

**Notes on the Subspecies Groups of the *Check-list of the Birds of Mexico*
by Michael Carmody and Hal Opperman (6th edition, 2010)**

Here will be found explanatory comments and references for the distinctive subspecies Groups shown indented on the *Check-list*. Some Groups, but far from all, may be candidates for recognition as distinct species by the American Ornithologists' Union in coming years. We have generally broken out Groups only in cases where a species is represented in Mexico by more than one Group. Thus, for example, we do not show Black Brant (*Branta bernicla nigricans*) indented beneath Brant, or the northern Group (*Piranga flava hepatica*) beneath Hepatic Tanager, because these are the only Groups within their species that occur in Mexico. We do make exception to this rule, however, for a small number of cases where such single Groups are regional endemics or endemic to Mexico (e.g., Townsend's Shearwater, Coppery-tailed Trogon, Mexican Antthrush, Cozumel Spindalis...).

While earlier editions of our check-list did include a number of the most familiar subspecies Groups, with the fifth edition (2009) we undertook a considerable expansion in presenting more than 400 Groups broken out from 176 species. This sixth edition updates the previous one in light of recent research and of the latest (2009) revision of the American Ornithologists' Union *Check-list*. Our inspiration continues to be the latest (2009) update of *The Clements Checklist of the Birds of the World*. The decision to include subspecies Groups in the Clements list can only enhance its standard-setting influence within the worldwide birding community.

The *Clements Checklist* is our most important source, but we have not always followed it to the letter. Many other authorities are referenced in the notes below, and listed in full in the Literature Cited section at the end. Our four most frequently consulted sources are cited in abbreviated form:

AOU = American Ornithologists' Union. *Check-list of North American Birds* (various editions).

CLE = James F. Clements. 2009. *The Clements Checklist of the Birds of the World*. 6th ed. Cornell University Press, Ithaca, N.Y. (originally published in 2006). We consulted downloadable spreadsheet version 6.4 incorporating updates and corrections as of 18 December 2009: <http://www.birds.cornell.edu/clementschecklist/corrections/Dec09>

H&W = Steve N.G. Howell and Sophie Webb. 1995. *A Guide to the Birds of Mexico and Northern Central America*. Oxford University Press, Oxford, New York, and Tokyo.

N&P = Adolfo G. Navarro-Sigüenza and A. Townsend Peterson. 2004. An alternative species taxonomy of the birds of Mexico. *Biota Neotropica* 4(2). <http://www.biotaneotropica.org.br/v4n2/pt/abstract?taxonomic-review+BN03504022004>

These Notes and the Check-list itself may be downloaded as PDF documents at <http://www.legacy-tours.com/>. This project is a work in progress. The science and art of bird classification are in constant flux; there will always be room for improvement. Please send questions, corrections, and suggestions to mexlist@legacy-tours.com. Your input is welcome and will be gratefully acknowledged in future revisions.

Notes prepared by Hal Opperman

TINAMOUS

- 3 – Thicket Tinamou: W Mexican subspecies *occidentalis* is given separate Group status (H&W, N&P).

DUCKS, GEESE, AND SWANS

- 8 – Snow Goose: although genetic studies have revealed that “Blue Goose” is better considered as a color morph of Snow Goose than as a distinct species, as once thought, our check-list follows the suggestion of N&P in including both as Groups, under their former specific names. AOU *Check-list* status: the two forms are treated as distinct species from the First Edition (AOU 1886) until they are reduced to subspecific rank in the 32nd Supplement (Eisenmann et al. 1973).
- 11 – Cackling Goose: four subspecies said to reach Mexico are raised to Group status (CLE); see also Mowbray et al. (2002), Banks et al. (2004), Mlodinow et al. (2008), Peterson and Navarro-Sigüenza (2009).
- 12 – Canada Goose: two subspecies said to reach Mexico are raised to Group status (CLE); see also Mowbray et al. (2002), Banks et al. (2004).
- 19 – Mallard: Mexican Duck is split off (H&W, AOU 1998, N&P, CLE). AOU *Check-list* status: *diazi* first appears in the Fifth Edition (AOU 1957), as a full species. In the Sixth Edition (AOU 1983), *platyrhynchos* and *diazi* are treated as two Groups within a single species.

NEW WORLD QUAIL

- 60 – Northern Bobwhite: five Groups are elevated to potential split status (based on N&P): *virginianus* in E US and NE Mexico; *ridgwayi* in SE Arizona and N Central Sonora; *graysoni* in Central Mexico; *pectoralis* (includes *godmani*) from Veracruz to Tabasco, Oaxaca, and NE Chiapas; and *coyolcos* on Pacific slope from Chiapas to Guatemala. CLE has a similar treatment except that *ridgwayi* is merged into the *coyolcos* Group. See also H&W, Brennan (1999). AOU *Check-list* status: *ridgwayi* (Masked Bobwhite) is treated as a separate species from the First Edition (AOU 1886) up until it becomes a subspecies in the 19th Supplement (Wetmore et al. 1944).
- 64 – Montezuma Quail: split into two Group-level taxa separated by the Río Balsas drainage (H&W, AOU 1998, N&P, CLE): *montezumae* in SW US and N and Central Mexico, *sallei* in SW Mexico (Guerrero and Oaxaca). AOU *Check-list* status: the two Groups are broken out in the Seventh Edition (AOU 1998).

SHEARWATERS AND PETRELS

- 90 – Townsend’s Shearwater: of the three Group-level taxa (CLE), the nominate is the only one occurring in Mexico and is endemic, so we show it on the check-list. AOU *Check-list* status: added in the Ninth Supplement (Ridgway et al. 1899) as a monotypic species endemic to Mexico. In the Sixth Edition (AOU 1983), *P.a. newelli* from Hawaii is added as a Group, with the Mexican race as the other Group. More recently, a proposal to separate the two forms was considered but failed to pass (AOU 2000). N&P also recommend separation.
- 92 – Audubon’s Shearwater: we follow the lead of CLE, who recognizes West Indian-breeding *Puffinus lherminieri lherminieri* (Audubon’s Shearwater) and Galapagos-breeding *P. subalaris* (Galapagos Shearwater) as distinct species. Both occur off Mexico, on Atlantic and Pacific waters, respectively. However, the AOU’s North American Classification Committee has not recognized this split, so we are constrained to showing the two taxa on our check-list as Groups within Audubon’s Shearwater. AOU *Check-list* status: the Atlantic form is regarded as a separate species beginning with the First Edition (AOU 1886); from the Fourth Edition (AOU 1931) to the present, the Galapagos and nominate races are treated as subspecies of *P. lherminieri*.

STORM-PETRELS

- 93 – Leach’s Storm-Petrel: taxonomy complicated and controversial. We list the four subspecies recognized by CLE, based on Power and Ainley (1986), which may or may not merit consideration as Groups: a) *leucorhoa* (both light- and dark-rumped), breeding in N Pacific as far south as Farallon Islands, visitor along Pacific coast of Mexico; b) *chapmani* (mostly dark-rumped), nesting off Baja coast on Los Coronados, San Benito Islands; c) *socorroensis* (smaller than other forms on average, both light- and dark-rumped), breeding in summer at Guadalupe Island; d) *cheimomnestes* (mostly white-rumped), breeding in winter at Guadalupe Island. See also H&W, Huntington et al.

(1996), AOU (1998), N&P. AOU *Check-list* status: Dusky-rumped (*socorroensis*) is added in the Eighth Supplement (Brewster et al. 1897) as a distinct species, and remains as such until the 19th Supplement (Wetmore et al. 1944), where it is reduced to a subspecies of Leach's.

BOOBIES AND GANNETS

- 103 – Brown Booby: split into Atlantic (*leucogaster*) and Eastern Pacific (*brewsteri*) Groups (CLE). See Steeves et al. (2003). AOU *Check-list* status: Brewster's Booby was added as a full species in the First Supplement (AOU 1889), and became a subspecies of the broad worldwide species in the 19th Supplement (Wetmore et al. 1944).
- 104 – Red-footed Booby: split into Atlantic (*sula*) and Eastern Pacific (*websteri*) Groups (CLE). See Steeves et al. (2003).

PELICANS

- 107 – Brown Pelican: split into three geographic races occurring in Mexico (CLE); see also Wetmore (1945). AOU *Check-list* status: the Atlantic and California forms are regarded as separate species in the First Edition (AOU 1886), then reduced to subspecific rank and merged into the broader species in the Fourth Edition (AOU 1931). The West Indian race was considered extralimital to the AOU check-list area until added as a subspecies in the 21st Supplement (Wetmore et al. 1946).

CORMORANTS

- 110 – Double-crested Cormorant: split between Atlantic (*auritus*) and Pacific (*albociliatus*) Groups (CLE).

HERONS, BITTERNS, AND ALLIES

- 119 – Great Blue Heron: Great White Heron (Caribbean) is split off as a Group of its own (AOU 1998, N&P, CLE). AOU *Check-list* status: Great White Heron is considered a full species beginning with the First Edition (AOU 1886), and lumped with Great Blue as a color morph in the 32nd Supplement (Eisenmann et al. 1973). The two are designated as Groups in the Sixth Edition (AOU 1983).
- 126 – Green Heron: three Groups in Mexico (CLE).

HAWKS, KITES, EAGLES, AND ALLIES

- 141 – Osprey: check-list recognizes American form *carolinensis* (breeds Baja, NW Mexico; migrant, winter visitor elsewhere) and Caribbean form *ridgwayi* (resident along Quintana Roo coast) as discrete Groups (CLE).
- 153 – Sharp-shinned Hawk: White-breasted Hawk, resident south of Isthmus of Tehuantepec, is given separate Group status (H&W, AOU 1998, N&P, CLE). AOU *Check-list* status: these Groups are first recognized in the Sixth Edition (AOU 1983).
- 158 – White Hawk: northern subspecies is recognized as a Group (CLE). It is the only one occurring in Mexico and is a regional endemic (S Mexico to Guatemala and Belize), so we show it on the check-list.
- 159 – Common Black-Hawk: two Groups, per Banks et al. (2008), CLE. However, H&W “see no reason to consider *subtilis* as other than a mangrove-inhabiting subspecies of Common Black-Hawk.” AOU *Check-list* status: Mangrove Black-Hawk is added as a full species in the Sixth Edition (AOU 1983) but downgraded to a Group within Common Black-Hawk in the 49th Supplement (Banks et al. 2008).
- 163 – Roadside Hawk: Cozumel population recognized as a Group (H&W, N&P, CLE). H&W additionally assign Group rank to *direptor* (SW Chiapas and N Central America), but N&P and CLE include this race in the nominate Group.
- 164 – Red-shouldered Hawk: two of the Groups recognized by H&W, N&P, and CLE occur in Mexico and are shown here, *elegans* (resident in Baja) and *lineatus/alleni* (winters to NE and Central Mexico). Hull et al. (2008) provide genetic evidence for recognizing the eastern and western populations of this species as distinct evolutionary lineages. See also Peterson and Navarro-Sigüenza (2009).

171 – Red-tailed Hawk: split into numerous Groups by CLE. The four shown range southward into Mexico: *borealis*, wintering to Central and E Mexico, including N Yucatan Peninsula; *calurus*, resident in Baja and NW Sonora and wintering throughout Mexico; *kriderii*, wintering to Central Mexico; and *fuertesi*, resident in SW US and N Mexico. CLE seems to include in the *fuertesi* Group the subspecies *hadropus* (resident in Central Highlands and SW Mexico) and *kemsiesi* (resident from Chiapas to Nicaragua), but leaves unresolved the status of *fumosus* (Tres Mariás) and *socorroensis* (Socorro), which do not appear to be assigned to any of his listed Groups.

CARACARAS AND FALCONS

182 – American Kestrel: our check-list splits off the *tropicalis* Group that occurs from Oaxaca southward (H&W, N&P). Some individuals of the northern (*sparverius*) Group winter south into the range of the *tropicalis* Group.

183 – Merlin: the two subspecies shown winter in Mexico and are recognized as Groups by CLE. AOU *Check-list* status: *Falco richardsoni* is considered a separate species in the First Edition (AOU 1886); it is lumped into the broader species in the 14th Supplement (Allen et al. 1908).

186 – Peregrine Falcon: the two subspecies shown occur in Mexico and are recognized as Groups by CLE.

RAILS, GALLINULES, AND COOTS

190 – Clapper Rail: taxonomy of this species is a mess. H&W assign the Mexican forms to three Groups, *saturatus* (NE Mexico), *pallidus* (Yucatan Peninsula), and *obsoletus* (coastal California south to Baja and NW Mexico). CLE does not recognize *pallidus* as a Group, and splits H&W's *obsoletus* into four Group-level taxa of which three occur in Baja and NW Mexico. Our check-list follows CLE for the latter set of splits and H&W for the remaining taxa. AOU *Check-list* status: in the First Edition (AOU 1886), *longirostris*, *beldingi*, and *obsoletus* are separate species; *levipes* and *yumaensis* have not appeared yet. In the 14th Supplement (Allen et al. 1908), *levipes* is added as a full species. In the Third Edition (AOU 1910), *beldingi* and *levipes* are separate species, while *obsoletus*—although still a separate species—is now restricted to the San Francisco Bay area; the form along the Gulf Coast of Texas (and southward into Mexico) is *R. longirostris*, also found in the West Indies and South America. In the Fourth Edition (AOU 1931), *levipes*, *beldingi*, and *yumaensis* are subspecies of *R. obsoletus*; several other forms elsewhere in North America are subspecies of *R. longirostris*. In the 19th Supplement (Wetmore et al. 1944), all of the subject taxa are treated as subspecies of a single, polytypic species, *R. longirostris*. The Sixth Edition designates two Groups: *obsoletus* for the Pacific Coast populations and *longirostris* for the Gulf/Caribbean populations.

191 – King Rail: taxonomy of this species is confused, and its status in Mexico is poorly understood, but the sedentary population in Central Mexico has sometimes been suggested as a separate species (H&W, Taylor 1998, Poole et al. 2005).

CRANES

204 – Sandhill Crane: the three subspecies shown winter in Mexico and are recognized as Groups by CLE. AOU *Check-list* status: Little Brown Crane (*Grus canadensis*) and Sandhill Crane (*G. mexicanus*) are treated as separate species beginning with the First Edition (AOU 1886). From the Fourth Edition (AOU 1931) to the present, all forms are merged into a single species.

SANDPIPERS

222 – Solitary Sandpiper: our check-list recognizes eastern and western breeding Groups (CLE), both of which occur in Mexico. See Hebert et al. (2004).

225 – Willet: our check-list recognizes eastern and western breeding Groups (CLE), both of which occur in Mexico.

243 – Dunlin: our check-list recognizes eastern and Pacific breeding Groups (CLE), both of which occur in Mexico.

247 – Short-billed Dowitcher: of three Groups recognized by CLE, the two shown here occur in Mexico.

GULLS, TERNS, AND SKIMMERS

264 – California Gull: split recognizes the distinctive northern breeding taxon *albertaensis* as a separate Group (CLE).

- 273 – Least Tern: our check-list recognizes as Groups the three breeding populations, all of which occur in Mexico (CLE). However, visible differences among these are subtle (Johnson et al. 1998), and no strong case has been made so far for raising them to full species status.

AUKS, MURRES, AND PUFFINS

- 290 – Xantus's Murrelet: the two subspecies are regarded as Groups by N&P and CLE. Although they acknowledge that the two forms may be separate species, H&W and AOU (1998) do not formally recognize them as Groups.

PIGEONS AND DOVES

- 299 – Band-tailed Pigeon: our check-list splits off the subspecies from the Cabo San Lucas district (N&P, CLE).

LORIES, PARAKEETS, MACAWS, AND PARROTS

- 319 – Green Parakeet: split into three Groups occurring in Mexico (N&P). AOU *Check-list* status: Seventh Edition (AOU 1998) recognizes Socorro Parakeet as a separate Group but lumps the two mainland taxa (*holochlora* of NE and SE Mexico and *brewsteri* of NW Mexico), as does CLE. H&W equivocate.
- 323 – Military Macaw: we break out the Mexican subspecies as a separate endemic Group. Even though "no consistent visible racial differences exist" between it and the nominate subspecies in South America (Juniper and Parr 1998), nonetheless their ranges are separated by a great distance. The gap between them is occupied by the Great Green Macaw, which has sometimes been treated as conspecific with the Military Macaw. Phylogenetic studies needed.
- 328 – Mexican Parrotlet: subspecies *insularis* resident on Islas Tres Marias split off from mainland form as separate Group (N&P).
- 338 – Yellow-headed Parrot: our check-list splits off the Tres Marias form (N&P, CLE). Although taxonomic understanding of the *Amazona ochrocephala/A. auropalliata/A. oratrix* complex is far from settled, the work of Eberhard and Bermingham (2004) has shown that *A.o. oratrix* and *A. auropalliata* are less genetically distinct from each other than either is from *A.o. tresmariae*. See Peterson and Navarro-Sigüenza (2009).

CUCKOOS, ROADRUNNERS, AND ANIS

- 340 – Squirrel Cuckoo: splits the W Mexican and Middle American forms (N&P, CLE). H&W describe the two as well-marked subspecies but do not recognize them as Groups.

TYPICAL OWLS

- 353 – Western Screech-Owl: our check-list recognizes three Groups: *kennicottii*, ranging southward from W Canada and US into Baja and NW Sonora; *suttoni*, from Mexican Plateau north into Big Bend region of Texas (both per CLE); and *vinaceus*, endemic to NW Mexico (per AOU 1998, N&P). See also Cannings and Angell (2001), who emphasize the need for a thorough taxonomic study. AOU *Check-list* status: two Groups recognized in Seventh Edition (AOU 1998), *kennicottii* (includes *suttoni*) and *vinaceus*, with remark that while some authors treat the latter as a separate species, differences in voice and behavior are lacking and intergradation occurs.
- 354 – Eastern Screech-Owl: McCall's (recognized as a Group by CLE) is the only subspecies occurring in Mexico and is a regional endemic (S Texas to NE Mexico), so we show it on the check-list.
- 356 – Pacific Screech-Owl: endemic subspecies *lambi* (Oaxaca) is split off from *cooperi* (Chiapas to Costa Rica), per N&P; see also Moore and Marshall (1959).
- 359 – Vermiculated Screech-Owl: Guatemalan (recognized as a Group by AOU 1998, CLE) is the only form occurring in Mexico and is a regional endemic (Mexico to N Nicaragua), so we show it on the check-list. AOU *Check-list* status: Seventh Edition (AOU 1998) defines two Groups, Guatemalan and a second Group occurring from Costa Rica into South America.

- 363 – Northern Pygmy-Owl: based on H&W, our check-list recognizes three Groups in Mexico: *gnoma* widespread in mountains north of Isthmus of Tehuantepec, *cobanense* from Chiapas to Honduras, and *hoskinsii* in Cape District of S Baja. N&P and CLE include a fourth Group, *californicum*, which we believe does not occur in Mexico. AOU *Check-list* status: Cape Pygmy-Owl is added in the First Supplement (AOU 1889) as a full species. In the Fourth Edition (AOU 1931) it is reduced to the rank of subspecies. Three Groups are defined in the Seventh Edition (AOU 1998): *californicum*, *gnoma* (includes *cobanense*), and *hoskinsii*. A proposal to separate *G. gnoma* into two or more species was considered but failed to pass (AOU 2000).
- 366 – Colima Pygmy-Owl: we split off the *griscomi* subspecies of the Upper Balsas Basin (Morelos and Guerrero) from the *palmarum* Group elsewhere in W Mexico, per N&P.
- 372 – Spotted Owl: two Groups in Mexico: *occidentalis* in mountains of N Baja, and *lucida* in mountains of NW and NE Mexico, south to Michoacán and San Luis Potosí (AOU 1998, N&P, CLE). AOU *Check-list* status: Seventh Edition (AOU 1998) recognizes the two Groups, noting that they are genetically distinct to a degree reflecting long isolation.
- 373 – Barred Owl: we suggest separate Group status for the endemic subspecies *sartorii*, with disjunct populations in several mountain ranges on both slopes (Durango to Michoacán and Guerrero, and Central Veracruz to N Oaxaca). Distinctive in appearance and vocalizations from other Barred Owl subspecies (nearest in S Central Texas).

GOATSUCKERS

- 392 – Whip-poor-will: two Groups: *vociferus* wintering in E and S Mexico, and *arizonae* breeding or year-round resident in mountains essentially throughout (H&W, AOU 1998, N&P, CLE). AOU *Check-list* status: Seventh Edition (AOU 1998) recognizes the two Groups, noting that they may represent separate species.

SWIFTS

- 396 – Black Swift: our check-list splits North American breeding race (migrant in Mexico) from Mesoamerican breeding race (CLE).
- 402 – Vaux's Swift: we follow N&P and Bull and Collins (2007), with three Groups: *vauxi* breeds NE Mexico, widespread as migrant, winter visitor; *richmondi* resident from W, S Mexico to Panama; and *gaumeri* resident on Yucatan Peninsula.

HUMMINGBIRDS

- 406 – Long-billed Hermit: H&W and many other authors split this species into two Groups, *longirostris* of SE Mexico on Atlantic slope and *mexicanus* in W Mexico. We have added a third, NW Mexican *griseoventer* (per AOU 1998, N&P, CLE). Case for splitting this species is weak, according to Hinkelmann and Schuchmann (1997); molecular data needed. AOU *Check-list* status: the three Groups as our check-list shows them are identified in the Seventh Edition (AOU 1998). These Groups remain unchanged after the split of *P. longirostris* from *P. superciliosus* in the 43rd Supplement (Banks et al. 2002).
- 409 – Wedge-tailed Sabrewing: split into Groups north (*curvipennes*) and south (*pampa*) of Isthmus of Tehuantepec (AOU 1998, N&P). However, H&W and CLE treat these not as Groups but as allopatric subspecies. Hinkelmann and Schuchmann (1997) lump them along with Long-tailed Sabrewing, noting that the case for splitting appears weak without DNA data. More recently, Peterson and Navarro-Sigüenza (2009) cite unpublished mitochondrial DNA data (I. Sarmiento et al.) validating that *curvipennes* and *pampa* are distinct. AOU *Check-list* status: the two populations are treated as Groups in the Seventh Edition (AOU 1998).
- 414 – Green Violetear: northern subspecies is recognized as a Group (AOU 1998, CLE). It is the only one occurring in Mexico and is a regional endemic (S Mexico to N Central Nicaragua), so we show it on the check-list. AOU *Check-list* status: Seventh Edition (AOU 1998) identifies the two Groups in North America.
- 421 – Canivet's Emerald: well-recognized split (H&W, N&P, CLE). See AOU (1998).
- 423 – Broad-billed Hummingbird: split into three Groups: *latirostris* in N and Central Mexico, *lawrencei* of Islas Tres Mariás, and *doubledayi* along Pacific coast from Guerrero to W Chiapas (H&W, N&P, CLE). A study by García-Deras et al. (2008) confirms that *doubledayi* is distinct from *latirostris* (see also Peterson and Navarro-Sigüenza

2009). AOU *Check-list* status: beginning with the First Edition (AOU 1886), nominate *latirostris* is treated as a species separate from *lawrencei* and *doubledayi*. The three taxa are lumped into a single species in the Sixth Edition (AOU 1983). In the Seventh Edition (AOU 1998), *latirostris* (includes *lawrencei*) and *doubledayi* are regarded as Groups. More recently, a proposal to separate *doubledayi* from *latirostris* was considered but failed to pass (Banks et al. 2002).

- 430 – Berylline Hummingbird: two Groups, north and south of Isthmus of Tehuantepec (H&W, N&P).
- 431 – Blue-tailed Hummingbird: we repeat the suggestion of H&W in recognizing the northern subspecies *guatemalae* as a Group. It is the only one occurring in Mexico and is a regional endemic (SE Chiapas to S Guatemala), so we show it on the check-list.
- 433 – Buff-bellied Hummingbird: two Groups, *chalconata* of E Mexico and *yucatanensis* of Yucatan Peninsula (CLE). AOU *Check-list* status: beginning in the First Edition (AOU 1886), *chalconata* is treated as a species distinct from *yucatanensis*; the two are folded into a single species in the 18th Supplement (Stone et al. 1923).
- 434 – Cinnamon Hummingbird: Tres Marias form *graysoni* is split off from mainland Group (N&P, CLE). Peterson and Navarro-Sigüenza (2009) cite unpublished mitochondrial DNA data (B.E. Hernández et al.) that confirm *graysoni* as a distinct species and also reveal another genetically differentiated evolutionary lineage in the Yucatan Peninsula (we defer including this taxon on our check-list, awaiting publication).
- 436 – Green-fronted Hummingbird: three Groups: *viridifrons* in central Guerrero and Oaxaca, *wagneri* in southern Oaxaca, and *villadai* south of Isthmus of Tehuantepec (N&P). AOU (1998) and CLE recognize the first two of these Groups but not *villadai*. Peterson and Navarro-Sigüenza (2009) cite unpublished mitochondrial DNA data (G. García-Deras et al.) that demonstrate genetic differentiation among the three taxa. AOU *Check-list* status: *viridifrons* and *wagneri* Groups are recognized in the Seventh Edition (AOU 1998) where it is noted that *wagneri* may represent a separate species. A proposal in the 43rd Supplement (Banks et al. 2002) to separate *wagneri* from *viridifrons* was considered but failed to pass.
- 441 – Amethyst-throated Hummingbird: three Groups: *amethystinus* widespread north of Isthmus of Tehuantepec, *salvini* south of Isthmus, and *margaritae* in SW Mexico (N&P, but see also Peterson and Navarro-Sigüenza 2009). H&W and CLE recognize just two Groups, *amethystinus* (includes *salvini*) and *margaritae*. Cortés-Rodríguez et al. (2008a) find strong genetic evidence for the validity of *salvini* as a separate species, but not for *margaritae*.
- 444 – Magnificent Hummingbird: northern subspecies is recognized as a Group (AOU 1998, CLE). It is the only one occurring in Mexico and is a regional endemic (SW US to NE Nicaragua), so we show it on the check-list. N&P split out *viridiceps* from south of Isthmus of Tehuantepec as a separate Group, but the validity of this race has been challenged (Powers 1999). AOU *Check-list* status: beginning with the First Edition (AOU 1886), *E. fulgens* is regarded as a full species, Rivoli's Hummingbird. The merger with *E. spectabilis* of Costa Rica and Panama occurs in the Sixth Edition (1983), with the two former full species identified as Groups in the enlarged *E. fulgens*.

TROGONS

- 467 – Elegant Trogon: northern races recognized as a Group (H&W, AOU 1998, N&P). It is the only Group occurring in Mexico and is a regional endemic (SE Arizona to Guatemala), so we show it on the check-list. AOU *Check-list* status: Coppery-tailed Trogon is given full species status as *T. ambiguus*, beginning with the First Edition (AOU 1886). It is reduced to the rank of a subspecies of *T. elegans* in the 22nd Supplement (Wetmore et al. 1947). The two taxa are designated as Groups in the Seventh Edition (AOU 1998).

MOTMOTS

- 475 – Blue-crowned Motmot: separate Groups for *coeruliceps* of NE Mexico and *lessonii* of SE and S Mexico and Central America (AOU 1998, N&P, CLE). Peterson and Navarro-Sigüenza (2009) cite unpublished mitochondrial DNA data (C. Witt et al.) validating that the two taxa are distinct. AOU *Check-list* status: Sixth Edition (AOU 1983) has two Groups for this species, but Mexican populations are lumped into one of them and the other is extralimital. Separate *coeruliceps* and *lessonii* Groups appear with the Seventh Edition (AOU 1998), along with additional Groups distributed from E Panama to South America.

NEW WORLD BARBETS AND TOUCANS

485 – Emerald Toucanet: we follow H&W, N&P, and CLE, with two Groups in Mexico: *wagleri* in Sierra Madre del Sur (Guerrero–Oaxaca) and *prasinus* from SE and S Mexico to Nicaragua. Puebla-Olivares et al. (2008) present genetic evidence that the two are distinct (see also Peterson and Navarro-Sigüenza 2009). AOU *Check-list* status: two Groups are identified in the Sixth Edition (AOU 1983), but the two Mexican taxa are lumped into one of them and the other is extralimital. No Groups are mentioned in the Seventh Edition (AOU 1998). A proposal to divide the species as presently defined into four species, of which two occur in Mexico, failed to pass (Banks et al. 2004).

WOODPECKERS AND ALLIES

489 – Acorn Woodpecker: our check-list follows N&P in splitting off the subspecies *angustifrons* from the Cape District; genetic evidence suggests that this race has been geographically isolated since the end of the Last Glacial Maximum (approximately 20,000 years ago) and is still in the process of diverging (Honey-Escandón et al. 2008). N&P also recognize a California Group (N Baja) and an interior Group, but Honey-Escandón et al. (2008) found no significant genetic differentiation between these two. See also Peterson and Navarro-Sigüenza (2009).

495 – Golden-fronted Woodpecker: usual division is of 12–14 subspecies distributed into three (H&W, CLE) or four (Husak and Maxwell 1998, N&P) Groups. However, our check-list follows García-Trejo et al. (2009), who propose two genetically distinct lineages for elevation to full species rank: the monotypic *Melanerpes aurifrons* in Central, N, and NE Mexico north into Texas and SW Oklahoma; and *M. santacruzi* in SE and SW Mexico south to Nicaragua, embracing all the remaining described subspecies. See also Peterson and Navarro-Sigüenza (2009).

503 – Hairy Woodpecker: three Groups, following N&P. These authors include the subspecies *icastus* in the Mexican (*jardinii*) Group, whereas H&W place it with the northern (*villosus*) Group. The *sanctorum* Group is resident south of the Isthmus of Tehuantepec, from Chiapas to Panama.

507 – Golden-olive Woodpecker: two Groups, the endemic *aeruginosus* of NE Mexico and *yucatanensis* from SE Mexico to Panama (N&P; see also Winkler et al. 1995). AOU *Check-list* status: Sixth Edition (AOU 1983) recognizes an *aeruginosus* Group as well as a broad *rubiginosus* Group that includes *yucatanensis* and the numerous South American taxa. H&W adopt this arrangement.

509 – Northern Flicker: split into three Groups (H&W, N&P, CLE). The *mexicanoides* Group resides south of the Isthmus of Tehuantepec, from Chiapas to Nicaragua. AOU *Check-list* status: regarded as separate species beginning with the First Edition (AOU 1886), the Yellow-shafted and Red-shafted taxa are merged into Northern Flicker in the 32nd Supplement (Eisenmann et al. 1973). They are recognized as Groups in the Sixth Edition (AOU 1983), with *mexicanoides* included in *cafer*.

OVENBIRDS, WOODCREEPERS, AND LEAFTOSSERS

516 – Rufous-breasted Spinetail: per N&P, our check-list splits off *pacifica* of the Pacific slope from Chiapas to El Salvador as a separate Group.

525 – Strong-billed Woodcreeper: two Groups in Mexico (N&P): *emigrans* (includes *sclateri*) from SE San Luis Potosí to Nicaragua, and *omiltemensis* in Sierra Madre del Sur of Guerrero.

526 – Northern Barred-Woodcreeper: we split off *sheffleri* of the Sierra Madre del Sur as a separate Group, per N&P. H&W treat the two as well-marked subspecies rather than Groups. See also Marantz (1997).

ANTTHRUSHES

540 – Black-faced Antthrush: the Mexican populations are recognized as belonging to a separate Group (H&W, AOU 1998, CLE); see Howell 1994. This Group is the only one occurring in Mexico and is a regional endemic (S and SE Mexico to NW Honduras), so we show it on the check-list. AOU *Check-list* status: three Groups defined in the Seventh Edition (AOU 1998), with the third being entirely in South America; notes that the two Middle American taxa probably deserve to be considered as distinct species.

ANTPITTAS

- 541 – Scaled Antpitta: split into two Groups, north and south of the Isthmus of Tehuantepec, per N&P. They recognize a third Group, *binfordi*, but this recently described subspecies requires corroboration (Krabbe and Schulenberg 2003) so is lumped here into the northern (*ochraceiventris*) Group. See Dickerman (1990).

TYRANT-FLYCATCHERS

- 544 – Greenish Elaenia: our check-list splits off the W Mexican Group *jaliscensis* (CLE).
- 549 – Paltry Tyrannulet: the nominate subspecies is recognized as a Group (AOU 1998, CLE). It is the only one occurring in Mexico and is a regional endemic (Chiapas to El Salvador), so we show it on the check-list. AOU *Check-list* status: in the Seventh Edition (AOU 1998) three Groups are defined, including *vilissimus*.
- 561 – Tufted Flycatcher: the nominate subspecies is recognized as a Group (CLE). It is the only one occurring in Mexico and is a regional endemic (Mexico to El Salvador and NE Nicaragua), so we show it on the check-list. AOU *Check-list* status: the Seventh Edition (AOU 1998) has two Groups, but their *phaeocercus* Group extends from Mexico far into South America (the second Group is entirely South American).
- 570 – Willow Flycatcher: split into three Groups, all of which occur in Mexico (CLE).
- 588 – Dusky-capped Flycatcher: two Groups for Mexico, per H&W and CLE: subspecies *olivascens* (breeding SW US and Chihuahua to Nayarit, wintering Sonora to Oaxaca); and *lawrenceii*, a large Group with several subspecies widely distributed elsewhere in Mexico and south to Costa Rica. See also Tweit and Tweit (1992).
- 592 – Brown-crested Flycatcher: two Groups present in Mexico, per CLE; see also Cardiff and Dittmann (2000). Subspecies *magister* breeds from SW US to Pacific slope of Oaxaca; *cooperi* Group breeds on Atlantic slope from S Texas to Costa Rica.

POSITION UNCERTAIN

- 613 – Gray-collared Becard: W Mexican *uropygialis* split off as a separate Group (H&W, N&P).
- 614 – Rose-throated Becard: split into western (*albiventris*) Group (SW US to Oaxaca) and *aglaiae* Group elsewhere in Mexico, following N&P; consistent with the most recent revision (Webster 1963). H&W have a different two-Group breakdown, with *hypophaeus* (includes *sumichrasti*) in the humid SE, and *aglaiae* (includes *albiventris*) everywhere else. AOU *Check-list* status: *albiventris* is added in the Second Supplement (Allen et al. 1890) as a full species; it is reduced to a subspecies of *aglaiae* in the Fourteenth Supplement (Allen et al. 1908).
- 615 – Masked Tityra: split into western (*griseiceps*) and eastern (*personata*) Groups (N&P, based on H&W).

VIREOS

- 623 – White-eyed Vireo: our check-list splits out the race *perquisitor* breeding in NE Mexico (AOU 1998, N&P). AOU *Check-list* status: the two Groups are defined in the Sixth Edition (AOU 1983), where it is noted that they are often recognized as distinct species.
- 624 – Mangrove Vireo: our check-list adopts Groups proposed by N&P: a) *paluster* on Pacific coast from Sonora to Nayarit; b) *ochraceus* Group (includes *pallens*) on Pacific coast from Oaxaca to Costa Rica; c) *semiflavus* Group (includes *salvini*) on Atlantic slope from Yucatan Peninsula to Nicaragua. AOU (1998) and CLE differ in number of Groups (two or three) and assignment of subspecies to Groups. AOU *Check-list* status: Seventh Edition (AOU 1998) describes a single Group (*pallens*) on the Pacific coast and a second Group (*semiflavus*) on the Gulf/Caribbean slope.
- 626 – Bell's Vireo: three Groups, all of which reach Mexico (CLE). AOU *Check-list* status: *pusillus* is treated as a subspecies of *bellii* in the First Edition (AOU 1886), raised to full species standing in the Eleventh Supplement (Merriam et al. 1902), and reduced again to subspecies rank in the Fourteenth Supplement (Allen et al. 1908).
- 631 – Plumbeous Vireo: we adopt the splitting off of the subspecies *montanus*, resident south of the Isthmus of Tehuantepec (H&W, followed by N&P). H&W also assign to this Group the subspecies *notius* of Belize, which differs markedly in

appearance and ecology. It is possible that each of these southern taxa deserves full species status (Curson and Goguen 1998). AOU *Check-list* status: Seventh Edition (AOU 1998) cautions that assignment to *Vireo plumbeus* of Central American populations of the newly split *V. solitarius* complex is tentative.

- 632 – Cassin’s Vireo: we suggest Group status for race *lucasanus* resident in mountains of Cape District (S Baja).
- 634 – Hutton’s Vireo: split into Pacific coastal (*huttoni*) and interior (*stephansi*) Groups, following CLE. Studies by Cicero and Johnson (1992) and Baril and Barlow (2000) disclose significant differentiation between these two taxa in genetics and vocalizations, respectively. We also suggest Group status for subspecies *cognatus*, breeding in mountains of S Baja. Samples from this taxon, and from populations occurring from the Mexican Plateau and Nayarit south to Guatemala, were not included in either of the cited studies.
- 636 – Warbling Vireo: we adopt the split into eastern- and western-breeding Groups, per AOU (1998), N&P, CLE. We also suggest Group status for subspecies *victoriae*, breeding in mountains of S Baja. AOU *Check-list* status: Seventh Edition (AOU 1998) recognizes two Groups, *gilvus* and *swainsonii* (includes *victoriae*), noting that the two differ morphologically, vocally, genetically, and ecologically, and possibly represent distinct species.
- 647 – Rufous-browed Peppershrike: our check-list splits out the Cozumel subspecies (H&W, N&P, CLE).

CROWS AND JAYS

- 648 – Steller’s Jay: broken into two Groups, following H&W, Madge and Burn (2001), and CLE (a third, coastal Group does not reach Mexico except as a casual vagrant to N Baja). The northern (*diademata*) Group has long, black crests; the southern (*coronata*) Group has generally shorter, blue crests. However, variation in both characteristics is clinal to a certain extent. The two Groups intersect in Central Mexico. See also Greene et al. (1998).
- 652 – Green Jay: the North American (*luxuosus*) and South American (*yncas*) Groups are frequently suggested for elevation to full species status. The North American Group is a regional endemic (S Texas to Honduras), as shown on our check-list. AOU *Check-list* status: the North American population is treated as a distinct species beginning with the First Edition (AOU 1886), and is lumped with the South American population in the 19th Supplement (Wetmore et al. 1944). The Sixth Edition (AOU 1983) recognizes both as Groups.
- 661 – Western Scrub-Jay: our division into three Groups follows AOU (1998), Curry et al. (2002), N&P, and CLE; see also Delaney et al. (2008), Peterson and Navarro-Sigüenza (2009). Two subspecies of the *californica* Group are found in Baja; four subspecies of the *woodhouseii* Group are resident in N Mexico; the endemic *sumichrasti* (two subspecies) ranges through the mountains from Veracruz to Guerrero and Oaxaca. AOU *Check-list* status: *woodhouseii* and *californica* are treated as separate species beginning with the First Edition (AOU 1886); they are lumped in the 19th Supplement (Wetmore et al. 1944). Group standing is given to *californica* and *woodhouseii* (includes *sumichrasti*) in the Sixth Edition (AOU 1983); the Seventh Edition (AOU 1998) elevates *sumichrasti* to Group rank alongside the other two, noting that they all may be separate species.
- 662 – Mexican Jay: our check-list follows McCormack and Brown (2008), based on McCormack et al. (2008), with four Groups: *arizonae* from SE Arizona through the Sierra Madre Occidental; *couchii* from the Chisos Mountains of Texas to the Sierra Madre Oriental; *potosina* endemic to the highlands of NE and Central Mexico; and *ultramarina* endemic to the Transvolcanic Belt. Other authors typically suggest two or three Groups; see especially Peterson and Navarro-Sigüenza (2009). AOU *Check-list* status: Seventh Edition (AOU 1998) offers a provisional division into two Groups based on preliminary population sampling characterized as suggestive but insufficient.
- 663 – Unicolored Jay: split into two Groups, per N&P. Many studies show the isolated Guerrero race to be morphologically and genetically distinct from the two east-slope subspecies, here placed together in the *unicolor* Group. See also Peterson (1992).

SWALLOWS

- 672 – Purple Martin: follows CLE, with two Groups: a) saguaro-nesting *hesperia* of SW Arizona, Sonora, and S Baja; b) everything else. Subspecies distinctions and geographic limits poorly understood.
- 679 – Northern Rough-winged Swallow: split into two Groups (H&W, AOU 1998, N&P, CLE): *ridgwayi* resident in SE Mexico, *semipennis* Group present at various seasons throughout the country. Peterson and Navarro-Sigüenza (2009)

cite research by M.J. Babin (M.S. thesis, Louisiana State University, 2005) that presents mitochondrial DNA evidence that the two taxa are distinct. AOU *Check-list* status: Sixth Edition (1983) recognizes the two as Groups.

681 – Cliff Swallow: two Groups in Mexico, per N&P, CLE: *melanogaster*, breeding in SW US–W Mexico, and *pyrrhonota*, breeding from US–Canada into Baja–NW Mexico. Both Groups winter in South America, widespread as migrants in Mexico. AOU *Check-list* status: Mexican Cliff Swallow is added as a full species in the 11th Supplement (Merriam et al. 1902), and reduced to subspecies rank within the broader species in the 13th Supplement (Allen et al. 1904).

682 – Cave Swallow: our check-list splits off the Texas–NE Mexico *pelodoma* and the Yucatan–Chiapas *citata* as distinct Groups, per CLE (but see Kirchman et al. 2000, Peterson and Navarro-Sigüenza 2009). Wintering status of both groups is unclear. AOU *Check-list* status: Seventh Edition (AOU 1998) recognizes two Groups: *pelodoma* in Texas–NE Mexico; and *fulva* (includes *citata*) in Yucatan–Chiapas, Florida, and the Greater Antilles. N&P follow the AOU model.

CHICKADEES AND TITMICE

687 – Oak Titmouse: we split off the race *cineraceus*, resident in mountains of Cape District (S Baja).

PENDULINE TITS AND VERDIN

691 – Bushtit: three continental Groups, as listed by N&P and CLE. Lead-colored (*plumbeus*) Group only reaches extreme northern Mexico—or not at all, depending on which “transitional” subspecies get assigned to the Black-eared (*melanotis*) Group and which to the Lead-colored. The *minimus* Group is found in N Baja. In addition we have broken out the race *grindae* resident in the mountains of the Cape District (S Baja). AOU *Check-list* status: In the First Edition (AOU 1886), *minimus* (includes *grindae*), *plumbeus*, and *melanotis* are separate species. All are lumped in the Fourth Edition (AOU 1931), but *melanotis* is split back out in the Fifth Edition (AOU 1957) only to be re-lumped in the 32nd Supplement (Eisenmann et al. 1973). In the 14th Supplement (Allen et al. 1908), a proposal to elevate *grindae* to species rank was denied.

NUTHATCHES

693 – White-breasted Nuthatch: per CLE, split into Pacific coastal (*aculeata*) Group, extending down Baja Peninsula; and interior western (*mexicana*) Group, widespread in pine/oak habitats elsewhere in Mexico. Eastern Group does not occur in Mexico. See also Spellman and Klicka (2007).

WRENS

697 – Gray-barred Wren: the two disjunct subspecies are here given Group status, per N&P: *nelsoni* from Puebla to Oaxaca, and *megalopterus* farther west on the Mexican Plateau. General consensus is that the two are distinctive.

699 – Rufous-naped Wren: we follow AOU (1998) and N&P, with three Groups: *rufinucha* in E Mexico, *humilis* along Pacific Coast from Jalisco southward to extreme W Chiapas, and *capistratus* (includes *nigricaudatus*) along Pacific Coast from Chiapas southward to Costa Rica. Vázquez-Miranda et al. (2009) provide genetic evidence in support of this three-way split; see also Peterson and Navarro-Sigüenza (2009). AOU *Check-list* status: three Groups, as shown above, are recognized in the Seventh Edition (AOU 1998). CLE has the same three Groups but places *nigricaudatus* within the *humilis* Group. H&W treat *rufinucha*, *humilis*, *nigricaudatus*, and *capistratus* as well-differentiated subspecies, not as Groups.

712 – Carolina Wren: per H&W, AOU (1998), N&P, and CLE, our check-list splits off the *albinucha* Group (Yucatan Peninsula south to Nicaragua) from the *ludovicianus* Group (E Mexico north through E US to SE Canada). AOU *Check-list* status: *ludovicianus* clearly treated as separate species from *albinucha* in the First Edition (AOU 1886) through the Third Edition (AOU 1910). The two forms are designated as Groups within *T. ludovicianus* in the Sixth Edition (AOU 1983), but the status of *albinucha* in the interim cannot readily be determined.

715 – Bewick’s Wren: two Groups, per CLE: *eremophilus* (SW US to Central Mexico) and *drymoecus* (SW British Columbia to Baja).

716 – House Wren: four Groups, per H&W, AOU (1998), N&P, and CLE: *aedon* (resident in N Baja, winters widely south to Isthmus of Tehuantepec), *brunneicollis* (resident in mountains of E and W Mexico, from SE Arizona and Coahuila

to Oaxaca), *musculus* (resident from S Mexico to Panama), and *beani* (endemic to Cozumel Island). AOU *Check-list* status: *brunneicollis* is split from the broader species in the Fifth Edition (AOU 1957) and re-lumped in the Sixth Edition (AOU 1983), where it and the three other forms are given Group standing.

721 – Sedge Wren: two Groups, per N&P, CLE; *stellaris* winters to NE Mexico, *tinnulus* Group is resident from Nayarit and San Luis Potosí to W Chiapas in several disjunct populations, as well as in Central America. AOU *Check-list* status: by inference, the two Groups are regarded as separate species beginning with the First Edition (AOU 1886). They are lumped into *C. platensis* in the 19th Supplement (Wetmore et al. 1944).

722 – Marsh Wren: four Groups, following CLE. H&W recognize *tolucensis* as a distinct Group, and assign the other forms reaching Mexico to the *paludicola* Group; N&P limit their *paludicola* Group to the Pacific Coast, placing all other forms (including *tolucensis*) in their *palustris* Group. Hebert et al. (2004) have found deep genetic divergence between the *palustris* and the *paludicola* Groups; see also Peterson and Navarro-Sigüenza (2009). AOU *Check-list* status: Seventh Edition (AOU 1998) recognizes two vocally and morphologically distinct Groups, eastern *palustris* (includes *tolucensis*) and western *paludicola* (includes *plesius*). More work is needed on the taxonomy and distribution of this complex.

723 – White-bellied Wren: our check-list splits off the distinctive *pacifica* race of SW Mexico from the *leucogastra* Group of NE and SE Mexico to Honduras (N&P, CLE).

OLD WORLD WARBLERS AND GNATCATCHERS

731 – Blue-gray Gnatcatcher: split into *caerulea* Group (winters to NE Mexico) and *amoenissima* Group (breeds, winters in many parts of Mexico), per CLE. Additionally, we split out the Cozumel race as a Group of its own, per N&P.

735 – White-lored Gnatcatcher: our check-list splits off N Yucatan–Cozumel subspecies from nominate Group (N&P).

THRUSHES

744 – Russet Nightingale-Thrush: NW Mexico-breeding form *olivascens* split off as a separate Group (N&P). AOU *Check-list* status: the two populations are accorded Group rank in the Sixth Edition (AOU 1983), but this designation is rescinded in the Seventh Edition (AOU 1998).

750 – Swainson's Thrush: traditional split into eastern (*swainsoni*) and western (*ustulatus*) Groups affirmed by AOU (1998), N&P, CLE. See also Rugg and Smith (2002), Milá et al. (2005), Rugg et al. (2006), and especially Rugg (2007). AOU *Check-list* status: the two Groups are recognized in the Seventh Edition (AOU 1998).

751 – Hermit Thrush: three Groups, following CLE; all three reach Mexico in one season or another.

756 – White-throated Thrush: two Groups, per H&W, N&P: *assimilis*, widely distributed north of Isthmus of Tehuantepec, and *leucauchen*, ranging from SE Oaxaca to Ecuador.

757 – Rufous-backed Robin: two Groups, including *graysoni* of Tres Marias Islands and coastal Nayarit (H&W, AOU 1998, H&W, CLE). AOU *Check-list* status: the two Groups are recognized in the Sixth Edition (AOU 1983). A proposal to separate them as two full species was considered but failed to pass (AOU 2000).

759 – American Robin: split of San Lucas Robin of Cape District follows H&W, AOU (1998), N&P, CLE, many other authors. CLE further divides the remaining subspecies between an eastern Group and a western Group, but we have found it impractical to do so. Visible differences between subspecies are clinal, and while birds resident on the Mexican mainland all belong to the western Group, individuals of both Groups move south to Mexico for the winter and are not consistently separable in the present state of our knowledge. See Sallabanks and James (1999). AOU *Check-list* status: San Lucas Robin is treated as a full species beginning with the First Edition (AOU 1886). It is reduced to a subspecies of American Robin in the 32nd Supplement (Eisenmann et al. 1973). The two become Groups in the Sixth Edition (AOU 1983).

MOCKINGBIRDS AND THRASHERS

774 – Curve-billed Thrasher: two Groups widely recognized (e.g., H&W, N&P, CLE): *curvirostre* in N, NE, and Central Mexico, *palmeri* in NW Mexico. Rojas-Soto et al. (2007) have documented the genetic and morphological

distinctiveness of these and a third, as yet undescribed taxon in southern Puebla and Oaxaca (here unofficially labeled “Oaxaca Thrasher”); see also Peterson and Navarro-Sigüenza (2009). AOU *Check-list* status: in the 43rd Supplement (Banks et al. 2002), a proposal to separate *curvirostre* and *palmeri* was considered but failed to pass.

777 – Le Conte’s Thrasher: per AOU (1998), N&P, and CLE, based on Zink et al. (1997), our check-list splits off *arenicola* of the Vizcaino Desert (Baja). AOU *Check-list* status: the two populations are regarded as Groups in the Seventh Edition (AOU 1998).

778 – Blue Mockingbird: Tres Marias form split off, per N&P.

WAGTAILS AND PIPITS

782 – American Pipit: our list shows two Groups that winter to Mexico (CLE).

WOOD-WARBLERS

791 – Orange-crowned Warbler: per CLE, four Groups, all of which occur in Mexico, including restricted-range regional endemic *sordida* from coastal S California and N Baja.

792 – Nashville Warbler: eastern (*ruficapilla*) and western (*ridgwayi*) Groups, both wintering in Mexico (CLE).

798 – Tropical Parula: check-list shows the five Group-level subspecies found in Mexico (CLE): *nigrilora* of S Texas and E Mexico, *pulchra* of W Mexico, *inornata* south of the Isthmus of Tehuantepec from Chiapas to Honduras, and two island endemics. Some authors submerge *pulchra* into *nigrilora* (H&W, N&P). For a contrary view of the validity of the phylogeographic subpopulations of this widespread species as potential distinct species, see Lovette and Bermingham (2001). AOU *Check-list* status: beginning with the First Edition (AOU 1886), *nigrilora* (Sennett’s Warbler) is a full species; it is reduced to a subspecies of *pitiayumi* in the 13th Supplement (Allen et al. 1904). Given separate species status in the Fourth Edition (1931), *graysoni* (Socorro Warbler) is lumped into *pitiayumi* as of the 32nd Supplement (Eisenmann et al. 1973), and given Group standing in the Seventh Edition (AOU 1998).

799 – Yellow Warbler: three Groups accepted by H&W, AOU (1998), N&P, CLE, and most other authorities, although recognizing these as full species remains controversial. AOU *Check-list* status: Mangrove Warbler is treated as a separate species beginning with the First Edition (AOU 1886). In the 20th Supplement (Wetmore et al. 1945) it is reduced to a subspecies of *D. petechia*. Golden Warbler is added in this same supplement, also as a subspecies of *D. petechia*. The Sixth Edition (AOU 1983) recognizes the three forms as Groups. In the 45th Supplement (Banks et al. 2004) a proposal to split Yellow Warbler as presently defined into two or more species was considered but failed to pass.

804 – Yellow-rumped Warbler: four-group model adopted from CLE. Raising of one Mexican endemic subspecies (*nigrifrons* of Sierra Madre Occidental) and one regional endemic subspecies (*goldmani* of mountains of Chiapas and W Guatemala) to full species status strongly supported by recent studies (Milá et al. 2007a). Another recent study (Brelsford and Irwin 2009) finds that “Myrtle and Audubon’s Warblers are stable and genetically distinct forms...that...may meet the current criterion for full species status between hybridizing North American birds, that the hybrid zone be ‘narrow and stable’ (AOU 1998).” AOU *Check-list* status: treated as full species beginning with the First Edition (AOU 1886), Myrtle and Audubon’s are lumped in the 32nd Supplement (Eisenmann et al. 1973) and afterwards treated as Groups in the Sixth Edition (AOU 1983), with *nigrifrons* and *goldmani* included in *auduboni*. *D. nigrifrons* is added as a full species in the 10th Supplement (Merriam et al. 1901), then reduced to a subspecies of *D. auduboni* in the 12th Supplement (Merriam et al. 1903).

829 – MacGillivray’s Warbler: following recommendation of N&P, we split off the disjunct population breeding in SE Coahuila and S Nuevo León, not yet scientifically described. See Milá et al. (2000).

830 – Common Yellowthroat: three Mexican endemic races split off as Groups, per N&P. Our check-list also reflects division of North American breeders into three Groups, as presented by Dunn and Garrett (1997), Guzy and Ritchison (1999). AOU *Check-list* status: the Chapala form is treated as a Group in the Seventh Edition (AOU 1998).

837 – Wilson’s Warbler: three Groups, per CLE. Division into two Groups (eastern *pusilla* and western *pileolata*) is confirmed by many studies, but further division of the western Group (coastal *chryseola*) is less strongly supported (Kimura et al. 2002, Clegg et al. 2003, Milá et al. 2005).

- 840 – Red Warbler: two Groups (AOU 1998, N&P, CLE). AOU *Check-list* status: the two Groups are recognized in the Seventh Edition (AOU 1998).
- 843 – Slate-throated Redstart: based on the study of the genus *Myioborus* by Pérez-Emán (2005), we follow Peterson and Navarro-Sigüenza (2009) in recognizing as a Group the strongly divergent subspecies *miniatus*, endemic to Mexico north of the Isthmus of Tehuantepec, and a second Group that includes the subspecies *intermedius* and *comptus* (Chiapas to Central Costa Rica). A third Group of this widely distributed species would include the numerous races in South America and E Panama. Three Central American subspecies were not sampled by Pérez-Emán (2005). Nor was the subspecies *molochinus*, endemic to the Sierra de Los Tuxtlas of S Veracruz, which several workers have noted as morphologically distinct (see Andrlé 1967). Further phylogeographic work on this complex is needed.
- 846 – Rufous-capped Warbler: in addition to the usual Rufous-capped and Chestnut-capped Groups, we follow H&W, AOU (1998), N&P, and CLE in splitting out *salvini* of SE Mexico, Belize, and N Guatemala as a third Group. AOU *Check-list* status: Sixth Edition (AOU 1983) has two Groups, *rufifrons* (includes *salvini*) and *delatirii*. In the Seventh Edition (AOU 1998) *salvini* is promoted to separate Group rank alongside the other two.
- 848 – Yellow-breasted Chat: split into eastern (*virens*) and western (*auricollis*) Groups, both of which occur in Mexico (CLE). For wintering ranges, see Milá et al. (2005).

POSITION UNCERTAIN

- 849 – Bananaquit: we split out *caboti* of Cozumel Island and the adjacent Quintana Roo coast, from the *mexicana* Group widespread in SE Mexico (H&W, N&P, CLE). See Seutin et al. (1994), Bellemain et al. (2008), Peterson and Navarro-Sigüenza (2009).

TANAGERS

- 850 – Common Bush-Tanager: we list the five populations occurring in Mexico given Group status by N&P: a) *postocularis* in high mountains from SE Chiapas into N Central America; b) *wetmorei* in Sierra de Los Tuxtlas, Veracruz; c) *albifrons* in Sierra Madre del Sur of Guerrero and Oaxaca; d) *dwighti*, south of Isthmus of Tehuantepec from extreme NE Oaxaca through N Chiapas to Atlantic slope of Guatemala; e) *ophthalmicus* in Sierra Madre Oriental from San Luis Potosí to N Oaxaca. See also García-Moreno et al. (2004), Sánchez-González et al. (2007), Bonaccorso et al. (2008), Peterson and Navarro-Sigüenza (2009). H&W have three Groups: *ophthalmicus* (includes *wetmorei*), *albifrons*, and *postocularis* (includes *dwighti*). CLE's three Groups are *ophthalmicus*, *albifrons*, and *postocularis* (includes *wetmorei* and *dwighti*).
- 851 – Rosy Thrush-Tanager: W Mexican race *schistacea* is split off as a Group from other populations in Central and South America (N&P); see Peterson et al. (2004). This is the only Group occurring in Mexico and is a Mexican endemic, so it is shown on the check-list.
- 856 – Western Spindalis: we follow CLE in breaking out the Cozumel subspecies as a Group. This race is the only one occurring in Mexico and is a Mexican endemic, so it is shown on the check-list. Note that Garrido et al. (1997) assign the Cozumel population to a Group that includes the Grand Cayman population, and hence would not be a Mexican endemic.

POSITION UNCERTAIN

- 864 – Grayish Saltator: our check-list splits off the endemic *vigorsii* Group of W Mexico from the *grandis* Group resident in E and S Mexico (H&W, N&P).

EMBERIZIDS

- 869 – White-collared Seedeater: split into two Groups (AOU 1998, CLE). Additionally, H&W and N&P split out *sharpei* of S Texas and NE Mexico from the *moreletti* Group. AOU *Check-list* status: the two traditional Groups are recognized in the Sixth Edition (AOU 1983).
- 875 – White-naped Brush-Finch: split into two Groups: *albinucha* in mountains of Atlantic slope (SE San Luis Potosí to N Chiapas) and *gutturialis* in mountains of SE Chiapas and N Central America (N&P, following H&W). AOU *Check-list*

status: Yellow-throated (*gutturalis*) is treated as a distinct species in the Sixth Edition (AOU 1983), and reduced to a Group in the Seventh Edition (AOU 1998).

- 878 – Chestnut-capped Brush-Finch: tentatively split into six Groups, in response to recent phylogenetic studies (Navarro-Sigüenza et al. 2008): a) Sierra Madre Oriental from SE San Luis Potosí to Puebla (subspecies *brunneinucha*); b) Sierra de los Tuxtlas in Veracruz (subspecies *apertus*); c) Sierra Norte de Oaxaca (here unofficially labeled “Mixe Brush-Finch,” previously treated as part of subspecies *brunneinucha* but genetically distinct and not yet scientifically described); d) Sierra Madre del Sur in S Oaxaca (subspecies *suttoni*); e) Sierra Madre del Sur in Guerrero (here unofficially labeled “Atoyac Brush-Finch,” previously treated as part of subspecies *suttoni* but genetically distinct and not yet scientifically described); f) mountains of Pacific slope of Chiapas and central Guatemala (subspecies *macrourus*), along with a disjunct but genetically closely related population in Chimalapas district of extreme eastern Oaxaca (subspecies *nigralatera* — see Rowley 1968). See also the standard revision by Parkes (1954), and Peterson and Navarro-Sigüenza (2009). The Tuxtlas race has long been recognized as a Group (Plain-breasted Brush-Finch) by most authors (a.o., H&W, N&P, CLE). Further studies are surely on the way and can be expected to lead to a new revision. AOU *Check-list* status: *apertus* is given Group standing in the Sixth Edition (AOU 1983).
- 880 – Olive Sparrow: check-list shows split into three Groups per N&P, based on H&W, and assumes the Costa Rica subspecies *superciliosus* also constitutes a Group of its own. AOU *Check-list* status: the population treated in our check-list as the *rufivirgatus* Group (Texas Sparrow) is regarded as comprising a distinct species beginning with the First Edition (AOU 1886), and is lumped into the broader species in the Fifth Edition (AOU 1931). The Sixth Edition (AOU 1983) places the E Mexico and Yucatan forms into one Group, and the W Mexico and Costa Rica forms into another.
- 883 – Prevost’s Ground-Sparrow: two Groups, only one of which is present in Mexico (H&W, AOU 1998, CLE). As a regional endemic, it is shown on the check-list. AOU *Check-list* status: Seventh Edition (AOU 1998) recognizes the two Groups.
- 887 – Spotted Towhee: four Groups, following the model recognized by CLE. (H&W and N&P have a three-Group structure, merging CLE’s *oregonus* and *maculatus* Groups.) In addition we propose the subspecies *magnirostris* from the Cape District as a fifth Group (see Grinnell and Swarth 1926). Taxonomy of this complex is a muddle. AOU *Check-list* status: the Socorro population is assigned Group standing in the Sixth Edition (AOU 1983).
- 890 – California Towhee: we split off *albigula* of the Cape District as a distinct Group, per N&P and several other authors. However, many questions remain open (see Zink 1988).
- 892 – Stripe-headed Sparrow: split into two Groups, north and south of the Isthmus of Tehuantepec (N&P, supported by H&W and some earlier authors).
- 898 – Botteri’s Sparrow: our check-list splits off *petenica* Group from SE Mexico south to Costa Rica (H&W, N&P). However, recognition of this form as a separate species has been overturned in several studies from 1959 onwards and no new evidence has been advanced in its favor (see Webb and Bock 1996).
- 906 – Brewer’s Sparrow: split follows AOU (1998), Rotenberry et al. (1999), CLE. See Klicka et al. (1999), Mayr and Johnson (2001), Klicka et al. (2001). AOU *Check-list* status: the two taxa are regarded as Groups in the Seventh Edition (AOU 1998). A proposal to separate them was considered but failed to pass (AOU 2000).
- 913 – Sage Sparrow: our check-list adheres to the arrangement favored by AOU (1998) and N&P, with two Groups — coastal *belli* and interior *nevadensis*. CLE shows four Groups of which two occur in Mexico, but see Johnson and Marten (1992), Cicero and Johnson (2006): *clementeae* and *cinerea* should be submerged into the *belli* Group, and while S California-breeding *canescens* is also likely a distinct species, there is no good evidence that it winters to Mexico. AOU *Check-list* status: *nevadensis* is lumped into *belli* in the First Edition (AOU 1886). In the 14th Supplement (Allen et al. 1908) *nevadensis* is raised to full species rank. The two are lumped once more in the 19th Supplement (Wetmore et al. 1944). In the Seventh Edition (AOU 1998) they become Groups.
- 915 – Savannah Sparrow: check-list shows four Groups, basically adopted from N&P and CLE, but with all of the continental races treated as belonging to one Group (*sandwichensis*), following Zink et al. (2005), Wheelwright and Rising (2008). Note that, for Zink et al. (2005), populations breeding from the Central California coast south to NW Sonora (Puerto Peñasco) and the length of the Baja peninsula constitute a single clade, clearly distinct from the continental clade, that likely merits elevation to full species status. This Group includes the Belding’s, Large-billed,

and San Benito forms, among others. Zink et al. (2005) note that much of the pronounced morphological differentiation among geographic races of Savannah Sparrow appears to result from recent, rapid evolutionary changes, while Wheelwright and Rising (2008) conclude that more work needs to be done before revising the species-level taxonomy of the complex. See also Peterson and Navarro-Sigüenza (2009). AOU *Check-list* status: *sandwichensis*, *beldingi* and *rostratus* are separate species in the First Edition (AOU 1886). In the Eighth Supplement (Brewster et al. 1897) *sanctorum* is added as a full species, then reduced to a subspecies of *rostratus* in the 11th Supplement (Merriam et al. 1902). All become subspecies of *P. sandwichensis* in the 19th Supplement (Wetmore et al. 1944). In the Sixth Edition (AOU 1983), *sandwichensis*, *beldingi* and *rostratus* (includes *sanctorum*) are regarded as Groups. In the 50th Supplement (Chesser et al. 2009), a proposal to divide Savannah Sparrow into several species was considered but failed to pass.

921 – Fox Sparrow: four Groups, in accordance with AOU (1998), N&P, and CLE (reflecting Zink 1994, Zink and Weckstein 2003). Three of the four winter regularly to N Baja, but status of the Red (*iliaca*) Group in Mexico requires clarification (not mentioned by H&W; see also Weckstein et al. 2002, N&P). AOU *Check-list* status: the Seventh Edition (AOU 1998) describes the four taxa as Groups, noting that while the evidence suggests they may be biological species, additional study is needed in areas of contact. In the 45th Supplement (Banks et al. 2004), a proposal to divide Fox Sparrow into up to four species was considered but failed to pass.

927 – White-crowned Sparrow: we adopt a division into five Groups, reflecting Weckstein et al. (2001). The three Groups listed reach Mexico in winter (H&W); a fourth, *nuttalli*, breeds in Central California and is thought to be sedentary; the fifth, *pugetensis*, winters south to SW California but status in Mexico appears to be unknown. AOU *Check-list* status: in the First Edition (AOU 1886) *Zonotrichia leucophrys* and "*Z. intermedia*" (later recognized as synonymous with *gambelii*) are full species. In the Second Supplement (Allen et al. 1890) these two forms are lumped into the broader species and remain so today.

929 – Dark-eyed Junco: our arrangement concurs with Nolan et al. (2002) and with N&P, with the exception that we elevate *mearnsi* to Group status (following H&W, CLE). However, Milá et al. (2007b) found no genetic differentiation among the several forms of Dark-eyed Junco they studied, a conclusion seconded by Peterson and Navarro-Sigüenza (2009). Subspecies *cismontanus* (Cassiar Junco) is given Group status by CLE but treated as an intergrade strain by Nolan et al. (2002), who note that individuals of this form reach N Baja rarely in winter. AOU *Check-list* status: in the First Edition (AOU 1886) Oregon and Slate-colored are lumped into *J. hyemalis*, while Pink-sided, Gray-headed, and Guadalupe are full species. In the 14th Supplement (Allen et al. 1908), Pink-sided and Gray-headed are reduced to the rank of subspecies of *hyemalis*, with Guadalupe remaining a distinct species. In the Fourth Edition (AOU 1931) all five of these taxa are full species. In the 19th Supplement (Wetmore et al. 1944), Pink-sided becomes a subspecies of Oregon, but the others are maintained as full species. In the 32nd Supplement (Eisenmann et al. 1973) all of the listed forms are lowered to the rank of subspecies, except for Gray-headed, which is maintained "for the present" as a separate species, pending further study. In the Sixth Edition (AOU 1983), Slate-colored, Oregon (includes Pink-sided), Gray-headed, and Guadalupe are designated as Groups within Dark-eyed Junco. Seventh Edition (AOU 1998) maintains this arrangement, but notes that Pink-sided may warrant recognition as a Group.

930 – Yellow-eyed Junco: we adopt the four Groups of H&W, repeated by AOU (1998), N&P, CLE. See also Milá et al. (2006), Peterson and Navarro-Sigüenza (2009). AOU *Check-list* status: beginning with the First Edition (AOU 1886), Baird's Junco is a distinct species. It is merged into Yellow-eyed as of the 32nd Supplement (Eisenmann et al. 1973). In the Sixth Edition (AOU 1983) the four taxa of our check-list become Groups.

CARDINALS AND ALLIES

936 – Summer Tanager: we separate the eastern (nominate) race from the western (*cooperi*) race, per CLE. The latter breeds in SW US and N Central Mexico; both winter in S Mexico.

939 – Flame-colored Tanager: our check-list separates off the *bidentata* Group of W Mexico from *sanguinolenta* of E Mexico and Central America (N&P, following H&W). Burns (1998) is not helpful as his samples of this species both come from the *sanguinolenta* Group.

942 – Red-crowned Ant-Tanager: W Mexican (*affinis*) Group is separated from the *rubicoides* Group occurring in E and S Mexico (H&W, N&P).

- 946 – Northern Cardinal: we separate the endemic *carneus* of coastal W Mexico from the widespread nominate Group (AOU 1998, N&P). See also Halkin and Linville (1999). AOU *Check-list* status: the two forms are regarded as Groups in the Seventh Edition (AOU 1998).
- 948 – Yellow Grosbeak: split into two Groups north and south of the Isthmus of Tehuantepec: *chrysopeplus* of W and NW Mexico and *aurantiacus* of Chiapas and Guatemala (H&W, N&P, CLE, many others).
- 951 – Red-breasted Chat: Tres Mariás race *francescae* split out as separate Group (AOU 1998, N&P). AOU *Check-list* status: *francescae* raised to Group standing in Seventh Edition (AOU 1998).
- 953 – Blue Seedeater: split into two Groups separated by Isthmus of Tehuantepec, *concolor* in Chiapas and N Central America and *relicta* from Jalisco and Central Mexico to Oaxaca (H&W, AOU 1998, N&P). AOU *Check-list* status: the two forms are regarded as Groups in the Sixth Edition (AOU 1983).
- 955 – Blue Bunting: check-list splits off the endemic W Mexican subspecies *indigotica* from the *parellina* Group of E and S Mexico and N Central America (H&W, N&P, CLE).

BLACKBIRDS

- 965 – Red-winged Blackbird: CLE splits this species into three Groups, but we have followed Yasukawa and Searcy (1995), AOU (1998), and N&P in not recognizing the validity of Group-level status for the California Bicolored form. There is also some question as to whether it reaches N Baja. Moreover, a recent study by Barker et al. (2008a) has revealed that the endemic Mexican Bicolored race (*A.p. gubernator*), although distinctive in the field, is no more differentiated genetically than any of the other subspecies of Red-winged Blackbird (see also Peterson and Navarro-Sigüenza 2009). AOU *Check-list* status: beginning with the First Edition (AOU 1886), *A. gubernator* (Bicolored Blackbird) is a full species that embraces both the California and the Mexico populations. In the Eighth Supplement (Brewster et al. 1897) *californicus* is a subspecies of *gubernator*. In the Fourth Edition (AOU 1931) the California population becomes a race of *A. phoeniceus*, with the result that *A. gubernator* is now extralimital. In the Sixth Edition (AOU 1983)—the first to include coverage of Middle America—*gubernator* is not mentioned. In the Seventh Edition (AOU 1998) two Groups are identified: the widespread *phoeniceus*, and *gubernator* in Central Mexico.
- 967 – Eastern Meadowlark: check-list splits off *liliana* of deserts of SW US, N Mexico as a separate Group (AOU 1998, N&P, CLE). Barker et al. (2008b) provide confirming genetic evidence for raising *liliana* to full species rank. AOU *Check-list* status: the Seventh Edition (AOU 1998) designates two Groups, *magna* and *liliana*.
- 979 – Orchard Oriole: split into two Groups: widespread *spurius*, and *fuertesi* of NE Mexico (H&W, AOU 1998, N&P, CLE). See also Baker et al. (2003), Kiere et al. (2007), Peterson and Navarro-Sigüenza (2009). AOU *Check-list* status: the two are recognized as Groups in the Sixth Edition (AOU 1983). Proposals to separate *I. fuertesi* from *I. spurius* were considered in the 44th Supplement (Banks et al. 2004) and the 49th Supplement (Banks et al. 2008), but failed to pass.
- 980 – Hooded Oriole: split into western (*nelsoni*), eastern (*cucullatus*), and Yucatan (*igneus*) Groups (CLE). Most authors lump the latter two forms.
- 983 – Streak-backed Oriole: several mutually contradictory proposals for recognizing subspecies and Groups have been put forward in recent years (a.o., by H&W, Phillips 1995, Jaramillo and Burke 1999, N&P, CLE). Extensive mitochondrial DNA research (Cortes-Rodríguez et al. 2008b), reflected by our check-list, does not support the existence of evolutionarily distinct taxa on the mainland but does provide justification for raising the Islas Tres Mariás race to a full species (Peterson and Navarro-Sigüenza 2009). AOU *Check-list* status: Sixth Edition (1983) recognizes two Groups on the mainland, noting that they intergrade in Oaxaca; and a third (*graysoni*) on the Islas Tres Mariás.
- 988 – Audubon's Oriole: separate Group status for *dickeyae* of W Mexico and *graduacauda* of NE Mexico (H&W, N&P, CLE).

EUPHONIOUS, FRINGILLINE, AND CARDUELINE FINCHES AND ALLIES

- 996 – Scrub Euphonia: our check-list recognizes *godmani* Group (W Mexico) and *affinis* Group (E Mexico to Costa Rica), per H&W, N&P, AOU (1998), and CLE. AOU *Check-list* status: the two forms are recognized as Groups in the Sixth Edition (AOU 1983).

- 1003 – House Finch: split into three Groups, following N&P: *frontalis* Group of US, NW Chihuahua, Sonora, and Baja; *mexicanus* Group from Chihuahua and Sinaloa south to Oaxaca; and *amplus* of Isla Guadalupe. Phylogenetic analysis is in a rudimentary state (see Hill 1993), but these three Groups offer a reasonable starting hypothesis. AOU *Check-list* status: *C. frontalis* is recognized as a full species in the First Edition (AOU 1886) but is quickly reduced to a subspecies of *C. mexicanus* in the First Supplement (AOU 1889). The Guadalupe form is a full species beginning with the First Edition (AOU 1886) and becomes a subspecies of *C. mexicanus* in the 32nd Supplement (Eisenmann et al. 1973). The Sixth Edition (AOU 1983) divides the populations into three Groups: *mexicanus* on the mainland, *mcgregori* (extinct) on the Islas San Benito, and *amplus* on Guadalupe.
- 1005 – Pine Siskin: split into two Groups north and south of Isthmus of Tehuantepec (H&W, N&P, CLE).
- 1008 – Lesser Goldfinch: check-list reflects division into the two most frequently recognized Groups: *hesperophilus* of W US, Baja, and NW Mexico, and *psaltria* of S Central US and rest of Mexico, south to Venezuela and Peru. Sorting out interface between these two in northern part of range has always been a headache (see Oberholser 1903). Subspecific taxonomy is conflicting and incompletely studied: see Watt and Willoughby (1999). Mexican endemic subspecies that may merit future consideration for Group status include *witti* of Islas Tres Marias (Grant 1964) and *jouyi* of N Yucatan (N&P).

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