east apparently to northernmost se Alaska. Series AMNH, CAS, DMNS, MCZ, MSB, MVZ, UAM, USNM, UWBM, YPM.

*L. m. dixoni* Grinnell, 1909 {Chichagof I., Alexander Archipelago}. Summer male is dark brown but grayer than nelsoni, with fine vermiculations. Se Alaska (Coast Mountains and Chichagof, Baranof, Admiralty, and Revillagigedo islands). Series MVZ. See Heinl and Piston (2009) for limit of range.


*Dendragapus fuliginosus sitkensis* Swarth, 1921 {Kupreanof I., Alexander Archipelago}, Sooty Grouse. Series UAM, USNM. NOTES: Formerly merged with *D. obscurus* (Say, 1822) (= about 20 miles north of Colorado Springs, Colorado) as the Blue Grouse, but separated on the basis of genetic evidence and differences in voice (hooting), behavior, and plumage (Banks et al. 2006).

*Tympanuchus phasianellus caurus* (Friedmann, 1943) {Fairbanks}. Sharp-tailed Grouse. Series UAM. NOTES: Pyle (2008) maintained caurus as a synonym of nominate phasianellus (Linnaeus, 1758) {Hudson Bay}.

**Order GAVIIFORMES—Family GAVIIDAE: LOONS**

*Gavia stellata* (Pontoppidan, 1763) {Denmark}. Red-throated Loon. Series AMNH, CAS, CRCM, DMNS, SDNHM, UAM, USNM.

*Gavia arctica viridigularis* Dwight, 1918 {Gizhiga, Sea of Okhotsk}. Arctic Loon. Nests in w Alaska north of Bering Strait; migrant in Bering Sea and Aleutians (see

**Gavia pacifica** (Lawrence, 1858) [San Diego, California]. Pacific Loon. Series AMNH, ANSP, DMNS, SDNHM, UAM, USNM.

**Gavia immer** (Brünnich, 1764) [Faeroe Is.]. Common Loon. Series UAM, USNM, UWBM.

**Gavia adamsii** (G. R. Gray, 1859) [Alaska]. Yellow-billed Loon. Series DMNS, SDNHM, UAM, USNM, UWBM.

**Order Podicipediformes—Family Podicipedidae: Grebes**


*Podiceps auritus cornutus* (J. F. Gmelin, 1789) [Hudson Bay]. Horned Grebe. Series LACM, UAM, USNM, UWBM.

*Podiceps grisegena holboellii* Reinhardt, 1854 [s Greenland]. Red-necked Grebe. Series USNM, UWBM.

*Podiceps nigricollis californicus* Heermann, 1854 [California]. Eared Grebe. Casual in se, s-c, and interior Alaska (see Gibson et al. 2003, Tobish 2005c, 2010a, 2011b). One specimen UAM; photos UAM.

*Aechmophorus occidentalis occidentalis* (Lawrence, 1858) [Fort Steilacoom, Washington]. Western Grebe. Winters southern se Alaska (see Bishop 1900, Willett 1923, Kessel and Gibson 1978, Isleib and Kessel 1989, Gibson and Kessel 1997, Heinl and Piston 2009). Four specimens (UAM, 2; LACM, 1; USNM, 1).

**Order Procellariiformes—Family Diomedeidae: Albatrosses**

*Thalassarche salvini* (Rothschild, 1893) [New Zealand]. Salvins’s Albatross. Accidental in sw Alaska. One record (no specimen; photos UAM—published WB 36:136–137, 2005): subadult, 4 Aug 2003, 18 km northwest of Kasatochi L., c Aleutians (Benter et al. 2005). Notes: On the basis of genetic studies, the AOU (1997) divided the albatrosses known in Alaska (formerly in the genus *Diomedea* Linnaeus) into the genera *Thalassarche* Reichenbach and *Phoebastria* Reichenbach. Until recently maintained as a subspecies of *T. cauta* (Shy Albatross), *salvini* is now treated as a separate species on the basis of differences in plumage and genetic data (Chesser et al. 2014).


*Phoebastria nigripes* (Audubon, 1839) [Pacific Ocean at 30° 44′ N, 146° W]. Black-footed Albatross. Series UAM. Notes: See comments under *Thalassarche* (above).

—Family **Procellaridae: Shearwaters and Petrels**

*Fulmarus glacialis rodgersii* Cassin, 1862 [North Pacific Ocean]. Northern Fulmar. Series AMNH, DMNS, UAM, USNM, UWBM.


*Puffinus carneipes* Gould, 1844 [small islands off Cape Leeuwin, Western Australia]. Flesh-footed Shearwater. Intermittent summer/autumn visitant (see Tobish 2013c, 2014c; photos UAM). Only recently substantiated in n Gulf of Alaska, by photos UAM (one bird, 21 Aug 2013, ~43 km west-southwest of Icy Bay, A. J. Lang and others) and specimen UAM (ad. ♂, 8 Sep 2014, off Middleton I., L. H. DeCicco and N. R. Hajdukovich). **Notes:** A “casual summer and fall visitant in southcoastal and southwestern Alaska” (Kessel and Gibson 1978:12; see also Gibson and Byrd 2007), but not substantiated by specimen or photograph until 2013.


*Puffinus griseus* (J. F. Gmelin, 1789) [New Zealand]. Sooty Shearwater. Series USNM, UWBM.

*Puffinus tenuirostris* (Temminck, 1836) [Japan]. Short-tailed Shearwater. Series DMNS, LACM, MVZ, UAM, UMMZ, USNM, UWBM.

—Family **HYDROBATIDAE: STORM-PETRELS**


*O. f. plumbea* (Peale, 1848) [off Cape Flattery, Washington]. Smaller and darker. Nests in se Alaska. Series CAS, LACM, MVZ.

*Oceanodroma leucorhoa leucorhoa* (Vieillot, 1818) [France]. Leach’s Storm-Petrel. Includes *beali* Emerson, 1906 [Sitka Bay]. Series AMNH, LACM, UAM, USNM, UWBM.

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Order **SULIFORMES**—Family **FREGATIDAE: FRIEGATEBIRDS**


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—Family **SULIDAE: BOOBIES AND GANNETS**


**Notes:** These birds occurred in the wake of unusually large numbers in summer and fall 2014 in coastal California (fide R. G. McCaskie and S. Rottenborn, in litt., 2014) and following or concurrently with records in coastal Oregon (fide S. E. Finnegan, in litt., 2014), Washington (fide B. Waggoner, in litt., 2014), and British Columbia (fide K. Morgan, in litt., 2014). For status in those regions, see Hamilton et al. (2007), Marshall et al. (2003), Mlodinow and Aanerud (2006), and Morgan et al. (2009), respectively. The only Brown Booby previously recorded in Alaska, an ad. ♀ (UAM) collected 15 Jul 2000 after landing aboard ship on 13 and 15 Jul in the c Bering Sea at 58° 44′ N, 174° 09′ W (K. Swiney) and identified as an example of *S. l. plotus* (Forster, 1844) [near New Caledonia], is unlikely, in the absence of a midsummer storm, to have reached the Bering Sea without human assistance.

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—Family **PHALACROCORACIDAE: CORMORANTS**


*Phalacrocorax auritus cincinatus* (Brandt, 1837) [Kodiak I.]. Double-crested Cormorant. Series UAM, USNM.

*Phalacrocorax urile* (J. F. Gmelin, 1789) [Kamchatka]. Red-faced Cormorant. Series AMNH, KU, SDNHM, UAM, USNM, UWBM. For overview see Kessel and Gibson (1978) and Causey (2002).


**Notes:** *Stictocarbo kenyoni* Siegel-Causey, 1991 [Amchitka I., c Aleutians] has been...

**Order Pelecaniformes—Family Pelecanidae: Pelicans**


**—Family Ardeidae: Herons, Bitterns, & Allies**

*Botaurus lentiginosus* (Rackett, 1813) [England]. American Bittern. Casual in se Alaska (see Willett 1921a, Kessel and Gibson 1978, Tobish 2006). Two specimens UAM.


*Ardea herodias fannini* Chapman, 1901 [Graham I., Haida Gwaii, British Columbia]. Great Blue Heron. Series UAM.


*Egretta garzetta garzetta* (Linnaeus, 1766) [ne Italy]. Little Egret. Accidental in w Aleutians. One record (specimen UAM): ad. ♂ found dead, 27 May 2000, Buldir I. (Gibson et al. 2003).

*Egretta tricolor* [ruficollis Gosse, 1847 [Jamaica]]. Tricolored Heron. Includes *E. t. occidentalis* [Huey, 1927] [Scammon Lagoon [Laguna Ojo de Liebre], Baja California Sur], following Hellmayr and Conover (1948a), Erickson and Howell (2001), and Unitt (2004). Accidental in se Alaska. One record (no specimen; photo UAM): ad., 22–24 May 1985, Chickamin River, mainland se Alaska, P. Bethel (Gibson et al. 2013).

**INVENTORY OF THE SPECIES AND SUBSPECIES OF ALASKA BIRDS**

*B. i. coromandus* (Boddaert, 1783) {Coromandel coast of India}. Larger; in nuptial plumage has cinnamon-colored ornamental feathering over entire head (including cheek, chin, and throat) and on foreneck, breast, and back. S and e Asia. One record (specimen UAM): ad. ♀ found dead, 19 Jun 1988, Agattu I., w Aleutians (Gibson and Kessel 1992).


*Nycticorax nycticorax nycticorax* (Linnaeus, 1758) {s Europe}. Black-crowned Night-Heron. Smaller, superciliary line all white. Casual in sw Alaska in w and c Aleutians and in the Pribilofs (see Gibson and Kessel 1992, Gibson and Byrd 2007, Gibson et al. 2013). Five specimens UAM; photos UAM.


Order **Accipitriformes**—Family **Cathartidae**: New World Vultures


—Family **Pandionidae**: Ospreys

Notes: For a time maintained as a subfamily of the Accipitridae but returned to rank of family because of genetic and morphological distinctiveness (Chesser et al. 2010).

*Pandion haliaetus carolinensis* (J. F. Gmelin, 1788) {South Carolina}. Osprey. Series USNM.

—Family **Accipitridae**: Hawks, Eagles, & Allies

*Haliaeetus leucocephalus* (Linnaeus, 1766) {South Carolina}. Bald Eagle. Monotypic. Palmer (1988a:194) wrote, “Since no satisfactory geographical subdivision is known, it is preferable to avoid categorizing the Bald Eagle into subspecies.” Indeed, his observation (loc. cit.)—“[in] recent years many Juv. birds have been translocated long distances for restocking: for example, Canadian birds into n. U.S. and Alaskan birds to N.Y.”—points to likely dilution of any size differences by which subspecies of the Bald Eagle were ever recognized. Series CAS, LACM, USNM, UWBM.


*Haliaeetus pelagicus* (Pallas, 1811) {Tauisk, Sea of Okhotsk}. Steller’s Sea-Eagle. Casual in sw Alaska; accidental in w, s-c, and se Alaska (see Gilbert 1922, Gabrielson

*Circus cyaneus* [cyaneus (Linnaeus, 1766) {vicinity of London, England}]. Northern Harrier. Adult male with all-white flanks; juvenile lighter brown. Casual in w Aleutians (Gibson and Byrd 2007). One (partial) specimen UAM.

*C. c. hudsonius* (Linnaeus, 1766) {Hudson Bay}. Longer wing and heavier bill; adult male slightly browner above, with wedge-shaped rufous spots on flanks and thighs; juvenile darker brown (Cramp and Simmons 1980; see Pyle 2008). Widespread breeder in Alaska. Series USNM. See Kessel and Gibson (1978) for overview of this subspecies.

*Accipiter striatus velox* (Wilson, 1812) {Philadelphia, Pennsylvania}. Sharp-shinned Hawk. Paler. Most of Alaska range of the species. Series MVZ, UAM, USNM.

*A. s. perobscurus* Snyder, 1938 {Graham I., Haida Gwaii, British Columbia}. Darker; difference most pronounced in immature plumage. Se Alaska. Series UAM. See Webster (1988) for overview.

*Accipiter gentilis atricapillus* (Wilson, 1812) {near Philadelphia, Pennsylvania}. Northern Goshawk. Paler than *laingi*. Most of Alaska range of the species. Series UAM, USNM.

*A. g. laingi* (Taverner, 1840) {Graham I., Haida Gwaii, British Columbia}. Darker than *atricapillus*. Se Alaska. Series UAM. See Webster (1988) for overview.


*Buteo jamaicensis harlani* (Audubon, 1830) {St. Francisville, Louisiana}. Red-tailed Hawk. “Typical” adult exhibits extreme melanism and an unbarred mottled whitish tail (Mindell 1985). Nests in interior and s-c Alaska. Series UAM. NOTES: Mindell (1983) recognized *harlani* as the widespread nesting subspecies of w interior Alaska and noted that intergrades with *calurus* (q.v.) were numerous in the e Interior. Palmer (1988b) discussed “Harlan’s Hawk” as a color morph of subspecies *calurus* (q.v.).

*B. j. calurus* Cassin, 1855 {Fort Webster [Rio Mimbres], New Mexico}. Large; adult’s tail red; light-morph adult’s back paler than that of *alascensis*. Intergrades with *harlani* are numerous in the e Interior, and most Alaska reports of *calurus* might be of intergrades (Mindell 1983). At least two specimens (USNM, 2).

*B. j. alascensis* Grinnell, 1909 {Glacier Bay}. Small; resembles *calurus*, but dark areas blacker and more extended and more richly colored ventrally. Nests in se Alaska. At least six specimens (MVZ, 5; UAM, 1). NOTES: Without a clearer understanding of the limits of geographically partitioned variation in this species, and in the absence of specimen evidence from Alaska, we regard as inconclusive Liguori and Sullivan’s (2010, 2014) Alaska reports of subspecies *borealis* (J. F. Gmelin, 1788) {South Carolina} and of subspecies *abieticola* Todd, 1950 {Ste. Margaret Falls (above Clarke City), Quebec}. Subspecies *borealis* is the eastern Red-tailed Hawk, the limit of whose nesting range extends from ne Alberta south on the e Great Plains to e Texas (see AOU 1957, Godfrey 1986, Pyle 2008, Dickinson and Remsen 2013); it is not known in far w Canada (see Campbell et al. 1990, Sinclair et al. 2003). Regarding *abieticola*, the “northern” Red-tailed Hawk, most authorities (e.g., AOU 1957, Godfrey
1986, Palmer 1988b, Pyle 2008, Preston and Beane 2009) have not recognized it as separable (e.g., “birds that fit this description occur infrequently and do not support a recognizable separate population” [R. W. Dickerman in Wheeler 2003:318]; identification is “confounded by substantial individual variation” [Pyle 2008:445]).

*Buteo lagopus sanctijohannis* (J. F. Gmelin, 1788) [Newfoundland]. Rough-legged Hawk. Slightly smaller, darker. Nests throughout the North American range of the species (Palmer 1988b). Series DMNS, UAM, USNM. Notes: Cade (1955) identified all Alaska-breeding Rough-legged Hawks as intergrades between *sanktijohannis* and *kamtschatkensis*; the AOU (1957) and Gabrielson and Lincoln (1959) included *kamtschatkensis* as the nesting bird of coastal w and n Alaska.


*Aquila chrysaetos canadensis* (Linnaeus, 1758) [Hudson Bay]. Golden Eagle. Series USNM.

Order **GRUIFORMES**—Family **Rallidae: Rails and Coots**


—Family **Gruidae: Cranes**

*Grus canadensis canadensis* (Linnaeus, 1758) [Hudson Bay]. Sandhill Crane. Smaller, especially in bill and tarsus. Nests throughout the Alaska range of the species, except se Alaska. Series MVZ, UAM, USNM.


Fairbanks (Kessel and Kelly 1958); one bird with Sandhill Cranes, 15–20 Sep 1998, Delta Junction (Tobish 1999a).

Order **CHARADRIIFORMES**—Family **RECURVIROSTRIDAE**: **STILTS AND AVOCETS**


—Family **HAEMATOPODIDAE**: **OYSTERCATCHERS**


*Haematopus bachmani* Audubon, 1838 [Columbia River mouth]. Black Oystercatcher. Series AMNH, MVZ, UAM, USNM.

—Family **CHARADRIIDAE**: **LAPWINGS AND PLOVERS**


*Pluvialis squatarola* (Linnaeus, 1758) [Sweden]. Black-bellied Plover. We follow Hellmayr and Conover (1948b) in maintaining this species as monotypic (cf. Engelmoer and Roselaar [1998], whose average differences do not fit our operational definition of subspecies). Series DMNS, MVZ, SDNHM, UAM, USNM. See Paulson (1995) for overview.


*Pluvialis dominica* (Statius Müller, 1776) [Hispaniola]. American Golden-Plover. Series AMNH, CAS, DMNS, SDNHM, UAM, USNM. See Johnson and Connors (2010a) for overview.

*Pluvialis fulva* (J. F. Gmelin, 1789) [Tahiti]. Pacific Golden-Plover. Series AMNH, CAS, DMNS, UAM, USNM. See Johnson and Connors (2010b) for overview.

Deleted from Inventory: *Charadrius alexandrinus* [nivosus (Cassin, 1858) [San Francisco, California]]. Snowy Plover. When Chesser et al. (2011) divided into two species the Old World Kentish Plover, *C. alexandrinus* Linnaeus, 1758 [Egypt], and the New World Snowy Plover, *C. nivosus*, the supporting evidence for the sole Alaska report (photos UAM: one bird, 23–24 May 1991, Nome River mouth, Seward Peninsula [Gibson and Kessel 1992]) was re-examined by the Alaska Checklist Committee, who voted that, although of a “Snowy Plover” the photos do not point conclusively to either species (Gibson et al. 2013).


*Charadrius semipalmatus* Bonaparte, 1825 [New Jersey coast]. Semipalmated Plover. Series AMNH, MVZ, UAM, USNM, UWBM.

*Charadrius dubius curonicus* J. F. Gmelin, 1789 [= Latvia]. Little Ringed Plover. Casual or accidental in w Aleutians. Three records (one specimen UAM; photos UAM): ad. ♂, 15–16 Jun 1974, Buldir I. (Byrd et al. 1978); one bird, 18–30 May 1986, Attu I. (Gibson and Byrd 2007); and one bird, 18–19 May 1988, Shemya I. (ibid.).

*Charadrius vociferus vociferus* Linnaeus, 1758 [South Carolina]. Killdeer. Series UAM. For overview see Kessel and Gibson (1978) and Heinl and Piston (2009).


—Family **Scolopacidae: Sandpipers, Phalaropes, & Allies**


*Actitis macularius* (Linnaeus, 1766) [Pennsylvania]. Spotted Sandpiper. Series MVZ, UAM, USNM.


**T. s. cinnamomea** (Brewster, 1890) [San José del Cabo, Baja California]. Larger; much less distinctly spotted dorsally with whitish; white tail bars narrower. The Alaska-breeding subspecies. Series MVZ, UAM, USNM.


**Bartramia longicauda** (Bechstein, 1812) [North America]. Upland Sandpiper. Series UAM. See Kessel and Gibson (1978) for overview.


**Numenius borealis** (Forster, 1772) [Albany River mouth, James Bay, Ontario]. Eskimo Curlew. Extinct. At least 15 extant Alaska specimens, collected 1841–1886 (Gibson and Kessel 1997).

N. p. hudsonicus Latham, 1790 [Hudson Bay]. Concolor gray-brown dorsally, head to tail. The North American subspecies and widespread breeder in Alaska. Series AMNH, MVZ, UAM, USNM. NOTES: Maintained as the North American race of N. phaeopus for many years (from AOU 1944), hudsonicus was tentatively discussed as a full species ["Hudsonian Curlew"] by Engelmoer and Roselaar (1998), who identified its two disjunct nesting populations as separate subspecies, the Alaska birds to be known as N. h. rufiventris Vigors, 1829 [western shores of North America [Hellmayr and Conover 1948b]].


Numenius americanus Bechstein, 1812 [New York]. Long-billed Curlew. Monotypic (Hellmayr and Conover 1948b). Casual in se Alaska (see Tobish and Isleib 1992, Tobish 2008c). No specimen; photos UAM; Figure 5.


Limosa haemastica (Linnaeus, 1758) [Hudson Bay]. Hudsonian Godwit. Series MVZ, UAM. For overview see Gabrielson and Lincoln (1959) and Kessel and Gibson (1978).


Arenaria interpres interpres (Linnaeus, 1758) [Sweden]. Ruddy Turnstone. Darker dorsally, with more black. Includes oahuensis (Blocham, 1826) [Oahu, Hawaii], following Engelmoer and Roselaar (1998). Nests Chukchi and Bering seacoasts. Series AMNH, CAS, DMNS, MVZ, UAM, USNM.


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Calidris virgata (J. F. Gmelin, 1789) {Prince William Sound}. Surfbird. Series MVZ, UAM, USNM. For overview see Kessel and Gibson (1978) and Senner and McCaffery (1997).

Notes: Long maintained in the monotypic genus Aphriza Audubon (from AOU 1886), which analyses of mitochondrial and nuclear DNA sequences imply is nested within Calidris Merrem (Chesser et al. 2013).


Calidris acuminata (Horsfield, 1821) {Java}. Sharp-tailed Sandpiper. Series UAM, USNM. See Kessel and Gibson (1978) for overview.

Calidris himantopus (Bonaparte, 1826) {Long Branch, New Jersey}. Stilt Sandpiper. Series UAM, USNM. See Kessel and Gibson (1978) for overview.


Calidris pygmea (Linnaeus, 1758) (“in Surinami” = error for east Asia [AOU 1998]). Spoon-billed Sandpiper. Casual in sw, w, and n Alaska (see Dixon 1918, Day et al. 1979, Gibson and Byrd 2007). Three specimens (LACM, 1; UAM, 1; UCLA, 1); published photos AB 40:513, 1986; B 18(3): cover, 1986; 32:547, 2000; Watters
2003:100. NOTES: Long maintained in the monotypic genus *Eurynorhynchus* Nilson (from AOU 1886), which analyses of mitochondrial and nuclear DNA sequences imply is nested within *Calidris* Merrem (Chesser et al. 2013).


*Calidris alpina pacifica* (Coues, 1861) [Simiahmoo, Washington]. Dunlin. Larger; dorsum brighter; culmen longer. Nests w Alaska. Series ANSP, CAS, UAM, MVZ, USNM.

*C. a. arcticola* (Todd, 1953) [Point Barrow]. Smaller; dorsum darker; culmen shorter. Nests n Alaska (Browning 1977, 1991). Series DMNS, UAM, USNM. NOTES: Some Dunlin specimens from the w Aleutians and Bering Sea islands might well be representatives of e Asia nesting populations (Sauer and Urban 1964, Gibson 1981, Browning 1991, Gibson and Byrd 2007), but we are skeptical of the diagnosability (sensu Patten and Unitt 2002) of individuals of subspecies *sakhalina* (Vietillot, 1816) [headwaters of Kanchalan River (75 km west of Egvekinot), Chukotka], *kistchinski Tomkovich, 1986 {Maroshechnaya River, Kamchatka}, arcticola, and pacifica. See Browning (1977, 1991) and Engelmoer and Roselaar (1998) for recognition of these taxa.

*Calidris ptilocnemis ptilocnemis* (Coues, 1873) [St. George I., Pribilofs]. Rock Sandpiper. Largest; pale (gray) throughout, with more prominent wing stripe. Nests in the Pribilofs and at St. Matthew and Hall islands. Series AMNH, CAS, UAM, USNM. See Gill et al. (2002b) and Ruthrauff (2014) for overview.

*C. p. couesi* (Ridgway, 1880) [Attu I., w Aleutians]. Smaller; darker gray, with narrower reddish or orangish edging on dorsum. Resident in Aleutian Is. Series AMNH, CAS, MVZ, UAM, USNM.

*C. p. quarta* (Hartert, 1920) [Bering I., Commander Is.]. Small; darker gray as in *couesi*, but edgings on dorsum broader and paler orange. Casual in w Aleutians (see Gibson and Byrd 2007). Two specimens (DMNS, 1; USNM, 1).

*C. p. tschuktschorum* (Portenko, 1937) [Uelen, Chukotski Peninsula]. Small; darkest; blacker dorsally, with reddish edging. Nests on Bering Sea coasts of ne Asia and mainland Alaska, and at St. Lawrence and Nunivak islands. Series CAS, DMNS, LACM, MVZ, UAM, USNM.


*Calidris bairdii* (Coues, 1861) [Fort Resolution, Northwest Territories]. Baird’s Sandpiper. Series AMNH, ANSP, DMNS, MVZ, SDNHM, UAM, USNM.

*Calidris minuta* (Leisler, 1812) [Germany]. Little Stint. Casual in n, w, and sw Alaska (see Myers and Greenberg 1978, Byrd and Day 1986, Gibson and Kessel
Figure 2. Green-winged Teal (*Anas crecca*) intergrades, 16 October 2014, Unalaska Island, e Aleutians.

*Photo by S. Golodoff*

Figure 3. *Anas crecca crecca* (left); two intergrades (middle two); *A. c. carolinensis* (right). Note the intermediacy of the breast bar and the extent of white scapular streak in the middle birds, as well as the coarseness of flank vermiculation and amount of white in facial outline.

*Calidris minutilla* (Vieillot, 1819) [Halifax, Nova Scotia]. Least Sandpiper. Series CAS, MVZ, UAM, USNM, UWBM.

*Calidris fuscicollis* (Vieillot, 1819) [Paraguay]. White-rumped Sandpiper. Series MVZ. For overview see Kessel and Gibson (1978) and Johnson and Herter (1989).

*Calidris subruficollis* (Vieillot, 1819) [Paraguay]. Buff-breasted Sandpiper. Series DMNS, MVZ, UAM, USNM. See Kessel and Gibson (1978) for overview. **Notes:** Long maintained in the monotypic genus *Tryngites* Cabanis (from AOU 1886), which analyses of mitochondrial and nuclear DNA sequences imply is nested within *Calidris* Merrem (Chesser et al. 2013).

*Calidris melanotos* (Vieillot, 1819) [Paraguay]. Pectoral Sandpiper. Series AMNH, CAS, DMNS, MVZ, SDNHM, UAM, USNM, UWBM.

*Calidris pusilla* (Linnaeus, 1766) [Hispaniola]. Semipalmated Sandpiper. Series AMNH, DMNS, MVZ, UAM, USNM, UWBM.

*Calidris mauri* (Cabanis, 1857) [South Carolina]. Western Sandpiper. Series AMNH, CAS, DMNS, MVZ, UAM, USNM, UWBM. See Franks et al. (2014) for overview.

*Limnodromus griseus caurinus* Pitelka, 1950 [Yakutat]. Short-billed Dowitcher. Series MVZ, UAM, USNM.


*Gallinago delicata* (Ord, 1825) [Pennsylvania]. Wilson’s Snipe. Nests widely in Alaska. Series MVZ, UAM, USNM. **Notes:** Formerly maintained (from AOU 1945) as a subspecies of *G. gallinago*, but now recognized as a distinct species because of “differences in winnowing display sounds associated with differences in the outer tail feathers ... that are comparable to differences between other closely related species in the genus” (Banks et al. 2002:899).


*Gallinago stenura* (Bonaparte, 1830) [Sunda Archipelago]. Pin-tailed Snipe. Casual or accidental in w Aleutians. Three records, all from Attu I. (three specimens UAM): ♀, 25 May 1991; ♂, 19 May 1998 (Gibson and Kessel 1992, Gibson and Byrd 2007); ♀, 17 May 2010 (Withrow and Sonneborn 2011). **Notes:** Sight reports have not satisfactorily eliminated Latham’s Snipe, *Gallinago hardwickii* (J. E. Gray, 1831) [= Tasmania] or Swinhoe’s Snipe, *Gallinago megala* Swinhoe, 1861 [Hopeh, China].

*Gallinago solitaria japonica* (Bonaparte, 1856) [Japan]. Solitary Snipe. Accidental in sw Alaska. Two records (one specimen UAM; photos UAM—published NAB 64:480, 2010); one bird, 10 Sep 2008, St. Paul I., Pribilofs (Bieber and Schuette 2009); ad. ♂, 24 May 2010, Attu I., Aleutians (Withrow and Sonneborn 2011).
Subspecies *japonica* is not well differentiated (Vaurie 1965), and the Alaska specimen has not been compared with series.


*Phalaropus lobatus* (Linnaeus, 1758) [Hudson Bay]. Red-necked Phalarope. Series AMNH, CAS, DMNS, MVZ, UAM, USNM, UWBM.

*Phalaropus fulicarius* (Linnaeus, 1758) [Hudson Bay]. Red Phalarope. Series AMNH, ANSP, CAS, DMNS, MVZ, SDNHM, UAM, USNM, UWBM.

—Family **Glareolidae: Pratincoles**


—Family **Stercorariidae: Jaegers**

**NOTES**: Briefly maintained as a subfamily of the Laridae; returned to family status because analyses of DNA sequence data imply the family to be sister to the Alcidae and not part of the Laridae (Banks et al. 2006).


*Stercorarius pomarinus* (Temminck, 1815) [arctic Europe]. Pomarine Jaeger. Series AMNH, ANSP, CAS, DMNS, MVZ, SDNHM, UAM, USNM, UWBM.

*Stercorarius parasiticus* (Linnaeus, 1758) [Scandinavian coast]. Parasitic Jaeger. Series AMNH, DMNS, MVZ, UAM, USNM, UWBM.


—Family **Alcidae: Auks, Murres, & Puffins**


*Uria aalge inornata* Salomonsen, 1932 [St. Matthew I.]. Common Murre. Series AMNH, DMNS, LACM, MVZ, SDNHM, UAM, USNM, UWBM.

*Uria lomvia arra* (Pallas, 1811) [Kamchatka]. Thick-billed Murre. Series AMNH, DMNS, MVZ, SDNHM, UAM, USNM, UWBM.


C. c. kaiurka Portenko, 1937 [Copper I., Commander Is.]. Smaller. Commander Is., and w Aleutians east at least to Kiska. Series UAM, USNM.


Ptychoramphus aleuticus aleuticus (Pallas, 1811) [North Pacific Ocean]. Cassin’s Auklet. Series AMNH, UAM, UWBM. See Ainley et al. (2011) for overview.

Aethia pusilla (Pallas, 1811) {Kamchatka}. Least Auklet. Series AMNH, DMNS, MVZ, SDNHM, UAM, USNM, UWBM. See Bond et al. (2013) for overview.

Aethia pygmaea pygmaea (J. F. Gmelin, 1789) {Unalaska I., e Aleutians [Gibson and Banks 2010]}. Whiskered Auklet. We follow Feinstein (1959) in recognizing nominate pygmaea (smaller and blacker, wing of 16 ad. ♂♂ 99.4–108.1 [mean 103]) in the Aleutians and camtschatica (Lepechin, 1801) {Kamchatka} (larger and browner; wing of nine ad. ♂♂ 109.2–115.4 [mean 111.9]) in the Kuril Is.; he characterized the birds of the Commander Is. as intergrades between the two. Series AMNH, UAM, UMMZ, USNM. For overview see Kessel and Gibson (1978), Byrd and Williams (1993a), and Gibson and Byrd (2007).


Fratercula cirrhata (Pallas, 1769) {Bering Sea}. Tufted Puffin. Includes Sagmator-rhina lathami Bonaparte, 1853 (“western Arctic regions of America”), according

—Family **Laridae: Gulls and Terns**


*Pagophila eburnea* (Phipps, 1774) [Spitzbergen]. Ivory Gull. Series AMNH, DMNS, MVZ, SDNHM, UAM, USNM. For overview see Kessel and Gibson (1978) and Hohenberger et al. (1994).


*Rhodostethia rosea* (MacGillivray, 1824) [Melville Peninsula, Nunavut]. Ross’s Gull. Series AMNH, DMNS, LACM, MVZ, SDNHM, UAM, USNM. See Kessel and Gibson (1978) for overview.


L. c. kamtschatschensis Bonaparte, 1857 [Kamchatka]. Larger, with larger bill and darker mantle (Figure 7). E Asia. Migrant in w Aleutians; casual in w Alaska (see Byrd et al. 1978, Gibson and Kessel 1978, Isleib and Kessel 1989, Heinl 1997, Heinl and Piston 2009). Eight specimens UAM.


L. a. vegae Palmén, 1887 [Pitkin, near Pitlekai, Chukotki Peninsula]. Slightly darker-mantled than smithsonianus, with glossy black wingtips. Nests at St. Lawrence I.; migrant in w and sw Alaska (see Willett 1923, Bailey 1927, Kessel and Gibson 1978, Heinl 1997, Heinl and Piston 2009). At least 22 specimens (UAM, 9; MVZ, 5; USNM, 5; FMNH, 3).


L. g. thayeri W. S. Brooks, 1915 [Buchanan Bay, Ellesmere I., Nunavut]. “Adult has pale gray upperparts (Kodak 5–6) with slaty blackish wingtips (typically with white mirrors or mirror-tongues on P9–P10, distinct white tongue-tips on P6–P8) and, in basic plumage, extensive dusky mottling and streaking on head and neck” (Howell
Figure 6. Little Gull (*Hydrocoloeus minutus*), 23 April 2010, Ketchikan.

*Photo by L. H. DeCicco*

Figure 7. Mew Gulls, *Larus canus kamtschatschensis* (left) and *L. c. brachyrhynchos* (right). The more massive bill of the Asian subspecies *kamtschatschensis* is apparent in close comparison, but certain field identification is difficult.


Larus glaucescens Naumann, 1840 (North America). Glaucous-winged Gull. Series AMNH, ANSP, CAS, MVZ, SDNHM, UAM, USNM, UWBM.


L. h. pallidissimus Portenko, 1939 (Naukan and Uelen, Chukotski Peninsula). Larger and paler. Nesting arctic Russia east to Chukotski Peninsula (Vaurie 1965, Portenko 1973), and in w Alaska at St. Lawrence I. (Lehman 2005) and St. Matthew I. (Winker et al. 2002). At least nine specimens (USNM, 8; CMN, 1).


Hydroprogne caspia (Pallas, 1770) (Caspian Sea). Caspian Tern. Migrant since

*Chlidonias niger* *surinamensis* (J. F. Gmelin, 1789) [Surinam]. Black Tern. Casual in se, s-c, and interior Alaska (see Dall and Bannister 1869, Willett 1921a, Gabrielson and Lincoln 1959, Gibson 1985b, Tobish 2002c, 2013b). One specimen USNM; photos UAM—published NAB 66:718, 2013.


*Sterna paradisaea* Pontoppidan, 1763 [Denmark]. Arctic Tern. Series CAS, DMNS, LACM, MVZ, SDNHM, UAM, USNM, UWBM.

Order **Columbiformes**—Family **Columbidae**: Pigeons and Doves

* [Columba domestica] *β livia* J. F. Gmelin, 1789 [s Europe]. Rock Pigeon. Feral. Introduced into each Alaska community in which it occurs, by pigeon fanciers or by falconers, this nonmigratory, quasi-wild commensal of humans has established no geographic range in Alaska beyond the points of introduction. Because it “persists locally as a commensal of man” (Gibson and Kessel 1997:47), the species has rarely been referred to in the ornithological literature of Alaska (e.g., see Heinl and Piston 2009). We do not recognize it as a wild component of the Alaska avifauna and include it here only because it is conspicuous in various communities in se, s-c, and interior Alaska.]

*Patagioenas fasciata* *monilis* (Vigors, 1839) [Monterey, California]. Band-tailed Pigeon. Summers in southern se Alaska; accidental in s-c, w, and n Alaska (see Olson 1974, Kessel and Gibson 1978, 1994, Isleib and Kessel 1989, Johnson and Herter 1989, Heinl and Piston 2009). Three specimens UAM. NOTES: New World pigeons formerly included in *Columba* Linnaeus have been segregated in *Patagioenas* Reichenbach on the basis of studies of nuclear and mitochondrial DNA and a review of morphological, serological, and behavioral characters (Banks et al. 2003).


Order Cuculiformes—Family Cuculidae: Cuckoos


Order Strigiformes—Family Strigidae: Typical Owls


Megascops kennicottii kennicottii (Elliot, 1867) (Sitka). Western Screech-Owl. Resident in se Alaska (see Shortt 1939, Gabrielson and Lincoln 1959, Tobish 2007b, Heinl and Piston 2009, Kissling et al. 2010). Series UAM. NOTES: Formerly maintained in the genus Otus Pennant, but the subgenus Megascops Kaup was elevated to full generic status to segregate the New World screech-owls from Old World species of Otus, which differ in mitochondrial DNA and vocalizations (Banks et al. 2003).

Bubo virginianus saturatus Ridgway, 1877 (Sitka). Great Horned Owl. Darker than lagophonus, especially the upperparts. Se Alaska: At least 15 specimens (UAM, 8; AMNH, 3; LACM, 2; MVZ, 2).

B. v. lagophonus (Oberholser, 1904) (Fort Walla Walla, Washington). Color tone variable, pale to medium-dark (dorsally), variably dense barring ventrally. Includes B. v. algistus (Oberholser, 1904) (St. Michael, Alaska)—which is not known to nest in its alleged coastal w Alaska range, has not been seen or collected there since its description, and has no characters of its own outside the range of variation of lagophonus
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*Bubo scandiacus* (Linnaeus, 1758) {Lapland}. Snowy Owl. Series AMNH, MVZ, UAM, USNM. **Notes:** Long maintained in the monotypic genus *Nyctea* Stephens (from AOU 1886), but osteological differences between *Nyctea* and *Bubo* Duméril are weak, and genetic studies suggest the former is nested within the latter (Banks et al. 2003).

*Surnia ulula caparoch* (Statius Müller, 1776) {Hudson Bay}. Northern Hawk Owl. The New World subspecies, found throughout the Alaska range of the species. Series AMNH, MVZ, UAM, USNM. **Notes:** Ridgway (1878) identified two specimens, from St. Michael and Bethel, as extralimital examples of (Old World) nominate *ulula* (Linnaeus, 1758) {Sweden}. He later (Ridgway 1914) reassessed the first as a pale *caparoch*, though the AOU (1957) still listed it as nominate *ulula*; the second (specimen FMNH) was dropped from the AOU Check-list in the fifth edition (ibid.). Both specimens were mentioned by Gabrielson and Lincoln (1959). There has been no other Alaska record suggesting occurrence of nominate *ulula*.


*Strix nebulosa nebulosa* Forster, 1772 {Severn River, Ontario}. Great Gray Owl. The New World subspecies, found throughout the Alaska range of the species. Series UAM, USNM. **Notes:** Though Ridgway (1878) identified two specimens (USNM) taken in April 1876 on the Yukon River delta as examples of (Old World) subspecies *lapponica* Thunberg, 1798 {Lapland} [including *barbata* Latham, 1790 {Siberia ... mountains in the eastern parts}], he subsequently (Ridgway 1914:635) reassessed them as “rather light-colored examples of *S. n. nebulosa*.” One was still listed (as *barbata*) in the fourth AOU Check-list (AOU 1931). There has been no other Alaska record suggesting occurrence of *S. n. lapponica*.

*Asio otus wilsonianus* (Lesson, 1830) {Pennsylvania}. Long-eared Owl. Includes *tuftsi* Godfrey, 1947 {Last Mountain Lake, Saskatchewan}, following Unitt (1984) and Dickerman (2015b), but see AOU (1957), Pyle (1997). Casual in se Alaska (see Swarth 1911, Tobish 2010b, 2012b). Two specimens (MVZ, 1; UAM, 1); photos UAM—published NAB 64:133, 2010; 66:194, 2012; 67:140, 2013. **Notes:** A Long-eared Owl aboard ship in n Bering Sea (19 May 2006, E. Labunski) was almost certainly a migrant from Asia (Gibson et al. 2008; photo p. 198) and thus likely an example of nominate *otus* (Linnaeus, 1758) {Sweden}, a taxon not recorded in the New World.

*Asio flammeus flammeus* (Pontoppidan, 1763) {Sweden}. Short-eared Owl. Series AMNH, DMNS, MVZ, UAM, USNM. **Notes:** Larger and much paler. Russian Far East. One record (specimen USNM): ♀, 26 Jan 1911, St. Paul I., Pribilofs (Evermann 1913).

Ninox japonica japonica (Temminck and Schlegel, 1844) [Japan]. Northern Boobook. Accidental in sw Alaska. Two records (no specimen; photos UAM—published NAB 62[1]: cover, and 4–6, 2008; WB 41:108–109, 2010): one bird, 27 Aug–3 Sep 2007, St. Paul I., Pribilofs (Yerger and Mohlmann 2007); one bird found dead but not preserved, 1 Aug 2008, Kiska I., c Aleutians (Bond and Jones 2010). NOTES: Formerly maintained as a subspecies of N. scutulata Raffles, 1822 [Sumatra], with English name Brown Hawk-Owl (see Chesser et al. 2014); treated as a separate species on the basis of vocal differences (King 2002). Group name changed from Hawk-Owl to Boobook (Chesser et al. 2014) to conform to Australian usage for this species (e.g., see Dickinson and Remsen 2013).

Order **CAPRIMULGIFORMES**—Family **CAPRIMULGIDAE: GOATSUCKERS**


Chordeiles minor minor (Forster, 1771) [South Carolina]. Common Nighthawk. Fall migrant in se Alaska, where has nested recently on n mainland; casual or accidental elsewhere, in s-c, interior, w, and n Alaska (see Willett 1921a, Murie 1925, Bishop 1944, Gabrielson and Lincoln 1959, Kessel and Gibson 1978, Hohenberger et al. 1994, Johnson et al. 2008, Heinl and Piston 2009). Series UAM; photos UAM—published NAB 61:124, 2007.

Antrostomus vociferus (Wilson, 1812) [Philadelphia, Pennsylvania]. Eastern Whip-poor-will. Accidental in se Alaska. One record (specimen UAM): remains found, 22 Nov 1972, West Petersburg, Kupreanof I. (Kessel and Gibson 1978). NOTES: In reclassifying the New World species of Caprimulgus Linnaeus in Antrostomus Bonaparte, Chesser et al. (2012) cited studies of nuclear and mitochondrial DNA sequences finding Caprimulgus as traditionally recognized to represent three of the four major clades of the family Caprimulgidae, two endemic to the New World, one to the Old World. The Old World group retains the name Caprimulgus.


Order **APODIFORMES**—Family **APOIDAE: SWIFTS**


Chaetura vauxi vauxi (Townsend, 1839) [Fort Vancouver, Washington]. Vaux’s Swift. Nests mainland se Alaska and probably some adjacent islands (see Heinl and Piston 2009). Series UAM.

Hirundapus caudacutus caudacutus (Latham, 1802) [New South Wales, Australia]. White-throated Needletail. Casual (spring) in w Aleutians. Five records (White and Baird 1977, Gibson and Byrd 2007, Tobish 2014b). One specimen USNM; photos UAM.


--- Family TROCHILIDAE: HUMMINGBIRDS

Archilochus colubris (Linnaeus, 1758) {South Carolina}. Ruby-throated Hummingbird. Accidental in w Alaska. Two records (two specimens—UAM, 1; USNM, 1): ad. ♂ mummy, found probably summer 1925, near St. Michael (Swales 1926); one bird captured, 13 Aug 1981, Nome (Kessel 1989).


Selasphorus rufus (J. F. Gmelin, 1788) {Vancouver I.}. Rufous Hummingbird. Series UAM. See Kessel and Gibson (1978) for overview.

Order UPUPIFORMES—Family UPUPIDAE: HOOPOE


Order CORACIFORMES—Family ALCEDINIDAE: KINGFISHERS

Megaceryle alcyon (Linnaeus, 1758) {South Carolina}. Belted Kingfisher. Monotypic (Phillips et al. 1964); AOU (1957) and Gabrielson and Lincoln (1959) recognized M. a. caurina (Grinnell, 1910) [Montague I., Prince William Sound]. Series UAM, USNM. NOTES: For a time maintained in the genus Ceryle Boie, but Banks et al. (2007) restored the subgenus Megaceryle Kaup to generic status on the basis of DNA and osteological evidence.

Order PICIFORMES—Family PICIDAE: WOODPECKERS


Sphyrapicus varius (Linnaeus, 1766) {South Carolina}. Yellow-bellied Sapsucker. Monotypic (Dickinson and Remsen 2013). Nests e Interior; casual in s-c Alaska (see

*Sphyrapicus ruber ruber* (J. F. Gmelin, 1788) [Vancouver I.]. Red-breasted Sapsucker. Series MVZ, UAM, USNM.


*Picoides pubescens nelsoni* (Oberholser, 1896) [Nulato, Alaska]. Downy Woodpecker. Slightly larger; underparts clear white; undertail barring very reduced or absent. The widespread nesting subspecies in (interior and s-c) Alaska. Series AMNH, UAM, USNM. NOTES: Intergrade specimens (*nelsoni* × *glacialis*) have been identified from Alaska (MVZ) and from Yukon Territory (Sinclair et al. 2003).

*P. p. glacialis* (Grinnell, 1910) [Valdez Narrows, Prince William Sound]. Slightly smaller; underparts smoky; undertail prominently barred with black. Nesting range unknown (possibly interior n and c British Columbia—see Ridgway 1914); it is not s-c and se Alaska (“southern Alaska, from the Kenai Peninsula to northern British Columbia”—AOU 1923:520; “Kenai Peninsula to Taku River”—AOU 1957:325), where *glacialis* is known only as a fall visitor/migrant (see Heinl and Piston 2009). At least 11 specimens (MVZ, 4; UAM, 4; USNM, 3). NOTES: Regarded by AOU (1912) as an intergrade between *nelsoni* and *gairdnerii* (Audubon, 1839) [Fort Vancouver, Washington], but Stone (1916) proposed recognition, and *glacialis* was subsequently included by Cory (1919), AOU (1923), and Peters (1948). It was not mentioned by AOU (1931), but was recognized by AOU (1949, 1957), Gabrielson and Lincoln (1959), and Gibson and Kessel (1997).

*Picoides villosus septentrionalis* (Nuttall, 1840) [Saskatchewan River, Saskatchewan]. Hairy Woodpecker. Large; underparts clear white; dorsum glossy black around the central white patch. The Alaska range of the species except se Alaska. Series UAM, USNM.

*P. v. sitkensis* (Swarth, 1911) [Etolin I., Alexander Archipelago]. Smaller; underparts smoky; dorsum dull black with reduced white spotting. Se Alaska. Series LACM, MVZ, UAM.

*Picoides dorsalis fasciatus* S. F. Baird, 1870 [Fort Simpson, Northwest Territories]. American Three-toed Woodpecker. Includes *alascensis* Nelson, 1884 [Fort Reliance [Deignan 1961], Yukon Territory] and *fumigiceps* Grinnell, 1909 [Chichagof I., Alexander Archipelago], following Cory (1919), Peters (1948), and (implicitly) AOU (1957). Throughout the Alaska range of the species. Series AMNH, MVZ, UAM, USNM. NOTES: Formerly considered conspecific with Old World *P. tridactylus* (Linnaeus, 1758) [Sweden], *P. dorsalis* S. F. Baird, 1858 [Laramie Peak, Wyoming] was separated on the basis of significant differences in mitochondrial DNA and call (Banks et al. 2003).

*Picoides arcticus* (Swainson, 1832) [near sources of Athabaska River, Alberta]. Black-backed Woodpecker. Series UAM.

*Colaptes auratus cafer* (J. F. Gmelin, 1788) [Vancouver I.]. Northern Flicker. The Red-shafted Flicker of the s Alexander Archipelago and adjacent mainland se Alaska—where intergrades with subspecies *luteus* (q.v.) are well known (see Heinl and Piston 2009). At least 11 specimens (MVZ, 5; UAM, 4; USNM, 2); published photo WB 40:117, 2009.

*C. a. luteus* Bangs, 1898 [Watertown, Massachusetts]. Includes *borealis* Ridgway,
1911 (Nulato, Alaska), following Phillips et al. (1964) and Short (1965). The Yellow-shafted Flicker of interior, s-c, and the n mainland of se Alaska. Series UAM, USNM.

Order Falconiformes—Family Falconidae: Falcons

Notes: Recent analyses of mitochondrial and nuclear DNA suggest that (with the Psittaciformes) the Falconiformes and Passeriformes form a monophyletic group. Accordingly, this order is now placed immediately preceding the order Passeriformes (Chesser et al. 2012).


Falco sparverius sparverius Linnaeus, 1758 (South Carolina). American Kestrel. Series UAM.

Falco columbarius columbarius Linnaeus, 1758 (South Carolina). Merlin. Gray dorsally, less heavily streaked ventrally than suckleyi, with little or no ocher tinge. The widespread breeding subspecies, found throughout most of the Alaska range of the species. Series MVZ, UAM, USNM.

F. c. suckleyi Ridgway, 1874 (Shoalwater Bay, Washington). Blackish dorsally, with very dark streaking ventrally; “four light-colored bars in the outer rectrix, and ... light markings on the inner web of the outermost primary appear as spots, rather than as bars as in F. c. columbarius” (Dickerman 2013:313). Breeds southern se Alaska (see Heinl and Piston 2009). At least three specimens (USNM, 2; UAM, 1).


F. c. pealei Ridgway, 1874 (Oregon). Largest, and very dark. Nests Alaska Pacific coast, Aleutians to Dixon Entrance. Series USNM.


Order Passeriformes—Family Tyrannidae: Tyrant Flycatchers


Contopus sordidulus veliei Coues, 1866 (Fort Whipple, Arizona). Western Wood-Pewee. Slightly paler than saturatus; flanks yellowish. Interior and s-c Alaska. Series UAM. See Kessel and Gibson (1978) for overview of the species.

C. s. saturatus Bishop, 1900 (Haines, Alaska). Darker than veliei, clove brown rather than grayish brown dorsally; flanks olivaceous (Gabrielson and Lincoln 1959). Se Alaska. At least nine specimens (MVZ, 4; UAM, 4; USNM, 1).


E. t. adastus Oberholser, 1932 [Hart Mts., near Adel, Oregon]. Grayer on upperparts. One record (specimen UAM): ♂, 16–24 Jul 1988, Anchorage (Gibson et al. 2003). NOTES: Originally reported as subspecies brewsteri (Gibson and Kessel 1992, 1997), this specimen was identified as adastus by P. Unitt (in litt., 1997), at SDNHM.


Empidonax hammondii (Xántus de Vesey, 1858) [Fort Tejon, California]. Hammond’s Flycatcher. Series MVZ, UAM. See Kessel and Gibson (1978) for overview.


Myiarchus crinitus (Linnaeus, 1758) [South Carolina]. Great Crested Flycatcher. Casual or accidental in se and s-c Alaska. Three records (one specimen UAM; photos UAM—published NAB 64:184, 2010): unsexed bird, 29 Sep 1990, Middleton I., Gulf of Alaska (Gibson and Kessel 1992); one bird, 29 Sep–11 Oct 2009, Juneau (Tobish 2010b); one bird, 11–12 Oct 2013, Petersburg (Tobish 2014c).


Tyrannus verticalis Say, 1822 [near La Junta, Colorado]. Western Kingbird. Casual in se and s-c Alaska; accidental in n Alaska (see Kessel and Gibson 1978,
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—Family **Laniidae: Shrikes**


*Lanius excubitor borealis* Vieillot, 1808 [New York]. Northern Shrike. “Upperparts slightly darker; lower eyelid usually with ... a white spot; bases of the secondaries ... white; r6 not entirely white ... [adult] with more distinct barring on the underparts” (Pyle 1997:271). Includes *invictus* Grinnell, 1900 [Kobuk River], following Phillips (1986). The subspecies nesting in Alaska. Series MVZ, UAM, USNM.


—Family **Vireonidae: Vireos**


*Vireo philadelphicus* (Cassin, 1851) [Philadelphia, Pennsylvania]. Philadelphia Vireo. Casual or accidental in interior and s-c Alaska; accidental in w Alaska (see Moldenhauer and Tobish 1984, Isleib and Kessel 1989, Gibson and Kessel 1992,

Vireo olivaceus olivaceus (Linnaeus, 1766) [South Carolina]. Red-eyed Vireo. Casual in se Alaska, where probably has nested; casual in s-c Alaska and accidental in the Interior (see Rausch 1958, Kessel and Gibson 1978, Gibson et al. 1987b). Four specimens (UAM, 3; USNM, 1); published photo NAB 61:629, 2008.

—Family CORVIDAE: CROWS AND JAYS

Perisoreus canadensis pacificus (J. F. Gmelin, 1788) [Norton Sound, Alaska]. Gray Jay. Series AMNH, MVZ, UAM, USNM. Includes fumifrons Ridgway, 1880 [St. Michael, Alaska]. NOTES: Phillips (1986) attributed nominate canadensis (Linnaeus, 1766) [Canada] to ne interior Alaska, but we have not seen the specimen(s) by which he made that determination.

Cyanocitta stelleri stelleri (J. F. Gmelin, 1788) [Vancouver Is.]. Steller’s Jay. Includes borealis Chapman, 1902 [Homer, Alaska]. Series AMNH, CAS, LACM, MVZ, SDNHM, UAM, USNM.

Nucifraga columbiana (Wilson, 1811) [Clearwater River, near Kamiah, Idaho]. Clark’s Nutcracker. Casual in se, s-c, interior, sw, and w Alaska (see Dall and Bannister 1869, Ridgway 1887a, b, Grinnell 1900, Osgood 1904, Murie 1924, Webster 1941, Bailey 1948, Cahalane 1959, Gabrielson and Lincoln 1959, Kessel and Springer 1966, Heinl and Piston 2009). At least four specimens (UAM, 2; USNM, 2); photos UAM—published AB 47:145, 1993.


Corvus corax kamtschaticus Dybowskii, 1883 [Kamchatka]. Common Raven. Heavier bodied, with longer tarsus, larger limb bones, and slightly more massive bill and skull. Aleutians, Alaska Peninsula east to about Chignik, and northeast to at least Cape Newenham. Series CAS, MVZ, UAM.

C. c. principalis Ridgway, 1887 [St. Michael, Alaska]. Less massive, with shorter tarsus and smaller limb bones. Widespread in w, n, interior, s-c, and se Alaska. Series CAS, MVZ, UAM, USNM.

—Family ALAUDIDAE: LARKS


Eremophila alpestris flava (J. F. Gmelin, 1789) [Yenisei River mouth]. Horned Lark. Throat and eyebrow yellow (Figure 8). Widespread across n Eurasia. Casual in

E. a. arcticola (Oberholser, 1902) [Fort Reliance, Yukon River, Yukon Territory]. Throat and eyebrow white. The Alaska-nesting subspecies. Series MVZ, UAM, USNM.

—Family HIRUNDINIDAE: SWALLOWS

Progne subis subis (Linnaeus, 1758) [Hudson Bay]. Purple Martin. Casual or accidental in s-c, sw, w, n, and interior Alaska (see Bailey 1930, Kenyon and Phillips 1965, Kessel and Gibson 1978, Hohenberger et al. 1994, Gibson and Byrd 2007). Two specimens (CHAS, 1; USNM, 1).

Tachycineta bicolor (Vieillot, 1808) [New York]. Tree Swallow. Series MVZ, UAM, USNM.

Tachycineta thalassina thalassina (Swainson, 1827) [Real del Monte, Hidalgo]. Violet-green Swallow. Series MVZ, UAM, USNM.


Riparia riparia riparia (Linnaeus, 1758) [Sweden]. Bank Swallow. Series UAM, USNM. See Kessel and Gibson (1978) for overview.

Petrochelidon pyrrhonota pyrrhonota (Vieillot, 1817) [Paraguay]. Cliff Swallow. Series MVZ, UAM, USNM. See Kessel and Gibson (1978) for overview. Notes: On the basis of DNA—DNA hybridization studies, the AOU (1997) resurrected the genus Petrochelidon Cabanis from its brief merger in Hirundo Linnaeus (see AOU 1982).


H. r. erythrogaster Boddaert, 1783 [French Guiana]. Cinnamon-bellied; has bro-

Figure 8. Horned Larks, Eremophila alpestris flava (top) and E. a. arcticola (bottom). The bright yellow throat of the Asian subspecies flava is readily apparent.
ken or faintly connected chest band. Includes palmeri Grinnell, 1902 (Amaknak I., e Aleutians). Nested in 19th and early 20th centuries as far west as e Aleutians and w Alaska, but range contracted long ago, and species now nests only in se and coastal s-c Alaska; incipient recent nesting e Interior, where only a casual visitor (see Gabrielson and Lincoln 1959, Murie 1959, Isleib and Kessel 1973, Kessel and Gibson 1978, 1994, Tobish 2008a, 2011a, Heinp and Pinston 2009). Series MVZ, UAM, USNM.


—Family Paridae: Chickadees

Poecile atricapillus turneri (Ridgway, 1884) {St. Michael, Alaska}. Black-capped Chickadee. Series AMNH, ANSP, CAS, MVZ, UAM, USNM. See Kessel and Gibson (1978) for overview. NOTES: Formerly maintained in the genus Parus Linnaeus. On the basis of DNA–DNA hybridization studies, the AOU (1997) divided Parus into six genera, segregating the chickadees in Poecile Kaup.

Poecile gambeli baileyae (Grinnell, 1908) {Los Angeles Co., California}. Mountain Chickadee. Casual in se Alaska, primarily in winter (see Kessel and Gibson 1978, Tobish 2008c). One specimen UAM; photos UAM. NOTES: See comments under P. atricapillus (above).

Poecile rufescens rufescens (Townsend, 1837) {Fort Vancouver, Washington}. Chestnut-backed Chickadee. Includes Parus ferrugineus Lundahl, 1848 {Sitka} and subspecies vivax (Grinnell, 1910) {Latouche I., Prince William Sound}. Series CAS, MVZ, SDNHM, UAM, USNM. NOTES: See comments under P. atricapillus (above).


Figure 9. Gray-headed Chickadee (Poecile cinctus). (A) Fledgling, 15 June, 1979, Firth River at Mancha Creek, Brooks Range. (B) Adult, 13 June, 2012, Canning River.

Photos by M. A. Spindler, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (A) and R. Tizard (B).
reasonably fresh, properly prepared material from most parts of the range becomes available, no definitive treatment of the subspecies [of Parus hudsonicus] is possible. I base mine on US[NM], the literature, and restudy by [W. E.] Godfrey (in litt.).” Series AMNH, ANSP, UAM, USNM. NOTES: See comments under P. atricapillus (above).

P. h. columbianus (Rhoads, 1893) [near Field, British Columbia]. Slightly darker and grayer above, especially on crown and hindneck; chin and throat decidedly black; bill relatively larger (Gabrielson and Lincoln 1959, Phillips 1986). Kenai Peninsula (and elsewhere in s-c Alaska?). Series USNM.

Poecile cinctus lathami (Stephens, 1817) [Norton Sound, Alaska]. Gray-headed Chickadee. Includes alascensis (Pražák, 1895) [“Alaska and Ochotsk”], following Hellmayr (1934:77) and AOU (1952). Nests in w and n drainages of Brooks Range (Figure 9). Series MVZ, USNM. NOTES: See comments under P. atricapillus (above).

—Family SITTIDAE: NUTHATCHES


—Family CERHTIIDAE: CREEPERS


—Family TROGLODYTIDAE: WRENs

Troglodytes pacificus meligerus (Oberholser, 1900) [Attu I., w Aleutians]. Pacific Wren. “Dark and dull below; sootier above than ... [races to the east]” (Phillips 1986:138); large (Figure 10). Near Is., w Aleutians. NOTES: Because of differences in mitochondrial DNA and vocalizations, Chesser et al. (2010) separated (w North American) T. pacificus [and e North American T. hiemalis Vieillot, 1819 [Nova Scoti]] from (Eurasian) T. troglodytes (Linnaeus, 1758) [Sweden]. Series UAM, USNM.


T. p. alascensis S. F. Baird, 1869 [St. George I., Pribilofs]. “Paler than meligerus or helleri; darker than semidiensis” (Phillips 1986:138); larger than races to the east. Pribilof Is. Series UAM, USNM.


T. p. helleri (Osgood, 1901) [Womens Bay, Kodiak I.]. In comparison to nominate pacificus, “darker above and below. Slightly paler and duller on back ... but averaging deeper, browner on flanks; individual variation is great, as in kiskensis” (Phillips 1986:138). Kodiak archipelago and Middleton I. Series AMNH, UAM.


—**Family CINCLUDAE: DIPPERS**

*Cinclus mexicanus unicolor* Bonaparte, 1827 {near source of Athabaska River, Alberta}. American Dipper. Series CAS, MVZ, UAM, USNM.

—**Family REGULIDAE: KINGLETS**


*R. s. amoenus* van Rossem, 1945 {El Dorado Co., California}. Larger than olivaceus, “coloration lighter and brighter, lower back and rump light olive green; nuchal area paler and more ashy (less olive) gray” (Gabrielson and Lincoln 1959:82); underparts paler and lacking much of the buffy or olive wash of olivaceus. S-c Alaska and sw Alaska in Kodiak archipelago and at base of the Alaska Peninsula. Series MVZ, UAM.


*R. c. grinnelli* Palmer, 1897 {Sitka}. Smaller; darker and richer above and below than nominate calendula; back and rump richer greenish, a stronger ochraceous-buff wash on chest and flanks. Se Alaska west to Cook Inlet. Series USNM.

—**Family PHYLLOSCOPIDAE: LEAF WARBLERS**

**Notes**: Formerly maintained as a genus in the subfamily Sylviinae/family Sylviidae (AOU 1931, 1957) or as the subfamily Regulinae/family Muscicapidae (AOU 1983, Gibson and Kessel 1997); elevated to rank of family on the basis of DNA—DNA hybridization studies (AOU 1997).
the Alaska inventory (Phylloscopidae, Acrocephalidae, Locustellidae) as a result, and the composition of the Sylviidae has been changed.


*Phylloscopus borealis* (Blasius, 1858) {Sea of Okhotsk}. Arctic Warbler. Includes *kennicotti* (S. F. Baird, 1869) {St. Michael, Alaska}, and we maintain the species as monotypic, following Alström et al. (2011) and P. Alström (in litt., 2014). Series MVZ, UAM, USNM, YPM. For overview see Gabrielson and Lincoln (1959) and Lowther and Sharbaugh (2014).

*Phylloscopus examinandus* Stresemann, 1913 {Bali}. Kamchatka Leaf Warbler. Casual in w Aleutians; casual or accidental at St. Matthew I. and on Yukon delta (see Kenyon 1961, Gibson 1981, Gibson and Byrd 2007, Schwitters 2015). Series UAM. NOTES: Molecular studies suggest that this taxon and *P. xanthodryas* (Swinhoe, 1863) {Amoy, China} [Japanese Leaf Warbler] are separate species—distinct from *P. borealis* and from each other (Alström et al. 2011). This Kamchatka-nesting species is a migrant in the w Aleutians (Chesser et al. 2014), and the name *P. examinandus* here supplants prior Aleutian references to *P. borealis xanthodryas* and to *P. b. borealis*.

—Family **Sylviidae: Sylviid Warblers**

*Sylvia curruca* [blythi Ticehurst and Whistler, 1933 {Cawnpore (Kanpur), India}]. Lesser Whitethroat. Accidental at St. Lawrence I. One record (no specimen; videotape UAM—published photos BW 15:432, 2002; NAB 57:8, 2003): one bird, 8–9 Sep 2002, Gambell (Lehman 2003). NOTES: We here follow Dickinson and Christidis (2014), who recognized the northeastern form; Shirihai et al. (2001) maintained *blythi* as a synonym of nominate *curruca* (Linnaeus, 1758) {Sweden}.  

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—Family **ACROCEPHALIDAE: REED WARBLERS**

**NOTES**: Formerly maintained as a genus in the subfamily Acrocephalinae/family Sylviidae (Dickinson 2003), but see comments under the family Phylloscopidae (above).


—Family **LOCUSTELLIDAE: GRASSHOPPER-WARBLERS**

**NOTES**: Formerly maintained as a genus in the subfamily Sylviinae/family Sylviidae (AOU 1998) or in the subfamily Acrocephalinae/family Sylviidae (Dickinson 2003), but see comments under the family Phylloscopidae (above).


—Family **MUSCICAPIDAE: OLD WORLD FLYCATCHERS AND ALLIES**

**NOTES**: Recent phylogenetic studies indicate that the affinities of several genera included in the family Turdidae (AOU 1998) lie instead with the family Muscicapidae. Therefore Chesser et al. (2011) moved the genera *Luscinia* Forster, *Tarsiger* Hodgson, *Saxicola* Bechstein, and *Oenanthe* Vieillot from the Turdidae (or subfamily Turdinae—AOU 1983, Gibson and Kessel 1997) to the Muscicapidae. A recent addition to the Alaska avifauna, the genus *Phoenicurus* Forster is here inserted between *Ficedula* Brisson and *Saxicola*, following Sangster et al. (2010) and Zuccon and Ericson (2010).


**Oenanthe oenanthe oenanthe** (Linnaeus, 1758) {Sweden}. Northern Wheatear. Series DMNS, MVZ, UAM. For overview see Kessel and Gibson (1978) and Kren and Zoerb (1997).

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—Family **Turdidae: Thrushes**

**Notes:** For a time maintained as the subfamily Turdinae/family Muscicapidae (AOU 1983, Gibson and Kessel 1997), now returned to its earlier rank on the basis of DNA–DNA hybridization studies (AOU 1997). See comments at heading for the family Muscicapidae (above).


**Myadestes townsendi townsendi** (Audubon, 1838) [near Astoria, Oregon]. Townsend’s Solitaire. Series UAM. See Kessel and Gibson (1978) for overview.


**Catharus minimus aliciae** (S. F. Baird, 1858) [West Northfield, Illinois]. Graycheeked Thrush. Series MVZ, UAM. See Kessel and Gibson (1978) for overview.

**Catharus ustulatus ustulatus** (Nuttall, 1840) [Fort Vancouver, Washington]. Swainson’s Thrush. The bright cinnamon-colored Russet-backed Thrush of the Alexander Archipelago, se Alaska; spots on breast brown (Figure 11). Series MVZ, UAM. **Notes:** Swainson’s Thrushes nesting at Hyder, mainland southeasternmost Alaska, are “a genetically mixed population” (K. Winker, in litt., 2014; see Pruett et al. 2013) and appear to be intergrades of nominate *ustulatus* × subspecies *swainsoni* (von Tschudi, 1845) [Carlton House, Saskatchewan]—including *C. u. almae* (Oberholser, 1898) [East Humboldt Mts., Nevada], following Rea (in Phillips 1991)—or of nominate *ustulatus* × subspecies *incanus* (q.v.).

**C. u. incanus** (Godfrey, 1952) [Lapie River at Canol Road, Yukon Territory]. The Olive-backed Thrush nesting throughout interior and s-c Alaska; spots on breast blackish. Series MVZ, UAM, USNM.


**C. g. euborius** (Oberholser, 1956) [Yukon River at Lewes River, Yukon Territory]. Less rufescent above than *nanus*; brighter rufous than nominate *guttatus* (Phillips 1991). Interior Alaska. Series UAM. **Notes:** As a caveat, Phillips (1991:79) wrote, “The above characters ... represent merely a dubious guess.... The material seen from most of the breeding grounds ... is too foxed and worn for taxonomic use; and the rest forms no clear geographic pattern.”


Turdus naumanni eunomus Temminck, 1831 (Japan). Dusky Thrush. Casual in sw, w, n, s-c, and se Alaska (see Pitelka 1974, Byrd et al. 1978, Kessel and...


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*Turdus migratorius migratorius* Linnaeus, 1766 (South Carolina). American Robin. Prominent white tail corners. Most of the Alaska range of the species. Series AMNH, MVZ, UAM, USNM.


*Ixoreus naevius naevius* (J. F. Gmelin, 1789) (Vancouver I.). Varied Thrush. Female is darker above and brighter below than female of *meruloides* (Figure 12). Se Alaska. Series MVZ, UAM.

*I. n. meruloides* (Swainson, 1832) (Fort Franklin [Deline], Northwest Territories). Female paler above (grayer, duller), particularly the crown; averages pale and dull below (Phillips 1991). Western, interior, and s-c Alaska. Series AMNH, MVZ, UAM.

—Family **MIMIDAE: MOCKINGBIRDS AND THRASHERS**


—Family **STURNIDAE: STARLINGS**


—Family **PRUNELLIDAE: ACCENTORS**


—Family **MOTACILLIDAE: WAGTAILS AND PIPITS**

*Motacilla tschutschensis tschutschensis* J. F. Gmelin, 1789 (Chukotski Peninsula coast). Eastern Yellow Wagtail. Grayer dorsally, paler yellow ventrally, with broken pectoral band; throat usually more white than yellow; averages slightly smaller. Nests in w and n Alaska. Series AMNH, CAS, MVZ, UAM, USNM. For overview see Gabri-
elson and Lincoln (1959), Kessel and Gibson (1978), Johnson and Herter (1989), and Badyaev et al. (1998). NOTES: On the basis of genetic studies indicating that *flava* includes two or more species, Banks et al. (2004) split *M. tschutschensis* from *M. flava* Linnaeus, 1758 {Sweden}; *M. f. alascensis* (Ridgway, 1903) {St. Michael, Alaska} is a synonym of nominate *tschutschensis* (see Gibson and Byrd 2007).

*M. t. similima* Hartert, 1905 {Sulu Archipelago, sw Philippines}. Larger; brighter green dorsally and more intensely yellow ventrally, less of a tendency to develop the broken pectoral band; throat usually more yellow than white (Figure 13). Migrant in w Aleutians; casual or intermittent in c Aleutians and on Bering Sea islands (see Kenyon 1961, Thompson and DeLong 1969, Sealy et al. 1971, Kessel and Gibson 1978, Gibson 1981, Gibson and Byrd 2007, Schwitters 2008). Series UAM. NOTES: Maintained as a synonym of (nominate) *tschutschensis* by Alström and Mild (2003).


*M. a. ocularis* Swinhoe, 1860 {Amoy, China}. Adult male has gray back; much less white in wing (both sexes). Migrant in w Aleutians, where has nested; casual or accidental in c and e Aleutians, on Bering Sea islands, and on the mainland in w, interior, s-c, and se Alaska at St. Lawrence I. and locally from Seward Peninsula to Cape Lisburne (see Nelson 1887, Bishop 1900, Hersey 1916, Fay and Cade 1959, Peyton 1963, Thompson and DeLong 1969, Kessel and Gibson 1978, Kessel 1989, Winker et al. 2002, Lehman 2005). At least 16 specimens (UAM, 6; UBC, 6; MVZ, 2; USNM, 1; UWBM, 1).


Figure 14. The Asian subspecies of the Bohemian Waxwing, Bombycilla garrulus centralasiae (bottom specimen) and its Alaska-breeding counterpart, B. g. pallidiceps (top three). Note the lighter coloration of centralasiae. Particularly in cases such as this, where relative shade is important; identification by photo, without direct comparison, would be problematic.

Figure 15. The Asian subspecies of the Lapland Longspur, Calcarius lapponicus coloratus (top) and its Alaska-breeding counterpart, C. l. alascensis (bottom). Note the white supercilium, chestnut wing coverts, and the extension of black throat color onto the flanks in coloratus.
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—Family Bombycillidae: Waxwings


B. g. centralasiae Polyakov, 1915 {sw Russian Altai}. Paler dorsally and ventrally than pallidiceps, but crissum often darker chestnut (Figure 14). Casual in Aleutians (see Gibson and Kessel 1992, 1997, Gibson and Byrd 2007). Two specimens (UAM, 1; USNM, 1). Notes: Maintained as a synonym of nominate garrulus (Linnaeus, 1758) {Sweden} by Cramp (1988), Dickinson (2003), and Koblik et al. (2006).


—Family Calcariidae: Longspurs and Snow Buntings

Notes: Formerly maintained in subfamily Emberizinae/family Emberizidae (AOU 1983, Gibson and Kessel 1997), the genera Calcarius Bechstein and Plectrophenax Stejneger have been found, through analyses of mitochondrial and nuclear DNA, to be closely allied neither to buntings of the genus Emberiza Linnaeus nor to other members of the Emberizidae; rather, they form instead a well-supported clade that diverged early in the radiation of the New World nine-primaried oscines (Chesser et al. 2010).

Calcarius lapponicus alascensis Ridgway, 1898 {St. Paul I., Pribilofs}. Lapland Longspur. Slightly smaller; spring male browner dorsally; black on flanks reduced, not broadly connected to black of throat; supercilium ochre. Throughout the Alaska nesting range of the species. Series AMNH, ANSP, BYU, CAS, DMNS, FLMNH, MCZ, MVZ, SDNHM, UAM, USNM, YPM.

C. l. coloratus Ridgway, 1898 {Copper I., Commander Is.}. Slightly larger; spring male much blacker dorsally; wing coverts chestnut; black of throat connects solidly with black flanks; supercilium whitish (Figure 15). Commander Is. and Kamchatka. Casual in w Aleutians (Gibson 1986, Gibson and Byrd 2007). At least one specimen (UAM).


—Family Parulidae: wood-warblers

Notes: For a time maintained as the subfamily Parulinae/family Emberizidae (AOU 1983); returned to rank of family on the basis of DNA–DNA hybridization studies (AOU 1997).


Parkesia noveboracensis (J. F. Gmelin, 1789) (New York). Northern Waterthrush. Series MVZ, UAM, USNM. See Kessel and Gibson (1978) for overview. Notes: Formerly maintained in the genus Seiurus Swainson. Following genetic data indicating that the Ovenbird (the type species of Seiurus) and the waterthrushes are not closely related, Chesser et al. (2010) moved noveboracensis to the genus Parkesia, erected for the waterthrushes by Sangster (2008).


Oreothlypis celata celata (Say, 1822) (Omaha, Nebraska). Orange-crowned Warbler. Grayer headed and grayer backed, only streaked yellow ventrally (Figure 16). The widespread nesting subspecies in interior, sw, w, and n Alaska. Series MVZ, UAM, USNM. See Kessel and Gibson (1978) for overview. Notes: See comments under O. peregrina (above).

O. c. lutescens (Ridgway, 1872) (Fort Kenai, Alaska). Bright yellow ventrally, including throat and undertail coverts, yellow-green dorsally. S-c and se Alaska.
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Series MVZ, UAM, USNM. For intergradation with nominate celata, see Gilbert and West (2015).


Geothlypis tolmiei tolmiei (Townsend, 1839) [Fort Vancouver, Washington]. MacGillivray’s Warbler. Series UAM. NOTES: Formerly maintained in the genus Oporornis S. F. Baird. Following analyses of sequences of mitochondrial and nuclear DNA indicating that the species tolmiei and philadelphia are more closely related to Geothlypis species than to the type species of Oporornis (agilis), Chesser et al. (2011) moved those two species to Geothlypis Cabanis.


Geothlypis trichas campicola Behle and Aldrich, 1947 [Rosebud Co., Montana]. Common Yellowthroat. Includes yukonicola Godfrey, 1950 [Jarvis River at Alaska Highway, Yukon Territory], according to Lowery and Monroe (1968). Nests mainland se Alaska and some adjacent islands; recently in e Interior (see Swarth 1911, Gabrielson and Lincoln 1959, Kessel and Gibson 1978, Johnson et al. 2008, Heinl and Piston 2009). Series MVZ, UAM. NOTES: Alaska-nesting yellowthroats appear to arrive directly from interior nw Canada rather than coastally. Further study may reveal that some nesting birds reach se Alaska (e.g., Ketchikan) from coastal populations—occidentalis Brewster, 1883 [Truckee River, Nevada]—but distinguishing individuals of occidentalis from campicola can be problematic (see Behle 1950, Pyle 1997). At this time we know no sound basis for including arizela Oberholser, 1899 [Fort Steilacoom, Washington], maintained as a synonym of occidentalis by Marshall and Dedrick (1994), listed for Alaska by Gabrielson and Lincoln (1959) and Gibson and Kessel (1997).


Setophaga tigrina (J. F. Gmelin, 1789) [Canada]. Cape May Warbler. Casual or accidental in se, s-c, interior, w, and n Alaska; nested recently in s-c Alaska (see Kessel and Gibson 1978, Johnson and Herter 1989, Tobish 2014b). Six specimens UAM; photos UAM—published NAB 67:661, 2014. NOTES: Formerly maintained in the genus Dendroica G. R. Gray. Following analyses of mitochondrial and nuclear DNA sequences indicating that the American Redstart—the type species of Setophaga and the single species traditionally placed in that genus—is nested with a clade encompassing all species of Dendroica, Chesser et al. (2011) merged Dendroica—including 11 species in Alaska—in Setophaga Swainson.

Setophaga petechia rubiginosa (Pallas, 1811) {Kodiak I.}. Yellow Warbler. Males darker and greener above, usually with greenish forehead. Sw, s-c, and se Alaska. Series MVZ, UAM, USNM. See Kessel and Gibson (1978) for overview. NOTES: See comments under S. tigrina (above).

S. p. banksi (Browning, 1994) {Old Crow Village, Yukon Territory}. Yellower above, especially rump and forehead. W, n, and interior Alaska. Series UAM, USNM. NOTES: Browning (1994) limited the ranges of subspecies morcomi (Coale, 1887) (= Fort Bridger [Camp Scott, Uinta Co., Wyoming], amnicola (Batchelder, 1918) [Curslet, Newfoundland], and parkeisi (Browning, 1994) [Richards I., Mackenzie River Delta, Northwest Territories] to regions east of Alaska. Pyle (1997:460) attributed morcomi and parkeisi to easternmost s-c Alaska (“interior s. AK”) and to n Alaska, respectively; as mentioned by Gibson and Kessel (1997), the AOU (1957) and Gabrielson and Lincoln (1959) used amnicola as the name of the widespread n subspecies.


Setophaga townsendi (Townsend, 1837) {near Fort Vancouver, Washington}. Yellow-rumped Warbler. Throat yellow, auriculars gray, and white edging in wing broader. Multiple records (see Heinl and Piston 2009). The Audubon’s Warbler nesting in southern se Alaska, where intergrades with hooveri (q.v.) are prevalent (see published photos WB 40:120, 2009). Six specimens UAM. NOTES: See comments under S. tigrina (above).

S. c. hooveri (McGregor, 1899) {Palo Alto, California}. Throat white, auriculars blackish, white edging in wing reduced. The widespread Myrtle Warbler nesting throughout interior and s-c Alaska; also nests n mainland se Alaska and adjacent islands. Intergrades with auduboni (see Heinl and Piston 2009). Series AMNH, MVZ, UAM, USNM.


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Cardellina canadensis (Linnaeus, 1766) {Canada}. Canada Warbler. Accidental in n Alaska. One record (specimen MVZ): ♀ found dead, 22 Jul 1965, Barrow (Pitelka 1974). NOTES: Following analyses of nuclear and mitochondrial DNA indicating that two species (canadensis and pusilla) formerly placed in the genus Wilsonia Bonaparte form a clade not with the type species W. (Setophaga) citrina but with Cardellina rubrifrons, Cheesser et al. (2010) moved both into Cardellina Bonaparte.

Cardellina pusilla pileolata (Pallas, 1811) {Kodiak I.}. Wilson’s Warbler. Series AMNH, MVZ, UAM, USNM. NOTES: See comments under C. canadensis (above).

—Family EMBERIZIDAE: EMBERIZIDS


Pooecetes gramineus [confinis S. F. Baird, 1858 {Loup Fork of the Platte River, Nebraska}]. Vesper Sparrow. Accidental in se and in n Alaska. Two records (no specimen; photos UAM): one bird, 4 Jun 2007, Hyder (Gibson et al. 2008); one bird, 26 Jun 2008, Barrow (Tobish 2009a).

Chondestes grammacus [strigatus Swainson, 1827 {Temascaltepec, state of México}]. Lark Sparrow. Accidental in the Interior and in se Alaska. Two records (no specimen; photos UAM—published NAB 64:135, 2010); one bird, 12 Jul 1991, Scottie Creek (Gibson and Kessel 1992); one bird, 13–22 Sep 2009, Ketchikan (Tobish 2010b).


Passerella iliaca unalaschcensis (J. F. Gmelin, 1789) {Unalaska I., e Aleutians}. Fox Sparrow. Six dark brown Pacific coastal forms in Alaska constitute most of the unalaschcensis subspecies group. This subspecies is large; in summer adult plumage grayest—gray-brown dorsally, distinctly gray on neck and sides of head; breast spots fewer and smaller; bill large. Easternmost Aleutians (recently nesting as far west as the type locality), w Alaska Peninsula, and Sanak, Shumagin, and Semidi islands. Series AMNH, UAM.
**Melospiza melodia maxima** Gabrielson and Lincoln, 1951 {Kiska I., c Aleutians}. Song Sparrow. Large; browner than *sanaka*, with slightly heavier and longer bill (Figure 17). Resident in w and c Aleutians (Attu to Amlia). Series MCZ, UAM, USNM.

**M. m. sanaka** McGregor, 1900 {Sanak I., Sanak Is.}. Large; grayer than far-western *maxima*; bill more slender. Includes *semidiensis* W. S. Brooks, 1919 [North Semidi [Aghiyuk] I., Semidi Is.], according to Hellmayr (1938); also includes *amaka* Gabrielson and Lincoln, 1951 [Amak I., Bering Sea], following Gibson and Kessel (1997) and Pruett et al. (2004). Resident from c Aleutians (Seguam) to the Alaska Peninsula and adjacent islands (Sanak, Shumagin, and Semidi islands), Chirikof I. Series AMNH, CAS, FMNH, LACM, MCZ, MVZ, UAM, USNM. See Withrow (2015) for discussion of this subspecies’ northeastern range limits.

**M. m. insignis** S. F. Baird, 1869 [Kodiak I.]. Medium sized; darker than *sanaka*, paler and grayer than *kenaensis*. Kodiak archipelago and adjacent Alaska Peninsula coast. This and the following four subspecies are migratory, as well as resident throughout the year in reduced numbers. Series AMNH, CAS, UAM, USNM.

**M. m. kenaensis** Ridgway, 1900 {Port Graham, Cook Inlet}. Smaller and browner than *insignis*; larger than *caurina*. Pacific coast of Kenai Peninsula, islands of Prince William Sound. Series AMNH, MVZ, UAM, USNM.

**M. m. caurina** Ridgway, 1899 [Yakutat, Alaska]. Small and dark; grayer and with bill longer than in *rufina*. N Gulf of Alaska coast. Series AMNH, CAS, LACM, MVZ, UAM, USNM.

**M. m. rufina** (Bonaparte, 1850) [Sitka]. Small; darker (sooter and less rufous) than *merrilli*. Outer islands of Alexander Archipelago. Series AMNH, LACM, MVZ, SDNHM, UAM.

**M. m. merrilli** Brewster, 1896 [Fort Sherman, Idaho]. Small; dark with rufous tones. Includes *inexspectata* Riley, 1911 [near Moose Lake, British Columbia], fol-
Melospiza lincolnii lincolnii (Audubon, 1834) [= near mouth of Natashquan River, Quebec]. Lincoln’s Sparrow. Larger. Includes M. l. alticola (Miller and McCabe, 1935) [San Bernardino Co., California], following Phillips et al. (1964) and citations therein. Most of the Alaska range of the species. Series MVZ, UAM.

M. l. gracilis (von Kittlitz, 1858) [Sitka]. Smaller; black streaks on upperparts broader (P. Unitt, in litt., 2014); with “a pronounced buff overcast on the head and nape” (Phillips et al. 1964:208). Prince William Sound east through se Alaska. Series CAS, LACM, MVZ, SDNHM, UAM.


Zonotrichia querula (Nuttall, 1840) [near Independence, Missouri]. Harris’s Sparrow. Wintered locally in se Alaska in 1960s and 1970s, but casual since; casual in s-c Alaska, and casual or accidental in interior, w, and n Alaska (see Myres 1959, Pitelka 1974, Kessel and Gibson 1978, Weeden and Weeden 1973, Kessel and Gibson 1978, Hohenberger et al. 1994, Heinl and Piston 2009). Five specimens (UAM, 3; MVZ, 1; USNM, 1); photos UAM.


Z. l. gambelii (Nuttall, 1840) [Walla Walla, Washington]. Pale lores; orange bill; reddish back stripes with gray edging. The widespread nesting subspecies in Alaska. Series AMNH, MVZ, UAM.

Z. l. pugetensis Grinnell, 1928 {Parksville, Vancouver I.}. Pale lores; yellowish bill; blackish brown back stripes with tan edging; strong brown wash on sides. Sw British Columbia to nw California. Perhaps annual (recently) in southern se Alaska (see Gibson et al. 2013, Tobish 2014c). One specimen UAM; published photo NAB 66:149, 2012.


Junco hyemalis hyemalis (Linnaeus, 1758) [South Carolina]. Dark-eyed Junco. Head, back, and flanks uniformly grayish brown (imm. ♀) to slate gray (ad. ♂). The Slate-colored Junco nesting throughout the Alaska range of the species except se Alaska. Series AMNH, MVZ, UAM.

J. h. oreganus (Townsend, 1837) [Fort Vancouver, Washington]. Head deep black (♂); back and edges of tertials and secondaries deep, rich chestnut; flanks darker brown than in other Oregon Juncos. The Oregon Junco nesting in se Alaska. Series CAS, LACM, SDNHM, UAM.

J. h. montanus Ridgway, 1898 [Columbia Falls, Montana]. Head slate gray to dull black (♂); back and edges of tertials and secondaries medium grayish brown; flanks
paler pinkish brown. An Oregon Junco duller than oreganus. One record (specimen UBC): ad. ♀, 1 Jun 1957 [as labeled; published as 31 May], Gambell, St. Lawrence I. (Fay and Cade 1959, Sealy et al. 1971). The specimen was identified by A. H. Miller (in 1959—Sealy et al. 1971) and by P. Unitt at SDNHM (in litt., 2014). NOTES: Osgood (1909) referred to two specimens collected in the e Interior; though listed in USNM catalogs, neither bird is extant (J. R. Saucier, USNM, in litt., 2014). Phillips (1962), followed by many but not all subsequent authors, considered the type specimen of J. h. shufeldti Coale, 1887 {Fort Wingate, New Mexico} to represent this interior subspecies and montanus thus a junior synonym of shufeldti.

J. h. cismontanus Dwight, 1918 [Sumas, British Columbia]. Head grayish brown (imm. ♀) to slate gray (♂); back slightly but contrastingly browner; underparts patterned as in nominate hyemalis but flanks partly tinged brown. A Slate-colored Junco intermediate between nominate hyemalis and montanus. On migration and in winter in se Alaska.Notes: We follow Paynter (1970) and Browning (1990) on the subject of “cismontanus” the intergrade versus cismontanus the subspecies (cf. Browning [1974], who followed Phillips [1962] in renaming this taxon henshawi {Bennett, British Columbia}).


Emberiza pallasi polaris Middendorff, 1853 [Bogana River, Taimyr Peninsula]. Pallas’s Bunting. Casual in w Alaska at St. Lawrence I.; accidental in w Aleutians and


Figure 16. Subspecies celata (top) and lutescens (bottom) of the Orange-crowned Warbler (Oreothlypis celata). The latter is much yellower ventrally and greener dorsally; the two appear to intergrade extensively in s-c Alaska.

Figure 17. Subspecific variation in the Song Sparrow (Melospiza melodia). From left to right (reflecting west–east distribution), subspecies maxima, sanaka, insignis, caurina, rufina, and merrilli (kenaiensis not shown). All specimens are spring adult males (27 April–11 June).
—Family **CARDINALIDAE: CARDINALS AND ALLIES**

**NOTES:** Formerly maintained as a subfamily of the Emberizidae (AOU 1983); elevated to rank of family on the basis of DNA-sequencing studies (AOU 1997).

*Piranga olivacea* (J. F. Gmelin, 1789) [New York]. Scarlet Tanager. Accidental in n and w Alaska. Two records (one specimen FMNH; photos UAM): ad. ♀, 25 Jun 1934, Barrow (Bishop 1944); ♀, 9 Aug 2012, Nome (J. K. Handeland). **NOTES:** Long maintained in the family Thraupidae (from AOU 1931), but mitochondrial genetic data from several studies provide strong evidence that the genus *Piranga* is instead a member of the Cardinalidae (Chesser et al. 2009).

*Piranga ludoviciana* (Wilson, 1811) [near Kamiah, Idaho Co., Idaho]. Western Tanager. Annual in summer on se Alaska mainland, where probably nests; casual or accidental in s-c, interior, w, and n Alaska (see Swarth 1911, Bishop 1944, Webster 1950, Stewart 1964, Keith 1967, Kessel and Gibson 1978, Heinl and Piston 2009, Tobish 2014c). Series UAM; photos UAM. **NOTES:** See comments under *P. olivacea* (above).


—Family **ICTERIDAE: BLACKBIRDS**

**NOTES:** For a time maintained as the subfamily Icterinae/family Emberizidae (AOU 1983); returned to rank of family by AOU (1998).

*Dolichonyx oryzivorus* (Linnaeus, 1758) [South Carolina]. Bobolink. Casual in se Alaska and accidental in n Alaska. Four records (Kessel and Gibson 1978, Tobish...


*Xanthocephalus xanthocephalus* (Bonaparte, 1826) (Loup River, just west of Fuller, Nance Co., Nebraska). Yellow-headed Blackbird. Casual or accidental in se, s-c, interior, and n Alaska (see Anderson 1913, Kessel and Gibson 1978, Isleib and Kessel 1989, Heiln and Piston 2009). Three specimens (UAM, 2; MVZ, 1); photos UAM.

*Euphagus carolinus carolinus* (Statius Müller, 1776) (Carolina). Rusty Blackbird. Series MVZ, UAM, USNM. For overview see Gabrielson and Lincoln (1959) and Kessel and Gibson (1978).


—Family **FRINGILLIDAE: FRINGILLINE AND CARDUELINE FINCHES**

*Fringilla montifringilla* Linnaeus, 1758 (Sweden). Brambling. Monotypic; includes subcuneolata* Kleinschmidt, 1909 (Kobe, Japan), following Vaurie (1959a). Migrant in w Aleutians, where has nested; casual elsewhere in sw Alaska and in w, n, interior, s-c, and se Alaska (see Hanna 1916, Kenyon 1961, Springer 1966, Byrd et al. 1974, Jones and Gibson 1975, Kessel and Gibson 1978, Gibson 1981, Isleib

*Leucosticte arctoa* [brunneonucha (von Brandt, 1842) {Kuril Is.}]. Asian Rosy-Finch. Accidental in c Aleutians. One record (no specimen; photos UAM—published

Figure 18. Pine Bunting (*Emberiza leucocephalos*), 2 October 2012, St. Paul Island, Pribilofs.

*Photo by D. Gochfeld*

Figure 19. Subspecific variation in the Gray-crowned Rosy-Finch (*Leucosticte tephrocotis*). From left to right (reflecting west–east distribution), subspecies *umbrina, griseonucha, littoralis,* and *tephrocotis*. All specimens are spring adult males (22 April–27 June).
Leucosticte tephrocotis tephrocotis (Swainson, 1832) {near Carlton House, Saskatchewan}. Gray-crowned Rosy-Finch. Small; crown gray, cheek brown (Figure 19). Includes subspecies irvingi Feinstein, 1958 {Anaktuvuk Pass}. Brooks Range. Tanana River uplands. Series MVZ, UAM, USNM. See Kessel and Gibson (1978) for overview.


L. t. littoralis S. F. Baird, 1869 (= Port Simpson, British Columbia). Small; both crown and cheek are gray, as in griseonucha. Alaska Range, s-c, and se Alaska. Series MVZ, UAM.

L. t. umbrina Murie, 1944 {St. Paul I., Pribilofs}. Large; blacker than griseonucha; crown and cheek likewise gray. Pribilofs and St. Matthew and Hall islands. Series UAM, USNM.


P. e. flammula von Homeyer, 1880 (= Kodiak I.). Averages shorter tailed and slightly smaller than leucura but has more massive and more strongly hooked beak.
Includes *kodiaka* Ridgway, 1897 (Kodiak I.). Alaska Pacific coast from easternmost of the Aleutians (Unimak), Shumagin Is., Alaska Peninsula, and Kodiak archipelago east to se Alaska. Series AMNH, MVZ, UAM.

*P. e. kamtschatkensis* (Dybowski, 1883) (Kamchatka). Distinctly smaller than preceding subspecies, with narrower, blunt, strongly hooked bill. Casual in w Aleutians and Pribilofs (see Riley 1917, Kenyon and Phillips 1965, Gibson and Byrd 2007, Schwitters 2008). Five specimens (UAM, 3; USNM, 2); photo UAM—published Schwitters 2008:159.


*Haemorhous cassini* [cassini] (S. F. Baird, 1854) (10 miles east of Gemini Peak, Yavapai Co., Arizona). Cassin’s Finch. Casual in se and s-c Alaska (see West and Bailey 1986, Gibson and Kessel 1992, Tobish 2013a; Figure 20). No specimen;
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L. c. bendirei Ridgway, 1884 [Fort Klamath, Oregon]. Moderately large. Two specimens (MVZ, 2) from se Alaska identified by A. R. Phillips (on specimen labels). One of them was reported by Gabrielson and Lincoln (1959).

L. c. reai Phillips, 1981 [Shoshone Co., Idaho]. Very small like minor but often with heavier bill. “Duller below and on crown and back than minor, the back less reddish (male) and thus more strongly contrasted (at least to rump), and more deep-ochraceous below” (Phillips, in Monson and Phillips 1981:228). A specimen (USNM) from se Alaska (ad. ♂, 11 Aug 1942) was identified by Phillips (loc. cit.).

Loxia leucoptera leucoptera J. F. Gmelin, 1789 [Hudson Bay and New York]. White-winged Crossbill. The North American subspecies. Series AMNH, CAS, MVZ, UAM, USNM. NOTES: The few Aleutian records of this species (see Gibson et al. 1987a, Gibson and Byrd 2007) might refer to the Old World subspecies bifasciata (C. L. Brehm, 1827) [Thuringia and Vienna], but no Aleutian specimen exists and photos are inconclusive.

Acanthis flammea flammea (Linnaeus, 1758) [Norrland, Sweden]. Common Redpoll. Includes subspecies holboellii (C. L. Brehm, 1831) [Roda Valley, Thuringia], following Vaurie (1959a), Howell et al. (1968), Knox (1988a), and Cramp and Perrins (1994); cf. AOU (1998). Series AMNH, CAS, MVZ, UAM, USNM. NOTES: For a time maintained in the genus Carduelis, but mitochondrial genetic data indicate that Carduelis as constituted by the AOU (1998) is polyphyletic and that Acanthis spp., Spinus spp., and Chloris sinica belong to clades encompassing species of other genera (Chesser et al. 2009).


—Family Passeridae: Old World Sparrows


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