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

The OSME Region List of Bird Taxa

Part C: Passerines. Version 8.1: August 2022

(Map of OSME Region at https://osme.org/about-osme/osme-region-map/)

The scale of illegal bird killing annually in the OSME Region is significant in conservation terms: Brochet *et al* 2016 (also cited as 2017) provide estimates for Mediterranean countries (11-36 million birds); see Brochet *et al* 2019 for Arabia, Iran & Iraq (879,000-31,000,000 passerines); Raine *et al* 2021 for Labanon.

Includes changes indicated in IOC12.2 List

A fuller explanation is given in Explanation of the ORL, but briefly, **Pale grey-green shading of a row** (*eg* Syrian Ostrich) indicates either taxon extinction worldwide or former presence of a taxon in the OSME Region. **Light gold shading** in column A indicates sequence change from the previous ORL issue. For taxa that have unproven and probably unlikely presence, see the Hypothetical List. Red font indicates added information since the previous ORL version or severe Conservation Threat Status (Critically Endangered = **CE**, Endangered = **E**, **Vulnerable = V** and Data Deficient = **DD** *only*). On occasion, red font is used for sustained emphasis, in **Bold**. Not all synonyms have been examined. Serial numbers (SN) are merely an administrative convenience and may change. Please do not cite them in any formal correspondence or papers. **NB:** Compass cardinals (eg N = north, SE = southeast) are used.

Rows shaded thus and with yellow text denote summaries of problem taxon groups in which some closely-related taxa may be of indeterminate status or are being studied.

Rows shaded thus and with yellow text indicate recent or data-driven major conservation concerns.

Rows shaded thus and yellow white text contain additional explanatory information on problem taxon groups as and when necessary.

Rows shaded thus with blue text indicate a taxon is extinct worldwide, extinct, or probably extinct, in the OSME Region.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

6. We do not provide complete lists of taxa occurrences for each OSME Region country or territory save for endemics to the Region. For species distributions, useful starting points are BirdLife Datazone maps (http://datazone.birdlife.org/home) or **IUCN** Red List (https://www.iucnredlist.org/search). In either case, enter English or species name. However, BirdLife/IUCN taxonomy is not yet in full commonality with the IOC List.

We seek information backed by references to develop and improve any part of the OSME Region List of bird taxa.

SN	English Name	Family, Species or Taxon	Working Notes
		Malaconotidae	
622	Rosy-patched Bush-Shrike	*Telophorus cruentus (Rhodophoneus cruentus)*	Monotypic. Vagrant SE Egypt (ssp *cruentus* Clements 2007), occurs Halaib Triangle HBW14, **EORC**, where resident Dora 2019. **BLDZ** Jul 2017 maps at least 125km NNE into Egypt proper; also to Djibouti coast withon 20km direct to Perim Island, Yemen, or 17km from nearest Djibouti Island to Perim; breeds Eritrean coast, recorded Dahlak Islands de Monti *et al* 2009**. NB** Mapped in half-degree square including Perim Island Ash & Atkins 2009. Taxonomy follows Fuchs *et al* 2004; IOC 2.6. Shirihai & Svensson 2018 remain with *Rhodophoneus*.
PT	Black-crowned Tchagra **PT**	*Tchagra senegalus (*formerly *T. senegala)*	Morphological differences of taxon *percivali* from *T. senegalus* African sspp noted in Harris & Franklin 2000, Jennings 2010, HWP14, HBW Alive, Shirihai & Svensson 2018: last-named called for vocalisation, genetic data because of 'rather dramatic' plumage differences Jennings 2010 alludes to breeding season differential between Tihama-SW Yemen population & that of E Yemen-W Oman. Re voice, van den Berg & Sound Approach 2020 confirm *percivali* has very different song and calls from *senegalus*; **CSNA**/*Dutch Birding* Jan 2022 suggest English name 'Arabian Tchagra'.
623	Arabian Black-crowned Tchagra (Black-crowned Tchagra, Black-crowned Bush-Shrike)	*Tchagra (senegalus) percivali*	English name informal@OSME. African species, ssp *percivali* HBW14 breeding S Yemen Porter & Warr 1985, S Yemen Warr 1992 & Oman Harris & Franklin (H&F) 2000. In SW Arabia, taxon *percivali* resident bushy scrub on slopes and in wadis in & adjacent to Tihama, but also *percivali* along the S coastal area of Yemen/Oman border Jennings 2010; perhaps up to 8000bp. Fairly common resident breeder S Oman hills **OBL7**. Tihama population may be extending its distribution northwards at least as far as Taif, Saudi Arabia Shobrak *et al* 2021, who also are the first to describe a nest of this population (in Asir). **NB** *T.s. habessinicus* reported to have strayed to Region, possibly from Djibouti via Perim Island (17.5 km longest sea crossing).
		Campephagidae	
624	Long-tailed Minivet	*Pericrocotus ethologus*	NE Afghanistan, Roberts 1992, MacKinnon & Phillips (M&P) 2000, HBW10, R&A 2005; IOC4.1 ssp *favillaceus*. N Nuristan Ayé *et al* 2012. Common summer visitor to Pakistan up to NE Afghanistan border, Grimmett et al 1998, 2009. **BLDZ** Jul 2017 maps as resident (in N) and wintering (in S) of a long slice of E Afghanistan from latitude of Chitral SW to Wahza Kwa & Wor Mamay districts, Afghanistan. **NB** Old references eg Bates & Lowther 1952, Paludan 1959 & EC Dickinson 1965 *in litt* refer this species to *P. brevirostris*, Short-billed Minivet: 1950s ID separation criteria then inadequate; the latter's range does not reach Kashmir to the west.
625	Rosy Minivet	*Pericrocotus roseus*	Monotypic. Further to revision of H&M3 in 'H&M3 Afghan corrigenda' (E Dickinson pers comm), it is now considered to breed just in Afghanistan H&M4. **BLDZ** Map May 2017 shows distribution from Pakistan into Afghanistan in 2 areas: western Wakhan, southern side & easternmost Konarho province between Bargi Matal & Nari. Earlier confusion arose from Afghanistan-Asian Area Checklist (AAC), based on the primitive taxonomy of UN Food & Agricuture (FAO) 1981 Afghanistan Checklist:Small Minivet *P. cinnamomeus* (see R&A 2012 map) then seemed the more likely. HBW10 maps only in India, but unusually for HBW, the text differed, including N Pakistan; R&A 2005 supported HBW text. Map in Grimmett et al 1998 for 'rare & local' in NE Pakistan, very close to W end of Afghanistan's Wakhan panhandle possibly muddied understanding more.
		Laniidae	Zhang *et al* 2007 formally concluded that Brown Shrike *Lanius cristatus* & Red-backed Shrike *L. collurio* are independent species & that Long-tailed Shrike *L. schach* & extralimital Grey-backed Shrike *L. tephronotus* are distinct species. Fuchs *et al* 2019 validates these conclusions, adding that *L. phoenicuroides* & *L. isabellinus* are just as distant as *L. collurio* is from *L. cristatus*; all are separate lineages. **NB** The documented tendency for migratory birds to spend the northern hemisphere non-breeding season has now been proven linked to Climate Change Lehikoinen *et al* 2021.

626	Brown Shrike	*Lanius cristatus* [Fuchs *et al* 2019] *(*formerly considered as *L. [cristatus] cristatus)*	Fuchs *et al* 2019 demonstrate as separate lineage. 4 ssp HBW13; *cristatus* likely only ssp to reach Region. Very common breeder north of Kazakhstan in southern taiga (c56-60ºN) Rogacheva 1992. Earlier status as vagrant Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan (Kreuzberg-Mukhina & Kreuzberg (K-M&K) 2005 revised to very rare breeder Altai E Kazakhstan (W&O 2007, Arend Wassink *in litt* 2009, Ayé *et al* 2012, Wassink 2015b), perhaps Kyrgyzstan, Lefranc & Worfolk (L&W) 1997, H&F 2000. Vagrant Oman (2 records **OBL7.6**), 3rd Ayn Hamran Nov 2018 **DB41(1):** 56, **SG41(1)ATR:** 145; UAE winter Porter & Aspinall 2010, 7 records to 2013 (2 *luscionensis* 'Philippine Shrike') **EBRC** Mitchell 2017, 1st for Iran if accepted at Minab, Hormozgan Feb 2020 **DB42(2):** 129: 1st for Turkmenistan Dec 2017 **DB39(4):** 272: if accepted 1st for Israel Mar 2019 Yoav Perlman *in litt*. 1st for Kuwait Jahra Jan 2020 **DB42(1):** 58. Original separation from **PT** *L. cristatus* by Voous (1977). Little hybridisation known Parkin & Knox 2010.
627	Red-backed Shrike	*Lanius collurio* [Fuchs *et al* 2019] *(*formerly considered as *L. [cristatus] collurio)*	Monotypic. Pârâu *et al* 2022, using single nucleotide polymorphisms, found that specimens across a vast breeding distribution did not exhibit genetic structure & hence are panmictic (see **NB4** below). Fuchs *et al* 2019 had demonstrated separate lineage from mtDNA. H&M4, IOC6.2 support monotypicity, subsuming sspp erected previously. Not Turkmenistan (K-M&K 2005), breeds (sspp from HBW13) N of Caucasus, Turkey, Israel (rare) where common migrant Perlman & Meyrav 2009, Iran Scott & Adhami 2006, common BM, PM Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b & hybrid population (× *L. phoenicuroides*) southern Altai, Saur Mts, Tarbagatai & Zaysan Depression Wassink 2015b, N Kyrgyzstan (mostly), Ven 2002. Passage Iraq Salim *et al* 2012, Cyprus Peter Flint pers comm, fairly common PM Oman **OBL7**, vagrant SocotraPorter & Suleiman 2020; occurs Afghanistan E Dickinson pers comm status unknown (R&A 2012 suggest fall migration S through Pakistan), but although these birds have been regarded as better included (vide Panov below) in *phoenicuroides*, Mallalieu & Seargeant 2016 on advice from Tim Worfolk re-identify a 2009 image of Bay-backed Shrike *L. vittatus* as *L.collurio*, antedating records of *collurio* in 2012 (Bamiyan Province, Anssi Kullberg *in litt*) and in 2012 & 2013 (Mallalieu & Kaestner 2015): Ostrowski *et al* 2021 from scattered records & reports confirm *collurio* as an autumn & likely spring migrant in Afghanistan, surmising that *kobylini* (now subsumed in the nominate) that breeds in NE Iran (Aliabadian *et al* 2011) may also breed in NW Afghanistan. Occurs Egypt Avib, BE. **NB1** Despite monotypycity, populations bear divergent cytochrome c oxidase 1 (CO1) lineages, potentially including cryptic taxa Kerr *et al* 2009: Pârâu *et al* 2019 found consistent genetic diversity across its breeding distribution, with 76 haplotypes yet finding two clear lineages that were not geographically related, suggesting genetic panmixia during glaciations in retreats. **NB2** All populations of Red-backed Shrike, including those breeding in Iberia, use the eastern European flyway for outward and return migration, passing through Turkey, the Levant and Egypt or Saudi Arabia to reach their non-breeding areas Tøttrup *et al* 2017, Briedis *et al* 2020. **NB3** Vagrant to Ascension Island (Bourne & Simmons 1998), Ghana (Hulme *et al* 2012) and St Lawrence Island, Alaska (1st for Western Hemisphere Pyle *et al* 2018); a hybrid withTurkestan Shrike *L. phoenicuroides* reached California (Pyle *et al* 2015), cited by Lees & Gilroy 2021. **NB4** Re Pârâu *et al* 2022: ***Genetic structure*** refers to any pattern in the genetic makeup of individuals within a population & allows for information about an individual to be inferred from other members of the same population. A ***panmictic*** population is one where all individuals are potential partners, inferring the absence of mating restrictions, either genetic or behavioural, in that population, thus allowing random mating through the general lack of site fidelity.

Fuchs *et al* 2019, in demonstrating as separate lineages, render previous concepts of *isabellinus* & *phoenicuroides* as 2 subspecies, or as split separate species from recent ancestry, or as superspecies redundant. Therefore there has been no Parent Taxon since the ancient common ancestor. IOC2.0 & Svensson *et al* 2009 had accepted split into 2 species. Note that the name *isabellinus* previously only applied to N China birds (since usually referred to as *arenarius*, *isabellinus* then name applying to Central Asian birds). Pearson 2000 suggested that *isabellinus* is the correct name for those then named *speculigerus*, the basis of which argument Panov 2009 suggests is invalid; Panov synonymises *arenarius* with *isabellinus*, noting type specimen of *isabellinus* does not differ greatly from several long series of *speculigerus*, & that the type location is not within *isabellinus* breeding distribution. *L. isabellinus* likely winterer Iran & *L. phoenicuroides* breeds & winters. The extralimital breeding populations of WC China comprise '*arenarius*' (undefined) & *tsaidamensis*, & form separate group, raised to species status by some Russians; *pro tem*, we treat *tsaidamensis* as potentially separable, but taxon is unstudied (*qv* 'Eastern Red-backed Shrike' *L. tsaidamensis* in ORL Hypothetical List.

628	Daurian Shrike {Isabelline Shrike} (Daurian Isabelline Shrike, Rufous-tailed Shrike)	*Lanius isabellinus* [Fuchs *et al* 2019] *(*formerly considered as *Lanius [cristatus] isabellinus)* (in some texts = *L. i. isabellinus*)	This & Turkestan Shrike full species in IOC2.0 & R&A 2005: we note the spatial separation of breeding areas (Panov 2009) and the apparent absence of gene flow between them in allopatric/parapatric zones (Panov 2009); we prefer geographical English names for these taxa to the present IOC names. Polytypic: in Panov's (2009) view, 3 sspp, *isabellinus*, (subsuming *arenarius*) *tsaidamensis, speculigerus.* Acceptance of Panov 2009 means breeding distributions of isabellinus *sensu stricto* are extralimital, superseding those presented in L&W 1997, Ven 2002, K-M&K 2005, W&O 2007 & W&O 2008; absent probably from Tajikistan & Kyrgyzstan, but there is no specimen proof (see map in Panov 2009), 2nd-winter E Caspian Kazakhstan Wassink 2013; Common PM SE Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b. Ayé *et al* 2012 agree, mapping *isabellinus sensu stricto* as passage migrant across S half of CA, wintering in S Afghanistan. Winters much of S CA, SE Iran (scarce Khaleghizadeh *et al* 2017), Afghanistan to India R&A 2012, 3rd modern record Georgia Oct 2015 **DB37(6):** 414, some reaching Turkey Kirwan *et al* 2008, Cyprus rare (spring) PM, very rare (autumn) PM **CBR11**, rare but probably annual Egypt **EORC**, Iraq Salim *et al* 2012, Kuwait, SW Arabia in Tihama Jennings 2010, common to abundant PM Oman **OBL7**, perhaps E Africa. Rare migrant Israel (unsplit) Perlman & Meyrav 2009; 1st record as this taxon Madaba Jordan Apr 2017 **JBRC**, 2nd Azraq Dec 2019 **SG42(2):** 325, 3rd record Azraq Reserve Apr 2021 **JRBC**. Hybridises with *collurio* at range overlap. **NB** Regular vagrant to WP Fraser *et al* 2007.
629	Turkestan Shrike {Red-tailed Shrike} (Turkestan Isabelline Shrike, Rufous-tailed Shrike, Rufous Shrike: sometimes informally called Kurdistan Shrike)	*Lanius phoenicuroides* [Fuchs *et al* 2019] *(*formerly considered as *Lanius [isabellinus] phoenicuroides)*	Fuchs *et al* 2019 demostrate as separate lineage. Monotypic Panov 2009. W Central Asia (K-M&K 2005); E & S of a line Aral-S Caspian (*karelini*-type [lowland] W&O 2007 (as L. *phoenicuroides*, largely beneath *collurio* range) including much Iran, Afghanistan, L&W 1997 (E Kandahar Roberts 1992), but also (*phoenicuroides sensu stricto* Panov 2009) SE Kazakhstan (Terskey Alatau, C Tien Shan; W&O 2007 & 250km to NW W&O 2008: Wassink revises BM distribution to much of southern 70% of Kazakhstan, except W-most) Tajikistan, Kyrgyzstan L&W 1997; likely this taxon (*sensu stricto*) widespread Kyrgyzstan Ven 2002. (Note earlier *phoenicuroides*-type [montane Kazakhstan] W&O 2007) breeding Volga-Ural interfluve Jun 2007 Wassink 2009 (first for Europe), Turkmenistan Bukreev 2005; summer breeder most dry habitats CA Ayé *et al* 2012. 1st breeding record for Arabia Saiq Plateau Oman 2005 Eriksen & Jennings 2006; courtship Thumrait Oman 2006 Jennings 2007c, in Arabia breeds likely irregularly N UAE & E-C Oman, perhaps fewer than 20bp (also PM & WV **OBL7**), but older records mixed with *L.[i.] isabellinus* Jennings 2010. Winters SE Iran (uncommon, but fairly common SB,PM S&E Iran Khaleghizadeh *et al* 2017), possibly S Iraq but uncommon passage Salim *et al* 2012, Kuwait, Arabia & E &W Africa, vagrant Turkey Kirwan *et al* 2008, has occurred Cyprus **CBR11**; 2nd for Jordan as this taxon Aqaba May 2017 **JBRC**; 2 records Israel Ovda & Yovata Mar 2018 **IRDC**. Hybridises with *collurio* at range overlap. Egypt Avib, BE birds this taxon. **NB** Regular vagrant to WP, Fraser *et al* 2007.
630	Bay-backed Shrike	*Lanius vittatus*	Only Turkmenistan in CA, K-M&K 2005. *L.v. nargianus*, also Iran (SE Jan 2009 Winkel *et al* 2010), Afghanistan, L&W 1997; rare PM & WV Oman **OBL7**, bred UAE 2010 **DB 32(2)**. 1st breeding record Arabia 2004 Musandam Oman Harrison & Sargeant 2005; breeds, probably irregularly, NE UAE in very small numbers Jennings 2010. 1st for Bahrain photographed Apr 2020 Howard King *in litt*, **DB42(3):** 215; 1st for Kuwait Jahra East Outfall Sep 2020 **KORC**. **NB HBW13** suggestive of winter occurrence of *vittatus* in SE Iran.

631	Long-tailed Shrike (Black-headed Shrike)	*Lanius schach*	S CA (K-M&K 2005) *L.s. erythronotus* Turkmenistan, Bukreev 1997, also Tajikistan, Kyrgyzstan, S-C & S Kazakhstan, N Afghanistan Ayé *et al* 2012. Breeds mostly W Kyrgyzstan & Ferghana, Ven 2002, common BM SE Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b, A record of 2 adults & 3 young at Atyrau at the mouthe of the Ural River, N Caspian Jun 2016 the 1st record for the WP Wassink 2016, Sarayev 2017, Haas 2017: likely range extension N to Betpak-Dala Martin *et al* 2018. Breeds N&E Afghanistan R&A 2005, possibly Bamiyan Busuttil & Ayé 2009. Rare PM & WV Oman **OBL7**,7th for UAE Al Saad farms Nov 2018, 9th record Al Zorah Farms Jan-Mar 2021 **EBRC**, vagrant Jordan Dufourny 2006, Turkey Kirwan et al 2008, Israel Perlman & Meyrav 2009, 3rd record Oct 2015 Qatar **QBRC** 3rd for Kuwait Jahra Jul 2018 **KORC**. 1st modern record Iran Aug 2013 Khani *et al* 2016, 1st breeding reported Jul 2015 **IBRC**. **NB1** Parasitised by Common Cuckoo *Cuculus canorus* in Kashmir Bates & Lowther 1952. **NB2** the 8 other ssp are extralimital breeders HBW13, although *tricolor* from NE India may wander.
632	Lesser Grey Shrike	*Lanius minor*	Now regarded as monotypic H&M4. Turkey Kirwan *et al* 2008, CA K-M&K 2005 Armenia Dahl 1954, widespread BM Kazakhstan W&O 2007, Wassink 2015b, all CA countries Ayé *et al* 2012. Also NW Iran, L&W 1997, SW Iran, N Afghanistan R&A 2005, possibly Bamiyan Busuttil & Ayé 2009. Migrant through Region, vagrant Israel Perlman & Meyrav 2009, rare to uncommon PM & WV Oman **OBL7**, 1st bred Iraq Jun 2012 Porter 2016. Egypt Avib, BE. **NB1** The population breeding in NW China migrates 12,000km to Namibia Lees & Gilroy 2021. **NB2** *minor* breeds E to Caucasus & N Iraq (passage only confirmed Salim *et al* 2012), *turanicus* E & N from Armenia **HBW13**. IOC treats as monotypic.

In the 12 years since the draft of Olsson *et al* 2010 was submitted in 2009 for publication, the consensus interpretation of their results & the results of Panov 2011 & of Bannikova 2010 (in Panov 2011) is: Southern Grey Shrike *Lanius meridionalis* is a monotypic isolate confined to Iberia & southern France (& now named Iberian Shrike), being related ancestrally most closely to Nearctic Northern Grey Shrike *L. borealis* & not to any Palearctic taxa; those formerly attributed as sspp of *L. meridionalis* are actually related to 2 other *Lanius* spp, Great Grey Shrike *L. excubitor* & Northern Grey Shrike *L. borealis*. The latter's eastern Palearctic sspp are *sibiricus, bianchii, mollis* & *funereus*, only the nominate being in the New World. Within the WP & Africa, the 12 or 13 taxa related to *L. excubitor* comprise not only sspp, but probably also full species here considered as part of a large superspecies that includes all the above. This general position is accepted by BLDZ 2018, IOC8.2, Shirihai & Svensson 2018, Poelstra 2010, Poelstra 2014, Tajkova & Red'kin 2014, Peer *et al* 2011 & the AOU in 2017 as proposed by Rasmussen 2017 (Almost the exact arrangement as Vaurie 1959!). That the results of Olsson et al 2010 were obtained solely from mtDNA explains their decision not to attribute species status to some of the taxa in their derived Clades. However, Fuchs *et al* 2019 not only sequenced mtDNA, but also two nuclear regions. Their view of the Olsson *et al* 2010 findings was uncompromising: "We will not discuss these relationships again as the original results were corroborated here". We therefore list below our overall interpretation of the status and relationships of the large grey shrike taxa much less provisionally than before.

NB1 This kind of taxonomic complexity is far from uncommon; *eg* the *flava/citreola* wagtails, the large white-headed gulls, Pacific island hawk owls & Paradise Kingfishers, all meriting a broader view. NB2 Isenmann & Bouchet 1991 as amended by Isenmann & Lefranc 1994 had placed taxon elegans within the *L. meridionalis* complex (also as proposed by Panov 1983) on priority grounds within the context of perceived morphological and feathering trends across 'southern' taxa, a hypothesis that depended upon radiations of post-glacial populations conforming with a plausible sequence pattern of successive pre- and post-glacial refugia. The more nuanced understanding today of the complexities and geographical variability of successive glaciation advances and retreats aligns better with the arrangements of large grey shrike taxa in Olsson *et al* 2010 & Fuchs *et al* 2019.

PT	Great Grey Shrike **PT** (Vaurie 1959 & Rand 1960 treated as single Holarctic species covering all large grey shrike taxa. Later taxonomic conclusions, up to 2009 departed from this standpoint, concluding that many Palearctic taxa derived from the ancestral *meridionalis*. Olsson *et al* 2010 & Fuchs *et al* 2019 essentially agree with Vaurie's original arrangement.	*Lanius excubitor*	Previous morphological comparisons of the large grey shrikes anomalous to some degree (unquantified) with DNA studies of small groups. Olsson *et al* 2010 related mtDNA data to non-molecular studies; anomalies between concepts apparent. Bannikova 2010 in Panov 2011 took similar line. Many distributions poorly known or sampled, so Olsson *et al* 2010 avoided formally revising overall classification; we preferred the 'temporary' clarity of interpreting the likely outcomes of the uncertainties, noting unpublished data to date are congruent with our provisional overall revision (Urban Olsson *in litt* May 2012). Most authorities now have adopted similar, if more conservative, conclusions. Molecular evidence indicates that several taxa grade into each other, as in *eg* Yellow Wagtail Motacilla *flava (sensu lato)* complex, & that recent gene flow often evident (Bannikova 2010). Olsson *et al* 2010 also suggest as potential spp Somali Fiscal *L. somalicus*, (Hartlaub 1859), some sspp of Loggerhead Shrike *L. ludovicianus* (Linnaeus 1766 [8 sspp]) (extralimital), Chinese Grey Shrike *L. sphenocercus* (Cabanis 1873) & 'Giant Grey Shrike' *L. giganteus* (Przevalski 1887) (*qv* Hypothetical List); relationships of these taxa to those below are not yet known. The AOU accepted the split of Northern Shrike *L. borealis* (including E Palearctic *sibiricus, bianchii, mollis*, *funereus*) from Great Grey Shrike *L. excubitor* in June 2017 accepting the submiission by Pam Rasmussen 2017. IOC8.2 transferred sspp *koenigi, algeriensis, elegans, leucopygos, aucheri, theresae, buryi, uncinatus* & *lahtora* from *L. meridionalis* to *L. excubitor*. We treat the *excubitor sensu stricto* complex as a superspecies, but separate from the *borealis* complex; Schweizer 2020 recommends a genome-wide examination of the *L. excubitor* complex.
			NB1 Ayé *et al* 2012 & Rasmussen & Anderton 2012 support. **NB2** Collar 2013 counsels caution on conflicting morphological/reproductive isolation and molecular data as to assgining rank. **NB3** Populations bear divergent cytochrome c oxidase 1 (CO1) lineages, potentially including cryptic taxa Kerr *et al* 2009. **NB4** Red'kin *et al* 2015 acknowledge the approach of Olsson *et al* 2010 & Poelstra 2010. **NB5** IOC11.2 has accepted split between extralimital Chinese Grey Shrike *L. sphenocercus* & Giant Grey Shrike *L. giganteus*.
Clade A3 in Olsson et al 2010			
633	Great Grey Shrike (Northern Shrike)	*Lanius [excubitor] excubitor*	Taxa in OSME Region are *excubitor, homeyeri* (Cabanis 1873 & *leucopterus* (Severtzov 1873). (Vaurie's OSME-extramital taxa were *L.e. bianchii, L.e. mollis, L.e. funereus* [Asia]*L.e. borealis, L.e. invictus* [N. America] plus all taxa by 2009 included in *L. meridionalis* [except *L. meridionalis* itself], *eg koenigi, algeriensis, elegans, leucopygos, aucheri, buryi, lahtora, pallidirostris, uncinatus*.) **Clade A3** comprises *excubitor, homeyeri* & *leucopterus* (Severtzov 1873) only: Poelstra 2010 and Red'kin et al 2015 agree; *leucopterus* not recognised in Dickinson 2003. (Distribution: SW France to N & E continental Europe between c45°N & subarctic as far E as c90°E). *Pro tem*, all Turkish records (save *pallidirostris*) assigned to *L. excubitor sensu lato* Kirwan *et al* 2014: Ayé *et al* 2012, R&A 2012 (*homeyeri* vagrant Indian subcontinent) support ORL approach; *excubitor* scarce WV, PM Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b & *homeyeri* scarce PM, WV, accidental BM or resident, *contra* L&W 1997; Ayé *et al* 2012 largely agree, mapping taxa as wintering extensively Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan & parts of Turkmenistan. CA (K-M&K 2005), mostly migration, probably scarce WV N Iran Khaleghizadeh *et al* 2017. 1st record of nominate Agios Theodoros, Larnaca Cyprus Feb 2018 **CBRC**.
			NB1 Johnsen *et al* 2010 also confirm Scandinavian *excubitor* further from Nearctic *borealis* than *borealis* from Loggerhead Shrike *L. ludovicianus*. **NB2** Tajkova & Red'kin 2014 document 20th century *L. borealis sibiricus* specimens & observations from Ukraine. **NB3** validity of *leucopterus* debated; *przwalskii* (Bogdanov 1881) has proponents, but possibly synonymous with *homeyeri*. **NB4** TiF Checklist John Boyd Jan 2016 largely supports, though slightly more conservatively.

From the *sensu lato* 'southern group' of Vaurie's 1955 correspondence & of Rand 1960, our arrangement below is the most likely outcome of the Shirihai & Svensson 2018 findings, but is by no means final. Vaurie's alternative idea of a *meridionalis*-based 'southern group' in 1955 did not appear in his 1959 World Checklist. NB1 Clade D2 in Olsson *et al* 2010 comprises extralimital *L. meridionalis sensu stricto* (Iberia & S France), *per* Svensson *et al* 2009 (as 'Iberian Shrike'); close ancestral relationship evident of *meridionalis* to Nearctic taxon *borealis* (*qv* above) in Olsson *et al* 2010. NB2 taxon '*theresae*' Meinertzhagen 1953: N Israel, S Lebanon included in *leucopygos* Rand 1960; '*jebelmarrae*' Lynes 1923 W Sudan, is invalid Nikolaus 1984: H&M4 largely agree. NB3 many remote geographical populations remain poorly known or unsampled, *eg* in Iran (Panov & Bannikova 2010 map) & many areas of intergradation also poorly known. Their resolution may require amalgamation or adjustment (surmised from Panov & Bannikva 2010 map) of the provisional arrangements below. NB4 Useful but limited overall conclusions of Klassert *et al* 2008 overtaken by Olsson *et al* 2010 & by Bannikova 2010 in Panov 2010. Below, we reluctantly find some long-established English names unsupportable.

Clade B in Olsson *et al* 2010			
634	Saharan Grey Shrike **NB** This name previously used with combinations of taxa listed in **Notes** column.	*Lanius [excubitor] elegans*	English name informal@OSME Taxon *elegans* formerly treated as ssp of *L. meridionalis*. **Clade B** comprises *elegans* (Swainson 1832), *leucopygos* (Hemprich & Ehrenberg 1833) (former reaches OSME Region in SE Egypt, latter possibly vagrant NE Egypt); *algeriensis* (Lesson 1839) & *koenigi* (Hartert 1901) (both extralimital}: Poelstra 2010 & Red'kin *et al* 2015 agree: '*jebelmarrae*' included in *aucheri* Rand 1960, Yosef & ISWG 2008. 6th record Cyprus Apr 2014 **CRC**. Claim of Egypt-S Lebanon as *elegans* L&W 1997 now needs re-evaluation. **NB DB 2011** call this taxon 'Desert Grey Shrike', but see reservations in next row
Clade A1 in Olsson *et a* l 2010 (CSNA, *Dutch Birding* combine Clades A1 & A2)			
Some context on the history of 'Steppe Grey Shrike' as a full species *Lanius pallidirostris* is useful here. It first appeared in King 1997, without any justifying argument, but given the author's detailed morphological knowledge, it was a reasonable proposal. Hernández *et al* 2004, using tandem repeats in the mtDNA control region, suggested that their method sufficiently justified distinctions between species to elevate taxon *pallidirostris* to a full species. Since that time, according to a trawl of the literature on tandem repeats in ornithology, that method primarily features as a tool for teasing out genetic history, but not as the first choice in species delimitation. Other methods have established primacy as the technology has developed. Klassert *et al* 2008 found many *meridionalis* taxa belong to *excubitor*, *inter alia*, but did not sample *lahtora*. Panov 2009, 2011 suggests that species status under *leucopygos* with multiple sspp of former *meridionalis* taxa, including *pallidirostris* as a first cautious step, pending formal agreement that *L. meridionalis sensu stricto* refers to Iberian & S France populations only, while acknowledging the close relationship between *lahtora* & *pallidirostris*. Understandably, Panov 2011 rails against the hideously inappropriate English name, 'Steppe Grey Shrike', given that it breeds in saxaul desert. *Pro tem*, we retain *lahtora* & *pallidirostris* separately from *aucheri* & *buryi*, *contra Dutch Birding*. Shirihai & Svensson 2018 offer little comment save noting *lahtora, pallidirostris* & *aucheri* form a tight group. Lumped *pro tem* in IOC9.1, reverting *L. pallidirostris* to ssp status, but within *L. excubitor*.		
635	Mauryan Grey Shrike (Extent of Mahajanapada federation ≡ *lahtora* & *pallidirostris* distribution). {Steppe Grey Shrike} (Asian Grey Shrike). 'Desert Grey Shrike' has been applied to another taxon; 'Saxual Grey Shrike' inadequate. 'Steppe Grey Shrike' for ssp *pallidirostris* long customary in UK	*Lanius [excubitor] lahtora* Note name *lahtora* has priority.	English name informal@OSME. Taxon *pallidirostris* formerly treated as ssp of *L. meridionalis* or as monotypic sp 'Steppe Grey Shrike' *L pallidirostris*. IOC9.1 relumps as ssp of *L. excubitor pro tem*, pending further resolution, but we remain as given here. **Clade A1** comprises *lahtora* (Sykes 1832), mostly sedentary + junior to ssp migrant *pallidirostris* (Cassin 1852) Panov & Bannikova 2010; Ayé *et al* 2012, R&A 2012 support; *pallidirostris* breeds Iran, CA, L&W 1997, common Kazakhstan resident & BM Wassink 2015b, Astrakhan E of Volga Arkhipov 2006, breeds SE Afghanistan R&A 2005, resident W Uzbekistan, W Turkmenistan Ayé *et al* 2012. Winters; Arabia Jennings 2010, Ethiopia Ash & Atkins 2009, fairly common PM & WV Oman **OBL7**, 3 records Turkey Kirwan *et al* 2014, scarce WV Israel, 2 Jan 2016 **SG38(2):** 232; rare PM & WV Cyprus **CBR11**, 10th record Cyprus Mar 2014 **CRC**: Israel; one at Yotvata Sep 2021, one at Wasi Feiran, Jordan Valley Oct 2021 **IBRCE** & one at Pal Yam Israel Nov 2021 Yoav Perlman *in litt*. 1st record Egypt Dec 2010 **EORC** accepted; vagrant Socotra Porter & Suleimen 2020; one at Qhooqa Plain Socotra, Yemen, Dec 2021 **SG44(1):** 257. English name informal@OSME; possible alternatives 'Mughal' or 'Timur' Grey Shrike. Taxon *lahtora* resident largely Indian subcontinent, but W as far as SE Iran Evgeniy Panov *in litt*, Zarudny 1903, Khaleghizadeh *et al* 2017; *pallidirostris* characteristically occupies desert (Panov & Bannikova 2010), saxaul desert or dry rough ground, & not steppe-like grassland, In N Iran SB steppe and desert fringes, common WV to more southerly and coastal provinces Khaleghizadeh *et al* 2017; moreover, name 'Steppe Grey Shrike' earlier applied to *L.(e.) homeyeri* Dement'ev & Gladkov 1968. *Dutch Birding* apply 'Desert Grey Shrike' to African *elegans*.
			NB1 Russian molecular data suggest our view of this group is valid Evgeniy Panov *in litt*. **NB2** Olsson *et al* 2010 note **Clades A1** & **A2** may be sisters but 'with poor support': others suggest links are close enough for amalgamation. **NB3 DB 2014** *lahtora* + *pallidirostris* + *aucheri* + *buryi* 'Asian Grey Shrike' as do Poelstra 2010 & Red'kin et al 2015. **NB4** Vaurie had considered *lahtora* for 'southern group' name.
Clade A2 in Olsson et al 2010 (CSNA, *Dutch Birding* combine Clades A1 & A2)			
636	Arabian Grey Shrike (Name 'Levant Grey Shrike' [**DB 2011**] poorly descriptive of taxon's distribution)	*Lanius [excubitor] aucheri*	English name informal@OSME. Taxon *aucheri* previously treated as ssp of *L. meridionalis*. **Clade A2** comprises *aucheri* (Bonaparte 1853) & *buryi* (Lorenz & Hellmayr 1901). Breeding distributions (Evegeniy Panov unpub map): *buryi* Yemen (S Arabia); *aucheri* sedentary S& W Iran Khaleghizadeh *et al* 2017, C Iraq Salim *et al* 2012 (as *L. meridionalis*), SE Syria, E&W Arabia; abundant resident breeder Oman **OBL7**. Jennings 2010 from surveys (as *L. meridionalis*) agrees with Panov, but maps *aucheri* into C Arabia, an extension into recently irrigated areas: perhaps (splitting Jennings' 2010 total) 75 000bp *buryi* 175 000bp *aucheri* (also a passage migrant), but Olsson *et al* 2010 map also W of Red Sea supplanting previous mapping as *elegans*; probably *aucheri* UAE Aspinall 1996, resident Israel Perlman & Meyrav 2009; 3rd record Cyprus Mar 2014 **CRC**, 4th reported Aliminos-Agios Theodoros Feb 2018 **DB40(2):** 121 4th accepted record Mandria Feb 2018 **DB41(2):** 133, 10th (?) Mandria Feb 2019 **SG42(2):** 320. 3rd record Kuwait Jun 2013 **KORC**, 5th in Nov 20187th (breeding record), 8th Apr 2019 **KORC**. Earlier idea of *aucheri* as NW Afghanistan resident R&A 2005 (also Kyrgyzstan Ven 2002) thought unlikely, but vagrancy possible; accuracy of specimen reference descriptions suspect until revalidation; see Olsson *et al* 2010 for exemplary doubts re specimens & descriptions. **NB** Olsson *et al* 2010 note **Clades A1** & **A2** may be sisters but 'with poor support': others suggest links close enough for amalgamation.
Clade C in Olsson et al 2010 (Sole member)			
637	Socotra Grey Shrike (informal@OSME)	*Lanius [excubitor] uncinatus*	Monotypic. English name informal@OSME. Taxon *uncinatus* previously treated as ssp of *L. meridionalis*. **Clade C** comprises *uncinatus* (Sclater & Hartlaub 1881) only; Olsson *et al* 2010 support treatment as species. Note that interpretation of molecular data strongly counters meticulous morphological conclusions of Kirwan 2007 (who suggested synonymy with *aucheri* on morphology). Olsson *et al* 2010 treatment makes *uncinatus* essentially a cryptic species. Breeding population from surveys c8000bp Jennings 2010.
Clade D1 in Olsson et al 2010 (Extralimital Clade D2 comprises *meridionalis* only, confined to Iberia & southern France & is more closely related to *borealis* taxa than to *excubitor*)			
From the *sensu lato* 'northern group' of Vaurie's 1955 correspondence & of Rand 1960, *sibiricus* and other Eastern Palearctic grey shrike taxa were aligned with W Palearctic taxa, through the assumption that they had originated from ancestral populations expanding northeastward from Africa. Interpretation of molecular results instead suggests the East Palearctic taxa actually derive from a much earlier radiation of ancestral *excubitor/borealis* northwestward from Africa: this concept accepted by AOU June 2017; we exclude *borealis* from the superspecies.			

638	Northern Grey Shrike Collar 2017 supports split & English name: *cv* earlier use of 'Northern Shrike' for solely Nearctic taxa). Vaurie 1959 had considered *borealis* group as solely Nearctic taxon.	*Lanius borealis* . **NB** The 'unexpected presence' of taxa east of c120°E sharing common ancestry with Nearctic taxa is far from unique (*qv* eg Mongolian Gull in Non-passerines and Barn Swallow in Passerines); it would not be surprising if *sibiricus* is a localised breeder much further W than 120°E.	Vaurie1959 had taxon *sibiricus* as ssp of *L. excubitor* but Olsson *et al* 2010, IOC 8.2 & Shirihai & Svensson 2018 place this East Palearctic taxon as ssp of the Nearctic *L. borealis* (including ssp *invictus*). **Clade D1** therefore comprises *borealis* (Viellot 1808), Sakhalin & Kurile Islands *bianchii* (Hartert 1907), Mongolian *mollis* (Eversmann 1853), E Siberian *sibiricus* (Bogdanov 1881), & N China *funereus* (Menzbier 1894). Ayé *et al* 2012 support: AOU accepted June 2017; *mollis* & *sibiricus* likely vagrants to Indian subcontinent, but R&A 2012 omit mention; taxon *mollis* likely breeder high altitude forest edges from E of Kazakhstan to Kyrgyzstan along Chinese border Ayé *et al* 2012. (Mostly extralimital breeders but *sibiricus* & *funereus* PM in OSME Region); *funereus* occasional or very rare RB SE Kazakhstan (Dzhungarian Mts) Wassink 2015b; possibly still WV easternmost Kyrgyzstan, but no recent records Arend Wassink *in litt* 2009; *mollis* 2-record vagrant E Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b & *sibiricus* 3-record vagrant: Wassink 2022 notes that only 2 of 6 Kazakh records of *mollis/sibiricus* meet modern standards (3 specimens untraceable); *funereus* may be taxon breeding in W&N Kyrgyzstan, Ven 2002. Tajkova & Red'kin 2014 document 20th century *L. borealis sibiricus* specimens & observations, winterers & outward migrants, from Ukraine at c35°E . As *L. borealis* , mapped as wintering extensively N-C & NE Mongolia Gombobaatar & Leahy 2019.
			NB1 Close relationship of *borealis* & extralimital *L. meridionalis* (**Clade D2** in Olsson *et al* 2010). **NB2** N-S breeding distribution of *funereus* & *mollis* athwart that (W-E) of eastern *pallidirostris* (*qv*): Wassink 2022 notes Shirihai & Svensson 2018 synonymise *funereus* in *mollis* . **NB3** Johnsen *et al* 2010 independently confirm Nearctic *borealis* closer to Loggerhead Shrike *L, ludovicianus* than to Scandinavian *excubitor* . **NB4 DB 33(1)** name *L.b. sibiricu* s (only) Northern Shrike, as do IOC 8.2
639	Woodchat Shrike	*Lanius senator*	BM W Turkey *L.s. senator* , Caucasus Dahl 1954, S Turkey, Levant, Syria, Iraq Salim *et al* 2012. SV N&NW, PM W&S Iran Khaleghizadeh *et al* 2017 (*niloticus*), L&W 1997 vagrant Afghanistan, R&A 2005, 1st for Kazakhstan imaged by Anna Yasko May 2015, Aktau E Caspian Wassink 2015b, 2nd same location May 2019 **DB41(3):** 198, **SG42(1):** 169, 3rd-8th Kazakh Caspian coast May 2020 Wassink *et al* 2021: now 11 records eastern Caspian coast between 22 Apr & 29 May Wassink 2022. Possibly scarce breeder Oman Jennings 2007c. Breeds Kuwait (1st record al-Nasrallah 2005), likely Oman (where fairly common spring PM **OBL7**), possibly UAE all irregular & scarce Jennings 2010, but mainly passage migrant. Nasuelli *et al* 2021 (submitted preprint) find conflict between sspp distribution, current identity & their mtDNA & nuclear DNA analysis; ssp *niloticus* differs significantly, but some birds from this taxon's westermost breeding distribution cluster genetically with the nominate & *badius* , which latter two seem genetically near-identical. No taxonomic conclusion was reached. **NB** Breeding numbers in Cyprus are declining, but appear to be *senator/niloticus* intergrades Peter Flint pers comm Nov 2021.
640	Masked Shrike	*Lanius nubicus*	Monotypic. A relatively little-studied sp; Lefranc 2017 summarises behavioural observations of the Cyprus population. BM W & S Turkey, Levant, Syria, N&C Iraq Salim *et al* 2012 to border with Iran, where common SV Zagros oak forest Khaleghizadeh *et al* 2017, winters SW Arabia, L&W 1997, pair seen Armenia Adamian & Moffat 2009, fairly common spring PM Oman **OBL7**, 1st Kazakh record Fetisovo Mangghystau Aug 2010 Wassink *et al* 2011, Wassink 2015b, 2nd record May 2017 Ustyurt Plateau Wassink 2018, 3rd & 4th Prorva Point Mangghystau May-Jun 2020 Wassink *et al* 2021. Egypt Avib, BE. Vagrant recorded as far E as S Gujurat Praveen *et al* 2019.
		Oriolidae	
PT	Eurasian Golden Oriole **PT**	*Oriolus oriolus*	**PT** splits as per R&A 2005, Collar 2007, Walters & Jones 2008 (HBW13), H&M4, split accepted in IOC v2.0 (v1.6 erroneously cited Collar 2005), but no relevant molecular studies Parkin & Knox 2010. Red'kin *et al* 2015 note sonograms of the two taxa differ. Jønsson *et al* 2019, in a subspecies-level phylogeny (113 taxa) of the Old World orioles strongly support the separation of *oriolus* & *kundoo* , noting their close genetic links to *O. chinensis diffusus* probably reflects their shared migratory tendency. Few of the other 110 taxa are strongly migratory, the corollary being that many *chinensis* Asian island taxa my warrant species status. **NB** Sequence change follows IOC10.1 via Jønsson *et al* 2019
641	Indian Golden Oriole {Eurasian Golden Oriole}	*Oriolus kundoo*	Monotypic. Taxonomy follows R&A 2005 HBW13. *O.o. kundoo* Turkmenistan, Bukreev 1997. Breeds E CA, Afghanistan (widely, Paludan 1959, supported in maps in Roberts 1992 & H&E 1970; possibly also Bamiyan Busuttil & Ayé 2009), common BM S-C, SE Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b, ringed at Chokpak Gavrilov & Gavrilov 2001; recorded Karatau State Nature Reserve, S Kazakhstan 2017 Oppel *et al* 2018. Two examined in the hand Masirah (autumn 2006 Łukasz Ławicki *in litt* Mar 2018) Jennings 2010 but not accepted on the Oman Bird List; (winters India, R&A 2005). Ven 2002 did not distinguish taxon in Kyrgyzstan, but Ayé *et al* 2012 confirm *kundoo* , also for Tajikistan, Uzbekistan. Predicted for UAE once ID aspects absorbed. Zarudny 1911: rare to vagrant on passage Parapamis, Iran, but the species was removed from the Iran list **DB40(3):** 189, but the current official list restored it, noting one photographed on Konark coast, Chabahar, Sistan & Baluchestan Dec 2021 also 1st for WP **IBRC**. **BLDZ** Oct 2021 maps summer breeding in most of C & E Afghanistan, most of Kyrgyzstan, Far S of Kazakhstan & both sides of Uzbekistan-Tukmenistan border to Lake Sarygamysh, extending into N Uzbekistan past Muynak.
642	Eurasian Golden Oriole	*Oriolus oriolus*	Monotypic. *O.o. oriolus* S Turkmenistan, Bukreev 1997. Breeds Turkey, uncommon Israel Perlman & Meyrav 2009, N Syria, N Iraq (male calls like Jay *Garrulus glandarius* Moore & Boswell 1941-46), Caucasus, N&W Iran Khaleghizadeh *et al* 2017; common BM, PM N-C & E Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b, Ayé *et al* 2012; uncommon migrant Arabia, but isolated breeding records in NE & NW, may be extending range Jennings 2010, fairly common autumn PM, rare spring PM Oman **OBL7**, vagrant Socotra Porter & Suleiman 2020, localised breeder Cyprus Richardson 2014, winters mostly sub-equatorial Africa. Egypt Avib, BE
643	Black-naped Oriole	*Oriolus chinensis*	1st OSME record Thumrait Oman 13 Dec 2011 **OBL7**, probably *diffusus* , which is known to differ widely from some SE Asian island sspp Jønsson *et al* 2010; the 18 current sspp may well see some elevated. One at Dubai Feb 2012 **EBRC**. Given that the nearest known breeding area of *diffusus* to the Region is NC & C India (H&M4), perhaps there is a closer unknown population, say in the hilly forests of S Gujurat near the Vansda National Park?
		Dicruridae	The rearrangement of this family by Pasquet *et al* 2007 & Jønsson *et al* 2016 towards monophly results in the western drongos being assigned to *Edolius* . Fuchs *et al* 2018 (remaining with *Dicrurus*), in an analysis of the Fork-tailed Drongo across Africa, favour splitting it into 7 spp, in which process revise sspp distributions. A reduced *Dicrurus (Edolius) adsimilis* occupies eastern Africa from Ethiopia to South Africa, ssp *jubaensis* being the northernmost in southern Ethiopia & Somalia. Instead, Glossy-backed Drongo *E. divericatus* ssp *lugubris* is now considered the taxon that occupies the central & southernmost Eritrean, Djiboutian (including Bab al- Mandab Strait) and N Somalian coasts (The **BLDZ** map Jul 2020 is of the unsplit Fork-tailed Drongo.)
644	Ashy Drongo	*Edolius leucophaeus {Dicrurus leucophaeus}*	NE Afghanistan (to E China), Dickinson 2003 ssp *longicaudatus* HBW14. Breeds NE Afghanistan R&A 2005 Paludan 1959. Grimmett *et al* 1998, 2009 support, as does Roberts 1992 (E Afghan Safed Koh, also H&E 1970); confirmed summer breeder S Nuristan Ayé *et a* l 2012. 1st for Kazakhstan photographed by Alexandr Fedulin at Korgalzhyn June 2019 Wassink *et al* 2021. 20 records UAE/Kuwait/Israel/Oman/Iran Khil *et al* 2019 & **DB41(1):** 56, **SG42(1):** 169. Vagrant UAE 10th record Oct 2016 **EBRC**. Oct 2011 **DB33(3)**, Kuwait Apr 2010 Porter & Aspinall 2010, 3rd record Feb-Apr 2013 Haas 2017, 1st for Israel Dec 2014 Israel Checklist 2015. 1st record Oman Nov 2014 Klunderud *et al* 2016, 2nd Khawr Taqah Dec 2021 **OBRC**. 1st record Iran at Minab Feb 2014, juvenile recorded Bandar Abbas Iran Jan 2016 Khaleghizadeh 2016, **IBRC**, 5 Hormozgan Province (8th-9th) records Jan-Feb 2020 **SG42(2):** 323, 2 more Feb 2021 **DB43(2):** 155. All 14 other sspp extralimital to E H&M4. **NB1** Khil *et al* 2019 assert that all Ashy Drongos recorded in the Middle East (& Extended WP) are from the 'blackish' subgroup. **NB2** Olsen 2022 notes that the late Askar Isabekov was aware that drongo spp were popular cagebirds in southern Kazakhstan

645	Glossy-backed Drongo (Formerly part of Fork-tailed Drongo)	*Edolius divericatus* (formerly part of *E. adsimilis* {earlier *Dicrurus adsimilis*})	Polytypic: ssp *lugubris* occurs S Red Sea African coast Ash & Atkins 2009, HBW14. Extralimital is the nominate (Lake Chad and points W) and *fugax* (Kenya to S Africa). One (as Fork-tailed Drongo *Dicrurus adsimilis*) reported Yemen 28 Oct 1946 Phoenix 30: 9, confirmed *Dicrurus*, probably *adsimilis* Browne 2015 (PWP Browne original observer 1946!). From description & location, highly unlikely to be any other Drongo sp, although modern ID knowledge would require particular characters to be included in description. **NB** At Bab al Mandab Strait, island-hopping from Djibouti via 3 islets to Kaḍḍa Dâbali covers 12km, then the longest sea crossing leg is Kaḍḍa Dâbali-Birim (Perim) Island 17.5km, then Birim-Yemen mainland 3km. Long classed as uncertain Yemen WBDB 2008 Checklist, Mike Evans† pers comm.
646	Black Drongo	*Edolius macrocercus {Dicrurus macrocercus}*	ssp *albirictus* SE Iran (currently passage vagrant Scott & Adhami 2006), E Afghanistan (E to Bali), Dickinson 2003; Zarudny 1911, formerly bred in low numbers S Baluchestan, Iran, but now vagrant, *eg* 3 Khorasn-e-Razavi Mar 2017 **DB40(1):** 54, Khaleghizadeh *et al* 2017; one at Bandar-e Lengeh Dec 2018 **DB41(2):** 133, 2 there Jan 2020 **DB42(2):** 129, another Feb 2021 **DB43(2):** 155, one at Esfahak, Tabas, Khorasan Jul 2019 **DB41(4):** 275; another Oct 2020 Chabahar, Sistan & Baluchestan **SG42(6):** 441; one imaged at Sistan Baluchestan Mar 2022 'Pedrambirder' *in litt*. 7-record vagrant Oman **OBL7**, another at Khawr Taqah Dec 2021 **DB44(1):** 61. 10th UAE record Oct 2016 **EBRC**, 1 Abu Dhabi Dec 2017 **DB40(1):** 54, 1st breeding record for UAE & greater WP at Dubai May 2022 **DB44(3):** 225, one fledged Jun 2022 **DB44(4):** 311. Kuwait 1st record Pekka Fågel (not the finder) *in litt* Nov 2015, **KORC**, present until 02 Dec 2015 Haas 2017. Breeds NE Afghanistan R&A 2005, widely so Paludan 1959, Ayé *et al* 2012 map confirms; **BLDZ** maps mostly as SV from Khyber n to Badakhshan. (Roberts 1992 maps almost to Afghan border, H&E 1970 map most of Afghan E border). All 6 other sspp extralimital to E H&M4.
		Monarchidae	
647	Black-naped Monarch	*Hypothymis azurea*	Photographed Feb 2011 near Jask, Hormozgan, Iran, in woodland, by Ali Alieslam (Alieslam 2014) vagrant Iran Khaleghizadeh *et al* 2017; ID confirmed as imm male **IBRC**, 2nd record Bandar Abbas Hormozgan Jan 2020 **DB42(2):** 129. On 13 Nov 88, one came aboard a ship at 10:40N, 75:30E, (5 deg 30min E of Region, just off coast of India) Casement 1989 (Ed) *Sea Swallow* **38**: 49. Likely ssp *styani* of S Asia, vagrant to Region, all 23 other ssp being extralimital even further E. **NB** del Hoyo *et al* 2016 split Pale-blue Monarch *H. puella* (extralimital, Sulawesi).
648	African Paradise Flycatcher	*Terpsiphone viridis*	African species, 10 African sspp; ssp *harterti* SW Arabia to S Oman, Dickinson 2003. Mainly southern Tihama up tp 2500m asl & Dhofar, perhaps as many as 10 000bp mostly in SW Jennings 2010, common resident breeder SW Oman **OBL7**, 112 recorded SE Oman winters 2012-2013 Ball *et al* 2015.
649	Indian Paradise Flycatcher (Asian Paradise Flycatcher)	*Terpsiphone paradisi*	*T.p. leucogaster* E Turkmenistan, Bukreev 1997 Afghanistan Paludan 1959. E Uzbekistan S Kazakhstan E Afghanistan, Dickinson 2003. NE Afghanistan, S Tajikistan R&A 2005. Very rare BM S (Karatau & W Tien Shan) & SE Kazakhstan (once Zialiyskiy Alatau) Wassink 2015b. Breeds W Kyrgyzstan, Ven 2002. Vagrant UAE Oct 2011; 17 Nurata reserve Jul 2011 Uzbekistan (**SG34(1)AtR**). 1st for UAE Dalma Island Oct 2011, 2nd Mushrif Palace Gardens Abu Dhabi Dec 2019-Mar 2020 Lloyd *et al* 2020, who also eliminated other taxa formerly treated as sspp of Asian Paradise Flycatcher *T. paradisi sensu lato*. All 3 other sspp extralimital to E. **NB** IOC5.4 accepted extralimital splits E of Region: del Hoyo *et al* 2016, Eaton *et al* 2016.
		Corvidae	
650	Siberian Jay	*Perisoreus infaustus*	N Kazakhstan (K-M&K 2005), Madge & Burn (M&B) (1994). Rare resident NE Kazakhstan *opicus* (Altai) Wassink 2015b, Ayé *et al* 2012. Kryukov 2019, using mitochondrial and complete genome variation, found no genetic variation across its vast boreal Palearctic distribution. Song *et al* 2020a, using 11 microsatellite markers to assay genetic diversity across 58 Sichuan Jay *P. internigrans* samples from China and 205 Siberian Jay samples from Sweden and easternmost Russia found strong indications of genetic differentiation between Swedish and Russian populations, but no indication of where any boundary might lie; no samples were from the intervening 4800km. H&M4 place ssp *infaustus* (as isolate?) *inter alia* in SE Russia (cis-Caucasus?), but error suspected; 3 other Eurasian sspp extralimital.
651	Eurasian Jay	*Garrulus glandarius*	Asia Minor, Caucasus, N Iraq (plumage so different from W European birds that initial ID difficult Moore & Boswell 1941-46). Moderate increase ssp *glasznieri* Cyprus 2006-2015 Hellicar 2016. Common forests N&W Iran sspp *anatoliae, krynicki, hyrcanus* Khaleghizadeh *et al* 2017, N&C Israel Perlman & Meyrav 2009. W Afghanistan? M&B 1994, scarce resident Gaza al-Safadi 2006. 9 of 34 sspp in Region HBW14. NW, N-C & NE Kazakhstan, *brandtii* rare resident, WV Wassink 2015b; *brandtii* (with *pekingensis*) suggested as separable 'Brandt's Jay' (as are other eastern taxa) Brazil 2009: perhaps 10 of 34 sspp (8 or 9 H&M4) breed, winter in or stray to Region. Extralimital eastern taxa *bispecularis, leucotis* elevated to spp, Plain-crowned & White-faced Jays, Collar 2017. **NB** Populations bear divergent cytochrome c oxidase 1 (CO1) lineages, potentially including cryptic taxa Kerr *et al* 2009.
652	Black-headed Jay (Lanceolated Jay)	*Garrulus lanceolatus*	Monotypic HBW14, H&M4. E Afghanistan, M&B (1994), NE, R&A 2005 H&E 1970, resident Nurestan Paludan 1959 Ayé *et al* 2012, & northwards Roberts 1992. **BLDZ** Aug 2019 maps into Afghanistan N & W of Chitral for some distance then WSW to just E of Kabul, then S, crossing back into Pakistan N and W of Zhob.
PT	Eurasian Magpie **PT**	*Pica pica*	Previous splits removed Nearctic Yellow-billed (*P. nuttalli*) and Black-billed (*P. hudsonia*) Magpies. The suggested split below occasioned first by species account in HBW14 (Steve Madge) & reinforced by Song *et al* 2018 & Kryukov *et al* 2017: IOC 8.2 accepts split, Shirihai & Svensson 2018 yet unready to; **BLDZ** maps indicate taxon *asirensis* at least 2250km from taxon *pica* in Turkey & 1600km from it in Iraq, hence we then treated former as part of a superspecies from the context of its sedentary and declining status Babbington 2016. **BLDZ** elevates to full species, possibly by Tobias *et al* 2010 system, but Kryukov *et al* 2017 & Song *et al* 2018 provide strong support: they also indicate separation (extralimital) under *serica,* sspp *anderssoni* & *jankowski* (the latter not listed by IOC); Kryukov *et al* 2020 strengthen support for this split. Kryukov *et al* 2022 propose split via integrative taxonomy into a western group that loses 3 taxa to extralimital *P. serica* (Chinese Magpie: informal English name @OSME): *serica*, *alashanica* & *jankowskii*. Lee *et al* 2003 noted degrees of mtDNA distinctiveness among *Pica* populations (with emphasis on Nearctic & E Palearctic), likely stemming from 2 range extensions from Korean ancestral population, 1st to Nearctic and 2nd to Palearctic; no nuclear DNA data over same distribution. Ebels 2021 summarises conclusions from all *Pica* genus research to date, concluding the arrangement in IOC11.2 is correct. **NB1** Populations bear divergent cytochrome c oxidase 1 (CO1) lineages, potentially including cryptic taxa Kerr *et al* 2009. **NB2** Although Song *et al* 2018 & Brazil 2009 called *P. serica* 'Oriental Magpie', given that all 3 sspp detached by Kryukov *et al* 2022 occur mostly in China, we suggest that 'Chinese Magpie' is preferable.
653	Eurasian Magpie (We retain English name post Kryukov *et al* 2022, who detached only 3 sspp as separate species *P. serica*.) [Black-billed Magpie]	*Pica pica*	*P.p. bactriana* Turkmenistan Bukreev 1997, abundant resident Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b Afghanistan Paludan 1959. Resident Asia Minor (*pica*), Caucasus, CA, Iraq (*bactriana* voice as European sspp Moore & Chapman 1941-46), Iran, Afghanistan; those in SW Arabia M&B 1994 now considered separate species below. Eurasian Magpie single-record vagrant (& one escape) Oman **OBL7**, possible first for Israel Jan 2019 Haifa Yoav Perlman *in litt*, but in Lebanon, now considered scarce irregular PM Ramadan-Jaradi *et al* 2019. **NB1** *bactriana* once thought separable Haring *et al* 2007 but rejected in Kryukov *et al* 2017 (Haring a co-author), eastern taxa *camtschatica* & *serica* (latter ssp corrected spelling H&M4) both likely separable, but ranges & differences then incompletely known Brazil 2009: former now aligned with *P. pica*, latter as full species Oriental Magpie Song *et al* 2018, reinforced by Kryukov *et al* 2020 & Kryukov *et al* 2022 (who did not suggest an English name.

654	Arabian Magpie {Asir Magpie}	*Pica asirensis* **Endangered** (Jan 2021 **IUCN** assessment supersedes 2017 assessment)	Taxonomic status long uncertain; population of possibly 500 birds in 2 locations Asir Massif SW Saudi Arabia HBW14, *c* 125bp minimum & declining Jennings 2010 (Babbington 2016 concurring), the decline considered due to habitat loss and reduced biodiversity affecting prey availability Yahya & Salamah 1996. 8 seen Jebel al Qahar Aug 2021 **SG44(1):** 250. Conservation status uncertain, but seemingly diminishing **SG35(2) ATR**. HBW14 notes distinctive voice. Although Mike Jennings *in litt* disagrees, Babbington 2016 supports HBW14. While bemoaning lack of sound recordings, Kryukov *et al* 2017 confirm long isolation of *asirensis*, noting in passing its morphologically distinct form and that it has never been included in any phylogenetic analysis: **BLDZ** treat as full species, now Song *et al* 2018 agree. Song et al 2018 agree its distinctiveness, but prefer to emphasise deeper separations at species level. However, IOC 8.2 accept split, as does BLI. Boland & Burwell 2020 in an important paper propose a ranking methodology for taxa at risk in Saudi Arabia; *P. asirensis* is at the top of the list. The basis of their methodology appears sound, but likely will need development to account for finer-scale subtleties. Population restricted to highest & wettest Asir region, (1850-3000m asl) but not confined to Juniper; often in Acacia (prime nest habitat) & terraced fields with fruit trees Mike Jennings *in litt*, but Babbington 2016 reports records at lower altitudes in Asir Massif, *eg* 11 at Tanomah & adjacent Sallal Jul-Oct 2016 **SG39(1)ATR**; active nests found Al Namas & Tanoumah Jun-Jul 2018 **SG41(1)ATR:** 147 20 between Tanomah & site 20km S of Billasmer; not for 10 years has it been recorded so far S **SG42(1):** 177.
PT	Ground Jay spp	*Podoces* **PT**	Opaev *et al* 2019 note strong divergence of voice & song of the 'black-crowned' ground jays (Mongolian & extralimital Xinjiang [Biddulph's] *Podoces biddulphi*) & the 'black-breasted' ground jays (Turkestan & Iranian) which correlates with differences in nest shape & structure & differences in hatchling state (altricial v near-precocial) Ilyashenko *et al* 2017, Ilyashenko 2018. Opaev et al 2019 suggest that their integrative taxonomy approach merits the transfer of Mongolian & Xinjiang Ground Jays to *Eupodoces* (As originally proposed by Zarudny & Loudon 1902); they also cite Kozlova 1975, that comparative analysis of morphology of certain elements of the skull, the patterns of colouration of the plumage in ontogeny, and the wing formula, as well as distribution and habitats also differ between these species pairs. However, given that DNA research comprises only mtDNA data from the 'black-crowned' pair, DNA sequencing and nuclear marker procedures are probably necessary to validate their proposal.
655	Mongolian Ground Jay (Henderson's Ground Jay)	*Podoces hendersoni* (may move to *Eupodoces*)	Monotypic. Easternmost Kazakhstan, near Zaysan, M&B (1994); only 1 record (W Zaysan lake) 1962 A Wassink pers comm, W&O 2007, Wassink 2015b, HBW14, possibly former breeder); vagrant Ayé *et al* 2012. Nearest known population to Region lies only 140km S of Kyrgyz border with Tibet Londei 2011, but **BLDZ** map it Feb 2018 into E-most Kyrgyzstan & adjacent Kazakhstan.
656	Turkestan Ground Jay (Pander's Ground Jay)	*Podoces panderi*	Turkmenistan Bukreev 1997. Also Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan M&B 1994; probably locally widespread in habitat Uzbekistan Martin *et al* 2014; strong association with mature saxaul spp in breeding season Showler *et al* 2014, who note that distinctive far-carrying territorial whistle should make full-scale survey relativel easy. NW Afghanistan? R&A 2005; Ayé *et al* 2012 map well away: ssp *panderi* resident S Kazakhstan, very rare Kyzyl Kum desert, ssp *ilensis* (sole Kazakh endemic taxon) very rare resident from Taukum desert to Aksu valley; becoming rarer W&O 2007, 2008 Wassink 2015b.
657	Iranian Ground Jay (Pleske's Ground Jay)	*Podoces pleskei*	C (Hamedanian 1997) to E Iran near-endemic, M&B (1994), but also in westernmost Afghanistan (Recorded Madge 1980) & possibly (formerly?) Pakistan, R&A 2005, Ayé *et al* 2012, H&M4. **BLDZ** Feb 2018 maps as distinct Iranian endemic.
PT	Eurasian Nutcracker **PT** {Spotted Nutcracker}	*Nucifraga caryocatactes*	Re **Parent Taxon**, IOC2.0 accepts split, following dos Anjos 2009; HBW also; H&M4 agree, but further split *hemispila* as sp, extralimital Southern Nutcracker, Collar 2017, mapped sympatrically with *N.[c.] multipunctata* in Kashmir & possibly with *N.[c.] caryocatactes* in Ar Horqin Banner, Chifeng, Inner Mongolia (Google Maps), China **BLDZ** Apr 2021 (assumung ssp *interdicta* allotted to polytypic *N.[c.] hemispila*, which would have *macella* & *owstoni* as sspp): Acceptance of Collar 2017 split would leave *N.[c.] caryocatactes* comprising nominate, *macrorhynchos*, *rothschildi* & extralimital *japonica*. Kryukov 2019 found no distinct west-east lineages, suggesting that populations formed and spread separately after a bottleneck effect on the breeding grounds; the corollary is that other factors influenced mate selection in ways that allowed synpatric breeding after these two populations subsequently met. Our treatment as superspecies is supported by de Raad *et al* 2022, whose genetic, phylogenomic and morphometric comparison between the Eurasian nutcracker species established significant taxonomic differences between Northern Nutcracker *N.[c.] caryocatactes* (4 sspp), Southern Nutcracker *N.[c.] hemispila* (4sspp, all extralimital to the OSME Region) and Kashmir Nutcracker *N.[c.] multipunctata*. (English names informal@OSME, though supported to varying degree by H&M4, Collar 2017, BLI & IOC12.1).
658	Northern Nutcracker (Eurasian Nutcracker) {Spotted Nutcracker}	*Nucifraga [caryocatactes] caryocatactes*	Polytypic: nominate, *macrorhyncus, rothschildi, japonica*; nominate may winter in S Russia (cis-Caucasus?); *rothschildi* breeds E & SE Kazakhstan & *macrorhyncus* in NE-most Kazakhstan. Species winters slightly further SSW, but irruptive to Iran (vagrant, 2005, 2006 records Khaleghizadeh 2011), Caucasus, M&B 1994, Azerbaijan 2011 Heiss 2013. Taxon *macrorhynchos* scarce resident E Kazakhstan sometimes common WV NE Kazakhstan (Altai) & *rothschildi* common resident SE Kazakhstan (Tien Shan & Dzhungarians) W&O 2007, Wassink 2015b, Ayé *et al* 2012. Resident N Kyrgyzstan, Ven 2002. Vagrant Turkey (5 records) Kirwan *et al* 2014, 2 recent records Iran Khaleghizadeh *et al* 2017. English name used retained as reversion to better description after R&A 2005 split, which recognised by HBW14.
659	Kashmir Nutcracker (Large-spotted Nutcracker)	*Nucifraga [caryocatactes] multipunctata*	Monotypic. Taxonomy follows R&A 2005, dos Anjos et al 2009; resident NE Afghanistan into Kashmir, R&A 2005, HBW14; Roberts 1992 maps at Afghan border in Kurram, H&E 1970 state eastern Afghan Safed Koh, also Paludan 1959; Ayé *et al* 2012 accept Nuristan. **BLDZ** Aug 2019 maps extensively in E Afghanistan, from most of Badakhshan (including the Wakhan) to Paktila & also reaching Kabul WSW crossing back into Pakistan N&W of Zhob; northernmost distribution extends to southernmost Tajikistan. Easternmost distribution is extralimital through Poonch to N of Jammu; below this approximate line, it may overlap with Southern Nutcracker *N.[c.] hemispila* at that nominate's westernmost distribution de Raad *et al* 2022 (At least 300km from Afghanistan).
660	Red-billed Chough (Chough)	*Pyrrhocorax pyrrhocorax*	W Turkey-Afghanistan-E Kazakhstan in mountainous area **BLDZ** map Mar 2018, scarcer to S; *docilis, brachypus* Turkmenistan Bukreev 1997 (*brachypus* now assigned to populations in NE & E China only), *docilis* Afghanistan Paludan 1959. Caucasus, N Iraq Salim *et al* 2012 (local), Iran (common & widespread resident Khakeghizadeh *et al* 2017), CA (E&SE Kazakhstan W&O 2007, common resident Wassink 2015b ssp *centralis*), Afghanistan M&B 1994 *docilis* IOC9.2. Vagrant Israel Perlman & Meyrav 2009. Egypt Avib, BE. 6 extralimital sspp.
661	Yellow-billed Chough {Alpine Chough}	*Pyrrhocorax graculus*	Taxon *graculus* in N Turkey, Caucasus, N Iraq Ararat *et al* 2011 very local Salim *et al* 2012, N Iran: *digitatus* S Turkey, Lebanon, SW&NW Iran H&M4, Khaleghizadeh *et al* 2017, *forsythi,* SW, SE&E CA (E&SE Kazakhstan W&O 2007, common resident Wassink 2015b), Afghanistan, M&B 1994, vagrant Israel Perlman & Meyrav 2009, but less widespread than *P. pyrrhocorax*; *digitatus* E Afghanistan only Paludan 1959. English name used to align with that of *P. pyrrhocorax*.
662	Western Jackdaw (Eurasian Jackdaw)	*Coloeus monedula* (Formerly *Corvus monedula*)	Turkey (*sommerringii* Kirwan et al 2008) - Afghanistan; Caucasus, Iraq (uncommon breeder Salim et al 2012), N Iran, SW SE&E CA, Afghanistan, M&B 1994, moderate increase Cyprus 2006-2015 Hellicar 2016, very common resident N&C Israel Perlman & Meyrav 2009; (*sommerringii* common resident Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b, Afghanistan Paludan 1959 [*soemeringii* (*sic*)]), migrant in N. Egypt Avib, BE. Reversion to *Coloeus* supported Brazil 2009, IOC2.0 (but not by H&M4); both jackdaws are only distantly related to the *Corvus* genus, which now probably becomes monophyletic (Corvid systematic discussion HBW14). **NB1** separation of *monedula* & *dauuricus* emphasised in Haring *et al* 2007. **NB2** BLI remain with *Corvus* May 2017, as do Shirihai & Svensson 2018.
663	Daurian Jackdaw	*Coloeus dauuricus* (Formerly *Corvus dauuricus*) (*C. daurica* in some references)	Monotypic. Vagrant Kazakhstan Uzbekistan, K-M&K 2005 M&B 1994; rare WV Kazakhstan Andrei Gavrilov in litt, very rare Wassink 2015b; 2 hybrid *dauuricus/monedula* spring 1980 reported Markakol lake, but convincingly revised as 2nd-calendar *dauuricus* Leader 2003; known now to wander widely W, BWPC. Vagrant Turkmenistan Koblik & Arkhipov 2014. **NB1** adults & some young in pied form, many young in dark form, which confusable with hybrid *monedula* W&O 2007. Reversion to *Coloeus* supported Brazil 2009, IOC2.0. **NB2** BLI remain with *Corvus* Feb 2018, as do Shirihai & Svensson 2018..

664	House Crow (Indian House Crow)	*Corvus splendens*	In Region, resident population SE Iran; natural range to points E. Ship-assisted migrant in Indian Ocean (& beyond); Gulf, Red Sea, commensal M&B 1994 (up to 4100m asl Kashmir Sangha & Naoroji 2003); colonised N Yemen *c* 1980 Porter & Warr 1985 (extirpated Socotra 2009 Suleiman & Taleb 2010), abundant in places around Arabian coasts, despite 250 000 birds destroyed in Aden Jennings 2010, while Alshamlih *et al* 2021b note no expansion beyond urban coastal locations. Population stable in low numbers Bahrain 1992 Hirschfeld & King 1992, but now much increased King 2018, abundant & increasing along NE Oman littoral **OBL7**, notorious exploiter of ship travel, common Eilat Israel Perlman & Meyrav 2009, 1st for Cyprus Sep 11 Carter & Bourne 2012 **CBR11**, resident SE Iran ('introduced' Scott & Adhami 2006, Khaleghizadeh *et al* 2017), R&A 2005. Likely only *zugmayeri* in Region HBW14, but Shirihai & Svensson 2018 advise ID of sspp blurred by ship-assisted individuals mixing with established populations, native or introduced.. Recorded Jul 1964 near Afghan Khyber Niethammer & Niethammer 1967, in Afghanistan Sayer & van der Zon 1981; might occur Ayé *et al* 2012; Roberts 1992 maps to Afghan border at W Kurram & N Khyber, H&M3 corrigenda admit to Afghanistan E Dickinson pers comm. Egypt S to Safaga on Red Sea Bonser 2006. 4 other fully extralimital sspp.
PT	Rook **PT**	*Corvus frugilegus*	Kryukov 2019 as a byproduct of research into the phylogeography & hybridisation of Palearctic corvids found after sequencing the control region of mtDNA a deep split into two lineages between western *frugilegus* and eastern *pastinator* Rook populations, thus reinforcing previous conclusions expressed by HBW14, HBW Alive & Haring *et al* 2007.
665	'Western Rook'	*Corvus (frugilegus) frugilegus*	Monotypic if split. Krukov 2019 & earlier studies note that the seemingly extralimital taxon *pastinator* may warrant species status, but detailed knowledge from its distribution is lacking (See ORL Hypothetical List). Indeed, there is no full agreement on its distribution, some maps indicating it adjoins the nominate in Russia above Mongolia, others indicating a broad gap of some 900km from easternmost Kazakhstan well into Mongolia. That remains the case in the field, Alexey Kryukov pers comm Jul 2019. As for the nominate: resident Turkey Kirwan *et al* 2008, Caucasus, CA *frugilegus* (widespread) abundant BM, PM Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b, common NW Iran Khaleghizadeh *et al* 2017; mostly (some resident) wintering Iraq, Iran, Afghanistan, M&B 1994 (also China (?) Arend Wassink *in litt*); N&C Israel Perlman & Meyrav 2009, has reached Kuwait (1956, 1963) Bundy & Warr 1979: 9th for Cyprus Akrotiri Marsh May 2020 **CRBC**. Egypt Avib, BE. **NB** Populations bear divergent cytochrome c oxidase 1 (CO1) lineages, potentially including cryptic taxa Kerr et al 2009.
PT	Carrion Crow **PT**	*Corvus corone*	Separation of *C. corone* & *C. cornix* as per dos Anjos *et al* 2009. Most earlier records will not separately mention the next four taxa: eg Scott & Adhami 2006 (Iran) include *C. (corone) orientalis*, *C. cornix* & *C. (cornix) capellanus*. IOC7.2 now accept. Kryukov 2019 maps a newly-discovered 4800km-long hybrid zone in the eastern Palearctic between *C.[c.] cornix* & taxon *orientalis*, much as between *C.[c.] corone* & *C.[c.] cornix* in the westen Palearctic. We adopt the same approach in elevating *orentalis* to a full member of the *C.[c.]* superspecies as we did over a decade ago in grouping *C.[c.] corone* & *C.[c.] cornix*, a mild form of integrative taxonomy. **NB1** although Svensson *et al* 2009 accept split of *C.cornix*, their map of *cornix* includes 'black crow' taxon *orientalis* (*qv*) and *C. corone* map's easternmost distribution aligns with River Oder (German-Polish border); they align with reductionist conclusions (single 'species' W of Central Asia) of Haring *et al* 2007 only in part. We follow Kryukov 2019 who confirms Parkin & Knox 2010, of *C.[c.] cornix* geographically separating *C.[c.] corone* and *C.(corone) orientalis*, also Shirihai & Svensson 2018, but see distribution summaries of following 4 taxa. **NB2** Haring *et al* 2012 emphasise that 'grey crow' plumage evolved independently several times. **NB3** H&M4 await consideration of a 3-sp split to *corone, cornix* (including *capellanus*) & *orientalis*. **NB4** Populations bear divergent cytochrome c oxidase 1 (CO1) lineages, potentially including cryptic taxa Kerr *et al* 2009.
666	Carrion Crow	*Corvus [corone] corone*	Vagrant to OSME Region from W Europe, *eg* Turkey, M&B 1994. Egypt Avib, BE. **NB** Haring *et al* 2007 note that molecular data inconclusive on separation from *cornix* & *orientalis*, possibly because post-glaciation secondary contacts did not have consistent consequences across distributions (cv case of Yellow Wagtail *Motacilla flava* taxa?).
PT	Oriental Crow **PT**	*Corvus corone orientalis*	Treating Oriental Crow *C. orientalis* as a full species, Zhigir & Red'kin 2020a identify 5 sspp, 2 of which are sspp *novo*. The 5 sspp exhibit a suite of physical differences: Khigiz & Red'kin 2020 found no plumage differences in any age class; all of their 306 specimens could be identified from the characters measured.The sspp are: nominate *orientalis* (Eversmann 1841) of eastern Kazakhstan & Kazakh Altai, extralimitally to Sea Of Okhotsk, Mongolia & E China; *turkestanicus* (Zhigir & Red'kin 2020a ssp *novo*) of C&S Kazakhstan, Central Asia, Afghanistan, extralimitally Pakistan, parts of India & W China; *saghalense* (Kumagai 1926) of Sakhalin; *lobkovi* (Zhigir & Red'kin 2020a ssp *novo*) of Kamchatka & *interpositus* (Laubmann 1917) of Japan. The unexamined population of C China they attribute to *yunnanensis* (La Touche 1922), which should have the thinnest bill. **NB** Donald & Collar 2022 counsel caution: Zhigir & Red'kin 2020a sample sizes mostly <10.
667	Oriental Crow {Carrion Crow}	*Corvus [corone] orientalis*	Polytypic Zhigir & Red'kin 2020a. Kryukov 2019 (see **PT** above) notes that there is a cline from west to east in *orientalis* plumage proportions, but outlines a mechanism that accounts for plumage variation not being directly linked with genetic clinal changes. Hence, southeasternmost *orientalis* is genetically close to extralimital Collared Crow *C. torquatus* (Formerly & in Kryukov 2019 *C. pectoralis*) of S-C China & Vietnam. Oriental Crow is an incipient species Haring *et al* 2007, who emphasised that extralimital E China *orientalis* very distinct from western populations, which contain both *corone* & *cornix* ancestry and occupy a then undefined hybridisation zone in which 'grey' plumage genes might be recessive. Haring *et al* 2012 note that extralimital Collared Crow *C. pectoralis* (now *C. torquatus*) falls within molecular limits of eastern *C.c. orientalis* sampling! Although IOC2.10 proposed split, decision postponed for additional vocals IOC4.1; unchanged IOC9.2. Flint *et al* 1984 (despite wrong caption Map 297) in error attributed *corone* up to E of Kara Kum desert S of Aral: this population since known as *orientalis*, but now attributed to *turkestanicus* by Zhigir & Red'kin 2020a. Previously, N&E of Aral, *orientalis* (common resident, scarce BM, PM, WV) was considered occupying semi-desert N to tundra to E-most Kazakhstan W&O 2007, Wassink 2015b. Species vagrant winter Iran Khaleghizadeh *et al* 2017. Vagrant Lebanon (Richard Prior *in litt)*. E CA, Afghanistan M&B 1994, breeding & winterer Paludan 1959 Roberts 1992. *Assessed as C.c. orientalis* Turkmenistan, Bukreev 1997; likewise Ven 2002 wrongly cited *corone* as resident Kyrgyzstan in distinguishing it from wintering *cornix* - resident taxon is *orientalis*. Ayé *et al* 2012 assessed all CA populations as *orientalis*; hybrids with *cornix* known, but only 2 trapped Chokpak Andrei Gavrilov *in litt*. **NB1** Nearest *C.[o.] orientalis* breeding area (W of Aral Sea) to *corone* c3000km from C Poland HBW14, Shirihai & Svensson 2018. **NB2** Zarudnyi 1911 does not distinguish from *corone*
668	Hooded Crow	*Corvus [corone] cornix*	Polytypic. Taxonomy follows dos Anjos *et al* 2009: Zhigir & Red'kin 2020b provide support for 2 sspp novo in Russia, *khozaricus* from Cis-Caucasus to N Caspian, & E to Urals & *kaukasicus* in the Bolshoi Caucasus & Trans-Caucasus, intergrading with *khozaricus* in Cis-Caucasus. *C. cornix sharpii* Turkmenistan, Bukreev 1997. Winters Kyrgyzstan, Ven 2002. Asia Minor, Cyprus *sardonius* (now subsumed in *sharpii*, although H&M4 cites *pallascens* for Cyprus & perhaps S Turkey) Caucasus, Iran *sharpii*, N Iraq Salim *et al* 2012, N CA, little breeding overlap with *C.[c.] orientalis*, but intermixing in winter, M&B 1994: One singing Gayal (NW Red Sea coast), Tabuk, Saudi Arabia Apr 2021, another seen Magna Town (Gulf of Aqaba coast), Tabuk 2nd & 3rd national records **SG44(1):** 250. W&O 2007, Wassink 2015b give *sharpii* as common RB, BM, PM, WV Kazakhstan, *cornix* mostly WV; scarce RB in NW, also defining sizeable & shifting hybridisation zone with *orientalis*. Flint *et al* 1984 assign *cornix* to CA S&E of Aral, but Ayé *et al* 2012 allow *cornix* only as WV. Turkey ssp *sharpii* (subsuming *sardonius*) Kirwan *et al* 2008, resident Israel Perlman & Meyrav 2009. RB NW Afghanistan (*sharpii* Paludan 1959 Roberts 1992), also winters elsewhere in the country, R&A 2005. Egypt Avib, BE; 2nd record (*sharpii*) Kuwait Feb 2015 **KORC**. **NB1** Considerable size difference across distribution likely cause of early 'distinction' between *sharpii* & *sardonicus eg* as in Ticehurst *et al* 1926. **NB2** *pallescens* generally smaller than *capellanus qv*. **NB3** Zarudny 1911 distinguishes *cornix* & *sharpii* geographically, the former as a rare breeder in S Caspian & rare in N Khorasan and the latter everywhere else except in Baluchestan & the Gulf littoral.

669	Mesopotamian Crow {Hooded Crow} ('Pied Crow')	*Corvus (cornix) capellanus*	We align with Kryukov 2019: we consider that there is sufficient doubt as to the taxon's status as only a subspecies. Lowland Tigris-Euphrates interfluve SE Iraq, SW Iran, M&B 1994 Zagros and Mespotamian Persia Zarudny 1911. Common lowlands Iraq, Tigris to Iran border Moore & Boswell 1956; 1983 near Baghdad & towards Babylon Rasmussen 1992a, supported Salim *et al* 2012 noting breeding on floating reedmats S Iraq marshes; 1st record UAE Nov 2012 Gubiani *et al* 2013, 2nd Mar 2015 **EBRC**, 3rd Umm al Quwain Mar 2018 **EBRC:** Kuwait Oct 2012 al Ghanem 2013, 2nd Sep 2013 **KORC**, 3rd Sulaibiya Feb 2018 **KORC**. Certainly separated Iran from Hooded Crow *C. cornix*, Derek Scott pers comm: 5 Shadegan Reserve Feb 2017 **SG39(2):** 203; large-billed & almost black-and white apprearance in Iraq & SW Iran (most contrasty post-breeding Ticehurst *et al* 1926) supports speciation case HBW14. Extent of intergradation at range limits unknown. **NB** *capellanus*, larger than *pallescens*, is either a subspecies of Hooded Crow or a separate semispecies within the *Corvus cornix* superspecies.
670	Himalayan Crow (pre-split, included in Large-billed Crow) (Also known as Large-billed Jungle Crow)	*Corvus [macrorhynchos] intermedius (*Formerly considered as *C.(m.) japonicus or C. japonensis* [OBC])	The Large-billed Crow complex comprises 11-13 taxa (authorities differ) and may comprise 4 or more species. IOC currently recognises 3 spp, a reduced polytypic (9 sspp) Large-billed Crow (only ssp *intermedius* known in the OSME Region) & extralimital monotypic Indian Jungle Crow *C. culminatus* & Eastern Jungle Crow *C. levaillantii*: Iqbal *et al* 2019 confirm *C. culminatus* as full sp. There is a plausible case for Himalayan Crow *C. intermedius* (with extralimital sspp *tibetosinensis* & *colonorum*) to be recognised, partly on vocal analysis (Mike Nelson *in litt*), which *pro tem* we include here, but the data are patchy. There may be as many as 5 more species to be recognised. NE Afghanistan M&B 1994, Ayé *et al* 2012, R&A 2005-alternative taxonomy. M&P 2000 map hints ESE Afghanistan. Bates & Lowther 1952, Paludan 1959 *intermedius* resident E, confirmed HBW14 as Region's sole taxon. **BLDZ** Oct 2021 map into southernmost Tajikistan & from Badakhshan (including the western Wakhan) S to Paktia in Afghanistan, not quite reaching Kabul, then extralimitally to C Himalayas. Zarudny 1911 recorded as nesting in Parapamis & Seistan, Iran, but considered erroneus: now given as extinct Iran (last record 1900) Khaleghizadeh *et al* 2017. **NB1** *macrorhyncus* complex needs review Dickinson *et al* 2004 & may actually comprise up to 7 spp HBW14. Kryukov 2019 found two haplogroups in the overall eastern taxa distributions and one isolated haplotype almost between the two haplogroups. Further work is needed to confirm whether these findings represent species groups. **NB2** Eastern Jungle Crow *C. levaillantii* unlikely to reach Region from NE India; similarly Indian Jungle Crow *C. culminatus* IOC 2.6; HBW14 distributions of taxa relate well to IOC split, as do sonograms Mike Nelson xeno-canto *in litt*.
671	Pied Crow	*Corvus albus*	Monotypic African species (M&B 1994), Recorded Socotra Ahmed Saeed 2003/4, notes with Richard Porter. First El Gouna Egypt Apr 2010, 2nd Jebel Elba 2015 Haas 2017, 3rd Wadi Lahami May 2016 Haas 2017, one at Halaib Apr 2018 6th record **EORC**, pair imaged at Ras Sukheir (W Gulf of Suez shore) Mar 2022 **DB44(3):** 225; 1st record in nearby Libya Apr 1931 SE desert, 2nd record (1st possible breeding record) NW Libya Jun 2013 2 ad + 2 juv Isenmann *et al* 2016, 1st for Oman Masirah Oct 2018 **DB40(6):** 416, 2nd Nov 2018 al Wusta/al Ajaiz **OBRC**: 1st for Kuwait at Shuwaikh Feb 2019 **KORC** (Cat E), vagrant/rare visitor Socotra Porter & Suleimen 2020. Has reached Thar Desert Rajasthan India Praveen *et al* 2019. **NB1** Very common Eritrean coast Ash & Atkins 2009, & has bred NW Libya 2013 Haas 2017. **NB2** mtDNA, nuclear microsatellite & additional nuclear DNA sequences show this taxon to be sister to Holarctic clade of Northern Raven *C.(corax) corax* Feldman & Omland 2005, Parkin & Knox 2010, but is more closely related to Dwarf Raven {Somali Raven} *C. edithae* (see Hypothetical List) Jønsson *et al* 2012
672	Brown-necked Raven	*Corvus ruficollis*	Monotypic. Arabian peninsula where widespread perhaps above 250 000bp Jennings 2010, abundant resident breeder most of Oman save Dhofar **OBL7**, Socotra (300bp resident), S Iraq, S Iran (common resident deserts, coastal lowlands Khaleghizadeh *et al* 2017), in CA Ayé *et al* 2012 map SW-E Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, Turkmenistan & isolate in S Afghanstan; S Israel Perlman & Meyrav 2009, 1st for Cyprus Cape Greco March 2016 Colin Richardson *in litt* **CRC**. 1st nesting record away from desert habitat was on a lotus and papyrus-carved column capital of Karnak Temple, Luxor Egypt Feb 2012 above intensive tourist activity Sørensen 2016. W & S Afghanistan Paludan 1959 R&A 2005. Scarce resident, BM SW & S Kazakhstan W&O 2007, Wassink 2015b; breeds desert areas Kyrgyzstan, Ven 2002, unsupported by Ayé *et al* 2012. Egypt Avib, BE
PT	Northern Raven (Raven) **PT**	*Corvus corax*	Re future **PT,** Kerr *et al* 2007 reinforce case (Omland *et al* 2000) for splitting Nearctic *C. corax* into 2 (one Idaho/California only) or perhaps more lineages; Parkin & Knox 2010 advise that molecular data require revision of *corax*-related species limits. **NB1** Use of *subcorax* as ssp of *C. corax* in error; priority requires this name confined to ssp of *C. ruficollis* Richard Klim *in litt*; see corrigenda to Dickinson *et al* 2004 & Dickinson 2008 substituting taxon name as *laurencei*. **NB2** Collar 2013 counsels caution on conflicting morphological/reproductive isolation and molecular data as to assigning rank
673	Northern Raven (Common Raven)	*Corvus (corax) corax*	Turkey Kirwan *et al* 2008; *corax* rare resident N Kazakhstan, *tibetanus* rare resident SE Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b. In OSME Region, M&B 1994 give as above Tropic of Cancer, Caucasus, Iraq, Iran, but Ayé *et al* 2012 admit *corax* in CA **only in N Kazakhstan** (also *tibetanus* at altitude Raffael Ayé *in litt* 2014), very rare S Israel Perlman & Meyrav 2009, *C.c. tibetanus* N Afghanistan, R&A 2005, Ayé *et al* 2012. Egypt *tingitanus* Isenmann & Thevenot 2018. **NB** *subcorax* twice invalid name; wrongly applied to *laurencei* (*qv* next row) populations, & name *subcorax* already within *C. ruficollis* (*qv* above).
674	Punjab Raven {Northern Raven}	*Corvus (corax) laurencei*	English name (informal@OSME) originally applied only to NW India population, since when other populations W to S Greece found to be this taxon. Bred Akamas Cyprus 2021, probably elswhere Jane Stylianou BirdLife Cyprus *in litt*. *C.c. laurencei* Turkmenistan, Bukreev 1997, Turkey Roselaar 1995, Kirwan *et al* 2008, *laurencei* scarce resident S Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b; Ayé *et al* 2012 map *laurencei* in CA from S Kazakhstan & all other 'stans, the distribution being in plains & foothills, Raffael Ayé *in litt* Jun 2014. IOC10.2 retains as ssp of *corax*. Recorded Iran Kerman, N Baluchestan Zarudny 1911; as Punjab Raven, resident and common in the coastal plains of S Khuzestan & NW Fars Provinces 1924-28 Capito 1931, Khaleghizadeh *et al* 2017 assessing as common resident uplands N&W Iran, S to C Fars. Resident SE Afghanistan (Paludan 1959, R&A 2012 as *C corax subcorax*), no range overlap with other raven spp, R&A 2005, 2012. **NB1** H&M3 spell as *laurenci*. **NB2** HBW14 distribution E Greece & Cyprus through Middle East to E Kazakhstan.
675	Fan-tailed Raven	*Corvus rhipidurus*	Taxon *stanleyi* (HBW14) Israel S to much of Arabian peninsula, M&B 1994, resident breeder limited but abundant in Oman to Dhofar OBL7, less widespread than *C. ruficollis* but more concentrated, especially near garbage, perhaps 150 000bp Jennings 2010. Egypt Avib, BE; taxon *rhipidurus* likely SE Egypt on occasion HBW14; 1st record Libya adjacent SW Egypt border Mar 2005 Isenmann *et al* 2016. One record Turkey Welch & Welch 2006, probably has occurred Syria Dominic Mitchell *in litt*.
		Bombycillidae	
676	Bohemian Waxwing (Waxwing)	*Bombycilla garrulus*	Eurasian ssp *garrulus* WV PM Kazakhstan (András Schmidt pers comm), may breed N Kazakhstan but no records Arend Wassink *in litt*, irruptive S to mid-OSME Region, HBW10; scarce to common PM, WV Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b. Winters Turkmenistan Rustamov 2015, E Afghanistan (?) R&A 2005, vagrant winter Iran Scott & Adhami 2006, Ahmadzadeh & Khaleghizadeh 2006, some 90 recorded Iran 2016 **IRDC** hence current status as rare WV Khaleghizadeh *et al* 2017, but collated records for winter 2016/2017 reveal irruption of around 2100 birds Khaleghizadeh 2019. Israel Perlman & Meyrav 2009. Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan (winter?) AAC. Winters N & W Kyrgyzstan, Ven 2002. 2nd record for Armenia was of 50+ Mt Aragats May 2017 **DB39(3)**: 211. **NB** batches of Cedar Waxwing *B. cedrorum* imported to Kuwait Gregory 2002.
677	Japanese Waxwing	*Bombycilla japonica*	Monotypic. 1st record for OSME Region trapped and imaged by Denis Afanasiev at Ili-Alatau National Park, Almaty, Kazakhstan 3 Jan 2013 Wassink 2013 2015b, trapped and phtographed, probably a far-ranging outlier from that winter's westerly irruption past Lake Baikal. Accepted Polish record Jan 2009 at Białystock (Ławicki 2013) Lees & Gilroy 2021 likely crossed the OSME Region.
		Hypocoliidae	IOC2.0 places this species in its own family

678	Hypocolius {Grey Hypocolius}	*Hypocolius ampelinus*	Monotypic.Summer breeder Iraq (C&S Salim et al 2012), Iran, S Turkmenistan Rustamov 2015 (previously vagrant Koblik & Arkhipov 2014), (SW?) Afghanistan Madge 1980, W Afghanistan (needs confirmaton Ayé *et al* 2012), **BLDZ** Mar 2018 maps extensively as SB S Afghanistan; male collected Bushire (Bushehr), Iran Apr 1885 Sharpe 1886b, range extension Iran N to Tehran province Todhidifar & Khaleghizadeh 2017, winters further S, HBW10, *eg* SE Iran R&A 2005, Pakistan to NW India , fairly common localised PM Oman **OBL7**, 1st bred (2 pairs) Kuwait Jun & Jul 2014 al-Ghanem & al-Sirhan 2015, migrant assemblage of *c* 100 Kuwait University Nov 2018 **SGATR41(1)**, UAE PH pers comm, fairly common WV in communal roosts Bahrain King 2018; very rare Israel Perlman & Meyrav 2009, one at Atlit Dec 2020 Yoav Perlman *in litt* ; 3rd for Egypt 23 March 2009 **EORC 2011**, one at Wadi el Gemal Dec 2017, male & female Gebel Elba NP Feb 2018 **EORC**, now 6th accepted record, 8th record Dec 2018 **EORC** 2019; 1st Cyprus Dec 2010 **SG33(1)**; winters small numbers Gujurat NW India MB pers obs 2010: 75 al-Lulu Island Dubai UAE Oct 2020 onwards, 50-70 al-Sila'a (westernmost Abu Dhabi) Oct 2020 onwards & 130 Dec 2020 **SG43(1)**: 188. Reversion to longer name by IOC2.9 unnecessary since there are no other members of the genus or family. **NB** imported in batches Kuwait from Iran Gregory 2002.
		Paridae	Largely we follow Johansson *et al* 2013, IOC3.5, & Alström *et al* 2013b. Until then, dismemberment of the *Parus* genus had been premature. IOC3.5 reflects the new standard, thoough earlier authorities such as Scott & Adhami 2006 retain *Parus* throughout. Current taxonomic listings may change further when more is known about contact zones, acoustics and molecular genetics Eck & Martens 2006. **NB1** Dai *et al* 2010 found *Poecile* diverged earlier than *Parus* . **NB2** Although some regard *Poecile* as feminine, JJ Kaup, the originator of the genus name did not specify it as such, and by default under ICZN rules, it is masculine: case endings of species names follow suit.
679	Rufous-naped Tit (formerly Black-breasted Tit, Simla Tit, Black Tit, Dark-grey Tit)	*Periparus rufonuchalis (* formerly *Parus rufonuchalis*)	Monotypic. Very similar in appearace to 'Spot-winged Tit' *P. ater melanopholus* but very different from all other *P. ater* sspp! Ayé *et al* 2012, Resident W&S Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Afghanistan Paludan 1959; uncommon Afghanistan (R&A 2005), E Uzbekistan, SE Turkmenistan **BLDZ** map May 2017, H&Q 1996. Rare resident SE Kazakhstan W Tien Shan Wassink 2015b. **NB1** Eck & Martens 2006, Päckert & Martens 2008 warn genetic clades of the extralimital Rufous-vented Tit *P. rubidiventris sensu stricto* do not coincide with plumage differentiation. **NB2** Kashmir birds invariable ground-nesters in holes, unlike next taxon Bates & Lowther 1952.
PT	Coal Tit **PT**	*Periparus ater (* formerly *Parus ater*)	Unusually, we address **PT** for a subspecies, because reasonably complete recent molecular genetic analyses paint a complicated and new picture of the *Parus ater/melanolophus* complex; in the Palaearctic it is divided into (at least) six distinct cytochrome-b haplotype clusters, which mostly do not coincide well with morphology Eck & Martens 2006: Pentzold *et al* 2013 show that taxon *cypriotes* , an island endemic has diverged from all other taxa since the Pleistocene, but it has little genetic diversity within its population; on this alone, we would venture the application of integrative taxonomy might warrant species status for *cypriotes* , but Pentzold *et al* 2016 show that *cypriotes* does not respond to songs of some Eurasian taxa (not all taxa were thus tested). We therefore suggest that *cypriotes* (Guillemard 1888) deserves separate treatment, but future research might place it with or alongside *sardus* (Kleinschmidt 1903) of Corsica and Sardinia & with revalidated *abietum* (Brehm 1831) of Germany, S France & European Mediterranean coasts. Tritsch *et al* 2018, in a distribution-wide study of gene flow, emphasise how distinct *cypriotes* is. **NB** Populations bear divergent cytochrome c oxidase 1 (CO1) lineages, potentially including cryptic taxa Kerr *et al* 2009.
680	Coal Tit ('Eurasian Coal Tit' [**DBWP** List Jan 2018])	*Periparus [ater] ater*	Kirwan & Grieve 2010a propose *gaddi* synonymous with *phaenotus* in Iran; *chorassanicus* also doubtfully distinct from *phaenotus* , though recorded as such in Turkmenistan, Bukreev 1997: H&M4, IOC6.2 list *phaenotus* as including *gaddi* & *chorassanicus* ; *ater* common resident, scarce WV, very rare PM (E&W) & *rufipectus* common resident (SSE) Kazakhstan W&O 2007, 2008, Wassink 2015b; ssp *derjugini* resident NE Turkey-SW Caucasus, ater E CA: isolates in Syria/Lebanon (likely ater H&M3) H&Q 1996, Syria Murdoch & Betton 2008, '*phaenotus* ' E Caucasus, SE Azerbaijan N Iran H&M4, Scott & Adhami 2006, vagrant Israel Perlman & Meyrav 2009, 1st record *ater* Cyprus Mar 2014 **CRC**: note that if *cypriotes* formally raised to full sp, then this *ater* record will also need to be formally published Peter Flint pers comm. Extralimital Black-bibbed Tit *Periparus hypermelaenus* is proposed as split (Collar 2007, Johansson *et al* 2013). **NB** Finding of Johnsen *et al* 2010 that Scandinavian populations contain two intraspecific haplotype lineages, but lack any morphological differentiation perhaps key to reassessment of OSME Region populations.
681	Spot-winged Tit (Black-crested Tit, Crested Black Tit)	*Periparus ater melanolophus (*formerly treated as *Parus melanolophus* or *Periparus melanolophus*)	Very different in appearance from all other *P. ater* sspp, & very similar in appearance to Rufous-naped Tit *P. rufonuchalis* ! Ayé *et al* 2012. Eck & Martens 2006, Päckert & Martens 2008 summarise evidence in favour of this taxon as ssp of *P. ater* , but we list it separately here due to its striking diagnosability: Johansson *et al* 2013 note that *melanolophus* is nested within *ater* , but divergence is recent. Resident NE Afghanistan, H&Q 1996, R&A 2005, H&E 1970, E Paludan 1959. Local E Afghanistan, K Roselaar pers comm. The hybrid phenotypes identified by Wolfgramm *et al* 2021 in the Himalayas are genetically similar to *P.a. melanophus* but are consistently different in appearance: their genetic origin has not yet been identified, but their seeming stability in deep Himalayan valleys appears to be a rare example of a genetically well-defined avian hybrid zone in the Himalayas. **NB1** Molecular analysis & morphological & cross-breeding studies (Eck & Martens 2006, Martens *et al* 2006, Päckert & Martens 2008) do not support separation from *P. ater* ; hybridisation area larger than first thought, but distinctiveness (at short range, double row spots on wing coverts Bates & Lowther 1952) of plumage remains & so we retain a separate entry for this taxon. IOC1.6, Eck & Martens 2006, Collar 2007 subsumed *melanophus* in *ater* . **NB2** *melanolophus* cytochrome-b cluster very distinct (as are all *ater* -clusters) but its distribution is far from coincident with conventional species limits Eck & Martens 2006. **NB3** Wolfgramm *et al* 2021 identify 3 putative hybrids of intermediate phenotypes between *P.a. melanophus* of Afghanistan & extralimitally E to westernmost Nepal along Himalayas and *P.a. martensi* of C Nepal (near Thoche): in this gap (W to E) are 'spot-winged type hybrids', 'cinnamon-bellied hybrids' and 'pale-bellied hybrids'. *P.a. martensi* itself has a tiny distribution, for *P.a. aemodius* extends E from here at least to E Bhutan.
682	Cyprus Coal Tit	*Periparus [ater] cypriotes*	Monotypic, but see **NB1** below. Endemic to Cyprus: *cypriotes* (as ssp) first named as 'Cyprus Coal Tit' by Bannerman & Bannerman 1958, later by *Dutch Birding* in 2011. Moderate increase Cyprus 2006-2015 Hellicar 2016. Pentzold *et al* 2013 showed this taxon had a separate lineage & Pentzold *et al* 2016 that it did not respond to the song of those Coal Tit taxa for which they had tapes & vice versa but see **NB2** below. **NB1** Should *sardus* & *abietum* subsequently be linked with *cypriotes* as ssp, *abietum* would be the nominate on priority grounds; it is possible that future research may justify species status for two or all three taxa. **NB2** Song comparisons have yet to be carried out between *cypriotes* & *abietum* (Alex Kirschel pers comm).
683	Crested Tit (European Crested Tit)	*Lophophanes cristatus (*formerly *Parus cristatus*)	Rare vagrant Georgia, Azerbaijan, vagrant Russian S Caspian Koblik & Arkhipov 2014, Armenia Mitchell 2017; no confirmed record Turkey Kirwan *et al* 2008, but may wander from S Bulgaria (*bureschi*) to European Turkey. Possibility of breeding NW Kazakhstan (H&Q) 1996 now discounted due to wrongly labelled skin (A Wassink pers comm). Vagrancy SE Kazakhstan & Caucasus in H&Q 1996 discounted Arend Wassink *in litt* 2009, through lack of proof K Roselaar pers comm; ssp *baschkirikus* no nearer Kazakhstan than C Urals H&M4. Nevertheless, the IUCN 2016 map indicates occurrence in a small area of N Kazakhstan at Poltavka (N of Aktobe). **NB** Reversion to name Crested Tit (IOC 12.2) aligns with other world lists.

The relationships between Sombre Tit *Poecile lugubris* and other similar species in the genus has been clouded by the allocation of breeding populations to one species or another on morphological or more arbitrary grounds. Clarity of understanding has been further obscured by the tendency of populations to hybridise where they meet. IOC3.5 sequences *lugubris* ahead of Marsh Tit *P. palustris* (with extralimital Pere David's Tit *P. davidi* between), followed by Caspian Tit *P. hyrcanus* as a full species, which Pourebrahimi *et al* 2021 reinforce. IOC10.1 sequences Siberian Tit (Grey-headed Chickadee) *P. cinctus* after Sombre Tit *P. lugubris* following Tritsch *et al* 2017, thus implying that *cinctus* is closer to *lugubris* than to other *Poecile* taxa.

684	Sombre Tit	*Poecile lugubris* (formerly *Parus lugubris*)	ssp *anatoliae* resident Turkey, Caucasus, N Iraq (Ararat *et al* 2011), where Apr-Jun 2016 survey of Qara Dag & Khoshk mountain areas, a ridge between Kirkuk & Sulaymaniya found 75bp **SG39(1)ATR**; *dubius* SW Iran, H&Q 1996, *kirmanensis* S Iran H&M4, uncommon local resident Lebanon Ramadan-Jaradi *et al* 2008, Syria Murdoch & Betton 2008, Mt Hermon Israel Perlman & Meyrav 2009, vagrant, likely *dubius* from W Iran, Kuwait Mitchell 2017. However, Pourebrahimi *et al* 2021 find a deep divergence (**Clade 1**) between the nominate (SE Europe to N Greece) probably plus *lugens* of C & S Greece, if valid as ssp, & all other sspp. Furthermore they found 2 other divergent groups, *anatoliae* (**Clade 2** Turkey S to N Israel)) & *dubius-kirmanensis* (**Clade 3** Iran), but refrain from taxonomic judgement until widespread sampling achieved. **NB** Apparent lack of response to playback in some populations also suggestive of potential split of this taxon; playback method to be repeated after double-checking validity of recording used (Vasil Ananian pers comm).
685	Siberian Tit {Grey-headed Chickadee}	*Poecile cinctus* (formerly *Parus cinctus*)	Kazakhstan (K-M&K 2005), wintering birds Altai Kazakhstan some years, H&Q 1996. Rare resident E Kazakhstan W Altai (*sayanu* s) W&O 2007, Wassink 2015b. Extralimital *cinctus* NE Siberia, *lapponicus* Finnmark NW Russia & *lathami* NW N America. Pourebrahimi *et al* 2021 compared a set of 3 genes from *cinctus* & Sombre Tit *P. lugubris* finding agreement with Tritsch *et al* 2017 & Johansson *et al* 2013. Sequence change follows IOC 10.1
686	Marsh Tit	*Poecile palustris* (formerly *Parus palustris*)	2 disparate species-groups, western (5sspp) & eastern 5sspp), may split. In OSME Region, W group reaches NW Turkey (*stagnatilis*) Kirwan *et al* 2008 & *kabardensis* NE Turkey to Caucasus (W Caucasus?); E group (*brevirostris* only) reaches easternmost Kazakhstan, Harrap & Quinn (H&Q) 1996, Ayé *et al* 2012; rare resident in E Kazakhstan (Altai) A Wassink, K Roselaar pers comm, W&O 2007, Wassink 2015b. Likely northeastward expansion of breeding distribution in European Russia to 350km east of St Petersburg (Kirillovsky district of the Vologda Oblast) in 2021, beyond the known advance of 150km. This may represent an infill to match the current southern breeding distribution lying S of Moscow stretching to Ufa and perhaps into the northern border of western Kazakhstan Arkhipov 2022b. Egypt Avib, BE accidental. **NB** *palustris* group morphologically distinct from *brevirostris* group, but little molecular divergence so far apparent Eck & Martens 2006.
687	Hyrcanian Tit {Caspian Tit} (Hyrcanian Chickadee)	*Poecile hyrcanus*	Hyrcanian Tit preferred English name in Iran. IOC3.5 full species (≡ *Parus hyrcanus*) Iran (Clements 2000). Resident SE Azerbaijan (confirmed Talish Mountains Javid Gara Jul 2022 in *litt*), NW Iran (fairly common Khlaeghizadeh *et al* 2017), H&Q 1996. Habitat differences. Geographically distinct Iran from *lugubris*, Derek Scott pers comm (Morphologically distinct SE Azerbaijan/N Iran, but darker plumage characteristic shared by many other wetter region ssp; no records *hyrcanus* E of Dasht, NE Iran or of southern *dubius* E of Kerman, K Roselaar pers comm). IOC3.5 notes not nearest relative to *lugubris* as previously surmised; precise molecular relationship to '*songarus* group' of *P. montanus* unclear, but as tentative species, is ancestrally related to *montanus/palustris* group Johansson *et al* 2013: furthermore Loskot 2014 comprehensively analyses variation of morphological characters, habitat preferences, song and behaviour to strongly support species status; H&M4 agree as do Tritsch *et al* 2017 & especially Pourebrahimi *et al* 2021. **NB1** *Poecile* used by Zarudny 1911. **NB2** Svensson *et al* 2009 omit mention of taxon *hyrcanus*.
PT	Willow Tit **PT**	*Poecile montanus* (formerly *Parus montanus*)	IOC7.2 still lumps *songarus* in *montanus*, but note extralimital split (Collar 2007) of Sichuan Tit *P. weigoldicus*. Until species limits, distribution limits and taxa composition within them are fully established, we retain the two taxa below. **NB1** Parkin & Knox 2010 note that the DNA work of Kvist *et al* 2001 & Salzburger *et al* 2002a delineates within **PT** 4 groups, all of which are intermediate between species and subspecies! Research in more traditional fields may clarify, but *pro tem*, we will list the next two taxa accurately as 'don't knows'! **NB2** song, molecular phylogeny and morphology do not align well for groups Eck & Martens 2006
688	Willow Tit	*Poecile (montanus) montanus*	Resident N Kazakhstan, H&Q 1996: *uralensis* common resident, rare WV N Kazakhstan, *baicalensis* common resident E-most Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b SW Altai. Ayé *et al* 2012 mention only uralensis. NB Most numerous tit of Central Siberia Rogacheva 1992.
689	Songar Tit (Tien Shan Willow Tit) {Willow Tit}	*Poecile (montanus) songarus*	Informal English name adopted as such by OSME. (≡ *Parus songarus*). Kazakhstan (Clements 2000). HBW 12 retains as ssp of *montanus*. Common resident SE Kazakhstan, E limit Dzhungarian Alatau Wassink 2015b; note *suschkini* (?) of Saur Mountains, status uncertain (also Tarbagatay?) pending morphological & song research Wassink 2015b: possibly intermediate between *songarus songarus* & *montanus baicalensis*, K Roselaar pers comm, hybrid (?) HBW12. Shimba 2007 treats as *P. songarus*, possibly occurs NE Kyrgyzstan, Ven 2002, confirmed resident Koblik & Arkhipov 2014. Johansson *et al* 2013 had insufficient data to opine on taxon status, but note that little comprehensive research done on this group.
PT	Eurasian Blue Tit **PT**	*Cyanistes caeruleus* (formerly *Parus caeruleus*)	IOC2.0 accepted split of African Blue Tit *C.[c.] teneriffae*, under which all related North African sspp appear to be grouped, the split arising from Salzburger *et al* 2002b. **NB** Dai *et al* 2010 find *C. caeruleus* diverged before any *Parus* listed in the ORL.
690	Eurasian Blue Tit (European Blue Tit)	*Cyanistes [caeruleus] caeruleus*	*C.c. raddei* Turkmenistan Bukreev 1997, SW Iran H&M4. Resident Turkey-Iran, N Syria (*caeruleus*), *satunini* E Iraq, Crimea, E Turkey NW Iran H&M4: common resident, BM, PM, rare WV NW&W Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b, Ayé *et al* 2012). 1st record for Uzbekistan Karaqalakstan, eAstern Usturt Nov 2019 **SG42(1):** 184.
PT	Azure Tit **PT**	*Cyanistes cyanus* (formerly *Parus caeruleus cyanus*)	Formerly listed Iran as *P. cyanus* Scott & Adhami 2006. Yellow versus non-yellow minor step in evolution? *cv* other taxa that also differ in the same way, *eg Motacilla beema/lutea*, or *M. flava/flavissima*. "In any case, juvenile *cyanus* does have some yellow on breast & worn adult or juvenile of *flavipectus* may be quite pale yellow there. Records of 'hybrids' seem rather doubtful, unless juveniles can be excluded because of season", K Roselaar pers comm. IOC7.2 does not split *flavipectus*. Case for **PT** weakly supported; that by Päckert & Martens 2008 more emphatic, involving very different ecological preferences, noted in Eck & Martens 2006. Taxon *flavipectus* unsampled by Johansson *et al* 2013.
691	Azure Tit	*Cyanistes (cyanus) cyanus*	Kyrgyzstan, Kazakhstan SE *koktalensis* Ayé *et al* 2012, NE *yenisseensis* & *tianschanicus* Ayé *et al* 2012, irruptive, H&Q 1996, also *hyperrhiphaeus* N Kazakhstan Ayé *et al* 2012, common resident N-C to NE Kazakhstan, *koktalensis* Balkhash-Alakol Depression & associated valleys, *tianschanicus* common resident E Tien Shan Wassink 2015b. Local Krasnoyarsk Republic to N of Region Rogacheva 1992. Also Afghanistan E Dickinson pers comm, but Ayé *et al* 2012 assign this population to 'Yellow-breasted Tit' *C. (cyanus) flavipectus*. Nominate unlikely to reach Region unless exceptional irruption as far asTrans-Caucasus.
692	Yellow-breasted Tit {Azure Tit} (Yellow-breasted Azure Tit)	*Cyanistes (cyanus) flavipectus*	English name informal@OSME. 3 sspp in group: *flavipectus, carruthersi* & extralimiral *berezowskii.* Often inadequately described; *C.c. carruthersi* Turkmenistan, Bukreev 1997. Clements 2000. Koblik & Arkhipov adopt English name Yellow-breasted Tit as full sp. Resident CA, N Afghanistan, H&Q 1996 ≡ *Parus flavipectus*, R&A 2005, N Afghanistan, scarce Iran Scott & Adhami 2006 (*flavipectus*) which common resident SE Kazakhstan W Tien Shan Wassink 2015b, not sympatrically with Azure sspp *cyanus* or *koktalensis* Balkhash-Alakol Depression & associated valleys Wassink 2015b; Tajikistan Ayé et al 2012). 1 hybrid record N Tien Shan, where *C. cyanus* non-breeder (A Wassink pers comm). Roselaar advises: *C. cyanus tianschanicus* morphology = *flavipectus* (incl.all measurements & distribution of white on wing & tail) but adults differ only in presence/absence of yellow on breast. Likely morphs of one taxon (both in Kyrgyzstan, Ven 2002)? HBW 12 retain *flavipectus* as ssp of *cyanus*, admitting hybridisation with *tianschanicus* is limited; further study needed. Disjunct population C China (?) M&P 2000. However Eck & Martens 2006, Päckert & Martins 2008 find no genetic or acoustic support for elevating *flavipectus*.

From James *et al* 2003, Groundpecker perhaps best placed in own family Pseudupodociidae, ahead of Paridae where IOC3.5 places as *Pseudopodoces humilis*. Dai *et al* 2010 had suggested it is sister species to extralimital Yellow-cheeked Tit *Parus spilonotus*, but with low support & from two samples only. Although more closely related to Paridae than to Corvidae (Richard Klim *in litt*), the degree of divergence shown (8-11% from other *Parus* tits, weakly so Eck & Martens 2006, but about 14% from such as Sittidae and Sturnidae) had been calculated solely from mtDNA: results from other DNA methods *eg* Cai *et al* 2013 confirmed taxon is not a corvid: Cheng *et al* 2017, 2020 from parid & related genomes are have confirmed the taxonomic status & evolutionary relationships of the Ground Tit. Note that Johansson *et al* 2013 made strong case to place *Parus spilonotus* in new extralimital multi-species genus *Machlolophus*, leaving only the *major* group & *P. monticolus* in *Parus*. Cheng *et al* 2020 confirm that Groundpecker split from ancestral *Machlolophus* 5.71MYa.

693	Groundpecker [Hume's Ground-Jay] {alternatively Ground Tit} (Ground-Tit – HBW 12) (Tibetan Ground-Tit OBC)	*Pseudopodoces humilis* (Formerly *Parus humilis*)	Monotypicity assumed. Previously classed as a small corvid, subsequently as a parid, but James *et al* 2003 show its genetic divergence from *Parus* tits is 8-11%, distant enough to merit a separate genus; some Families are separated by slightly greater divergence, but only in the context of other molecular and morphological factors. HBW 12 retain *Pseudopodoces genus* in **Corvidae,** & IOC7.2 includes in **Paridae,** locating it only in Tibet; H&M4 agreed. However, it appears resident also just in Ladakh R&A 2012 (on 2015 Ladakh Checklist without comment) and Nepal. M&B 1994 surmised it occurs up to 5300m just in E Kyrgyzstan near Kara-Say on China border (other, distant, places named Kara-Say, but this one not identified from modern maps) (up to 5500m R&A 2005, 2012, who map species to about 200km E of Wakhan). M&P 2000 map species in E end of Wakhan. Small-scale map Arlott 2007 supportive, as is HBW 12 map. **BLDZ** Jul 2020 maps westernmost distribution as including E-most Wakhan (Afghanistan) E of Kul-e Chaqmaqtin Lake, to SE-most Tajikistan for *c* 100km N (a triangular area of *c* 90km²) then a gap to NE-most Tajikistan from S of the Verkhniy Muzhkul Nature Refuge N to beyond the Kyrgyzstan border 20km W of Kurumdy Mountain (a rectangular area [135km N to S, centred to W of Karakul Lake] of *c* 1800km² parallel to & half of which is over the Chinese border) into SSE Kyrgyzstan at Irkeshtan & Nura (*c* 500km²): all these area are flanked by larger areas in China; Cheng *et al* 2020 accept this distribution. We are persuaded by this acceptance that Groundpecker occurs in the OSME Region. Cai *et al* 2013 show genetic adaptability to high altitude. Johansson *et al* 2013 include in **Paridae** as sister to *Parus monticolus* & to the *Parus major* complex. Cheng *et al* 2017 establish through comparative transcriptomics likely evolution of its long decurved beak: Cheng *et al* 2020 expand this conclusion via other threads of genomic evidence. in sparse plateau environments, it can dig nesting burrows in declivities rapidly and probe turf & soil extremely effectively. **NB1** 1st record for Pakistan Upper Hunza Valley, Khunjera NP, Gilgit-Baltistan, *c* 50km S of Wakhan Corridor Jul 2021 (Amir Ali Abbasi in Birding*ASIA* **37**: 121): the lowest route exceeds 4800m asl. **NB2** any record must address possibility of species being polytypic, K Roselaar pers comm. **Documentation!**
PT	Great Tit **PT**	*Parus major*	Scott & Adhami 2006 (Iran) omit mention of *P.m. intermedius*, but Tehrani *et al* 2021 found Iranian *intermedius* was the most divergent from *minor*, *cinereus* and *bokharensis*. The thrust of work on **Paridae** since Päckert *et al* 2005 & Eck & Martens 2006, as summarised by Päckert & Martens 2008 suggests that two groups, first, the northern subgroup comprising subspecies of *P. major* ('Northern Great Tit') and *bokharensis,* and second, the 'southern' subgroup comprising '*P. cinereus*' 'Southern Great Tit' and extralimital *P. minor* 'Eastern Great Tit' {Japanese Tit} on molecular grounds best represent current understanding; Collar & Pilgrim 2007 & IOC1.7 accepted these early, as did Brazil 2009. All four 'sections' have diagnosable plumage differences within their core populations. However, the extent of hybrid zones is not fully known and not all populations have been sufficiently sampled. Kvist *et al* 2007 indicate that *intermedius* belongs to the *major* group, but further work by Tehrani et al 2021 proved it a valid ssp. Microsatellite data show no signs of nuclear admixture between the *bokharensis* and *major* subspecies groups Tehrani *et al* 2021. We present *bokharensis* & *cinereus* as full species, derived from Eck & Martens 2006 'subspecies groups', and as listed in H&M4: Johansson *et al* 2013 assess *major* group (tentatively including *minor, cinereus, bokharensis*) as sister to (just) extralimital Green-backed Tit *P. monticolus* (see Hypothetical List) & to *Pseudopodoces humilis* (*qv* above; **BLDZ** maps it quite extensively in Region). **NB1** Populations bear divergent cytochrome c oxidase 1 (CO1) lineages, potentially including cryptic taxa Kerr *et al* 2009. **NB2** Shirihai & Svensson 2018 align with ORL approach. **NB3** A 5th group has been discovered in the eastern Himalayas Tehrani *et al* 2021, Zhao *et al* 2012, Song *et al* 2020b).
694	Great Tit	*Parus [major] major*	ssp *karelini* Turkmenistan, Bukreev 1997, outlier of NW Iran & SE Azerbaijan population. Nominate resident Turkey, Caucasus, N Iraq, Iran, (CA N Kazakhstan & N Kyrgyzstan Ayé *et al* 2012), common resident, scarce PM, WV Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b, *terrasanctae* H&M4 Israel Perlman & Meyrav 2009 *aphrodite* in Cyprus (Strong increase 2006-2015 Hellicar 2016), *blanfordi* NC & SW Iran, *intermedius* NE Iran Kvist *et al* 2007, Tehrani *et al* 2021, the latter finding that phylogenetic relationships of the mt haplotypes show a deep split between the *intermedius* subclade and other members of the *major* subspecies group with a high posterior probability, supporting genetic differentiation of *intermedius* from *karelini, blanfordi* & other European populations of *major* tits; H&M4 suggests *kapustini* in SE Kazakhstan, as does IOC6.1, but not mentioned in Wassink 2015b; 7 other extralimital sspp to W & E. **NB1** *major* breeds N Kyrgyzstan/SE Kazakhstan, where introduced 1960s, K Roselaar pers comm. **NB2** Small numbers of 'pale' naturally resident form still exist Kyrgyzstan Ven 2002. Egypt Avib, BE
695	Turkestan Tit (Bokhara Great Tit, Grey Tit)	*Parus [major] bokharensis* (*bocharensis* by some)	IOC9.1 still subsume this taxon in *P. major*: H&M4 elevate to species rank (3 sspp); Päckert *et al* 2003, Päckert & Martens 2008 state *major* & *bokharensis* are more closely related than to the similarly closely-related pair, *minor* & *cinereus*; Parkin & Knox 2010 counsel caution until other work (vocal studies?) done. P.*b. bokharensis* & *ferghanensis* Turkestan: these & *turkestanicus* Kazakhstan W&O 2007, but Wassink 2015b seemingly subsumes in *bokharensis* in S Kazakhstan; Uzbekistan Atadjanov *et al* 2003 (preceding distribution supported by Ayé et al 2012). **NB** *ferghanensis* hybridises with *P. major* in Tien Shan foothills. Many *bokharensis* populations have strong morphological differences from *P. major* (pre- & post-**PT)** but strong genetic & vocal similarities; status of quite extensive hybridisation zones not known Collar & Pilgrim 2007. Resident Uzbekistan (Kreuzberg-Mukhina *et al* 2005), NE Iran (scarce Scott & Adhami 2006), CA, N Afghanistan, H&Q 1996. Widespread oases Turkmenistan, K Roselaar pers comm.
696	Cinereous Tit ('Grey Tit') {Great Tit}	*Parus [major] cinereus* [IOC2.7 *P. cinereus*] *(Parus major turkestanicus)*	H&M4 include 23 sspp in 2 groups: 11sspp comprise IOC4.4's 'Japanese Tit' *P. minor* (although IOC list only 9 sspp); of the remaining 12 ssp H&M4 list under Cinereous Tit, 2, perhaps 3 occur in the OSME Region, *decolorans, ziaratensis* & *caschmirensis* In Afghanistan. Although IOC 4.4 added to this grooup under *P. cinereus* taxon *intermedius,* IOC 5.3 allots *intermedius* to the major group as per Kvist *et al* 2007 & Tehrani *et al* 2021 (see *P major* above). Taxon *cinereus* Viellot 1818 has priority over *intermedius* Zarudny 1890. Treatment as *P. intermedius* Turkmenistan, Bukreev 1997 lacking hindsight of relationship with *P. major* group & that of local *P.(m.) cinereus* to East Indies ssp. However, anomalies may yet remain: Päckert & Martens 2008 stated *minor* & *cinereus* (including *intermedius*) are more closely related (genetic & acoustic markers) than they are to the closely-related *major* & *bokharensis*; were their *intermedius* samples from localities different from those of Kvist *et al* 2007 & Tehrani *et al* 2021? Resident SW Turkmenistan (Koblik & Arkhipov 2014), NE Iran, resident Afghanistan Raffaël Ayé *in litt*, Ayé *et al* 2012, Anssi Kullberg *in litt*, confirming H&E 1970 query, H&Q 1996. HBW 12 arrangement discarded. Present uncertain affinities may require further revision; position of extralimital East Indies taxon needs redefining. **NB** *turkestanicus* 1905 Zarudny & Loudon of S Kazakhstan subsumed by some in *bokharensis* Lichtenstein 1823.
		Remizidae	

PT	Eurasian Penduline Tit **PT**	*Remiz pendulinus*	Scott & Adhami 2006 include *macronyx* & *coronatus*. Shimba 2007 treats extralimital *consobrinus* as sp, Chinese Penduline Tit, but Eck & Martens 2006 do not (Collar & Pilgrim 2007). HBW13, IOC v2.0-7.2 split *pendulinus, macronyx, coronatus* & extralimital *consobrinus*. H&M$ retain *coronatus* in *consobrinus*. Bot & van Dijk 2009 echoed uncertainty of Eck & Martens 2006 in concluding that current data neither supports nor counters lumping or splitting unequivocally Eurasian & Black-headed Penduline Tits. Bot *et al* 2011 (van Dijk as co-author) strengthen the case for recognising 3 species (*pendulinus* , *coronatus* & extralimital Chinese Penduline Tit *consobrinus)* , with the proviso that matters are far from settled for some populations. IOC7.2 retains 4 spp, but we think it a reasonable overview to treat all 4 taxa a superspecies, notwithstanding that Barani-Beiranvand *et al* 2017 prudently propose *coronatus* , *consobrinus* & *pendulinus* as separable spp, & *macronyx* as conspecific with *pendulinus* , despite extensive phenotypic differences - how would the latter two taxa score in the Tobias et al 2010 system? A synthesis of all findings is called for. **NB** Shirihai & Svensson 2018 largely align with ORL approach.
697	Eurasian Penduline Tit	*Remiz [pendulinus] pendulinus*	All 4 sspp in Region. Breeds W-E Kazakhstan *caspius* common BM, PM in W, *jaxarcticus* common BM, PM in N, occasional WV, resident Wassink 2015b, Turkey *pendulinus* & *menzbieri* HBW13, S Turkmenistan, S Uzbekistan, S Tajikistan, Caucasus, Iraq until recently wintering only Salim *et al* 2012, but 1st breeding record Apr 2013 Ararat 2016, NW Iran, winters there or further afield (*eg* Israel Perlman & Meyrav 2009), Afghanistan (passage [winter?] Paludan 1959), Arabia, H&Q 1996. Caspian Penduline Tit *R.p. caspius* occasional eruptive breeding visitor to Azerbaijan (2019) Heiss & Himmel 2022. Egypt Avib, BE. **NB** Bot *et al* 2011 suggest *pendulinus* not separable from *macronyx* on mtDNA grounds, and only weakly so on plumage and voice
698	Black-headed Penduline Tit {Eurasian Penduline Tit}	*Remiz (pendulinus) macronyx*	All 4 sspp in Region. *R.(p.) macronyx* & *neglectus* Turkmenistan, Bukreev 1997. Clements 2000. Local resident CA, not Kyrgyzstan (K-M&K 2005) (Ven 2002 suggests otherwise), NW Iran (passage N&E Iran Zarudny 1911), (SW Afghanistan?), H&Q 1996; winters SW Afghanistan R&A 2005. Taxon *macronyx* scarce resident, BM in W & S Kazakhstan, *ssaposhnikowi* scarce resident E&SE Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b, with caveat that *macronyx* & *ssaposhnikowi* may not be sufficiently divergent to ensure taxon viability; Ayé *et al* 2012 omit mention of this taxon, but add *nigricans* for SW Afghanistan (possibly extinct H&M4). Eck & Martens 2006 supported *R. macronyx* . IOC2.0 accepted split. Single-record vagrant 1971 Oman **OBL7**: 2 at Atyrau, Ural Delta Kazakhstan Jun 2017 **DB39(4):** 272; 1st for Turkey ringed at Aras Bird Ringing Station April 2022 Emin Yoğurtcuoğlu *in litt* . Despite past Azerbaijan records of this taxon in the literature, there are no recent records Heiss & Himmel 2022. **NB1** Bot & van Dijk 2009 confident taxon *ssaposhnikowi* (Topar Lakes only) is separate species from *coronatus* (feathering, morphology & molecular genetics), but on limited sample size suspect the former may be identical (feathering, habitat & structure) to *R.p. caspius* , nearest known population 1000+km to west. **NB2** Bot *et al* 2011 emphasise uncertain affinities between populations attributed to *ssaposhnikowi, caspius* & *macronyx* in SE Kazakhstan & around Caspian. **NB3** Bot *et al* 2011 suggest *pendulinus* not separable from *macronyx* on mtDNA grounds, and only weakly so on plumage and voice
699	White-crowned Penduline Tit (White-headed Penduline Tit)	*Remiz [pendulinus] coronatus*	Monotypic if separate from *R. consobrinus* , Eastern Penduline Tit. Breeds CA, N Afghanistan (R&A 2005; Badakhshan Paludan 1959), vagrant WV northeasternmost Iran (also passage Zarudny 1911), 5 at Lake Alagol & 2 at Kheyr Khvageh, Golestan Dec 2018 first since 2010 **DB41(1):** 56, 18 at Gomishan, Golestan Iran Jan 2021 **DB43(2): 155:** Afghanistan, Pakistan, India, H&Q 1996. In Kazakhstan *coronatus* common BM occasional resident in S, SE&E and *stoliczkae* scarce BM SE&E W&O 2007, Wassink 2015b, M&P 2000 map. Eck & Martens 2006, H&M4 supported separation of *R. coronatus* from *pendulinus* & *macronyx,* but not from *consobrinus.*
		Panuridae	
700	Bearded Reedling (Bearded Tit, Bearded Parrotbill HBW 12)	*Panurus biarmicus*	All 3sspp in Region. *P.b. russicus* Turkmenistan, Bukreev 1997, Turkey (locally Kirwan *et al* 2008) (*biarmicus* W Turkey & *kosswigi,* possibly extinct, SW Turkey), W Caucasus, CA, NW Afghanistan, BWP VII, but Ayé *et al* 2012 do not map in Afghanistan, although R&A 2012 align with northern Afghan border; *russicus* common resident, WV Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b; Zarudny 1911 records resident Iran Seistan & S Caspian, scarce breeder Parapamis & Baluchestan, vagrant winterer now Iran Scott & Adhami 2006, but breeding population established West Azarbaijan province since 2013 Khaleghizadeh *et al* 2017, rare PM & WV Cyprus **CBR11**, vagrant Israel Perlman & Meyrav 2009, Kuwait Mitchell 2017; 1st record for Egypt N shore Lake Manzala Dakhalia Governate, Dec 1989 **EORC** 2019. **NB** HBW 12 places all parrotbills in Paradoxornithidae.
		Alaudidae	Since the 1990s, large-scale revisions worldwide of lark taxonomy have occurred, here mainly of *Calandrella* and incorporating recent Russian rationalisation of their disparate earlier treatments. IOC8.1 provided a resequencing of **Alaudidae**. We follow Alström *et al* 2013a, 2013b in their comprehensively reviewed phylogeny as per IOC4.2, but modified *pro tem* for, inter alia, *Calandrella sensu stricto* by the inferred **Clades** in Stervander *et al* 2016: the same team have produced a consequent taxonomic revision, Stervander *et al* 2020 who applied molecular species delimitation, employing coalescence-based multi-rate Poisson Tree Processes (mPTP) on cytochrome b sequences to the lark species. They found new and supporting evidence for divergences between taxa so deep that likely splits, as **Clades**, probably will mostly be reinforced by the application of other genetic techniques. Many lark spp occur over remote open habitats, including deserts, that have been little studied. We have in most of these cases (where the number of sspp was small) listed potential species that will require further research. Where there were multiple sspp, most of which were not sampled, there as yet is no means of allocating the unsampled sspp to any **Clade** Per Alström pers comm Sep 2021. Furthermore, some of these multiple sspp may later be deemed invalid, but in any case sspp breeding distribution limits & boundaries are often poorly known or guessed at.
PT	Greater Hoopoe-Lark **PT** (formerly Bifasciated Lark or Desert Lark)	*Alaemon alaudipes*	The implication of the divergence 2.65MYa in Stervander *et al* 2020 on Greater Hoopoe-Lark taxonomy is that most populations in the OSME Region would come under polytypic *A. desertorum* , allowing a reversion to Bifasciated Lark as an English name; alternatives could be Desert Hoopoe-Lark or Eastern Great Hoopoe-Lark. Here, we treat *pro tem* the two **Clades** as potential species, albeit requiring confirmatory research.
701	Bifasciated Lark	*Alaemon (alaudipes) desertorum*	Polytypic. Stervander *et al* 2020 note a deep (2.65MYa) divergence between NW African (*alaudipes*) and NE African/Arabian (*desertorum*) populations: ssp *doriae* resident Jordan, Syria, E Arabia, Iraq, Iran, HBW 9, UAE Aspinall 1996; widespread E Arabian deserts, extralimital to Pakistan & NW India, mostly S of Eurasian Skylark *Alauda arvensis* . Nominate C Saudia & W Yemen. In C Arabia, resident/local migrant perhaps c800 000bp Jennings 2010, common resident breeder Oman **OBL7**, S Israel (rare) Perlman & Meyrav 2009, through Iran to SW Afghanistan R&A 2005, 2012 (*doriae* Paludan 1959 Ayé *et al* 2012), vagrant Lebanon, Turkey Mitchell 2017. As Greater Hoopoe-Lark *sensu lato* , 2nd for Turkey Mar 2021 photographed Milleyha shores, Samandag, Hatay, by Emin Yoğurtcuoğlu, 3rd there April 2021 **TBRC**, 4th at Ceylanpınar, Şanlıurfa (on Syrian border) Aug 2021 Phil Andrews *in litt* , **TBRC**, 6th to 10th (5 together) Milleyha Apr 2022 Emin Yoğurtcuoğlu, Soner Bekir *in litt* , another 3 at Hancagiz Dam, Gaziantep (seemingly bred 2021) found by Goktug Guzelbey; Emin Yoğurtcuoğlu *in litt* ; another May 2022 at Ceylanpınar, Şanlıurfa **DB44(3):** 231. 2 at Paphos Headland Cyprus Sep 2020 1st record **SG43(1):** 169
702	Greater Hoopoe-Lark	*Alaemon (alaudipes) alaudipes (sensu stricto)*	Polytypic. Stervander *et al* 2020 note a deep (2.65MYa) divergence between NW African (*alaudipes*) and NE African/Arabian (*desertorum*) populations. Nominate Egypt to Sinai in OSME Region & extralimitally W from Libya to Mauretania; *boavistae* in Cape Verde Islands.
703	Thick-billed Lark	*Ramphocoris clotbey* (Some formerly used *Ramphocorys clot-bey*)	Monotypic. Resident C Jordan, N Saudi Arabia, HBW9, S Syria H&M4, rare breeder Kuwait Spencer *et al* 2007; resident extreme N Arabia, winters a little further S perhaps 20 000bp overall Jennings 2010, rare migrant Israel (rare irruptive breeder in S) Perlman & Meyrav 2009, Perlman & Kiat 2012, bred S Arava Apr/May 2016 **SG38(2):** 232. 1st record since 1946 off Siwa-Mersa Matruh road Nov 2018 **EORC** 2019 Main population NW Africa. Syria (vagrant [?] Murdoch & Betton 2008), Kirwan 2004b (for plausible Aharoni record) Kirwan *et al* 1999, Serra *et al* 2005, vagrant Kuwait, Oman, Yemen Mitchell 2017; 8th Kuwait record Al Abraq Jul 2019, 9th Al Salmi Feb 2021 **KORC**, 10th record of 3 at Wafra Jul 2021 **KORC**.

PT	Bar-tailed Lark **PT** (Formerly Bar-tailed or Black-tailed Desert Lark)	*Ammomanes cinctura*	Stervander *et al* 2020 note a 4.68MYA divergence between [NW African (*arenicolor*) + Cape Verdean (*cinctura*) taxa] & [NE African (*arenicolor* Egypt to Sinai) + Arabian taxa (*arenicolor* to W, S Arabia & *zarudnyi* allopatric distribution including Afghanistan & Pakistan)]; this division requires a new scientific name for mainland populations in NW Africa. Provisionally, we treat the 2 **Clades** as potential species.
704	Bar-tailed Lark *sensu stricto*	*Ammomanes (cinctura) cinctura*	Polytypic. Nominate confined to Cape Verde Islands, remainder of former *arenicolor* distribution on NW African mainland treated here as ssp indeterminate, but precise boundary with remaining *arenicolor* distribution unknown. Perhaps this most likely is in C Libya, but until proven otherwise, *A.[c.] cinctura* is assumed to reach the OSME Region as a vagrant, given the species' propensity for drought-driven movements. There is also a sizeable population of uncertain taxon identity in Sudan, likely extending into S Egypt **BLDZ** map Sep 2021.
705	'Arenaceous Bar-tailed Lark'	*Ammomanes (cinctura) arenicolor*	Polytypic. Much of the Region's distribution is under polytypic *A. arenicolor*, Egypt, Sinai, a local resident S Israel, Jordan, Iraq but widespread in Arabian peninsula mostly in N; it is also a known drought-driven wanderer, hence fluctuations in breeding numbers. Max c1Mbp Jennings 2010, Syria Murdoch & Betton 2008, Kuwait 2006 Jennings 2007c, 4th for Cyprus Akrotiri Gravel Pits Apr 2016 **CRC** 5th-6th Capes Drepanum & Greco Apr 2017 **CRC** 8th Cape Greco Apr 2020 **CBC**, 10th for Cyprus Apostolos Andreas Apr 2022 Colin Richardson *in litt*; *arenicolor* uncommon resident breeder C & S Oman **OBL7**. 3rd for Turkey May 2021 Riva Fields, Istanbul **DB43(3):** 229, 4th (& 5th?) for Turkey Milleyha Apr 2022 Emin Yoğurtcuoğlu, Soner Bekir *in litt*, another record (6 birds singing, 2 birds mating) May 2022 at Ceylanpınar, Şanlıurfa, Çağan Abbasoğlu *in litt*; ssp *zarudnyi*, also Afghanistan Ayé et al 2012, HBW9, E &C Iran Zarudny 1911. **NB** English name informal@OSME: note modifier has the meaning 'sand-coloured' and shares the same word root as *arenicolor*.
PT	Desert Lark **PT**	*Ammomanes deserti*	Polytypic: 22 sspp IOC11.2. Stervander *et al* 2020 found deep divergences suggestive of 3 spp within this complex: NW Africa (sampling taxon *payni* E Hartert 1924, although taxon *whitakeri* E Hartert 1911would appear to be the senior name if in this group), NE Africa/Arabia (sampling Saudi Arabian *isabellini* & Jordanian *annae*) and Israel-Pakistan (samplimg *deserti* & *phoenicuroides*); many sspp seem unsampled (or even invalid) & some Arabian samples may be from non-breeding areas. The latter is important, for both *deserti* (Lichtenstein) and *isabellina* (Temminck) were published in the same year, 1823: which has priority? (From their respective distributions, they appear to be in different **Clades**, making the point moot). The initial divergence (from an ancestral **Clade** including *deserti* & *phoenicuroides*) occurred 3.8MYa, & then that **Clade** including *isabellina* & *annae* subsequently split 3.28MYa from the **Clade** containing *payni*). The current **Clades'** composition of sspp remains totally uncertain Per Alström pers comm Sep 2021, and so we must await further data. Current breeding distribution maps show relatively little fragmentation, making most ssp distribution boundaries impossible to plot with any accuracy.
706	Desert Lark (formerly Desert Finch Lark)	*Ammomanes deserti sensu lato*	Polytypic. 12 of 22 sspp in Region: *isabellina* NC&E Egypt, SC Turkey Syria, N&SW Iraq, N Saudi: *cheesmani* E Iraq, SW Iran; *iranica* CS&E Iran, S Afghanistan; *orientalis* E Turkmenistan, E Uzbekistan (also C-E Uzbekistan Dhzangeldy, Showler 2017), S Tajikistan, N Afghanistan; *parvirostris* W Turkmenistan, NE Iran; *phoenicuroides* E Afghanistan; *annae* Jordan (Syria Matinez *et al* 2016); *azizi* NE Saudi; *insularis* Bahrain; *taimuri* E UAE, N Oman; *saturata* W Yemen; *deserti* S Egypt; *samharensis* W Saudi H&M4. Alström *et al* 2013a found 4 separate lineages, but refined analysis needed: van den Berg & the Sound Approach 2020 recorded considerable differences in vocalisations between Desert Larks in the Maghreb, Levant and Oman. Bukreev 1997 described *parvirostris* & *orientalis* for W Turkmenistan. Breeds Levant, presumed resident SE Turkey Kirwan *et al* 2014, Middle East, Iran, Afghanistan, Iraq Salim *et al* 2012, UAE Aspinall 1996. Sedentary: populations' plumage prone to match colour of surroundings; Common Syrian basalt desert Martinez *et al* 2016, widespread Arabia, c6Mbp Jennings 2010, common to abundant resident breeder Oman **OBL7;** Afghanistan *iranica* SW&W, *orientalis* N, *phoenicuroides* E Paludan 1959. Commensal behaviour recorded Abu Dhabi Cowan 2008. Egypt Avib, BE **NB** The findings of Stervander *et al* 2020, if confirmed, produce 3 spp, which informally might be called: Western Desert Lark (including *payni* + *???*) Arabian Desert Lark (including *annae*, *isabellina* + *???*) Eastern Desert Lark (including *deserti*, *phoenicuroides* + *???*) Each species would be polytypic, but the allotment of sspp to each **Clade** depends on confirming breeding distributions, validity of the sspp and confirmation of their genetic relatedness. The affiliations, or indeed the validity, of the remaining **17** sspp are totally uncertain (Per Alström pers comm) and mostly not amenable to speculation. Such validation will have to account for individual and clines of plumage colour variation in each ssp, and as an additional challenge to taxonomic classification, the genus displays a correlation between substrate colour and the plumage coloration of their upperparts as well as between bill morphology & habitat. Lastly, there may be another **Clade** or two within the 17 unallotted sspp.
707	Chestnut-headed Sparrow-Lark	*Eremopterix signatus*	Likely *harrisoni* (SE S Sudan) 1983 vagrant Israel Shirihai 1996, Perlman & Meyrav 2009; skin comparison Tring.
PT	Black-crowned Sparrow-Lark **PT** (Black-crowned Finch-Lark)	*Eremopterix nigriceps sensu lato*	Stervander *et al* 2020 note divergence at 2.45MYA between NW African *albifrons* + Cape Verde *nigriceps* & NE African/Arabian/Asian *melanauchen* + *affinis*. Some authorities subsume *affinis* in *melanauchen*. Provisionally, we treat the 2 **Clades** as potential species, that comprising *albifrons* & *nigriceps* being polytypic & wholly extralimital (unless birds in the Halaib Triangle & just S of Wadi Gemal NP, Egypt are *albifrons* from Sudan), retaining the English name (informal@OSME) Black-crowned Sparrow-Lark for *E. nigriceps sensu stricto*.
708	Black-crowned Finch Lark	*Eremopterix (nigriceps) melanauchen*	Monotypic. The English name Black-crowned Finch-Lark is informal@OSME. E.(n.) *melanauchen* includes *forbeswatsoni* & *affinis* IOC5.3, Kirwan 2007: resident E Sudan to Somalia, Arabia, S Iraq, Socotra, Iran & Pakistan IOC11.2, HBW9, abundant UAE Aspinall 1996, many on even small islands Richardson *et al* 1997, last bred S Iraq 1920s Salim *et al* 2012: occupies broadish coastwise belt around Arabia (including Socotra) save NW Saudi Arabia, at least 400 000bp Jennings 2010, locally common RB Hawar Islands Bahrain King 2018, but abundant resident breeder over much of Oman **OBL7**, very rare winter Israel Perlman & Meyrav 2009, 2nd Jordan record Aqaba Observatory Feb 2021 **JRBC**. Mostly summer visitor SE Iran Scott & Adhami 2006, 8 Dec 2016 Kish Island Hormozgan **IBRC**, 1st for Georgia 2015 Brinkman & Silvonen 2022. Possibly reaches Afghanistan, for in Pakistan approaches within 30km of Afghan border at Naweoba, N of Zhob. Egypt Avib, BE. **NB** Taxon *albifrons* extends east to Sudan, but **BLDZ** map Nov 2020 indicates no likely boundary between it and *melanauchen* in NE Sudan, hence birds recorded in Halaib Triangle & SE Egypt may not comprise solely *melanauchen*: **EORC** List as of Nov 2020 makes no mention of any current sspp.
709	Singing Bush Lark (**BLI**, Stervander *et al* 2020 lump into Horsfield's Lark) IOC11.2 remain with split	*Mirafra (javanica) cantillans*	We retain the English name (now informal@OSME) while accepting that this taxon has been lumped into Horsfield's Lark *Mirafra javanica* del Hoyo & Collar 2016, **BLI** Stervander *et al* 2020. However, Shirihai & Svensson 2018 cite behavioural and vocal differences, and decline to lump, and so we continue to treat as possibly separate species by indicating uncertainty with the use of round brackets to enclose the species name. We note that direct distance from nominate's range in eastern India to nearest *M. javanica* populations is 1150km. IOC11.2 remain with *M. cantillans*, 4sspp, nominate Pakistan through India to Bangladesh, *simplex* resident SW Saudi Arabia, Yemen, Oman, HBW9, *marginata, chadensis* extralimital sub-Saharan Africa. Although *M. javanica* (extralimital Mayanmar, Sundas, Australia) is genetically close to *M.c. cantillans* of Indian subcontinent HBW9, we note it is more distant from other Singing Bushlark taxa, especially *simplex* of Arabia. *Pro tem* we await any IOC weighting of molecular evidence complementing Alström *et al* 2013a, & invoking allopatry. Seemingly resident SW Yemen Tihama, perhaps summer visitor Dhofar Oman, perhaps above 3000bp overall Jennings 2010. Fairly common breeder S Oman, possibly also SB **OBL7**. **NB1** African & Middle East populations may be separable as *M. simplex* from Indian populations of *M. cantillans* Dickinson & Dekker 2001a. The *cantillans* distribution in Pakistan is within 60km of the Afghan border near Kohat, & may wander to Oman or UAE; **BLDZ** map Sep 2021. **NB2** Incipient speciation at early stages across breeding distribution Alström *et al* 2013a.

710	Woodlark (Wood Lark)	*Lullula arborea*	Nominate is extralimital, straggles to westernmost Kazakhstan; remaining ssp *pallida* resident Turkmenistan, Bukreev 1997, Turkey Kirwan *et al* 2008. Breeds Caucasus, N Iraq (Ararat *et al* 2011), N Iran, SW Turkmenistan,probably very rare or occasional PM, PM W-most Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b: one record of territorial singing Wassink 2010a; summer breeder westernmost Kazakhstan Ayé *et al* 2012, winters to W, HBW9, breeds 2 locations Urda Forest & Kirsanov NR in W Kazakhstan Province, & autumn migrants recorded E Caspian coast, a few as far E as Tengiz-Korgalzhyn Region Wassink 2022; Afghanistan Smith 1974, E Iran R&A 2005, likely 4th record Bahrain Oct 2015 **SG38(1)ATR**. Egypt Avib, BE
PT	Eurasian Skylark **PT**	*Alauda arvensis*	Wink 2011 split extralimital *pekinensis*, & Stervander *et al* 2020, having confirmed the earlier split of Oriental Skylark *A. gulgula* (*qv*), also split off eastern sspp (*japonicus, lonnbergi, pekinensis*) under 'Japanese Skylark' *A. japonica*: attribution of *intermedia* unclear.
711	Eurasian Skylark	*Alauda arvensis*	Polytypic. 3 of 8 (7?) sspp in Region: *cantarella* N&C Turkey; *armenica* SE Turkey, Transcaucasia SW&N Iran; the splendidly-named *dulcivox* SE Russia-Kazakhstan. *A.a. cantarella* Turkmenistan Bukreev 1997 *contra* (*arvensis*) Ayé *et al* 2012, *dulcivox* common resident, PM, BM, WV Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b. Resident much of Turkey, particularly in E, Kirwan *et al* 2008, Caucasus, N Iran, S CA, breeds N E & SE CA, winters Israel, Iran, Gulf, HBW9, passage Iraq Salim *et al* 2012, fairly common PM & WV Oman **OBL7**, *dulcivox* Afghanistan Paludan 1959, supported Roberts 1992 (H&M3 Afghanistan corrigenda E Dickinson pers comm). Egypt Avib, BE. **NB** Populations bear divergent cytochrome c oxidase 1 (CO1) lineages, potentially including cryptic taxa Kerr *et al* 2009.
712	Oriental Skylark (Small Skylark)	*Alauda gulgula*	Species status confirmed by Stervander *et al* 2020. Only *inconspicua* & *lhamarum* (of 13 sspp H&M4, IOC11.2) recorded in Region: *inconspicua* Turkmenistan, Bukreev 1997. Breeds Uzbekistan (K-M et al 2005), S & E CA, E Iran, Afghanistan (*lhamarum* Badakhshan Pamirs, *inconspicua* elsewhere Paludan 1959 Ayé *et al* 2012), winters India HBW9; rare BM S, SE Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b, rare winterer Israel Perlman & Meyrav 2009 (flock of 6 Feb 2016 **DB38(2):** 190: 11 at Yotvata 20 Oct 2016 **DB38(7):** 462), rare PM & WV Oman **OBL7**, 1st for Georgia Oct 2015 Justin Jansen *in litt* Dec 2015, vagrant 2nd record Egypt Mar 2012 at El Gouna **EORC**, 1st for Turkey Milleyha, Hatay Mar 2018 **DB40(2):** 121; 1st for Cyprus Oct 2020 Phassouri Reedbeds **CBRC**. 1st for Qatar Irkayya Farm Nov 2021 **QRBC**. WV Bahrain, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, UAE, vagrant Azerbaijan, Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon Mitchell 2017.
713	White-winged Lark	*Alauda leucoptera (*formerly in *Melanocorypha}*	Monotypic. Much more closely related to *Alauda* than *Melanocorypha* Alström *et al* 2013a, IOC4.2, H&M4. Common resident, BM, WV Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b, northern Astrakhan Region Arkhipov 2006, range extension to Betpak-Dala Martin *et al* 2018; perhaps northernmost Uzbekistan (rare WV Uzbekistan Martin *et al* 2014), some winter Issyk Kul Kyrgyzstan (van der Ven 2002), some 30,000 counted Arys Jan 2018 **DB40(2):** 121; Caucasus, N Iran, S Turkmenistan, HBW9, winters, may breed C Iraq Salim *et al* 2012, E Kyrgyzstan, Ven 2002. Scarce winterer S Caspian Schüz 1959, vagrant Turkey Mitchell 2017.
PT	Crested Lark **PT**	*Galerida cristata (sensu lato)*	Guillaumet *et al* 2008 show that extralimital Maghreb endemic *G. [cristata] randonii* 'Maghreb Lark' should be split; accepted in IOC2.3, but IOC3.5 assigns species name of *macrorhyncha*, on priority grounds. Alström *et al* 2013a indicate multiple *Galerida* spp likely in Horn of Africa..
714	Crested Lark	*Galerida cristata (sensu stricto)*	Total sspp disputed; H&M4 lists 35, of which 11 breed in Region & perhaps 3 straggle to it: *nigricans, maculata, halfae* Egypt; *cypriaca* Cyprus; *tenuirostris* N Caucasus; *caucasica* Caucasus, N Asia Minor; *brachyura* NE Egypt-Israel, Jordan-N Saidi & Iraq; *cinnamomina* W Lebanon, NW Israel; *zion* S Turkey, Syria, E Lebanon, NE Israel; *subtaurica* C Turkey-SW&N Iran, SW Turkmenistan; *magna* NE Arabi,N&E Iran, Afghanistan, Kazakhstan. Speculated stragglers *festae* NW Libya to Egypt, *lynesi* Gilgit Pakistan to Afghanistan, *chendoola* E&NE Pakistan to Iran & Afghanistan. Guillaumet *et al* 2006 (cited in Kirwan *et al* 2008) emphasise caution in over-assigning ssp status. *G.c. caucasica* & *iwanowi* Turkmenistan, Bukreev 1997 (*iwanowi* now thought invalid, subsumed in *subtaurica* Ayé *et al* 2012), *tenuirostris* common resident W Kazakhstan, *magna* common resident, BM S Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b. Turkey-Levant-Afghanistan; resident Caucasus, Iran, C & S CA, Afghanistan (*magna* Afghanistan Paludan 1959), HBW9, Iraq Salim *et al* 2012, UAE Aspinall 1996: numerous to abundant Arabia where some cover present, possibly as many as 7Mbp, number increase due to expansion into irrigated areas Jennings 2010; abundant resident breeder Oman **OBL7**. Egypt Avib, BE. **NB** Extrlimital Maghreb Lark *G. randonii* elevated IOC v2.3 Guilliumet *et al* 2008.
PT	Thekla's Lark **PT**	*Galerida theklae sensu lato*	Stervander *et al* 2020 found via mPTP that populations N of the Sahara delimited from those S of the Sahara, albeit from NW Africa & E Africa. They split 2.94MYA into a **Clade** sampled in Morocco (*G. t. theklae*) + Tunisia (*G. t. superflua*) and a **Clade** sampled in Ethiopia (*G. t. praetermissa* & *G. t. hueii*) and Somalia (*G. t. ellioti*). Assuming that all N African disjunct populations fall into the N African Clade, the only taxon that occurs in the Region is *carolinae* of coastal NW Egypt, contiguous with the similar-sized NE Libyan population **BLDZ, IUCN** maps Sep 2021. Shirihai & Svensson 2018 do not map this distribution at all, but the latest **EORC** 2013 checklist indicates it as an extant breeder.
715	Thekla's Lark	*Galerida theklae sensu stricto*	Polytypic. Only ssp *carolinae* occurs (NW Egypt) of 6 sspp s*ensu stricto* in this **Clade**. Guillaumet *et al* 2008 show that extralimital Malabar Lark *G. malabarica* of India does not form a superspecies with *G. theklae*, but instead is closely related to the *G. cristata* complex. They also suggest that the evidence is now overwhelming for a split between Thekla Lark populations north and south of the Sahara into two cryptic species. Only their small sample sizes from the Horn of Africa prevented them from concluding that populations there are even more distant from those north of the Sahara; the Horn of Africa is a region supporting many endemic species in other bird families, so further splits within this complex could be expected (Redman *et al* 2009 suggest possibility of highland races being a separate species). However, Stervander *et al* 2020 using the mPTP technique, distinguish between Moroccan/Tunisian populations and those extralimital taxa in eastern Africa, which if split would come under *G. praetermissa*: we do not propose any scientific or informal English name for that **Clade**. **EORC** 2013 Egypt checklist. The clinal extent of variation between subspecies is poorly known, & so some sspp may be invalid Isenmann & Thevenot 2018.

Drovetski *et al* 2014 suggest that at least 6 species-groups comprise Horned Lark; 3 (*flava, penicillat, brandti*) definitely occur in the OSME Region, but they refrained from listing the composition of the groups. Their analysis is based on sequences of one mtDNA gene, one sex-linked intron & one autosomal intron, & the collections utilised have a limited range of specimens. Furthermore, many of the 42 (?) sspp were not sampled, the breeding distributions and the extent of their overlap and the migration/dispersal are in part poorly-known, and more broadly-based molecular techniques need to be applied to evaluate the weight to be assigned to these results. This promising approach is used as the basis for a 'Trends in Systematics' broad-brush integrative analysis of 35 sspp (citing many sources) by van Steenis 2014. H&M4 list 42 sspp. Ghorbani *et al* 2020a examine the mitochondrial phylogeography of the genus and come to close agreement with Drovetski *et al* 2014, but conservatively so, throwing into sharp relief some of the problems highlit by them. Stervander *et al* 2020 aligns well with the summary given in the line entries below.

PT	Horned Lark complex **PT**	*Eremophila (superspecies?)* taxa **PT**	The findings of Drovetski *et al* 2014, Alström *et al* 2013a and the analysis of van Steenis 2014 do not address all aspects of *Eremophila* taxa, be that distribution limits (Steve Preddy *in litt*), sspp validity, complete sspp coverage, sample sizes or a comprehensive suite of molecular techniques, but now it seems likely that their general conclusions will prevail, although some rearrangement may occur when taxa research coverage is improved. Accordingly, the extralimital species are the monotypic 'Atlas Horned Lark' *E. [a.] atlas*, 'American Horned Lark' *E. [a.] alpestris* (at least 20 sspp of a total of 35 [42 H&M4]) & the already established monotypic Temminck's Lark *E. bilopha*: Inskipp & Collar 2015 reach a congruent summary. OSME Region thus includes 4 spp in the new superspecies, although several sspp remain unallocated. English names informal@OSME. Amongst the 7 extralimital sspp E of OSME Region, *elwesi* (S&E Tibetan Plateau) may present a problem. Genetic data so far indicate that Temminck's Lark *E. bilopha* is nested within *elwesi*. Should that be confirmed, then it would at least require elevation to species rank. Ghorbani *et al* 2019 reaching broadly the same conclusions, are less adventurous, but note the complexity of the relationship of *elwesi* in their analyses. English names informal@OSME; we retain the single quotation marks in the hope that the small misalignments between the cited references will be clarified by research into the least-studied populations. Stervander *et al* 2020 noted that 6 spp (one Nearctic) derive via divergences and use of the mPTP technique.
			NB A study entitled 'Neo-Sex Chromosome Evolution and Phenotypic Differentiation across an Elevational Gradient in Horned Larks' (Shakya *et al* 2022) on birds from California & Nevada suggested (*inter alia*) that differences among populations of Horned Lark are facilitated primarily by structural changes to the genome, isolation by distance having a much greater effect than isolation by environment. Whether subsequent research on this suggestion will reduce or support the number of sspp (35-42: authorities differ) remains to be seen.
716	'Caucasian Horned Lark' (Mountain Horned Lark Ghorbani *et al* 2019; 'Alpine Horned Lark', Horned Lark, Shorelark)	*Eremophila (alpestris) penicillata*	Includes *balcanica, albigula* & extralimital *bicornis* van Steenis 2014; Ghorbani *et al* 2020a find *penicillata* sister to Nearctic *atlas*, & include as ssp to *E. penicillata*; we await sampling of all untested taxa before deciding further. Bukreev 1997 - *albigula* WV Turkmenistan, common resident, WV SE Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b, resident in parts of all CA states Ayé *et al* 2012, resident Turkey, Caucasus, very local N Iraq (Ararat *et al* 2011), Iran *penicillata,* Afghanistan (abundant Afghan Pamirs Niethammer 1973); *albigula* lower elevations Roberts 1992, HBW9, rare resident Mt Hermon Israel Perlman & Meyrav 2009. 4th record, 2 birds, Artemis Trail Troodos Cyprus **CRC** (as 'Horned Lark'). 1st Qatar record Irkkaya Farm Jan 2021 likely nominate of this split species.
717	'Himalayan Horned Lark' (Horned Lark, Shore Lark)	*Eremophila (alpestris) longirostris*	Occurs (*longirostris*) in NE Afghanistan, then to extralimital points E, including *teleschowi, argalea, elwesi, khamensis, nigrifrons* van Steenis 2014. May also include *przewalski*. Ghorbani *et al* 2020a include *deosaiensis, elwesi, khamensis, przewalskii, argalea, teleschowi, nigrifrons*, while warning that some may not be valid ssp, and that *elwesi*, oncle fully sampled, might be separable, possibly subsuming *nigrifrons, khamensis, argalea* & *montana*. **NB** some populations attributed to *montana* may be attributable to *brandti*.
718	'Eurasian Shore Lark' (Horned Lark, Shore Lark)	*Eremophila (alpestris) flava*	Monotypic under van Steenis 2014. Common WV Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b, likely WV in parts of most CA states. Breeds southern Norway, Russian High Arctic tundra then to western Chukotka. Ghorbani *et al* 2020a group this taxon with *brandti* & many other taxa from the northern Paelearctic's North America and also northern South America.
719	'Steppe Horned Lark' ('Mongolian Horned Lark')	*Eremophila (alpestris) brandti*	Monotypic (position of *przewalski* unclear) under van Steenis 2014: see above entry re Ghorbani *et al* 2020a. WV Turkmenistan, Bukreev 1997, common resident, BM, WV mostly steppes, semi-deserts Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b;one near Barshino Jun 2019 **SG42(1):** 170. Occurs Volga-Ural interfluve E through Kazakhstan into Mongolia and bordering northernmost China & southernmost Russia. rare vagrant to Iran - Zarudny specimen - Khaleghizadeh *et al* 2017. Note that Ghorbani *et al* 2020a group this taxon with *flava* & also with many other taxa from the northern Paelearctic's North America & also northern South America.
720	Temminck's Lark (Temminck's Horned Lark)	*Eremophila bilopha*	Monotypic; Ghorbani *et al* 2020a support this conclusion. Resident Jordan, S Israel, S Syria, W&S Iraq (Salim *et al* 2012), N Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, HBW9: resident N & C Arabia, more irregularly towards E, perhaps 750 000bp Jennings 2010. Vagrant Cyprus, UAE (2nd & 3rd records Feb & Apr 2019 **DB42(3):** 215), 1st for Turkey Apr 2022 at Milleyha Emin Yoğurtcuoğlu, Soner Bekir *in litt*. Yemen Mitchell 2017. Egypt Avib, BE. Extralimital to W as far as Mauretania.
PT	Short-toed Lark complex **PT**	*Calandrella* spp complex	Stervander *et al* 2016 found several clades and cryptic lineages (the latter will require some taxonomic revision). They analysed mitochondrial cytochrome *b* (cyt*b*) and nuclear Restriction-site Associated DNA (RAD) sequences from all species, and for cytb studied 21 of the 22 recognised subspecies. Taxa involved are distributed over a vast triangle from eastern China to Spain to southern Africa. A taxonomic revision is under way. Alström & Sundev 2020 revise breeding distribution area, much reduced, to eastern Mongolia, possibly into neighbouring China and perhaps to Russia. Stervander *et al* 2020 combined morphometrics (mainly Principal Component Analysis) and molecular species delimitation, multi-rate Poisson Tree Processes (mPTP) on cytochrome b sequences to evaluate the taxonomy of larks, finding three populations of *C. acutirostris* deeply divergent: one, wholly extralimital, is in Ladakh, the other concerns western populations from Afghanistan and some eastern (extralimital) populations formerly attributed to *C. a. tibetana*. No new or revised taxon names have yet been proposed formally, the authors calling for further genetic techniques to be applied, & with that in mind we have tentatively laid out a taxonomic arrangement that we suggest may reasonably reflect those future findings. **NB** We retain the **Clade** sequence of Stervander *et al* 2016 while incorporating the divergences in Stervander 2020.
Clade A comprises all *C. brachydactyla* sspp except *dukhunensis*			
721	Greater Short-toed Lark (formerly Rufous Short-toed Lark in E)	*Calandrella brachydactyla* (≡ earlier authors, including Russian, as *C. cinerea*)	6 of 8 sspp in Region (Stervander *et al* 2016 place *dukhunensis* in **Clade C**): *brachydactyla* W Asia Minor, Cyprus; *hermonensis* NE Sinai-W Syria & Iraq; *woltersi* SC Turkey; *artemisiana* SC Turkey; *longipennis* N Caucasus, Iran to SC Siberia, Tien Shan, wintering Arabia; *orientalis* C Asia. The previously erroneusly treated *C. cinerea longipennis* (now *C.b. longipennis*), referred then as Red-capped Lark (which English name now, HBW9, solely African [not Egyptian] species) occurred in Turkmenistan, Bukreev 1997; Uzbekistan (K-M&K 2005) who also employ earlier treatment. Afghanistan R&A 2005, (Paludan suggests *artemisiana* in SW & *longipennis* elsewhere), occasional breeder Cyprus Richardson 2014 (formerly common breeder Pater Flint pers comm), resident Iran, common PM, WV Arabia, HBW9, but breeding population C Arabia amongst irrigation Jennings 2004a and in N, but perhaps only 200+bp Jennings 2010, rare PM Socotra Porter & Suleiman 2020. UAE Aspinall 1996; abundant BM, PM, accidental resident, WV Kazakhstan (1st winter record Jan 2015 Wassink 2015a, 2015b; common PM & WV, occasional (?) breeder NE Oman **OBL7**. Egypt Avib, BE. **NB1** All *C.b. longipennis* taxa sampled lay in **Clade A2,** but *C.b. brachydactyla* taxa samples were present in both Clades **A1** & **A2,** hence the reference to cryptic lineages in the **Parent Taxon** Notes above. **NB2** extralimital sspp are *hungarica* (C Europe) & *rubiginosa* (N Africa - Libya: possible vagrant Egypt).
Clade B2 comprises *C. acutirostris*, but Afghanistan birds may comprise *C. (a.) indet* (Stervander *et al* 2020), hence provisional entry below.			

722	Hume's Short-toed Lark (Eastern Short-toed Lark: formerly Slender-billed Lark by some Russian authors)	*Calandrella (acutirostris) acutirostris*	Informal English name adopted by OSME. Polytypic within **Clade B**. Taxon *acutirostris sensu lato* recorded NE Iran, S CA (E of Aral, possibly up to SW Kyrgyzstan Flint *et al* 1984), very rare BM Kharzantau range W Tien Shan Wassink 2015b, breeds Afghanistan Paludan 1959 (Niethammer 1973 recorded at 4900m Wakhan 4 Aug 1972), but these populations found deeply divergent by Stervander *et al* 2020: once these divergent populations have been fully identified & formally named, **Clade B2** likely to be extensively adjusted, possibly excluding *acutirostris sensu stricto* as a breeder in the Region. (See next entry). Vagrant Israel 1986 Perlman & Meyrav 2009, proven as nominate 2022 **DB44(3):** 231. Winters India, HBW9: possibly locally common SV NE Iran Khaleghizadeh *et al* 2017. Only other ssp *tibetana* (**Clade B1**) extralimital to E, but not all populations currently assigned to *tibetana* are genetically close Stervander *et al* 2020. However, *acutirostris* samples from India formed **Clades B3** & **B4** in cryptic lineages that will need further study. **NB1** Ganpule 2020 notes rarity in Gujurat possibly from Baluchestan in Iran, difficult to distinguish from wintering Greater Short-toed Lark sspp. **NB2** Nominate subspecies *C.a. acutirostris* falls within the clade ascribed to the eastern subspecies *C.a. tibetana* (Stervander *et al* 2020), rendering the latter name a synonym of the nominate *acutirostris* by priority. Western populations, **which now lack a name**, may be sufficiently divergent to warrant separation at species level Donald & Collar 2021.
723	'Afghan Short-toed Lark'	*Calandrella (acutirostris) indet*	English name informal@OSME. Stervander *et al* 2020 found un-named **Clade** mainly in Afghanistan & currently assumed as western distribution of *C.a. tibetana* & note that despite deep mtDNA divergence, integrative application of other DNA & non-molecular techniques essential before species status confirmation Probably polytypic. **NB** Eastern (& extralimital) **Clade** of current *C.(a.) tibetana* may also be full sp; *C.(a.) acutirostris sensu stricto* likely would simply be reduced-distribution full sp, although *tibetana* more closely related to *acutirostris sensu stricto* than to the indeterminate populations Stervander *et al* 2020 (**Fig5**).
Clade C comprises *C. brachydactyla dukhunensis*			
724	Sykes' Short-toed Lark {Mongolian Short-toed Lark} ('Eastern Short-toed Lark' BLI)	*Calandrella [brachydactyla] dukhunensis*	Monotypic. IOC7.2 contains split: *dukhunensis* (Sykes, 1832) Collar 2017 agrees, as do Shirihai & Svensson 2018: vagrant to Region H&M4. Stervander *et al* 2016 note that **Clade C** established from only one of 6 samples, but from Alström *et al* 2013a *dukhunensis* already known to be remote from African *brachydactyla* taxa; Alström & Sundev 2020 revise distribution to C&E Mongolia, extending only slightly S into China & confirm as full sp; Stervander *et al* 2020 confirmed specific identity, accepting previous genomic & non-molecular data. Has occurred Israel, Colston & Shirihai 1986. In Roberts 1992 given as breeding up to 3900m Pakistan, being mis-attributed (Dickinson & Dekker 2001a) as Rufous Short-toed Lark, but these IDs were not based on specimens; likely Roberts 1992 records referred to taxon *tibetana,* which is ssp of related *C. acutirostris* Hume's Short-toed Lark. **NB** English name informal@OSME; note the Scots preference for the possessive's presentation
Clade G comprises *Calandrella blanfordi eremica*			
725	Arabian Rufous-capped Lark (Blanford's Lark, Blanford's Short-toed Lark) {Rufous-capped Lark}	*Calandrella [blanfordi] eremica*	Polytypic IOC9.1, extralimital ssp *daaroodensis*. Stervander *et al* 2016 noted that this **Clade** and the taxon's placement within it are inconclusive *pro tem* because one of the two samples lay within **Clade G1** and not **G**. However, *eremica* ancestrally is close to *C.b. daaroodensis* (N Somalia) & remote from all other *blanfordi* taxa, these being closer to the Ethiopian Erlanger's Lark *C. erlangeri*. IOC9.1 splits *eremica* + *daaroodensis* iaw Stervander *et al* 2016, reinforced by Stervander *et al* 2020. IOC9.1 also lumps *erlangeri* in *blanfordi sensu stricto*; no Blanford's Lark taxa now occur in the Region There are 3 extralimital African taxa across S Red Sea, one of which (*C.b. blanfordi*) will form **Clade F1**, Blanford's Lark. IOC, HBW; probably superspecies with C. *brachydactyla*, *C. cinerea* [*sensu stricto* solely African species], *C. acutirostris*, *C. erlangeri* (latter, **Clade F2**, not in ME or OSME Region), HBW9 p584: 4th subspecies in the *C. cinerea* extralimital complex identfied by Stervander *et al* 2020, *C.c. rufipecta*, confined to Jos Plateau. *C.[b.] eremica* resident SW Arabia, N Yemen (previously under *C. cinerea*) Porter & Warr 1985; probably resident SW Arabian highlands, perhaps above 50 000bp Jennings 2010, 4 Talea'a Valley Saudi Arabia Jul 2016 **SG39(1)ATR** (recorded as *C. blanfordi* Blanford's Lark), 40 there Oct 2018 **SG41(1)ATR:** 148; single-record vagrant 1990 Masirah Oman **OBL7**. **NB** English name decided upon after perusal of entry in Shirihai & Svensson 2018 adopted as informal@OSME.
726	Calandra Lark	*Melanocorypha calandra*	All 4 sspp occur in Region: *psammochroa* Turkmenistan, Bukreev 1997, Uzbekistan, Turkmenistan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan Ayé *et al* 2012 N Afghanistan Paludan 1959, abundant BM, rare resident S&ESE Kazakhstan, *calandra* Abundant resident, BM W to C Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b; Arabia H&M4. Resident Turkey (*calandra* most of N, *gaza* SE extending to E Syria, Iraq, Iran, hebraica SC Turkey extending to W Syria, Israel, W Jordan H&M4), Caucasus, parts of CA, S Turkmenistan, & Uzbekistan; W (?) Tajikistan & Kyrgyzstan Flint *et al* 1984), Iran, Afghanistan, HBW9, Iraq Salim *et al* 2012. 30K counted PanSeaCo shrimp site Golestan Iran near Turkmenistan Caspian border Dec 2018 **SGATR41(1)**, 3rd record Lyah Kuwait (3 birds) Dec 2016 **SG39(2):** 208, 4th record of 3 birds at Pivots Farm Nov 2018 **DB41(1):** 56, 4th record (of 3 birds) at Dairy Farm Nov 2018 **KORC**. 2nd Bahrain record Dec 2017 **SG40(1):** 113; 1st for Qatar, 40+ birds, Irkayya Feb 2018, 3rd record (10 birds) here Dec 2020-Mar 2021 **QBRC**. Some migration to S. Egypt Avib, BE
727	Bimaculated Lark	*Melanocorypha bimaculata*	Monotypic. In OSME Region, more continuously distributed summer breeder than *M. calandra*; winters S Afghanistan; *M.b. 'torquata'* Turkmenistan Bukreev 1997, Afghanistan Paludan 1959. Also breeds W-C Turkey, S Caucasus, N Israel (rare) Perlman & Meyrav 2009, resident N&W Iran (Scott & Adhami 2006) HBW9: abundant BM, occasional resident Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b; WV and rare opportunistic breeder Arabia Jennings 2010, 4th Qatar record Nov 2016, 5th (40 birds) Irkkaya Farm Mar 2021 **QBRC**, 6th Dec 2017 **QBRC**, 7th Irkayya Farm Nov 2021 *c* 20 birds **QRBC**. Fairly common localised WV Oman **OBL7**. Egypt Avib BE. **NB1** imported Kuwait from Iran Gregory 2002. **NB2** *'torquata'* populations have been known as Eastern Calandra Lark (source OBC Images).
728	Black Lark	*Melanocorypha yeltoniensis*	Monotypic. Abundant resident, rare BM central belt Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b, perhaps northernmost Uzbekistan, some winter Caucasus, N Iran (rare Scott & Adhami 2006, vagrant Khaleghizadeh *et al* 2017), S Turkmenistan, locally CA, HBW9, rare migrant Kyrgyzstan, Ven 2002, vagrant Tazhikistan Ivanov 1940. Vagrant Lebanon Porter & Aspinall 2010, 2nd record Turkey May 2011 Kirwan *et al* 2014, likely 1st for Armenia Vedi Gorge May 2018 **DB40(4):** 265. Economic collapse Kazakhstan 1990s increased abandoned farmland which the species preferred over any other habitat, but this led to population decline because small rodents and their predators increased much more; recent economic recovery forced Black Lark into less preferred breeding habitat at lower densities, but paradoxically led to population recovery due to collapse of predator populations Lameris *et al* 2016
729	Dupont's Lark	*Chersophilus duponti* **Vulnerable**	2 sspp, only *margaritae* in Region resident NW Egypt, HBW9, H&M4, likely declining to rare & local status as in adjacent NE Libya Isenmann *et al* 2016. However, 2 images 62km SW of Mersa Matruh May 2022 **DB44(4):** 311. Egypt Avib, BE. Vagrant Cyprus Porter & Aspinall 2010. **NB DB 2009** call ssp *margaritae* Koenig's Lark.
PT	Dunn's Lark **PT**	*Eremelauda dunni (sensu lato)*	Recent split by del Hoyo & Collar 2016, Shirihai & Svensson 2018, also BLI & IOC11.2. The distribution of the largely sedentary *E. dunni sensu lato* is highly disjunct, occuriing geographically in 4 African and 6 Arabian separated locations. In terms of allopatry, the nearest known populations of *dunni* and *eremodites* to each other are about 1125km southern Sudan to Saudi Arabia or about 1400km southern Sudan to Yemen (**BLDZ** maps & Google Map).

730	Dunn's Lark ('African Dunn's Lark')	*Eremalauda dunni (sensu stricto)*	Monotypic. The single bird recorded on Cyprus in April 2007 (Vagrant Cyprus Mitchell 2017) was well-photographed & documented: it showed all the features of 'African Dunn's Lark (Illustrated in Richardson & Porter 2020). Revisiting this record, Donald & Christodoulides 2018 concluded that the Cyprus bird most probably was 'African Dunn's Lark' *E. dunni sensu stricto*, but without measurements or blood samples & lacking comprehensive knowledge of extent of individual variation within both taxa, absolute certainty was not possible. There were some doubts as to how the bird could have reached Cyprus, but weather records for wind strength & direction had not been considered in 2007 nor in 2018, Paul Donald *pers comm*. However, we have examined the synoptic charts for the 4 days before the bird was first found; these show moderate to strong SW & WSW winds with accompanying dust storms over North Africa and also over northern Niger & Chad and SW Libya. There had been a Bateleur & several other southern vagrants in Cyprus at the same time. Indeed, Cyprus regularly sees rare migrants taking the Libyan route in spring, heading NE from the African coast, including Dotterel, Eurasian Scops Owl, *elegans* 'Arabian' Grey Shrike and Cream-coloured Courser. Richardson & Porter 2020 have accepted this record, after further evaluation by Paul Donald. Arabian Lark has a dark streaked crown, this bird was orange; structurally it resembled 'African Dunn's', the bill being not particularly heavy and the head fairly compact. **NB1** Bergier et al 2011 validated a first 'African Dunn's' 2006 record for West Saharan Morocco, a short range extension from Mauritania, but a population has been found in Morocco 1400km further NE near the Tafilta, Albegger *et al* 2010. **NB2** How much range extension is real or merely undiscovered is not clear, because there is very little published research on the two taxa. There is no data on the extent of population interchange, movements or extent of wandering. Cyprus is only 300km from the tiny *eremodites* Syrian population & some 1350 km from the Chad and Sudan *dunni* populations.
731	Arabian Lark ('Arabian Dunn's Lark')	*Eremalauda eremodites*	Monotypic. **BLDZ** map Feb 2018 indicates Region endemic. S Jordan, S Israel (rare irruptive breeder Perlman & Meyrav 2009, Perlman & Kiat 2012), N & C Saudi Arabia, SW Oman, HBW9: found 1993 between Shabwah & Marib, Yemen, in ephemeral grassland patches after recent rains in Empty Quarter Heard & Kirwan 1997; irregularly widespread & numerous Arabia, c2Mbp mostly in Saudi Arabia Jennings 2010; Syria Serra 2005, Kuwait-Iraq border 2006 Jennings 2007c; rare elusive resident breeder interior S Oman **OBL7**; one at Uvda Valley, Israel Feb 2018 **DB40(2):** 121; 5 Shezaf Reserve, N Arava Jun 2018 Yoav Perlman *in litt*, influxes bred Negev, Arava Valleys Apr 2020 & influx C Israel & Med coast Apr 2022 Yoav Perlman *in litt*. & 1st reported for Cyprus Cape Greco 06 Apr 2020 **DB42(3):** 215, Jane Stylianou *in litt* Mar 2022, 2nd Spiros Pools Larnaca 9 Apr 2020 **CRBC**: 1st for Turkey photographed Mar 2021 Milleyha shores, Samandag, Hatay, by Emin Yoğurtcuoğlu, 2nd there Apr 2021 **TBRC**. Egypt Baha el Din 1984. **NB** Dunn's Lark *E. dunni sensu stricto* occurs disjunctly across Sahelian Africa, the nearest population to the Region being N-C Chad, some 600km from SW Egypt.
PT	Lesser Short-toed Lark **PT**: the following 5 taxa are treated as descending from ancestral Lesser Short-toed Lark	*Alaudala rufescens sensu lato* (formerly in *Calandrella*) (Includes Sand Lark which Ghorbani *et al* 2020b confirm nested in *A. rufescens sl*)	Distinct from *Calandrella* Alström *et al* 2013a IOC4.2. Ghorbani *et al* 2020b examine in a wide-ranging study the relationships of Lesser Short-toed Lark *A. rufescens* taxa & Sand Lark *A. raytal* taxa: they found several wrongly-identified museum specimens of taxon *beicki* & confirmed deep divergences amongst cryptic taxa; *A. raytal* is confirmed as nesting in *A. rufescens sensu lato*; by cyt B analysis *raytal* is the most recently divergent at 1.77MYA, but has since diverged the fastest in size, structure & plumage. Furthermore, *A. rufescens sensu lato* & Asian Short-toed Lark *A. cheelensis* are not monophyletic & so in the ORL we firstly revised our **PT** approach to reflect the descent of all these taxa from ancestral Lesser Short-toed Lark. The 3 traditional spp are divided by Ghorbani *et al* 2020b into 5 **Clades**. Only 4 of the 15 sspp tested were monophyletic (the other 2 were not available), which requires vocalisations, behaviour and ecology to be researched before a deeper taxonomic assessment of this complex can be formally attempted. Ghorbani *et al* 2020b suggested that 5 spp might be recognised from further data, noting that Sand Lark and the *leucophaea* **Clade** have considerable molecular differences between populations**.** We thus arranged the **Clades** as groups and assigned informal English names. Alström *et al* 2021a then employed multiple species delimitation approaches, including sonogram analysis, to the Ghorbani *et al* 2020b approach and to additional data to identify and confirm 4 of the 5 **Clades**, strongly supporting 4, but requiring more data for **Clade D** due to the recency of separation of *leucophaea*. **Clade C** may also contain more than one lineage. We therefore proposed presenting **Clade E** as possibly being a ssp of **Clade D**, but Stervander *et al* 2020 emphasised the divergence, using morphometrics & mtDNA, but requiring other integrative DNA techniques to confirm. **NB1** Roselaar 1995 referred *persica* and the endemic Turkish taxon *niethammeri* to Asian Short-toed Lark *C. cheleensis* (*qv*); the latter was convincingly contradicted by evidence discussed in Kirwan *et al* 2008; some of the problems that then remained have been solved by Ghorbani *et al* 2020b. **NB2** The separation of *cheleensis* from *rufescens* was far from clear because the breeding distributions and relationships of many eastern populations were not known Dickinson & Dekker 2001a, but Ghorbani *et al* 2020b provide a much clearer understanding. Furthermore, the separation between **Clade D**, *cheelensis* & **Clade E**, *leucophaea,* appears less than between all other **Clades** & vocalisation differences between *cheelensis* & *leucophaea* support that view Paul Donald *in litt*. However, Stervander *et al* 2020 find a divergence supporting two spp.
Clade A, *heinei* Clade: comprises *heinei, aharonii, persica* in OSME Region			
732	'Heine's Short-toed Lark' {Turkestan Short-toed Lark: most countries in its distribution have Turkic-group languages}	*Alaudala heinei* (Alström *et al* 2021a. Formerly *A. (rufescens) heinei*; also formerly in *Calandrella)*	Polytypic, Ghorbani *et al* 2020b. English name informal@OSME. Nominate [*niethammeri* is a synonym of *heinei* Alström *et al* 2021] southernmost Russia (possibly), Kazakhstan, Turkmenistan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, possibly Wakhan in E Afghanistan, *aharonii* C Turkey, *persica* E&S Iraq via C Iran to S&SW Afghanistan (also C-E Afghanistan, Ghorbani *et al* 2020b specimen), WV Pakistan H&M4, [*pseudobaetica* E Turkey via Caucasus to N Iran is a synonym of *heinei* Alström et al 2021a, although Stervander *et al* 2020 accepts]: also C Iran & E-C Afghanistan (Ghorbani *et al* 2020b specimens). One reported NE Austria Jan 2021 Leander Khil *in litt*; unusual timing! Up to 16 on coast near Mandria, Cyprus, Feb 2022 Colin Richardson, BirdLife Cyprus *in litt*.
Clade B, *rufescens* Clade: comprises *minor* in OSME Region; extralimitally, *rufescens, apetzii, polatzeki* (& western *minor* populations)			
733	Mediterranean Short-toed Lark (Much of its distribution is around the Med; retention of name Lesser Short-toed Lark is a possible alternative)	*Alaudala rufescens* (*sensu stricto* Alström *et al* 2021a; formerly *A.(r.) rufescens*; also formerly *in Calandrella*)	Polytypic, Ghorbani *et al* 2020b, though large geographical specimen gap between Morocco and Mazarat, Taif, Saudi Arabia. Nominate, [*polatzeki* of the Canary Islands is a synonym of *rufescens* Alström *et al* 2021a, but Stervander *et al* 2020 address it as valid], *apetzii* extralimital, [*nicolli* is a synonym of *minor* Alström *et al* 2021a], *minor* from extralimital Morocco E to NW Egypt, Sinai S Turkey & E Iraq; also S to Mahazat, Saudi Arabia (Ghorbani *et al* 2020b specimen). Common WV &PM Arabia, but up to a relict 500bp *minor* may breed in scattered locations N & C Arabia Jennings 2010; rare to uncommon PM & WV Oman **OBL7**; smalll numbers UAE Aspinall 1996, 1st breeding Qatar Apr 2013 **SG35(2) ATR**. Stervander *et al* 2020 do not address relationship of isolated *minor* population in Saudi Arabia. **NB** English name is IOC decision in the absence of better modifiers.
Clade C, *raytal* Clade: comprises *adamsii* in OSME Region; extralimitally *raytal, krishnakumarsinhji*			
734	Sand Lark (Indian Sand Lark) (Indian Short-toed Lark)	*Alaudala (raytal) adamsi* (*A. raytal* by Alström *et al* 2021a. Formerly *A. (rufescens) raytal; also* formerly in *Calandrella*)	Polytypic (if unsplit), Ghorbani *et al* 2020b. Only ssp in Region *adamsi*, which Stervander *et al* 2020 founnd to be divergent from the other 2 other sspp of NC & WC India *raytal* & *krishnakumarsinji*. Pro tem, we treat this taxon as *A.(r.) adamsi*. If split, OSME Region taxon is monotypic: extralimital taxa would then be polytypic, possibly under the revived English name 'Indian Sand Lark'. Resident westernmost population SE Iran, HBW9 coastal lowlands from Bandar Abbas E to Pakistan Khaleghizadeh *et al* 2017; first record Jalalabad Sep 1977 Inskipp & Inskipp 1979, NE Afghanistan (also Inskipp & Inskipp in R&A 2005), but Heine's Short-toed Lark *A.(rufescens) pseudobaetica* possible alternative; see Ghorbani *et al* 2020b map. Other populations resident Pakistan, some near Thal on Afghan border, Roberts 1992, Grimmett *et al* 1998, 2009. Ghorbani *et al* 2020b noted divergences between *adamsi* & *raytal*, but Alström *et al* 2021a obtained additional samples & validated this finding; Stervander *et al* 2020 came to the same conclusion, but with 2 caveats - sample sizes are small and other integrative DNA techniques needed to confirm the taxonomic status of *adamsi*. **NB** Ganpule 2019 notes extent of individual variation of *adamsi* & *krishnakumarsinji* in Gujurat makes ID of vagrant Lesser-Short-toed Lark (*sensu lato*) sspp near-impossible.
Clade D, *cheleensis* Clade: comprises extralimital nominate, *tuvinica*: Alström *et al* 2020 *pro tem* retain *leucophaea, kukoorensis*			

735	Asian Short-toed Lark ('Cathay Short-toed Lark' is a possible alternative)	*Alaudala cheleensis* (Alström et al 2021a. Formerly *A. (rufescens) cheleensis;* also formerly in *Calandrella*)	Polytypic, Ghorbani *et al* 2020b. Thought to winter Arabia, but no definite records Middle East Porter & Aspinall 2010, Pakistan, although Khaleghizadeh *at al* 2017 class as rare WV, but that may refer to previous taxonomy. Single Pakistan specimen that has been attributed to *cheleensis* (Roberts 1992) differs from wintering *rufescens* (possibly *persica*? MB). Ghorbani *et al* 2020b had *tuvinica* specimens from Ervin, Tuva only 550km from E Kazakhstan, with ample habitat en route. IOC11.1 synonymise *seebohmi, beicki, stegmanni* & *tangutica* with *kukunoorensis*, but IOC 12.2 resurrects *seebohmi* in alignment with world lists. **NB1** ssp Uzbekistan Kreuzberg-Mukhina & Kreuzberg 2005 may be attributable as *rufescens* ssp. **NB2** Shirihai & Svensson 2018 lump in *A. rufescens*.
Clade E, *leucophaea* Clade: comprises nominate in OSME Region, S Kazakhstan to Turkmenistan; extralimitally, *kukunoorensis*			
736	'Severtsov's Short-toed Lark'	*Alaudala (cheleensis) leucophaea* (Formerly *A. (r.) cheleensis leucophaea*; *also* formerly in *Calandrella*: ≡ earlier Russian *C. leucophaea* & *C. pispoletta*)	Polytypic even if split from *A. cheleensis*, Ghorbani *et al* 2020b; Alström *et al* 2021a retained as sspp of *A. cheleensis pro tem* while noting that it would qualify as a full species under the General Lineage Concept; Stervander *et al* 2020 found deep divergence between eastern *cheleensis* & *leucophaea* while cautioning that integrative DNA research confirmation needed. English name informal@OSME. Rare resident Syrdarya Delta (reduced distribution, declining SSW Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b [many misidentified skins], but is known rare migrant in CA), but 1st record away from Syrdarya is of 2 birds at Lake Sorbulak 25 Oct 2015, Almaty Province Wassink 2016, over 800km distant. Shimba 2007 map suggested E Kazakhstan, but no breeding records Arend Wassink *in litt* 2009, scarce PM, summer breeder Turkmenistan Rustamov 2015; 2 ringed Chokpak 1999; Dernjatin 2005.
			NB1 Ghorbani *et al* 2020b found indications of some divergence between *leucophaea* & *seebohmi*; Alström *et al* 2021a treated as synonymous, but Stervander *et al* 2020 justified *seebohmi* as ssp. **NB2** R&A 2012: disputed affiliation of *persica* resolved in H&M4: in *rufescens*, not *cheleensis*. **NB3** Khaleghizadeh et al 2017 groups *persica* in *cheleensis* as RB S&E Iran.
		Pycnonotidae	Many bulbul spp continue to be introduced, particularly because many cultures have a long history of bird-keeping, but also because of developing prosperity funding the trade in exotics Blackburn *et al* 2015.
737	Red-whiskered Bulbul	*Pycnonotus jocosus*	Popular cagebird & singing contestant; escapes thrive warmer climes HBW10, but not urban areas, preferring woodland Aspinall 2010; introduced UAE after 1974 Aspinall 1996, Lever 2005, clinging on Aspinall 2010. Recorded Dhahran & in SE arc to UAE, but probably fewer than 100bp Jennings 2010; single escape record Oman **OBL7**. Possibly most traded birds have *fiscicaudatus* & *abuensis* (NW & W India) ancestry, but bird trade commonly sends fraudulently-documented shipments from distant sources.
PT	White-cheeked Bulbul {Himalayan Bulbul} **PT**	*Pycnonotus leucogenys*	**Parent Taxon**: split into 2 species, losing '*humii*' ssp (NW Pakistan) as invalid. However, H&M4 note that '*humii*' now used to describe (presumably stable) interspecific hybrids (Fishpool & Tobias 2005); IOC2.0 splits; extent of hybridisation unknown; until deeper analysis, we retain as below. Old records of ssp *leucotis* under this **PT.**
			NB1 H&E 1970 treated as 2 species. **NB2** H&M4 corrected spelling from *leucogenys* to *leucogenis* on prior publication grounds, but this assumes that the single use of '*leucogenis*' in the index of the prefatory list of plates was the intended spelling, and that the numerous appearances of '*leucogenys*' in the original text were all wrong: we remain with IOC. **NB3** Shirihai & Svensson 2018 note that a hybrid population *leucogenys x leucotis* occurs across much of Pakistan, a circumstance which appears repeated from mid-Gulf west across Saudi Arabia (likely sustained by pivot-field irrigation). **NB4** National Bird of Bahrain King 2018; whether taxon *leucogenys* or *leucotis* or hybrid is not known.
738	White-cheeked Bulbul {Himalayan Bulbul}	*Pycnonotus [leucogenys] leucogenys*	Uzbekistan, Turkmenistan (K-M&K 2005), (some may actually be introduced *P. leucotis* or stabilised hybrid '*humii*' [see above]), HBW10 NE Afghanistan (Nuristan to Khyber Ayé *et al* 2012) R&A 2005, Bates & Lowther 1952. Jennings 2010 does not distinguish from next taxon in distribution, save for *leucogenys* probably in N Gulf, *leucotis* in Oman/E UAE, the remainder between suggested as hybrids; pehaps 250 000bp and increasing. Former English name (see Paludan 1959) retained for ID differentiation from that of *P.(l.) leucotis*.
739	White-eared Bulbul	*Pycnonotus [leucogenys] leucotis*	2 sspp: *mesopotamia* Iraq, NE Arabia, SW&S Iran; *leucotis* S Iran, S Afghanistan. Round Gulf, Oman, S Iran, S Afghanistan (ssp *leucotis* Paludan 1959, Ayé *et al* 2012), HBW 10, Bates & Lowther 1952, S&C Iraq Moore & Boswell 1956 now spreading N Salim *et al* 2012, 1st (& northernmost) record for Armenia May 2014 **DB38(4):** 250, fairly common resident breeder N Oman, spreading rapidly **OBL7**, Syria Murdoch & Betton 2008, Birecik, Turkey Nov 2012 **SG35(1) ATR**: one at Eilat, Israel Jul 2021, origin uncertain **DB43(6):** 470 & at IBRCE Oct 2-21 **SG44(1):** 240. Widely introduced Arabia Jennings (2004), but likely often recorded as *P. leucogenys eg* UAE Aspinall 1996, Kuwait Gregory 2002 see above entry for Jennings 2010 assessment; Alshamlih *et al* 2021b note as introduced C & N regions Saudi Arabia. Common resident S Iran & many cities Khaleghizadeh *et al* 2017. Natural distribution ssp *mesopotamia* W of S Iran, *leucotis* to E. 1st for Turkey Oct 12 **DB34(6):** 403.
740	Red-vented Bulbul	*Pycnonotus cafer*	Traded birds likely of ancestry from *humayuni* (NW Pakistan, NC India) & *intermedius* (N Pakistan) H&M4. Rain-follower, so may breed irregularly SE Iran, E Afghanistan, HBW10 (occurs up to Afghan border in Pakistan Khyber region Roberts 1992, mapped quite extensively Grimmett *et al* 2009: **BLDZ** May 2017 maps into Afghanistan via the Kurram Valley & also past Jalalabad. Popular cagebird. Introduced UAE, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Lever 2005, introduced Jeddah & Eastern Province Saudi Arabia Alshamlih *et al* 2021b; also Oman Jennings 2010, where fairly common near Muscat and spreading **OBL7**: thriving feral population Bahrain King 2018; 7000bp & increasing, Iran Azin *et al* 2008, but essentially limited to Kish Island, Hormozgan, thriving population Khaleghizadeh *et al* 2017. **NB** hybridises with *P. leucogenys* (*leucotis?*) Pakistan & with *leucotis* UAE Bundy & Warr 1979).
741	White-spectacled Bulbul [Yellow-vented Bulbul] (Black-capped Bulbul)	*Pycnonotus xanthopygos*	Monotypic. SW Turkey to SW Arabia, Oman, HBW 10. Iraq, Rasmussen 1992b (rare in W Salim *et al* 2012), Israel Perlman & Meyrav 2009, UAE since early 1970s Bundy & Warr 1979. Resident *acacia* incomplete Arabia, slow to colonise, but now thriving Riyadh & other areas; *c* 3Mbp Jennings 2010: Alshamlih *et al* 2021b note a decline in numbers in its native range while expanding through a series of pet trade-driven escapes across Saudi Arabia, including Eastern Province. Abundant resident breeder Oman in E & S **OBL7. NB** The name Yellow-vented Bulbul once applied to 3 unrelated taxa now solely applies to extralimital *P. goiavier*. Egypt Avib, BE
PT	Common Bulbul **PT**	*Pycnonotus barbatus sensu lato*	Although IOC2.2 shows the split (Sibley & Monroe 1990 p583), it seems unrecognised elsewhere until Fishpool & Tobias 2017 documented monotypic Somali Bulbul *P. somaliensis* (Djibouti, NW Somalia, NE Ethiopia), monotypic Dodson's Bulbul *P. dodsoni* (N Somalia, SE Ethiopia, E-C Kenya) & polytypic Dark-capped Bulbul *P. tricolor* (S Ethiopia, then to E C & S Africa). H&M4 & **BLDZ** remain with *P. barbatus sensu lato*; 10 sspp, but IOC10.2 maintains the splits. For Somali & Dodman's Bulbuls, see ORL Hypothetical List. **NB** Sibley & Monroe 1990 initially proposed an extensive superspecies of 11 spp based on Red-vented Bulbul *P. cafer: P. barbatus sensu stricto* simultaneously was separated from *P.somaliensis, P. dodsoni* & *P. tricolor*. This superspecies has now dissolved into 11 separate spp.
742	Common Bulbul	*Pycnonotus barbatus sensu stricto*	5 sspp, only *arsinoe* in Egyptian Nile Valley, although *schoanus* within reasonable distance of African S Red Sea coast. **NB1** The Common Bulbul (*sl*) described as abundant on African side of Bab-el-Mandab Straits Ash & Atkins 2009 & Redman *et al* 2009, is now Somali Bulbul *P. somaliensis*.
743	Black Bulbul (Himalayan Black Bulbul)	*Hypsipetes leucocephalus* (formerly *Microscelis madagascariensis* or *M. psaroides*)	NE Afghanistan, HBW10, R&A 2005, supported Grimmett *et al* 1998. Paludan 1959 cites 1 record as *M. psaroides*, but was this Meinertzhagen? IOC 9.2 give *psaroides* for Afghanistan into N Pakistan. '*M. madagascariensis*' winters, resident in Pakistan Chitral region on Afghan border Roberts 1992, Grimmett *et al* 2009, suggesting presence in Afghan Daryā-ye & Konar valleys confirmed Ayé *et al* 2012: **BLDZ** map Aug 2019 shows in Afghanistan in broad swathe from S Badakhstan to Paktila; overlooked by H&M4, whose nearest ssp (of 12) is *psaroides*
			NB1 Genus *Hypsipetes* on priority grounds Dickinson & Gregory 2002. **NB2** Change of genus contemporaneous with split of extralimital *H. madagascariensis*, confined to Madagascar Anderson *et a*l 2009. **NB3** Unaffected by the extensive revision of bulbul taxonomy by Shakya & Sheldon 2017.
		Hirundinidae	IOC11.2 revises linear sequence of **Hirundinidae**.

744	Banded Martin	*Neophedina cincta* (formerly *Riparia cincta*)	IOC 11.2 resurrects genus of *Neophedina* (Sheldon *et al* 2005 placed in a separate **Clade**), aligning with AERCTAC 2011 & BLI; **DB,** Sangster *et al* 2013, H&M4 place in *Phedina*. African species, vagrant Yemen (Mar 82 N Yemen Cornwallis & Porter 1982), Porter *et al* 1996, most likely from Eritrean or Ethiopian populations **BLDZ** map Mar 2018. Vagrant Saudi Arabia Oct 1996, Saunders & Webbon 1998. 1st record Elephantine Island, Aswan Egypt, Andy Clements 1988, Clements 1990, **EORC** 2019. Report for UAE Jun 2016 not accepted **DB42(3):** 217. 1st for Oman (4th for WP) Sawhnaut Farm, Dhofar, Salalah Nov 2021 **OBRC**.
PT	Sand Martin **PT**	*Riparia riparia*	Re **Parent Taxon** IOC update 2.0 accepted split of *diluta*: Dickinson & Dekker 2001b, Sangster *et al* 2011, AERCTAC 2011, H&M4 agree. Loskot 2006 denotes ID characteristics, some greater detail of *riparia sl/diluta sl* differences tabled in Chandran 2017. Tang *et al* 2021 found clear divergence between *R. riparia* & *R.diluta*.
745	Sand Martin (Bank Swallow Russia & USA: Collared Sand Martin)	*Riparia riparia*	IOC2.0 established split from Pale Sand Martin *R. diluta*: Dickinson & Dekker 2001b, Sangster et al 2011, AERCTAC 2011, H&M4 agreed. Only *ijimae* of 6sspp definitely extralimital: *riparia* C Asia wintering Africa; *innominata* (now subsumed in nominate) SE Kazakhstan; *shelleyi* Egypt; *eilata* (now subsumed in *shelleyi*) SW Asia (?) wintering NE Africa (?); *taczanowskii* wanders from Baikal to E of Region. Summer breeder CA; *riparia* abundant BM, PM largely in N Kazakhstan & *innominata* abundant M in SE Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b, Uzbekistan, SW Turkmenistan Ayé *et al* 2012, Iraq Salim *et al* 2012, Iran Caspian Region Khaleghizadeh *et al* 2017, Afghanistan (migraton) *taczanowskii* Dickinson & Dekker 2001b , latterly some perhaps breed, T&R 1989. Abundant autumn PM, less common elsewhen Oman **OBL7**, rare PM Socotra Porter & Suleiman 2020**.** Numerous between Abu Simbel & Aswan, Lake Nasser June 2022 (sspp *shelleyi* & perhaps *riparia*: breeders definitely *shelleyi*), such numbers never before recorded in June, Jens hering pers comm Jul 2022. Shared colony with Pale Martin *R. diluta* near Tomsk sympatrically with no sign of hybridisation; *R. diluta* occupied higher mostly nest-holes, but both formed single-species groups Scherbakova & Korobitsyn 2021. Egypt Avib, BE. Population size directly linked to Sahel droughts Zwarts *et al* 2009. **NB1** *indica* (*qv*) subsequently split from *diluta*. **NB2** *innominata* ≡ *dolgushini*, but IOC8.2 subsumed *innominata* in nominate & *eilata* in *shelleyi*, following Schweizer *et al* 2018.
PT	Pale Martin **PT**	*Riparia diluta*	Loskot 2006 denoted ID characteristics separating from *R. riparia*, some greater detail of *riparia sl/diluta sl* differences tabled in Chandran 2017. Schweizer *et al* 2018 find significant genetic separation distances between sspp, but no significant plumage or biometric differences; further DNA studies & better data needed on parapatry/sympatry levels for their elevation. However, samples of taxon *indica* in Indian subcontinent are supportive; *pro tem* we treat as possible full sp that reaches E Afghanistan. Tang *et al* 2021, using population genomic data, showed that Pale Martin *R. diluta* contains multiple deep evolutionary lineages despite extremely subtle & gradual morphological variation among them, & little genetic differences within lineages over large geographic areas; no taxonomic conclusions were made, although at least 2 species likely exist.
746	Pale Martin (Pale Sand Martin)	*Riparia (diluta) diluta*	Now 4 sspp. Breeds W CA: *diluta* abundant BM SE Kazakhstan & *gavrilovi* [erected in Loskot 2001] common BM E-most Kazakhstan, abundant PM SE Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b, (not N Iran Kirwan & Grieve 2013, *contra* T&R 2001): *diluta* passage NE Afghanistan, wintering SE Pakistan, Kyrgyzstan, Ven 2002, Ayé *et al* 2012 (also Tajikistan); 1st for Iran 2010 Rafael Ayé pers comm. Other sspp (largely?) extralimital *tibetana, transbaykalica* (now subsumed in nominate, as is *gavrilovi*), *fohkienensis* & *indica* Dickinson & Dekker 2001b; *diluta* may wander to C Kazakhstan Wassink 2013; *diluta* sympatric breeding with *R.r. innominata* (now *R. riparia*) in Kazakhstan Loskot & Dickinson 2001 (see also next entry below). Shared colony with Sand Martin *R. riparia* near Tomsk sympatrically with no sign of hybridisation; *R. diluta* occupied higher mostly nest-holes, but both formed single-species groups Scherbakova & Korobitsyn 2021. Tang *et al* suggest that C Mongolian breeders are *tibetana*, not *diluta*: they suggest that *tibetana* may occupy Southern Mongolia, too, but whether continuously or in many smaller sites S to the Qinghai-Tibetan plateau is uncertain. What does appear more certain is that *folkienensis* lowland breeders E & S of the Qinghai-Tibetan plateau comprise the deepest divergence within *R. diluta*. 4th record Jan 2015 Oman **OBRC** 6th record Feb 2016 **SG38(2):** 233, 1st accepted record for Kuwait , 3 Jahra Pools Nov 2017 **KORC**, 2nd if accepted Jahra Dec 2019 **DB42(1):** 58; Vagrant Iran, possibly rare PM & WV Khaleghizadeh *et al* 2017; 2nd record of 2 birds Mar 2028 Shadegan **SG44(1):** 238, 3rd record imaged Nikshahr, Sistan & Baluchestan Dec 2021 Emin Yoğurtcuoğlu *in litt*. Likely wintering group of 10-12 found Jan-Feb 2021 Al Asfar Lake, Al Ahsa, eastern Saudi Arabia Greg Askew *in litt* (report: OSME.org/encounters 21/03). **NB1** Kirwan & Grieve 2013 review and dismiss all Egypt records and many others in Middle East, specimen examination confirming Meinertzhagen errors & likely fraud. **NB2** IOC8.2 subsume sspp *gavrilovi, transbaykalica* in nominate Schweizer *et al* 2018.
747	Indian Pale Martin	*Riparia (diluta) indica*	If separable, probably monotypic. English name informal@OSME. NE Afghanistan Paludan 1959 R&A 2005. Interpretation of **BLDZ** Oct 2021, Tang *et al* 2021 maps of *P. diluta* occurrence allow sole indicated resident populations to be attributed to *indica*, thus showing it to be resident in 2 E Afghan locations (*P.(d.) indica* Indian subcontinent populations were not sampled): N of Quetta NE along Pakistan border for 200km to Shakin; from Khogyani area (near Mt Sikaram) NE along Pakistan border to Chitral, then in an easterly then southerly arc in Pakistan along the Kashmir boundary to Sialkot. Schweizer *et al* 2018, Tang et al 2021 maps validate our interpretation. Possibly vagrant to Iran Khaleghizadeh *et al* 2017.
PT	Brown-throated Martin (Plain Martin) **PT**	*Riparia paludicola*	Re **PT** IOC4.2 has *paludicola* & *chinensis* as full species, H&M4 does not, while noting case made for splitting. **BLDZ** now accepts split.
748	Brown-throated Martin (Plain Martin) (African Plain Martin)	*Riparia paludicola*	May occur Arabia; likely ssp *minor,* from breeding colonies Sudan, S Sudan NW Ethiopia, although *schoensis* also a candidate from Ethiopian Highlands; 4 other distant extralimital sspp. 1st Ehypt record 1990 Jens Hering pers comm Jul 2022. **BLDZ** Mar 2018 maps in N Sudan to within 10km of Wadi Halfa & 35km of Egyptian border: in Eritrea to within 80km of Red Sea & in Ethiopia to within 20km of Djibouti border: 4 observed Jun 2022 on small island N of Abu Simbel, 2nd record Egypt Jens Hering pers comm Jul 2022. Vagrant Israel Perlman & Meyrav 2009, Iran Khaleghizadeh 2011. Possibly 1st for Cyprus ringed Polis May 2014 **SG36(2) ATR**. Draft IOC12.2 posts proposes split of extralimital Madagascar Plain Martin *R. cowani*.
749	Grey-throated Martin (Brown-throated Martin)} (BLI Asian Plain Martin: also formerly Indian Sand Martin) (Chinese Martin)	*Riparia chinensis*	2 sspp; nominate in Region, *tantilla* remote in Philippines. Isolated population S Turkmenistan-Uzbekistan, Turner 1989, queried Ayé *et al* 2012; E Afghanistan population in Turner & Rose (T&R) 1989 as *R. paludicola ss*, Nuristan Ayé *et al* 2012, R&A 2012 as *R. chinensis*: **BLDZ** Mar 2018 maps isolate SB population S of Dushanbe Tajikistan, W to S Uzbekistan to SE-most Turkmenistan & S just into N Afghanistan beyond Uzbek Termez; also SB population E Afghanistan Jalalabd- Kabul- near Ghazni S to Wor Mamay'Zhob region on Pakistan border. 7-record (PM?) vagrant Oman **OBL7,** irregular elsewhere, 2nd for Kuwait Dec 2017 (with 3 Pale Martins *qv*) **DB40(1):** 55, 1st Nov 2017 Jahra (submitted 2nd) **KORC**; vagrant Iran Scott & Adhami 2006, possibly rare WV S coast Khaleghizadeh *et al* 2017; dispersal/migration poorly understood T&R 1989. R&A 2005 treat as species, also H&E 1970. IOC update 2.0 occurrence C Asia eg including S Tajikistan, Afghanistan. **NB DB WP Checklist 2017** splits.
750	Eurasian Crag Martin	*Ptyonoprogne rupestris* (formerly *Hirundo rupestris*)	Monotypic. Breeds Turkey, N Syria, Caucasus, scarce BM E&SE Kazakhstan W&O 2007, Wassink 2015b, then E to S CA (& W & SW Turkmenistan) Ayé *et al* 2012, Iraq, Iran; PM in Region T&R 1989, winters Red Sea; rare irregular PM & WV Oman **OBL7**. Egypt Avib, BE

PT	Rock Martin **PT**	*Ptyonoprogne fuligula* (formerly *Hirundo fuligula*)	IOC2.0 accepts initial split to *obsoleta* & *fuligula sensu stricto*, as do www.zoonomen.net, H&M4, Goodman *et al* 1986 treated as full sp; no proven records of *P.[f.] fuligula ss* in Region (nearest residents coastal N Eritrea **BLDZ** map Jul 2016), but weather-system-driven vagrants likely Egypt, Yemen or SW Saudi Arabia (see Hypothetical List). However, note further complication of understanding of taxon identities below. Unfortunately, Svensson *et al* 2009, Shirihai & Svensson 2018 remain with *P. fuligula sensu lato*, the related maps liable to misinterpretation of distribution of *fuligula sensu lato* & *sensu stricto (qv)*. HBW Alive/BLI have undertaken a deeper split, somewhat differently from previous proposals, erecting Large Rock Martin as *P. fuligula sensu superstricto* for the species only in southern Africa, and Red-throated Rock Martin *P.rufigula* for the species occupying the region south of the Sahara as far as the northern edge of southern Africa. **NB1 There are no records of post-split *P. fuligula sensu stricto* (or post-subsequent BLI split *P. rufigula sensu superstricto*) in the OSME Region; all earlier records refer to pre-split Rock Martin *P. fuligula sensu lato*. Should a 1st record for the OSME Region occur, the species would be listed after *P. obsoleta* (IOC11.2).** **NB2** Sibley & Monroe 1990 noted that Somalian populations of *obsoleta* occur without any sign of intermediacy toward *fuligula* in neighbouring Ethiopia; not all agree & a genetic analysis is sorely needed.
BLI have further split *P. fuligula sensu stricto* thus: populations (all extralimital) from S of the Sahel southwards, then in eastern half of Africa to from Ethiopia to S Mozambique are Red-throated Rock Martin *P. rufigula* with sspp *rufigula, bansoensis, pusilla*. Large Rock Martin *P. fuligula sensu stricto reductio* comprises sspp *fuligula, anderssoni, pretoriae* occurring largely S of diagonal from C Angola to S Mozambique BLDZ maps 2018.			
751	Pale Crag Martin (Pale Rock Martin BLI)	*Ptyonoprogne obsoleta* (formerly *Ptyonoprogne [fuligula] obsoleta*, & before that *Hirundo (fuligula) obsoleta*	7 sspp H&M4. S Levant-E Iran including a small area of eastern Iraq SW of Suleymaniyeh **IUCN** Map Feb 2022), S Afghanistan, R&A 2005, 2012. As *H. fuligula obsoleta* (T&R 1989), in S Iran (partly resident Scott & Adhami 2006), E Iraq & Afghanistan, possibly southernmost CA, breeds UAE Aspinall 1996: widespread resident Arabia, nest-adapted to artificial structures, *c* 150 000bp Jennings 2010; abundant resident breeder N & S Oman & WV **OBL7**, RB & WV Socotra Porter & Suleiman 2020. HBW9, H&M4 give 4 of 7 sspp occurring in Region, *obsoleta* Egypt, Sinai, N,C&E Arabia, Turkey, Iran, some wintering Socotra; *perpallida* al-Huhuf area NE Arabia; *pallida* E Iran, Afghanistan; *arabica* SW Arabian Peninsula, Socotra; Redman *et al* 2009 agree (extralimital African sspp of *P. obsoleta* are: *spatzi, presaharica, buchanani*). HBW9 & Redman *et al* list *arabica* also in Socotra. Egypt Avib, BE. **NB1** *obsoleta* & *pallida* perhaps synonymous Kees Roselaar *in litt* in Dickinson & Dekker 2001b. **NB2** The listing of 2 breeding sites at Sari Hassan Bag Mountain in Ararat *et al* 2013 now concerns Eurasian Crag Martin *P. rupestris* (Korsh Ararat *in litt*; a checklist revision is in prep)
752	White-throated Swallow	*Hirundo albigularis*	One photographed Sakaka, al-Jouf, northern Saudi Arabia by Nader Alshammari Jun 2021 (**DB43(4):** 310), 4450km from its northernmost non-breeding area near S Tanzanian border with Zambia.
753	Wire-tailed Swallow	*Hirundo smithii*	*H.s. bobrinskoii* (*filifera*, T&R 1989). Turkmenistan, Bukreev 1997, Uzbekistan Koblik & Arkhipov 2014. S & E CA, Afghanistan (*filifera* Paludan 1959) (certainly S Tajikistan, N&SE Afghanistan Ayé *et al* 2012),1st record Iran 2 juveniles Dec 2015 **IBRC**, 2nd possible record Raisi Dam, Sistan Baluchestan 26 Jan 2017 **DB39(2):** 128, T&R 1989, 8th Oman record Dec 2013 **OBRC**, Porter & Aspinall 2010, vagrant to Al Wathba Wetland Reserve, Abu Dhabi Campbell *et al* 2018; claim for Egypt Rosier 1996 rejected **EORC 2011**; *filifera* extralimital Pakistan to continental SE Asia. Nominate is only other ssp in disjunct but widespread African population; nearest breed Sudan & Eritrea.
PT	Barn Swallow **PT**	*Hirundo rustica*	**PT** rationale. Zink *et al* 2006a show colonisation of Baikal region derives from Nearctic taxon *erythrogaster* in westward expansion to c80-90°E: easternmost OSME Region 87.3°E in Kazakhstan (close to arc of eastern limit of taxon *tytleri*). Zink *et al* 2006a indicate 3 **Clades**: European + W Asia *rustica, transitiva, savigny;* Nearctic + Baikal *erythrogaster* + *tytleri* ('American Barn Swallow'); E Asia *gutturalis;* placement of easternmost Siberian *saturata* & NE China *mandschurica* not examined, but probably close to *gutturalis*. Scordato & Safran 2014 reinforce the findings of Zink *et al* 2006a. We think it helpful *pro tem* to keep that overall concept in view until other aspects of molecular research can be applied.. The history of *tytleri* whose population formed only around 27,000 years BP, resembles that of some taxa of the large grey shrikes and the large white-headed gulls in Nearctic origin. Parkin & Knox 2010 note that DNA separation of Nearctic & Palearctic populations equivalent to that between species, & that the relationships between E Palearctic taxa not fully resolved. However, some evidence of sympatric breeding of *rustica* & *tytleri* found just W of Lake Baikal Leader *et al* 2021. Scordato *et al* 2017 had found that the more phenotypically differentiated were the subspecies pair (*rustica* & *tytleri*), clines for ancestry, wing length and ventral coloration were steep and coincident, suggestive of strong isolation and, potentially, selection associated with phenotype. In the less phenotypically differentiated pair (*tytleri* & *gutturalis*), gene flow and phenotypic variation occurred over a wide geographic span, indicative of weaker isolation. Liu, Y *et al* 2020, researching phenotypic variation, suggest *mandschurica* not valid, possibly a hybrid betweem *tytleri* & *gutturalis*, but see **NB3** below.
			NB1 Taxon ID of Barn Swallows thought to cross Western Indian Ocean following dragonfly swarms to E Africa (Anderson 2009) not known, but perhaps *rustica* or *gutturalis*, but *tytleri* does winter in Indian subcontinent. **NB2** Declining trend in population (**BLDZ** Nov 2018), but Teglhøj 2018 demonstrates that well-designed artificial nests in urban areas are more productive than swallow-built nests. **NB3** Turbek *et al* 2022, identifying a migratory divide in W China between sspp *rustica* & *gutturalis*, confirmed from tracking data that the fomer migrates westwards along & mostly N of the mountainous southern border of Kazakhstan onwards, north of the Karakoram, gradually easing SW across Arabia and S to East Africa, whereas the latter, initially heading west south of the southern Kazakhstan border, turns S over the Taklaman Desert & Tibetan plateau, threading through the Himalayan passes and heading southwards to eastern India. Although they inferred the existence of a hybridisation zone between the breeding grounds, they found little genetic and stable isotope analysis data to suggest that hybridisation was abundant. Turbek *et al* 2022 did not track any other ssp in China.
754	Eurasian Barn Swallow	*Hirundo (rustica) rustica*	English name informal@OSME. 3 sspp in Europe-W Asia clade: *rustica* Turkey (some trending towards *transitiva*), likely E to Caucasus, thence to Iran, Central Asia, abundant BM, PM SW Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b; *transitiva* Israel, Lebanon, S Syria, W Jordan, wintering Egypt; *savignii* Egypt. Widespread Region breeder T&R 1989 also Iran Khaleghizadeh *et al* 2017; all CA states Ayé *et al* 2012. Egypt Avib, BE. Negative population trend in much of Europe probably due to local farming practices (insect reduction, fewer nest sites) Zwarts *et al* 2009. May breed occasionally Arabia Jennings 2010, 1st confirmed record Feb 2015 Bracken 2016, 1st breeding UAE Apr 2021 Campbell *et al* 2022; abundant PM & WV Oman - single known (failed) breeding attempt **OBL7**; PM Socotra Porter & Suleimen 2020. In settlements around Lake Nasser, Egypt, ssp *savignii* breeds abundantly, but in Jun 2022, nominate detected in almost daily in small flocks or as individuals Jens Hering pers comm Jul 2022. Breeding birds from Lithuania perform loop migration, flying with little diversion from direct route to spend non-breeding season in southern Africa, but return much further east, crossing into Arabia at Bab al-Mandeb Strait and then to Iraq & E Turkey, some crossing the Caucasus before heading NW to Lithuania Briedis *et al* 2018. **NB1 DB 2009** call ssp *savignii* Egyptian Barn Swallow. **NB2** ssp *gutturalis* westernmost breeding distribution may just reach the Region in E Afghanistan: this taxon antedates *erythrogaster* & *tytleri* Zink 2006a, Scordato & Safran 2014.
755	American Barn Swallow	*Hirundo (rustica) erythrogaster tytleri*	English name informal@OSME. Sole ssp from Nearctic-Baikal **Clade** in E Palearctic is *tytleri.* Westernmost *tytleri* perhaps c100km from OSME Region in E Altai foothills; candidate vagrant E-most Kazakhstan; earlier records and labelled skins now insufficient. Any bird with rufous underparts in eastern half of OSME Region likely *tytleri* (although E Med *transitiva* & resident Egyptian *savignii* known also to be rufous). Leader *et al* 2021 in Tunkinsky National Park 50km W of Lake Baikal found sympatric breeding of *tytleri* & *rustica* with no evidence of hybridisation. E Asia **Clade** of *gutturalis* extralimital; **Clade** placement of *saturata* & *mandschurica* not examined. **NB** Taxon ID of Barn Swallows thought to cross Western Indian Ocean following dragonfly swarms to E Africa (Anderson 2009) not known, but perhaps *rustica* or *gutturalis*, but *tytleri* does winter in Indian subcontinent.

756	Ethiopian Swallow	*Hirundo aethiopica*	African species, likely ssp *amadoni* vagrant Israel, Porter *et al* 1996; reported Egypt (alluded to in Bonser 2006); likely vagrant to SW Arabia & breeds only 200km away on W Red Sea hinterland Jennings 2010. Nominate much less likely to appear in Region, although nearest population in C Ethiopia.
PT	House Martin **PT**	*Delichon urbicum*	IOC2.0, H&M4 accept split to *D. dasypus* Asian House Martin, also Parkin & Knox 2010, Dickinson & Dekker 2001b. del Hoyo & Collar 2016, Collar 2017 split *D. lagopodum* Eastern House Martin. Leader *et al* 2021 in detailed ID analysis, treat all 3 as visually identifiable separate species, a conclusion supported in sympatric breeding locations that had no obvious hybrids: IOC11.2 have accepted the split.
757	Western House Martin {Common House Martin} (Northern House Martin)	*Delichon urbicum*	Monotypic (Taxon *meridionale* subsumed in nominate Shirihai & Svensson 2018). Mostly thinly spread or local in CA (away from semi-desert Flint *et al* 1984), Turkey- Iran, possibly into Afghanistan, commoner elsewhere in OSME region, T&R 1989; fairly common PM Oman **OBL7**, vagrant Socotra Porter & Suleiman 2020. Moderate increase Cyprus 2006-2015 Hellicar 2016. Egypt Avib, BE. (Case change, David & Gosselin 2002). *D. lagopodum* reported Chokpak Andrei Gavrilov *in litt*. Several between Aswan & Abu Simbel Lake Nasser, Egypt, firsts for June in 2022 Jens Hering *in litt* Jul 2022. **NB** English name follows Leader *et al* 2021, better representing distribution.
758	Eastern House Martin {Siberian House Martin}	*Delichon lagopodum*	Monotypic. English name from **BLI**. who recognise as full sp. *D. lagopodum* vagrant (2 trapped) Chokpak Andrei Gavrilov *in litt*, but no photos or published descriptions known; specimens checked by Arend Wassink, who concluded they were *urbicum* Arend Wassink pers comm Jan 2022. **BLDZ** Mar 2018 map summer breeding range just into easternmost Kazakhstan.
759	Asian House Martin (Asiatic House Martin)	*Delichon dasypus*	Polytypic: extralimital sspp *nigrimentale* & *dasypus*. Once thought vagrant from India (?), T&R 1989; BM NE Afghanistan, Roberts 1992, R&A 2005; BM C-E Afghanistan **BLDZ** map Jul 2016 (ssp *cashmeriense*). Migrant autumn Chokpak Andrei Gavrilov *in litt*, then thought ssp *dasypus,* but, photos or published descriptions; specimens checked by Arend Wassink, who concluded they were *urbicum* Arend Wassink pers comm Jan 2022. Known vagrant UAE Porter & Aspinall 2010, 3 records UAE **EBRC**, 1st for Israel at Ma'agan Michel Dec 2016 **IRDC**: Leader *et al* 2021, using their ID criteria, suggest this was *lagopodum*. Ayé *et al* 2012 omit any mention for CA, but R&A 2012 map along NE Afghan-Pakistan border: **BLDZ** Aug 2019 maps as SV from Badakhshan (including the Wakhan) to Paktila & Shakin, breeding distribution still E of Kabul. **NB** Populations bear divergent cytochrome c oxidase 1 (CO1) lineages, potentially including cryptic taxa Kerr *et al* 2009.
760	Lesser Striped Swallow	*Cecropis abyssinica* (formerly *Hirundo abyssinica*)	African species. Single-record vagrant 1986 Masirah Oman **OBL7**, likeley ssp *abyssinica,* but slightly more distant candidates are *bannermani* & *unitatus;* 3 much more distant sspp. Change of genus follows Sheldon *et al* 2005, Sangster *et al* 2009.
PT	Red-rumped Swallow **PT**	*Cecropis daurica (formerly Hirundo daurica)*	Parkin & Knox 2010 had noted species limits need evaluation, *rufula* & *daurica* possibly being separable. Eaton *et al* 2016 examined species limits: firstly taxa *stanfordi, mayri* & *vernayi* are reassigned as sspp of wholly extralimital Striated Swallow *C. striata*. They split *C. rufula* as limiting Red-rumped to Africa & S Europe, but stretching across as far as NW India & presumably (?) including Afghanistan. *C. daurica* is named 'Daurian Swallow' & diminished to nominate & presumably + 3 extralimital sspp, *japonica, erthyropygia* & *nipalensis*; taxa *hyperthyra* & *badia* elevated to spp as Sri Lanka & Malayan Swallow respectively: IOC8.1 agrees, but last-named as Rufous-bellied Swallow. Eaton *et al* 2021 remain with their original findings.
761	Daurian Swallow (Formerly Red-rumped Swallow) (Asian Red-rumped Swallow: HBW Alive)	*Cecropis [daurica] daurica (formerly Hirundo daurica)*	English name from Eaton *et al* 2016 adopted here. *C. daurica* very rare BM Irtysh valley NE-most Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b. Change of genus follows Sheldon *et al* 2005, Sangster *et al* 2009. If accepted, 1st for Israel Maayan Tzvi Dec 2019, 2nd Nekarot Reservoir Arava Valley Jan 2020 **DB42(1):** 58, 3rd (2 birds) IBRCE Eilat Dec 2020, 4th Atlit Dec 2020 Yoav Perlman *in litt* **SG43(1):** 173 (May be regular winterer in small numbers); 1st for UAE at al Maha, Abu Dhabi Dec 2021-Feb 2022 **DB44(2):** 154, **(3):** 231. **NB DB WP List** Jul 10 named *C.d. japonica* Amur Red-rumped Swallow, but now may be considered as Asian Red-rumped Swallow **DB44(2):** 154.
762	Red-rumped Swallow *sensu stricto* (Western Red-rumped Swallow: HBW Alive)	*Cecropis [daurica] rufula*	S Europe, N Africa E to Iran & NW India; *H.d. rufula* Turkmenistan, Bukreev 1997; *rufula* scarce BM SE Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b. Local to widespread summer breeder mostly S & SE CA, Armenia Adamian & Klein 1999, Iran, Afghanistan, and throughout OSME Region, T&R 1989; common SW Arabian highlands, isolated colonies in C & W, c45 000bp Jennings 2010, uncommon PM Oman **OBL7**. Egypt Avib, BE. **NB** Has begun to winter in the WP in Western Sahara and Morocco Dufour *et al* 2020, a phenomenom that may be repeated in the OSME Region below 33° N.
763	Red Sea Cliff Swallow	*Petrochelidon perdita* **Data Deficient**	Monotypic. IOC v2.2, H&M4 recognise. This distinctive species (All dark, dull blue-grey head and back, white underparts below a dark chin) is known only from a single specimen, Sangraneb lighthouse 30km offshore, NE of Port Sudan, May 1984 Fry & Smith 1985, Hume & Walters 2012 App 1. Madge & Redman 1989 surmised that the species bred in E Sudan, likely drifting to Egypt, & possibly breeding coastal hills of western Saudi Arabia N of Jeddah . However, from the RNBWS database there are 2 successive reports, from very close to the type location, that were assigned to the *Petrochelidon* genus: 1st, at 22°44'N, 36°49'E **22 Aug 1965** of 3 "Cliff Swallows *Petrochelidon pyrrhonota*" (which is wholly a Nearctic species); 2nd, of a bird that landed on the Captain's wheelhouse chair 'allowing close examination' on **23 Aug 1965**, mid-Red Sea *c* 550km further S (Worgan 1966): taken as being just in 2018 OSME Region. The assignation of ID to this species suggests that there was more than a superficial morphological resemblance to Cliff Swallow, **but most pertinent is that they assigned the correct genus 19 years before the type (and only) specimen was found**. No breeding grounds have been discovered since. *Pro tem* we regard *P. perdita* as most probably breeding in small numbers either side of the Red Sea between 17 & 23°N. Searched for without success Red Sea Hills W of Port Sudan 2010-15 Jenner 2019. **NB1** 1st sighting was 60km NNE of Halaib, in Red Sea in OSME Region, between Halaib Triangle (legally part of Egypt but administered by Sudan) and Saudi Arabia c100km N of Jeddah. **NB2** The two sightings are equidistant N and S from the type location established 19 years later. **NB3** No other African taxon in this genus is known to occur within 2000km and only recently has the very different Streak-throated Swallow *P. fluvicola* become an extreme vagrant to N Egypt from the Indian subcontinent. **NB4** All issues of *Sea Swallow* are now searchable on-line from the RNBWS website.
764	Streak-throated Swallow (Indian Cliff Swallow)	*Petrochelidon fluvicola*	Breeds NE Afghanistan, R&A 2005 (T&R 1989), perhaps so Ayé *et al* 2012, E&SE of Kabul **BLDZ** map Jul 2019. 5-record vagrant Oman **OBL7** 6th record Feb 2016 **SG38(2):** 233, 7th record, 2 birds, Hilf Nov 2017 **OBRC**, 8th Raysut Nov 2017 **OBRC**; UAE, Porter & Aspinall 2010; 1st for Egypt 19 Nov 03 **EORC 2011**. 1st for Kuwait Jahra Pools Dec 2013 **KORC**, 2nd same location Apr 2014 Haas 2017 **KORC**; 2 at Bandar Abbas Dec 2019, Hormozgan are 1st for Iran **DB42(1):** 58. 1st for Turkey Jan 2021 at Milleyha, Hatay Kuzey Cem Kulacoğlu *in litt* **TBRC**.
		Cettiidae	IOC v2.0 placed **Cettidae** ahead of **Aegithalidae. NB** family name may be invalid on priority grounds Ed Dickinson *in litt*. Alström *et al* 2011c found *Tesia*, *Tickellia* & Mountain Tailorbird *Orthotomus cucullatus* to be nested within **Cettia,** but many taxa formerly included in **Cettia** removed to new genera, including *Horornis*. English name below informal @OSME.
PT	Cetti's Warbler **PT**	*Cettia cettia*	Alström *et al* 2011c noted sizeable separation within this taxon.
765	Western Cetti's Warbler	*Cettia (cetti) cetti*	English name informal@OSME. Monotypic if split. Moderate increase Cyprus 2006-2015 Hellicar 2016. *C. (cetti) cetti* breeds W Turkey, perhaps to Iraq. 2-record vagrant (taxon unclear) Oman **OBL7**. Egypt Avib, BE. **NB** *orientalis* (including *albiventris*) possibly best treated as separate species from W European *cetti* Alström *et al* 2011c.
766	Eastern Cetti's Warbler	*Cettia (cetti) orientalis*	English name informal@OSME. Includes *albiventris* as ssp. *C.c. albiventris* Turkmenistan, Bukreev 1997, Afghanistan Paludan 1959, this (C-SE CA) & *orientalis* C Turkey, Cyprus, Levant to Kazakhstan & also N, W&S Iran Khaleghizadeh *et al* 2017. Collected (as *Cettia orientalis*) Nov 1886 from Fao, on Iraqi Gulf coast by WD Cumming, Sharpe 1891. Common BM, accidental resident Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b, Iraq, Iran, CA, Afghanistan, Baker 1997. Possibly erratic breeder Kuwait Jennings 2010,
		Scotocercidae	IOC3.2 erects **Scotocercidae,** IOC3.5 places between **Cettidae** & **Aegithalidae.** Alström *et al* 2011a, IOC2.7 found that Scrub Warbler *Scotocerca inquieta* belongs more to **Cettiidae** & not **Cisticolidae.** However IOC2.11 re-introduced the modifier 'Streaked' & proposed reversion *pro tem* to *Incertae sedis*; IOC3.2. places in **Scotocercidae,** following Fregin *et al* 2012.

PT	Streaked Scrub Warbler **PT**	*Scotocerca inquieta sensu lato*	Shirihai & Svensson 2018 split off Saharan Scrub Warbler *S. saharae* breeding from NW Africa to Libya-Egypt border, remainder now *S. inquieta sensu stricto*, the separation from just W of Cairo to the mapped distribution of *saharae* in easternmost Libya being 600km. Bergier *et al* 2013 document vocal differences between the eastern & western groups, also Schweizer 2020, van den Berg & The Sound Approach 2020.. IOC11.1 draft puts split into 'inactive' category, presumably awaiting further data. **BLDZ** map of pre-split populations indicate continuous distribution from S Morocco E almost to Libya-Egypt border. IOC10.1 attributes the population in easternmost Libya to ssp *inquieta*, but positive ID not confirmed either way. **DB 2021** split off *S. striata* as Striated Scrub Warbler of sc Iraq, s Iran, s Afghanistan & (extralimital) Pakistan, but no citation found.
			NB1 An unpublished cytochrome b sequence on GenBank of an individual of *S inquieta* of unknown geographic origin, but submitted from Russia, differs markedly from North African birds indicating that there might be a separate genetically highly differentiated group of Streaked Scrub Warblers Schweizer 2020; taxon *buryi* from Yemen & that from Oman seemingly have very different vocalisations from any other population & so may be seperable Schweizer 2020. **NB2 BLDZ** notes no population trend known for certain in absence of species-specific surveys, but known decrease in Israel due to land-use changes. A decreasing overall trend is suggested, but its main distribution characteristic is common to local, in desert-type habitat of scattered shrubs. Frequents waterholes & oases.
767	Streaked Scrub Warbler (Scrub Warbler, Levant Scrub Warbler **DBWP** List Jan 2018, Shirihai & Svensson 2018)	*Scotocerca inquieta sensu stricto*	6 of 8 sspp in Region: *inquieta* E Egypt, Syria, NW Arabia; *grisea* WC Arabia-E Yemen-E Arabia; *buryi* SW Saudi, W Yemen; *montana* montane NW Iran, N Afghanistan, SC Turkmenistan-W Tien Shan; *platyura* NW Turkmenistan-S Kazakhstan-foothills Tien Shan; *striata* S Afghanistan. *S.i. platyura* & *montana* Turkmenistan, Bukreev 1997, former rare BM in SW & S-C Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b. Breeds Syria Murdoch & Betton 2008, S Israel, Jordan, Sinai (disjunct), Iran, SW&S CA, N Afghanistan (*platyura* NE & *striata* S Paludan 1959), Baker 1997, S&SW CA Flint et al 1984, N, W&S Afghanistan R&A 2005. In Arabia,locally common to absent N, C, SW then anticlockwise from W Yemen patchily to N UAE, perhaps 400 000bp Jennings 2010; fairly common montane resident breeder N & S Oman **OBL7**. 1st record for Iraq, Darbandikhan Lake Kurdistan Region Jun 2016 Ararat & Rahim 2017. Vagrant Azerbaijan Mitchell 2017. Reversion to previous English name IOC2.11. **DB 2021** split off *S. striata* as Striated Scrub Warbler of sc Iraq, s Iran, s Afghanistan & (extralimital) Pakistan.
768	Saharan Scrub Warbler	*Scotocerca saharae*	Polytypic: nominate & *theresae*, the latter of western Sahara. Nearest known breeding location to OSME Region (**BLDZ** map Jun 2020, Shirihai & Svensson 2018) is the Libyan Al Jaghbub Oasis less than 10km from the Egyptian border and less than 60km from Egypt's Siwa Oasis, and so it is highly likely to have occurred within the OSME Region, but unfortunately no Egypt records of any *Scotocerca* sp at Siwa 2014-2018 Jens Hering pers comm. We consider that its sporadic occurrence in the OSME Region to be highly probable.
		Aegithalidae	Sequence changes in **Aegithalidae** follow Päckert *et al* 2010 accepted in IOC 12.1
769	White-browed Tit-warbler (Severtzov's Tit-Warbler)	*Leptopoecile sophiae*	ssp *sophiae* resident CA; rare resident Tien Shan, Zhungarskiy Alatau SE Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b, male at Big Almaty Lake Jun 2019 within current breeding distribution Arend Wassink pers comm; not Turkmenistan (K-M&K 2005), wider range than Baker 1997 cites; Kyrgyzstan, Tadzhkistan, SE Kazakshtan, E Uzbekistan Ayé *et al* 2012 Koblik & Arkhipov 2014, (S & SE CA Flint *et al* 1984). Roberts 1992, Grimmett *et al* 2009 map along Afghan E Wakhan border, breeds above 3000m; Gilgit-Baltistan Bird website 2021 maps very close to Wakhan, Afghanistan. 3 extralimital sspp to E.
PT	Long-tailed Tit **PT**	*Aegithalos caudatus*	**PT** extralimital Silver-throated Bushtit ('Silver-throated Tit') *A. glaucogularis* (China) split: IOC2.7, Päckert *et al* 2010 (see Inskipp *et al* 2011), Wink 2011, H&M4.
770	Long-tailed Tit (Long-tailed Bushtit)	*Aegithalos caudatus*	7 ssp from total of 17 (H&M4) 14 (IOC 12.1) in Region: *tephronotus* W&C Turkey; *major* NE Turkey, Caucasus; *europaeus* European Turkey *macedonius* NW Turkey (IOC 12.1); *alpinus* SE Azerbaijan, N Iran; *passekii* S Turkey, SW Iran, *caudatus* from N Europe to Korea including Kazakhstan (IOC6.1). *A.c. alpinus* Turkmenistan, Bukreev 1997. Resident Turkey, Syria Murdoch & Betton 2008, Caucasus, N&W Iran, N Iraq Ararat *et al* 2011, SW Turkmenistan; *caudatus* common resident, scarce WV NW & E half of Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b; H&Q 1996, NE Iraq Moore & Boswell 1956, since 1980s E Kyrgyzstan, Ven 2002. 2nd Uzbekistan record Karaqalpakstan, eastern Usturt Nove 2019 **SG42(1):** 184. English name used customary. Possibly 3 species groups/full species involved H&M4, Eck & Martens 2006 (or more: Päckert *et al* 2010, Inskipp *et al* 2011)
771	White-cheeked Tit {White-cheeked Bushtit}	*Aegithalos leucogenys*	Monotypic. Resident NE Afghanistan, H&E 1970, H&Q 1996, R&A 2005, Grimmett *et al* 1998, 2009 (Nurestan Paludan 1959, to Kandahar in isolated populations Roberts 1992). English name used customary. **BLDZ** Jan 2020 maps from Kabul S almost to Kandahar Afghanistan.
		Phylloscopidae	IOC2.0 removes *Phylloscopus* from **Sylviidae** and places with *Seicercus* in new family **Phylloscopidae,** ahead of **Acrocephalidae** *sensu stricto*, but the use of that family name considered invalid on priority grounds (Ed Dickinson *in litt* 2012), which decision is asserted in H&M4, where *Phylloscopus* & *Seicircus* are retained as families within a much expanded **Phylloscopidae:** H&M4 uses as rationale the findings of Olsson *et al* 2005 to : transfer some species from *Phylloscopus* to *Seicircus,* producing an expanded *Seicircus: Phylloscopus* is further reduced by H&M4 erecting the genera *Rhadina* & *Abrornis,* again citing Olsson *et al* 2005. However, Alström *et al* 2018b, in a wide-ranging review of the phylogeny of **Phylloscopidae**, persuasively argue that the relationships between taxa are better presented within a single genus. Accordingly, we align with that decision but we follow IOC8.2 resequencing. **NB** Kolesnikova *et al* 2019 show that song did not function as a signal of direct aggression in 2 leaf warbler spp, Large-billed *P. magnirostris* & extralimital Sulphur-breasted *P. ricketti*, and if typical of the genus, thus song aggression may be a labile trait prone to rapid evolution.
772	Wood Warbler	*Phylloscopus sibilatrix* (May move to *Rhadina*)	Monotypic. Breeds NW Caucasus, Turkish Thrace Özkan 2011, accidental BM E-most & N-most Kazakhstan, rare PM Wassink 2015b; rare migrant, erratic breeder Ayé *et al* 2012, reasonably common passage Volga-Ural interfluve, rare elsewhere; vagrant migrant Iran Scott 2008 now rare PM Iran Khaleghizadeh *et al* 2017, Iraq Salim *et al* 2011, fairly common PM WV Oman **OBL7**, vagrant Socotra Porter & Suleiman 2020, 1st record Qatar Irkayya Farm Apr 2017 **SG42(2):** 329;winters sub-Saharan Africa, migrant Region-Baker 1997. Egypt Avib, BE **NB** H&M4 placed in *Rhadina*; a number of European national authorities have adopted this genus.
PT	Bonelli's Warbler **PT**	*Phylloscopus bonelli*	**Parent Taxon**: split now generally accepted, *eg* Wink 2011. Parkin & Knox 2010 emphasise that molecular divergence between the two taxa (independent evolutionary lineages) is at least as great as between either taxon and Wood Warbler *P. sibilatrix*. Furthermore, song differentiation between the two forms is documented in Groenendijk & Luijendik 2011. Citing Olsson *et al* 2005, H&M4 placed the next 2 spp in *Rhadina*, a view declined by Alström *et al* 2018, who also noted the deep divergence between *bonelli* & *orientalis.*
773	Western Bonelli's Warbler	*Phylloscopus bonelli* (formerly *P.b. bonelli*)	Monotypic. Passage Egypt Avib, BE (much less common than *orientalis*) Goodman & Meininger 1989, but perhaps easternmost populations (easternmost Alps Austria just W of Vienna **BLDZ** map May 2017) on outward migration transit Mediterranean directly (inferred from Zduniak *et al* 2015) and are not part of the main route via Gibraltar. Identity of WV in Cyrenaica Libya (& possibly westernmost Egypt) uncertain Isenmann *et al* 2016.
774	Eastern Bonelli's Warbler (Balkan Warbler)	*Phylloscopus orientalis* (formerly *P.bonelli orientalis*)	Monotypic. SW, SC Turkey, Syria, Lebanon, Israel, W Iran (status unconfirmed Scott & Adhami 2006, confirmed Roselaar & Aliabadian 2010), likely rare passage Iraq Salim et al 2012, 1st record May 2010 Ararat 2016, vagrant E Saudi Arabia, UAE Mitchell 2017, vagrant Georgia Koblik & Arkhipov 2014; 5-record vagrant Oman **OBL7**, 2nd record Kuwait Auf 2012 **KORC**, 3rd Mar 2017 **DB39(3):** 211, 4th Jahra Pools Aug 2021 **JBRC**. 2-record vagrant Iran Khaleghizadeh *et al* 2017, 3rd at Marivan, Kordestan May 2021 **IBRC**. Probably winters Sudan, Baker 1997, Egypt Goodman & Meininger 1989. Common return migrant Eilat, amost absent on outward passage Zduniak *et al* 2015, rare return migration record Cyprus Aug 2016 **CRC**. **NB** Population increasing, breeding range expanding in SE Europe BLDZ May 2017.

775	Hume's Leaf Warbler (Hume's Warbler, Hume's Yellow-browed Warbler)	*Phylloscopus humei* (*Abrornis humei* H&M4)	Nominate breeds commonly to N of Region in E Sayan Mts Rogacheva 1992; breeds SE & E CA; abundant BM, PM, accidental WV SE&E Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b, recorded NC Kazakhstan Sep 2014 Wassink 2015a, then the furthest W in country, but superseded by record on Kazakh Caspian coast Aqtau Wassink 2018; E Kyrgyzstan, E Tajikistan Ayé *et al* 2012, E&NE Afghanistan Paludan 1959 (Badakhshan, also passage), H&E 1970 Roberts 1992, R&A 2005, 2nd record Turkey Nov 2011 Kirwan *et al* 2014, winters in small numbers S Iran 4 records Jan 2016 Hormozgan Province **IBRC** now locally fairly common WV SE Iran Khaleghizadeh *et al* 2017, rare winterer or passage Iraq Salim *et al* 2012, 7th Kuwait record Nov 2015 **KORC** UAE, rare PM & WV Oman **OBL7**; if accepted 1st for Cyprus at Leveria Nov 2019 **DB42(1):** 59. Rare S Israel Perlman & Meyrav 2009, one Eilat Apr 2022 Yoav Perlman *in litt*. Vagrant Qatar, Bahrain, Kuwait Mitchell 2017, Pakistan to Thailand, Baker 1997; ssp *mandelli* extralimital. Overview – Rheindt 2006. **NB** H&M4 place in *Abrornis*.
776	Yellow-browed Warbler (Inornate Warbler)	*Phylloscopus inornatus*	Monotypic. Abundant in forest-tundra to N of Region. Suggestions of breeding NE Kazakhstan (*eg* Baker 1997) antedate split of *P. humei* (*qv*) Rheindt 2006; *inornatus* occurs as rare PM Wassink 2015b, Scott & Adhami 2006 agree for N&E Iran, 1st record since 1975 Park-e-Shahr Tehran Oct 2018 **DB40(6):** 418; rare autumn PM Oman **OBL7**, one at Berenice (Baranis) SE Egypt Red Sea coast, 6th record, Jan 2019 **EORC** 2019; 3rd record Aqaba Jordan Dec 2019 **SG42(2):** 325, 4th at Disi Oct 2020 **JRBC**;1st record Azerbaijan Oct 2015 Sjögren 2016, 2nd & 3rd records Oct 2017 **SG40(1):** 113. Winters SE Asia. Wanders widely. Vagrant. perhaps rare but regular autumn migrant, to Bahrain, Cyprus, Egypt, Saudi Arabia, UAE Mitchell 2017, 3rd Qatar record Sep 2016 at Ahwaz Jan-Feb 2019, 4th Al Shamal Oct 2019 **QBRC**; 4th record Wadi Rum Jordan Oct 2020 **SG43(1):** 174. **NB1** mimics Coal Tit *Periparus ater* song, Rogacheva 1992. **NB2** H&M4 place in *Abrornis*.
777	Brooks's Leaf Warbler	*Phylloscopus subviridis* (*Abrornis subviridis* H&M4)	Monotypic. Breeds E Afghanistan (possibly incl Wakhan), winters lower Pakistan, Baker 1997, but Ayé *et al* 2012 unable to support Wakhan; vagrant Kyrgyzstan, Ven 2002. NE Afghanistan Roberts 1992 (eastern Afghan Safed Koh Paludan 1959 H&E 1970), mapped S Tajikistan R&A 2005, not supported elsewhere (likewise Turkmenistan). **BLDZ** map May 2017 in Afghanistan from southernmost Badakhshan to Paktika, but also to 100+km W & 275+km SW of Kabul. Collected Orenburg, Russia, 1899 (100km N of Kazakhstan, on Ural River). **NB** H&M4 place in *Abrornis*.
PT	Lemon-rumped Warbler **PT**	*Phylloscopus chloronotus*	Martens 2010 Inskipp *et al* 2011 split extralimital Sichuan Leaf Warbler *P. forresti*. H&M4 place in *Abrornis*.
778	Lemon-rumped Warbler (Simla Leaf Warbler)	*Phylloscopus [chloronotus] chloronotus*	Nominate extralimital E of *simlaensis,* which possibly wanders to Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, but most likely Afghanistan Clements 2000) where may breed Ayé *et al* 2012 Nuristan. Baker 1997 asserts winters India, **BLDZ** map indicating mostly altitudinal migrant, regularly wintering as far W as Peshawar Pakistan, **BLDZ** Feb 2018 mapping to within 35km of Afghan border. Vagrant elsewhere. Rheindt 2006 supports *P.(c.) simlaensis* ('Ticehurst's Willow Warbler'), known breeder Chitral up to 2700m, close to similar Afghan Nurestan habitats Roberts 1992. **NB** H&M4 place in *Abrornis*.
PT	Pallas's Leaf Warbler **PT**	*Phylloscopus proregulus*	Split after Martens 2010, Inskipp *et al* 2011, of extralimital Gansu Leaf Warbler *P. kansuensis*.
779	Pallas's Leaf Warbler (Pallas's Warbler)	*Phylloscopus [proregulus] proregulus*	Long-distance vagrant. Breeds to N of Region from subtaiga zone S to Sayan Mts Rogacheva 1992. Likely PM in NE-most OSME Region (Clements 2000, Shimba 2007), E Kazakhstan, inferred from Baker 1997; very rare autumn PM, occasional spring PM SE quadrant Kazakhstan. Ayé *et a*l 2012, H&E 1970 suggest eastern Afghan Safed Koh breeding, vagrant elsewhere - 3 Israel records this taxon Yoav Perlman *in litt* Nov 09, 4th Israel record Yeruham 28 Oct 2016, 5th Jan-Mar Wadi David, Ein Gedi **IRDC**; 3rd record Turkey Nov 2011 Kirwan *et al* 2014, 7th record Kızılırmak Delta Oct 2021 **TBRC**. 1st record Georgia Oct 2015 **DB37(6):** 414, 1st record Azerbaijan Oct 2018 **SGATR41(1)**,1st record Iran Gol et al 2014, 2nd NE Tehran Apr 2016 **SG38(2):** 231, 3rd Rig Yalam, Bam, Kerman Province Nov 2016 **IBRC** Khaleghizadeh *et al* 2017, 1st for Azerbaijan Besh Barmag Oct 2018 **DB40(6):** 418; Rheindt 2006 suggested from map possibly scarce breeder NE-most OSME Region; **BLDZ** Apr 2020 indicates nearest summer breeding 400km to E in Mongolia – winters SE Asia, has occurred Afghanistan E Dickinson pers comm.
780	Tytler's Leaf Warbler (Formerly Slender-billed Leaf Warbler)	*Phylloscopus tytleri*	Monotypic. Breeds NE Afghanistan (Nurestan Paludan 1959 Roberts 1992 Rasmussen 1998, Ayé *et al* 2012), **BLDZ** map May 2017 as SV from Nurestan to N rim of Khyber Pass, W to within 25km of Kabul, as an isolate population Sharma 2021. Breeds Pakistan, winters S India, Baker 1999, R&A 2005, HBW11.
781	Radde's Warbler	*Phylloscopus schwarzi*	Monotypic. Baker 1997 in error re breeding NE Kazakhstan; single-record vagrant Gavrilov & Gavrilov (G&G) 2005, W&O 2007, Ayé *et al* 2012, Wassink 2015b, reinforcing Flint *et al* 1984. Breeds fairly near northeasternmost Kazakhstan HBW11, in Sayan Mts & in southern taiga, at density 300 birds/km² some years Rogacheva 1992, yet **BDLZ** Feb 2018 maps as breeding in a 170 × 40km of NE Kazakhstan towards Zyryanovsk. Vagrant Afghanistan Paludan 1959 & in most of Region, passage E Dickinson pers comm; 1st Kuwait Oct 2015 **DB37(6):** 418, vagrant UAE Mitchell 2017.
782	Sulphur-bellied Warbler (Olivaceous Leaf Warbler)	*Phylloscopus griseolus*	Monotypic. Scarce BM E & SE Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b; E Kyrgyzstan, E Tajikistan, E Uzbekistan (but abundant Enilchek Valley, Issyk-Kul Region 2021 van Els & Hiddes 2022), Afghanistan, K-M&K (2005), Baker 1997, Ayé *et al* 2012; CE & NE Afghanistan (Paludan 1959 H&E 1970 Roberts 1992, R&A 2005), Bamiyan Busuttil & Ayé 2009, Ayé *et al* 2012. Winters India. **NB** 1st for UK Lundy Island, Devon Jun 2021
783	Tickell's Leaf Warbler ('Alpine Leaf Warbler')	*Phylloscopus affinis*	ssp *perflavus* occurs up to 4800m R&A 2005: nominate extralimital; W limit of breeding range previously depicted exactly on N Pakistan-Afghanistan border; Nurestan-Badakhshan & E Wakhan Roberts 1992; Grimmett *et al* 2009 map suggests that Afghan occurrence likeliest Daryā-ye & Konar valleys. **BLDZ** Jun 2018 maps into Afghanistan just in eastern Nurestan, Kunar and Nangarhar. Strong likelihood of wandering, but habitat declining; occurs Kashmir up to 5000m, Baker 1997, to treeline Bates & Lowther 1952. R&A 2005 **NB** Extralimital populations from E Tibetan plateau & points E&S split as West Chinese Leaf Warbler *P. occisinensis* Martens *et al* 2008 ('Alpine Leaf Warbler' H&M4), but Alström *et al* 2018 return to ssp status pending formal description.
784	Dusky Warbler	*Phylloscopus fuscatus*	ssp *robustus* probably likliest to wander to Region, possibly *fuscatus: tibetanus* sedentary; Locally common in thickets, pine-tea tree *Caragana* sp mixes in forest-steppe & subalpine belt to N of Region Rogacheva 1992. Common BM, very rare PM E-most Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b, uncommon Ayé *et al* 2012, to Far East, winters SE Asia, vagrant W&S of range Baker 1997, UAE, Israel. 8th record Israel Ma'ayan Zvi Oct 2018 **IRDC**, 10th at least at Rosh Tzipor, Tel Aviv Nov 2021 Yoav Perlman *in litt*. 1st record Egypt 1988 **EORC 2011**, 3rd record Nov 2015 Oman **OBRC**, 2nd Georgia Oct 2015, 3rd Turkey Oct 2015, 4th Samsun 12 Oct 2016 **DB38(7):** 464 6th Kızılırmak Delta Oct 2021 **TBRC**. 2nd Cyprus record, 2 birds, Paphos Sewage Works Nov-Dec 2016 **CRC**, 3rd-6th records (?) Paphos, Cyprus 13 Nov 2016 **DB38(7):** 464, 3rd Oman Nov 2015 **DB37(6):** 418, 8th for UAE Nov 2017, 9th Nov 2018 Al Mamzar park **EBRC**. 1st for Iran Gilan Province Dec 2016-05 Jan 2017 Khaleghizadeh *et al* 2017. **NB** Regular WP vagrant Harrop 2007, also N Yemen Porter & Warr 1985.
785	Plain Leaf Warbler	*Phylloscopus neglectus*	Monotypic. Mountain breeder; Iran, S & E CA (SW Kyrgyzstan, Ven 2002), recorded Turkey 2004, 2005 Gotschling *et al* 2015; one breeding site Peramagroon Mts, Suleymaniyah Iraq 2011 **SG33(2)ATR**, 8bp 2012 Haas 2017, Afghanistan (W&NE Paludan 1959, C&N Ayé *et al* 2012, also W Tajikistan), winters Oman, S Iran, Arabia, Baker 1997, fairly common PM & WV Oman **OBL7**, S Tajikistan, S Turkmenistan R&A 2005 (probably from Ayé *et al* 2012 map), 1st for Kuwait April 2015 **KORC**, 4th Qatar record at Rawdat, Al Jamailiya (2 birds) Jan-Feb 2021 **QBRC**, 12 dispalying Sakran Mountain Kurdistan Jul 2021, new WP breeding area **SG44(1):** 239. Vagrant Bahrain, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Turkey Mitchell 2017.

786	Willow Warbler	*Phylloscopus trochilus*	3 sspp, 2 in Region: *acredula* ubiquitous open deciduous forests to N of Region (Rogacheva 1992); no fieldwork proof of recent breeding *acredula* or *yakutensis* in Kazakhstan, where common PM (both sspp treated together due to lack of separation criteria) Wassink 2015b; However, genetic and phenotypic analyses suggest that *pro tem*, breeding birds E of Urals be treated as *yakutensis* & those W of Urals *acredula* Sokolovskis *et al* 2019. Baker 1997 assumed *yakutensis* migrates to southern Africa through Region, but Sokolovskis *et al* 2018 geotracked a 13 000km migration from Far East Russia to S Tanzania & Mozambique over 3-4 month period; *acredula* is believed to winter much further W in Africa.. Fairly common PM Oman **OBL7**, vagrant Socotra Porter & Suleiman 2020, common widespread PM Iran Khaleghizadeh *et al* 2017. Egypt Avib, BE. **NB** From data collection over an 8-year period on 4 small passerines wintering in Ghana, Thorup *et al* 2019 conceded that despite employing current techniques, the scale of effort needed for establishing accurate declines and relating them to habitat usage and changes needs to be greater and performed on a circannual basis. However, the general conclusion within wide confidence limits is that Willow Warbler is largely itinerant over the wintering area.
PT	Mountain Chiffchaff **PT** (formerly Caucasian Chiffchaff)	*Phylloscopus sindianus*	Alström *et al* 2018 in a complete phylogeny of **Phylloscopidae** treat *sindianus* as basal to *collybita* & so our previous sequencing is superseded. **PT** IOC 4.4 retained *sindianus* & *lorenzii* as the only 2 sspp of P. *sindianus,* which Alström *et al* 2018 support, whereas H&M4 treated as separate species citing Stepanyan 1990. However, given that the breeding distributions of these 2 taxa in H&M4 are separated by 750km, *pro tem* we list them separately here on an allopatric basis. We think the H&M4 English names less than appropriate: we suggest that 'Mountain Chiffchaff' *sensu stricto* is better restricted to *sindianus* because its distribution includes a vast range of ranges and peaks above 6000m asl remote from the equally rugged Kashmir; 'Kashmir Chiffchaff', while it pays homage to WE Brooks (who described *sindianus*), is misleading as a present-day English name. We revert to 'Caucasian Chiffchaff' for *lorenzii.* Both English names are informal@OSME. Raković *et al* 2019 note allopatry despite relatively low genetic divergence, but posit that both populations suffered genetic bottlenecks in explanation. **NB** Taxon *caucasicus* is ssp of Common Chiffchaff *P. collybita;* previously, some had linked it with *lorenzii* before the latter was split.
787	Mountain Chiffchaff (Kashmir Chiffchaff H&M4)	*Phylloscopus (sindianus) sindianus*	English name@OSME preferred for the taxon occupying vast mountain ranges in Central Asia Koblik & Arkhipov 2014 agree. Monotypic: *sindianus* SE Kyrgyzstan, E Tajikistan & N Afghanistan Ayé *et al* 2012; all 5 Kazakh reports lack documentation & skins, & both from 2005 lack photos or sound recordings Wassink 2013; unconfirmed Kyrgyzstan, Ven 2002, confirmed Koblik & Arkhipov 2014, probably not Afghanistan R&A 2005 (Claimed collected, Meinertzhagen, Ghorband Afghanistan), cited by Whistler 1945 & probably Paludan 1959, although H&M4 includes Afghanistan in wintering area (mostly Pakistan & N India): H&M4 breeding distribution given as Karakoram, Pamir & Altai ranges to Tien Shan, NW China in Xinjiang, W Himalayas to Himachal Pradesh. **NB** Long treated (Sind Mountain Chiffchaff) as separate from (Caucasian Chiffchaff) by some with less than emphatic justification at the time *eg* Roselaar 1995, Kirwan *et al* 2008 & Svensson *et al* 2009.
788	Caucasian Chiffchaff (Mountain Chiffchaff H&M4)	*Phylloscopus (sindianus) lorenzii*	English name@OSME Preferred for the taxon occupying the mountain ranges of the Caucasus, stretching into the southern Caspian mountains of Iran; Koblik & Arkhipov 2014 agree. Monotypic: *lorenzii* breeds Caucasus, NE Turkey, Transcaucasia. H&M4 consider resident (we assume it is an altitudinal migrant with occasional vagracy), locally common SV Iran Azarbaijan Province winters S Iran, Khaleghizadeh *et al* 2017, but only 7th confirmed record Solduz westland, Naghadeh, west Azarbaijan Nov 2017 **IBRC**. Oman (?) to India, Baker 1997, passage Iraq Salim *et al* 2012; 2nd record *lorenzii* (ringed) Cyprus Apr 2013 **CRC,** 3rd Avagas Gorge 6 Nov 2016 **CBC**, vagrant Israel Perlman & Meyrav 2009, rare WV Kuwait **KORC**, 1st for Kazakhstan imaged at Fakel, Mangistau Region by Gennadiy Dyakin May 2018. **NB** Long treated (Caucasian Chiffchaff) as separate from (Sind Mountain Chiffchaff) by some with less than emphatic justification at the time *eg* Roselaar 1995, Kirwan *et al* 2008 & Svensson *et al* 2009.
PT	Common Chiffchaff **PT**	*Phylloscopus collybita*	Stable isotope ratio studies (Inger & Bearhop 2008) have shown that breeding *collybita* in Sweden have a migratory divide to widely-separated African wintering areas, possibly indicating a future potential split. In a major paper, Raković *et al* 2019 find *tristis* to be a separate or incipient species, but also establish across a broad area mtDNA **Clades** for *tristis, collybita, brevirostris/caucasicus, menzbieri* & *abietinus*, all in the OSME Region; furthermore a new haplotype found on Mount Hermon may be an undescribed ssp. Despite Alström *et al* 2018 & Raković et al 2019, we regard, somewhat conservatively, the Chiffchaff complex as a superspecies. **NB1** IOC v2.3 also accepts extralimital split Canary Islands Chiffchaff *P.[c.] canariensis*. **NB2** No reliable morphological differentiation yet known between *tristis* & *abietinus;* de Kniff *et al* 2012 - reliable separation limited to cytochrome B + mtDNA analyses; Collar 2017 accepts split.
789	Common Chiffchaff	*Phylloscopus [collybita] collybita*	Raković *et al* 2019 state "The existence of '*fulvescens*' individuals of *P. c. tristis* E of Urals that have olive and yellow tones to the mantle & supercilium respectively, characteristics associated with *P. c. abietinus*, suggests more widespread introgression." 5 sspp, all in Region: *abietinus* E Turkey, Transcaucasia, wintering in an arc from Turkey to Arabia, some to Sahel; *collybita* Levant, Egypt & beyond, rarely sub-Sahara; *brevirostris* N&W Asia Minor; *caucasicus* N Caucasus, perhaps Azerbaijan; *menzbieri* Turkmenistan, NE Iran. Breeds Turkey (*brevirostris*) Kirwan *et al* 2008, ubiquitously so in open deciduous and dark-coniferous forests to N of Region (Rogacheva 1992), *abietinus* common PM, accidental WV, mostly in W Kazajhstan Wassink 2015b, PM Ayé *et a*l 2012, migrant Kyrgyzstan, Ven 2002, *P.c. menzbieri* breeds Turkmenistan, Bukreev 1997, Caucasus, Iraq & N Iran; wintering complex, some S Caspian, Iran, Arabia, Levant, India, sub-Saharan Africa, Baker 1997; vagrant Socotra Porter & Suleiman 2020. Ringed Egypt Hilgerloh & Raddatz 2009; *abietinus* common PM, WV Oman **OBL7.3**. **NB1** Raković *et al* 2019 identified a putative 6th ssp breeding on Mount Hermon in the southern Anti-Lebanon Mountains, & noted that populations from S Armenia to N Iran have not definitively been identified as to sspp. **NB2** ID of taxa in N of Region may have history of misidentification; how much any thinly-spread taxa are sympatric with next species is uncertain.
790	Siberian Chiffchaff {Common Chiffchaff}	*Phylloscopus [collybita] tristis*	Common BM, abundant PM, occasional resident, WV, breeds far N&E Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b, Ayé *et a*l 2012, common autumn migrant Volga Delta Arkhipov 2006; PM Paludan 1959 & winters Afghanistan R&A 2005. Uncommon winterer UAE UAE Checklist 2008, abundant PM & WV Oman **OBL7**. Ringed Egypt Hilgerloh & Raddatz 2009. **NB1** H&M4 subsume *fulvescens* in *tristis,* but include *tristis* as ssp of *collybita;* here, subsuming *fulvescens* would make *P. tristis* monotypic. Reasonable splitting case made by Martens & Eck 1995, McGeehan 2011, Marova *et al* 2013, but IOC11.1 still lumps. Svensson *et al* 2009 admit possibility of being incipient species. **NB2** Clements 2007 retains as ssp, Shimba 2007, Brazil 2009 as *P. tristis*, Siberian Chiffchaff. **NB3** Parkin & Knox 2010 suggested that if breeding in the area of overlap of *tristis* & *abietinus* is assortive, then *tristis* might best be regarded as polytypic species (to include *fulvescens*). **NB4** Stepanyan (1990) suggests *fulvescens* may also be full sp, but Raković *et al* 2019 disagree.
791	Iberian Chiffchaff	*Plylloscopus [collybita] ibericus*	One seen & sound-recorded Musandam March 2016 by David McAdam, Killian Mullarney *in litt*
792	Brown Woodland Warbler	*Phylloscopus umbrovirens*	9 sspp, 8 in Africa: *yemenensis* in SW Arabia, Baker 1997, resident N Yemen Porter & Warr 1985. S Tihama highland forest resident mostly 1800-2800m asl, perhaps 70 000bp Jennings 2010. **NB** H&M4 place in *Seicircus*.
PT	Green/Greenish Warbler **PT**	*Phylloscopus nitidus/P. trochiloides*	Scott & Adhami 2006 (Iran) retain as full species – Green = *P. nitidus*, Greenish *P. trochiloides*. IOCv2.0 retained 3 separate species, but Rheindt 2006 made a strong case for retention as single species. However, Knox *et al* 2008, having considered vocalisation and additional mtDNA data make the case for *nitidus* at least be an allospecies with *trochiloides,* ie removed from the ring species. Status of *plumbeitarsus* best left *pro tem* as shown; case for elevation reasonable but not comprehensive; although H&M4 elevate *plumbeitarsus* while placing all related taxa in *Seicircus,* unresolved issues acknowledged. The wide-ranging complete phylogeny of **Phylloscopidae** by Alström *et al* 2018 threw no new light on the 'ring species' debate, but gave no support to the following taxa comprising a superspecies. **NB1** H&M4 place these taxa in *Seicircus*. **NB2** Populations bear divergent cytochrome c oxidase 1 (CO1) lineages, potentially including cryptic taxa Kerr *et al* 2009.

793	Green Warbler (Green Leaf Warbler, Bright Green Warbler)	*Phylloscopus nitidus*	Monotypic. Breeds N Turkey, Caucasus, SE CA, common SB N Iran montane forest Khaleghizadeh *et al* 2017, winters India, Sri Lanka, Baker 1997 vagrant Israel Perlman & Meyrav 2009, 8th record Jerusalem Bird Obs Jun 2018 **IRDC**. Breeds W Afghanistan Paludan 1959, perhaps so Ayé *et al* 2012, mostly passage; resident E Afghanistan R&A 2005, *nitidus* doubted Ayé *et al* 2012; rare PM Oman seldom WV **OBL7**, Vagrant Kuwait, Bahrain, Saudi Arabia, Mitchell 2017. 1st for Cyprus Paralimni Sep 2020 **SG43(1):** 169. Rheindt 2006 suggested ring sp.
794	Two-barred Warbler (Two-barred Leaf Warbler)	*Phylloscopus plumbeitarsus*	IOC, HBW & BLI treat as full species, but if ring species (Rheindt 2006, Newton 2003), would be *P. trochiloides plumbeitarsus*. Does wander to N of Region Rogacheva 1992. Report Oman Jan 07 not accepted. Taxon retained in Passerine List because known extreme extralimital vagrants must cross the Region..
795	Greenish Warbler	*Phylloscopus trochiloides*	Subspecies of *P. trochiloides* occurring in Region are *viridanus* (allospecies to some) & *ludlowi* (vagrant); extralimital sspp are *trochiloides* in Himalayas & *obscuratus* in E China. Taxon *viridanus* locally common Russian dark-coniferous forest clearings to N of Region Rogacheva 1992; common BM E Kazakhstan, common PM Wassink 2015b; Tajikistan Pamirs, Kyrgyzstan, E Afghanistan Ayé *et al* 2012; intergrades with *ludlowi* (*qv*) of SE Afghanistan, rare PM N&E Iran Khaleghizadeh *et al* 2017, Bahrain Lebanon, Saudi Arabia Mitchell 2017, winters India, SE Asia, Baker 1997. Vagrant Saudi Arabia, Ostrowski & Guinard 2002, 2-record vagrant Oman **OBL7**. No *Sandgrouse* breeding records Middle East. Has bred Baluchistan (Pakistan); Grimmett *et al* 1998, 2009. Rheindt 2006 ring sp. **NB** *P. trochiloides ludlowi* distributed C&E Afghanistan in Region, extralimitally to N Pakistan & NW Himalayas to S India. Baker 1997 & HBW11 distributions (Himalayas E of *ludlowi* & eastwards) make taxon *trochiloides* vagrant in OSME Region (misorientation Berthold 1999). Paludan 1959 gives *ludlowi* as summer breeder Afghan Badakhshan; NE Afghanistan R&A 2005.
796	Large-billed Leaf Warbler	*Phylloscopus magnirostris*	Monotypic. Breeds Kashmir & N of Thal along Kurram River tributaries: river flows from Paktiā, Afghanistan Roberts 1992. Bates & Lowther 1959 note thinly widespread Kashmir, known W breeding limit Safed Koh. Isolated breeding record on NE Afghanistan-Pakistan border; map R&A 2005. Grimmett *et al* 1998, 'scarce & local SV up to 3200m' & note confusable with *P.t. trochiloides*, but Grimmett *et al* 2009 map entire Pakistan Safed Koh exactly to Afghan border; may be BM Ayé *et al* 2012, assumed as such in **BLDZ** map May 2017, SV from Nuristan S to Paktila, some 100km into E Afghanistan. 1st record UAE & Arabia Oct 2014 Smiles 2014. **IUCN** include C-E Afghanistan in breeding range, while **BLDZ** map sizeable area S & E of Kabul May 2017. Documentation needed for Afghanistan on-line reports. In H&M3 corrigenda E Dickinson pers comm. **NB** H&M4 place in *Seicircus*.
PT	Arctic Warbler **PT**	*Phylloscopus borealis, sensu lato*	IOC2.8 & Sangster *et al* 2012 accept split of extralimital Kamchatka and Japanese Leaf Warblers, *P. examinandus* & *P. xanthodryas* respectively; H&M4 places all 3 spp in *Seicircus*.
797	Arctic Warbler	*Phylloscopus borealis (sensu stricto)*	Monotypic IOC8.2, Alström *et al* 2011d. Breeds Far N Eurasia migrant in Region. Ubiquitous in Russian northern open forests to N of Region Rogacheva 1992, 15 insufficiently documented reports Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b, vagrant CA Ayé *et al* 2012, single-record vagrant Oman **OBL7**, vagrant Saudi Arabia, Turkey Mitchell 2017, 1st for Israel ringed IBRCE, Eilat Sep 2018 **IRDC**; winters SE Asia, wanders widely, Baker 1997. **NB1** extralimital taxa *xanthodryas* (Far E Siberia) & *kennicotti* (Alaska) were made ful spp by Reeves *et al* 2008, Wink 2011, Alström *et al* 2011d: all previous morphological ID criteria of all 3 taxa need revision; H&M4 recognise *xanthodryas* as full sp, but retain *kennicotti* as other ssp of *borealis*. **NB2** Populations bear divergent cytochrome c oxidase 1 (CO1) lineages, potentially including cryptic taxa Kerr *et al* 2009.
798	Western Crowned Warbler (Western Crowned Leaf Warbler)	*Phylloscopus occipitalis* (*Seicircus occipitalis* H&M4)	Monotypic. Previously plausibly but erroneously *occipitalis* thought ssp of, then a split from *P. coronatus sensu stricto* on morphology, but now known to be but distantly related Olsson *et al* 2005: note Vaurie in 1950s treated *occipitalis* as full species, but subsequently considered it conspecific with *coronatus* Olsson *et al* 2005. BM Uzbekistan, Tajikistan Koblik & Arkhipov 2014, **BLDZ** map May 2017 plots as SV to N & E Afghanistan. **NB1** H&M4 place in *Seicircus*. **NB2** Sikkim Meinertzhagen record fraudulent (see history in Garfield 2007). In Assam Meinertzhagen *occipitalis* records misidentified Blyth's Leaf-Warbler *P. reguloides*; R&A 2005 (see also Garfield 2007).
		Acrocephalidae	IOC v2.0 removes *Acrocephalus* & *Hippolais* from **Sylviidae** & places with some African genera in new **Acrocephalidae,** after **Phylloscopidae** *sensu stricto*. Restructuring of *Acrocephalus* genus inevitable from Fregin *et al* 2009; details per taxon, but 2 alternative taxonomic approaches outlined, the broader (*sensu lato*, or *sl* below) providing less phylogenetic information than the other (*sensu stricto: ss*), the 2nd option has some conclusions inevitably based on reduced range of DNA samples. Further work may clarify. H&M4 does not mention any adoption of *Calamodus* or *Notiocichla* genera as discussed in Fregin *et al* 2009. **NB** Kennerley & Pearson 2010 adopt a nominally conservative taxonomic approach, but emphasise strongly that much change is likely to follow
799	Basra Reed Warbler (Babylonian Reed Warbler)	*Acrocephalus griseldis* **Endangered**	Monotypic. Lower Tigris-Euphrates interfluve, migrant Arabia-Rift Valley Baker 1997 S to Mozambique via Ethiopia Ash & Atkins 2009; near-endemic local breeder along rivers in marshes Iraq Salim *et al* 2012, small numbers nesting only on reed stems during survey in Apr-Jun Fazaa *et al* 2017, breeder & common passage Kuwait Cleere & Kelly 2009, 4bp Riyadh River from 1997 Nikolaus & Ash 1997, *c* 20bp Jennings 2010, local uncommon SB Khuzestan marshes Khaleghizadeh *et al* 2017, probably so C Arabia Jennings 2004a where migrants trapped Jennings 2010, uncertain status Syria Murdoch & Betton 2008, recent rare breeder Israel Perlman & Meyrav 2009. Vagrant Cyprus Flint & Stewart 1992. Vagrant Bahrain, Syria Mitchell 2017; 1st record Al Ruwais, Qatar May 2017 **QBRC**, 1st for Israel Eilat May 2018 & 1st for Turkey Aras, Erzrum, near border with Armenia May 2018 Neate-Clegg *et al* 2019. 1st for UAE at Abu Dhabi Apr 2018, 2nd Bab-al-Shams lake May-Jun 2020 **EBRC**. One trapped Jan 2014 Marlborough Vlei Zimbabwe *ABC Bull* **21(2)**. Not listed **OBL7.6**. Basic ID differences from Great Reed and Clamorous Reed Warblers *A. arundinaceus, A. stentoreus* Pearson & Backhurst 1988. **NB** Fregin *et al* 2009: *griseldis* remote from other large *Acrocephalus* warblers, but exact relationship unclear, hence genus left unchanged (*sl* & *ss*).
PT	Great Reed Warbler **PT**	*Acrocephalus arundinaceus*	**Parent Taxon**: in H&M3; IOC2.0 accepts split, which Kennerley & Pearson 2010 emphasise.
800	Great Reed Warbler	*Acrocephalus [arundinaceus] arundinaceus*	2 sspp, both In Region: nominate Asia Minor, Levant, wintering much of Africa below Sahara, *zarudnyi* common BM, PM Kazakhstan (Wassink 2015b) & N Kyrgyzstan, perhaps irregularly Uzbekistan, SW&W Turkmenistan & W Tajikistan Ayé *et al* 2012; hybrids with *A.(stentoreus) brunnescens* known from S-C Kazakhstan. Turkey-Caucasus Roselaar 1995, Iraq, Iran, Afghanistan, CA, Baker 1997, also possibbly N Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b. Nominate summer breeder Arabia from near Bahrain to Kuwait on Gulf & near Riyadh, perhaps 200bp Jennings 2010, nominate SB N&W Iran, *zarudnyi* PM N Iran Khaleghizadeh *et al* 2017. Also common to abundant migrant; uncommon to fairly common PM & WV Oman, but status uncertain from possible confusion with *A. brunnescens* **OBL7**, fairly common migrant rare breeder Israel Perlman & Meyrav 2009. One Afghan record (Meinertzhagen?) *zarudnyi* Paludan 1959, but breeding distribution SE European Russia to Xinjiang & W Mongolia, migrant Azraq Jordan Wallace 1982. Egypt Avib BE. Origin Kuwait (?) Lever 2005 App B Egypt Avib, BE. **NB1** genus maintained Fregin *et al* 2009. **NB2** Populations using the Eastern European Flyway on outward migration pause north of the Mediterranean & Sea of Marmara to gain weight to fuel a direct flight to the Sahel Stępniewska *et al* 2020.
801	Oriental Reed Warbler	*Acrocephalus [arundinaceus] orientalis*	Monotypic. 2 Israel Shirihai 1996, descriptions Shirihai 1999; 4 possibly intermediate *A. arundinaceus zarudnyi* × *A. orientalis*; currently treated as vagrant Israel Perlman & Meyrav 2009. Vagrant OSME Region likely misorientation (Berthold 1999). Suggestion breeds N Szechwan (Xinjiang) border with OSME Region, Baker 1997, Shimba 2007 not supported by Kennerley & Pearson 2010 - confusion with other taxa? Winters W India & to SE. May wander from Baikal region or Mongolia to E Kazakhstan HBW11. **NB1** genus maintained Fregin *et al* 2009. **NB2** Genetically closer to Indian Reed Warbler *A.(s.) brunnescens*, but differs morphologically from Great Reed Warbler *A. arundinaceus* Red'kin *et al* 2015.

PT	Clamorous Reed Warbler **PT**	*Acrocephalus stentoreus*	Scott & Adhami 2006 (Iran) include *A.s. brunnescens* as ssp, which taxon breeds and is scarce winterer. IOC v2.5 omits mention; R&A 2005 proposed separation. Israel records referable to pre-split status except one (see below) Yoav Perlman *in litt* Nov 09. Kennerley & Pearson 2010 bemoan absence of thorough phylogenetic overview of *stentoreus* complex and also of that presently included under Australian Reed Warbler *A. australis*, hence our caution on split (the use of round brackets) justified. IOC2.9 supports conservative approach; H&M4 also does not split .
Khoury 2018 records decline of taxon *stentoreus/levantinus* in Jordan valley, Jordan due to habitat destruction and water shortages.			
802	Clamorous Reed Warbler	*Acrocephalus (stentoreus) stentoreus*	Polytypic. Resident Egypt, large numbers breeding in trees Lake Nasser May 2016 **DB38(4)** p251, but also populates Western Desert oases Goodman *et al* 1986 (ssp *stentoreus*): occurs Israel & Levant to Syria (ssp *levantinus*, but *contra* Jennings 2007b not UAE; Jennings 2010 notes no confirmed record of *stentoreus* taxon in Arabia, only *brunnescens* agreed H&M4 although IOC8.2 still lists NW Arabia), breeding Syria Murdoch & Betton 2008. Kennerley & Pearson recognise *levantinus* for Israel & Jordan breeders, but some others subsume in *stentoreus;* extralimital *amyae* & *meriodionalis* post IOC12.1 in Indian sub-continent to China related to *brunnescens*. Has declined at southern breeding limit in Jordan Valley Khoury 2018. **NB1** Alström *et al* 2021b suggest in passing that sspp *stentoreus*, *levantinus* & *brunnescens* might best be treated as species. **NB2** genus maintained Fregin *et al* 2009, but genetic links to Australasian taxa Fregin 2012: extralimital sspp *harterti, siebersi, celebensis* & *lentecaptus* transferred to equally extralimital Australasian Reed Warbler *A. australis* Eaton *et al* 2021, proposed draft IOC12.1, but paused & omitted from Final IOC12.1.
803	Indian Reed Warbler {Clamorous Reed Warbler} (formerly Indian Great Reed Warbler)	*Acrocephalus (stentoreus) brunnescens*	*brunnescens* sole ssp in Region of 2 related ssp from NE India to China. Resident Yemen Red Sea coast Porter & Stanton 2011, islands near Saudi-Yemen border, UAE, Gulf coastal Iran, African coastal Red Sea Sudan & to S Kennerley & Pearson 2010; in Arabia breeds isolated locations in NW W Gulf coast to UAE & Oman, probably to Dhofar (c5000bp Jennings 2010), recently colonised Bahrain King 2018, common resident reedbed breeder Oman including Dhofar **OBL7**, Afghanistan (breeding, passage Paludan 1959; breeding Bamiyan Busuttil & Ayé 2009) E Iran (also E of S Caspian Schüz 1959), SE Turkmenistan, S Uzbekistan Atadjanov et al 2003, S Tajikistan, common BM S&SSE Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b; winters India, R&A 2005, HBW11 & SE Iran Kennerley & Pearson 2010. *brunnescens* Turkmenistan, Bukreev 1997, Kyrgyzstan Ven 2002. Uncommon passage, winterer Iraq; may breed Salim *et al* 2012. Only one Israel record (1984) identified to this taxon level Yoav Perlman *in litt* Nov 09. Taxonomy follows R&A 2005. HBW don't split: mtDNA separation from Clamorous is small, but plumage & vocalisations applied Eaton *et al* 2021; IOC 11.2 notes may be full sp. **NB** genus maintained Fregin *et al* 2009, genetic links to Australasian taxa.
804	Moustached Warbler (formerly Moustached Sedge Warbler by some)	*Acrocephalus melanopogon* (*Lusciniola melanopogon* by some)	Nominate in NW Africa (Egypt?), W Asia Minor, *mimicus* C Turkey, Levant to E Kazakhstan, Afghanistan. *A.m mimica* Turkmenistan, Bukreev 1997, Afghanistan Paludan 1959. Breeds Turkey, locally common widely-scattered locations CA Ayé *et al* 2012, common widespread SB, resident, PM & WV Iran wetlands Khaleghizadeh *et al* 2017. Confirmed NW Kazakhstan HBW11, S Iran, NE Afghanistan, Baker 1997; local breeding resident Arabia, Eastern Province & C Saudi Arabia (& Kuwait) c200bp Jennings 2010 after rapidly colonising water treatment works reedbeds at King Fahd International Airport EP from 1985 onwards Sarson 1992, 1st record (2 birds) Qatar Jan 2016 **DB38(4)** p253: also uncommon migrant/winterer N Arabia, some passage Iraq may breed in N Salim *et al* 2012; uncommon winter Israel Perlman & Meyrav 2009, 8-record vagrant Oman **OBL7**; *mimicus* scarce BM, disparate locations NW, S-C, SE Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b. Winters SE Afghanistan R&A 2005, Tigris-Euphrates interfluve HBW11, rare UAE *eg* reported Dec 06 PH pers comm, vagrant Bahrain Mitchell 2017. Origin Kuwait (?) Lever 2005 App B Egypt Avib, BE **NB1 DB 2009** name ssp *mimicus* as Eastern Moustached Warbler. **NB2** Fregin et al 2009 favour retention in *Acrocephalus* (*sl*) *pro tem*, but adoption of *Calamodus* genus (ss) may be justifiable. **NB3** ID characters cited in favour of *Lusciniola* now known to overlap with many other *Acrocephalus* Kennerley & Pearson 2010. **NB4** Ceresa *et al* 2016 explain the nesting separation between Eurasian Reed Warbler *A.(s.) scirpaceus* & Moustached Warbler as being due to Moustached Warbler arriving earlier on return migration and selecting preferred reed patches for nesting, and when *A.(s.) scirpaceus* arrive, they avoid direct competition by nesting away from occupied Moustached Wabler nesting patches.
805	Aquatic Warbler	*Acrocephalus paludicola* **Vulnerable**	Monotypic. Possibly breeds NW Kazakhstan,& in pockets further NE & extralimitally near Novosibirsk: long-surmised population in C Siberia may be mythical or much-diminished, but an absence of recent records in Cyprus, Turkey, Jordan and Egypt (Schäffer *et al* 2006) supports the BLI view that the Siberian population is extinct Le Nevé *et al* 2018. Otherwise, vagrant to OSME Region, Baker 1997, Jordan, Turkey Mitchell 2017. Egypt Avib BE. The species' first recently-discovered African wintering area, the Djoudj National Park in the Senegal Delta (Zwarts *et al* 2009), was found from predictions from a stable-isotope ratio study, which also predicted their migration route (BLI 2007, Inger & Bearhop 2008). Salewski *et al* 2019, via dataloggers indicated that the Inner Niger Delta between 9° & 3°W also holds a wintering population. The en route stopover locations most likely are associated with small waterbodis. For Ukraine breeding birds, one stopover chosen by one bird was in the region of the Turkey-Greece border where the River Maritsa forms part of that border W of Edirne where the Greek River Arde joins it. The Aquatic Warbler Conservation Handbook is now available online Tannenberger & Kubacka 2018. Vagrant Jordan Wallace 1982. **NB1** The entire world population breeds in eastern Europe, but its migration route is via the western European flyway Salewski *et al* 2019, Briedis *et al* 2020. **NB2** Fregin *et al* 2009 favour retention in *Acrocephalus* (*sl*) *pro tem*, but adoption of *Calamodus* genus (*ss*) may be justifiable.
806	Sedge Warbler	*Acrocephalus schoenobaenus*	Monotypic. Breeds Caucasus, W CA, NW Iran (scarce, Scott & Adhami 2006), Baker 1997 (CA except S Flint *et al* 1984); common BM, PM N Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b, C&N Kazakhstan only Ayé *et al* 2012; not uncommon Turkey Kirwan *et al* 2008, has bred Iraq Mitchell 2017, PM across Region, mey breed N Iran Khaleghizadeh *et al* 2017, uncommon PM Oman **OBL7**, vagrant Socotra Porter & Suleiman 2020, winters W-S Africa. Egypt Avib, BE. Population fluctuations relate to extent of Sahel flooding the year before; breeding habitat generalist, but dependent on specialist winter habitats Zwarts *et al* 2009. **NB** Fregin *et al* 2009 favour retention in *Acrocephalus* (*sl*) *pro tem*, but adoption of *Calamodus* genus (*ss*) may be justifiable.
807	Blunt-winged Warbler (ssp *haringtoni* formerly known as Harington's Reed Warbler)	*Acrocephalus concinens*	In Region, ssp *haringtoni:* other 2 sspp extralimital to E: isolate western population N Afghanistan, Baker 1997 (*haringtoni* Paludan 1959), HBW11, Kennerley & Pearson 2010, Arlott 2007, migrates to SE Asia; Ayé *et al* 2012 unable to confirm. Nevertheless, **BLDZ** map Aug 2019 gives as SV N Afghanistan & too neatly along border with Tajikistan, southernmost Uzbekistan & SE Turkmenistan, suggesting it may breed just inside these 3 countries, especially since it nests in the finer grasses that border redbeds, admittedly up to 9500ft Bates & Lowther 1952. **NB** Fregin *et al* 2009 favour retention in *Acrocephalus* (*sl*) *pro tem*; others previously have suggested adoption of *Notiocichla* genus (*ss*), which may be justifiable, but the name *Calamodus* has priority over *Notiocichla*.

808	Large-billed Reed Warbler	*Acrocephalus orinus* **Data Deficient**	Monotypic. The first live capture Mar 2006 in Thailand Round & Kennerley 2007 began the search for the species' Central Asian breeding grounds. In the American Natural History Museum, 10 specimens then found; skin of juvenile collected 17 Aug 1900 at Zharkent, Almaty province modern Kazakhstan (another, in 1926, at Bilkol Lake, 450km further W Wassink 2015b); 4 of the specimens were collected in what is now Afghanistan, Svensson *et al* 2008. Other specimens since found UK BMNH & Bombay NHM Kennerley & Pearson 2010 & in Russian museums Koblik *et a l* 2011: many had been misidentified as Blyth's Reed Warbler Samotskaya *et al* 2016; because of this earlier confusion, Shirihai & Svensson 2018 include a detailed description of *orinus* within their account of *dumetorum*. Wakhan breeding sites found 2009 Timmins *et al* 2010; also found breeding in Tajikistan 2009 Raffäel Ayé *in litt* Apr 10, Ayé *et al* 2010; breeds in Tajik & Afghan Pamirs Ayé *et al* 2012. Found to be common breeder in Gorno-Badakhshan province of Tajikistan in 100 × 100km southwesternmost corner (and points N) Kvartalnov *et al* 2013. Koblik *et al* 2011, suggested reports of *A. dumetorum* breeding in Central Asian mountains may be attributable to *A. orinus*: Samotskaya *et al* 2016 via song analysis (on migration & on breeding grounds) conclude that *A. dumetorum* does not breed in C Asia, but further N. **NB1 BLDZ** map May 2017 suggests extension of breeding area W of Wakhan into Badakhshan plain & separate breeding area in far N Pakistan centred on Sost on Karakoram Highway (links to China): Wakhan valley is at c2400m, Sost valley at 3400m asl. **NB2** Fregin *et al* 2009 favour retention in *Acrocephalus* (*sl*) *pro tem*; others previously have suggested adoption of *Notiocichla* genus (*ss* as *N. orina*), which may be justifiable, but the name *Calamodus* has priority over *Notiocichla.*
809	Paddyfield Warbler	*Acrocephalus agricola*	2 sspp, both in Region; *septimus* E Turkey-SW Asia; *agricola* NE Iran, Kazakhstan. *A.a. 'brevipennis'* (synonym for *septimus*) Turkmenistan, Bukreev 1997. Breeds E Turkey, Caucasus Petrosyan & Petrosyan 1997, Adamian & Klein 1999, CA except SE, NE Iran (scarce Scott & Adhami 2006, rare & local SV Khaleghizadeh *et al* 2017) 2 Zaribar lake, Kordestan Province Iran Aug-Sep 2016 **IBRC**, Afghanistan, winters Iran & to E, Baker 1997; common BM, PM Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b; spreading west Zehtindjiev *et al* 2010 in press, SE Iran Jan 2010 Winkel *et al* 2010, scarce breeder SE Turkey Kirwan *et al* 2014; abundant N of Kazakhstan Rogacheva 1992. 2nd Cyprus record Apr 2014 **SG36(2) ATR,** 3rd Gönyeli (Livera Özel), Nikosia Oct 2021 **DB43(6)6:** 471; vagrant Israel Perlman & Meyrav 2009 (12 trapped, but first field observation Neve Ur, Beit Sha'an Oct 2019 **DB41(6):** 438, 1st record 2007 Jordan **JBRC**, 2nd Kuwait record Oct 2013 **KORC**, 6th Kuwait record Oct 2018 **KORC**, rare PM & WV Oman **OBL7**, vagrant Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Qatar, Jordan, Kuwait, UAE Mitchell 2017. Migrant Afghanistan Paludan 1959 R&A 2005; probably breeds Bamiyan Busuttil & Ayé 2009; common across much of CA, *agricola* only Ayé *et al* 2012
			NB1 PT aspect: *septima* (breeds N Black Sea, mostly(? see below) migrates through Turkey *et seq* to winter Indian subcontinent, perhaps E Iran) may be cryptic species; DNA-divergent, but best await vocalisation findings Kennerley & Pearson 2010. **NB2** Brlík *et al* 2018 geotracked Bulgarian breeders (recent westward colonisation) to Indian non-breeding ground: ilts route from Bulgaria took it north of the part of southernmost Russia included in the OSME Region (where there are populations), then through westernmost Kazakhstan, westernmost Uzbekistan, central Turkmenistan & Afghanistan (Likely skirting Iran). **NB3** Fregin *et al* 2009 favour retention in *Acrocephalus* (sl) pro tem; others previously have suggested adoption of *Notiocichla* genus, which may be justifiable, but the name *Calamodus* has priority over *Notiocichla*.
810	Blyth's Reed Warbler	*Acrocephalus dumetorum*	Monotypic. Breeds bushy habitat except semi-desert & drier N-C to NE Kazakhstan Wassink, where it is common BM, PM; N Iran (scarce, Scott & Adhami 2006, uncommon mostly E Iran Khaleghizadeh *et al* 2017), Afghanistan (breeds & passage Paludan 1959; may breed SE&S CA Ayé *et al* 2012), migrates through Iran to India, Baker 1997, vagrant Israel Perlman & Meyrav 2009 3rd record Kuwait Sep 2012 **KORC**, 5-record vagrant Oman **OBL7**, 6th Ayn Hamran Dec 2019 **OBRC**, 7th Ayn Hamran, Nov 3021 **OBRC**; vagrant Cyprus, Jordan, Saudi Arabia, Syria, Turkey Mitchell 2017. Reports of this sp breeding in mountains of Central Asia may refer to *A. orinus qv* above Koblik *et al* 2011: Samotskaya *et al* 2016 via song analysis (on migration & on breeding grounds) conclude that *A. dumetorum* does not breed in C Asia, but to the N. **NB** Fregin *et al* 2009 favour retention in *Acrocephalus* (*sl*) *pro tem*; others previously have suggested adoption of *Notiocichla* genus (*ss* as *N. dumetora*), which may be justifiable, but the name *Calamodus* has priority over *Notiocichla.*

The status of a number of African and Arabian populations within the *Acrocephalus scirpaceus/A. baeticatus* complex do not align comfortably as spp or sspp. We apply the ORL approach of emphasising that where we 'don't know', we use round brackets. Hering *et al* 2011 found *avicenniae* breeding in date palm & olive trees in Siwa, Egypt in high numbers; the genetic distance from *scirpaceus* & *fuscus* is small, but its ecological niche is very different. They also found *'baeticatus'*-type (*ambiguus)* birds in nearby oases just into Libya; *avicenniae* is also strongly bound to mangroves along the Red Sea, and so we consider separate recognition is warranted *pro tem*. Winkler *et al* 2012 further discovered that birds in SW Iberia appeared to belong more to the *baeticatus* (*ambiguus*) grouping,& that *fuscus* characteristics predominate in SE Europe: they suggest that many populations throughout the *A. [scirpaceus]* superspecies need thorough re-examination to determine their inter-relationships so that clear taxonomic decisions can be made. Olsson *et al* 2016, a wide-ranging in-depth study, found 8 lineages in total, but not all aligned with previous taxonomies. The main difference is that populations in the southern half of Iberia, Morocco & the whole of North Africa probably are best reassigned to a new species, *A. ambiguus*, (named 'Brehm's Reed Warbler' informal@OSME) whose ancestry separated from Sahelian *minor* (sensu Olsson *et al* 2016) 0.53MYa & from the 'southern group' (including *A. baeticatus*, now limited to southern Africa *sensu stricto*) 0.64MYa. Hering *et al* 2022 examine 4 oasis populations in S Algeria, placing them firmly in the *ambiguus* Clade genetically and by voice, though noting a W-E cline through to the western Clade containing *inter alia*, *ammon* and *avicenniae*, but note that further evidence is required to determine taxonomic status. They agree with Olsson *et al* 2016 that treating all populations within a Reed Warbler superspecies is merited.

Pavia *et al* 2018 applied to a SW Burkina Faso taxonomically undescribed population of *A. baeticatus* a combination of DNA barcode analysis and the methodology of Malmhagen *et al* 2013 in wing morphology analysis to establish subtle ID distinctions by new criteria, and suggest that this approach would assist if applied over the whole range of Reed Warbler *A. scirpaceus sensu lato*.

PT	Reed Warbler **PT**	*Acrocephalus scirpaceus* (**NB** Shirihai & Svensson 2018 lump Mangrove, Eurasian, Brehm's and African Reed Warblers under 'Reed Warbler' until most populations are fully assessed: IOC 12.1 in unification of world lists revert to 'Common Reed Warbler')	**HBW Alive** notes 8 lineages across 10 sspp require detailed future analysis. Olsson *et al* 2016, in a wide-ranging study, found 8 lineages (*scirpaceus, fuscus, avicenniae, ambiguus, minor, cinnamomeus, hallae, baeticatus*: *halle* & *baeticatus sensu stricto* are (so far) wholly extralimital; *ambiguus sp novo* may occur in westernmost Egypt). Olsson *et al* 2016 call for reed warbler complex to be comprehensively re-analysed (iaw Parkin & Knox 2010, Winkler et al 2012; reinforcing the need for redefining sspp boundaries as flagged by Kennerley & Pearson 2010 who had also suggested SW Asian and C Asian populations may be separable since origin of some wintering birds unknown). Identity & relationships of isolated small breeding populations at oases in SE Egypt & SW Libya have yet to be finally settled: unfortunately Goodman *et al* 1986, 1989 had no reason to question '*scirpaceus*' taxa at western Egypt oases. Kirwan *et al* 2008 warned individual variations risked blurring morphological & ID conclusions, since documented by significant rate of mislabelled specimens found by Arbabi *et al* 2014a who also proved *avicenniae* basal to *scirpaceus* & *fuscus* (0.7MYA v 0.48mya). Babbington *et al* 2019 show that Arabian Red Sea populations in mangroves comprise *avicenniae*; they note Palestinian samples aligned with that taxon. We align with Olsson *et al* 2016 & Hering *et al* 2022 in treating the complex as a superspecies while recognising that considerable future rearrangement is likely.

			NB1 Olsson *et al* 2016 via a suite of molecular techniques, found all lineages (**Clades**) diverged before the last glacial maximum; in places, **Clades** misalign with current understanding: in particular, populations in Iberia & probably all of North Africa E to E Libya belong to a new species *A. ambiguus* 'Brehm's Reed Warbler' (see Hypothetical section), incorporating the '*baeticatus*' individuals of Hering *et al* 2011; *ambiguus* may yet be found in western Egypt oases. **NB2** Hering *et al* 2016 propose a new ssp of *A. scirpaceus*, *ammon* ('Siwa Reed Warbler' Isenmann *et al* 2016: breeds in trees & palms & reeds) for largely sedentary & tree-breeding population at oases in C & W Egypt & W Libya: *pro tem*, we concur with this arrangement while recognising it may later be placed in *baeticatus, avicenniae* or *ambiguus*! **NB3** Given that Olsson *et al* 2016 represents a single line of study, that there is a lack of proof of reproductive isolation between taxa, and that corroborative studies are needed, they conclude that the most conservative taxonomy to adopt would be to consider all lineages as sspp of *A. scirpaceus*. However, in the ORL, we will accept *pro tem* the null hypothesis of a lack of free interbreeding to suggest possible full species, but within the constraint of an overall superspecies. **NB4** Hering *et al* 2009, 2010a, 2010b, 2011 documented puzzlingly 'odd' breeding populations scattered across N Africa. **NB5** Ilahinae *et al* 2022, analysing genetic history of Italian & other southern European populations, show genetic cohesion & population structure likely linked at glaciation refugia in Iberia for *A. baeticatus ambiguus*, Caucasus for *A.s. fuscus* and Italy & Balkans for *A.s. scirpaceus*. **NB6 BLDZ** Jul 2019 remains with a lumped *A. scirpaceus*, but the map has changed to show fully resident populations as defined in much of the recent literature: IOC 12.2 proposes lumping African *A. baeticatus* & Eurasian A. *scirpaceus* as Common Reed Warbler *A. scirpaceus sensu lato*.
811	Mangrove Reed Warbler (Red Sea Warbler) {IOC 12.1 relump into 'Common Reed Warbler'}	*Acrocephalus [scirpaceus] avicenniae* (formerly considered as *A. baeticatus avicenniae*) However, *avicenniae* appears basal to *scirpaceus* & *fuscus*: more data needed, but perhaps: *A. (avicenniae) avicenniae*, *A.(av.) scirpaceus*, & *A.(av.) fuscus*?	**Clade 3** Olsson *et al* 2016. Monotypic. Previously, Leisler *et al* 1997 grouped under African Reed Warbler *A. baeticatus*, but Dickinson 2003 placed under *scirpaceus*. Arbabi *et al* 2014a, 2014b found *avicenniae* diverged from *baeticatus* 0.7Mya & concluded *avicenniae* is basal to *scirpaceus* & *fuscus*, hence listed here first. Breeds & semi-resident in mangroves along central Red Sea; found breeding Hodeidah, Yemen 31 Mar 98 Hansbro & Sargeant 2000, *c* 200bp Yanbu al-Sinaiyah Saudi Arabia 1984 (SSE of Medina) Meadows 1999: *c* 3000bp resident W Red Sea mangroves Jennings 2010, found much more widespread Arabian Red Sea Babbington *et al* 2019, possibly linked to Palestine populations; Yemen coast Porter & Stanton 2011, 1st record Djibouti Hering *et al* 2015; Olsson *et al* 2016 found *avicenniae* ancestry in Israel specimens. IOC6.2 as ssp. See Ash *et al* 1989, & for occurrence in W Egypt oases, Hering *et al* 2009, 2010, 2011 where 2 lineages (*avicenniae* & '*baeticatus*' [*ambiguus* Olsson *et al* 2016]) may be present, but '*baeticatus*' (*ambiguus*) is present S Libya oases 2012 **DB 34(3):** 189, 130km from OSME Region. Hering *et al* 2017 document *avicenniae* breeding in Egypt at Hamata *c* 100km N of border with Sudan (2012): at Shura al-Rowaisseya, south Sinai (2015)' & in Djibouti mangroves, but in February breeding had not started Hering *et al* 2020d. **NB1** Brian Meadows long championed habitat selection differences merited speciation. Jennings 2008b, 2010 calls Arabian breeding birds Red Sea Warbler *A. avicenniae*. **NB2** Fregin et al 2009 favour retention in *Acrocephalus* (*sl*) *pro tem*; others previously have suggested adoption of *Notiocichla* genus, which may be justifiable, but the name *Calamodus* has priority over *Notiocichla.*
812	Eurasian Reed Warbler {IOC 12.1 relump into 'Common Reed Warbler'}	*Acrocephalus [scirpaceus] scirpaceus*	**Clade 1** in Olsson *et al* 2016. Monotypic. Migrates through W of Region, breeding W Turkey Roselaar 1995 & further N, passage Iraq Salim *et al* 2012; wintering sub-Saharan Africa, initially in inter-tidal mangroves, then in rain- or flood-matured grass or scrub, largely independent of Sahel conditions; breeding habitat specialist, wintering habitat generalist Zwarts *et al* 2009; vagrant Socotra Porter & Suleiman 2020. Origin Kuwait (?) Lever 2005 App B. Hering *et al* 2016 proposed new ssp *ammon* for sedentary & mostly tree-breeding populations in C & W Egypt & E Libya: wings & tarsi are short, & song is paced like *avicenniae*; haplotypes indicate separation from *scirpaceus* began 0.6 & 0.25MYa, but relationships with *ambiguus*, *avicenniae* or *ambiguus* yet to be clarified, one partially so in Hering *et al* 2022 with *ambiguus* confirmed as the taxon in E Libya. Egypt Avib, BE. **NB1** Helbig & Seibold (1999) noted *avicenniae* clustered with *scirpaceus* more closely than with *baeticatus,* vindicated by Arbabi *et al* 2014a, 2014b, who also concluded *avicenniae* was the basal taxon. **NB2** Fregin *et al* 2009 favour retention in *Acrocephalus* (*sl*) *pro tem*; others previously have suggested adoption of *Notiocichla* genus (*ss* as *N. scirpacea*), which may be justifiable, but the name *Calamodus* has priority over *Notiocichla.* **NB3** Ceresa *et al* 2016 explain the nesting separation between Eurasian Reed Warbler & Moustached Warbler *A. melanopogon* as being due to Moustached Warbler arriving earlier on return migration and selecting preferred reed patches for nesting, and when Eurasian Reed Warblers arrive, they avoid direct competition by nesting away from occupied Moustached Wabler nesting patches.
813	Caspian Reed Warbler (Eastern Reed Warbler) {IOC 12.1 relump into 'Common Reed Warbler'}	*Acrocephalus [scirpaceus] fuscus*	**Clade 2** in Olsson *et al* 2016. Monotypic. IOC 6.2 retains as ssp of *scirpaceus.* Turkmenistan, Bukreev 1997, Paludan 1959, Armenia (Ananian 2006). Breeds Turkey (not W) Roselaar 1995, Cyprus Flint & Stewart 1992, common SB Iran wetlands common PM throughout Khaleghizadeh *et al* 2017, common in CA wetlands, common BM, PM Kazakhstan (not in N) Wassink 2015b, migrates through Region (refuels in irrigation Egypt Hilgerloh & Raddatz 2009) to sub-Saharan Africa, Sudan zone/Sudd, Ethiopian highlands & E Africa Zwarts *et al* 2009, & now C Arabia (irrigation) Jennings 2004a, likely this taxon (under *scirpaceus*) UAE Aspinall 1996; SE Iraq Ararat *et al* 2011; NW & E Arabia, Kuwait-UAE 1000bp Jennings 2010, Fairly common PM & WV Oman **OBL7**. Breeds N Afghanistan R&A 2005. Arbabi *et al* 2014a, 2014b concluded *avicenniae* was basal taxon. **NB1** Fregin *et al* 2009 say retain in *Acrocephalus* (*sl*) *pro tem*; another suggestion: adopt *Notiocichla* genus (*ss* as *N. fusca*), which may be justifiable, but the name *Calamodus* has priority over *Notiocichla.* **NB2** Haplotype distance *scirpaceus-fuscus* greater than *dumetorum-orinus* (Blyth's Reed Warbler-Large-billed Reed Warbler) Aye *et al* 2010, but this character needs to be checked for SW Asian & C Asian populations in redefinition of sspp boundaries Kennerley & Pearson 2010.
814	Marsh Warbler	*Acrocephalus palustris*	Monotypic. Arbabi *et al* 2014c conclude that *A. palustris* exhibits high genetic diversity within individuals, not diversity between breeding populations, throughout its breeding distribution & can safely be regarded as a single species. Breeds Caucasus, NW & E Turkey (Roselaar 1995), NW Iran (scarce, Scott & Adhami 2006, local Khaleghizadeh *et al* 2017), Baker 1997, NW Kazakhstan Flint *et al* 1984, scarce B, PM Wassink 2015b, Ayé *et al* 2012. Likely under-recorded because of propensity to mimic superbly many similar-habitat species in the breeding season (*eg* as in Blair & Fleming 2008), winters sub-equatorial eastern Africa; likely passage Iraq Salim *et al* 2012, common passage Kuwait Cleere & Kelly 2009, rare (mostly autumn) PM Cyprus **CBR11**, fairly common PM & WV, occasionally spring abundance Oman **OBL7**, uncommon migrant Israel Perlman & Meyrav 2009. Egypt Avib, BE. **NB** Fregin *et al* 2009 favour retention in *Acrocephalus* (*sl*) *pro tem*; others previously have suggested adoption of *Notiocichla* genus, which may be justifiable, but the name *Calamodus* has priority over *Notiocichla.*
815	Thick-billed Warbler	*Arundinax aedon (Phragamaticola aedon) {Iduna aedon}* (formerly *Acrocephalus aedon*).	IOC4.4 list 2 sspp, as tentatively does H&M4: latter notes case for monotypicity; *aedon* extralimital SC Siberia, Baikal N Mongolia; *rufescens* further E. Likely on NE Kazakhstan border, Baker 1997, Flint *et al* 1984 map E-most breeding area near Kazakh NE border, also Shimba 2007, likewise **BLDZ** map May 2017, but no Kazakh records Wassink 2015b. Vagrant Egypt, Grieve 1992, 2-record vagrant 2001, 2007 Oman **OBL7**, 1st for Saudi Arabia at Sarrat Feb 2017 **DB40(1):** 56. Egypt Avib, BE. Kennerley & Pearson 2010 emphatically place in *Phragamaticola,* although their citing of Fregin *et al* 2009 not quite the clearcut support implied: indeed, Fregin 2012 reasserts *Acrocephalus*, IOC4.1 agreed; Sangster *et al* 2011 reluctant to erect a monotypic genus, but Arbaby *et al* 2014 emphatic in resurrection of *Phragamaticola.* However, Pittie & Dickinson 2013, with whom BLI and we align, have shown that *Arundinax* (Blyth 1845) has precedence over *Phragamaticola* (Jerdon 1846) because the intended 1843 publication of Jerdon's description was delayed until 1846 for financial reasons. **NB1** Rare vagrant to WP, Harrop 2007. **NB2** Scarce to locally abundant breeder Krasnoyarsk Republic below 60ºN Rogacheva 1992. **NB3** Reasonably strong case to consider this taxon as sister to *Iduna* taxa; Dickinson 2007 recommends await resolution (*sensu stricto*), but some may prefer to leave in *Acrocephalus* (sl) Fregin *et al* 2009, Fregin 2012. **NB4** Priority of *Phragamaticola* as spelling Dickinson & Gregory 2006. **NB5** Shirihai & Svensson lump in *Acrocephalus*.

PT	Booted Warbler **PT**	*Iduna caligata* (formerly *Hippolais caligata*)	Old records may include as *H. rama* or *I. rama*. Castell & Kirwan 2005 make case for separation; Scott & Adhami 2006 separate in their footnote (as *Hippolais*). Position of *Iduna* genus reinforced Fregin *et al* 2009, Kennerley & Pearson 2010, IOC v2.2, H&M4. **NB** long treated in Russian-language literature as separate from Booted Warbler *I. caligata* Red'kin *et al* 2015.
816	Booted Warbler	*Iduna caligata* (=*Acrocephalus caligatus* by some)	Monotypic. Common BM, PM N half Kazakhstan, some overlap with *rama* Wassink 2015b; perhaps just S to some other CA countries, migrates through Region (passage Afghanistan Paludan 1959) to India, Baker 1997; abundant some forest belts of tea-tree *Caragana* sp & forest-steppe of Krasnoyarsk Republic Rogacheva 1992; vagrant Israel Perlman & Meyrav 2009, 4 Kuwait records by Aug 2013 **KORC**, 7th in Aug 2018 8th Al Abraq Aug 2019 **KORC**, rare PM & WV Oman **OBL7,** 1st fully documented record for UAE at Sila'a Apr 2021 **EBRC**: migrant Afghanistan R&A 2005. Egypt BE. **NB1** Range expansion in NW distribution into S Finland, Fraser *et al* 2007. **NB2** genus maintained (*sl* & *ss*); closely related to next taxon Fregin *et al* 2009.
817	Sykes's Warbler	*Iduna rama* (=*Acrocephalus rama* by some)	Monotypic. Breeds Transcaspia, CA (Kyrgyzstan as *caligata,* Ven 2002), common BM S half Kazakhstan, some overlap with *caligata* Wassink 2015b; Iran, Afghanistan (& passage Paludan 1959), common SB mostly S&E Iran Khaleghizadeh *et al* 2017; UAE Aspinall 1996, Jennings 2007b: tiny isolate or relict E Arabian mangrove-breeding population perhaps cryptic species or intermediate with *caligata?* {Castell & Kirwan 2005) - enigma remains, with perhaps 50bp overall, some in Oman Jennings 2010, assigned as *rama* rare migrant or resident breeder Batinah N Oman **OBL7**, vagrant Israel Perlman & Meyrav 2009, 1st for Turkey in Hakkara May 2015 **DB37(4)**, 3rd for Turkey ringed Aras, Kars May 2020 **DB42(4): 282;** winters India, Baker 1997. **NB** genus maintained (*sl* & ss); closely related to previous taxon Fregin *et al* 2009.
PT	Olivaceous Warbler **PT**	*Iduna pallida* (formerly *Hippolais pallida*)	Position of *Iduna* genus reinforced Fregin *et al* 2009, Kennerly & Pearson 2010, accepted IOC v2.2, Dong *et al* 2010, H&M4. Further rearrangement of taxa within **PT** possible Parkin & Knox 2010.
818	Eastern Olivaceous Warbler (Olivaceous Warbler HBW11)	*Iduna pallida* (=*Acrocephalus pallidus* by some)	Only *elaica* & *pallida* of 5 sspp in Region: Breeds Egypt (*pallida*), Turkey (W *elaeica,* (*tamaraceti* [now subsumed in *elaica]*), Cyprus, Iraq, Iran (Zarudny 1911 suggests rare passage & winterer Zagros, Iran for '*opaca*', but possible mis-reference) Common SB, PM mostly N&W Iran Khaleghizadeh *et al* 2017, CA, Baker 1997. rare BM several disparate & restricted areas W, S-C & SE Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b, common breeder in adjacent Volga Delta Arkhipov 2006; Israel Perlman & Meyrav 2009, N Afghanistan R&A 2005 (all *tamaraceti*), *elaica* breeds Taman' Peninsula Krasnodar Republic Russia Lohman *et al* 2011. *l.p. elaeica*, UAE Aspinall 1996: *elaeica* passage migrant & scattered breeding summer visitor Arabia, biased to C & UAE to Kuwait, c1500bp Jennings 2010, *elaica* common PM Oman **OBL7**, Turkmenistan, Bukreev 1997, Armenia Ananian 2006, Afghanistan Paludan 1959. Origin Kuwait (?) Lever 2005 App B Egypt Avib, BE. Several ringed on weight-gain stopover Hurghada Egypt Hilgerloh & Raddatz 2009. **NB1 DB 2010** also adopt informal English names for sspp *reiseri* 'Saharan', *pallida* 'Egyptian' and *alulensis* 'Mangrove' Olivaceous Warblers (latter recorded singing in Bab-el-Mandab mangroves Jennings 2010, common in mangroves, Safaga Egypt **DB 37(4))**. **NB2** Leisler *et al* 1997 had suggested slightly closer to *Acrocephalus*. **NB3** next taxon not as closely related as had been assumed Helbig & Seibold 1999, but one sympatric breeding area mapped in Morocco **BLDZ** May 2017.
819	Western Olivaceous Warbler (Isabelline Warbler HBW11)	*Iduna opaca* (=*Acrocephalus opacus* by some)	Monotypic. Vagrant migrant, Egypt Goodman & Meininger 1989; see distribution in Baker 1997. **BLDZ** map May 2017 gives nearest breeding population as easternmost Libyan littoral. Egypt Avib. **NB** position of *Iduna* genus reinforced Fregin *et al* 2009, Kennerley & Pearson 2010; accepted IOC v2.2, **DB 2010**; remarkably, previous taxon not as closely related as had been assumed, Helbig & Seibold 1999, but one sympatric breeding area mapped in Morocco **BLDZ** May 2017.
820	Upcher's Warbler	*Hippolais languida*	Monotypic. Breeds Levant, C&S-C & SE Turkey (HBW11), mid-Caucasus, SW, N Iraq Ararat *et al* 2011, fairly common SB W, S&NE Iran, widespead PM Khaleghizadeh *et al* 2017, scarce BM S-C Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b, but 2nd breeding record S Mangghystau Province 04 Jun 2016 Wassink 2016, range extension to Betpak-Dala Martin *et al* 2018; Afghanistan (Paludan 1959), Baker 1997 (probably Durani, Kandāhar Roberts 1992); 1st for Cyprus 04 Sep 02 Corso 2004, perhaps 2nd Akrotiri May 2017 **DBN39(4):** 272, fairly common to common PM Oman **OBL7**, scarce N&C Israel Perlman & Meyrav 2009, breeding Georgia since 2007 **DB39(1):** 56. Scarce Egypt on migration but not **EORC**-reportable. **NB** closely related to next taxon Fregin *et al* 2009.
821	Olive-tree Warbler	*Hippolais olivetorum*	Monotypic. Breeds W&SE Turkey, Syria, Levant, migrates southern Africa, Baker 1997; although Zarudny 1911 records as passage vagrant NW Iran and rare breeder S Caspian, not mentioned in Khaleghizadeh *et al* 2017, 1st Iraq record May 2012 Ararat 2016; 2-record vagrant 1998, 2001 Oman **OBL7**. Egypt Avib, BE. **NB** closely related to previous taxon Fregin *et al* 2009.
822	Melodious Warbler	*Hippolais polyglotta*	Monotypic. Vagrant to Region from western Europe, Baker 1997, 1 record Turkey Kirwan *et al* 2008. **NB** closely related to next taxon Fregin *et al* 2009. **NB** From data collection over an 8-year period on 4 small passerines wintering in Ghana, Thorup *et al* 2019 conceded that despite employing current techniques, the scale of effort needed for establishing accurate declines and relating them to habitat usage and changes needs to be greater and performed on a circannual basis. However, the general conclusion within wide confidence limits is that Melodious Warbler is largely itinerant over the wintering area.
823	Icterine Warbler	*Hippolais icterina*	1st documented breeding Qostenay Kazahstan Jul 2011 Wassink 2015a, more locations found here from 2008-2016 Wassink 2016, very rare BM Wassink 2015b, very scarce Turkey Roselaar 1995, Caucasus H&M4, rare localised migramt breeder Armenia Ananian *et al* 2013a, vagrant/rare passage Iraq Salim *et al* 2012, fairly common SV Iran S Caspian forests &PM Khaleghizadeh *et al* 2017, 4th Qatar record May 2014 **QBRC**, 9-record vagrant 1971-2002 Oman **OBL7** migrates through Region to southern Africa, Baker 1997. First recorded breeding populations in Russian North Caucasus Kvartalnov & Komarov 2022. Egypt Avib, BE. **NB** closely related to previous taxon Fregin *et al* 2009.
		Helopsaltes	New family Alström *et al* 2018a, but IOC10.2, having agreed in draft stage, reverted simply to new genus within **Locustellidae**, but since have accepted new genus **Helopsaltes**. **BLDZ** remain with **Locustellidae**.
824	Pallas's Grasshopper Warbler (Rusty-rumped Warbler)	*Helopsaltes certhiola* (formerly *Locustella certhiola*)	Only *centralasiae* of 5 sspp breeds in Region; all other sspp further E. Kazakhstan (K-M&K 2005), abundant BM E-most Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b. Kyrgyzstan (possibly breeds E Kyrgyzstan Ven 2002 confirmed NE 09 Jul 03 Roth & Jalilova 2004, at least 9 singing males Jun/Jul 2021 Tyup River valley, Jilu Balak, Issyk-Kul Region van Els & Hiddes 2021 [*qui citatis* P Campeau pers comm]), possibly Tajikistan & Afghanistan (Paludan 1959 uncertain of status of *centralasiae* & *rubescens;* occasional H&E 1970); Madge 1980 refers to 3 Meinertzhagen specimens, but since categorised as unreliable, Baker 1997. Confirmed breeds NE Kyrgyzstan HBW11; locally abundant Ayé *et al* 2012. Vagrant Israel Perlman & Meyrav 2009. **NB1** Geographical distribution listed in H&M4 may have (mis)attributed OSME Region breeders as *sparsimstriata* (SC Siberia E to Baikal...). **NB2** Numerous breeder southern taiga N of Kazakhstan Rogacheva 1992.
		Locustellidae	IOC v2.0 removed *Bradypterus* & *Locustella* from **Sylviidae** and placed in existing **Megaluridae,** which followed new familes of *Phylloscopidae* and *Acrocephalidae*. IOC 2.6 reverted to *Locustellidae* on priority grounds; H&M4 follows. Kennerley & Pearson 2010 remained with **Locustellidae** as family name, although they wre unable to take into account the most recent molecular phylogenetic conclusions. Alström *et al* 2011b subsume all Asian *Bradypterus* in *Locustella,* noting Common Grasshopper Warbler *L. naevia* seems closer to former *B. major* Long-billed Bush Warbler than to other *Locustella* warblers, but there is yet no widely-sampled molecular phylogeny of the *L. naevia* complex, although song and morphology divide into 'eastern' and 'western' groups Miles *et al* 2015. Alström *et al* 2018a examined all bar 3 **Locustellidae**: extensive revision required at genus level, but little effect om Region taxa.
825	Lanceolated Warbler	*Locustella lanceolata*	Nominate migrant/vagrant in Region. Vagrant Russian Caspian, sporadic migrant Uzbekistan, Georgia Koblik & Arkhipov 2014. Wintering grounds in SE Asia & islands beyond.; other ssp *hendersonii* in very Far East. Claimed N Kazakhstan K-M *et al* 2005, Baker 1997, NNE Flint *et al* 1984; all 6 Kazakhstan reports insufficiently documented Wassink 2015b; vagrant Ayé *et al* 2012; vagrant trapped Batumi Georgia Sep 2010 **DB32**. Passage of westernmost breeders to NE India via CA HBW 11

826	River Warbler	*Locustella fluviatilis*	Monotypic. Rare BM, scarce PM NW Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b, NW Kazakhstan HBW11, migrates Turkey (uncommon Israel Perlman & Meyrav 2009), W CA, Caucasus, to SE Africa, Baker 1997, narrow passage window Cleere & Kelly 2009, 4th Saudi record al Andalus Park, Zulfi Sep 2021 **SG44(1):** 250; rare-uncommon passage Iraq Salim *et al* 2012 certainly overlooked; single-record vagrant 1978 Oman **OBL7** & also Khuzestan Iran Khaleghizadeh et al 2017; 2nd Iran record Naghhadeh, West Azarbaijan **DB42(4):** 282, 3rd Marivan Kordestan May 2020 **IBRC**. 1st & 2nd Djibouti records May 2014 S of Djibouti City Dove *et al* 2017, some 130 km from the OSME Region. Passage vagrant Iran Scott & Adhami 2006, Iraq May 2011 **SG33(2)**. Egypt Avib, BE. Sister (with *L. luscinioides*) to African extralimital Bamboo Warbler *L. alfredi* (formerly *B. alfredi*) Alström *et al* 2018. **NB1** Locally numerous breeder N of Kazakhstan Rogacheva 1992. **NB2** 2 records May 2014 Djibouti, 1st for the country Dove *et al* 2017.
827	Savi's Warbler	*Locustella luscinioides*	All 3 sspp occur in Region: nominate N Caucasus wintering NE Africa, Afrotropics; *sarmatica* S Russia; *fusca* Asia Minor to Arabia, Kazakhstan. NW&C Turkey (*fusca* Roselaar 1995), Caucasus-Armenia Ananian & Busuttil 2002, Levant, CA, Baker 1997, now known widespread breeder Syria Murdoch & Betton 2008; rare-uncommon passage Iraq Salim *et al* 2012 likely overlooked; perhaps 30bp breed on occasion W Gulf Jennings 2010, thinly widespread CA Kennerley & Pearson 2010 uncommon Ayé *et al* 2012, rare breeder Israel where common migrant Perlman & Meyrav 2009, rare PM & WV Oman **OBL7**, 1st wintering record UAE at Saih al Salam Jan 2018 **DB40(2):** 123; 1st Iraq record 1974 Shafi N of Basra Kainady & al-Joborae 1975,1st record Djibouti Hering *et al* 2015, fairly common PM across Iran, probably breeds Anzali wetlands Gilan Khaleghizadeh *et al* 2017; males found holding territory there through the breeding season in 2015 Ashoori 2019. Probably NW Afghanistan, R&A 2005; *sarmatica* rare BM N Caspian Kazakhstan, *fusca* common BM C-W to SE Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b. Origin Kuwait (?) Lever 2005 App B, reported there 2006 Jennings 2007c, Egypt Avib, BE. Sister (with *L. fluviatilis*) to African extralimital Bamboo Warbler *L. alfredi* (formerly *B. alfredi*) Alström *et al* 2018.
828	Long-billed Bush Warbler (formerly Large-billed Bush Warbler) (Long-billed Grasshopper Warbler - BLI)	*Locustella major* (Formerly *Bradypterus major*)	2 sspp; both have wandered to Region. Vagrancy Tajikistan K-M&K 2005 & anywhere in E CA accepted by Ayé *et al* 2012. **NB** Breeding areas (in N Pakistan): one is 50km S (Grimmett et al 2009 map) of Afghanistan's Wakhan (*major*), another is 40km, slightly NE of Wakhan in China R&A 2005 (*innae*) **BLDZ** map Aug 2019. Suitable habitat exists in the Wakhan & in S Tajikistan (up to 3600m), Baker 1997; wintering areas unknown, R&A 2005. Globally threatened, Grimmett *et al* 1998. Mapped E Afghanistan M&P 2000. Bates & Lowther 1952 assert breeds up to 3500m, also in 'Eastern Turkestan'. Historically , possible accidental Kyrgyzstan Koblik & Arkhipov 2014. Kennerley & Pearson 2010 suggest may breed north of known breeding grounds, now degraded habitat
PT	Grasshopper Warbler **PT**	*Locustella naevia*	Provisional possible split from Oppel *et al* 2018 if vocal differences found in S Kazakhstan are repeated through non-intergrading populations of taxon *straminea*.
829	Western Grasshopper Warbler {Common Grasshopper Warbler}	*Locustella (naevia) naevia*	Polytypic if split. English name informal@OSME. If split, 2 sspp, both in Region. Nominate W Russia, *obscurior* E Turkey-Caucasus (probably above 1500m Miles *et al* 2015), probably this taxon breeds Kalibar Mountains Azarbaijan Province Iran Khaleghizadeh *et el* 2017; wintering NW Africa, Kennerley & Pearson 2010. 3rd & 4th records for Cyprus Mandria & Paphos Mar & Apr 2019 **SG41(3):** 202, 5th (?) Lara Bay Mar 2022 **DB44(3):** 231. Vagrant Iraq Salim *et al* 2012, vagrant Israel Perlman & Meyrav 2009. Egypt Avib, BE. NE Turkey HBW11. **NB1** despite morphological similarities, not the closest relative to Lanceolated Warbler *L. lanceolata* Kennerley & Pearson 2010.
830	Eastern Grasshopper Warbler {Common Grasshopper Warbler} (Seebohm's Grasshopper Warbler)	*Locustella (naevia) straminea*	Monotypic if split. English name informal@OSME. If split, monotypic: IOC6.2, H&M4 agree *mongolica* (Seebohm 1881) is subsumed in *straminea* (Sushkin 1925); *straminea* probably breeds Caucasus foothills Miles *et al* 2015, common BM, PM N&SE Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b, Tien Shan, NE Africa, wintering mostly to S Asia; Ayé *et al* 2012 treat E Kazakh birds as grey-morph *straminea* (likely existence of plumage intergrades over unknown area to E including W China, SE Siberia & NW Mongolia): *straminea* occurs Kyrgyzstan (likely breeds in N, Ven 2002), Tajikistan, Iran (probably this taxon is WV Khorasan, Zagros, Kerman, perhaps S Caspian, possibly also SB Khaleghizadeh *et al* 2017; Afghanistan (passage Afghanistan Paludan 1959), Baker 1997, has bred E Turkey Kirwan *et al* 2008. 1st Iraq record Shafi N of Basra 1974 Kainady & al-Joborae 1975. Possibly this taxon rare PM Oman **OBL7** (as *L. naevia sensu lato*) & vagrant to Qatar, 4t record Irkkaya Farm Lagoons Mar 2021 **QBRC**. **NB1 DB 2009** separated *straminea* as Seebohm's Grasshopper Warbler, but taxon not in 2015 **DB WP List**. **NB2** Oppel *et al* 2018 noted markedly different song from *L.(n.) naevia* in Karatau State nature Reserve, S Kazakhstan.
		Cisticolidae	Alström *et al* 2011a, IOC2.7 find that Scrub Warbler *Scotocerca inquieta* belongs to **Cettidae** (*qv*) & not **Cisticolidae**; H&M4 place in **Scotocercidae**, as does IOC4.4.
831	Zitting Cisticola	*Cisticola juncidis*	17 sspp France to Australia: only 3, *juncidis* W Asia Minor, Egypt; *neuroticus* SC Turkey, Cyprus (Moderate increase 2006-2015 Hellicar 2016.), Levant to SW Iran where rare local resident Khaleghizadeh *et al* 2017; *cursitans* E Afghanistan (IOC4.4, not H&M4) definitely in Region. S Turkey, Cyprus, Syria, Israel, S&C Iraq, W Iran (one recorded Hashilan wetland, Kermanshah Province NW Iran Nov 2016 **IBRC**, E Afghanistan, Baker 1997 HBW11 (Ayé *et al* 2012 suggest vagrant only), accidental Armenia Koblik & Arkhipov 2014, Yemen 2006, Jennings 2007c: S Tihama, mostly W-most Yemen, recorded Kuwait & seldom S Arabian coast, perhaps 30 000bp Jennings 2010, but single-record vagrant 1980 Oman **OBL7**. Confirmed breeding near Abu Simbel fishponds (juvenile ringed), Lake Nasser, Egypt Jun 2022 Jens Hering pers comm Jul 2022. Egypt Avib, BE
832	Socotra Cisticola (Island Cisticola)	*Cisticola haesitatus*	Monotypic. Socotra endemic, Porter *et al* 1996, IOC. Habitat generalist Štašťny & Bejcek 2002. Perhaps from surveys 7000bp Richard Porter in Jennings 2010.
833	Socotra Warbler	*Incana incana (Cisticola incanus = C. inquieta)*	Monotypic. Affinity uncertain HBW11 (has characteristics of *Prinia* or *Sylvia* Redman *et al* 2009): H&M4 remain with *Incana incana*, as does IOC10.1; Socotra endemic, Porter *et al* 1996, IOC. Survey estimates 8000bp Richard Porter in Jennings 2010.
PT	Striated Prinia **PT**	*Prinia crinigera sensu lato*	Alström *et al* 2019 deconstruct the *Prinia crinigera/P. polychroa* complexes into 5 spp, all of which bar *P. cringera striatula* are extralimital to S, E & SE Asia (Donald & Collar 2021). IOC10.2 accepts split.
834	Himalayan Prinia (Formerly part of Striated Prinia aka Brown Hill Warbler)	*Prinia crinigera sensu stricto*	6 sspp, of which *striatula* extends into Region (Donald & Collar 2021; map in Alström *et al* 2019), resident 600-2500m occasionally up to 3100m, from Nuristan S to Khost, & W almost to Kabul **BLDZ** Jul 2019 (*P. crinigera sl*); nominate resident mostly below 300m Indus Valley Pakistan, but close to Afghan passes. Remaing 4 sspp further E. NE Afghanistan, Baker 1997, IOC supported Grimmett *et al* 1998, 2009 Paludan 1959 presumes breeding Nurestan, map Roberts 1992 on border W of Chitral. Breeds E Afghanistan HBW11, but Ayé *et al* 2012 assume only vagrancy.
PT	Graceful Prinia **PT**	*Prinia gracilis sensu lato*	Alström *et al* 2021b using a detailed integrative taxonomic approach split Graceful Prinia into *P. gracilis sensu stricto* occupying the N & E distribution of *P. gracilis sensu lato,* with Delicate Prinia *P. lepida* occupying the southern and eastern distribution. Accepted IOC11.2, **CSNA**/*Dutch Birding* Jan 2022. Both thought to occur in Qatar..
835	Graceful Prinia (formerly Streaked Longtail Warbler *inter alia*)	*Prinia gracilis sensu stricto*	Polytypic. 7 of 9 sspp in Region: *natronensis* tiny distribution Wadi Natrun Egypt between next 2 taxa: *deltae* Nile delta to W Israel; *gracilis* Cairo S to Sudan; *yemenensis* SW Saudi, Yemen, S Oman; *hufufae* E Saudi, Bahrain; *palaestinae* S Syria, E Israel, Lebanon; (extralimital: *carlo* of NE Sudan & N Somalia subsumed in nominate, *ashi* ssp *novo* c 200km coastal strip, E Somalia N of Mogadishu). *Sensu lato*, scattered through ME, S Turkey-Iran-Afghanistan, Baker 1997, R&A 2005, increasing UAE Aspinall 1996. In Arabia resident widely distributed mostly in broadish band coastwise; *c* 130 000bp Jennings 2010, abundant resident breeder N (*P.l. carpenteri*) & S Oman **OBL7**, but further to Alström *et al* 2019, *P. gracilis* occurs rest of KSA (other than as reported for *P. irakensis* below) including *hufufae* in Al Asfar and Hubail lakes in Al Hasa/Hufuf in Eastern Province Jem Babbington *in litt* Dec 2021. In Qatar, this taxon seemingly prefers drier habitats & parks **SG44(1):** 247. Vagrant Cyprus Mitchell 2017. **NB1** *carlo* probably should be synonymised with *gracilis* Alström *et al* 2021b **NB2** Central Arabian populations assumed to be *hufufae*, but genetics unknown Alström *et al* 2021b; possibly some may be *P.l. carpenteri* (or hybrid?)

836	Delicate Prinia	*Prinia lepida*	Polytypic. 4 of 5sspp in Region: *lepida* SE Iran eastwards including S Afghanistan Paludan 1959; *irakensis* E Syria, Iraq, SW Iran; *akyildizi* SC Turkey, N Syria; *carpenteri* UAE, N Oman; (extralimital: *stevensi* W Indian subcontinent). Phil Roberts & Jem Babbington found this species (Images, sound recordings) in Jubail, Eastern Province KSA; Greg Askew recorded it further N near Kuwait border at Khafji Jem Babbington *in litt* Dec 2021: found at Tufaih/Khafra Marsh, near Jubail & Al Qatif, where presence of was also confirmed in an area just north of the Dammam by Faisal Hajwal, Abdullah al Shaikh, Greg Askew & James Conder Jan 2022; overlap with Graceful Prinia sought near UAE border Tommy Pedersen *in litt*. In Qatar, this taxon seemingly prefers reedbeds **SG44(1):** 247 **NB1** *irakensis* synonymised with *lepida* Alström *et al* 2021b. **NB2** Genetic placement of *carpenteri* dependent on futher genetic research Alström *et al* 2021b. **NB3** Greg Askew's ID guide to separate Graceful Prinia from Delicate: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Yr7EXxQpvgk
837	Plain Prinia	*Prinia inornata*	E Pakistan, R&A 2005, first record Jalalabad Afghanistan Sep 1977 Inskipp & Inskipp 1979, likely ssp *terricolor* from Pakistan (all 9 other sspp extralimital E & SE) mapped E Afghanistan Grimmett *et al* 1998, 2009, *terricolor* HBW 11, Roberts 1992 maps to Afghan border at Khyber and Thal to S, but Ayé *et al* 2012 assume only vagrancy, whereas **BLDZ** May 2017 places just into Afghanistan on the northern side of the Khyber pass.
		Sylviidae	As of 2011, considerable body of convincing evidence required rearrangement of **Sylviidae** *sensu lato*, separating new **Phylloscopidae** & **Acrocephalidae** and placing *Locustella* & *Bradypterus* in existing **Megaluridae;** see *eg* Alström *et al* 2006; IOC v2.0 adopted this major revision, but Alström *et al* 2011b notes **Megaluridae** junior to **Locustellidae,** which is reinstated IOC2.7. Voelcker & Light 2011, *inter alia*, revealed within **Sylviidae** a genus-level divergence (**Clade 1** versus **Clade 2** + **Clade 3**); H&M4 retain *Sylvia* for **Clade 1** (4 spp) and resurrect *Curruca* for **Clades 2** & **3** (25 spp including lumped Lesser Whitethroat sspp), involving considerable resequencing. Although IOC 9.1 draft omits reference to these changes (& notwithstanding Sangster *et al* 2015 regarding *Curruca* as a sub-genus), we adjudge the comprehensive examination of babbler phylogeny (402 of 452 spp including the **Sylviidae**) of Cai *et al* 2019 as fully establishing *Curruca* as a full genus as do IOC 10.2. The genera *Sylvia* & *Curruca* form **Clade A** in Cai *et al* 2019. Abdilzadeh *et al* 2019, 2020 confirm the identity of *Sylvia* warblers in Iran.
838	Eurasian Blackcap	*Sylvia atricapilla*	**Clade 1** Voelcker & Light 2011. 2 of 5sspp in Region: *atricapilla* W Asia Minor; *dammholzi* Caucasus, E Asia Minor, N Iran, wintering E Africa mostly. Breeds Turkey, Caucasus, NW Iran, scarce PM, accidental SV N-most Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b, taxon *atricapilla* in CA Ayé *et al* 2012, passage Iraq Salim *et al* 2012, uncommon PM rare WV Oman **OBL7**, some migrants overwinter OSME Region, most to Sudan, Ethiopia, Shirihai *et al* 2001. Egypt Avib, BE. **NB** IOC2.0 limits **Sylviidae** to only *Sylvia* (including former *Parisoma*) and places after **Timaliidae** and before **Zosteropidae**
839	Garden Warbler	*Sylvia borin*	**Clade 1** Voelcker & Light 2011. Monotypic (ssp *woodwardi* subsumed in nominate H&M4.. Abundant in Russian forest-steppe zone to N (Rogacheva 1992), breeds N Turkey, Caucasus, N Kazakhstan Flint *et al* 1984; common PM across Iran Khaleghizadeh *et al* 2017, breeds Khoy region NW Azarbaijan Province Abdilzadeh *et al* 2019; very rare BM in N, common PM Wassink 2015b; winters sub-Saharan Africa, migrates through OSME Region, 7th Qatar record May 2014 **QBRC**, rare PM Oman **OBL7**, passage Iraq Salim *et al* 2012, Shirihai *et al* 2001. Egypt Avib, BE
840	Barred Warbler	*Curruca nisoria (*formerly *Sylvia nisoria)*	**Clade 3** Voelcker & Light 2011. 2 sspp, both in Region & wintering E Africa: nominate Turkey, Caucasus; *merzbacheri* NE Iran (PM, possibly breeds N Azarbaijan Province, nominate PM Khaleghizadeh *et al* 2017), N Kazakhstan to Tien Shan. Ancient lineage with no close *Sylvia* relatives Parkin & Knox 2010. Breeds Turkey, Caucasus, N Iran (scarce Scott & Adhami 2006), N Afghanistan (*merzbacheri* Paludan 1959) S&E CA, most Kazakhstan Ayé *et al* 2012, scarce BM, accidental resident, WV Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b, 3nd winter record at Almaty 01 Dec 2015-01 Jan 2016 Wassink 2016, migrant OSME Region, uncommon PM Oman **OBL7**, passage Iraq Salim *et al* 2012, winter E Africa Shirihai *et al* 2001. Egypt Avib, BE. **NB** odd mention of 'red-eyed' individuals Iraq Moore & Boswell 1941-46.
PT	Lesser Whitethroat **PT**	*Curruca curruca (*formerly *Sylvia curruca)*	(Previously in Clade 3 of Voelcker & Light 2011). H&M4 list all *C. curruca* taxa as ssp, but acknowledge likely strength of splits. IOC 10.2 adopt *Curruca*. Olsson *et al* 2013a make wide-ranging analysis of Lesser Whitethroat (LW) complex, but emphasise that a robust phylogeny remains far from constructed; they suggest 6 ' Lesser Whitethroat' Clades, one (extralimital) un-numbered, but in Clade 1 suggested that *blythi* was very different by some indicators from other *S. curruca* taxa. Aliabadian *et al* 2013 reinforce this suggestion through barcode analysis. Parkin & Knox 2010 had noted two Clades in PT: *margelanica*, *minula* & *althaea* being separate (but distant from each other) from *curruca/halimodendri*; this now appears an oversimplification. Olsson *et al* 2013a radically revise (from specimens) some taxa distributions; Ayé *et al* 2012 farsightedly opted for *halimodendri*, with *minula* perhaps only passage migrant. Olsson *et al* 2013a confirm difficulties with current systems of species limits. Votier *et al* 2016 by applying stable isotope ratio analyses found that taxa *halimodendri* and *blythi* have very different habitat requirements & specimens exhibit no evidence of intergradation, contra morphological conclusions: details in taxa accounts below.
			NB1 Findings of Olsson *et al* 2013a re *halimodendri* may revise Svensson & Shirihai's view on 'Kazakh Lesser Whitethroat (original view *in litt* from Simon Aspinall); our earlier suggestion as stabilised hybrid now much less likely, but subject to establishmnt of group phylogeny. **NB2** Populations bear divergent cytochrome c oxidase 1 (CO1) lineages, potentially including cryptic taxa Kerr *et al* 2009. **NB3** Vaurie had treated *minula* & *althaea* as separate species in 1950s; now IOC agree. **NB4** Lack of trapping and biometric data in UAE prevents secure ID of several likely [*curruca*] taxa; possibly both *halimodendri* and *blythi* occur on migration at different times Campbell & Moran 2016. Likewise in Iran, ringing history has little sspp IDs & museum specimens are undetermined as to sspp ID Khaleghizadeh *et al* 2017. Abdizadeh *et al* 2020 confirmed that ssp *zagrossiensis* could not be upheld from the molecular data, but should be subsumed in *C.c. caucasicus*.
Clade 5 in Olsson *et al* 2013a			
841	Lesser Whitethroat (Northern Lesser Whitethroat)	*Curruca [curruca] curruca (*formerly *Sylvia* [*curruca*] *curruca)*	Monotypic if split. Abundant in Russian open forest & forest-steppe zones to N (Rogacheva 1992), breeds Turkey, Syria, Lebanon, Caucasus, N&W Iran. Passage Iraq Salim *et al* 2012, fairly common PM & WV Oman **OBL7**, rare WV, PM Socotra Porter & Suleiman 2020; some perhaps winter NE & E Africa. Egypt Avib, BE. **NB1** Only *Sylvia* to migrate SE from breeding grounds; although some European populations linked to Sahel conditions, overall population dynamics far from clear Zwarts *et al* 2009. **NB2** taxon *caucasica* thought not valid Olsson *et al* 2013a, subsumed in nominate IOC6.2.
Clade 6 in Olsson *et al* 2013a			

842	Desert Whitethroat (Desert Lesser or Small Whitethroat)	*Curruca [curruca] minula (*formerly *Sylvia* [*curruca*] *minula)*	Monotypic if split. IOC10.2 sequence as polytypic full sp ahead of Lesser Whitethroat as polytypic, assigning *margelanica* as its ssp. Most old breeding records in Region of *minula* not congruent with current understanding of its China-only breeding distribution. Furthermore, old ID of taxa perhaps often in error; *jaxartica* recorded as such Turkmenistan, Bukreev 1997, but now subsumed in nominate IOC6.2. Shirihai *et al* 2001 mapped as breeding NE Iran (*contra* Scott & Adhami 2006 & Abdilzadeh *et al* 2020, with the caveat that the Iranian part of the Hari Ruud valley might be a breeding location, but access is curretly denied; WV SA Iran & PM E Iran Khaleghizadeh *et al* 2017) & previously thought to occupy SW Afghanistan, Turkmenistan, C & W Uzbekistan, parts S Kazakhstan (W&O 2007 then as *S.c. minula*, since refuted by Olsson *et al* 2013a) & Kyrgyzstan (Ven 2002), but Ayé *et al* 2012 map this area as *halimodendri*. The suggestion that the extralimital *margelanica* may be full species HBW11 & proposed in IOC2.9 (Shirihai, as 'Margelanic' Whitethroat), now rejected in IOC3.1, but *curruca* group is polytypic, *margelanica* including *blythii* Olsson *et al* 2013a. Split of *margelanica* accepted in Clements 2009 v6.4, which issue annexes distribution of *minula sensu lato* populations in Uzbekistan & Kyrgyzstan, leaving *minula* distribution confined to W China deserts, partly in agrement with Olsson *et al* 2013a. Olsson *et al* 2013a note that existence of breeding populations in N Iran unconfirmed, those in S Iran tentatively assigned to '*snigirewskii*', whose status is uncertain; they suggest that any *minula* recorded in Iran at high altitude and in spring are passage migrants: H&M4 suggest WV. Wassink 2015b rejects all of several reports of *minula* in Kazakhstan as insufficiently documented; vagrant Israel Perlman & Meyrav 2009, winterer N Yemen (?) Porter & Warr 1985, vagrant Socotra Porter & Suleiman 2020, 7th Qatar record Apr 2014, 8th Dec 2016 **QBRC**, common PM & WV Oman **OBL7**. Passage Afghanistan Paludan 1959 R&A 2005. **NB** Votier *et al* 2016 show that stable isotope ratio analyses unequivocally place in *blythi* many specimens morphologically identified & catalogued as *minula* or *halimodendri*.
Clade 3 in Olsson *et al* 2013a			
843	Cathay Whitethroat ('Margelanic Whitethroat')	*Curruca [curruca] margelanica (*formerly *Sylvia [curruca] margelanica)*	Monotypic if split. Vagrant (3 records) SE Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b. Olsson *et al* 2013 noted a slightly greater separation of *margelanica* from all other [*curruca*] taxa than for *blythii*. Shirihai *et al* 2001 had elevated this taxon as 'Margelanic Whitethroat' without general acceptance, perhaps because the then-understood breeding distribution was poorly-known and considered much smaller than that subsequently established in Olsson *et al* 2013a. IOC 10.2 place tentatively as ssp of Desert Whitethroat *C. minula* while noting case for species status.The name *margelanica* was published by Stolzmann in 1897; the type locality was Fergana, Uzbekistan, and there is a region, Margelan, in that country, but since both syntypes from there were of migrant birds, it is preferable that any English name for this taxon be associated with its breeding distribution. From the map in Olsson *et al* 2013a, its extended distribution may coincide with the Loess Plateau of China, but here the informal@OSME name preferred is 'Cathay Whitethroat' rather than 'Loess Plateau Whitethroat'! Cathay is the original English word for northern China. WV SE Iran Khaleghizadeh *et al* 2017. **NB** Although stable isotope differentiation between *margelanica* and *blythi* is low, this may be due to the former's southern distribution being wetter than other southern *curruca* taxa and thus approximating to the wetter habitat of the northern *blythi* Votier *et al* 2016.
Clade 4 in Olsson *et al* 2013a			
844	Hume's Whitethroat (Hume's Lesser Whitethroat) (Mountain Whitethroat)	*Curruca [curruca] althaea (*formerly *Sylvia* [*curruca*] *althaea, S. curruca althaea* or *S.c. affinis)*	Monotypic. S.*[c.] althaea, S.[c.] blythi & S.[c.] halimodendri* in much of Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b & northernmost Uzbekistan, Shirihai *et al* 2001, R&A 2005. Monotypic IOC6.2. Breeds N Iran-Turkmenistan border, but also in juniper woodland Baluchestan Iran Khaleghizadeh *et al* 2017, confirmed Abdilzadeh *et al* 2019; C Afghanistan (Busuttil & Ayé 2009) (& NE Afghanistan R&A 2005; Paludan collected *althaea* widely in Afghanistan, as did Zarudny 1911 in Iran), easternmost Uzbekistan, Tajikistan, Kyrgyzstan, common BM SSE & SE Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b, 10th Qatar record Apr 2017 **QBRC**, 3rd record UAE Ain al-Waal, Mar 2019 **DB41(5):** 354, 3-record vagrant Oman, but singing Oman Jun 2013 **OBL7**, perhaps 4th at Barik 18 Feb 2017 **DB39(2):** 129; possible breeding, extralimital Pakistan, Kashmir, parts of westernmost China, Shirihai *et al* 2001. Winters to S, Iran to Sri Lanka. **NB** Votier *et al* 2016 note that where breeding *althaea* & *halimodendri* overlap, they are separated by altitude, but show little differentiation in isotope ratio analyses.
Clade 2 in Olsson *et al* 2013a			
845	'Central Asian Lesser Whitethroat' ('Desert Lesser Whitethroat' Dutch Birding)	*Curruca [curruca] (althaea) halimodendri (*formerly *Sylvia [curruca]* (*althaea*) *halimodendri* or *S. (c.) halimodendri)*	English name informal@OSME. Monotypic if split. IOC10.2 leave as ssp of *C. curruca*. *S.[c.] althaea, S.[c.] blythi & S.[c.] halimodendri* in much of Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b & northernmost Uzbekistan, Shirihai *et al* 2001, R&A 2005. *S. curruca* & *S. [c.]×halimodendri* in most Kazakhstan & northernmost Uzbekistan, Shirihai *et al* 2001, passage Iran Zarudny 1911: records in SE Iran by H&E 1970, wintering Hormozgan Abdilzadeh *et al* 2019; also see Khaleghizadeh *et al* 2017 & **NB1** below. Following Olsson *et al* 2013a, *halimodendri* common BM southern 70% of Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b, 1st N Kazakhstan record 12 May 2013 Wassink 2016, 3rd & 4th records UAE Mar 2019, Jebel Dhanna & Ain al-Waal (previous in 2015) **EBRC**, uncommon (rare?) PM & WV Oman (grouped with *minula*) **OBL7**, migrant Afghanistan (*blythi* & *halimodendri* Paludan 1959; but note Jul 1972 record Afghan N Badakshan Niethammer 1973) R&A 2005, winters Arabian Peninsula, India. Egypt Avib, BE. **NB1** Votier *et al* 2016 show that stable isotope ratio analyses unequivocally place in *blythi* many specimens morphologically identified & catalogued as *minula* or *halimodendri;* also, there is a complete absence of evidence of any intergradation between *halimodendri* & *blythi*, although Wassink 2015b would beg to differ - see next entry. **NB2** *telengita* subsumed in *halimodendri* IOC6.2.
Clade 1 in Olsson *et al* 2013a			
846	Taiga Whitethroat ('Taiga Lesser Whitethroat', 'Blyth's Whitethroat', 'Northeastern Lesser Whitethroat', 'Siberian Lesser Whitethroat')	*Curruca [curruca] (althaea) blythi (*formerly *Sylvia [althaea] blythi* or *Sylvia [curruca] blythi)*	Monotypic if split. *S.[c.] althaea*, *S.[c.] blythi* & *S.[c.] halimodendri* in much of Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b & northernmost Uzbekistan, Shirihai *et al* 2001, R&A 2005. From Olsson *et al* 2013a & Aliabadian *et al* 2013, it is worthwhile provisionally to treat taxon *blythi* as distinct from taxon *curruca* taxa by some distance. However, its breeding distribution is poorly known, sample sizes remain small; the status of *blythi* in relation to both *curruca* and *halimodendri* depends on its evolutionary history, which needs first to be determined. Olsson *et al* 2013a considered *blythi incertae sedis*; Aliabadian *et al* 2013 provide more support for its distinctiveness, hence we omit 'Lesser' from the informal@OSME English name which merely reflected the Olsson *et al* 2013a breeding specimen locations pro tem. We considered 'Northeastern Lesser Whitethroat' (*Dutch Birding*, Aliabadian *et al* 2013) was cumbersome & imprecise, but *Dutch Birding* have since revised to 'Siberian Lesser Whitethroat'). Common BM & abundant PM in northern 30% of Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b, who notes intergrades with *halimodendri* where distributions adjoin; breeds easternmost Kazakhstan (map in Olsson *et al* 2013a), possibly N Aghanistan (*blythi* & *halimodendri* recorded Paludan 1959; but note Jul 1972 record Afghan N Badakshan Niethammer 1973). **NB1** Given the various revisions of allocating known (and assumed) populations to one taxon or another, the wintering grounds of *blythi* are uncertain *eg* Khaleghizadeh *et al* 2017 mention NE &E Iran records by H&E 1970'; also R&A 2012 reassign all Pakistan records of *blythi* (dark birds) to *halimodendri* citing Shirihai *et al* 2001 (who emphasise that their '*blythi*' is pale). However, assuming the maps in Olsson *et al* 2013a are sound, these Pakistan records may merit reassessment, particularly since a specimen of *blythi* was a bird wintering in India & Votier *et al* 2016 show that stable isotope ratio analyses unequivocally place in *blythi* many specimens morphologically identified & catalogued as *minula* or *halimodendri*. **NB2** IOC6.3 recognised taxon *blythi*!, but IOC 10.2 decline to alter status beyond that of ssp of *C. curruca*.
847	Yemen Warbler (formerly Arabian Tit-Warbler) (Yemen Parisoma)	*Curruca buryi (*formerly *Sylvia buryi* or *Parisoma buryi)* **Vulnerable**	**Clade 3** Voelcker & Light 2011. Monotypic. Taxonomy as per Shirihai *et al* 2001, p517, HBW1, IOC2.0. SW Arabian endemic, Baker 1997, resident N Yemen Porter & Warr 1985. Sedentary between 1540 & 3100m asl in disappearing woodland habitats; *c* 9000bp Jennings 2010.

848	Arabian Warbler (Red Sea Warbler)	*Curruca leucomalaena* (formerly *Sylvia leucomelaena)*	**Clade 3** Voelcker & Light 2011: ancestral to Orphean Warblers. Resident, 4 sspp3 in Region, from Negev both sides Red Sea to Somalia, Yemen, Oman, Shirihai *et al* 2001: status in Arabia; *negevensis* SE Israel, SW Jordan; *blanfordi* SE Egypt S to Eritrea; *somaliensis* Djibouti, N Somalia; nominate W Arabian coast to S Oman. Resident south from 26°N W Red Sea in broad band to SW Yemen & E to Dhofar, Oman; *c* 130 000bp Jennings 2010, fairly common resident breeder S Oman **OBL7**. Egypt Avib, BE, extralimital W Red Sea coast, N Horn of Africa HBW11.
PT	Orphean Warbler **PT**	*Curruca hortensis (sensu lato:* formerly *Sylvia hortensis)*	Re **Parent Taxon**, HBW does not split. IOC v1.6 follows Shirihai *et al* 2001, who split. Parkin & Knox 2010 note the lack of published DNA evidence: *balchanica* (NE Iraq, SE Turkmenistan, SE Iran) & *jerdoni* seemingly has not yet undergone molecular analysis. Collar 2013 counselled caution on conflicting morphological/reproductive isolation and molecular data as to assigning rank, but H&M4 split, as does **BLDZ**.
849	Western Orphean Warbler (Orphean Warbler)	*Curruca hortensis (sensu stricto:* formerly *Sylvia [hortensis] hortensis* or *S.h. hortensis)*	**Clade 3** Voelcker & Light 2011. One ringed Israel Shirihai 1996. May wander Egypt during migration or from NE Libya breeders, Shirihai *et al* 2001, Jeremy Gaskell, pers comm, HBW11: Libya-breeding ssp *cyrenaicae* Svensson 2012 likely in decline; no record since 1923 E Libya al-Marj 300km from Egypt Isenmann *et al* 2016. One collected at Mulla-Ali (Qazvin) Iran on 28 May 1904 (Zarudny 1911) now in Nat Hist Mus Tashkent confirmed ID Khaleghizadeh *et al* 2017. Egypt Avib
850	Eastern Orphean Warbler (Orphean Warbler)	*Curruca crassirostris (*formerly *Sylvia [hortensis] crassirostris* or *S.h. crassirostris)*	**Clade 3** Voelcker & Light 2011. 2 sspp, both in Region: nominate Turkey-Levant, probaly W Caucasus; *jerdoni* (subsuming *balchanica*) Caucasus, Transcaucasia, Transcaspia, Iran, Afghanistan; *jerdoni* scarce BM, W Tien Shan, spreading E Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b. Breeds Turkey, Levant, S Caucasus, SW Turkmenistan (*balchanica*), N Iraq Ararat *et al* 2011, much of Afghanistan (& passage Paludan 1959), Iran Scott & Adhami 2006 fairly common SB highlands Iran, PM across Iran, uncommon wniterer S coast lowlands Khaleghizadeh *et al* 2017, breeds Fars Abdilzadeh *et al* 2019; W Kyrgyzstan Ven 2002, *jerdoni* breeds E Afghanistan Paludan 1959 Roberts 1992. 1st for Kyrgyzstan of 2 at Bishkek Mar 2020. Breeding dsitribution Azerbaijan greater than thought 2018 **SGATR41(1)**; fairly common PM & WV Oman, breeding confirmed Jun 2013 **OBL7**; passage migrant Arabia, a few wintering in E Jennings 2010, winters also S Iran, UAE, SW Yemen, India, sub-Saharan Africa, Shirihai *et al* 2001. Egypt? BE
PT	Desert Warbler **PT**	*Curruca nana (sensu lato:* formerly *Sylvia nana*)	Basal to **Clades 2** & **3** Voelcker & Light 2011. HBW Alive & **BLDZ** now accept split. IOC2.0 & H&M4 split to African Desert Warbler *S. deserti* . Parkin & Knox 2010 note the lack of published DNA evidence (believed to show wide separation). Although there are wide differences on vocalisation between the two spp, there is also wide variation within each sp Boesman 2016.
851	African Desert Warbler	*Curruca deserti* (H&M4, Cai *et al* 2019) *(*formerly *Sylvia [n.] deserti* & *S.n. deserti)*	1st for OSME Region & Cyprus Akrotiri Mar 2021 found by Thomas Hadjikyriakou: Jane Stylianou *in litt* **CRBC**. Resident W Libya; **BLDZ** Jul 2019 confines occurrence W Libya, resident & wintering to *c* 15% of W-most Libya: Isenmann *et al* 2016 cite 2 records from E Libya; 2 birds S of Tobruk al Adem Dec 1958 105km from Egypt, 4 birds Mar 1970 al Sasir 200km from Egypt near latitude of Dhakla Oasis; 1st for Israel Apr 2013 **DB44(2):** 156. Claimed Egypt Avib. Highly likely vagrant.
852	Asian Desert Warbler (Desert Warbler)	*Curruca nana (sensu stricto:* formerly *Sylvia [nana] nana* or *S.n. nana)*	Monotypic. Breeds CA, mostly C&SW Ayé et al 2012; common BM S half of Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b;fairly common SB deserts E & SE Iarn, PM across Iran, some winter S coast lowlands Khaleghizadeh *et al* 2017, N Afghanistan, winters S Afghanistan, S Iran, Middle East including Syria Murdoch & Betton 2008 (uncommon Iraq Salim *et al* 2012, rare Israel Perlman & Meyrav 2009, 15-record PM Cyrpus **CBR11**, common PM & WV Oman **OBL7**; from Iraq southwards, Red Sea coast to Somalia, E Egypt, Sudan, Shirihai *et al* 2001. Egypt Avib, BE
853	Ménétriés's Warbler {Menetries's Warbler}	*Curruca mystacea (*formerly *Sylvia mystacea)*	**Clade 2** Voelcker & Light 2011. 3 sspp, all in Region, all winter Arabia & NE Africa: nominate NE Turkey, E Transcaucasia, N Iran, W Caspian shore to Volga interfluve; *rubescens* SE Turkey, Syria E Jordan-Iraq, SW Iran; *turcmenica* NE Iran, Turkmenistan, SC Kazakhstan, E Uzbekistan, W Tajikistan- Pakistan. *S.m. turcmenica* Turkmenistan, Bukreev 1997. Breeds SE Turkey, N Syria, Iraq, Iran, Caucasus, CA; breeds Kyrgyzstan, W Ferghana, Ven 2002 scarce BM S-C Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b, confirmed breeding 700km further E Wassink 2015a, Uzbekistan Ayé *et al* 2012, Afghanistan (Paludan 1959 [& passage] NW & SE R&A 2005), winters S Iran, Arabia, Red Sea coasts, Shirihai *et al* 2001, vagrant Socotra Porter & Suleiman 2020, fairly common PM & WV Oman **OBL7**. 3rd record, female, Larnaca Cyprus Apr 2016 **CRC** 4th Capr Greco Apr 2018 **CRBC**, 5th (female) Cape Greco Apr 2022 Jane Stylianou in *litt* **.** 6th record Wadi Gemal, Egypt Mar 2015 **EORC**. **NB1** Once lumped with *melanocephala.* **NB2** No reason to omit French accents in English name; note its finally correct spelling (3 acute accents) from book produced by him: **qv** Parkin & Knox 2010, Jobling 2010.
854	Rüppell's Warbler	*Curruca ruppeli (*formerly *Sylvia ruppeli* or *Sylvia rueppelli)*	**Clade 2** Voelcker & Light 2011. Monotypic. Breeds W to SC Turkey, NW Syria, winters Sudan, Chad, Shirihai *et al* 2001, rare vagrant Iran Scott & Adhami 2006, no records since 1950s. 1st for Uzbekistan & C Asia, a male in Kyzylkum desert Apr 2017 Ten *et al* 2019, by 1000km the easternmost record of this species. Fairly common (spring) & rare (autumn) PM Cyprus **CBR11**, single-record 1941 vagrant Lorestan Iran Khaleghizadeh *et al* 2017. Egypt Avib, BE. **NB** change of spelling in scientific name is reversion to original description (H&M4, IOC2.4).
855	Cyprus Warbler	*Curruca melanothorax (*formerly *Sylvia melanothorax)*	**Clade 2** Voelcker & Light 2011. Monotypic. Breeds Cyprus. Initially, any decline since expansion of Sardinian Warbler *S. melanocephala* imperceptible Pomeroy & Walsh 2000, but since evident Pomeroy 2009. Now evident that Sardinian Warbler is steadily displacing Cyrpus Warbler over all suitable habitats in W Cyprus Flint & McArthur 2014; Pomeroy *et al* 2016 find decline is 59% per decade, but that C & E Cyprus remain free of *S. melanocephala* . Cyprus Wheatear's main wintering area is in southern Sudan Xenophontos *et al* 2017. 7th Turkish record Apr 2010 Kirwan *et al* 2014. Winters around head of Red Sea, along Red Sea W coast, Shirihai *et al* 2001, uncommon S Israel Perlman & Meyrav 2009. Egypt Avib, BE.
856	Sardinian Warbler	*Curruca melanocephala (*formerly *Sylvia melanocephala)*	**Clade 2** Voelcker & Light 2011. 2 extant sspp: nominate Asia Minor, Cyprus; *momus* Syria, Lebanon, Israel, W Jordan, NE Sinai.Breeds, or resident N, W & S Turkey (Roselaar 1995), Levant, Cyprus (where many now resident Richardson 2014; strong increase 2006-2015 Hellicar 2016.), Shirihai *et al* 2001. Range expansion northwards reaching Switzerland & S-C Turkey; formerly winterer N iraq, but no record since 1920s Salim *et al* 2012. 1st for Georgia at Saghalvaso May 2020 **DB42(3):** 217. Steadily displacing *S. melanothorax* , Cyprus island endemic Flint & McArthur 2014. Single-record vagrant Oman 2004 **OBL7.** Egypt Avib, BE **NB1** taxon *momus* SC Turkey through to Sinai sometimes treated separately; Zarudny recorded as winterer Iran Gulf littoral and Mesopotamian edge, breeding Zagros. **NB2 DB 2014** call sspp *momus* Levantine Sardinian Warbler and the presumed extinct *norrisae* Egyptian Sardinian Warbler

PT	Subalpine Warbler **PT** (Taxa morphologically very similar, esp. ♀♀; syntopic populations consequential of pre-mating isolation (Brambilla *et al* 2008) in winter quarters? *cf Ficedula* females Sætre & Sæther 2010	*Curruca cantillans (sensu lato:* formerly *Sylvia cantillans)*	**PT** history is complex: initially, 1 sp (4 sspp) *inornata* (NW Africa) *albistriata* (W form: Trieste area down Dalmatian coast. E form: continuously to Greece, Crete, Tyrrhenian islands & W Turkey) *cantillans* (W form: Iberia & S France. E form Italy) & (the then doubtful) *moltonii* (≡*subalpina*; often subsumed in *cantillans*) of W Mediterranean islands. 1st taxonomic revision: the split into E & W groups (as in ORL to v2.2) was arbitrary, less evidence-based. 2nd taxonomic revision based on breeding dynamics (Italian mainland, mostly); DNA & song research supports 3 main mt lineages (but across previous concepts): *moltonii* (Balearics, Sardinia, Corsica & NW Italy [formerly partly within *cantillans* continuity]); western *cantillans* Iberia/S France; Italian (southern) *cantillans* & *albistriata* (data then lacking for *inornata* assessment Brambilla *et al* 2008). Although *moltonii* partly cryptic (Brambilla *et al* 2009), thus occupies different distribution to any ever described under '*subalpina*'; warrants species status. IOC v2.3 agreed as Moltoni's Warbler (see Hypothetical List), but in 3rd revision, Svensson 2013 finalises relationships into 3 lineages as forecast by Brambilla *et al* 2008, but name *subalpina* has priority over *moltonii*. We aligned with Svensson 2013 & H&M4. Voelcker & Light 2011 acknowledge Brambilla *et al* 2008 as did Svensson 2013, but the samples in all 3 papers did not include all the above taxa. IOC10.1 did not split to Eastern and Western Subalpine Warbler, but recognised Moltoni's Warbler *S. subalpina*. The 4th revision of Zuccon *et al* 2020 examined the history and DNA of all available type, syntype and lectotype specimens, finding errors of attribution of type location (such as a migrant bird assumed by later authors to have been breeding). Essentially, this moved a population from one taxon relationship to another; they also concluded that taxon *iberia* differed too little from taxon *inornata* to be considered separate, making Western Subalpine Warbler monotypic; that Balearic and mainland Italy populations of Moltoni's Warbler are likewise inseparable, leaving it monotypic; that Eastern Subalpine Warbler comprises two subspecies, *cantillans* and *albistriata*. IOC10.2 draft adopts Zuccon *et al* 2020. ID characters and a deeper explanation of the taxonomy are in Corso *et al* 2021 & Brambilla & Zuccon 2021 respectively.
857	Western Subalpine Warbler {Subalpine Warbler}	*Curruca iberiae (*formerly *Curruca inornata, Sylvia [cantillans] inornata)*	Monotypic Zuccon *et al* 2020. **Clade 2** Voelcker & Light 2011. The former sspp *inornata* & *iberiae,* nominally extralimital to W, have been subsumed by priority into *iberiae* Zuccon *et al* 2020. One collected Israel 1968 Shirihai 1996. Very likely occurs irregularly in Egypt, especially if westernmost populations perform loop migration (Shirihai *et al* 2001). Svensson 2013 grouped western (Iberia & S France) populations of *cantillans* as *iberiae* (ssp *novo*) and all *inornata* (NW Africa) together, as an allospecies separate from those described in the row above (Brambilla *et al* 2008), but Zuccon *et al* 2020 suggest that monotypicity is justified.
858	Eastern Subalpine Warbler (formerly Subalpine Warbler)	*Curruca cantillans (sensu stricto:* formerly *Sylvia [cantillans] cantillans)*	Polytypic Zuccon *et al* 2020. **Clade 2** Voelcker & Light 2011. Only ssp *albistriata* in Region, nominate extralimital to W. IOC 4.1 proposes split; ssp *albistriata* breeds Dalmatian coast, Greece, Aegean islands, W & SW Turkey, isolates near Turkey-Syria W border, winters Sahara or sub-Saharan Africa, Shirihai *et al* 2001, Western Desert Egypt down to Jebel Uweinat Goodman *et al* 1986, uncommon migrant Israel Perlman & Meyrav 2009. Egypt BinE. Svensson 2013 grouped this taxon and southern (mainland Italy) populations of *cantillans* together as an allospecies (*cantillans* has priority) separate from those described in the row below (Brambilla *et al* 2008), thus becoming *sensu stricto*, *S.c. albistriata*. However, Zuccon *et al* 2020 treats both as ssp.
859	Common Whitethroat	*Curruca communis (*formerly *Sylvia communis)*	**Clade 2** Voelcker & Light 2011. 4 sspp all in Region: *communis* N Asia Minor & PM for Russian populations; *volgensis* N Kazakhstan; *icterops* S&SE Turkey,-Levant-Caucasus, Iran, SW Turkmenistan; *rubicola* abundant breeder & PM E montane Kazakhstan. *S.c. icterops* & *rubicola* S Turkmenistan, Bukreev 1997; *rubicola* common BM montane SE Kazakhstan, *volgensis* common BM, PM lowlands of N&E Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b. Breeds Turkey, Caucasus, W&N Iraq, N Iran, N Afghanistan (*icterops* passage Paludan 1959), S E&N CA, common PM Oman **OBL7**, vagrant Socotra Porter & Suleiman 2020, winters sub-Saharan & eastern Africa, Shirihai *et al* 2001. Egypt Avib, BE. Mortality of Sahel winterers strongly linked (probably especially females) to prevalent conditions, although recovery almost as fast as decline, but present numbers likely below pre-1960s levels Zwarts *et al* 2009.
860	Spectacled Warbler	*Curruca conspicillata (*formerly *Sylvia conspicillata)*	**Clade 2** Voelcker & Light 2011. 2 sspp: nominate Cyprus, Levant, SW Turkey, Egypt; *orbitalis* extralimital Atlantic Islands. Illera *et al* 2014 demonstrate convincingly that despite disparate Atlantic island breeding colonies across a wide geographic range, considerable gene flow occurs (presumably by early pairing on the wintering grounds) between populations. In consequence, this species shows little diversification; there are no grounds for any taxonomic split between these Atlantic populations. *S.c. conspicillata* breeds Turkey (SE Anatolia) Kirwan *et al* 2008, another population seemingly resident Kirwan *et al* 2014, Hatay province Gül & Mehmet 2011, Israel, Jordan, Syria, Lebanon, Cyprus, winters there & N Egypt; vagrant Iraq Salim *et al* 2012, 1st for Saudi Arabia near Haql Oct 2021 **SG44(1):** 250, *orbitalis* resident NW Libya, Shirihai *et al* 2001. Egypt Avib, BE **NB** Northward range extension predicted due to climate change Assandri & Morganti 2015.
PT	Marmora's Warbler **PT**	*Curruca sarda (sensu lato:* formerly *Sylvia sarda)*	**PT**: Bairlein *et al* 2006 split to extralimital Balearic Warbler *S.[s.] balearica* (on morphology, vocalisation & genetics, Anderson *et al* 2009) **BLDZ** now concurs (see ORL Hypothetical List), as did IOC2.0, Sangster *et al* 2012, H&M4. Nespoli *et al* 2021 carried out phylogenetic & phylogeographic analyses of *sarda* & *balearica*, revealing a wide separation between them; indeed *balearica* is closer to Dartford Warbler *C. undata*.
861	Marmora's Warbler	*Curruca sarda (sensu stricto:* formerly *Sylvia [sarda] sarda* or *S.s. sarda)*	**Clade 2** Voelcker & Light 2011. Monotypic. Winters NW Libya, Shirihai *et al* 2001, once collected at Sollum Egypt Jan 1928 Goodman & Meininger 1989, Isenmann *et al* 2016.
		Zosteropidae	This family is being subjected to considerable revision across its vast distribution. The diversification of *Zosterops* highlights contrasting evolutionary trends and dynamics for continental versus island species. it is suggested the different trajectory of evolution in insular lineages arises from reduced species competition leading to an increase in ecological opportunity, thereby providing a release to phenotypic constraints experienced by continental taxa, where altitudinal niches play a part Day *et al* 2020. Manthey *et al* 2020 find strongly supportive evidence in the southwest Pacific White-eye radiation. Gwee *et al* 2020, using the multispecies coalescent (MSC) approach, found it useful in reducing gene tree discordance by allowing the evolutionary histories of each locus to be inferred independently: they untangled the complex evolutionary history of *Zosterops* into 3 main clades: Indo-African, Asian, & Australasian. Borneo is the prime centre of diversity; only here do the 3 main clades overlap. **NB** Cibois 2022 notes that Martins *et al* 2020 showed that *Z. abyssinicus* & *Z. senegalensis* are not monophyletic, and together may encompass up to 20 lineages of species rank.
PT	Abyssinian White-eye **PT**	*Zosterops abyssinicus*	**PT** Much evidence to support split of Socotran form *contra* Kirwan 2007 by Cox *et al* 2014, Lim *et al* 2018 & Martins *et al* 2020, who sampled Arabian mainland Z. *abyssinicus arabs*. Although *arabs* clustered with *omensis* & *abyssinicus*, all three have distinct and separated distributions, which Martins *et al* 2020 recommended being analysed further; we presume *pro tem* that *arabs* merits possible separate recognition. Previously, Husemann *et al* 2016 had found that East African *Zosterops* were non-monophyletic and that African Yellow White-eye *Z. senegalensis* was polyphyletic, one population of which being basal to all the *Zosterops* taxa examined and the other population being sister to *Z. abyssinicus*; this contradicted findings from earlier microsatellite and sequence data, implying the existence of cryptic taxa within the overall distribution. Also, Pearson & Turner 2017 had reviewed the taxonomy of *Zosterops* in East Africa; *Z. senegalensis* African White-eye (extralimital) & *Z. abyssinicus* Abyssinian White-eye were much over-lumped, now confirmed as an indicator of the latter's status in the OSME Region; we now await a similar effort aimed at mangrove-breeding taxa. **NB** We postulate that mangrove-living populations in Arabia are in effect living in 'islands' in desert or semi-desert.

862	'Arabian White-eye' {Abyssinian White-eye} (White-breasted White-eye)	*Zosterops (abyssinicus) arabs* (formerly *Z. abyssinicus/Z. abyssinica*)	Monotypic; English name informal@OSME. Although Martins *et al* 2020 did not come to a decision on the status of *arabs*, they called for other molecular techniques to be applied, while emphasising its allopatry. (Only *arabs* of 3 sspp of *Z. abyssinucus sensu lato* in Region: 2 extralimital sspp from NE Sudan to Tanzania.; *arabs* SW Saudi Arabia, S Oman, Dickinson 2003, N Yemen Porter & Warr 1985). Status in Arabia: common to abundant in wooodland & juniper, mostly from 1000-3000m asl S Tihama hills & also Dhofar (c600 000bp), possibly small numbers between; abundant resident breeder wooded S Oman, spreading to C **OBL7**. Case ending change, David & Gosselin 2002. **NB** Martins *et al* 2020 had only 2 samples of *arabs* (SW Saudi & Yemen; none from the Oman population), but seemingly they diverged from different populations of *abyssinucus*. Furthermore some of their Sudan *abyssinicus* samples were quite close to *arabs*, which sugggests that *arabs* may not be monophyletic (Manuel Schweizer *in litt*).
863	'Mangrove White-eye'	*Zosterops (abyssinicus)* taxon indeterminate. This aligns with the hypothesis outlined in text to right. There are no type specimens, and so no formal name is being suggested. **Data Deficient (If accepted as full species)**	A population exists of a *Zosterops* taxon (seemingly differentiated from montane *Z. (abyssinicus) arabs* populations at Asir, 100km away) in mangrove habitat, smaller size, & general biometrics, & seemingly unrelated to *Z. palpebrosus* (plumage differences, bill colour (although one *palpebrosus* population inhabits mangroves on Mahawt Island, Oman: Eriksen *et al* 200]), occurs in mangroves on the Saudi SW Red Sea coast (Jizan/Jazan Province Babbington *et al* 2020 (3 ringed Jun 2016 **SG38(2):** 233), Newton 2006, Porter & Aspinall 2010, Babbington & Roberts 2014. Babbington *et al* 2020 documented that Mangrove White-eye is smaller in all measurements than the *Z. (a.) arabs* that they trapped and were much more brightly-plumaged. They found that the 'Mangrove White-eye' is phenotypically distinct from montane Abyssinian White-eye *Z.(a.) arabs*, but no consistent genetic differences were found between the two in the analysed mtDNA marker. The small sample size is another limiting factor in attributing any taxonomic status with confidence.Their concluding hypothesis is that 'Mangrove White-eyes' represents the result of a recent colonization via niche divergence in a group of birds known to be great speciators across the Old World Tropics. Further analyses using many fast-evolving markers or even whole-genome data in combination with more extensive sampling are needed to reconstruct diversification histories for 'Mangrove White-eyes' in Saudi Arabia; the very limited molecular data suggests this taxon is possibly related to Socotra White-eye *Z. socotranus*. Hering *et al* 2020d obtained blood samples from Djibouti birds for later analysis. The taxon appears rare & very local; mangrove clearance my drive it to extinction. This taxon is regionally **Data-Deficient**. **NB1** There are current precedents in rapid speciation: the population on the north Somalian coast is a new species, *Z. sp novo* Martins *et al* 2020 (Formerly included with *socotranus*). Similarly, an extralimital unidentified population in *Z. palpebrosus* in the Nicobars has yet to be classified R&A 2005, 2012; the findings of Manthey *et al* 2020 in SW Pacific white-eyes reveals the same patterns. **NB2** Note the findings of Husemann *et al* 2016 summarised in the **PT** line above. From the conclusions in Cai *et al* 2020 that *Zosterops* diversification is greatest in island populations, we speculate that mangroves in Arabia adjacent to desert and semi-desert are indeed 'islands' in effect. **NB3** The widely-used English name is informal@OSME
PT	Oriental White-eye PT	*Zosterops palpebrosus sensu lato*	Included as **Clade C** in the comprehensive babbler phylogeny of Cai *et al* 2019. although many *Zosterops* spp were not covered therein, given the upheaval of Husemann *et al* 2016, Pearson & Turner 2016 and current studies within the genus, *eg* Lim *et al* 2018 who separate extralimital far eastern of *Z. palpebrosus sensu lato* taxa into separate spp (especially island taxa), hence need for new English name. Ottenburghs 2019 noted that evidence of rapid evolution within the white-eye complex was postulated by Cowles & Uy 2019, resulting in little or no hybridisation between sympatric populations exploiting different niches. Cai *et al* 2020 in an examination of babbler diversity reinforce this view, but as atypical of babblers, in that *Zosterops* island populations diverged rmost rapidly. **NB** We speculate that mangrove-living populations in Arabia are in effect living in 'islands' in desert or semi-desert.
864	Indian White-eye (Oriental White-eye)	*Zosterops palpebrosus sensu stricto (Zosterops palpebrosa)*	English name-change IOC9.1. Only one of 12 sspp in Region, *occidentis;* all other sspp extralimital to E & SE. NE Afghanistan, Dickinson 2003, R&A 2005 – Paludan 1959 *egregia,* status uncertain; eastern Afghan Safed Koh H&E 1970. In Arabia, breeds at only a single site, Mahawt (Muhut) island mangroves Oman (found 1999 Eriksen *et al* 2001), unsurveyed population likely tiny Jennings 2010, presumed resident breeder **OBL7**, still present Jan 2018 **DB40(2):** 123. Recorded Iran Reynolds 1978, may breed or be resident Scott & Adhami 2006 rare & local resident Hormozgan Khaleghizadeh *et al* 2017: recorded Iran Jan 2009 Winkel *et al* 2010, reported July 2005, Hamidi 2006, 5 at Khoor-e Azini, 10 at Khoor-e Khalathi Hormozgan Nov 2017 **DB40(1):** 56, 3 Bandar-e Sirik Hormozgan Feb 2019 **DB41(2):** 133. **NB1** *palpebrosus* includes *occidentis*, which is a synonym for *egregius*. **NB2** Two lineages detected in Thailand Round *et al* 2018, suggesting that the genetic makeup of this sp across its large distribution may be complex, meriting a re-examination of species limits. Lim *et al* 2018 draw new distributions for various *Zosterops* spp, including *Z. palpebrosus*; the findings of these two papers indicate the need to deconstruct several White-eye 'wastebasket' species, especially since mangrove-living populations seem to have affinities with distant migratory species.
Cox *et al* 2014 shows that the Socotran endemic taxon *socotranus* is distinct fom mainland African *abyssinicus* taxa; IOC9.1 resolves as full sp unrelated to current *abyssinicus*.			
865	Socotra White-eye (Formerly included in Abyssinian White-eye, earlier called White-breasted White-eye)	*Zosterops socotranus* (formerly treated in error as *Z. (abyssinicus) socotranus)*	Monotypic. Unrelated to any current *Z. abyssinicus* taxa IOC9.1 (Which sequences after mainland Arabian/African *Zosterops*). Formerly considered as Socotran form of African species to grant it separate identty Hugh Buck pers comm, c5000bp Jennings 2010. Case ending, David & Gosselin 2002. Cox *et al* 2014 noted distinctiveness wrt East African *abyssinicus* taxa (*flavilateralis*, *jubaensis*); they also suggest that *socotranus* originated 1.75Mya, and the other two 1.35Mya, the Arabian mainland taxon *arabs* was not sampled. H&M4 list distribution extending to N Somalia, which is doubtful; that doubt confirmed by Martins *et al* 2020, who confirmed *A. socotranus* as an island endemic, the N Somalian population being raised to full species rank as *Z. sp novo*. **NB** The very limited molecular data available for 'Mangrove White-eye' suggests it is possibly related to *Z. socotranus* Babbington *et al* 2020.
		Timaliidae	
866	Rusty-cheeked Scimitar Babbler	*Erythrogenys erythrogenys* (Formerly *Pomatorhinus erythrogenys* & *Megapotamorhinus erythrogenys)*	Genus change IOC10.2. **BLDZ** map Jan 2020 shows westernmost resident distribution 135km into Afghanistan N of Jalalabad in the Nurestan Forest Reserve. We interpret this as its breeding presence in the OSME Region.
		Leiothrichidae	New family as per IOC 2.6 for certain taxa formerly in **Timaliidae**. H&M4 & del Hoyo & Collar 2016 extract several spp from *Turdoides* into new genus *Argya* on molecular trends indicating monophyly. Cibois *et al* 2018 construct a dense phylogeny of **Leiothrichidae** from which a revised taxonomy at genus level is erected, and a species taxonomy suggested: most **Clades** and **Subclades** are extralimital to the Region; they also strongly support *Argya*, hence our adoption here. The genera *Trochalapteron* & *Argya* are included in **Clade G** of the comprehensive babbler phylogeny of Cai *et al* 2019.
Clade B: Cibois *et al* 2018.			
867	Streaked Laughingthrush	*Trochalopteron lineatum* (formerly *Garrulax lineatus* & *Strophocincla lineata*)	6 sspp, 3 possibly 4 in Region: *bilkevitchiS* Tajikistan, E Afghanistan; *schachdarense* lower SE Tajikistan; *gilgit* Afghanistan; possibly nominate from NE Pakistan; 2 other extralimital sspp to E. Taxonomy follows IOC 2.6 & Moyle *et al* 2012. E Turkmenistan Bukreev 1997 (*bilkevitchi*), *schachdarense* SE Tajikistan, *gilgit* Afghanistan (M&P 2000) Dickinson 2003, R&A 2005, summer breeder N&E Afghanistan Paludan 1959 H&E 1970 Ayé *et al* 2012: **BLDZ** map May 2017 breeding distribution across entire E Afghan border & N across Tajikistan then NW into Uzbekistan. (Taxonomy here follows R&A 2005, who separate from Bhutan Laughingthrush *T. imbricatus*, as does Collar 2006). **NB1** Collar 2006 retained in *Garrulax*. **NB2** Cibois *et al* 2018 included samples of *gilgit*, *inter alia*.

868	Variegated Laughingthrush	*Trochalopteron variegatum* (formerly *Garrulax variegatus*)	3 ssp, likely only *nuristani* NE Afghanistan in region: 2 other extralimital sspp to E. Taxonomy follows IOC 2.6 & Moyle *et al* 2012. Afghanistan, Dickinson 2003, R&A 2005 Nuristan Ayé *et al* 2012. Grimmett *et al* 1998 claims endemic to subcontinent; not repeated in short Grimmett *et al* 2009 text. Arlott 2007 map does not reach Afghanistan: probable erroneous map swap with White-throated Laughingthrush T. *[Garrulax] albogularis*; R&A2005 maps & species accounts correct: **BLDZ** map May 2017 indicates presence across W Wakhan just into Tajikistan & from S Badakhshan to Paktila, as far W as Kabul. HBW 12 cites ssp *nuristani* in Region, as do Paludan 1959, H&E 1970 Ayé *et al* 2012 in Nurestan province. **NB** ssp *nuristani* not sampled by Cibois *et al* 2018.
Clade D1: Cibois *et al* 2018. (& Clade D in Cai *et al* 2019); resequencing iaw IOC 10.2			
869	Jungle Babbler	*Argya striata (Turdoides striata)*	Grimmett *et al* 1998, 2009 map ssp *sindiana* into NE Afghanistan from Pakistan, also HBW 12, R&A 2012, **BLDZ** map May 2017 touches the border due N of Peshawar.; 4 other extralimital sspp to E & S. **NB** Although not sampled by Cibois *et al* 2018, placement in phylogenetic tree within *Argya* from data in their cited references.
870	Iraq Babbler	*Argya altirostris (Turdoides altirostris)*	Monotypic. Resident lower Tigris-Euphrates BWP VII; now known upper Euphrates Syria, Murdoch 2005; small numbers near Birecik SE Turkey Kirwan *et al* 2008, found breeding Erbil & Salymaniya, Iraqi Kurdistan May 2016 **SG39(1)ATR**. Scarce breeder Iran Scott & Adhami 2006, uncommon local resident wetlands close to Iraq border Khaleghizadeh *et al* 2017. 3 at Amik Baraj Golu, Hatay Turkey Sep 2021 **DB43(5):** 400, one at Milleyha, Hatay May 2022 Emin Yoğurtcuoğlu *in litt*. **NB** Although not sampled by Cibois *et al* 2018, they suggest its retention as a species and place in *Argya* from their cited references
PT	Common Babbler **PT**	*Argya caudata sensu lato* (formerly *Turdoides caudata)*	IOC1.6 noted proposed split from R&A 2005, but should perhaps have cited Collar 2006 instead? IOC v2.0 accepts split, Collar 2006 calls for more distributional sampling. Svensson *et al* 2009, H&M4 lump, the latter noting case for split. BLI remain lumped May 2017 & follow H&M4 in adoption of *Argya* genus, confirmed by Cibois *et al* 2018. Shirihai & Svensson 2018 remain lumped. IOC10.2 split & resequence.
871	Afghan Babbler {Common Babbler}	*Argya [caudata] huttoni (Turdoides (caudata) huttoni)*	H&M4 note that if split, 2ssp, *huttoni* SE Iran, S Afghanistan, *salvadorii* C Iraq-SW Iran. Taxon *salvadorii* C Iraq-SW Iran resident lower Tigris-Euphrates E through S Iran Khaleghizadeh et al 2017 note *huttoni* common resident E Iran, *salvadorii* likewise W Iran but intergrades occur inland Baluchestan; *huttoni* S Afghanistan (probably Shorawak, S Kandahar – map in Roberts 1992, H&E 1970, Paludan 1959), BWP VII, Ayé *et al* 2012; (Taxonomy here follows Collar 2006, not R&A 2005. Population forms a *huttoni-caudata* cline with *eclipes* [N Pakistan] in the middle Collar 2006; Ayé *et al* 2012 speculate breeding n Nuristan). HBW 12 retain these taxa (with *salvadorii*) as ssp of *caudata,* asserting variation predominantly clinal. First bred Kuwait 2007, Gregory 2008; likely *salvadorii* Jennings 2010, but only a few bp: 12 resident Abdaly Farm Nov 2018 **SGATR41(1)**. **NB** Samples from Iran used by Cibois *et al* 2018.
872	Common Babbler	*Argya [caudata] caudata sensu stricto (Turdoides (caudata) caudata)*	H&M4 note that if split, 2 sspp, *eclipes* N Pakistan to NW India; nominate SE Pakistan, most of India; ssp *eclipes* reaches SE Afghanistan 50km NW of Zhob **BLDZ** map Nov 2018, Grimmett *et al* 1998 perhaps (map Roberts 1992) just S of Khyber. However, Grimmett *et al* 2009 map extensively on Afghan border W of Quetta. **NB** This taxon not sampled by Cibois *et al* 2018.
873	Fulvous Babbler (formerly Fulvous Chatterer)	*Argya fulva (Turdoides fulva)*	4 sspp, essentially all extralimital Africa Morocco-Eritrea save for small enclave in SE Egypt (Halaib) holding a population of *acaciae*, but the map in Shrihai & Svensson 2018 suggests it has reached southernmost Egypt beside Lake Nasser at the Sudan border. Egypt Avib, BE. **NB** Extralimital ssp *fulva* (Algeria) sampled by Cibois *et al* 2018
874	Arabian Babbler	*Argya squamiceps (Turdoides squamiceps)*	3 sspp, all endemic to Region; nominate Sinai, Israel, W Jordan, NW& inland C&S Saudi Arabia; *yemensis* SW Saudi Arabia (sampled by Cibois *et al* 2018), W Yemen; *muscatensis* E UAE. Resident Levant S round exterior of Arabia as far as UAE (where common in E Aspinall 1996), but range extension into C Arabia following irrigation Jennings 2010, uncommon resident Kuwait **KORC** Dec 2016, common resident breeder much of Oman **OBL7**; abundant resident, but follows annual rainfall ; cooperative breeder in groups typically up to 20 strong; Jennings 2010 estimates 150 000 groups overall. Egypt Avib, BE
		Regulidae	Likely **PT** case (Parkin & Knox 2010), after further research (including playback experiments), for Goldcrest taxa *tristis* [Tajikistan] + *japonensis* [extralimital to E] as full species (3.6-5% cyt-b genetic divergence, Martens & Päckert 2003), similarly elevation likely of *himalayensis* [Afghanistan] + *yunnanensis*, vocal analyses (Päckert *et al* 2003) supportive, Martens *et al* 2011 more so. H&M4, IOC7.2 do not split. We consider the cited papers are persuasive in alloting separate entries, a decision reinforced in recent correspondence Jochen Martens pers comm Dec 2014, who notes the haplotype distances as "astonishingly high". **NB** The Atlantic islands goldcrests, though remote, are surprisingly closlely related to mainland populations Päckert & Martens 2004.
875	Common Firecrest	*Regulus ignicapilla*	4 sspp, 2 in Region: *caucasicus* W Caucasus; nominate Asia Minor; extralimital *tauricus* Crimea, *balearicus* Balearic Islands, NW Africa. Resident Caucasus, N Turkey, Baker 1997, 1st record, 2, Israel Dec 2011 **DB34(1):** 58, 2nd record Biriya, Safed, Upper Galilee Dec 2021 Jonathen Meyrav *in litt* SG44(1, still present 1st week Jan 2022 Yoav Perlman *in litt* **SG44(1):** 240; 1st Iraq record March 2015 Ararat 2016, 1st for Lebanon Oct 1958, 2nd record shot Nov 2015 Ramadan-Jaradi & Itani 2016. 3rd for Cyprus Mandria Dec 2020 **CRBC**. Egypt Avib, BE. Case ending, David & Gosselin 2002. **NB** Extralimital Taiwan Firecrest *R. goodfellowi* belongs to the Goldcrest phylogeny Päckert *et al* 2009
PT	Goldcrest **PT**	*Regulus regulus*	**PT** From Martens & Päckert 2003, Päckert *et al* 2003, Martens et al 2011, Jochen Martens pers comm Dec 2014, we tentatively extract two groups from the Goldcrest taxa that exhibit haplotype (cytochrome-*b*) & song distinctiveness.
876	European Goldcrest	*Regulus (regulus) regulus*	English name informal@OSME. 10 sspp (including *coatsi* on general evidence Jochen Martens pers comm Dec 2014), 3 perhaps 4 in Region: nominate may winter Cyprus, scarce resident, PM, WV Altai E Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b; *buturlini* Asia Minor, Caucasus, uncommon WV N Iran (*hyrcanus*) Khaleghizadeh *et al* 2017; *coatsi-regulus* intergrades (*coats* i-type?) likely majority E Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b. Largely resident Caucasus, Turkey, S & SE CA, rare winterer to S, 1st record Kuwait (2 birds) Nov 2013 **KORC**,1st breeding record Qammouha, Lebanon Aug 2018 Ramadan-Jaradi *et al* 2019: males observed holding territory in Armena Jul 2010 & Jul 2018 Raković *et al* 2020. Egypt Avib, BE. **NB1** Populations bear divergent cytochrome c oxidase 1 (CO1) lineages, potentially including cryptic taxa Kerr *et al* 2009. **NB2** cyt-b distance values: *regulus-japonensis* 5.0%; *regulus-tristis* 3.6%; *regulus-himalayensis* 4.8% Martens *et al* 2011.
877	Himalayan Goldcrest	*Regulus (regulus) himalayensis*	English name informal@OSME. 3 sspp, only one in Region: nominate NE Afghanistan, extralimitally through N Pakistan to Nepal; *sikkimensis* E of Nepal, *yunnanensis* NC China, but *sikkimensis* validity as sspp appears weak Jochen Martens pers comm Dec 2014; *himalayensis* breeds NE Afghanistan, Paludan 1959. **NB** cyt-b distances to *regulus* 4.8% & *japonensis* 6.2% Martens *et al* 2011.
878	Eastern Goldcrest	*Regulus (regulus) japonensis*	English name informal@OSME. 2 sspp, only one in Region: nominate extralimital SE Siberia Baikal to Russian far East, Sakhalin, S Kurils, Japan, N Korea, NE China; *tristis* common resident SE Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b, Tien Shan, wintering SW Asia; *tristis* Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan Ayé *et al* 2012, Iran (*contra* Scott & Adhami 2006, scarce winterer), Afghanistan, Baker 1997, *tristis* winters W Afghanistan Paludan 1959 R&A 2005. **NB** cyt-b distance values: *japonensis-himalayanensis* 6.2%' *japonensis-tristis* 3.0% Martens *et al* 2011.
		Troglodytidae	

PT	Eurasian Wren **PT**	*Troglodytes troglodytes* (may move to *Nannus* Barker 2017)	**PT**: Kerr *et al* 2007 reinforced case for splitting Nearctic *T. troglodytes* into 6 lineages; AOU & IOC 2.6 recognise 3, that below & 2 Nearctic spp, Winter Wren *T. hiemalis* & Pacific Wren *T. pacificus*. Rice *et al* 1999 proposed erecting *Nannus* for this species only from others in *Troglodytes*, citing song differences. Recently the **DBWP** List followed suit. Barker 2017 made a strong case for *Nannus* to include Palearctic Eurasian Wren *T.troglodytes*, & Nearctic Pacific Wren *T. pacificus* & Winter Wren *T. hiemalis*. Albrecht *et al* 2020 (also using *Nannus*) found evidence that taxa *hyrcanus, juniperi, cypriotes, tianshanicus* & *nipalensis*, from some aspects of genetic analysis, featured in different clades, but not unambiguously so: not all taxa in the species' distribution were analysed, and not all techniques were applied; sample sizes also were small. However, two basal lineages of Eurasian Wren, *kabylorum* of the Maghreb (NW Africa) and *juniperi* of NE Libya (a short distance from Egypt) were distinctive and may merit full species status, but the first requires differentiating from populations described as *kabylorum* in S Iberia & the second requires much more fieldwork to establish its distribution in an exceedingly unstable political area. We have *pro tem*, added *T.(t.) juniperi* Cyrenaic Wren to the ORL Hypothetical List as a likely vagrant. Hering *et al* 2021a, 2021b note the relict nature of the North African populations.
879	Eurasian Wren (Once included Winter Wren. Common Wren or Wren earlier English names)	*Troglodytes troglodytes* (may move to *Nannus* Barker 2017)	IOC4.4 lists 28 sspp, 7 perhaps 8 occur in Region: *cypriotes* S&W Turkey, Cyprus (Strong increase 2006-2015 Hellicar 2016), Levant; *hyrcanus* Caucasus, N (resident) & WV SW Iran Khaleghizadeh *et al* 2017, N Turkey; *subpallidus* NE Iran, NW Afghanistan, NW Turkmenistan, S Uzbekistan; *tianschanicus* common resident SE Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b; *troglodytes* rare WV W Kazakhstan Arend Wassink *in litt* Dec 2014; *neglectus* NE Afghanistan; *magrathi* SE Afghanistan; *juniperi* from NE Libya may wander to Egypt, hence its inclusion in the ORL Hypothetical List. *T.t subpallidus* Turkmenistan, Bukreev 1997, *tianschanicus* range extension N to Altai 2012 Wassink 2013. Present all N CA, & Turkey-Afghanistan (*tianschanicus* N, *magrathi* SE & *neglectus* Nurestan Paludan 1959), HBW10, Syria Murdoch & Betton 2008, likely scarce breeder N Iraq Ararat *et al* 2011, also SE CA Flint *et al* 1984. 1st record 1992 Egypt **EORC** accepted 2011, 3rd for Kuwait ar al-Abraq Feb 2017, 4th Al Abraq Oct 2020 **KORC**. Avib, BE. **NB** Populations bear divergent cytochrome c oxidase 1 (CO1) lineages, potentially including cryptic taxa Kerr *et al* 2009.
		Sittidae	
PT	White-cheeked Nuthatch **PT** (formerly Przevalkski's or Przewalski's Nuthatch)	*Sitta leucopsis*	Re **Parent Taxon**; IOC8.1 accepts split of extralimital Przewalski's Nuthatch *S.(l.) przewalskii* (R&A 2005), supported by HBW13, elevating *leucopsis* (noted by Dickinson 2006 & H&M4. However Pasquet *et al* 2014 in near-complete phylogeny of *Sitta* taxa establish taxon *przewalskii* as having no close relatives, and so we followed accordingly, thus matching Inskipp & Collar 2015; Päckert *et al* 2020 confirm; we follow their **Clade** sequence.
880	White-cheeked Nuthatch	*Sitta leucopsis*	In **Clade I** in Päckert *et al* 2020. Monotypic IOC4.4. Resident NE Afghanistan, H&Q 1996, R&A 2005, Grimmett *et al* 1998: Roberts 1992 – Nurestan & N side of eastern Safed Koh in Afghanistan, also H&E 1970, *leucopsis* E Paludan 1959.
881	Krüper's Nuthatch	*Sitta krueperi*	In **Clade IV** in Päckert *et al* 2020. Monotypic. Resident Turkey, NW Caucasus, H&Q 1996, including Georgia & adjacent Russia Koblik & Arkhipov 2014. Probably confined to Asia Minor distribution of Calabrian Pine *Pinus brutia*; *S. krueperi* largely responsible for continued spread of 'abnormal' (wingless) *P.brutia* seeds by remotely caching them Frankis 1991. Agile and dainty gleaner.
PT	Rock Nuthatch **PT**	*Sitta neumayer/tephronota*	Elverice *et al* 2021 suggest that biogeographic history & defined ecological niches indicate that the mtDNA & ND2 & ND3 genes of both Western and Eastern Rock Nuthatch populations may ***each*** comprise two well-differentiated populations. The two new **Clades** both occupy the Zagros Mountains in Iran in different ecological niches. *Pro tem*, following the sequence of the Parsimony bootstrap & the mtDNA concatenated tree diagrams in Elverice *et al* 2021, we dub the **Clades A, B, C** & **D**, the Zagros **Clades** being **A** & **D**. Unique haplotypes, hence unique lineages, are present in the Western & Eastern Rock Nuthatches in the Zagros Mountains. However, further studies based on multilocus data are essential for taxonomic clarification Elverice *et al* 2021.
882	Western Rock Nuthatch (Neuymayer's Nuthatch)	*Sitta neumayer*	In **Clade VI** in Päckert *et al* 2020. Polytypic: all 3 sspp in Region: nominate Turkey, Transcaucasia, N Iran, Levant-N Israel; *tschittscherini* Iraq, resident Zagros Iran *rupicola* N&W Iran; *plumbea* local resident S-C Iran Khaleghizadeh *et al* 2017. Resident Turkey, Lebanon, Israel (common Mt Hermon Perlman & Meyrav 2009), S Caucasus, NE Iraq, Iran, H&Q 1996, Syria Murdoch & Betton 2008. Elverice *et al* 2021 give the taxon in **Clade A** & confined to the Zagros Mountains as *tschittscherini*, which shares no haplotypes with any other Rock Nuthatch taxon and so it appears to be completely allopatric (absence of gene flow).
883	Eastern Rock Nuthatch (Great Rock or Persian Nuthatch)	*Sitta tephronota*	In **Clade VI** in Päckert *et al* 2020. Polytypic: all 4 sspp in Region: *dresseri* SE Turkey-SW Iran, Iraq; *obscura* S Transcaucasia-N&C Iran & NE Turkey; nominate C Asia-Afghanistan; *iranica* SW Turkmenistan, NE Iran-Uzbek Kyzylkum desert: *tephronota* common resident W Tien Shan- Zhungarsky Alatau SE Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b; that & & *iranica* Turkmenistan, Bukreev 1997. Resident SE Turkey Kirwan *et al* 2008, NW Iraq, arid hills mountains across Iran Khaleghizadeh *et al* 2017, S CA, Afghanistan (Paludan 1959; Darwaz Badakhshan Niethammer 1973; not uncommon C Afghanistan Redman 1981, Bamiyan Busuttil & Ayé 2009), H&Q 1996. **NB DB 2011** call ssp *obscura* 'Armenian Rock Nuthatch'. Elverice *et al* 2021 give the taxon in **Clade D** in the Zagros Mountains as *dresseri*, which shares no haplotypes with any other Rock Nuthatch taxon and so it appears to be completely allopatric (absence of gene flow).
PT	Eurasian Nuthatch **PT**	*Sitta europaea*	IOC2.0 accepts split of extralimital *arctica* (monotypic) as supported by Collar & Pilgrim 2007, Sangster *et al* 2012 & implied in Red'kin & Konovalova 2006, suggested in Zink *et al* 2006b) as *S. arctica* Siberian Nuthatch; species status confirmed by Lei *et al* 2019. However, much better English name would be 'Arctic Nuthatch' (Richard Klim *in litt)*, because some populations grouped under *S.e. asiatica* previously informally known as 'Siberian Nuthatch' (taxa *asiatica, baicalensis, sakhalensis, clara, takatsukasai* & *albifrons* in 'white-bellied *asiatica*' group of Red'kin & Konovalova 2006): Päckert *et al* 2020a add *amurensis* to this group, affirm its phylogeny, but note that confirmation from population genetic analysis is still required to confirm a species-level split as polytypic *S. asiatica* despite rather high genetic distances. IOC7.2 recognises all these taxa in sequence, but not as a recognised group. Nevertheless, we place this group in a separate line. Red'kin *et al* 2015 emphasise that extralimital S. *arctica* is morphologically cryptic, but genetically distant from *S. europaea.* **NB1** While heeding cautionary note in HBW13 that too many populations remain unsampled & allotting of taxa within species is uncertain, as is extent of further speciation uncertain, we note Lei *et al* 2019 identify 6 lineages in Eurasian Nuthatch that merited further analysis; Päckert *et al* 2020a found 3 strongly-supported subclades covering 5 of these lineages, but the Iranian lineage was poorly supported. Nevertheless, Red'kin & Konovalova 2006 on eastern taxa align well with the prescient groupings of Vaurie 1959. H&M4 illustrate Vaurie's 5 groups (after extralimital *S. arctica* elevated). **NB2** Populations bear divergent cytochrome c oxidase 1 (CO1) lineages, potentially including cryptic taxa Kerr *et al* 2009.
884	Eurasian Nuthatch	*Sitta* [*europaea*] *europaea*	In **Clade X** in Päckert *et al* 2020a: first of 3 subspecies-groups. H&M4 groups 1 (*europaea* only) & 2 comprise together 9 sspp, 4 perhaps 5 (all group 2) occur in the Region: *levantina* Israel, formerly Lebanon, S Turkey: may have recolonised Lebanon, 1st record for 140 years 2019, several 2020 observations Ramadan-Jaradi & Sawan 2021. *caucasica* N Turkey, Caucasus; *persica* SE Turkey, N Iraq, N Iran forests Khaleghizadeh *et al* 2017; *rubiginosa* N Iran, Azerbaijan; *caesia* may reach European Turkey from Greece. Resident montane W to NE Turkey Kirwan *et al* 2008, Syria Murdoch & Betton 2008, Caucasus, NE Iraq (Ararat *et al* 2011), N, W-C Iran, H&Q 1996. **NB1** Overlap between *europaea, asiatica* & *arctica* and separation from *baicalensis* detailed well in Päckert *et al* 2020a. **NB2** Vaurie's groups 4 & 5 remote in Far East.

885	'Siberian Pine Nuthatch' (Not to be confused with extralimital Siberian Nuthatch *S. arctica*)	*Sitta (europaea) asiatica* (white-bellied group)	In **Clade X** in Päckert *et al* 2020a, second of 3 subspecies groups. H&M4 group 3 comprises 6 sspp (see **PT** above) as recognised by Red'kin & Konovalova 2006 (IOC7.2 aligns well), of which only ssp *asiatica* is known in Region; Päckert *et al* 2020a add *amurensis* to this group, but defer elevating polytypic *asiatica* (Linnaeus 1758) to species status until comprehensive population genetic analyses are done. Common resident, rare WV Ural Valley, N-C & W Altai Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b; remaining 5 sspp extralimtal to E. **NB** *asiatica* strongly linked to *Pinus sibirica* seeds Rogacheva 1992, hence our informal@OSME English name. We note that Päckert *et al* 2020a in their **Fig 3**, Time-calibrated multi-locus phylogeny, use the informal name 'Asian Nuthatch' for this group.
886	Kashmir Nuthatch (formerly Brook's Nuthatch)	*Sitta cashmirensis*	In **Clade IX** in Päckert *et al* 2020a. Monotypic. Resident NE Afghanistan, H&Q 1996, R&A 2005, Grimmett *et al* 1998, 2009, E Afghanistan Paludan 1959, Roberts 1992, suggested by Bates & Lowther 1952. Once considered a relict of *S. europaea* in E Afghanistan H&E 1970, but vocally very different Dickinson 2006.
		Tichodromidae	IOC v2.0 places in its own family **Tichodromidae**, H&M4 retains in **Sittidae**
887	Wallcreeper	*Tichodroma muraria*	2 sspp, both in Region: nominate Turkey, Caucaus, N Iran; *nepalensis* E Iran, N Afghanistan, C Asia, Tien Shan, extralimital to Nepal. Resident or breeds mountains Turkey (*muraria*) Kirwan *et al* 2008, NW Iraq Moore & Boswell 1956 (status now uncommon winterer Salim *et al* 2012), Caucasus, uncommon resident Iran Khaleghizadeh *et al* 2017, S&E CA (K-M&K 2005), *nepalensis* scarce resident Tien Shan E to Saur Mts Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b; widespread through mountains Caucasus to Himalayas & E China. Rare winter Israel Perlman & Meyrav 2009; Afghanistan, altitudinal or short-distance migrant, H&Q 1996, R&A 2005, not uncommon Redman1981, vagrant Jordan Mitchell 2017. **NB** Zhao *et al* 2016 found that, based on the concatenated sequences, *Tichodroma* was most closlely related to *Sitta,* while *Certhia* was in a separate clade.
		Certhiidae	
PT	Eurasian Treecreeper **PT**	*Certhia familiaris (sensu lato)*	IOC1.6 accepts split (Tietze *et al* 2006) of Hodgson's Treecreeper *C. [familiaris] hodgsoni* as do HBW13, H&M4,distributed in Kashmir and N Pakistan (Dickinson 2003); extralimital sspp *mandelli* & *khamensis* strongly separated, possibly full species Martens & Tietze 2006. See also ORL Hypothetical List. A separate lineage incorporating Corsica (*corsa*) & Caucasus (*caucasicus*) populations has been revealed Pons *et al* 2015a, but not as full sp. **NB1** Pons *et al* 2019 confirm the genetic closeness of the extralimital Corsican ssp *corsa* & Caucasus ssp *caucasica*, relicts of pre-glacial populations, but refrain from elevating to species rank until full evaluation of Caucasus population. **NB2** Populations bear divergent cytochrome c oxidase 1 (CO1) lineages, potentially including cryptic taxa Kerr *et al* 2009.
888	Eurasian Treecreeper	*Certhia familiaris (sensu stricto)*	10 sspp, 5 in Region: *caucasica* N Turkey (perhaps full sp with extralimital *corsa* Pons *et al* 2019), Caucasus; *persica* SE Azerbaijan, N Iran; *tianschanica* rare resident Kazakh Tien Shan, extralimital to NW China, *daurica* Altai Kazakhstan *extralimita* to NE China, Korea; *familiaris* very rare PM & rare WV Ural Valley, N-C Kazakhstan, *tianshanica* rare resident N&C Tien Shan, Zhungarsky Alatau, *daurica* rare resident E-most Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b; trapped W Kazakhstan. Widespread in Russian forest belt Rogacheva 1992; *familiaris* rare winter, N Turkey, Caucasus, N Iran (scarce Scott & Adhami 2006, uncommon resident Khaleghizadeh *et al* 2017), Kyrgyzstan, H&Q 1996, SE CA (E&N Kyrgyzstan, Ven 2002). **NB** interbreeding with *brachydactyla* in Sweden Anderson *et al* 2009: due to niche pressures?
889	Hodgson's Treecreeper	*Certhia hodgsoni*	Nominate in Kashmir and N Pakistan: that it occurs in neighbouring Afghan Nurestan seemingly confirmed by **BLDZ** map Nov 2015 indicating significant range occupied E & NE of Kabul.
890	Short-toed Treecreeper	*Certhia brachydactyla*	5 sspp, 3 in Region: nominate Turkey; *rossocaucasica* SW Caucasus; *dorotheae* Cyprus. Resident W half of Turkey (not centre) Kirwan *et al* 2008, W Caucasus, H&Q 1996. **NB DB 2011** name Cyprus ssp *dorotheae* 'Cyprus Short-toed Treecreeper', perhaps more accurate than the 'Cyprus Treecreeper' of Bannerman & Bannerman 1971?
891	Bar-tailed Treecreeper (Himalayan Treecreeper)	*Certhia himalayana*	4 sspp, 2 in Region: *taenuria* N Afghanistan, C Asia; nominate SE Afghanistan, extralimital to S & E. ssp *taenuria* Turkmenistan, Bukreev 1997 & only one fully-documented vagrancy record S Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b. Resident parts S CA; occurs Kyrgyzstan, Ven 2002, Afghanistan - NW *taeniura,* E *limes* (subsumed in *himalayana*) Paludan 1959, H&Q 1996; NW & E Afghanistan, S Tajikistan R&A 2005. **NB** Possibly this taxon '*Certhia* spec ?' in Zagros Iran cited in Zarudny 1911.
		Sturnidae	Zuccon *et al* 2008 found relationships of Palearctic-Oriental starlings & mynas in need of revision. **NB** Many sturnid spp continue to be introduced, particularly because many cultures have a long history of bird-keeping, but also because of developing prosperity funding the trade in exotics Blackburn *et al* 2015.
892	Bank Myna	*Acridotheres ginginianus* (formerly *Sturnus ginginianus* by some)	Monotypic. IOC2.0 follows Zuccon *et al* 2008. Colonial, near-commensal; vagrancy to Region F&C 1998 (Old specimen SE Afghanistan: Meinertzhagen) suspect R&A 2005, but accepted by Ayé *et al* 2012: **BLDZ** map Nov 2018 gives distribution into Afghanistan W of Peshawar Pakistan halfway to Jalalabad. Favours rice-cultivation & irrigation schemes Roberts 1992. Certainly introduced UAE (100+ Abu Dhabi Island mid-1970s Bundy & Warr 1979), Kuwait, Oman, Lever 2005; Kuwait, Gregory & al-Nasrallah 2001; C Arabia Jennings 2004a, now recorded only in Dhahran, Al-Qatif & Ras-Tanura Saudi Arabia Alshamlih *et a*l 2021b, which reduction perhaps due to competition from Common Myna (see below); Qatar 2007 Martin Vestergaard pers comm. Has bred commensally & usually only in flocks Riyadh (pre-2001), Kuwait UAE, Oman; perhaps 1200bp overall Jennings 2010; increasingly common resident N Oman **OBL7**: escapes known Tehran, but flock of 10 in Iranian Baluchestan **DB39(4):** 272, perhaps from Omani population; Apr 2017, first accepted record in the wild Shokouhi *et al* 2018. **NB** Nearest natural population to Iran is 550km W of border with Pakistan.
893	Common Myna (Indian Myna)	*Acridotheres tristis*	2 sspp: nominate SE Iran, Central Asia E to SC Kazakhstan; *melanostrenus* extralimital Sri Lanka. Bird trade may have bred mixed populations for export. IOC2.0 follows Zuccon *et al* 2008. Common cagebird & commensal natural resident SE Iran, Afghanistan (*tristis* resident/migrant Paludan 1959; H&E 1970) & S CA (Kazakh migrant Chokpak, breeds C-E, S-SE W&O 2007), F&C 2001, common resident, BM S-C to SE Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b, Kyrgyzstan, Ven 2002, seemingly increasing Turkey Kirwan *et al* 2008. Introduced Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, UAE, Kuwait, Oman, Lever 2005: common Arabia from E Oman to Kuwait (& islands), Riyadh, & locations C Red Sea probably above 100 000bp Jennings 2010: abundant & still spreading Saudi Arabia, recently to Jizan, but largely tied to urban coastal conurbations Alshamlih *et al* 2021b. Similarly, Turkish populations are currently all coastal Per 2022: some are established breeders, but the sole increasing population is in Istanbul, including groups in European Turkey; extirpation requires data collected systematically Per 2022. Has reached 'plague proportions' Bahrain King 2018; 3 records Jordan **JBRC**, Khoury & Alshamlih 2015; abundant and rapidly increasing resident N&NE Oman, also Salalah S Oman **OBL7**. S Iraq, Salim 1998, Egypt, Millington 2000, Rabia *et al* 2015, N&C Israel Perlman & Meyrav 2009, West Bank Palestine Handal & Qumsiyeh 2021. Kazakhstan G&G 2005. Egypt Avib, BE
894	Vinous-breasted Starling (Vinous-breasted Myna)	*Acridotheres burmannicus* (formerly *Sturnus burmannicus*)	2 sspp, both extralimtal in SE Asia. Not uncommon cagebird; bird trade may have bred mixed populations. IOC2.0 follows Zuccon et al 2008. Introduced Israel; uncommon in Tel Aviv region Perlman & Meyrav 2009; invasive.
895	Black-collared Starling	*Gracupica nigricollis* (formerly *Sturnus nigricollis*)	Monotypic SE Asia exotic. On Avibase website Israel list Aug 2016 as Introduced. Confirmed as Cat C breeding species Israel Yoav Perlman pers comm Sep 2018.
896	Indian Pied Myna (Formerly Asian Pied Starling & Pied Myna)	*Gracupica contra* (≡ *Sturnus contra*)	2 sspp, nominate in Region, *superciliaris* extralimital E India & beyond, nearest wild population is of nominate in NE Pakistan. Believed to have crossed Khyber into Afghanistan, but common cagebird. IOC follow Zuccon *et al* 2008; perhaps escapes in Afghanistan, E Iran (F&C 2001 note range extension to W through Pakistan). First recorded UAE 1989 Aspinall 1996; origin (?) Lever 2005 App B. Resident UAE but likely fewer than 100bp Jennings 2010; one not far from Kermashiya, Iraq, probably as escape **DB41(4):** 275. IOC6.2 Change of English name from starling to myna. Extralimital Sunda ssp *jalla* elevated to sp as Javan Pied Myna, Eaton *et al* 2016. IOC11.2 splits into 3 taxa; *G. contra* reduces to Indian Pied Myna, split off from extralimital Siamese Pied Myna *G. floweri* & Javan Pied Myna *G. jalla*: Baveja *et al* 2020.
897	Chestnut-tailed Starling	*Sturnia malabarica*	1st OSME Region record Dawkah Oman 11 Nov 2011 **OBL7.** Likely a monsoon vagrant, but certainly a SV W of Karachi to the entrance to Mani Hor (Khor) **BLDZ** map 2017. 2nd OSME Region record Bandar-e-Lengeh, Hormozgan, Iran Feb 2021 **IBRC**.

898	Brahminy Starling (formerly Brahminy Myna, Black-headed Starling)	*Sturnia pagodarum* (≡ *Sturnus pagodarum*; formerly *Temenuchus pagodarum*)	Monotypic. IOC2.0 follows Zuccon *et al* 2008. Summer breeder E Afghanistan, IOC, (range expanding W in Pakistan), F&C 2001, R&A 2005, Nuristan Ayé *et al* 2012, **BLDZ** Aug 2019 maps as summer breeder into Afghanistan E of Kabul & N just into Tajikistan at W end of Wakhan Pass, considered vagrant breeder Koblik & Arkhipov 2014. Origin suspect in Gulf UAE, Lever 2005, App B; small population Dubai Aspinall 2010, Rare PM & WV Oman **OBL7.** Perhaps 100bp UAE, slowly increasing Jennings 2010, 1st Iran record Oct 2014 Khaleghizadeh *et al* 2016, 2nd Feb 2016 Kish Island Hormozgan **IBRC**, 3rd Kangan Bushehr Oct 2017 **DB40(3):** 199, 4 at Bandar-e Shenas & Bandar-e Lengeh Hormozgan Jan 2020 **DB42(2):** 133, others in Iran Mar & Apr **DB42(3):** 217, including 7th record **SG42(2):** 324, another at Tabas, Khorasan-e Razavi, Iran May 2021 **DB43(5):** 400. **NB** H&E 1970 use *Sturnus*. IOC2.0 erects *Sturnia*
899	Rosy Starling (Rose-coloured Starling, Rosy Pastor)	*Pastor roseus* (reversion from *Sturnus roseus*)	Monotypic. Reversion to *Pastor* Lovette & Rubenstein 2007, Lovette *et al* 2008, Knox *et al* 2008, Zuccon *et al* 2008, now in Svensson *et al* 2009. Locust-dependent nomadic breeder, Turkey, Syria, N Iran (where common PM Khaleghizadeh *et al* 2017; widespread in CA Ayé *et al* 2012, often-abundant BM (correlates with locust invasions) much of mid- to SE Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b, 1st winter record of 2 Kazakh Caspian coast Jan 2017 Wassink 2018, common BM Volga Delta independent of orthopteran abundance Arkhipov 2006. Afghanistan, F&C 2001, winters S to India, fairly common to common PM & WV Oman **OBL7,** irregular migrant Iraq Salim *et al* 2012, uncommon migrant Israel Perlman & Meyrav 2009 9th record Azraq Jordan May 2020 **SG42(2):** 325. Over 200,000 passed through Besh Barmag, Azerbaijan, bottleneck in autumn Heiss *et al* 2020. Egypt Avib, BE
900	Common Starling (European Starling)	*Sturnus vulgaris*	13 sspp 8 perhaps 9 in Region: nominate reaches NW Kazakhstan; *poltaratskiy* N Kazakhstan; *tauricus* Sea of Azov,Asia Minor, wintering Middle East; *caucasicus* W Kazakhstan, N Caucasus, E Transcaucasia-N, W&SW Iran, wintering SW Asia; *purpurascens* E Turkey, N Iraq, W Transcaucasia wintering Egypt, Middle East; *oppenheimi* SE Turkey, N Iraq wintering Middle East; *nobilior* NE Iran, S Turkmenistan, Afghanistan wintering Indian subcontinent; *porphyronotus* SE Kazakhstan & other 'stans wintering Pakistan to NW China; *humei* in N Pakistan may occur Afghanistan. *S.v. nobilior*, *caucasicus* & *porphyronotus* Turkmenistan, Bukreev 1997: *caucasicus* common BM, possibly common RB W Kazakhstan; *porphyronotus* common BM SE Kazakhstan; *vulgaris* common BM, rare RB, WV NW Kazakhstan; *poltaratskyi* common resident, BM, PM N-C to NE Kazakhstan, WV further S Wassink 2015b; *caucasicus* Afghanistan Paludan 1959. Resident NW OSME Region, incl Turkey, Iran Scott & Adhami 2006, N Iraq purpurescens Ararat *et al* 2011, RB in N, PM & WV further S, F&C 2001, all CA save SE. Breeds N Afghanistan, winters to S, R&A 2005. Breeds UAE; *nobilior, porphyronotus* (?) Aspinall 1996, small but increasing population UAE (50bp), 1st nest found undisclosed site Jun 2018 Campbell & Smiles 2019a; but widespread sometimes common WV Arabia Jennings 2010, fairly common WV Oman **OBL7** vagrant Socotra Porter & Suleiman 2020. Egypt Avib, BE. **NB** Populations bear divergent cytochrome c oxidase 1 (CO1) lineages, potentially including cryptic taxa Kerr *et al* 2009.
901	Wattled Starling	*Creatophora cinerea*	Monotypic genus. Probably from Ethiopian population, winters in Yemen, F&C 2001, irregularly so, probably following locust swarms Jennings 2010, uncommon irregular PM & WV Oman **OBL7**, 1st for UAE Abu Dhabi Mar 2018 **DB40(3):** 199, 2nd & 3rd immatures, one at A'Sila'a Harbour Marsh Oct-Nov 2020, one at Iulu Island Nov 2020 **EBRC**.
902	Superb Starling	*Lamprotornis superbus* (Formerly in *Spreo*)	Monotypic. Breeds SE Sudan, E Ethiopia & N Somalia HBW14. Introduction: breeding Sharjah UAE since at least 2006, Jennings 2008a: 15-20bp Sharjah only confirmed breeding Arabia Jennings 2010; escapes known Oman 2013 **SG35(2) ATR**; **OBL7** holds 3 escape records 2001-2013. On Avibase website Israel list Aug 08
903	Violet-backed Starling (Amethyst Starling)	*Cinnyricinclus leucogaster*	Single-species genus, 3 sspp, 2 in Africa, *arabicus* in SW Arabia; BM N Yemen Porter & Warr 1985, SW Arabia littoral, F&C 2001. SB mostly S Tihama foothills & highlands *c* 80 000bp Jennings 2010, single-record vagrant Oman 2003 **OBL7**, 2nd for UAE Al Dhafra Beach hotel Dec 2018 **DB41(1):** 59. Vagrant Israel Shirihai 1999.
904	Somali Starling (Somali Red-winged Starling)	*Onychognathus blythii*	Monotypic. Somalia, Ethiopia, Socotra archipelago F&C 2001; Socotra moult differences, enough to separate ssp *creaghi* which H&M4 does not recognise. More evidence needed for elevating, Kirwan 2007; *c* 28 000bp overall Jennings 2010. One of unknown origin photographed May 2021 on Qeshm Island, Hormozgan Iran **DB43(4):** 310: not an **IUCN** traded species.
905	Socotra Starling (Socotra Red-winged Starling)	*Onychognathus frater*	Monotypic. Socotra island endemic, F&C 2001. Relationship to Socotra form of *O. blythii*? Jennings 2010 suggests *c* 8000bp.
906	Tristram's Starling (Tristram's Grackle)	*Onychognathus tristramii*	Monotypic. N & E Red Sea hinterland, W to S Oman, increasingly commensal, F&C 2001, resident Dead Sea area Israel Perlman & Meyrav 2009. In Arabia, resident rocky highlands from NW to SW Yemen on to Dhofar region, probably about 100 000bp Jennings 2010, abundant resident breeder S Oman **OBL7**. Possible 1st for UAE at Al Ain Mar 2020 **DB42(3):** 217. Egypt Avib, BE
		Buphagidae	IOC v2.0 places in new family, **Buphagidae,** following Lovette & Rubenstein 2007.
907	Red-billed Oxpecker	*Buphagus erythrorhyncus*	Monotypic African species. Recorded Yemen, Hansbro & Sargeant 1999, 4 records in the Tihama Jennings 2010; nearest populations Ethiopia, Somalia & Eritrean Dahlak Islands de Monti *et al* 2009..
		Turdidae	Voelker & Outlaw 2008 show genus *Geokichla*, comprising some dozen taxa, is much older than *Zoothera* and originates from an earlier radiation when present-day Arabia was forested. Batista *et al* 2020 show the phylogenomics & biogeography of Turdidae follow a linear evolutionary history from ancestral thrushes in the WP, accounting for the great variety of taxa in the New World. IOC11.2 revises linear sequence of **Turdidae**.
908	White's Thrush (Formerly part of Scaly, or Common Scaly Thrush)	*Zoothera aurea* (called *Z. varia* by Russians Koblik & Arkhipov 2014)	H&M4 recognise 2 sspp, nominate of E Russia & S Siberia; *toratogumi* further Sin Far E. R&A 2005 & IOC2.3 agree English name White's Thrush, although other names offered *eg* Parkin & Knox 2010 support Scaly Thrush as *Z. aurea*, which rare & local Krasnoyarsk Republic to N of Region Rogacheva 1992, breeds far NE Kazakhstan & on Kazakh-Kyrgyzstan border Ayé *et al* 2012 rare BM occasional PM Wassink 2015b, migrant E OSME Region, vagrant elsewhere HBW10, single-record vagrant Oman 1989 **OBL7**; Zarudny 1911 noted Blanford & St John had seen this taxon earlier NW Iran. Probably bred Jun 2021 Chon Assu Pass Issyk-Kul Region Kyrgyzstan van Els & Hiddes 2022. We consider R&A 2005 sound in limiting *Z. dauma* to just Small-billed Scaly Thrush - breeds Himalayas winters to S; taxon in our Region is *aurea.* **NB1** Treatments prior to 2009 varied & contrary, but H&M4 & IOC4.4 not too dissimilar *eg* Inskipp *et al* 1996, Inskipp *et al* 2001, W&O 2007 & Grimmett *et al* 2009, Clements 2007. **NB2** prime *aurea* habitat is *Picea*-dominated taiga very vulnerable to climate change; many bird taxa likely to undergo reduction & northward movement of breeding areas Huntley *et al* 2007. **NB3** Mention of both *Z. dauma* & *Z. aurea* on Avibase website Kazakhstan Aug 08 list assumed refer to old records of same taxon under *dauma* & later *aurea.*
909	Siberian Thrush	*Geokichla sibirica* {*Zoothera sibirica*} (*Turdus sibiricus* in some Russian literature)	2sspp; probably nominate wanderer to Region from C-E Siberia, *davisoni* extralimtal Far East. Vagrant OSME Region, HBW10. In Yenisey valley Krasnoyarsk Republic to N of Region, common, but scarce elsewhere Rogacheva 1992. Has reached at least 12 European countries and so highly likely some crossed OSME Region en route. **DB 2009** accepted *Geokichla*, which Parkin & Knox 2010 support, citing 3 recent evolutionary studies; IOC v2.9, Sangster *et al* 2011 agree genus change. Voelker &Kilicka 2008, Voelker & Outlaw 2008.
910	Song Thrush	*Turdus philomelos*	2 of 4 sspp in Region: nominate N Kazakhstan, N Turkey, Caucasus N Iran winters N Africa, SW Asia, *nataliae* rare BM NE-most Kazakhstan, common PM, very rare WV Wassink 2015b, resident N Turkey, Caucasus, N Iran (scarce Scott & Adhami 2006), irregular winter Iraq Salim *et al* 2012, winters to S, HBW10, fairly common PM & WV Oman **OBL7** Egypt Avib, BE
911	Mistle Thrush (old spelling Missel Thrush)	*Turdus viscivorus*	2 of 3 sspp in Region: nominate W Siberia to Iran; *bonapartei* Altai, N Iran Afghanistan, C Asia, Tien Shan; *viscivorus* & *bonapartei* Turkmenistan, Bukreev 1997, nominate rare BM, common PM, very rare WV W Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b, *bonapartei* common resident, BM E Kazakhstan, rare PM, WV SE Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b; Turkey, N Iraq Ararat *et al* 2011, Iran (scarce Scott & Adhami 2006), Afghanistan, winters mid-OSME Region, HBW10, 7-record vagrant Oman 1989-2006 **OBL7**, rare Israel Perlman & Meyrav 2009. Egypt Avib, BE

912	Redwing	*Turdus iliacus* (= Russian *T. musicus*)	sspp *coburni* Iceland, Faeroes only; nominate in Region. Very rare BM, rare PM E-most Kazakhstan, very rare WV, possibly resident Wassink 2015b (breeding confirmed Ishim Valley, N Kazakhstan, 1st record outside Altai Wassink 2016, 1st wintering records E Caspian coast W&O 2008, 1st wintering record Qostany N Kazakhstan Dec 2015 Wassink 2016, expanded wintering range W Altai foothills & in S Altai Wassink 2022: winters S Caspian N Iran Khaleghizadeh *et al* 2017, widespread on migration, HBW10, uncommon Israel Perlman & Meyrav 2009, rare/vagrant Iraq Salim *et al* 2012, 6th Jordan record S of Aqaba Nov 2016 **JBRC**, 10th record UAE A'Sila'a Harbour Marsh Dec 2020 **EBRC**. Vagrant Afghanistan Reeb 1977. Egypt Avib, BE. Report Oman Nov 06 but not in **OBL7.6**. **NB** This taxon originated in a New World clade, unlike all others in Eurasia Voelker *et al* 2007
PT	Eurasian Blackbird **PT** {Common Blackbird}	*Turdus merula (sensu lato)*	Re **Parent Taxon**; IOC2.0 accepts splits of Tibetan Blackbird *T.[m.] maximus* & disjunct extralimital Indian Blackbird *T.[m.] simillimus* R&A 2005. **NB** IOC5.2 split of extralimital Chinese Blackbird *T. mandarinus* included *sowerbyi* but placed *intermedius* in *merula pro tem*: IOC11.2 confirms. Large numbers *intermedius* SE Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b, WV Iran Khaleghizadeh *et al* 2016.
913	Common Blackbird (Eurasian Blackbird)	*Turdus merula (sensu stricto)*	7 sspp 4 in Region: nominate scarce PM & WV SW-to C Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b (H&M4 distribution text error); *aterrimus* W&N Turkey, Caucasus, N Iran winters Middle East; *syriacus* S Turkey (Cyprus?) Levant, Egypt-Iran (Found breeding, perhaps resident at 5 remote oases NE & C Egypt 2014 at 50+°C amid severe sandstorms Hering *et al* 2014); *intermedius* C Asia, Tien Shan-Afghanistan: *intermedius* common resident S-C to E-most Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b. *T.m syriacus* & *intermedius* Turkmenistan, Bukreev 1997, *intermedius* Afghanistan Paludan 1959. Turkey, Levant, resident Cyprus upland woodland Richardson 2014, SE CA, Iran, Afghanistan, HBW10, N Iraq Salim *et al* 2012. Ayé *et al* 2012 *merula* passage & winterer CA. 4th Qatar record Irkkaya Farm Nov 2020 **QBRC**. Egypt Avib, BE. **NB1** Kirwan *et al* 2008 synonymised *syriacus* with *aterrimus* in Turkey, but Cyprus birds appear not to have been examined closely enough for similar or contrasting conclusion Peter Flint pers comm. **NB2** *intermedius* in Afghanistan assumed from **BLDZ** map May 2017 of *T. merula* to breed or be resident from N Badakhshan WSW to Herat, neatly meeting northwesternmost distribution of Tibetan Blackbird *T. maximus* (*qv*) in SE Tajikistan, mapped **BLDZ** May 2017 for latter taxon.
914	Yemen Thrush	*Turdus menachensis* **IUCN 2020 assess as** Near-Threatened**, up from Vulnerable**	Monotypic. Resident N Yemen Porter & Warr 1985, SW Saudi Arabia, W Yemen, HBW10. Endemic to highlands of SW Arabia, breeding between 2100-3000m asl in thick vegetation, perhaps 10 000bp Jennings 2010. Boland & Burwell 2020 in an important paper propose a ranking methodology for taxa at risk in Saudi Arabia; *T. menachensis* is nevertheless near the top of the list. The basis of their methodology appears sound, but likely will need development to account for finer-scale subtleties.
915	Tickell's Thrush	*Turdus unicolor*	Monotypic. Winters E Afghanistan Smith 1974, R&A 2005, also map in HBW 10, **BLDZ** map May 2017 as non-breeding (wintering?) entire SE border with Pakistan **BLDZ** map May 2017 also suggest breeds in easternmost Nuristan. Roberts 1992 map suggests breeds Afghanistan above Bashgul river, Nurestan (WSW of Chitral in Pakistan). Ayé *et al* 2012 treat as vagrant to Region; probable vagrant, possible occasional BM Tajikistan Koblik & Arkhipov 2014 based on Kvartalnov *et al* 2012 (Fully published 2015) who described an irruption in Panj River valley, Gorny Badakhshan Autonomous Region.
916	Eyebrowed Thrush	*Turdus obscurus*	Monotypic. N of Region, breeds W to 78ºE, rare to locally common Rogacheva 1992. HBW10 small-scale map indicates breeds easternmost Kazakhstan, vagrant elsewhere in Region. Raffael Ayé (*in litt* Jun 2014) & Arend Wassink (*in litt* Dec 2014) knew of no acceptable records in CA until 1st Kazakh record imaged by Anna Yasko Aqtau Oct 2017 Wassink 2018. 3-record vagrant Oman 1974-2001 **OBL7**, one reported 24 Nov 2016 & 2 on 15 Dec 2016 at Ayn Hamran **DB39(1)**: 56, **OBRC**, 1st for Lebanon shot Nov 2017 Ramadan-Jaradi & Itani 2018, 2nd shot Ras Al Ain, Baalbek Oct 2020 Ramadan-Jaradi *et al* 2021; 1 photographed Al Areen Wildlife Park, Bahrain Nov 2018 **SGATR41(2)** 245.
917	Tibetan Blackbird	*Turdus maximus*	Monotypic. Occurs from Karakoram complex E via Himalayas to NE India, NW Burma, SE Tibet (N as far as Nagcu) & SW China. Although **BLDZ** map May 2017 showed resident Afghanistan just in E Nuristan & in eastern third of Wakhan, Badakhshan, & resident southeasternmost Tajikistan, **BLDZ** map Jul 2019 displays much smaller area totally within Pakistan E of Chitral, but at one point is within 25km of Afghanistan border near Arandu & Naray. Current **BLDZ** maps now show absence of *merula* & *maximus* taxa in a sizable montane gap not apparent before they were split, but do not explain the change. Gilgit-Baltistan Birds 2021 maps to within 60km of Wakhan, but also to border at Khot in neighbouring Chitral. Bates & Lowther 1952 attributed the westernmost distribution of this taxon to elevations above 11000ft in Kurram Valley, which includes a portion of Afghanistan. **NB** Extralimital Chinese Blackbird *T. mandarinus* borders *T. maximus* in Myanmar & SW China, & occurs E to Chinese coast.
918	Fieldfare	*Turdus pilaris*	Monotypic. Common BM, PM NW, N-C & NE Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b also scarce WV, possibly resident; winters locally further S, HBW10, migrant in N Kyrgyzstan & winters, Ven 2002, common WV NW Iran Khaleghizadeh *et al* 2017, uncommon winter Iraq Salim *et al* 2012, 6th UAE record Jebel Dhanna Nov 2017 **EBRC**, vagrant Afghanistan Smith 1974. Egypt Avib, BE
919	Ring Ouzel	*Turdus torquatus*	2 of 3 sspp in Region: *alpestris* W Asia Minor winters NE Africa; *amicorum* C&E Turkey, Caucasus, N Iran, SW Turkmenistan, winters SW Asia; *amicorum* SW Turkmenistan, Bukreev 1997, 3-record vagrant W Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b. Widespread passage Turkey, scattered breeder Kirwan *et al* 2008, Caucasus, N Iran (scarce, Scott & Adhami 2006), SW Turkmenistan, HBW10, possibly winters NW-most Afghanistan R&A 2005, rare WV Oman **OBL7**, rare Israel Perlman & Meyrav 2009, 1 at Sde Boker Nov 2017, 1 at Kiryat Arba Yoav Perlman *in litt*, 2nd record Qatar Nov 2015 **DB38(4)** p253; 9th Kuwait record, Jahra Pools Nov 2019 **KORC**. Egypt Avib, BE. Rare winter Qatar Nov 2010 **SG33(1)**, Iraq Salim *et al* 2012, 5 Jordan records J**BRC**, Oman rare WV **OBL7.6**. **NB DB 2009** call sspp *alpestris* Southern & *amicorum* Caucasian Ring Ouzels.
PT	Dark- (Black- or Red-) throated Thrush **PT**	*Turdus ruficollis*	**Parent Taxon** recorded Egypt Avib, BE before split. Scott & Adhami 2006 (Iran) do not split, nor do Perlman & Meyrav 2009. Split supported by Knox *et al* 2008, Sangster *et al* 2009, Brazil 2009, IOC2.0, Svensson *et al* 2009 H&M4; we treat as semispecies *pro tem*. Old records Arabia of **PT** likely refer to *atrogularis*, & we suggest that **BLDZ** maps May 2017 of the 2 taxa perpetuate this confusion: *eg* Wassink 2015b records only 4 vagrancy records of *T.[r.] ruficollis*, but relevant **BLDZ** map suggests extensive breeding area along entire SE Kazakhstan well into E Kyrgyzstan.
920	Black-throated Thrush (Dark-throated Thrush)	*Turdus [ruficollis] atrogularis*	Monotypic. N of Region, usually N of *ruficollis* Rogacheva 1992. Common BM NE-most Kazakhstan, abundant PM, common WV forest from Aral Sea E anticlockwise hilly terrain round to NE Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b: black-headed morph '*relicta*' (taxonomy speculative) repeatedly seen S & E Kazakhstan, hybrid *atrogularis*×*ruficollis* can comprise 10% migrants trapped Chokpak Pass, perhaps leading to misattribution as *ruficollis*; winterer, migrant Iraq, S CA, Iran (widespread but scarce passage Zarudny 1911, finding '*relicta*' only in S Caspian: fairly common WV Khaleghizadeh *et al* 2017). Afghanistan, HBW10 Wakhan Sep 2006 Ayé 2007b. Winters Kyrgyzstan, common spring migrant, Ven 2002, winters Afghanistan R&A 2012, uncommon WV Oman **OBL7** (but 42 Sayq Plateau 01 Jan 2017), vagrant Socotra Porter & Suleiman 2020; 19 in single tree Jahra Pools Kuwait **DB39(1):** 56, 30+ Bahrain Dec 2016 King 2018, *c* 30 birds in 2nd Qatar record Dec 2016, 5th at Irrikaya Nov 2019 **QBRC**; 2nd Turkish record Mar 2011 comprised some 14 birds Kirwan et al 2014, 5th record 13 birds Yüksekova, Hakkari Nov 2019, flock of 30 Gevaş, Van Nov 2019 **DB42(1):** 59; over 60 recorded UAE Campbell & Smiles 2020a. 20 also in Talysh mountains Azerbaijan same month **DB41(6):** 438. 3rd for Egypt Wadi Lahami Apr 2017 **EORC**; uncommon winter S Iraq Salim *et al* 2012; all Israel records this taxon Yoav Perlman *in litt* Nov 09: 2 in Israel Dec 2019 & Jan 2020 **DB42(1):** 59. **NB** Some variations have 'Dark' and not 'Black' throats in breeding plumage.
921	Red-throated Thrush	*Turdus [ruficollis] ruficollis*	Monotypic. In Krasnoyarsk Republic, mostly in higher forest belts Sayan Mts Rogacheva 1992. Only 4 fully-documented vagrancy records Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b, 5th Dec 2016, 6th Apr 2017 Wassink 2018, Uzbekistan (K-M&K 2005); hybrid *ruficollis* × *atrogularis* caught at Chokpak Pass may have been misattributed as *ruficollis* in past Wassink 2015b. Vagrant elsewhere *eg* Iran 1976 Scott & Adhami 2006, HBW10 stragglers winter in NE Afghanistan, R&A 2005. Winters Kyrgyzstan, Ven 2002. 1st recorded Sayq plateau, Oman Jan 2017 **OBRC**.

PT	Naumann's Thrush (Dusky Thrush) **PT**	*Turdus naumanni*	Re **Parent Taxon**: split supported by Knox *et al* 2008, Sangster *et al* 2009, Brazil 2009, IOC2.0, Svensson *et al* 2009, H&M4; we treat as semispecies. **NB** Dong *et al* 2018 suggest that genetic data alone is insufficient to support the split Collar & Donald 2020.
922	Dusky Thrush	*Turdus [naumanni] eunomus* (formerly *T. naumanni eunomus*)	Monotypic. Rare to common in small area E-C Krasnoyarsk Republic to N of region Rogacheva 1992. Migrant in easternmost OSME Region, vagrant elsewhere, HBW10, 4-record vagrant UAE (Oct 2015) **DB37(6):** 419, 5th Emirates Palace Mar 2022 DB44(3): 231. 5 records Oman 1990-2010 **OBL7**, 6th at Mudday, Dhofar Dec 2019 **DB42(1):** 59, 1st Qatar record Bahwa City Nov 2015 **QBRC**; winters Pakistan Nuristan R&A 2012. Single-record vagrant Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b.
923	Naumann's Thrush	*Turdus [naumanni] naumanni*	Monotypic. Locally abundant in N Krasnoyarsk Republic to N of Region Rogacheva 1992. Vagrant to Kuwait, Israel (but categorised as lumped *T. naumanni* in Perlman & Meyrav 2009, Yoav Perlman *in litt* Nov 09), Cyprus Porter *et al* 1996. Single-record vagrant Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b, imaged by Ivan Bevza at Almaty.
924	Chestnut Thrush (Grey-headed Thrush)	*Turdus rubrocanus*	2 sspp nominate in Region; *gouldi* extralimital China. NE-most Afghanistan, Sayer & van der Zon 1981, IOC, HBW10, R&A 2005, Grimmett *et al* 1998, H&E 1970 eastern Afghan Safed Koh, Roberts 1992 (Thal), Nuristan to Nangarhār **BLDZ** map May 2017.
		Muscicapidae The sequence of genera below largely follows the recommendations of Sangster *et al* 2011	IOC4.1 subsumes *Erythropygia* in *Cercotrichas*. **NB** Disappointingly, Svensson *et al* 2009 declined to accord with the not-so-recent revision that placed *eg Luscinia, Phoenicurus, Saxicola, Oenanthe & Monticola* into *Muscicapidae* from *Turdidae;* their policy of 'author's choice' of taxonomy vague option. However, Svensson, as co-author in Sangster *et al* 2011 supports the revisions wholeheartedly!
925	Black Scrub Robin (formerly Black Bush Robin)	*Cercotrichas podobe*	2 sspp, sub-Saharan nominate; *melanoptera* in Arabian peninsula, HBW10 seemingly scarce Kuwait Jennings 2007c, rare migrant winterer S Israel Perlman & Meyrav 2009 2 at Eilat Mar 2019 **DB41(2):** 133. Now breeds C Arabia in irrigation Jennings 2004a, part of range expansion Jordan Grieve *et al* 2004, 1st bred near Eilat Israel spring 2015 Ottens *et al* 2016, again Mar/Apr 2016 **SG38(2):** 232 & Feb 2017 **DB39(2):** 129: 5th record Aqaba Jordan Apr 2019 **SG42(2):** 325, 6th at Aqaba Feb 2021 **JRBC**. Distribution Arabia effectively where *C. galactotes* does not breed (but avoids Oman: 3-record vagrant Oman 2002-2010 **OBL7**, but 4th at Shisr Nov 2018, returning Oct 2019 **OBRC**) except in C Arabian irrigation, perhaps 550 000bp Jennings 2010, 7th UAE record Apr 2016, 8th & 9th Jebel Dhann & Sila'a peninsula Mar 2019 **EBRC,**11th record Qatar May 2014 **QBRC**, 4th record Kuwait Apr 2015 **KORC**, 5th record Sulaibikhat Bay Mar 2020 **SG42(2):** 326**.** 1st for Egypt Baha el-Din & Baha el-Din 2001 accepted **EORC 2011,** 9th Gebel Elba Nov-Dec 2014 **EORC**. As of 01 Jan 2020, no longer reportable to **EORC**.
926	Rufous-tailed Scrub Robin (formerly Rufous-tailed Bush Robin, Rufous Bush-chat, Rufous Warbler Grey-backed Warbler)	*Cercotrichas galactotes (Erythropygia galactotes)*	3 of 5 sspp in Region: nominate Egypt-Israel, SW Syria; *syriaca* W&S Turkey, W Syria, Lebanon; *familiaris* SW Turkey, NE Arabia, C Asia E to S Kazakhstan; *familiaris* Turkmenistan, Bukreev 1997, Afghanistan Paludan 1959, common BM S third Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b, breeds S CA, Turkey (Syria Murdoch & Betton 2008), Levant (UAE Aspinall 1996), Iraq, Iran (where common SB across Iran Khaleghizadeh *et al* 2017, Afghanistan (possibly breeds Kyrgyzstan Ven 2002): status in Arabia; mostly passage migrant overall, but breeds Gulf Coast C Arabia (under-recorded?) but scarce NW Saudi Arabi & E Oman, *c* 5000bp, evidence of exploiting irrigation Jennings 2010; abundant PM, casual breeder Oman **OBL7**. Winters EC Africa, HBW10, but outward passage W India may involve trans-oceanic flight, following dragonfly swarms R&A 2012. Origin Kuwait (?) Lever 2005 App B. Egypt Avib, BE. **NB1 DB 2009** call sspp *familiaris* & *syriacus* Eastern Rufous-tailed Scrub Robin, a possibility acknowledged by Shirihai & Svensson 2018, given allopatry and well-marked morphological differences. **NB2** taxon *familiaris* once was *Aëdon galactotes familiaris* Grey-backed Warbler
927	Indian Robin (formerly Indian Black Robin)	*Copsychus fulicatus (Saxicoloides fulicatus)*	5 sspp, none recently recorded in Region. Sangster *et al* 2010 indicate relationship within *Copsychus,* hence propose *C. fulicatus*; higher-level support in Zuccon & Ericson 2010b, who justify genus change; IOC4.4 agree: H&M4 retain in *Saxicoloides.* One Afghanistan specimen record, mentioned in Paludan 1959 (1840, Madge 1980) lacking full verification R&A 2005, accepted by Ayé *et al* 2012. Breeds very close to Afghanistan-Pakistan border, Roberts 1992 (Thal & N) Grimmett *et al* 1998, Arlott 2007, Grimmett *et al* 2009. Mapped exactly to E Afghanistan border for some distance in Pakistan R&A 2012, also Clement & Rose 2015: mapped into Afghanistan at latitude of Kabul just over halfway from Pakistan border **BLDZ** May 2017, but 2019 map amendment removes Afghanistan from breeding range, but within 20km of border.
928	Oriental Magpie-Robin (formerly Indian Magpie-Robin)	*Copsychus saularis*	7 sspp, likely nominate that wanders to Afghanistan; all other sspp remote to E. Recent expansion in Pakistan to Khyber Pass 2002 Anssi Kullberg *in litt*, so was expected Afghanistan soon; R&A 2012 map W only as far as E Pakistan, as does **BLDZ** Aug 2019. 1st record Afghanistan, March 2012 Richard Seargent *in litt*. Popular cagebird?
PT	Spotted Flycatcher **PT**	*Muscicapa striata (sensu lato)*	Viganò & Corso 2015 split off extralimital taxa *tyrrhenica* & *balearica* as Mediterranean Flycatcher, which sp has not been recorded in OSME Region.
929	Spotted Flycatcher	*Muscicapa striata (sensu stricto)*	5 sspp, 3 in Region: nominate N&NW Kazakhstan, migrant Turkey- Egypt; *neumanni* Cyprus, Levant-Caucasus, N&SW Iran, E Kazakhstan; *sarudnyi* E Iran, N Afghanistan C Asia to Tien Shan, scarce in S Kazakhstan; *neumanni* Turkmenistan, Bukreev 1997 Afghanistan Paludan 1959; *neumanni* common BM, PM NE Kazakhstan, *striata* common BM, PM in disparate areas NW & N Kazakhstan, *sarudnyi* scarce BM disparate areas S Kazkhstan Wassink 2015b; *sarudnyi* SE Kazakhstan SE to Afghanistan Ayé *et al* 2012. Breeds Turkey, Levant, Cyprus, Iraq Moore & Boswell 1956 (confirmed Ararat *et al* 2011), Iran, Caucasus, CA BWP VII, NE Afghanistan R&A 2005; (largely absent C CA, Flint *et al* 1984). Abundant PM & WV Oman **OBL7**, vagrant Socotra Porter & Suleiman 2020. Egypt Avib, BE. **NB** Pons *et al* 2015b found wide diversity among western sspp, particularly in sedentary island taxa, but noted in passing the lack of differentiation between continental Palearctic *striata* & *neumanni,* possibly making the latter invalid.
930	Gambaga Flycatcher	*Muscicapa gambagae*	Monotypic mostly African species, SW Arabia, Dickinson 2003, breeds (resident?) N Yemen Porter & Warr 1985. Breeding summer visitor SW Arabian highlands; associates strongly with acacia from 700 to above 2500m asl, perhaps 100 000bp overall Jennings 2010.
931	Dark-sided Flycatcher (Sooty Flycatcher)	*Muscicapa sibirica*	4 sspp, 2 in Region: *sibirica* E Kazakhstan (rare); *gulmergi* E Afghanistan. To N of Region, *sibirica* rare to locally common southern taiga to Sayan Mts Rogacheva 1992, rare BM NE-most Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b, *gulmergi* E Afghanistan Paludan 1959, Dickinson 2003, NE R&A 2005. **NB1** Although Zarudny 1911 did record *M. sibirica* as breeding in Iran, the taxon involved is actually *M. striata sarudny* (named by Snigirewsky 1928). **NB2** Populations bear divergent cytochrome c oxidase 1 (CO1) lineages, potentially including cryptic taxa Kerr *et al* 2009.
PT	Asian Brown Flycatcher **PT**	*Muscicapa dauurica* (*Muscicapa latirostris*, previously *M dauurica*)	IOC3.3 supports splits iaw HBW12 into oriental extralimital Brown-streaked Flycatcher *M. williamsoni*, but H&M4 does not. Species name change via priority, argued for arcane but scholarly reasons, Mlíkovský 2012. However, Dickinson *et al* 2014, argue for arcane but scholarly reasons that *dauurica* should prevail: Laurent Raty *in litt* at length politely disagrees & Thomas Donegan *in litt* equally politely agrees! Unsurprisingly, H&M4 also agrees, as did IOC5.1.
932	Asian Brown Flycatcher	*Muscicapa dauurica*	3 sspp (IOC), nominate occurs as vagrant to Region. To N of Region, rare open forest & common taiga Rogacheva 1992.Tajikistan vagrant K-M&K 2005, Uzbekistan (K-M&K 2005). **NB** Rare vagrant to WP, Harrop 2007. 1st record Oman Oct 06 Moran 2008, 3- record vagrant Oman 2006-2012 **OBL7**, 4th Muntasar Nov 2019 **OBRC**. RNBWS report on board ship Kuria Muria Is 1960s.
933	Blue-and-white Flycatcher	*Cyanoptila cyanomelana* (formerly *Muscicapa cyanomelana*)	2 sspp, both extralimital to Region: *intermedia* likelier vagrant from SE Russia, nominate more remote. 2-record vagrant Oman 1982 & 2010 **OBL7**, UAE Pedersen & Aspinall 2010: Porter *et al* 1996.
934	Verditer Flycatcher	*Eumyias thalassinus* (formerly *Muscicapa thalassina*)	2 sspp, likely nominate from Kashmir single-record vagrant SE Iran, Roth *et al* 2005, Scott & Adhami 2006, Khaleghizadeh *et al* 2017, likely Afghanistan local in summer, Grimmett *et al* 1998. Other ssp *halassoides* remote in S SW Asia & Sundas.

935	European Robin	*Erithacus rubecula*	9 sspp, 4 in Region: nominate W Asia Minor, common PM, scarce WV W Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b, winters Egypt; *hyrcanus* SE Azerbaijan, N Iran, winters Middle East; *tataricus* scarce PM, WV Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b; *caucasicus* E Turkey, Caucasus, winters Middle East. Ayé *et al* 2012 suggest all 4 sspp as PM or WV, resident N half Turkey, Caucasus, N Iran, fairly widespread winterer Iraq Salim *et al* 2012, 1st for Afghanistan Raffael Ayé *in litt*, 5-record vagrant Oman 1982-2010 **OBL7**, 6th Nov 2016, 8th Qatbit **OBRC**, 1st for Qatar Irkayya Farm Nov 2018, 7th Mar 2019 **QBRC**, 9th Irkayya Lagoons Feb 2020 **SG42(2):** 329; vagrant Afghanistan Smith 1974, winters to S above 23°N, HBW10. Egypt Avib, BE. **NB1** Sangster *et al* 2010 (support in & Zuccon & Ericson 2010b) place extralimital Japanese & Ryukyu Robins (*akahige* & *komadori*) in genus *Larvivora*: IOC11.2 draft proposes split of Izu Robin (*tanensis*) from Japanese Robin. **NB2** Populations bear divergent cytochrome c oxidase 1 (CO1) lineages, potentially including cryptic taxa Kerr *et al* 2009.
936	Indian Blue Robin (formerly Indian Bluechat)	*Larvivora brunnea (Luscinia brunnea)*	2 sspp, nominate in Region, NE Afghanistan, *wickhami* remote in Myanmar. Sangster *et al* 2010 find this and the next two species (and including Japanes Robin *Erithacus akahige* and Ryukyu Robin *E. komadori*) meriting their own genus and erect *Larvivora* (Hodgson 1837); higher-level support in Zuccon & Ericson 2010b; Sangster *et al* 2011, IOC 4.4, H&M4 agree. NE Afghanistan (Thal Roberts 1992, Nurestan H&E 1970 ssp *brunnea* Paludan 1959), HBW10, R&A 2005. 'Local summer visitor, locally common in Himalayas' in Pakistan, Grimmett *et al* 1998. Grimmett *et al* 2009 maps occupying entire Pakistan Safed Koh, along Afghan border: **BLDZ** map Aug 2019 shows breeding from C Badakhshan (including W Wakhan & southernmost Tajikistan) S to Kunar & N&W to Takhar-Kunduz boder.
937	Siberian Blue Robin	*Larvivora cyane (Luscinia cyane)*	3 sspp, nominate very rare BM E-most Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b; other 2 sspp much more remote to E. See Notes for *brunnea.* Sangster *et al* 2011 make case for genus change. **NB1** Westward range expansion to N of Region Rogacheva 1992, Kazakhstan, K-M&K 2005. **NB2** vagrant only W&O 2007 Ayé *et al* 2012, vagrant most of OSME Region, winters SE Asia, HBW10.
938	Rufous-tailed Robin (Swinhoe's Red-tailed Robin)	*Larvivora sibilans (Luscinia sibilans)*	Monotypic. See Notes for *brunnea.* Sangster *et al* 2011 make case for genus change. Rare to locally abundant S Krasnoyarsk Republic (near westernmost limit) Rogacheva 1992. HBW10 suggestion breeds E-most Kazakhstan not supported Wassink 2015b; vagrant rest of Region, winters China HBW10. **NB1** Rare WP vagrant Harrop 2007. **NB2** still placed in *Erithacus* by some, others support genus change Parkin & Knox 2010, Clement & Rose 2015..
PT	Bluethroat PT	*Luscinia svecica*	There are indications of genetic differences between groups, but little comprehensive molecular research, and so our division along popular suggested arrangements is fraught with uncertainties, best expressed in Clement & Rose 2015 thus: 'Geographical variation [is] complex and complicated by much individual variation and wide areas of overlap between several' sspp, 'with resulting intermediates'. Such 'differences only apparent in males in breeding season, but degree of individual variation means many individuals and all females/immatures are not safely identifiable' to sspp. **NB** Cryptic taxa may exist.
939	Red-spotted Bluethroat {Bluethroat}	*Luscinia (svecica) svecica*	English name not ideal due to extent of local individual variation. 8 sspp in this group (H&M4, but IOC lists 7, Clement & Rose 2015 list 11: none recognise group as separate), 6 in Region: nominate PM Kazakhstan; *volgae* PM C Asia, Middle East; *luristanica* (formerly *magna*) breeds E Turkey, Caucasus, NW Iran wintering Arabia; *pallidogularis* much of N&E Kazkhstan, C Asia wintering India; *abbotti* E Afghanistan, *saturatior* PM in E of Region. Breeds CA; sspp *saturatior* & *pallidogularis* Kazakhstan Ayé *et al* 2012, Iran (*pallidogularis* breeding suggested only for N Khorasan Zarudny 1911; possibly, Scott & Adhami 2006), Afghanistan (*abbotti* Paludan 1959 Roberts 1992; passage *svecica, pallidogularis, saturatior* & *kobdensis*), likely this taxon passage E Iraq Salim *et al* 2012, common PM & WV Oman **OBL7**, WV & PM Socotra Porter & Sulerman 2020; sp recorded Wakhan Sep 2006 Ayé 2007b; *svecica, pallidogularis* passage Turkey Roselaar 1995, winters to S and Africa, HBW10: 4 *svecica* (2 from Norway, 2 from Czechia) used the Indo-European Flyway to winter in India; datalogger data indicated passage through Iran & Afghanistan analysis suggesting a trans-Caspian route into the OSME Region Lislevand *et al* 2015. Egypt Avib, BE. **NB** *pallidogularis, tianshanica* genetically close to *svecica* Johnsen *et al* 2006, hence *svecica* only ssp in Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b. Other *L. (s.) svecica* taxa in this group uncertain at present, but provisionally all ssp save *cyanecula, namnetum* and *magna* (Invalid name H&M4: now *luristanica*) in this group.
940	White-spotted Bluethroat {Bluethroat}	*Luscinia (svecica) cyanecula*	English name not ideal due to extent of local individual variation. 3 sspp in this group. *L. (s.) cyanecula cyanecula* probably rare on migration through Egypt (BWP V), but *L. (s.) cyanecula magna* (renamed *luristanica*) breeds Turkey Roselaar 1995. Fairly common PM & WV (*cyanecula, luristanica*) Oman **OBL7,** extent of occurrence of other *L. (s.) cyanecula* taxa in OSME Region to be established: provisionally, *cyanecula, namnetum* (extralimital) and *magna* (replaced by *luristanica* H&M4) usually lacks any spot) in this group; likely *magna* (*luristanica*) passage Iraq Moore & Boswell 1956 W&C Iraq Salim *et al* 2012. **NB1 DB 2009** call taxon *magna* (*luristanica*) Turkish Bluethroat. **NB2** *magna* (*luristanica*) given as Caucasian Bluethroat in **OBL7**.
941	Thrush Nightingale (Sprosser)	*Luscinia luscinia*	Monotypic. Vokurková *et al* 2013 demonstrate that in areas of sympatry, *L. luscinia* and *L. megarhyncos* incorporate each others' songs by learning and not genetically, thus validating the hypothesis advanced in Blair 2008. Breeds Caucasus, N Kazakhstan, N Afghanistan (R&A 2005, not Afghanistan Ayé *et al* 2012): common BM 3 disparate regions N Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b & common PM. Migrant in rest of OSME Region, 9th record Qatar May 2014 **QBRC**, passage Iraq Salim *et al* 2012, rare PM Oman **OBL7**, (Zarudny 1911 assessed as rare winterer Iran Gulf littoral), winters E to S Africa, HBW10. **NB** Population in eastern Hungary genetically well isolated Kováts & Ács 2013. Egypt Avib, BE
PT	Common Nightingale **PT**	*Luscinia megarhynchos*	**Parent Taxon** case not yet complete; IOC6.1 still not split. Svensson *et al* 2009 mention ID differences of *golzii*, but do not split. **NB** Populations bear divergent cytochrome *c* oxidase 1 (CO1) lineages, potentially including cryptic taxa Kerr *et al* 2009.
Khoury 2018 records decline of Common Nightingale in Jordan valley, Jordan due to habitat destruction and increased tourism.			
942	Common Nightingale	*Luscinia (megarhynchos) megarhynchos*	Sole member this group is *megarhyncos:* in W&C Turkey. All 3 taxa winter Africa. Vokurková *et al* 2013 demonstrate that in areas of sympatry, *L. luscinia* and *L. megarhyncos* incorporate each others' songs by learning and not genetically, thus validating the hypothesis advanced in Blair 2008. Breeds Turkey-Iran including Syria Murdoch & Betton 2008, migrates through E Mediterranean HBW 10; biometrics of Cyprus passage birds correspond to eastern *megarhyncos* Walton 2011, breeders Iraq Salim *et al* 2012 seemingly mostly not *golzii*. Has declined at southern breeding limit in Jordan Valley Khoury 2018. Fairly common PM S Oman **OBL7** (see also next taxon), vagrant Socotra Porter & Suleiman 2020. Egypt Avib, BE. **NB1** Dickinson 2003 assigned eastern breeding populations to *L. megarhynchos baerhmanni* (now subsumed in *megarhyncos* H&M4), but Croatian population of nominate also migrate through E Mediterranean (*eg* perhaps in general passage Egypt Steve Moldován *in litt*). **NB2** *megarhyncos* & *africana* breed Turkey, most *megarhyncos* are PM Roselaar 1995.
943	Eastern Nightingale {Common Nightingale}	*Luscinia (megarhynchos) golzii* (grouped with *L.(m.) africana*)	Note *golzii* has priority over *hafizi* Dickinson 2008, Knox *et al* 2008. Both group members occur in Region: *africana* Caucasus & E Turkey- SW&N Iran; *golzii* E Iran- Kazakhstan; *africana* Turkmenistan Bukreev 1997 NW Afghanistan Ayé *et al* 2012; *hafizi* Turkmenistan Bukreev 1997, *hafizi* Armenia (Ananian 2006), *golzii* common BM much of Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b, as far E as 57°26´E Kovshar *et al* 2007, Turkey Roselaar 1995; breeds C & S CA (away from deserts Flint *et al* 1984); *golzii* mapped all CA countries Ayé *et al* 2012, Caucasus, Iraq Moore & Boswell 1941-46 & Caspian Iran (*africana* although Zarudny 1911 notes *hafizi* widespread breeding & passage), possibly this taxon N Iraq Moore & Boswell 1956, Afghanistan (*hafizi*), migrant to sub-Saharan Africa, HBW10. 3rd record Kuwait Apr 2013 **KORC,** fairly common PM S Oman **OBL7** (see also previous taxon). **NB** One sketched and photographed at Azraq Jordan by DIM Wallace in Apr 1965 not identified until 1998 when DIMW found identical birds in Kazakhstan Wallace 2018.
944	White-throated Robin (formerly White-throated Irania, Persian Robin)	*Irania gutturalis*	Monotypic. Summer breeder Turkey, Levant E to Iran (N Iraq Salim *et al* 2012 Apr-Jun 2016 survey of Qara Dag & Khoshk mountain areas, a ridge between Kirkuk & Sulaymaniya found 12bp **SG39(1)ATR**; also passage), S CA less Turkmenistan, common BM Tien Shan to Kirgizsky Alatau SE Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b, E Afghanistan HBW10, rare but likely SB Uzbekistan Martin *et al* 2014, rare to uncommon PM Oman **OBL7**; NW, C, & NE Afghanistan, R&A 2005. Egypt Avib, BE

PT	White-tailed Rubythroat **PT**	*Calliope pectoralis (sensu lato:* formerly *Luscinia pectoralis)*	Liu *et al* 2016 demonstrate through integrative taxonomy that White-tailed Rubythroat *C. pectoralis sensu lato* merits separation into two species, polytypic Himalayan Rubythroat *C. pectoralis sensu stricto* (sspp *pectoralis* & *bailloni*) & extralimital polytypic Chinese Rubythroat *C. tschebaiewi* (sspp *tschebaiewi* & *confusa*): Collar 2017 accepts; the latter is listed in ORL Hypotheticals.
945	Himalayan Rubythroat	*Calliope pectoralis (sensu stricto:* formerly *Luscinia pectoralis)*	2 sspp, *pectoralis* & *bailloni,* both in Region, the former in E Afghanistan E to C Nepal, the latter in Pamirs, Tien Shan & NE Afghanistan. Sangster *et al* 2010 find this sp (*sensu lato*), the next and the extralimital Firethroat (*C. pectardens*) as a separate **Clade** (possibly including extralimital *C. obscura* - Blackthroat), and erect genus *Calliope* (Gould 1836); higher-level support in Zuccon & Ericson 2010b; *bailloni* common BM SE Kazakhstan Tien Shan to Zhungarskiy Alatau Wassink 2015b, Kyrgyzstan (widespread, Ven 2002), Tajikistan, Uzbekistan, Afghanistan *bailloni* Paludan 1959, but this may include *pectoralis* whose distribution was not well-known in 1950s, (not Turkmenistan K-M&K 2005), noted Wakhan Sep 2006 Ayé 2007b, HBW10. **BDLZ** map Sep 2018 confirms summer breeder as above.
946	Siberian Rubythroat	*Calliope calliope (Luscinia calliope)*	Monotypic. Sangster *et al* 2010 find this sp, the previous and extralimital Firethroat (*C. pectardens*) as a separate **Clade** (possibly including extralimital *C. obscura* - Blackthroat), and erect genus *Calliope* (Gould 1836); higher-level support in Zuccon & Ericson 2010b. Sangster *et al* 2011 emphasise case. Locally very common to N of Region Rogacheva 1992. Common BM Altai NE-most Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b, confirmed **BLDZ** map Sep 2018 (also migrant through easternmost Kazakhstan), vagrant elsewhere, winters SE Asia, HBW10. Egypt Avib, BE
PT	Red-flanked Bluetail **PT**	*Tarsiger cyanurus (sensu lato)*	IOC1.7 accepts split (R&A 2005, Knox *et al* 2008) of *T.(c.) rufilatus* and changes English name to Himalayan Bluetail: Inskipp & Collar 2015 concur, Luo *et al* 2014 offer molecular case. We treat as allospecies. **NB** Additional **PT** aspect – further to the suggestion to subsume *Tarsiger* in *Luscinia*. Sangster *et al* 2010 robustly argue for retention of *Tarsiger;* higher-level support in Zuccon & Ericson 2010b. See also Shimba 2007, Clements 2007, H&M3 corrigenda & Brazil 2009. **NB** Shirihai & Svensson 2018 offer support for separation of Himalayan Bluetail *T. [c.] rufilatus*.
947	Red-flanked Bluetail (Orange-flanked Bluetail, Northern Red-flanked Bluetail)	*Tarsiger cyanurus* (*sensu stricto: f*ormerly *Luscinia cyanura*)	Monotypic. Breeds to NE & NW of Region (locally common to N Rogacheva 1992), once thought of only as migrant or vagrant in Region (HBW10) *contra* Wassink 2015b assessment as common BM, occasional PM, accidental WV W&S Altai, also Ayé *et al* 2012. Vagrant UAE Aspinall & Porter 2011, Israel **DB34(1):** 59. Old (1958) record from Lebanon, of *T. cyanurus sensu lato* - Blach 1959, notified by Ari Rajasärkkä *in litt* April 2015; 2nd for Turkey Kulu Lake Konya Oct 2018 (1st in 2001) **TBRC**, 3rd ringed Kızılırmak Delta, Samsun Oct 2019 **DB41(6):** 438, **SG42(1):** 179, 4th & 5th Kızılırmak Delta Oct 2020 **SG42(6):** 446, 6th & 7th ringed there Oct 2021 **TBRC**. 3rd for Cyprus Nov-Dec 2021 **SG44(1): 237**.
948	Himalayan Bluetail (Himalayan Red-flanked Bluetail, Red-flanked Bluetail, Himalayan Red-flanked Bush-Robin)	*Tarsiger rufilatus* (formerly *T. cyanurus rufilatus*)	2 sspp, nominate extralimital, *palliodor* breeds on NE Afghanistan-Pakistan border Roberts 1992, eastern Afghan Safed Koh H&E 1970, taxonomy follows R&A 2005. **BLDZ** Jun 2020 maps extensively in NE & E Afghanistan, from Jum in the north, then SW to Akshay (Bamiyan), then SSE to Ghazni, then unevenly so as far S as Zarghun Shah before crossing the border back into Pakistan at Shakin: this represents an area of roughly 430 x 250km.
949	Little Forktail	*Enicurus scouleri*	Monotypic. Accidental BM, SV single location Aksu-Zhabagly NR, S Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b; Kyrgyzstan (Rare resident Ferghana, Ven 2002), resident Tajikistan, Ugam NP (adjacent to Kazakh Aksu-Zhabagly NR) E Uzbekistan Wassink 2015b, E Afghanistan, HBW10, NE Afghanistan R&A 2005, 2012, H&E 1970 Paludan 1959. Uncommon in OSME Region Ayé *et al* 2012. **BLDZ** Jun 2020 maps as resident in NE Afghanistan, most of Tajikistan & SW Kyrgyzstan; It also maps a SB population in southernmost Kazakhstan, centred on Shymkent, buy also edging into Uzbekistan N of Tashkent & just into Kyrgystan NE of Tashkent.
950	Spotted Forktail	*Enicurus maculatus*	4 sspp, only nominate in Region NE Afghanistan; other 3 remote to E. E Afghanistan-IOC, HBW10, NE R&A 2005, Nurestan Roberts 1992, H&E 1970, Paludan 1959; current status in Nuristan unknown Ayé *et al* 2012, though R&A 2012 map it there: **BLDZ** map May 2017 from Nuristan S to Nangarhar & W to Kapisa.
951	Blue Whistling Thrush	*Myophonus caeruleus*	6 sspp, only *temmincki* in region, Afghanistan, C Asia to Tien Shan; remainder remote to E. Moved from **Turdidae** to **Muscicapidae** Outlaw *et al* 2010, Sangster *et al* 2010, sequenced after *Enicurus* Sangster *et al* 2010. Scarce BM, rare resident SE Kazakhstan Mts Wassink 2015b, nest found Vesnovka Rvier, Almaty at only 900m in spring 2016 Wassink 2016, Kyrgyzstan (widespread, Ven 2002), Tajikistan, E Afghanistan HBW10, E Uzbekistan, easternmost Turkmenistan Ayé *et al* 2012; vagrant WV N Khorasan Iran Zarudny 1911 (sole record from 1900 Khaleghizadeh et al 2017). Occurs Turkmenistan (K-M&K 2005). **NB** this genus mis-spelt historically as *Myiophonus*.
952	Ultramarine Flycatcher	*Ficedula superciliaris*	2 sspp; nominate breeds E Afghanistan (to China), Dickinson 2003, IOC, R&A 2005; Grimmett *et al* 1998, 2009 support; HBW 11, one Afghan breeding record Nurestan on border Paludan 1959; E Safed Koh Roberts 1992, <2700m H&E 1970, up to 3300m Kashmir Bates & Lowther 1952. Vagrant, 1st record NE Iran 25 Apr 09 Cheraghi & Tohdifar 2010, Khaleghizadeh *et al* 2017, 2nd record Feb 2022 in Sirik, SE Iran, by M Ghasemi, MA Aghaebrahimi & M Hashemi *Birding Iran* FB website . Other sspp *aestigma* remote in China.
953	Slaty-blue Flycatcher	*Ficedula tricolor*	4 sspp, nominate westernmost; extreme W of wintering area assumed to NE of Afghanistan. Maps in R&A 2005, 2012 indicated possibility, some support Grimmett *et al* 1998, none in Roberts 1992. Bates & Lowther 1952 noted breeds Kashmir forests up to 3300m (3500m Grimmett et al 2009 [misprinted 8500m]), but very secretive: altitudinal & short-distance migrant. However, **BLDZ** map Aug 2019 breeding area just into easternmost Wakhan, Afghanistan, S of Baz'ai Gunbad.
954	Rusty-tailed Flycatcher	*Ficedula ruficauda* {formerly treated as *Muscicapa ruficauda*) Hooper *et al* 2016.	Monotypic. Tajikistan, Uzbekistan, Afghanistan (E Paludan 1959) Dickinson 2003 (NE R&A 2005): Ayé *et al* 2012 map E Uzbekistan, W Tajikistan, E Afghanistan, scarce summer breeder Turkmenistan Rustamov 2015; Safed Koh to Chitral Kashmir Bates & Lowther 1952. Rare breeder Ferghana, W Kyrgyzstan, Ven 2002. **NB** Was placed in new genus *Ripleyia* Voellker *et al* 2016, but Laurent Raty (*in litt*) analysing phylogenetic trees in Price *et al* 2014, suggested transfer to *Ficedula* was justified, borne out by Hooper *et al* 2016. Any reports of occurrence in Kazakhstan remain unsupported by formal records Arend Wassink pers comm; its current northernmost breeding distribution at Uroteppa in N Tajikistan is only *c* 90 km from southernmost Kazakhstan - **IUCN** Red List map Jan 2022.
PT	Red-breasted/-throated Flycatcher **PT**	*Ficedula parva (sensu lato)*	Scott & Adhami 2006 (Iran) cite both English names, but make no comment as to taxa. Re **Parent Taxon**, split in IOC1.7, Svensson *et al* 2005, Brazil 2009, Svensson *et al* 2009, H&M4. Noting the little variation in *F. albicilla* mtDNA across its distribution, it does share a long breeding distribution border (**BLDZ** Mar 2020) along the N-S axis of the Urals with *F.(p.) parva*, which species shows great mtDNA variation: we interpret this as an effective geographical barrier, making any intergradation zone tiny.
955	Red-breasted Flycatcher	*Ficedula parva (sensu stricto)*	Monotypic. Breeds Caucasus, N Iran (suggestion of NW Kazakhstan Dickinson 2003 countered: common PM only Wassink 2015b). Scattered along Turkish Black Sea coast Kirwan *et al* 2008, presumably this taxon uncommon migrant winterer Israel Perlman & Meyrav 2009, uncommon non-annual (mostly spring) PM Cyprus **CBR11**, migrant Afghanistan (Paludan 1959 R&A 2005), rare/uncommon passage Salim *et al* 2012, fairly common PM & WV Oman **OBL7**; winters India, SE Asia. Egypt Avib, BE. **NB** Considerable variation in mtDNA across populations, unlike sister taxon *F.(p.) albicilla* Hung & Zink 2014.

956	Taiga Flycatcher (Red-throated Flycatcher)	*Ficedula albicilla*	Monotypic. To N of Region, breeds S taiga to Sayan Mts, locally common & adaptable Rogacheva 1992, breeding areas & density uncertain, see Rogacheva 1992 on habitat & behaviour; also breeds NE Kazakhstan, Dickinson 2003, rare BM, very rare PM W&S Altai Kazakhstan; only 2 records elsewhere Wassink 2015b, yet common BM Mongolian Altai 50 km further E; passage Afghanistan Paludan 1959; E only, rare W&O 2007; 1st for Iran 2010 Rafael Ayé pers comm, 6th UAE record Apr 2014 **EORC**, 4th Oman record Jan 2014 **OBRC**, 8th Dec 2016 Ayn Tobroq **OBRC**, 8th UAE record Oct 2016 **EBRC** 1st & 2nd records Kuwait Apr & Dec 2013 **KORC**, 4th record Nov 2015 **KORC**, 3rd Nov 2015 **DB37(6):** 419, 5th accepted record May 2018 **KORC**, winters NE India - Greater Sundas. Extent, intergradation stability zone uncertain HBW11. **NB1** Little variation in mtDNA across populations in Eastern Palearctic, implying effect of positive selection, unlike sister taxon *F.(p.) parva* Hung & Wink 2014. **NB2** As *Siphia hyperthyra* (Cabanis; also Hartert?) in Kashmir, known to breed mountain forests near Chitral, near Afghan border Bates & Lowther 1952.
957	Semi-collared Flycatcher {Semicollared Flycatcher}	*Ficedula semitorquata*	Monotypic. Breeds Caucasus, NW Iran, largely local Turkey, passage Iraq Salim *et al* 2012, although a Apr-Jun 2016 survey of Qara Dag & Khoshk mountain areas, a ridge between Kirkuk & Sulaymaniya found 10bp **SG39(1)ATR**; uncommon spring migrant Israel Perlman & Meyrav 2009, very rare Spring PM E Caspian coast Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b: 2nd & 3rd records [9 birds] 2009 Wassink 2010a, possibly BM SW Turkmenistan Ayé *et al* 2012, winters E Africa, BWP VII. Rare PM Oman **OBL7**. Egypt Avib, BE. **NB1** Older Russian records under *albicollis* . **NB2** some males & many females unidentifiable in the hand, due to morphological cline between this and the next taxon, which aspect unmentioned in Svensson *et al* 2009.
PT	Eurasian Pied Flycatcher **PT**	*Ficedula hypoleuca (sensu lato)*	IOC v2.3, Svensson et al 2009, Wink 2011 split extralimital *speculigerus* as Atlas Flycatcher *F. speculigera* . **NB1** Collar 2013 counsels caution on conflicting morphological/reproductive isolation and molecular data as to assigning rank. **NB2** The 4 European *Ficedula* taxa are genetically very distinct but occupy near-identical ecological niches, Sætre & Sæther 2010 suggest speciation via (probably very rarely in birds) non-ecological 'reinforcement', particularly prolonged periods of allopatric isolation and reinforcement of premating barriers, rather than by adaptive radiation.
958	European Pied Flycatcher (Eurasian Pied Flycatcher)	*Ficedula hypoleuca (sensu stricto)*	3 sspp, 2 in Region: nominate PM, *tomensis* (supplanting *sibirica*) rare breeder N Kazakhstan. Taxon *sibirica* breeds N Kazakhstan BWP VII, very rare BM, scarce PM N Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b, 1st winter record Nov 2014 Wassink 2015a: Ayé *et al* 2012 suggest breeds just in northernmost tip of Kazakhstan; winters W Africa, PM Turkey, Levant to Iran (Uncommon PM N&W Iran Scott & Adhami 2006 Khaleghizadeh *et al* 2017). 2nd for UAE Abu Dhabi Umm al-Emerat May 2019 **EBRC**. Single-record vagrant Oman Oct 2004 **OBL7**. 1st confirmed record Iraq Mar 2021 at Tawke,Abed *et al* 2022. Egypt Avib, BE. English name used better describes main distribution. **NB1** From data collection over an 8-year period on 4 small passerines wintering in Ghana, Thorup *et al* 2019 conceded that despite employing current techniques, the scale of effort needed for establishing accurate declines and relating them to habitat usage and changes needs to be greater and performed on a circannual basis. However, the general conclusion within wide confidence limits is that Pied Flycatcher defends winter territories for extended periods. **NB2** Although the species breeding distribution extends to 93°E, virtually all birds migrate via the western European flyway Lundberg & Alatolo 1992, Briedis *et al* 2020.
959	Collared Flycatcher	*Ficedula albicollis*	Monotypic. Spring overshoot or vagrant to W Kazakhstan, BWP VII, very rare PM W-most Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b. Migrant W of Region. Quite common (spring) rare (autum) PM Cyprus **CBR11**, 1st Dubai UAE Oct 2015 **EBRC**: 419, Campbell *et al* 2016. 1st record Kuwait Apr 2013 **KORC**, 2nd May 2018 Jahra **KORC**. 2nd record Armenia Mar 2016 **DB38(4)** p253. Egypt Avib, BE. Old reports Iran now attributed to *F. semitorquata* , formerly thought ssp of *F. albicollis* , Scott & Adhami 2006, similarly Iraq Salim *et al* 2012.
Voelcker *et al* 2015 find *Phoenicurus* monophyletic, but noted deep mtDNA divergences between eastern & western Common Redstart *P. phoenicurus* populations, and similar divergences within Black Redstart *P. ochruros* & Daurian Redstart *P. auroreus* across breeding ranges, warranting further phylogeographic analyses of haplotype distributions.			
960	Eversmann's Redstart (formerly Rufous-backed Redstart)	*Phoenicurus erythronotus* (*Phoenicuropsis erythronotus* H&M4)	Monotypic. Common N of Region in Sayan Mts Rogacheva 1992. SE & NE-most Kazakhstan (common BM, scarce RB, probable WV Wassink 2015b), Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan (perhaps E Uzbekistan) E Afghanistan, HBW10; Ayé *et al* 2012 confine residency to Kyrgyzstan & SE Kazakhstan, SB E Kazakhstan and wintering SE & S directions; vagrant Iraq Salim *et al* 2012, 11th Kuwait record Dec 2015 **KORC.** Male collected Jan 1885 Bushire (Bushehr) Iran Sharpe 1886b; fairly common WV, PM Iran Scott & Adhami 2006, Khaleghizadeh *et al* 2017 & much of Afghanistan Paludan 1959 R&A 2005, rare WV Oman **OBL7**, vagrant Israel Perlman & Meyrav 2009, Bahrain Nov 2010 **SG33(1)**. **NB** Ertan 2006 notes mtDNA cyt-bB ancient divergence from *P. caeruleocephala* (*qv*)
961	Blue-capped Redstart (formerly Blue-headed Redstart)	*Phoenicurus caeruleocephala* (P. *coeruleocephalus/ coeruleocephala*) (*Phoenicuropsis coeruleocephala* H&M4)	Monotypic. SE Kazakhstan (common BM Wassink 2015b), Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan, Afghanistan, HBW10, breeds NE Afghanistan R&A 2005, 2012, eastern Afghan Safed Koh H&E 1970. NB Ertan 2006 notes mtDNA cyt-B ancient divergence from *P. erythronotus*
PT	Black Redstart **PT**	*Phoenicurus ochruros*	Re P**arent Taxon**; unsplit in IOC2.10; Ertan 2006 suggested groups below, but data not strong molecular justification alone Parkin & Knox 2010. However, Ertan 2006 mtDNA analyses suggest that proto-*phoenicuroides* & -*rufiventris* became isolated first from all other related proto-taxa which then moved west from CA. Subsequent isolations of western proto-taxa and their later rejoining concluded from evidence of hybridization traces persisting in the genome; *Dutch Birding's* suggestion of limiting 'Western' to *gibraltariensis* has some merit, but other indicators are needed to support. Sangster 2021 finds that mtDNA patterns across all populations rule out hybrid origins of eastern taxa, and that they do not support the existence of multiple species.The phylogeny found by Sangster 2021 based on mtDNA revealed a a complicated pattern of variation which does not correspond to morphology, geography or sspp limits: Sangster 2021 acknowledges differences in other types of data, such as songs and nuclear DNA marker may exist, noting that how morphologically distinct taxa interact where they come into contact is not fully understood (*eg* , *gibraltariensis* & *ochruros* in the Caucasus & Turkey, *ochruros* & *semirufus* in the Levant & Turkey, & *ochruros* & *phoenicuroides* in NE Iran and W Turkmenistan). *Pro tem* , we continue to group the western taxa together under Western Black Redstart, until such time as further research can inform of a different approach. Certainly much revision is likely if Sangster 2021 conclusions are borne out. **NB1** Populations bear divergent cytochrome c oxidase 1 (CO1) lineages, potentially including cryptic taxa Kerr *et al* 2009. **NB2** Any Black Redstart female identified as such outside its easternmost distribution may be suspect, because female Daurian Redstarts *P. auroreus* have a hitherto unknown additional pre-adult moult Lamont 2016. **NB3** Shirihai & Svensson 2018 note that the nominate is very poorly defined as a subspecies, and could well be better regarded as a wide zone of presumed secondary contact between European & Asian populations, the corollary being that the entire Black Redstart complex would require taxonomic revision, because the name '*ochruros* ' would be invalid. Sangster 2021 notes the complexities associated with that issue.
962	Western Black Redstart {Black Redstart}	*Phoenicurus (ochruros) ochruros*	English name informal@OSME. Group contains *ochruros, gibraltariensis, aterrimus* & *semirufus.* Breeds SW CA (Flint *et al* 1984), Levant, Turkey N Iraq Ararat *et al* 2011 (Salim *et al* 2012 note this taxon breeds N Iraq), Iran where common SB in N Khaleghizadeh *et al* 2017), NW Afghanistan R&A 2005, (Not *ochruros* in W Kazakhstan because *gibraltariensis* cannot safely be excluded from ID: latter rare BM, very rare WV W&W-C Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b), 1st Kazakh breeding record *gibraltariensis* Karabalyk, Qostonay Province Wassink 2018; winters to S (& Syria R. Porter pers comm), HBW10; vagrant Socotra Porter & Suleiman 2020. 4th UAE record Jebel Hafeet Dec 2020 **EBRC**. Egypt Avib, BE. **NB1 DB 2011** link *semirufus* with *phoenicuroides* as 'Eastern Black Redstart', but we suggest this link be more apparent than real, given the **PT** note above. **NB2** One suggested informal English name for *semirufus* is Levant Black Redstart, but adequate only, as we contend, if the *semirufus* breeding population is considered confined to the Levant, and wintering range in a shallow arc W of breeding range. **NB3** H&M4 subsume *aterrimus* in *gibraltariensis.* (Alternatively, **DB 2009** suggest name Western be limited to ssp *gibraltariensis,* remaining sspp being called Caucasian Black Redstart.)

963	Central Asian Black Redstart (Eastern Black Redstart, Turkestan Black Redstart) {Black Redstart}	*Phoenicurus (ochruros) phoenicuroides*	Group contains only *phoenicuroides.* Provisional separation aligns with Ertan *et al* 2006; *phoenicuroides* common BM E&SE Kazakhstan, common PM S half of Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b; eastward spread continues Wassink 2013, breeding areas W to E in N & S Kazakh mountain ranges Wassink 2022; NE Afghanistan Paludan 1959 Roberts 1992, Bamiyan Busuttil & Ayé 2009 (some residency), summer breeder most of Afghanistan R&A 2012, SB NE Iran Khaleghizadeh et al 2017; 1st for Cyprus Nov 2011 **CBR11**, 2nd at Mandria Oct 2021 **SG44(1):** 237, common PM & WV Oman **OBL7**, winterer Iraq Salim *et al* 2012, NW Iran (?) H&E 1970, winters UAE; UAE Checklist 2008; mention of migration Iraq Moore & Boswell 1941-46; 1st record Cyprus, Crane 2012. **NB** some of the foregoing observers may not have separated *rufiventris* from *phoenicuroides.*
964	Eastern Black Redstart {Black Redstart}	*Phoenicurus (ochruros) rufiventris*	English name informal@OSME. Group contains only *rufiventris.* Provisional separation aligns with Ertan *et al* 2006; the *rufiventris* of Turkmenistan, Bukreev 1997 likely hindsight misattribution & may be vagrant WV only. Ayé *et al* 2012 omit mention; R&A 2012 map suggests vagrancy to OSME Region possible; other passerines from its wintering area in the subcontinent recorded as irregular vagrants Oman **OBL7**. Curiously, R&A 2012 note hybrid *phoenicuroides/rufiventris* hybrids not uncommon, but until Fedorenko 2018, no map found indicating sympatric breeding area or hybrid zone, which now considered an arc from NW Kashmir clockwise through N-most Pakistan, E-most Afghanistan, E-most Tajikistan & S-most Kyrgyzstan. Slight possibility suggested that this taxon breeds N Iraq Ararat *et al* 2011, Salim *et al* 2012 strongly refuted by Fedorenko 2018, who attributes these populations to *phoenicuroides*.
965	'Sayan Black Redstart'	*Phoenicurus ochruros murinus ssp novo*	Fedorenko 2018 describes a new ssp from a near-isolated montane Black Redstart population extending from the Kalbinsky Altai & Altai of Kazakhstan Wassink 2022 east through Tuva, N-most China & NW Mongolia almost to Khovsgol lake at 100°E. Wintering areas probably mostly in C Kazakhstan Wassink 2022. The putative boundary to an isolate population of *phoenicuroides* spans the China-W Mongolia border at 90°E. We list taxon *murinus* separately on its geographic isolation. Accepted as ssp *novo* by IOC11.1. English name informal@OSME. **NB** The clinal nature, extent and clinal slope of plumage variation in populations adjoining or near-adjacent to *murinus* have yet to be clarified Arend Wassink pers comm.
PT	Common Redstart **PT**	*Phoenicurus phoenicurus*	It is worth quoting Shirihai & Svensson in full: "Considering the generally clear differences in ♂ plumage, the race *samamiscus* seems a likely candidate for elevation to species status. However, vocal differences do not coincide with racial borders, and more work is needed on DNA and morpholgical variation in the region closest to ssp *phoenicurus*." The lack of alignment of vocal differences and sspp borders (also plumage differences) is also prevalent among species along the Himalayas and is currently being investigated for explanation, and so findings may be applicable elsewhere. We remain with two sspp, but in separate entries. **NB** From data collection over an 8-year period on 4 small passerines wintering in Ghana, Thorup *et al* 2019 conceded that despite employing current techniques, the scale of effort needed for establishing accurate declines and relating them to habitat usage and changes needs to be greater and performed on a circannual basis. However, the general conclusion within wide confidence limits is that Common Redstart defends territories for extended periods.
966	Common Redstart	*Phoenicurus p. phoenicurus*	2 sspp, both in Region: nominate common breeder PM in N, NE&SE Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b; *samamisicus* treated as distinct taxon below, Asia Minor-Turkmenistan, S Uzbekistan, Iran; winter in Africa SW Asia. Johnsen *et al* 2010 found Scandinavian populations containing two intraspecific haplotype lineages, which lack any morphological differentiation; the hypothesis of cryptic species in these populations comprehensively rejected by Hogner *et al* 2012 who found large-scale interbreeding between individuals of the 2 haplotype groups, the two lineages coexisting without phenotypic divergence. *P.p. samamisicus* Turkmenistan, Bukreev 1997, *phoenicurus* breeds N Kazakhstan, passage [both taxa] Iraq Salim *et al* 2012, fairly common spring PM Oman, rare WV autumn PM (*phoenicurus*), **OBL7**. Egypt Avib, BE. Drastic & relentless decline due to severe Sahel droughts before & during 1980s; full recovery unlikely because wintering habitat, Sahelian woodland, now remnant & still degrading Zwarts *et al* 2009. **NB1** *samamisicus* long-known as Ehrenberg's Redstart, but extent of cline with *phoenicurus* now thought large, possibly unstable. **NB2** Populations bear divergent cytochrome c oxidase 1 (CO1) lineages, potentially including cryptic taxa Kerr *et al* 2009.
967	Ehrenberg's Redstart	*Phoenicurus phoenicurus samamisicus*	Long-established informal English name adopted@OSME. Taxon *samamisicus* Asia Minor-Turkmenistan, S Uzbekistan, Iran (single-record *samamisicus* vagrant Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b, 2nd Apr 2016 DB38(4) p253 since declared insufficiently documented to eliminate nominate Wassink 2016). *P.p. samamisicus* Turkmenistan, Bukreev 1997. Taxon *samamisicus* Hissar Alai & Kugitang mountains Uzbekistan (Elena Kreuzberg-Mukhina *in litt*), SW Tajikistan Ayé *et al* 2012, Turkey & Syria Murdoch & Betton 2008, N Iraq Ararat *et al* 2011 to Iran, Levant, migrant possible breeder Kyrgyzstan, Ven 2002, Afghanistan Vielliard 1969, Edward Dickinson pers comm, winters SW Arabia, HBW10; very rare *samamisicus* OBL7. **NB1** *samamisicus* long-known as Ehrenberg's Redstart, but extent of cline with *phoenicurus* now thought large, possibly unstable. **NB2** Populations bear divergent cytochrome c oxidase 1 (CO1) lineages, potentially including cryptic taxa Kerr et al 2009.
968	Daurian Redstart	*Phoenicurus auroreus*	2 extralimital sspp to E; nominate vagrancy perhaps more likely than *leucopterus.* Misorientation (?) (Berthold 1999) migrant Uzbekistan K-M *et al* 2005, vagrant OSME Region HBW10, vagrant breeder Krasnoyarsk Republic to N of Region Rogacheva 1992. **NB1** Populations bear divergent cytochrome c oxidase 1 (CO1) lineages, potentially including cryptic taxa Kerr *et al* 2009; Lee *et al* 2019 show that in South Korea, song and whistle patterns differ between populations, but clinal variation within any population is only part of the explanation.. **NB2** Juvenile females have an extra moult before attaining full adult plumage and in this state resemble female Black Redstarts *P. ochruros*; any female Black Redstart found out of range is therefore suspect Lamont 2016.
969	Güldenstädt's Redstart (White-winged Redstart)	*Phoenicurus erythrogastrus*	2 sspp, both in Region: nominate Greater Caucasus, wintering Transcaucasia; *grandis* NE Afghanistan, C Asia E to Uzbekistan Tien Shan, then extralimital to Nepal. Rare in Sayan Mts to N of Region Rogacheva 1992. Caucasus, *grandis* scarce resident SE&E Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, E Uzbekistan, HBW10 Ayé *et al* 2012 breeds E-C & NE Afghanistan (Roberts 1992, H&E 1970, *grandis* passage Paludan 1959), Wakhan Sep 2006 Ayé 2007b, Tajikistan, R&A 2005, status Iran uncertain, latest records 1950s Scott & Adhami 2006. **NB** No historical record of occurrence in Iran Khaleghizadeh *et al* 2017.
970	Blue-fronted Redstart	*Phoenicurus frontalis* (*Phoenicuropsis frontalis* H&M4)	Monotypic. NE Afghanistan H&M4, (presumably breeds Paludan 1959) Roberts 1992, IOC, HBW10, R&A 2005 (S Tajikistan?); from Grimmett *et al* 2009 map, may breed Afghan Daryā-ye & Konar valleys, pinpointed Ayé *et al* 2012, R&A 2012 maps: mapped as SV from southernmost Tajikistan S through Badakhshan & including Daryā-ye & Konar valleys **BLDZ** May 2017.
971	Plumbeous Water Redstart (Plumbeous Redstart)	*Phoenicurus fuliginosus* (formerly *Rhyacornis fuliginosa*, to which H&M4 reverts)	2 sspp, nominate NE Afghanistan then extralimital to montane continental Asia to E; *affinis* island isolate Taiwan. Sangster *et al* 2010, Zuccon & Ericsson 2010b find belongs in *Phoenicurus* as *P. fuliginosus*. NE Afghanistan Paludan 1959 Roberts 1992, eastern Afghan Safed Koh only H&E1970, R&A 2005, HBW10 – SE Tajikistan? Vagrant Tajikistan (K-M&K 2005), breeding Ayé 2007a, likely rare over OSME range Ayé *et al* 2012, 1st record imaged by Gabor Papp on the Ayaguz River E Kazakhstan Jun 2011 Wassink 2013, Wassink 2015b. Vagrant and probable rare resident Ferghana, Kyrgyzstan, Ven 2002. Mapped Badakhshan, Nuristan in Afghanistan & separate population in NE Tajikistan & SW Kyrgyzstan **BLDZ** May 2017.
972	White-capped Redstart (White-capped River Chat)	*Phoenicurus leucocephalus* (formerly *Chaimarrornis leucocephalus*, to which H&M4 reverts)	Monotypic. Sangster *et al* 2010, R&A 2012 suggest belongs in *Phoenicurus.* Vast extralimital range through Himalayas to much of China. Tajikistan, Uzbekistan (K-M&K 2005), 1st unequivocal record Uzbekistan Oct 2013 Roman Kashkarov *in litt*; likely Kazakhstan near Taraz, HBW10, confirmed Sep 2008, imaged by Gennadiy Dyakin in Tien Shan Almaty province (vagrant) Wassink 2015b; resident NE Afghanistan Paludan 1959 H&E 1970, S Tajikistan R&A 2005. Probable breeder Ferghana, Kyrgyzstan, Ven 2002 confirmed Ayé *et al* 2012, winters along Afghan-Pakistani border R&A 2012. **BLDZ** map May 2017 confirms foregoing, but as SB.
973	Common Rock Thrush (Rufous-tailed Rock Thrush)	*Monticola saxatilis*	Monotypic. Distant from other *Monticola* spp, earlier origin Zuccon & Ericson 2009. Turkey Levant, Caucasus, Iran, Iraq (local Salim *et al* 2012), S Turkmenistan, Afghanistan, HBW10, widespread Kyrgyzstan, Ven 2002, common BM E half Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b, SE CA Flint *et al* 1984. Fairly common PM Oman **OBL7**, vagrant Socotra Porter & Suleiman 2020. Egypt Avib, BE. (English name reversion IOC2.9)

974	Little Rock Thrush	*Monticola rufocinereus*	Mostly African species: nominate on continent, *sclateri* W Arabia; resident N Yemen Porter & Warr 1985, S Yemen Warr 1992, population in SW Arabia, HBW10. SW Arabian highlands resident, scarce to locally common mostly above 1500m asl in scrub habitat often adjacent to human habitation; the *c*25 000bp thus possibly vulnerable Jennings 2010.
PT	Blue Rock Thrush PT	*Monticola solitarius*	**PT** Zuccon & Ericson 2010a recommend split of eastern *philippensis,* to include *pandoo* & extralimital *madoci* from western *solitarius* & *longirostris* (latter perhaps questionable status, Kirwan *et al* 2008). H&M4 note likely split, but type locality of *pandoo* is remote from Zuccon & Ericson's sample, thus not positively excluding clinal explanation.
975	Western Blue Rock Thrush	*Monticola (solitarius) solitarius*	English name informal@OSME. 2 sspp, both in Region: nominate N Turkey, Transcaucasia, wintering N Africa, Arabia; *longirostris* SWAsia/Mediterranean-C Asia E to NE Afghanistan, then extralimital to S & E, wintering tropical Africa. Summer breeder W&S Turkey Kirwan *et al* 2008, Levant, localised Cyprus Richardson 2014, Caucasus, S & SE CA, W Afghanistan *longirostris* Paludan 1959, which resident Ayé *et al* 2012), Iraq, Iran, HBW10. Re *solitarius* & *longirostris,* cline in Turkey, but *longirostris* usually taxon attributed to Cyprus & NE Africa, E to much of CA including W Afghanistan (IOC4.4); fairly common PM & WV Oman (*longirostris*) **OBL7**; vagrant Socotra Kirwan 1998a, now rare WV Porter & Suleiman 2020. Egypt Avib, BE. **NB** Clearer resolution of Zuccon & Ericson 2010a may require studies on Afghanistan-Pakistan border, which may take some time Inskipp *et al* 2011.
976	Eastern Blue Rock Thrush	*Monticola (solitarius) phillipensis*	English name informal@OSME. 3 sspp, only *pandoo* occurs in Region: *phillipensis* & especialy *madoci* remote to E; *pandoo* occurs Turkmenistan Bukreev 1997, rare BM SE Kazakhstan W&O 2007, Wassink 2015b, N&C Afghanistan Nurestan Paludan 1959, there resident Ayé *et al* 2012, E Afghanistan Zuccon & Ericson 2010a. **NB** H&M4 listed distributions for *longirostris* & *pandoo* appear to attribute the latter's easternmost distribution to the former.
977	Blue-capped Rock Thrush	*Monticola cinclorhyncha*	Monotypic. NE Afghanistan-IOC, Paludan 1959 H&E 1970 E & E Safed Koh, Roberts 1992, HBW10, R&A 2005. Grimmett *et al* 1998, 2009 maps support strongly; Ayé *et al* 2012, R&A 2012 agree. H&M4 assert *cinclorhynca* as correct original spelling. Mapped as SV to much of S&W Tajikistan & all of NE Afghanistan **BLDZ** May 2017.
978	Whinchat	*Saxicola rubetra*	Monotypic. Breeds E Turkey, Caucasus, rare BM, scarce PM N&E Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b, scarce breeder Iran Scott & Adhami 2006, passage only (?) Iraq Salim *et al* 2012, winter migrant Region to SW Arabia, sub-Saharan Africa, HBW10, fairly common PM & WV Oman **OBL7,** sight records EC Afghanistan, R&A 2005, 1st confirmed record May 2018 Rajabi & Ostrowski 2019. Egypt Avib, BE
979	White-browed Bush Chat (White-browed Bushchat) (Stoliczka's Bushchat)	*Saxicola macrorhynchus* **Vulnerable**	Monotypic. Resident Afghanistan, Madge 1980, IOC, Urquhart (2002), SE Afghanistan (isolated), R&A 2005, H&E 1970. Current status Afghanistan unknown Ayé *et al* 2012, possibly former resident IOC6.3. **BLDZ** map Mar 2018 indicates considerable range shrinkage, regular breeding confined to India, thought possibly extinct Pakistan, but one imaged at Rajanpur, Punjab Dec 2019, two seen at seldom visited marsh in Nagarparkar, Tharparkar district, Sindh Dec 2020 *Birding ASIA* **36:** 114; almost certainly no longer regular Afghanistan.
980	White-throated Bush Chat (White-throated Bushchat, Hodgson's Bushchat)	*Saxicola insignis* **Vulnerable**	Monotypic. Assessed as vagrant E Kazakhstan (K-M&K 2005) & breeding easternmost Kazakhstan, HBW10, but these conclusions appear based on Leningrad (1928) skin, whose original label has been replaced without documented reason, Vladimir Arkhipov pers comm, W&O 2007. However, Ayé *et al* 2012 accept old record, as seemingly, does H&M4. Bates & Lowther 1952 confidently assess occurrence as "from borders of Afghanistan and Chitral" eastwards. R&A 2005 map wintering range as S slopes C & E Himalayas; **BLDZ** Aug 2019 **no longer maps** an isolated breeding area easternmost Kazakhstan, some 80km from Mongolia. Vagrancy to eastern most Kazakhstan plausible. **NB** Ample suitable habitat (alpine meadows scattered with rocks at *c*2900m asl) in Region, but not certainly known to breed nearer than Mongolian Altai Bräunlich & Steudtner 2008; one record from Tuva Republic close to easternmost Kazakhstan Putintsev *et al* 2002.
PT	Eurasian/Common/ European Stonechat **PT**	*Saxicola torquatus* (formerly *torquata*) covering 23 sspp, but see Working Notes at right. **Our initial approach was generally supported by Sangster *et al* 2011, as modified by Svensson *et al* 2012, and now aligns with IOC6.3** (*S. rubicola* is European, *S. torquatus* African and *S. maurus* Siberian Stonechats).	Inclusive of *S.t maura*. (now *maurus*) *eg* see Kirwan & Bates 2008. Taxonomic revision, Wittmann *et al* 1995 Urquhart 2002, IOCv1.6) increasingly accepted (now finalised in Svensson *et al* 2012); presents superspecies *S. torquatus* of 4 species. The 2 European taxa are under *rubicola,* the new *torquatus* group (13 taxa) being distributed south of the Sahara to South Africa (*torquatus* type locality Cape of Good Hope), hence the name African Stonechat (only 1 ssp *felix* (*qv*) in OSME Region). Eastern taxa (6) now within *maurus* (*qv*). Consequent **PT** revision for the OSME Region is as in next 4 rows, as reduced further by IOC6.3. Kirwan & Bates 2008 also support same superspecies group, but some English names differ: *S. rubicola* as European Stonechat, *S. maurus* as Asian (Siberian being a misnomer), *S. torquatus* as African and *S. tectes* (extralimital to Region) as Réunion (monotypic). However, the superspecies' lineal descent may not yet be settled (*eg* Wittmann *et al* 1995 suggest *S. axillaris* for African Stonechat), outline evidence suggesting *maurus* as priority for superspecies name (Martin Collinson pers comm). Svensson *et al* 2012 revise and reduce *variegatus* distribution to south of Caucasus E to Iran, synonymising *armenicus*; former '*variegatus*' distribution N of Caucasus convincingly separated into *hemprichii.* **NB BLDZ** Aug 2018 now seriously out of date, still lumping all taxa below save *caprata* into *torquatus*; *pro tem* ,Shirihai & Svensson 2018 is accepted as the template on authoritative taxonomy of European Stonechat *S. rubicola*, although Opaev *et al* 2018 make a good, if not exhaustive, case to revisit the taxon names of Svensson *et al* 2012: Loskot & Bakhtadze 2020 reject the arrangement of Shirihai & Svensson 2018 and of Svensson *et al* 2012 thus: museum specimens had been wrongly labelled; early accounts of measurements had not been corrected when translating the Russian measurement system to the English system; a review of the contemporaneous literature of the collection of specimens (including unpublished mss & notes of Nesterov & of Gmelin) enabled a re-interpretation of specimen locations pertinent to the identity of taxa populations. Until such time as Svensson responds, we refrain from (further) revision of Caucasus region taxa, although some revision is likely.
981	European Stonechat (formerly Eurasian or Common Stonechat)	*Saxicola rubicola* (≡ *S.[torquatus] rubicola*) (formerly *Saxicola (torquatus) torquatus/hibernans*)	2 sspp, only nominate in Region Turkey, Caucasus, wintering N Africa, Middle East; *hibernans* extralimital westernmost Europe.This taxonomy, adopted by Urquhart (2002) via Sangster *et al* 1998 was only slowly accepted (Clements 2007 supports), but save resolution of easternmost taxa, BOU now support (Sangster *et al* 2011) - see also Wittman *et al* 1995 and Wink *et al* 2002, with whom IOC2.0 complied. In our Region, *rubicola* breeds Asia Minor, winters Middle East to Iran; PM Iraq Salim *et al* 2012, PM, WV Cyprus Peter Flint pers comm, rare PM & WV Oman **OBL7**. **NB** Parkin & Knox 2010 note that *rubicola, maurus* & *stejnegeri* are not each others' closest relatives. Svensson *et al* 2012 revise and reduce *variegatus* distribution to south of Caucasus E to Iran, synonymising *armenicus*; former '*variegatus*' distribution N of Caucasus convincingly separated into *hemprichii.*
PT	Siberian Stonechat **PT**	*Saxicola [torquatus] maurus*	**PT** IOC v2.2 recognised separation of *maurus* via Illera *et al* 2008. The extralimital Stejneger's Stonechat *S.(m.) stejnegeri* accepted as split from *S. maurus* Zink *et al* 2009, IOC v2.4, as summarised in Parkin & Knox 2010. Sangster *et al* 2011 cautious, because if *przewalskii* is placed in *stejnegeri*, the former is the priority name! Svensson *et al* 2012 reduce *variegatus* distribution, subsume *armenicus* & name result *hemprichii* for N Caspian population, limiting *variegatus* to populations below the Caspian, on priority grounds. van Doren *et al* 2017, in work on relationships between Stonechat species groups, confirm that the *maurus* group is basal to the *torquatus* & *rubicola* groups, but did not include the *stejnegeri* grooup in the research. **NB1** Populations bear divergent cytochrome c oxidase 1 (CO1) lineages, potentially including cryptic taxa Kerr *et al* 2009. **NB2** see **PT** for *S. rubicola* above.

983	Siberian Stonechat (Western Siberian Stonechat) (Eurasian, Asian or Eastern Stonechat)	*Saxicola maurus* (≡ *Saxicola [torquatus] maurus*)	English name now aligns with IOC. 4 sspp post-splits, *hemprichii* & *variegatus* alloted separate entries below: *maurus* & *przewalskii* remained grouped *pro tem*, but see *S. stejnegeri* below: nominate from extralimital E Finland N&E Siberia to C Asia E to Tien Shan, extralimital to S & E; *przewalskii* extralimital C Tibet E to China.N Afghanistan. Taxa in Region formerly were grouped as *maurus, armenicus, variegatus* (Arabia Jennings 2010) + extralimital *indicus,* but Svensson *et al* 2012 convincingly revised to *maurus, variegatus* (S of Caucasus only & E to Iran, synonymising *armenicus*) & *hemprichii* (N of Caucasus to Caspian) not including *indicus* (see 'Indian Stonechat' below); *maurus* winterer in S of Region Urquhart 2002. Breeds CA (SW-SE Turkmenistan Bukreev 2005) & from easternmost Kazakhstan SW to Afghanistan Ayé *et al* 2012; E Afghanistan (Summer breeder, passage & winterer Paludan 1959; likely breeds Bamiyan Busuttil & Ayé 2009), S Tajikistan R&A 2005; *maurus* common niche BM from NNW to E to SE Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b; 1st winter record S Kazakhstan 17 Jan 2016 Chardara Lake Wassink 2016. Taxon *maurus* common breeder N of Region Rogacheva 1992. Fairly common PM & WV Oman **OBL7** vagrant Socotra Porter & Suleiman 2020, common SB NE Iran Khaleghizadeh *et al* 2017, uncommon WV Dhahran, Saudi Arabia Babbington 2018, rare Israel Perlman & Meyrav 2009, scarce PM, WV Palestine Awad *et al* 2022. Very rare (?) spring PM Cyprus **CBR11** 10th record Mar 2014 **CRC**. English name informal@OSME.
			NB1 Case ending changes follow David & Gosselin 2002. **NB2** Although English name Siberian Stonechat well-entrenched, name 'Asian Stonechat' (Western & Eastern taxa groups) has much merit; geographically more accurate, distribution mostly outside Siberia. **NB3** Parkin & Knox 2010 note *rubicola, maurus* & *stejnegeri* are not each others' closest relatives. **NB4** Opaev *et al* 2018 reveal that *S. stejnegeri* is a cryptic species in that it cannot be distinguished by morphometrics or when in worn spring plumage from *S. maurus*, but differs noticeably in male song
983	Caspian Stonechat {Siberian Stonechat} (Eurasian Stonechat)	*Saxicola maurus hemprichi* (≡ *Saxicola [torquatus] maurus hemprichii*) (formerly *S. [t.] maurus variegatus*)	Following *Dutch Birding*, English name is informal@OSME. Urquhart 2002 mapped *variegatus* Azerbaijan & Russian W Caspian N just into Kazakhstan at easternmost Volga Delta; Svensson *et al* 2012 revise and reduce *variegatus* distribution to south of Caucasus E to Iran (see below), synonymising *armenicus*; former '*variegatus*' distribution N&E Caucasus N to lower River Ural & westernmost Kazakhstan (Arend Wassink in litt Dec 2014 *hemprichii* niche BM W Kazakhstan) convincingly separated into *hemprichii*. Winters Africa, likely UAE; UAE Checklist 2008. Vagrant Cyprus Oct 2010 **SG33(1)**, rare spring PM Cyprus **CBR11**, 1st record Turkey Mar 2010 Kirwan *et al* 2014, PM & WV W Iran Khaleghizadeh *et al* 2017, rare but regular Spring PM E Caspian coast Wassink 2016; possibly 1st Iraq record Nov 1883 Sharpe 1886a, one of 3 collected Fao at Iraq Gulf coast under '*Pratincola hemprichii*' ("tail conspicuously white"); 5th Qatar record Jan 2014, 6th Dec 2016, 7th/8th 3 birds Feb/Mar 2017, 9th Dec 2017, 10th at Irkkaya Farm Dec 2020-Jan 2021 **QBRC**. 4th autumn record UAE Sil'a Harbour Nov 2018 **EBRC**, 5-record vagrant Oman 2006-2012 (most likely this taxon post Svensson *et al* 2012) **OBL7**, scarce WV Dhahran, Saudi Arabia Babbington 2018. English name informal@OSME. **NB1** Because *variegatus sensu stricto* & *hemprichii* are so different, we assign a row to each, applying the name 'Caspian' only to *hemprichii,* as does **DB. NB2** Opaev et al 2018 argue for retention of *variegatus* on priority grounds and on their interpretation of the intention of the Original Description (Stegmann 1935)
984	Byzantine Stonechat {Siberian Stonechat} (Eurasian Stonechat)	*Saxicola maurus variegatus* (≡ *Saxicola [torquatus] maurus variegatus*) (formerly *S. [t.] maurus armenicus*)	English name informal@OSME, for reasons below & its distribution lies with the former Byzantine Empire. Urquhart 2002 mapped *armenicus* Caucasus, E Turkey (E Turkey-Caucasus Roselaar 1995), E Iraq W & NE Iran & southern Caspian. Svensson *et al* 2012 revise and reduce *variegatus* distribution to south of Caucasus E to Iran, synonymising *armenicus;* former '*variegatus*' distribution N of Caucasus convincingly separated into *hemprichii* (see above). Common SB N&NW Iran &S Caspian Region, many wintering S&SE Iran Khaleghizadeh *et al* 2017, SB N Iraq Ararat *et al* 2011. 1st UAE record Sila'a Harbour Mar 2018 **EBRC**. Winters Africa, likely UAE; UAE Checklist 2008, scarce WV Dhahran, Saudi Arabia Babbington 2018; 5th Qatar record Irkkaya Farm Feb 2021 **QBRC**. One former practice was to assign name 'Caspian' to both taxa. Because the two taxa are very different (see Svensson *et al* 2012), we assign a row to each. **NB1** The mapped distribution in Urquhart 2002 of *armenicus* (now the reduced-distribution *variegatus*) suggests worthwhile English name would be 'Byzantine' Stonechat, informal@OSME, but **DB** retain 'Armenian' Stonechat despite mapped distribution change. **NB2** Opaev *et al* 2018 argue for retention of *armenicus* on priority grounds and interpretation of the intention of the Original Description (Stegmann 1935)
985	Indian Stonechat	*Saxicola (maurus) indicus* (≡ *Saxicola [torquatus] maurus indicus*)	English name informal@OSME. Monotypic post-splits; *indicus* merits separate treatement Illera *et al* 2008. Recorded traditionally as Common Stonechat; resident Pakistan, likely has occurred Iran (One shot at 'Bahm-i-Shur' lake (Fars?) Iran Feb 1928 Capito 1931 may be misidentification of *S.m. variegatus sensu stricto*, 'Byzantine Stonechat', which winters around top of Gulf area); very likely breeds Afghan side of border with Pakistan from the Wakhan SW to Nuristan, where *indicus* more likely in S Nurestan R&A 2012; mapped thus for 1000+km Urquhart 2002, Bot *et al* 2012. Opaev *et al* 2018 call for a suite of DNA techniques to be applied to Eurasian taxa (less *felix*) to establish *inter alia* the taxonomic status of *indicus* & *przevalskii*.
986	Amur Stonechat (Stejneger's Stonechat, Eastern Siberian Stonechat, Siberian Stonechat, Japanese Stonechat: Opaev *et al* 2018)	*Saxicola stejnegeri* (≡ *Saxicola [torquatus] stejnegeri*)	English name now aligns with IOC. See uncertainties below. Monotypic; prone to long-distance vagrancy. Elevated IOC2.4. Rare in winter or on passage. The 2 reported Jordan, 24 Nov 95 & 25 Apr 97 Andrews *et al* 1999, do not exclude other eastern sspp Dominic Mitchell *in litt* Nov 2014. Zink *et al* 2009 show that although *maurus* & *stejnegeri* appear to be very similar, they differ strongly in their mtDNA patterns (as strongly as *rubicola* & *torquatus* groups & island taxa), which would have made it unlikely any subsequent nuclear loci investigation would weaken grounds for separation. However, of the 8 birds Zink *et al* 2009 called *variegatus*, 2 were genetically indistinguishable from *stejnegeri* (Gen Bank data per Martin Collinson), and so until more data are available, *stejnegeri* ID cannot be based on mtDNA alone (Laurent Raty *in litt*). Winters to Bangladesh & points E R&A 2012, & given its vagrancy to Europe, highly likely this near-cryptic (but see Hellström & Norevik 2014) taxon has long occurred in Region: 1st record at A'Sila'a Abu Dhabi Nov-Dec 2020 confirmed by DNA (but see Laurent Raty advice above) **EBRC**. However, *stejnegeri* may be closely related to *przewalskii* (which winters to Himalayan foothills R&A 2012) in which case this species would take name *S. przewalskii* on priority grounds. **NB1** *Dutch Birding* retain eponymous English name. **NB2** Opaev et al 2018 reveal that *S. stejnegeri* is a cryptic species in that it cannot be distinguished by morphometrics or when in worn spring plumage from *S. maurus*, but differs noticeably in male song
PT	African Stonechat **PT**	*Saxicola [torquatus] torquatus*	**PT;** The extralimital Madagascan Stonechat *S (t.) sibilla* has been split from *S.[t.] torquatus* Woog *et al* 2008 & IOC2.4 (but not by H&M4), incorporating the putative Madagascar sspp *ankaratrae* & *tsaratananae* (lack of specimens of the described but unvalidated Madagascar taxa prevented their evaluation). **NB** Wittmann *et al* 1995 suggest *S. axillaris* as name for African Stonechat
987	Arabian Stonechat (Eurasian Stonechat) (African Stonechat)	*Saxicola torquatus felix* (≡ *Saxicola [t.] torquatus felix*) (*S. axillaris felix*)	English name informal@OSME. Of the 13 sspp of African Stonechat, only *felix* occurs (as resident) in our Region. All other sspp are either in isolated sub-Saharan pockets or are distributed much further S in Africa Urquhart 2002; *felix* occurs in SW Arabia, W Yemen, HBW10, H&M4. Resident Arabian endemic ssp at various altitudes between 1450 to 3000m asl in S Tihama, c60 000bp (33% in Saudi Arabia) Jennings 2010; perhaps not too vulnerable to local agricultural changes.

988	Pied Stonechat {Pied Bush Chat}	*Saxicola caprata*	16 sspp 2 in Region: *rossorum* NE Iran, N Afghanistan, C Asia to Pamirs & SC Kazakhstan, wintering SW Asia; *bicolor* SE Iran extralimital across Indian subcontinent; 14 sspp extralimital as far as New Guinea & Philippines; *rossorum* Turkmenistan, Bukreev 1997, Afghanistan Paludan as summer breeder & passage, perhaps winterer, rare BM Syrdarya Valley S-C Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b, but possibly rare spring migrant Kazakh Caspian Wassink 2013, 1st autumn record here 6 Sep 2015 at Aktau Yasko 2017; easternmost record Sep 2015 Turgen Valley Almaty Wassink 2016. Breeds S-C & S CA (Kyrgyzstan (?), Ven 2002), NE Iran (& rare resident Scott & Adhami 2006), Afghanistan, HBW10, R&A 2012: Ayé *et al* 2012 map as breeding mostly S CA, but into all CA states along narrow lines. Vagrant to Cyprus Flint & Stewart 1992, Egypt Gauger & Völlm (2008a, b) accepted **EORC 2011**, one at Al Foah UAE Sep 2020 **SG42(6):** 446. 7-record vagrant Oman 1983-2012 **OBL7**, one at Salalah Feb 2018 **DB40(2):** 123; Israel Perlman & Meyrav 2009, Kuwait **DB33(4)**, 2nd record Jahra May 2018, 3rd Nuwaiseeb Aug 2019 **KORC**: 1st for W Saudi Arabia Jeddah Dec 2018 **DB41(1):** 59, 3rd Jun 2022 at Khafji, Ash Sharqiya **DB44(4):** 311. 1st for Iraq Suweilha, Salman Mar 2019 **DB44(4):** 312. 1st for Turkey Istanbul Airport entrance Sep 2021, 2nd Milleyha, Hatay Oct 2021 Kuzeycem *in litt* **TBRC**. **NB1** Illera *et a*l 2008 note *rossorum* distinct enough from *bicolor* (SE Iran, Pakistan, N India; SW Afghanistan?) to treat as spp, but distinctions from other, non-island, sspp *burmanicus* & *nilgiriensis* further E yet unsampled. **NB2** Extended WP records up to Mar 2022 in Ławicki 2022.
Aliabadian et al 2012 found that open-habitat chats belong to several Clades; Clades 3 and 4 apply to the OSME Region. Future taxonomic separation of these clades might occur.			
	Clade 3		
989	Northern Wheatear (formerly Wheatear, Common Wheatear)	*Oenanthe oenanthe*	Polytypic. 4 sspp, 2 in Region; nominate PM most locations, breeds N Kazakhstan; *libanotica* Asia Minor, Levant-Transcaucasia, Iran, C Asia, Kazakhstan, N Afghanistan. Common N of Region Rogacheva 1992. Breeds Turkey, S Syria, Caucasus, N Iraq Ararat *et al* 2011, passage Iraq Salim *et al* 2012, Iran, CA Panov 2005 (*oenanthe* only in Kazakhstan as common BM, PM (N half) Wassink 2015b, contra earlier assumption of occurrence of *libanotica* in SE Kazakhstan); *libanotica* occurs in S CA to Afghanistan Ayé *et al* 2012, *libanotica* SB, PM Iran Khaleghizadeh *et al* 2017, Mt Hermon Israel Perlman & Meyrav 2009, (N Afghanistan, R&A 2005), migrant through Region (Alaskan population winters in Africa Bairlein 2008; adult and 1st-winter birds wintering in the Sahel hold small territories (70m²) for long periods Blackburn & Cresswell 2016; two radiotagged in Fairbanks Alaska flew via Kazakhstan & Arabian desert to Sudan, Uganda & Kenya, a round-trip of 30 000km 2019-20 **DB42(4):** 282. Perhaps some, like some non-passerines, may be trans-oceanic migrants boreal autumn India-E Africa preying on dragonflies exploiting ITCZ movement described by Anderson 2009), fairly common PM & WV Oman, rare elsewhen **OBL7**, vagrant Socotra Porter & Suleiman 2020. Wintering populations N Gulf, mostly sub-Saharan Africa, HBW10. Wang *et al* 2020 used next-generation sequencing to assemble 117 complete mitochondrial genomes covering *O.o. oenanthe, O.o. leucorhoa* and *O. seebohmi*, finding 2 different lineages, but could not discriminate between spp & sspp, suggesting that high resolution markers, such as genome-wide Single Nucleotide Polymorphisms, could (Paper in prep). Egypt Avib, BE. **NB** DB 2009, Svensson *et al* 2009 separate extralimital *seebohmi* as Seebohm's Wheatear (mountains NW Africa) on unstated grounds, although it lacks any molecular divergence from *O.o. libanotica* Aliabadian *et al* 2007; IOC11.2 accepts split of *seebohmi*, following Shirihai & Svensson 2018 (plumage differences) & del Hoyo and Collar 2016 (acoustics).
990	Red-breasted Wheatear (Botta's Wheatear)	*Oenanthe bottae*	2 sspp, *frenata* Eritrea, Ethiopia, nominate SW Arabia. Sequence reflects likely superspecies with Isabelline *O. isabellina* & Heuglin's Wheatear *O. heuglinii* (*qv* Hypothetical List). Nominate in SW Saudi, W Yemen, HBW10; locally common, mostly sedentary in highlands mostly between 2300 & 3000m asl, *c* 40 000bp, majority in Yemen Jennings 2010, N Yemen Porter & Warr 1985. Draft IOC11.2 proposes split of African *frenata* as Rusty-breasted Wheatear (del Hoyo and Collar 2016): both resultant taxa would be monotypic.
991	Isabelline Wheatear (formerly Isabelline Chat)	*Oenanthe isabellina*	Monotypic. Breeds Turkey Kirwan *et al* 2008, Caucasus, the whole of CA, Iran Khaleghizadeh *et al* 2017, N Iraq Salim *et al* 2012, Afghanistan Panov 2005, common BM, PM Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b, uncommonly Israel plains Perlman & Meyrav 2009 (where may be resident Clement & Rose 2015), winters widely to S, HBW10. Passage migrant & winterer Arabia; suspected opportunistic breeder Oman (displaying adults mid-summer montane N Oman) after wet winters Jennings 2010; abundant PM & WV Oman **OBL7** regular WV & PM Socotra Porter & Suleiman 2020. Li *et al* 2016 sequence the complete mt genome of *O. isabellina*. Egypt Avib, BE
992	Hooded Wheatear	*Oenanthe monacha*	Monotypic. Egypt, local Sinai (uncommon S Israel Perlman & Meyrav 2009), Arabian peninsula *eg* E UAE Aspinall 1996: most widespread Arabian breeding wheatear, but thinly so; nowhere common, mostly RB with some WV, perhaps only 5000bp overall Jennings 2010; 9th Kuwait record Mar 2016 **KORC,** uncommon widespread RB, common PM & WV much of Oman **OBL7**. Rare spring PM Cyprus **CBR11** (5 records Apr 2021 **DB43(3):** 299). 1st & 2nd for Lebanon Apr 2021 Ramadan-Jaradi *et al* 2021. 1st for Iraq at Abu-Ghraab Feb 2017 **DB44(4):** 312. 1st record Turkey Feb 1998 Kirwan *et al* 2014, 2nd Apr 2015 **DB37(3)**, 3rd .Çenger Antalya Mar 2018 **DB40(3):** 191, 4th there Mar 2021 **TBRC**, 6th Boğazkent, Antalya Apr **DB43(3):** 299, 8th Falez Antalya Spr 2021 **TBRC**. Resident S Iran SW Afghanistan, HBW10, S Iran R&A 2005, uncommon resident barren desert hills C & SE Iran Khaleghizadeh *et al* 2017; vagrant Cyprus Panov 2005. Reported winter UAE. Egypt Avib, BE
993	Desert Wheatear	*Oenanthe deserti*	3 sspp, all occur in Region: *homochroa* NW Egypt; nominate NE Egypt, Levant- most of Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b (1st winter record Jan 2015 Wassink 2015a), Afghanistan, wintering NE Africa, SW Asia; *oreophila* C Asia Pamirs, then extralimtal to E. *O.d. salina* (subsumed in *deserti*) Turkmenistan, Bukreev 1997. Breeds E Caucasus, C & S CA (confirmed only as Kyrgyzstan migrant, but may breed dry open areas, Ven 2002), may have bred Turkey Kirwan *et al* 2014, Iraq Moore & Boswell 1956 (currently passage, winterer only Salim *et al* 2012), common SB Iranian E & SE deserts, common PM across Iran & common WV southern lowlands Iran Khaleghizadeh *et al* 2017, N Afghanistan; '*atrogularis'* passage & winter but *oreophila* (breeds Pamirs) also breeder Afghanistan Paludan 1959; juvenile 12 Aug 72 4000m Wakhan Niethammer 1973; probably breeds Bamiyan Busuttil & Ayé 2009), winters widely to S, HBW10. Panov 2005 has *deserti* breeding N Saudi (Jennings 2010 suggests rare, opportunistic breeder [c50bp], but allows possibility of undiscovered population), S Syria, E Israel & '*atrogularis'* (subsumed in *oreophila*) elsewhere in OSME Region; uncommon resident S Israel Perlman & Meyrav 2009; common migrant, winterer Arabia Jennings 2010, abundant PM & WV Oman **OBL7**, regular WV & PM Socotra Porter & Suleiman 2020. Egypt Avib, BE. **NB** Panov 2005 from *in situ* fieldwork establishes convincing case for *atrogularis* recognition.
PT	Black-eared Wheatear **PT NB** We follow Schweizer *et al* 2019, Schweizer & Burri 2019.	*Oenanthe hispanica*	IOC10.2 accepts split as per Wink 2011. Molecular analysis of Randler *et al* 2011 suggested separation merited, likewise Aliabadian *et al* 2012. Randler *et al* 2011 also found mtDNA differences between North African populations of Western Black-eared Wheatear *O.(h.) hispanica*. Schweizer *et al* 2018 in a genome-wide study of 4 wheatear taxa are emphatic that both forms are full species & also support the Aliabadian *et al* 2012 suggestion that Cyprus Wheatear *O.cypriaca* separated from Western Black-eared Wheatear *O. (hispanica) hispanica* before Eastern Black-eared Wheatear *O. (h.) melanoleuca* did, at which time Pied Wheatear *O.[h.] pleschanka* split from *O. (h.) melanoleuca*, thus accounting for close DNA relatedness of all these taxa. Schweizer *et al* 2019a agree: Schweizer *et al* 2019b, in a genome-wide analysis of open-habitat chats (wheatears) reinforce not only this conclusion, but also strongly support the concept of the concept of pervasive parallel phenotypic evolution. **The corollary is that it rendered plumage characters inadequate predictors of species' relationships in this clade.**

			NB1 both *hispanica* taxa include pale- and dark-throated morphs. **NB2** Outlaw *et al* 2010 found in passing that *O. hispanica* and *O. pleschanka* genetically are very close. Although Randler *et al* 2011 agree, they also provide rationale for separation on song and reaction to dummies. **NB3** Wassink 2015a, 2015b & Wassink (unpub data) assess taxa relationship in Mangystau population thus: the polymorphic hybridogenous breeding population is due to an ancient hybridization event involving Pied Wheatear *O. pleschanka* & Eastern Black-eared Wheatear *O. melanoleuca* . At present there is no gene flow into this population other than from Pied Wheatear. Hence the '*aurita* '-type should be regarded as a morph of Pied Wheatear, with *c* 11% of the '*aurita* '-type being part of the white-throated '*vittata* ' morph (Panov 2005). Though rare, this morph is regularly recorded elsewhere, mostly in S Kazakhstan, E to the Zhungarskiy Alatau foothills. However, in Jun 2012 a male was found at Bukhtarma on the Irtysh River (Jochen Roeder *in litt* to Arend Wassink) only *c* 27km from easternmost Kazakhstan, indicating a wider distribution. Extralimitally, it has been recorded as far E as W China. Males with '*aurita* '-type characters were at Atyrau Jun 2013 & at Inderbor on 1 June 2016 (birds.kz). **NB4** The presence of taxon *hispanica* in N Croatia long had support, but Kralj *et al* 2017 examined all specimens held in Croatian musems from throughout the country & found all were *melanoleuca* . Shirihai & Svensson 2018 map *hispanica* no nearer than just W of Genoa on Italy's Tyrrhenian Sea coast. Any certain individuals of Western Black-eared Wheatear *O.(h.) hispanica* (see Hypothetical List) that may reach and pass through W Turkey (especially Aegean islands), Cyprus or Egypt are misoriented vagrants.
994	Eastern Black-eared Wheatear {Black-eared Wheatear}	*Oenanthe melanoleuca* (formerly *Oenanthe (hispanica) melanoleuca*)	Monotypic Schweizer *et al* 2019, IOC10.1. Breeds Turkey, Levant, Caucasus, SW Caspian, N Iraq, common SB & PM W Iran Khaleghizadeh *et al* 2017, (CA: Flint *et al* 1984) suggestion of probable breeding in small numbers irregularly Cyprus Randler & Crabtree 2010 refuted by Flint 2011 and by absence of any records since; winters sub-Saharan Africa, HBW10, Panov 2005; Panov notes hybrid *pleschanka/(hispanica) melanoleuca* populations around Caspian; rare PM Oman **OBL7**. **NB** W&O 2007 also elevate *melanoleuca* to species, rare W Kazakhstan Mangghystau Province. Egypt Avib, BE
995	Cyprus Wheatear (Cyprus Pied Wheatear)	*Oenanthe cypriaca*	Monotypic. Randler *et al* 2011 support species status on playback and reactions to dummies, although *cypriaca* is not separable via mtDNA from Pied (*pleschanka*) & Eastern Black-eared (*melanoleuca*) Wheatears: species status supported by Schweizer & Burri 2019. Breeding endemic Cyprus migrating through Levant, then S to winter interior Sudan, Ethiopia, HBW10, geolocated to SE-most Sudan Papazoglou *et al* 2017. 5th Lebanon record Hannouch May 2021 Ramadan-Jaradi *et al* 2021. Panov 2005 suggests *O. cypriaca* is ancestor of *O. pleschanka* & that separation borderline. Egypt Avib, BE. **NB1** Why this taxon should be only wheatear breeding in Cyprus examined in Flint 2011. **NB2** Cyprus Wheatear displays only slight sexual dimorphism
996	Pied Wheatear (formerly Siberian Chat)	*Oenanthe pleschanka* (Obsolete taxonomy *O. leucomela*)	Monotypic: Schweizer & Burri 2019. Probably breeds E Turkey Kirwan *et al* 2008, N Caucasus, CA (preponderantly in E Ayé *et al* 2012), Common SB Iran: Alborz, Tehran & eastward common PM C Iran Khaleghizadeh *et al* 2017, N Afghanistan, winters EC Africa, some SW Arabia, HBW10 Clement & Rose 2015; probably scarce regular breeder Volga Delta Arkhipov 2006; in Kazakhstan, common BM, PM on southern half of country, but genetic makeup is hybridogenous in origin, and polymorphic as a result, the ancestral *O.(h.) melanoleuca* genes giving rise to an '*aurita* '-morph population in WSW Kazakhstan but creating white-throated '*vittata* '-type individuals elsewhere Panov 2005, Wassink 2015b; the only gene-flow into this population now is from *pleschanka.* Passage Iraq Salim *et al* 2012, 4-record vagrant Cyprus **CBR11/CRC** 4th for Egypt Makadi Bay Mar 2018 **EORC**, fairly common PM & WV Oman (several '*vittata* ' records) **OBL7**, WV & PM Socotra Porter & Suleiman 2020, rare migrant Israel Perlman & Meyrav 2009. **NB1** White-throated '*vittata* ' occurs only in a few eastern populations, at a very low & unpredictable density (Panov 2005), probably via recessive genes. **NB2** The polymorphic hybridogenous breeding population is the result of an ancient hybridization event involving Pied Wheatear and the Eastern Black-eared Wheatear *O. melanoleuca* . At present there is no gene flow into the population other than from Pied Wheatear. Hence the '*aurita* '-type bird should be regarded as a morph of Pied Wheatear, with c 11% of the '*aurita* '-type belonging to the white-throated '*vittata* ' morph (Panov 2005). This morph is rare but regularly recorded elsewhere, mostly in S Kazakhstan, east to the Zhungarskiy Alatau foothills but on 19 June 2012 a male was found at Bukhtarma (Jochen Roeder *in litt*), indicating a wider distribution. In fact, it has been recorded as far east as W China. Males with characters of the '*aurita* ' type were found at Atyrau on 11 June 2013 and at Inderbor on 1 June 2016 (birds.kz). **NB3** hybrid *pleschanka/hispanica* populations around Caspian Panov 2005, the 2 taxa appearing genetically close Outlaw *et al* 2010. Egypt Avib, BE
Aliabadian et al 2012 found that open-habitat chats belong to several clades; clades 3 and 4 apply to the OSME Region. Future taxonomic separation of these clades might occur.			
	Clade 4		
997	Red-rumped Wheatear (formerly Buff-rumped Wheatear)	*Oenanthe moesta*	Monotypic. Resident Sinai, perhaps patchily or irregularly S Syria S to NW Arabia - vagrant Israel Perlman & Meyrav 2009; 6th record Israel Arava Valley Nov 2017-Feb 2018 **IRDC**. - (W Iraq? Panov 2005 disagrees – re ID, small individuals more likely to be *xanthoprymna* or hybrid *xanthoprymna* × *chrysopygia*), non-breeders inland W Gulf, HBW10, NW Arabia, where reputed to have bred occasionally near Jordan border Jennings 2010; last record Iraq 1920s Salim *et al* 2012. Female Uvda Dec 2017 **DB40(1):** 56, female Eilat Feb 2018 **DB40(2):** 123. Egypt Avib, BE
998	Blackstart	*Oenanthe melanura*	6 sspp, 4 in Africa, 2 in Region: nominate Israel, Jordan,, Sinai-NW & interior C&S Arabia; *neumanni* SW Saudi Arabia, W&S Yemen, SW Oman. Local Sinai to Arabian peninsula, HBW10, does breed Syria Murdoch & Betton 2008. Status in Arabia: resident hills & wadis of W & S Arabia, E to Dhofar Oman & to Riyadh, largely sedentary, but *melanura* (C & N Arabia, interior, E Yemen) & *neumanni* (elsewhere, but also Dhofar Oman) occupy sharply-defined ecological separation Jennings 2010, perhaps 1.Mbp overall; common resident breeder foothills & montane S Oman **OBL7**. Egypt Avib, BE. **NB** IOC2.5 amends genus to *Oenanthe,* in line with Outlaw *et al* 2010, who note that taxonomic history of *Cercomela* has never been congruent; 5 of investigated taxa are closer to *Oenanthe,* the rest being nearer to other existing genera or become new monotypic genera. Sangster *et al* 2010, Zuccon & Ericsson 2010b suggest subsuming all *Cercomela* taxa in *Oenanthe.*
999	Brown Rock Chat	*Oenanthe fusca*	Spreading northwestward in Pakistan: observed in Peshawar and on the border of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, at Takht Bhai in Mardan District, in the vicinity of the Terbela Dam, recorded in Balakot, firmly established in the Peshawar Valley, almost certainly now in Afghanistan & has also been recorded in Dera Gazi Khan and Dera Ismail Khan. In Pakistan no photo has been obtained from Sindh yet (Anon [by request], *in litt* , pers obs).
PT	Variable Wheatear **PT**	*Oenanthe picata*	Re **Parent Taxon:** not split in IOC11.2 where monotypic; Clement & Rose 2015 recognise 3 sspp. Shirihai & Svensson 2018 treat as full species on on the radical but pragmatic basis that plumage characteristics persist in sympatric areas perhaps (our guess) 85% of the time ('unusual for geographically connected susbspecies to differ distinctly' & 'subspecies rarely co-exist in areas like these three'). Somewhat tentatively, we follow *pro tem* , including adopting the English names used, but opt also for superspecies treatment. **NB** Schweizer & Burri 2019 note that other lines of DNA evidence ideally required to confirm Shirihai & Svensson approach.
1000	Blyth's Wheatear (Variable Wheatear, Eastern Pied Wheatear, Pied Chat)	*Oenanthe [picata] picata*	IOC7.2, H&M4 treat *O. picata sensu lato* as monotypic, Shirihai & Svensson 2018 split into 3 monotypic species. *O.p. picata* & *capistrata* Turkmenistan, Bukreev 1997 Kazkahstan W&O 2007. Breeds CA, common SB, PM E Iran, common WV S coastal lowlands Khaleghizadeh *et al* 2017; N Afghanistan, winters mostly Pakistan, India, HBW10: Ayé *et al* 2012 suggest WV Turkmenistan, Afghanistan & S Tajikistan; (also Iran Scott & Adhami 2006), presumably this taxon vagrant Israel Perlman & Meyrav 2009; reported Qatar 27 Nov 2008 **SG 32(2)**, 2nd Kuwait record Apr 2015 **KORC**, 3rd at Kabd Reserve Dec 2020-Feb 2021 **KORC,** fairly common PM & WV extreme N Oman **OBL7**. However, Shirihai *et al* 2011 suggest merit in assigning taxa rank to the 3 plumage types.

1001	Gould's Wheatear	*Oenanthe [picata] capistrata*	Monotypic. Breeds above 1000m asl Afghanistan & Tajikistan, perhaps into Kyrgyzstan (map in Panov 2005). Zarudny 1911 recorded *capistrata* passage only Khorasan-N Baluchestan Iran, but generally few records Iran Khaleghizadeh *et al* 2017. Ayé et al 2012 suggest from S Kazakhstan to N Afghanistan. Panov 2005 doubts *capistrata* sufficiently distinct because stabilised hybrid *capistrata*×*opistholeuca* occupies most of *capistrata* distribution, whereas *opistholeuca* remains distinct across most of historical distribution. The S Kazakhstan, very rare, BM Variable Wheatear population in montane Kyzylkum Desert comprises only capistrata×opistholeuca individuals & is polymorphic Panov 2005. Shirihai & Svensson 2010 note that such a hybridogenous population is not unlikely, but *pro tem* regard it as similar to that between Yellowhammer *Enberiza citrinella* & Pine Bunting *E. leucocephalos* .
1002	Strickland's Wheatear ('Black-bellied Wheatear': once considered to include Basalt Wheatear *qv* below)	*Oenanthe [picata] opistholeuca*	We consider this form merits a separate entry. =*O. opistholeuca* Turkmenistan (K-M&K 2005). Panov 2005 suggests what we now call *capistrata* may originate from ancestral *capistrata*×*opistholeuca* hybrids, two lines of ancestry (*qv* yellow wagtails, large grey shrikes). E Afghanistan R&A 2005, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan Panov 2005: Ayé *et al* 2012 suggest N AFG, S Tajikistan, intergrading with *capistrata* to N. Rare passage N Khorasan, Parapamis Iran Zarudny 1911. Panov also notes that gene-flow is dominant from *opistholeuca* to *picata* where distributions adjoin – *picata* perhaps at long-term risk as separate identity but *opistholeuca* remains distinct across most of historical distribution; 2-record April vagrant Iran Khaleghizadeh *et al* 2017. **NB1** Eilat 1986 record of *opistholeuca* re-evaluated as Basalt Wheatear *O. lugens warriae* Haas 2017. **NB2** size range of 'black' wheatears: Basalt (taxon *warriae*) smallest; Variable (*opistholeuca*) medium, Black *O.leucura* largest.
1003	Black Wheatear	*Oenanthe leucura*	2 sspp, both extralimital, but this notoriously sedentary species has wandered. One Na'ama Sinai Egypt Jan 79 Meininger & Mullié 1979, Meininger & Mullié 1981, vagrant Israel Perlman & Meyrav 2009. Shirihai *et al* 2014 demonstrate that Western Sahara taxon of Black Wheatear should properly be *O.l. riggenbachi* , not *syenitica* as previously assumed, the lone type specimen of taxon *syenitica* being better treated *pro tem* as belonging to Mourning Wheatear, *O. lugens* (*qv*) as a previously unrecognised black-plumaged population; whether this is a morph or has taxonomic rank is not certain. Egypt Avib. **NB** size range of 'black' wheatears: Basalt (taxon *warriae*) smallest; Variable (*opistholeuca*) medium, Black *O.leucura* largest.
PT	White-crowned Wheatear **PT** (White-crowned Black or White-tailed Wheatear)	*Oenanthe leucopyga*	Re Parent Taxon Aliabadian et al 2012 notes that the coenzyme NADH separation between leucopyga & ernesti at 4.8% was surprisingly high, possibly meriting species rank. Other DNA techniques are needed to evaluate the detailed implications. Pro tem, we allot a separate entry to keep these taxa in view.
1004	White-crowned Wheatear (White-crowned Black or White-tailed Wheatear)	*Oenanthe (leucopyga) leucopyga*	If split, monotypic. C&E Egypt & extralimital NE Sudan, Eritrea, Djibouti. Egypt Avib, BE. The following not attributed to taxon, but possibly either *leucopyga* or *ernesti* : 3 records Turkey Kirwan *et al* 2008, 3 records up to 1974 Cyprus Flint & Stewart 1992, 8th record Cape Greco Feb 2016 **DB38(2):** 193, 9th record, male, sea caves Cape Greco May 2016 **CRC**, 10th (?) Liveras Kyrenia Mar 2020 **DB42(2):** 133. 9th Oman record Sayh Musandam Nov 2019 **OBRC**. 3rd for Iran Ghatrouiyeh, Fars, Iran Feb 2019 **DB41(2):** 133, 5th record Kish Island Hormozgan Province Apr 2020 **SG42(2):** 324, 6th Zaydun Khuzestan Oct 2020 **DB42(6):** 446, 7th Shahdad, Kerman Mar 2021 **IBRC**, 8th Keraei Protected Area Nov 2021 **SG44(1):** 238. 1st breeding record Al Zour Kuwait **SG42(2):** 359. 2nd for Lebanon Hannouch-Selaata Jan 2021 Ramadan-Jaradi *et al* 2021. 3rd Qatar record one shot at Fuweirat Oct 2020, 4th record a juveniule N of Umm Bab Nov 2020-Feb 2021 **QBRC**.
1005	'Hartert's Wheatear'	*Oenanthe (leucopyga) ernesti*	English name informal@OSME. If split, monotypic. Resident NE Egypt, Sinai, Israel to C Arabia, Yemen Panov 2005, HBW10. Recorded all Arabian states, but resident breeder mostly only Saudi Arabia (not NE or Empty Quarter) in lower-rainfall areas, c300 000bp Jennings 2010, vagrant Iraq Salim et al 2012, apparent breeding Zichri, Basra 2014 al-Obeidi 2016. The following likely *ernesti* : 1st record Syria Feb 2009 Martinez et al 2016, 1st for Lebanon shot Sep 2014 Ramadan-Jaradi & Itani 2016, 8-record vagrant Oman 1971-2006 **OBL7**, 1904 single-record vagrant Ahwaz Khuzestan Iran Zarudny 1911 Khaleghizadeh *et al* 2017, 1st confirmed records since Zarudny 1911: Dec 2016 in Khuzestan Province not far from the Iran-Iraq border Rahimi *et al* 2019, 2nd Ghatroyaeh NP Fars, Feb 2019.. 1st record Iraq Feb 2010 Salim 2010, 2nd record Jun 2015 Qatar **QBRC**.
1006	Hume's Wheatear (formerly Hume's Chat)	*Oenanthe albonigra*	Monotypic. E Iraq Moore & Boswell 1956, Salim *et al* 2012; NE Arabian Peninsula, common resident C&S Iran Khaleghizadeh *et al* 2017, SW Afghanistan, HBW10 Ayé *et al* 2012, S Afghanistan R&A 2005, Panov 2005, E UAE Aspinall 1996, occasional Kuwait Cowan & Pilcher 2003. Resident breeder Arabia NE UAE & E Oman, perhaps 60 000bp overall Jennings 2010; common montane resident breeder N & NE Oman **OBL7**. 1st for Georgia Kolkheti NP June **DB43(4):** 310 may be most northerly record SG44(1): 237.
1007	Finsch's Wheatear (formerly Black-necked Wheatear, Barnes' Chat)	*Oenanthe finschii*	2 sspp, both in Region: nominate altitudinal or short-range migrant Asia Minor, Levant-Transcaucasia, N&SW Iran; *barnesi* NE&E Iran, W Turkmenistan, E Afghanistan, SC Kazakhstan extralimital W Pakistan, wintering SW Asia. C to E Turkey, Levant, Panov 2005, E Caucasus, common BM, accidental resident S-C & SW Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan, Afghanistan (*barnesi* Paludan 1959), 1st for Kyrgyzstan Samarkandy Apr 2017 **DB40(1):** 56, many resident CA distributions Ayé *et al* 2012, W & NE Iran, Iraq (Ararat *et al* 2011), winters mostly to S, often locally, HBW10, *eg* Israel Perlman & Meyrav 2009, where rare breeder Mt Hermon; 4-record vagrant Oman 1989-2001 **OBL7**; 1st breeding record W of Kuwait City was first for Arabia **DB41(3):** 203; 4th for Qatar Irkayya Farm Nov 2018, 5th male on Azwair West Coast early Jan 2021, 6th female there mid-Jan 2021 **QBRC**, 7th Irkayya Farm Nov 2021 **QRBC**. Egypt Avib, BE
PT	Mourning Wheatear **PT**	*Oenanthe lugens*	Shirihai & Svensson 2018 diminish Mourning Wheatear to nominate & *persica* , which in Iran would warrant species rank, but populations towards Syria have not been assessed. Simon Aspinall in *litt* had forewarned that Svensson & Shirihai 2018 radically treated *halophila* as 'Maghreb' (**DB 2011** use Western Mourning) Wheatear, & *lugens* (presumably also *persica*) as (Eastern) Mourning Wheatear. Förschler *et al* 2010a, 2010b support narrow separation of *lugens, lugentoides, lugubris* (extralimital Ethiopian/Abyssinian Wheatear) & *persica,* but not *halophila* ! IOC2.0 accepted split of *lugentoides* as Arabian Wheatear, but sequences it after extralimital Abyssinian Wheatear *O. lugubris* . IOC8.1 does not split *halophila* . We follow Shirihai & Svensson 2018 with Egypt-breeding & extralimital *O. halophila.* Shirihai *et al* 2011 recognised 'Basalt Wheatear' as a valid taxon, *warriae* , meritoriously named thus after Effie Warr, in recognition of her services to ornithology at BMNH Tring, but Shirihai & Svensson 2018 elevate to species rank; previous status as black morph of *lugens* does not accord with any definition of '*morph*'. Schweizer & Shirihai 2013 identify close link (via mtDNA-nuclear dataset) of *lugens* group with Red-tailed Wheatear **Parent Taxon**, but, via the multispecies coalescent approach, found a more distant link; their conclusions reinforce much of Förschler *et al* 2010a, 2010b. Schweizer & Burri 2019 eloquently & lucidly explain the deconstruction of 'traditional' *O.lugens* taxonomy; Schweizer 2020 recommends genome-wide research into the *O. lugens* complex.
			NB The type specimen of taxon *syenitica* (previously considered descriptive of western North African Black Wheatear *O. leucura* populations) was referred to the *O. lugens* complex provisionally as ssp (possibly a morph); in the limited mtDNA analysis, not separable from *leucura* or *warriae* , and though it resembles *warriae* more, it differs in morphometrics & plumage. Furthermore, its 1852 collection location & date *c* 120km N of Aswan in seasonally appropriate abraded plumage suggests a small distinct breeding population there, likely in an area of dark substrates Shirihai *et al* 2014, who go on to demonstrate that the Western Sahara taxon of Black Wheatear should properly be *O.l. riggenbachi* , not *syenitica* as previously assumed, the lone type specimen of taxon *syenitica* being better treated *pro tem* as belonging to Mourning Wheatear, *O. lugens* (*qv*) as a previously unrecognised black-plumaged population; whether this is a morph or has taxonomic rank is not certain, but we list it separately to keep it in view.

1008	Eastern Mourning Wheatear (Mourning Wheatear}	*Oenanthe [lugens] lugens*	Monotypic if *persica* elevated. As stated above, Shirihai & Svensson 2018 allotted nominate & *persica* as sspp. Given their caution on *persica*, we treat them separately: see **PT** and entries below. Local resident NW Africa (Egyptian birds E of Nile Baha El Din & Baha El Din 2000), Syria S to Sinai, winters Arabian Peninsula (probably Iraq), SE Iran HBW10. This taxon breeds NW Arabia, c45 000bp Jennings 2010. 2-record vagrant Iran 1904 Khaleghizadeh *et al* 2017; 3-record vagrant Cyprus **CBR11**, 4th Sadrazamk Liveras, North Cyprus Feb 2019 **DB41(2);** 134, 5th at Lara Bay Feb 2020 **DB42(2):** 133, 6th Softades Beach Mar 2020 **CRBC**; likely 7th Mandria Apr 2022 Jane Stylianou *in litt*. Although Kirwan *et al* 2014 accept 4th & 5th Turkish records, fomer (Mar 2008: 2nd calendar-year bird) may have been *persica,* here provisionally elevated to species rank One Turkish record (Jun 2011) involved 'Basalt Wheatear' *O. warriae* pairing with female Finsch's Wheatear *O. finschii*. Suggestion that relict S & SW CA populations likely *O picata* variants/hybrids Panov 2005?
1009	'Aswan Wheatear'	*Oenanthe lugens syenitica*, ssp *inquirenda. (syenitica* formerly applied to a Black Wheatear *O. leucura* population in NW Africa, now revised to *riggenbachi)*	Taxonomic status unclear, which is why English name informal@OSME is tentative, remaining in single quotes. Known only from single type specimen. Others may exist as misidentified specimens in museum collections. Likely occurs (occurred?) on the dark rocky substrates exposed on the plateau E of the Egyptian Nile, 30-100km N of Aswan, or on similar vast inhospitable expanses E & SE of this area well into Sudan. The type specimen of taxon *syenitica* (previously considered descriptive of western North African Black Wheatear *O. leucura* populations) is now referred to the *O. lugens* complex, provisionally as a black-plumaged ssp (possibly a morph); in the limited mtDNA analysis, not separable from *leucura* or *warriae,* and though it resembles *warriae* more, it differs in morphometrics & plumage Shirihai *et al* 2014. Furthermore, its 1852 collection location *c* 120km N of Aswan in seasonally appropriate abraded plumage suggests a small distinct breeding population there, likely in an area of dark substrates Shirihai *et al* 2014. Whatever the uncertainty, we list it separately to keep it in view. **NB1** From Heuglin's diary, we know he collected *syenitica* at El Kab in June 1852 & we know he was still N of Aswan on that date. Now there are two other places named El Kab, both in Sudan and not too distant from Heuglin's subsequent route, but these he did not pass until much later in the year. Egypt's El Kab (today Al Kilabiyah al-Gharbi) is beside the Nile and was on his route. **NB2** El Kab lies at the NW corner of *c* 5000km² dark-substrate plateau at 200-350m asl,cut through by the road E to Marsa Alam on the Red Sea. **NB3** Since Heuglin already has a wheatear named after him, we opt *pro tem* for the English informal @OSME name, Aswan Wheatear (Svene was the Greek name for Aswan).
1010	Western Mourning Wheatear {Maghreb Wheatear}	*Oenanthe [lugens] halophila*	Known to breed thinly widespread in Egypt W of 29°29´E to c26°30´E, & likely to Libyan border, in narrow band between 30°N& 31°N in transition zone between true desert & coastal plain Baha El Din & Baha El Din 2000. Main breeding distribution Libya west to Morocco, but status in E Libya uncertain Isenmann *et al* 2016; Svensson *et al* 2009 include as 'Maghreb Wheatear'. **NB** Förschler *et al* 2010a, 2010b do not split from *lugens*; even Schweizer & Shirihai 2013 are inconclusive (small sample size).
1011	Basalt Wheatear (name formally proposed first by Shirihai *et al* 2011) ('Black-bellied Wheatear') (once included in Variable Wheatear)	*Oenanthe [lugens] warriae sp novo (*Formerly *O. [l.] (lugens) warriae (ssp novo).* Status as 'black morph' is unsupportable (see **PT** Notes)	Monotypic sp Shirihai & Svensson 2018. NE Jordan, S Syria (2009 Martinez *et al* 2016), perhaps SW-most Iraq & N-most Saudi Arabia on predominant black basalt, to which taxon tied Khoury *et al* 2010 (N Arabia ? Jennings 2010). Retention mechanism of 'black' plumage uncertain; juveniles also dark, suggesting adaptation to dark environment Khoury *et al* 2010; no recorded cline to standard *O.[l.] lugens* plumage Khoury *et al* 2010 (part-albino recorded Andrews *et al* 1999). Previously placed in Variable (Eastern Pied) Wheatear *O. picata* under *opistholeuca* (*eg* Ferguson-Lees 1968, Wallace 1983), but Wallace (1988: BWP 5) accepted Lindon Cornwallis (& Andrews 1994) view as melanistic morph of Eastern Mourning Wheatear *O. lugens* (Panov 2005). Svensson *et al* 2009 noted morph has white, not the buff undertail coverts of *lugens*. Khoury *et al* 2010: 'black morph' should have independent taxonomic status; Förschler *et al* 2010a support, Shirihai *et al* 2011 confirmed at least as ssp: a slightly fuller narrative is given in Perlman *et al* 2018; accepted by IOC11.2, **CSNA**/*Dutch Birding* Jan 2022. Some evidence of occasional hybridisation with *lugens* Khoury *et al* 2013. Regular winter visitor to S Israel, mostly Ovda valley, in small numbers **IRDC**; 1st for Palestine Mar 2020 Awad *et al* 2022. Egypt Shirihai *et al* 2011. **NB1** sizes of 'black' wheatears: Basalt smallest; Variable (*opistholeuca*) medium, Black *O. leucura* largest. **NB2** Tye 1994 identified 2 BMNH specimens (1881 & 1926) as basalt morph.
1012	Iranian Wheatear (Persian Wheatear)	*Oenanthe [lugens] persica*	Monotypic; Shirihai & Svensson noted Iranian populations worthy of species status, but because populations to the west through to Syria had undetermined affinities, they preferred to leave it as ssp of *O. lugens*. We approach this puzzle from the opposite direction: Iranian Wheater we treat as a monotypic species until the status of the undetermined populations has been ascertained, & we will adjust where required. At present, Iranian endemic SB N-C Iran, across Zagros & Kerman highlands, PM S Iran Khaleghizadeh *et al* 2017, probably this taxon Iraq Moore & Boswell 1956, confirmed Ararat *et al* 2011), but winters E & C-N Arabia, scarce Gulf states, rare Oman Jennings 2010; rare PM & WV Oman (likely all *lugens*-related records, save *lugentoides* are this taxon) **OBL7**: 2nd record Israel Har Amasa Nov 2018-Apr 2019 (likely same bird as 1st in Apr 20018 **IRDC**. **NB1** English name informal@OSME is preferable to 'Persian Mourning Wheatear', partly because of very clear differentiation by Förschler *et al* 2010 from all other *lugens* taxa. **NB2** Shirihai *et al* 2011, Shirihai & Svensson 2018 cautionary re ID of populations W of Iran through to Syria: perhaps *persica*, perhaps new taxon, perhaps hybrid.
1013	Arabian Wheatear (South Arabian Wheatear)	*Oenanthe [lugens] lugentoides*	Polytypic, 2 sspp, nominate SW Saudi, W Yemen, *boscaweni* NE Yemen, S Oman. (HBW10, H&M4 treat as *O. lugens lugentoides*); resident SW Saudi Arabia, Yemen, & isolated in S Oman/E Yemen (as *O. lugentoides boscaweni* Panov 2005); *lugentoides* highland resident breeder 1000-3500m asl Tihama hills (*c* 800 000bp [50% SW Yemen]), *boscaweni* mostly below 1000m asl (*c* 130 000bp [50% E Yemen]) Jennings 2010; common montane resident breeder S & SE Oman **OBL7**. IOC2.0 accepts split from *lugens.* **NB** Förschler *et al* 2010a & 2010b split from *lugens, lugubris* (Extralimital Ethiopian/Abyssinian Wheatear) & *persica.*
PT	Red-tailed Wheatear **PT**	*Oenanthe xanthoprymna*	Re **Parent Taxon**; Scott & Adhami 2006 (Iran) do not separate; IOC v1.7, H&M4 do.
1014	Kurdistan Wheatear {Kurdish Wheatear} (formerly Persian, Chestnut-rumped, & Rufous-tailed Wheatear)	*Oenanthe xanthoprymna (*formerly treated here as *Oenanthe [xanthoprymna] xanthoprymna)*	Monotypic. English name from Panov 2005: it makes better distinction between the two now separate taxa; accepted IOC2.7. Breeds SE Turkey & Syria Murdoch & Betton 2008 (as 'Red-tailed Wheatear' *O. xanthoprymna*), local N Iraq Ararat *et al* 2011, Zagros Mts SW Iran only Khaleghizadeh *et al* 2017, rare breeder Uzbekistan (Elena Kreuzberg-Mukhina *in litt*), has occurred Afghanistan E Dickinson pers comm, 6-record vagrant Cyprus **CBR11**, 2-record vagrant Oman 2001 & 2005 **OBL7,** 2nd record UAE Mar-Apr 2012 **EBRC**, 5th record away from Zagros Sep 2015 Iran **IBRC**, another Hamedan-Lorestan border Jun 2016 **IBRC**, 3rd record Sep 2015 Qatar **QBRC**, one Uvda valley Israel Jan 2020 **DB42(1):** 59, 7th Jordan record Nov 2020 **JRBC**; winters Red Sea, S Arabia, N E Somalia, HBW10. Egypt Avib, BE. Possibly small numbers regularly reach the Rann of Kutch N of Charhhi Dand wetland. **NB** Found breeding sympatrically with *O.[x.] chrysopygia* in N Iraq 2009 Richard Porter pers obs; might *cummingi* be valid?
1015	Red-tailed Wheatear (formerly Red-tailed Chat) (Persian Wheatear)	*Oenanthe chrysopygia (*formerly treated here as *Oenanthe [xanthoprymna] chrysopygia = O. xanthoprymna chrysopygia)*	Monotypic. Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, K-M&K 2005. Breeds, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Iran Mts, Turkmenistan, S Uzbekistan, S Tajikistan (?), N & E Afghanistan (Paludan 1959) R&A 2005, C Afghanistan (Bamiyan) Busuttil & Ayé 2009; however, Ayé *et al* 2012 omit mention, suggesting earlier confusion, winters to S & S Arabia, HBW10 (save NW Afghanistan R&A 2005), common PM & WV Oman **OBL7**, likewise S Iran Khaleghizadeh *et al* 2017: Clement & Rose 2015 map wintering as far as Gujurat (Seen in good numbers 2010 MB pers obs). May breed E Turkey Kirwan *et al* 2008. 1st record Egypt Dec 2010 2nd at Al Sheikh Shazli Nov 2012 **EORC**; one at Amsa Mount, Negev, Israel Mar 2017, Nov 2018 perhaps same bird as in Mar-Apr 2018 **DB40(6):** 422, confirmed by DNA analysis **DB41(4):** 275. **NB1** Breeding sympatrically with *O.[x.] xanthoprymna* in N Iraq 2009 Richard Porter pers obs, uncommon passage Salim *et al* 2012. **NB2** Shirihai & Svensson 2018 express a preference for the English name Persian Wheatear, which appears a recipe for confusion, given that taxon *persicus*, formerly a ssp of Mourning Wheatear *O. lugens* and previously called 'Persian Wheatear' may yet be elevated to a full species, for which we would prefer 'Iranian Wheatear'.
		Cinclidae	

1016	White-throated Dipper (White-bellied Dipper) (Dipper)	*Cinclus cinclus*	14 sspp, *rufiventris* of W Syria & Lebanon perhaps extinct, although specimen data lacking as to ssp validity (Benson 1970 noted presence of presumed *rufiventris* in streams on W side of Lebanon range), *olympicus* of Cyprus extinct by late 1940s Flint 2019; of S Turkey probably so. 4 to 6 sspp in Region: *uralensis* possibly reaching W Kazakhstan; *caucasicus* N Asia Minor, Caucasus, N Iran; *persicus* SE Turkey &SW Iran; *leucogaster* scarce resident SE Kazakhstan (Tien Shan to Manrak & Saur Mts) Wassink 2015b S through C Asia to N Afghanistan; *baicalensis* rare resident Kazakh Altai & Manrak & Saur Mts Wassink 2015b & points E; *cashmeriensis* perhaps in E Afghanistan from NE Pakistan Resident in much of OSME Region, HBW10 incl Caucasus, Turkey N Iraq Ararat *et al* 2011 to N Afghanistan, R&A 2005, Wakhan Ayé 2007b. NE (*baicalensis*) to S (*leucogaster*) CA (permanent streams) Flint *et al* 1984, Ayé *et al* 2012. **NB1** The name 'White-bellied Dipper' properly describes only *leucogaster*; *baicalensis* also has a dark morph. **NB2** Mention of any Crete record other than a single vagrant not found in any references.
1017	Brown Dipper	*Cinclus pallasii*	3 sspp, only *tenuirostris* in Region, the others extralimital over vast distribution to E. Taxon *tenuirostris:* rare resident Tien Shan E to Kungey Alatau SE Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b; Kyrgyzstan (N&W, Ven 2002; Tajikistan; N Afghanistan; HBW10, also Wakhan Ayé 2007b; Uzbekistan (K-M *et al* 2005): Ayé *et al* 2012. Mapped NE Afghanistan Grimmett *et al* 1998. **NB** Recent work in China on this species revealed that all of the few specimens obtained at 4000m asl were actually all brown-coloured *C. cinclus*. Examples of feathers, blood or muscle are being sought from the entire range of *pallasii* Jochen Martens pers comm.
		Nectariniidae	
1018	Nile Valley Sunbird	*Hedydipna metallica* (formery *Anthodiaeta metallica*, *H.metallica* & *Anthreptes metallicus*)	Monotypic. Mann & Cheke 2006 indicated *Anthodiaeta* took priority; also H&M3, DB WP 2010; IOC3.5 retained *Hedydipna,* Pierre-André Crochet agreeing; now Mann & Cheke 2014 propose that if two genera are recognised, this sp should be placed in *Hedydipna.* Occurs E Egypt, large part of SW Arabia, Cheke *et al* 2001. Status in Arabia: common resident liable to wander, occurs from N of Jeddah in broad band to SW Yemen & E to Dhofar; *c* 1Mbp Jennings 2010; fairly common resident breeder S Oman **OBL7.** Egypt Avib, BE.
1019	Socotra Sunbird	*Chalcomitra balfouri* (formerly *Nectarinia balfouri*)	Monotypic. Endemic to Socotra & Abd el Kuri, Cheke *et al* 2001. David Showler in Jennings 2010 makes no mention of Abd el Kuri: between 11 000 & 18 000bp
1020	Palestine Sunbird (Orange-tufted Sunbird)	*Cinnyris osea* (formerly *Nectarinia osea*)	2 sspp, *decorsei* extralimital Cameroon to SW Sudan, nominate Lebanon, SW Syria-Sinai, W&S Arabia-S Oman. Syria Murdoch & Betton 2008 & Lebanon S to N Red Sea, along W Red Sea littoral, then E to S Oman, Cheke *et al* 2001, Jennings 2010 (who estimates 600 000bp overall): common resident breeder S Oman **OBL7**, 3rd Kuwait record Mutla'a ranch Nov 2017 **KORC** Egypt Avib, BE
PT	Shining Sunbird **PT**	*Cinnyris habessinicus sensu lato (formerly Nectarinia habessinica)*	**BLDZ** & HBW Alive recognise 'Arabian Sunbird' *C. hellmayri* as a full species, with ssp *kinneari* del Hoyo *et al* 2016, but although peer-reviewed justification unavailable, the authors of *Sunbirds* 2001 support the split, Robert Cheke & Clive Mann *in litt* & pers comm. Plumage and structural characteristic differences beween the 5 sspp of Shining Sunbird are detailed in Williams 1955 & supported in Shirihai & Svensson 2018. IOC12.1, **CSNA**/*Dutch Birding* Jan 2022 accept split on basis of distinctive plumages, biometrics & vocalisations. The only molecular work for Shining Sunbird is in the unpublished 2003 thesis of Rauri CK Bowie, currently Professor in the Berkeley Department of Integrative Biology & a Curator in the Museum of Vertebrate Zoology.
1021	Shining Sunbird	*Cinnyris habessinicus sensu stricto*	3 sspp, only nominate in Region, resident in Halaib Triangle Dora 2019 & vagrant SE-most Egypt **EORC**. Nominate also extensively extralimital as are *alter* of E Ethiopia & N Somalia and *turkanae* of SE Sudan, S Ethiopia, S Somalia, N Kenya & NE Uganda Porter & Warr 1985 IOC9.1. Egypt Avib, BE
1022	Arabian Sunbird	*Cinnyris hellmayri*	Polytypic; *hellmayri* W Saudi Arabia, Yemen, S Oman, *kinneari* W Saudi Arabia. See also Cheke *et al* 2001, Jennings 2010, but latter's maps range to N of Jeddah, Jennings 2010 estimating in excess of 500 000bp (both ssp) : common resident breeder S Oman **OBL7**. (Suggestion of E Hormozgan Iran report Jan 2009). English name follows del Hoyo *et al* 2016.
1023	Purple Sunbird	*Cinnyris asiaticus* (formerly *Nectarinia asiatica*)	3 sspp, only *brevirostris* known in Region, Gulf E to NE Afghanistan; extralimital nominate occurs Kashmir eastwards, *intermedius* beyond. Common resident S Iran from Bushehr to Baluchestan Khaleghizadeh et al 2017 (also Zarudny 1911), N & E Oman, E Saudi Cheke *et al* 2001, E UAE Aspinall 1996, Jennings 2010 confirmed breeding UAE & E Oman (*c* 25 000bp overall), possibly some extension W & S; 2nd Kuwait record Nov 2014 Khiran, 4th Funaitees (m+f) Dec 2019, 7th Nov 2020 Jahra East Outfall **KORC**, Haas 2017, up to 4 wintering Kuwait City **DB42(1):** 59, 6th record Fintas Park Feb 2020 **SG42(2):** 327; 1st for Qatar Al Meshaf Jan 2020 **SG42(2):** 329, 3rd record of 3 (family) at al Wajba Reserve Nov 2021 **QRBC**, 1st breeding record **SG44(1):** 247. 1st documented for Saudi Arabia Dec 2021 at al Ghuwaifat, al Batha, Eastern Province Greg Askew *in litt*, **SG44(1):** 250. Abundant resident breeder N & NE Oman **OBL7**. NE Afghanistan R&A 2005, Paludan 1959 likely breeds E; likely N slopes E Afghan Safed Koh H&E 1970 Roberts 1992: *brevirostris* Ayé *et al* 2012. Duetting subsong between two males has been observed in UAE Weller 2018. **NB1** Zarudny used *Cinnyris* 1911, & Vaurie in 1950s. **NB2** Grounds for future placement in *Cyrtostomus*.
		Passeridae	IOC11.2 revised the sequence of taxa within **Passeridae**
1024	Pale Rockfinch (Pale Rock Sparrow)	*Carpospiza brachydactyla* (formerly *Petronia brachydactyla*)	Change of family as per IOC 11.2. Monotypic. SW&S Turkmenistan (K-M&K 2005), W AFG Ayé *et al* 2012, semi-nomadic migrant wintering SW Arabia, wintering (?) Eritrea Kirwan 1998b. Unpredictably erratic occurrence throughout Arabia, occasional breeder Jennings 2010; 5000bp best guess. Breeds N Iraq Moore & Boswell 1956, confirmed Ararat *et al* 2011, SE Turkey Kirwan *et al* 2008, Syria Murdoch & Betton 2008, uncommon E UAE Aspinall 1996, Mt Hermon Israel Perlman & Meyrav 2009, opportunistic breeder in S Perlman & Kiat 2012, common widespread SB, PM Iran Porter *et al* 1996 Khaleghizadeh *et al* 2017, Jordan, Khoury & Janaydeh 2011, 1st for Kazakhstan imaged by Alexandr Belyaev, Mangistau, Caspian May 2018 **DB40(4):** 266, 17 at Cape Greco May 2019 largest Cyprus flock **DB41(4):** 275; fairly common PM & WV Oman **OBL7**: up to 13 in Georgia at Teleti & Kakheti Jun-Jul part of northerly irruption & probably bred **SG44(1):** 237. Also, W Afghanistan Vielliard 1969, R&A 2005. Flock of 200 Kuwait 2006 Jennings 2007c. Pakistan? Winters Egypt (Avib, BE) S to Ethiopia Ash & Atkins 2009.
1025	Rock Sparrow (Common/Eurasian Rock Sparrow)	*Petronia petronia*	7 sspp, 5 in Region: nominate W Asia Minor; *puteicola* S Turkey-Syria, N Israel, Jordan; *exigua* C Turkey-N Caucasus, N Iraq, N Iran; *kirhizica* lower Volga-Aral Sea; *intermedia* SW&E Iran, C Asia, wintering Pakistan. Largely W&ESE CA (K-M&K 2005), Clement *et al* 1993: N Kazakhstan *kirhizica* elswhere CA intermedia Ayé *et al* 2012, resident/summer visitor also Turkey, Levant, Caucasus, Iraq Ararat *et al* 2011, Iran NW Afghanistan. *P.p. intermedia* Turkmenistan, Bukreev 1997, Afghanistan Paludan 1959; *kirhizica* rare resident, common BM in W & *intermedia* rare resident common BM in SE&E Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b. Irregular rare PM & WV Cyprus **CBR11**. **NB** Päckert *et al* 2021 support *Petronia* as a separate genus.
1026	White-winged Snowfinch (Snow Finch)	*Montifringilla nivalis*	7 sspp, 4 in Region: *leucura* S&E Asia Minor; *alpicola* Caucasus, NW&N Iran, Afghanistan, W Pamirs; *gaddi* SW&S Iran; *tianschanica* N Tajikistan- W&C Tien Shan (rare resident Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b, 1st S Kazakh Altai record Mar 2021 Wassink 2022). S&E Turkey Kirwan *et al* 2008, W Caucasus, SE CA not Turkmenistan (K-M&K 2005) *contra* Bukreev 1997 re Turkmenistan (*alpicola*); resident most alpine meadows SE Kazakhstan to E & N Afghanistan (possibly SW Turkmenistan) Ayé *et al* 2012, Iraq Moore & Boswell 1956, confirmed Ararat *et al* 2011, N Iran, N Afghanistan Paludan 1959 & C (Bamiyan) Busuttil & Ayé 2009, Clement *et al* 1993. 1st reported Cyprus 3 Jan 2010 **SG 32(2)**. Egypt Avib, BE. **NB1** long-isolated populations may deserve consideration of elevation HBW14: Collar 2017 obliges with extralimital *M. heinrici*, Tibetan Snowfinch. **NB2** Päckert *et al* 2021 found wide genetic separation between samples from western and eastern populations, but because so few sspp have been analysed, they refrain from assessing any taxonomic split. **NB3** Shirihai & Svensson 2018 synonymise *tianschanica* & *groumgrzimaili* in *alpicola*.
1027	Black-winged Snowfinch	*Montifringilla adamsi*	Mapped & recorded as scarce on the border of Gilgit Agency (Pakistan) & eastern Wakhan Pass Afghanistan by Gilgit-Baltistan Checklist 2021 (Highly informative website on Facebook), some 275km NW of **BLDZ** Jan 2021 Map. Records (eBird) plotted in Cobos *et al* 2021 indicating occurrence just in Nuristan, Afghanistan; niche innovation probability plot suggests occurrence in Tajikistan just N of Afghan Wakhan Pass. **NB** Päckert *et al* 2021 found only weak support for paraphyly with White-winged Snowfinch *M. nivalis*.

1028	Afghan Snowfinch (Theresa's or Bar-tailed Snowfinch)	*Pyrgilauda theresae* (formerly *Montifringilla theresae*)	Monotypic. **BLDZ** 2021 maps as Afghan breeding endemic & resident. Turkmenistan K-M&K 2005 (perhaps winter only), Afghanistan Clement *et al* 2003, R&A 2005, C Afghanistan Paludan 1959 H&E 1970 Busuttil & Ayé 2009 (breeding Bamiyan Busuttil *et al* 2010), Ayé *et al* 2012 (possibly in N Afghanistan) S Tajikistan H&M4. Common in Band-e Pitaw National Park highlands Jul-Aug 2021 **SG44(1):** 232. **NB** HBW14 uses English name of 'Ground-sparrow' for *Pyrgilauda* taxa.
1029	Sahel Bush Sparrow (Bush Petronia, Lesser Rock Sparrow, Bush Sparrow)	*Gymnoris dentata* (formerly *Petronia dentata*)	Monotypic. English name iaw IOC9.1. Resident sub-Saharan African species, population tip of SW Arabia, Clement *et al* 1993. In Arabia, resident 250-1900m asl only in W Yemen; poorly known, perhaps 5000bp Jennings 2010. **NB1** Contradiction between English name of Petronia and removing it from *Petronia* genus resolved via IOC9.1. **NB2** Päckert *et al* 2021 support *Gymnoris* as a separate genus.
1030	Yellow-throated Sparrow (Chestnut-shouldered Petronia, Yellow-throated Petronia)	*Gymnoris xanthocollis* (formerly *Petronia xanthocollis*)	English name iaw IOC9.1. Both sspp in Region: *transfuga* SW Asia E from Turkey & Kuwait, S Afghanistan to Indian subcontinent; nominate NE Afghanistan, then E to Nepal. Breeds SE Turkey (small populations *transfuga* Roselaar 1995) through Syria, Iraq, Kuwait UAE, Oman, *transfuga* continuous SW Iran-S AFG; E Afghanistan *xanthocollis* Paludan 1959, Ayé *et al* 2012, WV India, Clement *et al* 1993; breeding status confirmed Syria Murdoch & Betton 2008, fairly common PM & WV (& BM in N) Oman **OBL7**, fairly common breeder eastern UAE & a few may overwinter on islands Campbell *et al* 2022; 8th Qatar record Sep 2016, 9th Sep 2017, 2 birds, **QBRC**, vagrant Israel Perlman & Meyrav 2009, 4th Sep 2015, 5th trapped Eilat Sep 2016, 6th Mitzpe Shalem Sep 2017 **IRDC,** 7th Golan Heights May 2019, another ringed Aug 2020 Einot Tzukim NR (Dead Sea) **SG43(1):** 173; 1st breeding for Israel Jun 2022 Yoav Perlman *in litt*, 10 pairs Zir Haneft, Golan Heights **DB44(4):** 311. 1st for Egypt 5 June 10 **EORC** 2011 Dettori & Moldován 2011, 2nd Lahami Sep 2018 **EORC**; 1st for Jordan 01 Jun 2011 Khoury *et al* 2012b. In Arabia migrant SB, seemingly resident in places, perhaps 10 000bp Jennings 2010. **NB1** English name Yellow-throated Bush Sparrow (or Petronia) now applied to southern African *G. superciliaris*. **NB2** Päckert *et al* 2021 support *Gymnoris* as a separate genus.
1031	Jungle Sparrow {Sind Sparrow} (Sind Jungle Sparrow)	*Passer pyrrhonotus*	Monotypic. SE Iran S Baluchestan Zarduny 1911, scarce Scott & Adhami 2006, Clement *et al* 1993, Porter *et al* 1996, rare & local resident 1975 SE Baluchestan Khlaeghizadeh *et al* 2017. HBW14 omits mention Afghanistan, but suggests old Iran records are 'small' *P. domesticus* (presumably *indicus*) & occasional movement to Oman (not in **OBL7.6**). Resident Pakistan fairly close to Khyber R&A 2012. **BLDZ** Aug 2018 maps well W of Peshawar, close to Khyber & into SE Iran, as does Shirihai & Svensson 2018.
1032	Russet Sparrow (Cinnamon Sparrow)	*Passer cinnamomeus (Passer rutilans)*	3 sspp, only nominate in Region:2 other sspp remote to E to Sakhalin. NE Afghanistan, IOC, Clement *et al* 1993 H&E 1970, *cinnamomeus* Paludan 1959, HBW14, H&M4; possibly former resident R&A 2005, vagrant Ayé *et al* 2012. See maps Grimmett *et a*l 1998, 2009, likely in Afghan Daryā-ye & Konar valleys, where **BLDZ** May 2017 maps from Badakhshan to Paktila. **NB** The name *cinnamomeus* has priority Mlíkovský 2011, & Päckert *et al* 2021 found this sp to be basal to the genus *Passer*.
1033	Eurasian Tree Sparrow	*Passer montanus*	9 sspp, 3 in Region: nominate SE Turkey E-eastwards, N Kazakhstan; *transcaucasicus* N&E Asia Minor, Caucasus, N Iran & lower Volga; *dilutus* E Iran, C Asia N to Kazakhstan. Remainings sspp extralimital to E &SE. *P.m. dilutus* Turkmenistan, Bukreev 1997, Afghanistan Paludan 1959: *montanus* common resident, scarce BM, rare WV, PM most Kazakhstan save SE Wassink 2015b; *dilutus* ('Afghan Tree Sparrow') common resident, rare BM SE Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b, who notes common hybridisation with *P. hispanoliensis*; also Turkey (*transcaucasicus* Roselaar 1995), Caucasus, Iraq (winterer 2 records Moore & Boswell 1941-46; rare Salim *et al* 2012) to Afghanistan, CA, Clement *et al* 1993, rare PM & WV Cyprus **CBR11**, vagrant Israel Perlman & Meyrav 2009, 1st for Oman Nov 2015 Jens Eriksen *in litt*, 2nd record for Lebanon in over 65 years shot Qa'a Valley Nov 2018 Ramadan-Jaradi *et al* 2019. Egypt Avib, BE. **NB** In N&E OSME Region & in Russia to N, where more strongly commensal with human settlement than House Sparrow *P. domesticus* Rogacheva 1992.
1034	Saxaul Sparrow	*Passer ammodendri*	Only *stoliczkae* of 3 sspp extralimital Mongolia eastwards; nominate Iran (?), N Afghanistan, C Asia E to SC Kazakhstan; *nigricans* C Asia SE&E Kazakhstan, then E to China. Disjunct in SW & mid-CA (*ammodendri* rare resident Kyzylkum desert bordering Syrdarya River S-C Kazakhstan & *nigricans* scarce resident, rare BM between lower Ili and Aksu Rivers SE Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b) N Kyrgyzstan: separate resident populations N Turkmenistan/S-C Uzbekistan, W Turkmenistan, S Kazakhstan, E &ESE Kazakhstan possibly others in that area Ayé *et al* 2012, occurs NE Iran (may breed Scott & Adhami 2006), Clement *et al* 1993. Possibly winters northeasternmost Afghanistan R&A 2005; old reports there (Hari Rud), One recent record Raffael Ayé, Derek Scott pers comm; possibly rare SB Iranian Hari Rud, 2 males in Sarakhs forest 2004, NE Khorasan Khaleghizadeh *et al* 2017.
PT	It is now likely that the **Parent Taxon** relates to the ancestor of a **Clade** comprising House, Spanish Italian and Socotra Sparrows (*vide* text in **Column D**)	*Passer* spp	Previously it had been surmised that the **Parent Taxon** had been Great Sparrow *Passer motitensis* (aka African Rufous Sparrow, Southern Rufous Sparrow) after Summers-Smith 2010 proposed ancestral descent from *P. motitensis*. However, Päckert *et al* 2021 found strong support for a **Clade** of House Sparrow *P. domesticus*, Spanish Sparrow *P. hispaniolensis*, Italian Sparrow *P. italiae* and Socotra Sparrow *P. insularis*, but refrained from taxonomic conclusions; this means that the putative **PT** of Great Sparrow is rejected. However, they were unable to include other *Passer* taxa probably relevant to future taxonomic changes. **NB1 BLI** Dec 2014 rejected the lumping of *P. motitensis* by Dowsett & Forbes-Watson 1993 by the recognition of 3 spp, *P. motitensis sensu stricto* being relegated to southern Africa only. IOC v2.3 recognised splits of Socotra Sparrow, *P. insularis* and Abd al-Kuri Sparrow *P. hemileucus*. **NB2** HBW14 refers to previous lumping with other African *Passer* isolates (even the numerous *P. motitensis sensu stricto* is remote in southern Africa). H&M4 chooses middle ground with *hemileucus* & *insularis* as one species.
1035	Abd al-Kuri Sparrow (formerly African Rufous Sparrow)	*Passer hemileucus* (formerly wrongly subsumed in *P. motitensis*) **Vulnerable**	Monotypic. Breeds Abd al-Kuri island. Case for species rank Kirwan 2008; Redman *et al* 2009 agree, Ryan *et al* 2010 confirm. Population size not known Jennings 2010. Abd al-Kuri is 105 km from Socotra, but only 96km from the African mainland.
1036	Socotra Sparrow (formerly African Rufous Sparrow)	*Passer insularis* (formerly wrongly subsumed in *P. motitensis*)	Monotypic. Endemic breeding resident Socotra. Case for species rank Kirwan 2008; Redman *et al* 2009 agree, Ryan *et al* 2021 confirm. Probably *c* 100 000bp Jennings 2010. Ryan *et al* 2021 note that the population on Samha Island probably deserves subspecies status from its smaller size. Samha is 46km SE of Socotra.
1037	Spanish Sparrow	*Passer hispaniolensis*	2 sspp, both in Region: nominate W Asia Minor, wintering NE Africa, SW Asia; *transcaspicus* Cyprus, E Turkey E to Afghanistan & C Asia E to S Kazakhstan, then on to China, wintering to S. *P.h. transcaspicus* Turkmenistan, Bukreev 1997, very rare RB, still common but declining PM S-C & SE Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b who notes also hybridizes with (Indian?) House Sparrow (*indicus*) and Tree Sparrow (*P. mpntanus*) in Kazakhstan ; BM Afghanistan Paludan 1959, abundant PM. Resident Asia Minor, Lebanon, W Caucasus, N&C Iraq (Ararat *et al* 2011), widespread Iran Khaleghizadeh *et al* 2017, C, S&SE CA, Afghanistan (N,R&A 2005), Clement *et al* 1993, rare UAE Aspinall 1996, locally common Israel Perlman & Meyrav 2009. S Kazakhstan G&G 2005, S-E W&O 2007. Bred 2006 Saudi Arabia, Kuwait Jennings 2007c, slowly increasing (*c* 4000bp) Arabia overall, but predominantly PM and WV Jennings 2010. Some migration to India, R&A 2005, uncommon PM & WV Oman **OBL7**. Egypt Avib, BE. **NB** hybrids with *domesticus, bactrianus* & *montanus* known at Chokpak.

PT	House Sparrow **PT**	*Passer domesticus*	Molecular analysis of Belkacem *et al* 2016 of House/Spanish Sparrow *P domesticus/P. hispaniolensis* hybrids in North Africa reveals rapid spread from W to E began post-1900: haplotypes of Italian Sparrow *P.italiae* are present only at low levels wrt those of *P.* domesticus or *P. hispaniolensis* and so the hybrids though closely resembling Italian Sparrow are genetically distinct: where Spanish Sparrow is present at oases, House Sparrow and hybrids occupy only urban areas & Spanish occupies rural areas; so far Spanish Sparrows at Egyptian oases appear from supporting data to have haplotypes 40% each of Spanish and Sardinian origin and 20% of hybrid origin with House Sparrow (low sample size: S=7). Scott & Adhami 2006 (Iran) omit mention of *bactrianus* taxon (=*indicus*); note comment below. IOC2.3 omits mention. H&M4 does not split , but concedes species groups as below. Shirihai & Svensson 2018 note that sympatic isolation between *domesticus* & *indicus* groups (possibly due to staggered arrival of breeding populations) in most areas but some *indicus* hybridisation with *P.d. biblicus*. Hering *et al* 2020d noted that *P. domesticus* is now hybridising extensively with extralimital Somali Sparrow *P. castanopterus* in Djibouti City, many obvious hybrids being in evidence. Päckert *et al* 2021 found strong support for a **Clade** of House Sparrow *P. domesticus*, Spanish Sparrow *P. hispaniolensis*, Italian Sparrow *P. italiae* and Socotra Sparrow *P. insularis*. **NB** Dadam *et al* 2019 positively link blood parasite *Plasmodium relictum* infection intensity with the decline of urban House Sparrow populations in London, the intensity being greatest in juveniles in declining populations and the parasite increasing juvenile winter mortality.
1038	House Sparrow	*Passer (domesticus) domesticus*	7 sspp in group, 6 certainly in Region: nominate N Kazakhstan; *blearoibericus* N, W&C Turkey; *biblicus* SE Turkey, Levant-NW Iran; *hyrcanus* SE Azerbaijan, N Iran; *persicus* C Iran-SW Afghanistan *tingitanus* probably wanders to NW Egypt from NE Libya; *niloticus* Egypt. Abundant resident OSME Region Clement *et al* 1993: strong increase Cyprus 2006-2015 Hellicar 2016. Taxon *domesticus* resident across Kazakhstan, probably also just into countries to S, but Wassink 2015b notes *domesticus* absent largely from sizeable southern arc mid-Caspian E coast to W Tien Shan; *persicus* resident SW Afghanistan Ayé *et al* 2012. HBW14 asserts only taxa from '*indicus*' group breed in Arabia (*indicus* & *hufufae*); Jennings 2010 agrees (*qv* next entry) but advises no acceptable Arabian records of birds from *domesticus* group. Egypt Avib, BE. Reported Dec 06 Qitbit, S Oman IH pers comm. **NB** In N&E OSME Region & in Russia to N, species less strongly commensal with human settlement than Tree Sparrow *P. montanus* Rogacheva 1992.
1039	Indian House Sparrow {House Sparrow} ('Oriental Sparrow'; Oriental House Sparrow [**DB 2011**])	*Passer (domesticus) indicus (sspp indicus & bactrianus)*	English name informal@OSME. 5 sspp in group, 3 in Region: nominate S Israel to SW Asia, then extralimital to SE Asia; *bactrianus* NE Iran, C Asia to S Kazakhstan, extralimital Pakistan much of China; *hufufae* NE Arabia. Wholly extralimital *parkini* Pakistan E along Himalayas, *rufidorsalis* Sudan, Eritrea. *P. indicus bactrianus* Turkmenistan, *hyrcanus* Turkmenistan, Bukreev 1997, *persicus/indicus* intergrades not uncommon, *bactrianus* Paludan 1959. Summer breeder from S half of Kazakhstan, S to all CA states Ayé *et al* 2012. Wassink 2015b map its presence in S half Kazakhstan, intergrades with *domesticus* having been recorded: hybrids with *hispaniolensis* often trapped - presumably (from distributions) these are mostly with *indicus*; migrant Kyrgyzstan Ven 2002, Afghanistan, N Iran, Clement *et al* 1993. Likely separation in Iran of *bactrianus* on morphology fraught with uncertainty at present, Derek Scott, pers comm (Zarudny 1911 records species nesting across much of Iran, but does not note *bactrianus* or 1911 equivalent). Status in Arabia: pre-1984, *hufufae* near Hufuf Oaisis, perhaps E Saudi coastal area and possibly UAE/Oman, but *indicus* mostly in Arabian port areas, likely of dhow/ship-assisted origin, & those in NW of uncertain origin; post-1984, *indicus* more adaptable to commensal behavior, has expanded quickly and fecundly into oil-agriculture- & commerce-based settlements; *c*6Mbp Jennings 2010, who also suggests *hufufae* swamped out of existence by hybridisation and being out-competed. Abundant resident breeder N & NE Oman, but occurs elsewhere (*hufufae*, *indicus*) **OBL7**. Absent from Socotra. Informal English name not of OSME origin, but seems apt.
PT	Desert Sparrow **PT**	*Passer simplex*	Kirwan *et al* 2009 separate *zarudnyi* on various grounds, including relative lack of sexual dimorphism, but call for DNA investigation to finalise status. IOC v2.7 retained *simplex* covering both forms, but 3.5 elevates to full species as Zarudnyi's Sparrow, H&M4 agreeing, but naming it 'Sarudny's Sparrow'. **BLI** also recognise, as do Shirihai & Svensson 2018. Schweizer 2020 notes that if subsequent molecular research reveals that *simplex* and *zarudnyi* are **not** each other's closest relative, then they are independent species without a **Parent Taxon**. Päckert *et al* 2021 found an Afro-Arabian **Clade**, albeit poorly supported & likely incomplete, of 4 spp: African Desert Sparrow *P. simplex*, Sudan Golden Sparrow *P. luteus* (Sahel Region), Dead Sea Sparrow *P. moabiticus* (Near East & Middle East), & the extralimital Cape Verde endemic Iago Sparrow *P. iagoensis*.
1040	African Desert Sparrow {Desert Sparrow}	*Passer simplex*	2 sspp: *simplex* recorded southeasternmost Egypt (in line with H&M4 'NW Sudan'), but *saharae* not known in OSME Region, although Dickinson 2003, H&M4 place nearest population 'W Libya'. However Isenmann *et al* 2016 cite records attributed to *saharae* at Kufrah Oasis Libya & at Jabel Uwaynat Libya, both very close to Egyptian border. Egypt, Avib, BinE. **NB1** some suggestion of intergrades Kirwan *et al* 2009. NB2 English name informal@OSME.
1041	Asian Desert Sparrow {Zarudny's Sparrow} (Desert Sparrow)	*Passer zarudnyi*	Monotypic. *P.s. zarudny* Turkmenistan, Bukreev 1997, CA K-M&K 2005, E Turkmenistan, C Uzbekistan (NW Afghanistan?), Clement *et al* 1993. 1st record & 1st breeding record for Kazakhstan Kyzylkum Desert on Uzbekistan border Oct 2020 Wassink 2022. Possibly NW Afghanistan, R&A 2005. Recorded in Khorasan Zarudnyi 1911 (see Kirwan *et al* 2009, in which English name Zarudny's Sparrow proposed); not Kerman in the Daht-e Lut sand deserts (Vaurie 1956, in error), thus *contra* Derek Scott pers comm, giving rise to 'status uncertain' in Scott & Adhami 2006: probably extinct Iran Khaleghizadeh *et al* 2017. 1st Kazakhstan record Kyzylkum desert, Kyzylorda Province Oct 2020 **SG43(1):** 175 imaged by Svetlana Baskakova. IOC3.5 elevates to full species.
Päckert *et al* 2021 confirm next 2 spp are nested in Passeridae and rejects classification of golden sparrows in the separate genus *Auripasser* as treated by Wolters 1979 & Summers-Smith 2010.			
1042	Sudan Golden Sparrow	*Passer luteus*	Monotypic. Vagrant to Region across Red Sea or escaped cagebird, but occurs naturally Halaib Triangle **EORC**, which conclusion is not mapped by Shirihai & Svensson 2018. **NB** Locally very common in N Eritrea, NE Ethiopia, occurs Eritrean Dahlak Islands de Monti *et al* 2009; SE Range limit close to northward-advancing Arabian Golden Sparrow *P euchlorus* Ash & Atkins 2009, **BLDZ** maps suggesting small area of sympatry NW Djibouti. Egypt Avib, BE. Päckert *et al* 2021 found an Afro-Arabian **Clade**, albeit poorly supported & likely incomplete, of 4 spp: African Desert Sparrow *P. simplex*, Sudan Golden Sparrow *P. luteus* (Sahel Region), Dead Sea Sparrow *P. moabiticus* (Near East & Middle East), & the extralimital Cape Verde endemic Iago Sparrow *P. iagoensis*.
1043	Arabian Golden Sparrow	*Passer euchlorus*	Monotypic. E Ethiopia (where spreading N towards Sudan Golden Sparrow *P. luteu*s Ash & Atkins 2009, **BLDZ** maps suggesting small area of sympatry NW Djibouti), but mostly SW Arabia, Clement *et al* 1993. Tihama resident & probably erratically a little to E in SW Yemen, but *c*150 000bp overall Jennings 2010. 1st for Israel , Eilat Aug-Nov 2016 **DB38(7):** 465. This sp likely belongs to the above-mentioned **Clade**. **NB1** Small feral population NE Saudi Arabia **DB38(6):** 407, a possible reason for the non-acceptance of a bird in Kuwait at Al Abraq in 2010; targeted by pet trade in Saudi Arabia for sale with KSA well out of normal breeding distribution Alshamlih *et al* 2021a, introduced via pet trade Riyadh & Qassim Alshamlih *et al* 2021b.
PT	Dead Sea Sparrow **PT**	*Passer moabiticus*.	Parent Taxon: Scott & Adhami 2006 (Iran) include *yatii* taxon. IOC10.1 does not split, nor do Shirihai & Svensson 2018, who await molecular analysis. Shams *et al* 2021 note, in a multilocus analyses, that the differences between the isolated populations of *moabiticus* and *yatii* may be significant enough to merit full species status, separation into allopatry having occurred *c*0.35MYa. We treat these taxa as comprising a superspecies. **NB** Päckert *et al* 2021 suggest that Desert Sparrow *P. simplex* is closely related to *P.moabiticus*
Khoury 2018 records decline of Dead Sea Sparrow in Jordan valley, Jordan due to habitat destruction, water shortages & increased tourism.			

1044	Dead Sea Sparrow	*Passer [moabiticus] moabiticus*	H&M4 monotypic; *mesopotamicus* presumably subsumed in nominate. Breeds discontinuously SE Turkey Roselaar 1995 (*mesopotamicus*), Syria Murdoch & Betton 2008, Israel, Jordan (Has declined at southern breeding limit in Jordan Valley Khoury 2018), Iraq Moore & Boswell 1956, 3 recorded May 2016 Erbil Iraqi Kurdistan **SG39(1)ATR**, common resident Khuzestan & Bushehr E to Maroun River Kaboli *et al* 2016, occurs Gulf, UAE, Clement *et al* 1993; found Lebanon Oct 2011 (**SG34(1)AtR**), 2nd record Saudi Arabia Jubail Feb 2016 (flock of 13) **DB38(2):** 193. Bred Cyprus at least 1976-1990 Flint 2019. 1st for Egypt at Ten Nuweiba, Sinai Nov 1987 **EORC**
1045	Afghan Scrub Sparrow (Sistan Scrub Sparrow) {Dead Sea Sparrow} (formerly Yate's Sparrow)	*Passer [moabiticus] yatii (= P. yatii)*	Monotypic. See Kirwan 2004a. Resident E Iran, SW Afghanistan (Seistan Paludan 1959), resident Iran-Afghan Ayé *et al* 2012, 2012b, H&E 1970, Clement *et al* 1993, Kirwan 2004, R&A 2005; locally common resident Iranian Seistan wetlands & oases Khaleghizadeh *et al* 2017. Suggestion that winters inland Baluchistan (W Pakistan & SE Iran) Grimmett *et al* 1998, 2009 challenged by Ayé *et al* 2012b, who also argue well for 'Sistan Scrub Sparrow' English name.
		Ploceidae	Many ploceid spp continue to be introduced, particularly because many cultures have a long history of bird-keeping, but also because of developing prosperity funding the trade in exotics Blackburn *et al* 2015.
1046	Rüppell's Weaver	*Ploceus galbula*	Monotypic. African species, resident Arabia S Red Sea hinterland to Yemen, S Oman, Porter *et al* 1996, probably benefiting from increasing agriculture, *c* 130 000bp overall Jennings 2010. Abundant resident breeder S Oman **OBL7**. Targeted by pet trade in Saudi Arabia for sale with KSA well out of normal breeding distribution Alshamlih *et al* 2021a, also in Riyadh Alshamlih *et al* 2021b.
1047	Lesser Masked Weaver	*Ploceus intermedius*	Extralimital African species, 3 sspp nearest population nominate South Sudan, also Ethiopia, Somalia, Dickinson 2003. Feral breeder, R Porter pers comm introduced, ancestry unknown, perhaps cross-bred, UAE Lever 2005. Possibly 100bp Jennings 2010. 1st specimen record for Djibouti & several observation in 2014 & 2016 suggest a resident population, attributable to *P. i. intermedius* Dove *et al* 2017.
1048	Vitelline Masked Weaver	*Ploceus vitellinus*	Extralimital African species, 3 sspp, nearest populations nominate C Sudan, *uluensis* South Sudan, S Ethiopia, Somalia. Popular cagebird, ancestry unknown. Reported pair Qurm Park, Oman 13 Dec 07 (Dave Seargeant *in litt*), in more locations 2011, but no breeding confirmation Aspinall & Porter 2011.
1049	Village Weaver (Black-headed Weaver)	*Ploceus cucullatus*	African species, 7 sspp, *abyssinicus* range includes Sudan, South Sudan, Eritrea, W&C Ethiopia, *bohndorffi* S South Sudan H&M4. Small colony of escapes Dubai Zoo for some years after 1999. Long introduction history around world, Lever 2005, all of uncertain ancestry: examples of nest-building E Arabia, but likely not yet securely established as a breeder Jennings 2010; likely established UAE Aspinall & Porter 2011, only 2 escapes recorded Oman **OBL7**. 1st record Egypt Abu Simbel May 2006 **DB34(1):** 46, **EORC**, 2nd there Mar 2022 **DB44(2):** 155. Likely wild birds may have colonised Egypt at Abu Simbel, reflecting species northward expansion in Sudan Jenner & Taha 2016
1050	Golden-backed Weaver	*Ploceus jacksoni*	Monotypic African species, range includes SE South Sudan, H&M4. Introduced UAE, Lever 2005, also Oman Aspinall & Porter 2011, a lone male 1997-2003 **OBL7**. Marginal breeding success, probably fewer than the 250bp of 2003 Jennings 2010. 1st Cat E records Kuwait Institute for Scientific Research Feb 2020 **SG42(2):** 327; 16 nests in Abu Hassania & British Embassy gardens Jun-Sep 2020 **SG43(1):** 179.
1051	Bengal Weaver {Black-breasted Weaver}	*Ploceus benghalensis*	Monotypic. Breeds to NW Pakistan border with Afghanistan HBW15, but from **BLDZ** map May 2017, probably in disparate pockets linked to towns and cities.. Introduced in Region Porter & Aspinall 2010 UAE breeding attempted, but status uncertain Aspinall & Porter 2011. Recorded Baluchestan Iran Zarudny 1911.
1052	Streaked Weaver	*Ploceus manyar*	Indo-SE Asian species, 4 sspp, range includes Pakistan, Dickinson 2003, Roberts 1992, R Porter pers comm. Colonises new reedbeds along irrigation channels Roberts 1992. Introduced Bahrain, Saudi Arabia, UAE, Lever 2005, probably Kuwait Gregory 2002, also Qatar Aspinall & Porter 2011. Most successful weaver in Arabia Riyadh & Gulf, perhaps 150 bp overall Jennings 2010; in Saudi Arabia, breeding now limited to Riyadh in small stable numbers Alshamlih *et al* 2021b. Introduced Egypt **EORC**, Avib, BE
1053	Baya Weaver	*Ploceus philippinus*	5 sspp: nominate breeds India & Pakistan W to near Khyber HBW15. Introduced Saudi Arabia, Lever 2005, App B citing Jennings 2004b (*Phoenix* **20:** 2-4). Now breeds UAE, but struggling to maintain numbers; likely dependent on continuing escapes Jennings 2010; no recent UAE reports Aspinall & Porter 2011, only 2 recorded escapes Oman **OBL7**.
1054	Red-billed Quelea	*Quelea quelea*	3 extralimital sspp Africa, nearest population *aethiopica* southern Sudan. Regularly recorded escape, ancestry uncertain, perhaps cross-bred, in Oman at same sites, also in UAE, but uncertain if self-sustaining Aspinall & Porter 2011.
1055	Red Fody (Madagascan Red Fody)	*Foudia madagascariensis*	Monotypic. Madagascar & other S Indian Ocean islands, Dickinson 2003. R Porter pers comm. Introduced Bahrain, Lever 2005 currently established in date plantations in N Bahrain, but in decline King 2018, Oman HBW15. Jennings 2010 notes 500bp Bahrain possibly capacity total.
1056	Yellow-crowned Bishop	*Euplectes afer*	African species, 4 sspp, of which 3 in Ethiopia, SW Sudan or South Sudan likely sources of Region introductions. Recorded variously in 3 locations Oman, near Muscat 1998-2012 **OBL7**. Probably bred UAE since 2005 Jennings 2007a, uncertain if self-sustaining Jennings 2010; breeds UAE Oman Aspinall & Porter 2011, breeds irregularly several urban locations Bahrain, but uncertain if self-sustaining King 2018.
1057	Southern Red Bishop	*Euplectes orix*	African species, 3 sspp. SW Kenya *nigrifrons* nearest range limit to OSME Region, Dickinson 2003, but more likely *nigroventris* of SE Kenya, E Tanzania, N Mozambique traded to Region from many ports. Feral breeder, UAE, Jennings 2005; uncertain if still extant Jennings 2010, confirmed extant Aspinall & Porter 2011: currently 3 urban feral populations Bahrain King 2018; seven escape records Oman **OBL7**. **NB** Northern Red Bishop *E. franciscanus* natural range includes Somalia & Ethiopia, also common cage-bird traded (HBW15) – more likely vagrant Yemen or introduction?
		Estrildidae	Many estrildid spp continue to be introduced, particularly because many cultures have a long history of bird-keeping, but also because of developing prosperity funding the trade in exotics Blackburn *et al* 2015. Olsson & Alström 2020, in a wide-ranging examination of estrildid phylogeny, make extensive taxonomic suggestions, but none affect those listed below, but see ORL Hypothetical section for single exception..
1058	Crimson-rumped Waxbill	*Estrilda rhodopyga*	African species, both sspp close to Region: nominate E Sudan, Eritrea, N Ethiopia, NW Somalia; *centralis* S Ethiopia, SE South Sudan. Introduced Egypt Robel 1997; nominate may reach S Egypt naturally via Nile valley in N Sudan (map HBW15): 1st for original WP sound-recorded Abu Simbel Dec 2021-Jan 2022 via *Tarsiger.com* & Michael Mills *in litt* & **SG44(1):** 237. **EORC** 2018 reject all records for Aswan, Egypt as insufficiently documented **DB41(2):** 133.
1059	Arabian Waxbill	*Estrilda rufibarba*	Monotypic SW Arabian endemic, Clement *et al* 1993, perhaps 30 000bp Jennings 2010, but also traded as cagebird *eg* UAE 1970s Bundy & Warr 1979. First nest description al-Omari *et al* 2018.
1060	Common Waxbill	*Estrilda astrild*	African species, 16 sspp, common traded cagebird bred in captivity. 8 records of several birds, ancestry & origin unknown, 1988-2012 al Qurm Park Muscat Oman **OBL7**. Introduced Israel Rift Valley Israel Checklist 2015.
1061	Red Avadavat	*Amandava amandava*	Asian species, 3 sspp, widely popular traded cagebird, nearest population, nominate in Pakistan, possibly rare resident Baluchestan Iran Khaleghizadeh *et al* 2017. Introduced Arabian peninsula, Porter *et al* 1996. Introduced Bahrain, Israel, Saudi Arabia, UAE, Egypt, Lever 2005, currently establihshed feral population Bahrain King 2018; Arabian population has fluctuated, perhaps below 500bp Jennings 2010, but now growing steadily in vegetated regions around Riyadh & since introduced to Dhahran, al Qatif & Dammam Alshamlih *et al* 2021b. In Iran Scott & Adhami 2006, Kuwait, but in UAE perhaps extirpated Aspinall & Porter 2011; 7 escape records pf several birds 1982-2012 Oman **OBL7**. Mapped Pakistan-E Afghanistan border, Grimmett *et al* 1998, 2009 (persecuted by cagebird trade), where breeds Pishin & N Waziristan Roberts 1992, HBW15; **BLDZ** map Nov 2018 shows occurrence Pakistan to Afghanistan border Torkham & Shamukzayi. Egypt Avib, BE
1062	Orange-breasted Waxbill (Zebra Waxbill)	*Amandava subflava*	African species, 2 sspp; that reaching SW Yemen, Porter *et al* 1996, HBW15 likely nominate, whose nearest population listed H&M4 is in W Ethiopia (!), but possibly expanding range there *c* 10 000bp Jennings 2010.
1063	African Silverbill	*Euodice cantans* (formerly in *Lonchura*)	Mostly African species, 2 sspp; *orientalis* SW Arabia, S Oman, Clement *et al* 1993, relatively abundant Arabia *c* 30 000bp Jennings 2010, also extralimital Eritrea to Tanzania; nominate wholly extralimital W from W Sudan, NW South Sudan. Common resident breeder S Oman **OBL7**. Introduced Egypt Avib, BE, Robel 1997, but occurs naturally Halaib Triangle **EORC** (who reject all Aswan records: 2018).

1064	Indian Silverbill (White-throated Munia)	*Euodice malabarica* (formerly in *Lonchura*)	Monotypic. Common cagebird; possibly established Afghanistan, *contra* R&A 2005, who map to border, also Grimmett *et al* 1998, 2009. Resident S Iran (Scott & Adhami 2006), range expanding Khaleghizadeh *et al* 2017, H&E 1970 cite Ticehurst collecting 2 near Hormoz 1921; Ticehurst *et al* 1925 recorded it Mid-Hormuz Straits on Tanb Island 1920, but note even then the popularity as cagebird, Oman (reported Masirah Dec06, IH pers comm), Abu Dhabi, UAE, E Saudi Arabia Clement et al 1993, Oman Porter *et al* 1996, Israel Perlman & Meyrav 2009. Introduced Bahrain, Lever 2005 now strongly established feral population Bahrain King 2018, Egypt Pedersen 2001, Kuwait Gregory 2002. Perhaps 40 000bp Arabia, including Riyadh & Red Sea populations Jennings 2010; native to the Eastern Province, has been introduced to the west coast; Jeddah, Tabuk and Hail Alshamlih *et al* 2021b. A population of Indian Silverbills exists in the city of Aqaba, Jordan, and is believed to have originated from the Saudi population Khoury *et al* 2012a. Common resident breeder N Oman, spreading **OBL7**. IOC2.5 retains *Euodice*. **NB** Many populations W of UAE likely from introduced stock Aspinall & Porter 2011
1065	Scaly-breasted Munia	*Lonchura punctulata*	Mostly Asian species, 8 sspp in Asia, one Seychelles/Réunion Indian Ocean. Perhaps nominate from Pakistan introduced UAE, W Saudi Arabia, Lever 2005, in UAE & Oman probably self-sustaining 50+bp Jennings 2010; sustainable RB populations Muscat & Salalah Oman **OBL7**. Recorded E Afghanistan R&A 2005, probably nominate, perhaps BM Ayé *et al* 2012. Breeds up to 1800m Pakistan Roberts 1992.
		Prunellidae	Stepanyan 2003, Hatchwell 2005 subdivided *Prunella* into two, erecting *Laiscopus* for the 2 larger taxa. Drovetski *et al* 2013 acknowledged that this may be valid. *Pro tem*, we align with Drovetski *et al* 2013 in treating the difference as 2 **Clades**. **Clade A** contains the only truly sympatric accentor species. Those in **Clade B** are allopatric, with the exception of extralimital *P. koslowi*.
Clade A. Large, alpine species. *P. collaris* & *P. himalayana* underwent the first divergence in Prunellidae 3.04 Mya			
PT	Alpine Accentor **PT**	*Prunella collaris (sensu lato)* (May move to *Laiscopus)*	Red'kin *et al* 2015 identify taxon *erythropygia* as a morphologically cryptic taxon that by behaviour & ecology is markedly distinct from taxon *collaris.* Drovetski *et a*l 2013 found that these two taxa diverged from each other 0.93MYa, before any other divergences within **Prunellidae**
1066	Alpine Accentor	*Prunella collaris (sensu stricto)* (May move to *Laiscopus)*	9 sspp, 3 in Region: *subalpina* W&S Turkey; *montana* E Turkey, Caucasus, Iran; *rufilata* NE Afghanistan, C Asia E to Tien Shan, extralimital in arc to E & SE. *P.c. rufilata* Turkmenistan Bukreev 1997 Afghanistan Paludan 1959 rare resident Tien Shan E to western Zhungarsky Alatau SE Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b; the findings of Liu *et al* 2017, who called for a taxonomic revision of *P. collaris* & better geographic sampling over its vast distribution, allow for the affiliations of *rufilata* to be questioned, perhaps with *erythropygia*, possibly with the extralimital *nipalensis* as a new sp. Resident S, SE & E CA, S-E Turkey-Caucasus, Iran, Afghanistan (NE R&A 2005), HBW10, rare winter N Israel Perlman & Meyrav 2009,1st record since 2005 Mount Arbel Jan 2016 **IRDC**, another there Dec 2021-Feb 2022 Yoav Perlman *in litt*. Iraq Salim *et al* 2012. Breeds sympatrically (at least a week earlier) with Altai Accentor *P. himalayana* Salang Pass Afghanistan 1970 Madge 1978. **NB** Known to breed up to at least 5000m Bates & Lowther 1952.
1067	Mongolian Alpine Accentor	*Prunella erythropygia (*May move to *Laiscopus)*	English name informal@OSME. Wassink 2015b lists taxon *erythropygia* as an unproven occurrence in the Kazakh Altai, because the skins on which Gavrilov & Gavrilov 2005 based their assessment as a probable breeder cannot be found. However, the habitats that taxon *erythropygia* occupies in the Russian Altai occur in the Kazakh Altai there without any ecological border between them (Vladimir Arkhipov pers comm Jul 2016) and so we here employ the null hypothesis that occasional occurrence in the Kazakh Altai is not ruled out. This taxon might be revised in affiliation with *rufilata* or *nipalensis*, but only after a full taxonomiv review and better geographic sampling Liu *et al* 2017. The English name is a literal translation of the informal name in Russian (Vladimir Arkhipv pers comm Jul 2016). Gombobaatar & Leahy 2019 map this species as filling westernmost Mongolia, only 40km from easternmost Kazakhstan, suitable habitat and altitude band occupied by this species being contiguous across and beyond that 'gap'. *P. erythropygia* occurs patchily rom Mongolia to the E (easternmost China), NE (eastern Paleartic Siberia to Magadan) and SSE through northern China to the Koreas & Japan (Sergie Drovetski pers comm).
1068	Altai Accentor (Rufous-streaked Accentor, formerly Himalayan Accentor)	*Prunella himalayana (*May move to *Laiscopus)*	Monotypic. S&E Kazakhstan (common BM above 2000m asl Kazakh Altai SW to western Tien Shan Wassink 2015b), Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan, Afghanistan (breeds NE, R&A 2005, Badakhshan Paludan 1959), & N Iran, HBW 10 map. Breeds sympatrically (at least a week later) with Alpine Accentor *P. collaris* Salang Pass Afghanistan 1970 Madge 1978.
Clade B. Smaller, shrub - & scrub-dwelling species, whose divergences date from 0.91MYa onwards			
1069	Robin Accentor	*Prunella rubeculoides*	2 sspp, *muraria* nearest in Pakistan, likely also in Afghanistan; nominate E of Nepal. Occurs up to 5300m R&A 2005. Arlott 2007 map suggests breeding Afghanistan; R&A 2005 map westernmost limit C Kashmir. M&P 2000 map N of Kashmir. Roberts 1992 map suggests possibility of occurrence Afghan E Wakhan/China border, S side; Grimmett *et al* 2009 map 80km E of Wakhan, **BLDZ** Apr 2020 map extends just into the easternmost Wakhan in Afghanistan in Wakhan at Chinese/Pakistan border. H&E 1970 also suggested the possibility.
1070	Rufous-breasted Accentor (formerly Jerdon's Accentor)	*Prunella strophiata*	2 sspp, nominate extralimital E to Myanmar; *jerdoni* breeds NE Afghanistan (*jerdoni* Paludan 1959) R&A 2005; up to 3600m N Pakistan Himalayas, Grimmett *et al* 1998, 2009 (Safed Koh range), then extralimital E to NE India. **BLDZ** Apr 2020 map residency within Afghanistan in a 150km deep swathe from Nuristan some 450 km along the border with Pakistan. **NB** The 1902 record of this taxon near Shiraz, Iran Witherby 1903 is better attributed to Radde's Accentor *P. ocularis*.
1071	Siberian Accentor	*Prunella montanella*	N&E Kazakhstan *montanella* very rare PM & WV Wassink 2015b, migratory, uncommon PM Mongolia Gombobaatar & Leahy 2019; some vagrancy to OSME Region, HBW 10, 1st species record Turkey ssp *badia* Nov 2006 also 1st record *badia* in WP; 2nd species record Turkey Oct 2007 (both by Soner Bekir) ssp *montanella* Kirwan *et al* 2014, vagrant Lebanon Mitchell 2017. **NB** At least 245 identified in unprecedented eruption into Europe Oct 2016-Mar 2017 **DB39(2):** 249.
1072	Brown Accentor	*Prunella fulvescens*	6 sspp, 2 in region: nominate NW Afghanistan to C Tien Shan, extralimital along Himalayas to Himachal Pradesh; *dahurica* common resident 1600-1800m Manrak Mts E Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b to Altai, then extralimital to NC China, then to almost all Mongolia Gombobaatar & Leahy 2019; nominate common resident 2400-3300m asl Tien Shan SE Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b, then to Afghanistan. Species occurs Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan, Afghanistan Ayé *et al* 2012, also R&A 2005, K-M&K 2005, HBW 10, mapped Wakhan Afghanistan, Grimmett *et al* 1998, Bamiyan Busuttil & Ayé 2009.
PT	Radde's Accentor (Revision of **PT** status)	*Prunella ocularis*	There is a long history of dispute as to whether the taxa *ocularis* and *fagani* are species or subspecies. Vaurie (1955, 1959) settled on the former. Drovetski *et al* 2013 concluded that genetically they were sister species, though separated recently 0.19MYa. Liu *et al* 2017 reinforced that view, but placed that separation at 1.5-2.0 MYa, thus seeming to settle any debate. Kirwan *et al* 2021, in a detailed analysis that also covered sonogram data, disagreed. Firstly, "In song, on the limited evidence available, *P. fagani* seems essentially indistinguishable from *P. ocularis*". Secondly, they also questioned the dating of Liu *et al* 2017, who for many of the branching events within the entire *Prunella* phylogeny placed them much earlier than Drovetski *et al* 2013 had done: eg the split of *P. ocularis* from *P. fagani* was presented as 1.5–2.0 Mya, almost ten times older than the former estimate: "However, the double peaks in the Liu *et al* 2017 chromatograms of the cyt b sequences for the two *P. fagani* and one *P. atrogularis* specimens mean that their divergence times should be treated with caution." **NB** Päckert *et al* 2020b independently places *P. fagani* as recently diverged from *P. ocularis*.

1073	Radde's Accentor	*Prunella ocularis ocularis*	H&M4 subsumed *fagani* in *ocularis,* citing Drovetski *et al* 2013, on grounds that the 2 sspp of Black-throated Accentor *P. atrogularis* (nominate & *huttoni*) had similar degrees of separation to that between *P. ocularis* & *P. fagani*; Liu *et al* 2017 supported that view, but see above for the rebuttal by Kirwan *et al* 2021 Accordingly, we treat these two taxa as being far more likely as sspp. Mountain tops S-C & E Turkey Roselaar 1995, Caucasus, N Iran (Rogers 2001), S Turkmenistan (rare/irregular Kopet Dagh S TKM Ayé *et al* 2012), winters N Levant, N Gulf, S Iran, HBW 10, possibly N Iraq Salim *et al* 2012, Afghanistan R&A 2005, single-record vagrant Oman 2004 **OBL7**, 3rd record Kuwait Apr 2012 **KORC**, 4th Liyah Mar 2017 **DB39(3)**: 211; 1st record UAE Apr 2012 **EBRC**, 2nd Wadi Shees, Hajar Mts Dec 2021-Jan 2022 **DB44(1):** 62. Vagrant Lebanon, Syria & Jordan Mitchell 2017, 1 at Golan, Israel Nov 2011, 1 Mt Bental, Golan Feb 2022 Yoav Perlman *in litt*. **NB1** Drovetski *et al* 2013 classed *P. ocularis* & *P. fagani* as sister species, despite their relatively recent divergence 0.19MYa, when the benign conditions vanished from the interior of Arabia. **NB2** Kirwan *et al* 2021, noting that all *ocularis* specimens in Drovetski *et al* 2013 & Liu *et al* 2017 were from locations in Armenia, recommended that it would clearly be advantageous to screen other populations, *eg* from the Zagros Mountains in Iran & and Taurus Mountains in southern Turkey, to achieve a more robust overview of the phylogeographic history of this group.
1074	Arabian Accentor (Yemen Accentor)	*Prunella ocularis fagani*	Informal English name long in use. Previously considered sister sp to *P. atrogularis* Drovetski *et al* 2013, despite their relatively recent divergence of 0.19MYa, when the benign conditions vanished from the interior of Arabia: Liu *et al* 2017 had estimated a 0.7MYa separation, but Kirwan *et al* 2021 concluded that Liu et al 2017's interpretation of genetic data was flawed & supported the 0.19MYa separation of Drovetski *et al* 2013. However, we now follow Kirwan *et al* 2021 in their detailed analysis of morphological data and song analysis & revert to sspp status. IOC12.1 propose reversion to ssp status. N Yemen Porter & Warr 1985, SW Arabia only, Porter *et al* 1996, W Yemen only *c* 1000bp Jennings 2010.
PT?	Black-throated Accentor **PT**?	*Prunella atrogularis*	Although Drovetski *et al* 2013 found the 2 taxa, *atrogularis* & *huttoni*, diverged more than Radde's Accentor *P. ocularis* did from Yemen Accentor *P. fagani* & more than Black-throated Accentor *P. atrogularis sensu lato* did from either (even though the divergence of *atrogularis* and *huttoni* was relatively recent at 0.13MYa), our suggestion that *atrogularis* & *huttoni pro tem* merited separate entries as full species is ***not*** supported by the comprehensive analysis of Kirwan *et al* 2021. Although Kirwan *et al* 2021 did not examine song data for these two taxa, given their evaluation of the limited genetic data, retention of ssp status is currently the better option. **NB** Shirihai & Svensson 2018 noted extent of breeding allopatry and morphological distinction of these two taxa, but recommended sonogram analysis before making further judgement.
1075	'Ural Black-throated Accentor'	*Prunella atrogularis atrogularis*	English name informal@OSME. Breeds N of the Region, from Ufa northwards along the Urals, some 200km WSW to the nearest *P. huttoni* breeding grounds in N Tien Shan, Kazakhstan Sergei Drovetski pers comm. Monotypic. Rare PM E half Kazakhstan, rare WV SE Kazakhstan Kyzylkum E toTien Shan & Ili Valley Wassink 2015b; winters Tajikistan, Kyrgyzstan, Turkmenistan Rustamov 2015 (as *sensu lato* 'Black-throated'), Iran (vagrant Iran Scott & Adhami 2006), HBW10, 1st record Turkey 31 Oct 2014 Ergen & Bariş 20162nd Nov 2017 **DB40(4):** 266; vagrant Israel Perlman & Meyrav 2009, single-record vagrant Oman **OBL7**, Alström 1991. Future sonogram analysis may diminish uncertainty of taxon status.
1076	'Asian Black-throated Accentor'	*Prunella atrogularis huttoni*	English name informal@OSME. Altai, C Asia Pamir-Tien Shan, extralimital NW Chima, wintering possibly lower altitudes Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b, Afghanistan R&A 2005, W Himalayas. Common resident N Tien Shan to Altai 1400-2200m asl, higher in Tien Shan, common BM SE Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b. Future sonogram analysis may diminish uncertainty of taxon status.
PT	Dunnock	*Prunella modularis sensu lato*	Split by Pavia *et al* 2021, based on 3 separate lineages (Drovetski *et al* 2018a), plumage and voice, of Caucasian Dunnock *P.[m.] obscura.* Pavia *et al* 2021 also elevate extralimital taxon Iberian Dunnock *P.[m.] mabbotti*, which occurs in southern France & may also occur in Italy & Greece. CSNA/Dutch Birding 2022 accept split. but adopt English name 'Northern Dunnock' for *P. modularis sensu stricto*.
1077	Dunnock (Hedge Accentor, Hedge Sparrow)	*Prunella [modularis] modularis*	Polytypic. Sole sspp in Region: *euxima* NW Asia Minor, wintering W&S Turkey, NE Africa. Depending upon extent of synonymisation, 2-4 extralimital sspp (*menertzhageni* subsumed in nominate).
1078	Caucasian Dunnock	*Prunella [modularis] obscura*	Monotypic. Caucasus, NE Turkey, N Iran wintering Middle East. *obscura* rare PM, WV W Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b, resident Turkey, Caucasus, scarce resident Iran Scott & Adhami 2006, winters around S Caspian Iran, HBW 10, rare Iraq Salim *et al* 2012, uncommon Israel Perlman & Meyrav 2009; winters Afghanistan R&A 2012. Egypt Avib, BE
		Motacillidae	
1079	Forest Wagtail	*Dendronanthus indicus*	Monotypic. Vagrant UAE, Oman, Alström & Mild (A&M) 2003, but one record probably includes a location error, placing it at the Garagum Canal Uzbekistan in winter: unable to corroborate that record. 8-record vagrant Oman 1992-2008 **OBL7**, 2 subsequently (to 2015), 4 ringed Nov 06, IH pers comm. Rare migrant Abu Dhabi Island UAE, vagrant elsewhere UAE (8 records) Pedersen & Aspinall 2010. 1st for Iran on 30 Nov 2016 Jahad Park, Bandar Abbas, Hormozgan Province **IBRC**; vagrant Kuwait, Oman Mitchell 2017, 2nd record Dec 2020 AbdulRahman *in litt,* **KORC**. Nearest breeding grounds to Region western China, nearest wintering area s Gujurat **BLDZ** Dec 2020.
The relationships between the *flava/citreola* wagtail taxa are complex. Some taxa may be undefinable in terms of species or subspecies, but nevertheless include diagnosable populations, suggesting a broader view is inevitable. Our arrangement of Parent Taxa highlights the complexities discussed by such as Pavlova *et al* 2003. Golovatin & Sokolov 2017 plot distributions of breeding taxa in NW Siberia, revising extensively all earlier assumptions, but also suggest likely revisions in a map of eastern Siberia. Drovetski *et al* 2018b ran comparative analyses of 3 DNA techniques across *flava, citreola* & *calcarata* to show that mtDNA reflects biogeographic population histories & not evolutionary histories & that the latter aligns reasonably with traditional taxonomy. However, 3 taxa pair relationships remain unexplained: see Notes below. NB The *alba* white wagtail taxa also display this kind of complexity, and note that similar complexity occurs in other groups (eg the large grey shrikes and the white-headed gulls), which also merit taking the broader view.			
PT	Yellow Wagtail **PT**	*Motacilla flava*	The unknown extent and the undefined stability of many intergradation areas plague definitions of *flava* (*sensu lato*) taxa; they seem likely candidates for stable-isotope ratio studies as per Fox & Bearhop 2008. Tyler 2004 gave comprehensive overview of competing earler views. For diagnosability difficulties, see also Kehoe 2006, but many individuals either unidentifiable or cannot be assigned with confidence to any taxon. This problem is addressed and clarified by Harris *et al* 2018: by applying multiple DNA techniques to amost all populations of *M. flava, citreola* & *alba*-related taxa, the discordances between genomic divergence and phenotypic variation in a rapidly evolving genus have been better understood, but in places full explanation is wanting, but may lie in two areas: first, recent studies have demonstrated that strong selection can occur at few genes, and that plumage differences can evolve rapidly without corresponding divergence in the rest of the genome (this study examined some 0.05% of the genome - finding the genes responsible requires a very different approach); second, "strong selection on plumage loci, mediated through assortative mating and selection against intermediate plumage phenotypes (hybrids), might explain how different plumage traits can be maintained in the face of gene flow in hybrid zones". IOC v2.0 accepted split into Eastern & Western Yellow Wagtails: Drovetski *et al* 2018b reinforce that separation, the conclusions of Pavlova *et al* 2003 from mtDNA results being argued as reflecting biogeographical population histories and not evolutionary histories. "Therefore, multiple cycles of glacial oscillations could have preserved divergent ancestral mtDNA lineages initially sorted geographically, while also allowing nuDNA to sort into ecologically divergent lineages, and phenotypes, that were recognized by traditional taxonomy." Some taxa listed below may yet be shown to be unsupportable.

			NB1 Collar 2013 counsels caution on conflicting morphological/reproductive isolation and molecular data as to assigning rank, which Harris *et al* 2017 echo: "It is clear that subspecies should not be treated as evolutionary units" when using genome-wide single nucleotide polymorphisms (SNPs), because they were unable to distinguish between phenotypically-distinct wagtail populations that were eveolving rapidly. Instead, future studies should harness the power of whole-genome re-sequencing and gene expression studies, as changes in gene expression often underlie changes in phenotypic differentiation **NB2** Populations bear divergent cytochrome c oxidase 1 (CO1) lineages, potentially including cryptic taxa Kerr *et al* 2009. **NB3** Hellquist 2021 expands ID knowledge of many Yellow Wagtail taxa, based on improved mapping geographic distributions while constrained by ID certainty often being limited to core populations. Hellquist *et al* 2021 identify a population of grey-headed birds in the Chinese Altai which may also occur in easternmost Kazakhstan from the latitude of Dubunskaya N to the latitude of Vladmirovka, along the national border for *c* 1050km: they decline to decide ssp status, citing the need for further research. To the N, this population borders on '*zaissanensis*' and in its westernmost distribution is sympatric with *feldegg* .
PT	Western Yellow Wagtail **PT**	*Motacilla [flava] flava*	10 sspp, all in Region save *flavissima* (H&M4 9 & 8). (Eastern Yellow Wagtail is *M. [f.] tschutschensis* (*qv*) IOC v2.2). 'English' names of Yellow Wagtail taxa informal@OSME. Unrelenting range contractions & decline in numbers of western populations mostly due to farming intensification Zwarts *et al* 2009. Harris *et al* 2018 emphasise that discordance between phenotype and genotype, along with their divergence time estimates, suggest that wagtail plumage evolution has been very recent and rapid. Drovetski *et al* 2018b found new unanswered questions: "However, the greater divergence of *M. flava+M.c. calcarata* pair from the southern *M.[f.] tschutschensis+M.c. werae* and the northern *M.[f.] tschutschensis+M.c. citreola* pairs than (from) some other wagtail species remains unexplained." **NB1** '*dombrowskii*', '*superciliaris*', '*xanthophrys*' & '*perconfusus*' considered as invalid sspp, provenance of '*melanogrisea*' is uncertain, but all are useful (Tyler 2004) *pro tem* . **NB2** CA/Siberian wagtail ssp scientific names can differ, as can published descriptions of extent of separation of taxa. **NB3** the *flava* group and the *tschutschensis* group do not share recent common ancestry; their separation probably occurred at the same time as the Citrine Wagtail taxa, *M.[citreola] citreola* & *werae,* the *flava* group sharing some DNA history with *citreola,* & the *tschutschensis* group with *werae,* implying that glaciations separated their ancestral stock thus, & that present populations arose from secondary contact Pavlova *et al* 2003. **NB4** An alternative suggested grouping places *iberiae* & *pygmaea* as sspp of an elevated *M. cinereocapilla* , 'White-throated Wagtail'
1080	'Blue-headed Wagtail' {Western Yellow Wagtail, Yellow Wagtail}	*Motacilla (flava) flava*	We follow A&M 2003 who map breeding: *M.f. flava* W Kazakhstan, *beema* C-E Kazakhstan, *thunbergi* perhaps northernmost Kazakhstan, *leucocephala* vagrant from W China, for others see below. Winter areas India, Africa, some in N Saudi Arabia, Oman, UAE, SW Arabia. This taxon occurs widely during migration. Fairly common rather irregular PM &WV Oman **OBL7**, PM Socotra Porter & Suleiman 2020. Egypt Avib, BE. Some (Including W&O 2007, **DB 2011**) treat as full species *M. flava* , Blue-headed Wagtail.
1081	'Ashy-headed Wagtail' {Western Yellow Wagtail}	*Motacilla (flava) cinereocapilla (M. c. cinerecapilla)*	Scarce east Mediterranean, accidental Saudi Arabia: rare irregular PM & WV Oman **OBL7**. **NB DB 2011** treat as full species
1082	'Iberian Wagtail' ('Spanish Wagtail')	*Motacill (flava) iberiae (M.c. iberiae)*	Vagrant Israel Porter & Aspinall 2010. **NB DB 2011** treat as full species
1083	'Egyptian Yellow Wagtail' {Western Yellow Wagtail}	*Motacilla (flava) pygmaea (M.c. pygmaea)*	Essentialy tied to the Nile littoral from Delta in Egypt probably as far as al-Golad Sudan (see Dickinson 2003).
1084	'Sykes's Wagtail' {Western Yellow Wagtail}	*Motacilla (flava) beema*	Breeds N half Kazakhstan to N Altai, migrant through OSME Region including Afghanistan: common PM & WV Oman **OBL7**, fairly common PM across Iran Khaleghizadeh *et al* 2017. Abundant BM, PM: intergrades with *flava* & *feldegg* in Volga-Ural interfluve, hybridises with *M tschutschensis* in several areas Wassink 2015b. This taxon uses different habitats in western Siberia when breeding in sympatry with *thunbergi* van Oosten & Emtsev 2013.
1085	'White-headed Wagtail' {Western Yellow Wagtail}	*Motacilla (flava) leucocephala*	Breeds around Great Lakes Basin of western Mongolia Bräunlich 2002, only 8° to E of Region, not far at that latitude. Rare on passage S Khorasan & Parapamis Iran Zarudny 1911, now vagrant NE Iran Khaleghizadeh *et al* 2017, rare PM SE Kazakhstan: breeding birds resembling *leucocephala* are aberrant or very pale *beema* Wassink 2015b. 1st record Turkey Apr 2011 Kirwan *et al* 2014, UAE Checklist rare spring migrant to E Africa, 2-record rare spring migrant Oman 1991 & 2012 **OBL7**. 1st Qatar record Irkkaya Farm Mar 2021 **QBRC**. **NB1** R&A map as spring migrant in Pakistan along Afghan NE border. **NB2 DB 2011** treat as full species
1086	'Grey-headed Wagtail' {Western Yellow Wagtail}	*Motacilla (flava) thunbergi*	Common breeder northern taiga C Siberia (Rogacheva 1992), common migrant through OSME Region incl Afghanistan; abundant PM Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b; some winter Arabia; fairly common PM & WV Oman **OBL7**, common PM across Iran Khaleghizadeh *et al* 2017. This taxon uses different habitats in western Siberia when breeding in sympatry with *beema* van Oosten & Emtsev 2013. **NB DB 2011** treat as full species
1087	'Black-headed Wagtail' {Western Yellow Wagtail}	*Motacilla (flava) feldegg*	=*M. feldegg melanogrisea* in many accounts (Although '*melanogrisea*' individuals often diagnosable, degree of inheritability of markings elusive; thought to intergrade east of Turkmenistan). CA, Iraq, Iran (where common SV wetlands N&W Iran S to Baluchestan, widespread PM Khaleghizadeh *et al* 2017), Afghanistan. Winter, migration as above. A&M 2003. Common BM central third of Kazakhstan: intergrades Volga-Ural interfluve with intergrades of *beema* & *flava* ; individuals in N Kazakhstan attributed to dark-headed *thunbergi;* odd hybrids/intergrades also occur Wassink 2015b. Breeds Arabia near Riyadh & in UAE where fully confirmed at undisclosed site 2018 Campbell & Smiles 2019a, but some 20bp Jennings 2010, year-round records (mostly PM,WV) Oman but 1st breeding May 2013 **SG35(2) ATR OBL7**. G&G 2005, Although intermediate forms exist to N & E (*eg* '*melanocephalus*' Zarudny 1911) , note lack of intergradation of *feldegg* in S&E expansion (A&M 2003), lending support to species status on same basis as some gull taxa (75% rule?). **NB DB 2011** treat as full species, as do Red'kin *et al* 2015 based on extensive Russian-language literature and research.
1088	'Eastern Black-headed Wagtail' ('White-chinned Wagtail') {Western Yellow Wagtail}	*Motacilla (flava) feldegg 'melanogrisea'*	Although '*melanogrisea*' individuals often diagnosable, degree of inheritability of markings elusive, but we find it useful as does Tyler 2004. Breeds S Kazakhstan, Iran, Afghanistan, migrant through Region to NE Africa. Note no DNA-based separation from *feldegg* (A&M) 2003.
1089	Unnamed population	*Motacilla (flava) ssp indet*	Hellquist *et al* 2021 map an area of the Chinese Altai where a breeding population of 'grey-headed' but supercilium-free (male markings) yellow wagtails occupies the western part of the salient bounded by easternmost Kazakhstan & Mongolia. The female is almost indistinguishable from a female *feldegg* . The NE of this salient is occupied by the phenotype '*zaissanensis*' & the western boundary abuts Kazakhstan for *c* 1050km; in the latter area, 'Black-headed Wagtail' *M.(f.) feldegg* breed sympatrically with the unnamed taxon. Voice recordings suggest a relationship with *flava* wagtails and indicate some significant differences from *tschutschensis/citreola* taxa. It is the opinion of Hellquist *et al* 2021 that "the grey-headed birds breeding in Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region, China most likely represent an undescribed Yellow Wagtail subspecies. However, more research is needed to firmly establish their relationships with other populations and to gain a better understanding of their distribution and biology."

PT	Eastern Yellow(/Citrine) Wagtail complex	*Motacilla [flava] tschutschensis/citreola*	Tentatively, we include 4 sspp in group, 3 having occurred in Region: 'Chinese Yellow Wagtail' *M. macronyx* (designated thus by Red'kin *et al* 2015) is extralimital to Far East; confusingly, H&M4 call *M. tsutschensis* 'Green-headed Wagtail', & place *lutea* in *M. flava* (*qv*). Brazil 2009 earlier & more reasonably called just taxon *taivana* 'Green-headed Wagtail', which itself may merit elevation (as *M.[tschutschensis] taivana*) Pavlova *et al* 2003, including *M.(f.) lutea sensu lato*. Note that the *flava* group and the *tschutschensis* group do not share recent common ancestry Tyler 2004; their separation probably occurred at the same time as the Citrine Wagtail taxa, *M.[citreola] citreola* & *werae,* the *flava* group sharing some DNA history with *citreola,* & the *tschutschensis* group with *werae,* implying that glaciations separated their ancestral stock thus, & that present populations arose from secondary contact Pavlova *et al* 2003. Drovetski *et al* 2018b found some unanswered questions: "However, the greater divergence of the *M. flava+M.c. calcarata* pair from the southern *M.[f.] tschutschensis+M.c. werae* and northern *M.[f.] tschutschensis+M.c. citreola* pairs than (from) some other wagtail species remains unexplained."
1090	Eastern Yellow Wagtail (Alaska Wagtail, Beringian Yellow Wagtail)	*Motacilla [flava] tschutschensis*	Easternmost Kazakhstan taxon *tschutschensis,* A&M 2003, rare BM lowlands, foothills E-most Kazakhstan: hybridises with *beema* Irtysh Valley NE Kazakhstan, Wassink 2015b, winters SE Asia, subsumes *angarensis*.1st for Kuwait Jahra Jan 2020 **DB42(1):** 59, **SG42(2):** 327. **NB1** Intergrades of *beema* & *feldegg* can produce '*dombrowskii*'-type individuals with grey ear-coverts and so cannot be separated from *tschutschensis* Wassink 2015b. **NB2** taxon *taivana,* 'Green-headed Wagtail' Brazil 2009, may merit elevation (as *M.[tschutschensis] taivana*) Pavlova *et al* 2003, including *M.(f.) lutea sensu lato*; descent also from ancestral *citreola* indicates complex history of post-glacial populations. **NB3 DB** WP List 2016 links this taxon to extralimital Alaskan *plexa* & IOC8.2 accepts as ssp
1091	'Yellow-headed Wagtail' ('Yellow-backed Wagtail', 'Gmelin's Wagtail') {Western Yellow Wagtail}	*Motacilla (flava/tschutschensis) lutea*	(=*M. lutea*) Azerbaijan Checklist. CA (K-M&K 2005): rare dry-habitat BM, PM; Breeding records widely scattered & irregular; possibly only regular area is NW Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b, migrates via Caucasus, Caspian region, winters as above A&M 2003, thinly-widespread PM Turkmenistan Rustamov 2015, G&G 2005 & Flint *et al* 1984.. Flint *et al* 1984 map taxon in semi-desert and steppe belts of Kazakhstan & in disjunct Russian Far East on Sakhalin N to 70°N. Fairly common spring PM, less so autumn or as WV Oman **OBL7**, fairly common PM across Iran Khaleghizadeh *et al* 2017; Socotra status uncertain rare PM/vagrant? Porter & Suleiman 2020, 10th recent record Akrotiri Marsh Cyprus Jul 2020 **CRBC**. This taxon is variously included in *M. flava* & *M. citreola* by others. Ferlini & Artemyeva 2020 reconstruct former and derive current breeding & non-breeding distributions for *lutea*. **NB1** this taxon probably relates to *taivana* group Pavlova *et al* 2003, while possessing *flava* lineage also (see next row), hence its placement here. **NB2 DB** 2011 treat as full species, as do Red'kin *et al* 2015 based on extensive Russian-language literature and research. **NB3** taxon *taivana,* 'Green-headed Wagtail' Brazil 2009, may merit elevation (as *M.[tschutschensis] taivana*) Pavlova *et al* 2003, including *M.(f.) lutea sensu lato*. **NB4** Collar 2013 counsels caution on conflicting morphological/reproductive isolation and molecular data as to assigning rank
1092	'Green-headed Wagtail'	*Motacilla (tschutschensis/citreola) taivana*	4-record vagrant Oman 2002-2011 **OBL7**, but 5th record Oct 2013 **OBRC**. Pavlova *et al* 2003 noted this taxon ('Green-headed Wagtail' Brazil 2009), may merit elevation (as *M.[tschutschensis] taivana*), including *M.(f.) lutea sensu lato* [≡ *Motacilla (flava/tschutschensis) lutea* above]. Red'kin *et al* 2015 recognise as full species based on extensive Russian-language literature and research.
PT	Citrine Wagtail **PT**	*Motacilla citreola*	Re **Parent Taxon**: IOC4.4 does not split & subsumes *werae* into *citreola* (presumably on grounds of unknown extent of breeding grounds and population IDs), nor does it separate *calcarata;* we note that CS Roselaar has examined long series of specimens (lacking in BMNH) and concludes *citreola* & *werae* are valid sspp Khaleghizadeh *et al* 2017. However, H&M4 note mtDNA distinctiveness, although nuclear DNA is less supportive: Harris *et al* 2018 conclude that *M. flava* and *M. citreola* are monophyletic and sisters, contrary to mtDNA findings, and accordingly cannot split *M. citreola* into two species. Alström & Ödeen 2002 had cautioned against splitting solely on mtDNA findings, but also noted that *citreola* & *calcarata* were sister taxa through an intron in the CHD1Z gene on the Z-chromosome. However, their '*citreola*' included *werae*, & so it is possible that they used only specimens from the distribution attributed to *werae* by Ferlini & Mallen Olsen 2021. *Contra* both H&M4 & Harris *et al* 2017, Drovetski *et al* 2018b, in a multi-technique analysis, conclude "Our autosomal tree also suggested the presence of geographically cohesive structuring of the citrine wagtail subspecies: *M.c. werae* was sister to its geographic neighbour *M.c. calcarata*, and *M.c. citreola* was more distantly related to them than they were to each other. Therefore, these subspecies may be candidates for elevation to species status pending more thorough geographic sampling." Ferlini & Malling Olsen 2021 document westward spread of *werae* and *calcarata* from Iceland S to S Africa of occurrence & also of breeding from Sweden to Turkey & Syria: they also note the number of migrants in the Middle East has increased from a few instances in 1960s to many thousands; even *citreola* vagrancy has increased. **NB1** Further to A&M 2003, Pavlova *et al* 2003 (subsequent to final edit of A&M 2003) reveal that the *flava* group and the *tschutschensis* group do not share recent common ancestry; their separation probably occurred at the same time as the Citrine Wagtail taxa, *M.[citreola] citreola* & *werae,* the *flava* group sharing some DNA history with *citreola,* & the *tschutschensis* group with *werae,* implying that glaciations separated their ancestral stock thus, & that present populations arose from secondary contact. **NB2** Pavlova *et al* 2003 do not cover *calcarata.* **NB3** BirdLife Checklist v2.0 treats *werae* as 'Western Citrine Wagtail' and *taivana* as 'Green-headed Wagtail, but within *flava* group! To sequence *lutea* and *taivana* consistently, best to place after *flava* group before *citreola* group.
1093	'Eastern Citrine Wagtail'. (Formerly Citrine, Yellow-headed or Yellow-hooded Wagtail)	*Motacilla (citreola) citreola*	Interpreting Alström & Mild 2003 distribution consequent to Drovetski *et al* 2018b, taxon *citreola* may breed E Kyrgyzstan NNE to E'most Kazakhstan Altai, supported in Ferlini & Malling Olsen 2021, but individuals likely migrate through the E of the OSME Region. Most authorities have subsumed *werae* in *citreola,* but see **PT** above for conclusions of Drovetski *et al* 2018. Much has yet to be learnt about distributions of breeding populations. There appear to be many intergrades. Nominate breeds N & E of Region, PM in Region, a few PM records Iran Khaleghizadeh *et al* 2017; both taxa winter mostly separately Indian subcontinent & SE Asia & extralimitally to W HBW9. **NB1** G&G 2005 elevated *calcarata,* Black-backed Citrine Wagtail (*qv*).
1094	'Western Citrine Wagtail' ('Lesser Citrine Wagtail'. Formerly Citrine, Yellow-headed or Yellow-hooded Wagtail)	*Motacilla (citreola) werae*	Interpreting Alström & Mild 2003 distribution consequent to Drovetski *et al* 2018b, taxon *werae* breeds NE Turkey, N Kazakhstan E to Altai, where it may abut taxon *citreola*. There appear to be many intergrades: *werae* breeds N& E Kazakhstan HBW9, also named Lesser Citrine Wagtail Koblik & Arkhipov 2014, Rustamov 2015; common BM, PM N-C, E-most & ESE Kazakhstan (unsplit, grouped as *citreola*) Wassink 2015b, probably bred Kazakh Volga-Ural area May 2017 Wassink 2018; Nov 2021-Feb 2022, 2 1st-winter birds overwintered Karatal River near Taldykorgan, *c* 220km NNE of Almaty Wassink 2022: *werae* extralimitally breeds NW & N of Region. PM in Region; both taxa winter mostly separately Indian subcontinent & SE Asia & extralimitally to W HBW9. Breeds S Caucasus Ananian & Busuttil 2002, Afghanistan (perhaps passage only here, Paludan 1959), N Kazakhstan Ayé *et al* 2012, breeds in small numbers NE & EC Turkey Kirwan *et al* 2014, increasingly so Ferlini & Malling Olsen 2021, who also suggest Georgia & W Armenia. Winters S Caspian (probably small numbers Iran wetlands Khaleghizadeh *et al* 2017, Zarudny 1911), but Korniluk *et al* 2021 researching migration of Polish breeding population (part of 1100km westward expansion since 1950) tentatively conclude that these migrate by a new direct route to Pakistan & India that may overfly the southern Caspian shores and Iran. Rare probably regular Egypt **EORC**, abundant PM & WV Oman **OBL7**, also UAE, (wanders, occurs widely on migration mostly to India), A&M 2003; vagrant Socotra Porter & Suleiman 2020, 7th record Socotra Dec 2021 **SG44(1):** 257. **NB1** Taxon *werae* mostly PM through Region to northernmost breeding grounds, but breeds Turkey Porter & Aspinall 2010; (recorded Wakhan Afghanistan Niethammer 1973; Cyprus May 2008; MB own notes). **NB2** G&G 2005 elevated *calcarata*, Black-backed Citrine Wagtail (*qv*). **NB3** Wielstra *et al* 2019 maintain that *werae* & *calcarata* can be distinguished by calls: only males in breeding plumage can be identified by sight.

1095	Black-backed Citrine Wagtail {Citrine Wagtail}	*Motacilla (citreola) calcarata*	Monotypic. G&G 2005 elevated *calcarata* to full species *contra* W&O 2007, Wassink 2015b; Drovetski *et al* 2018b support likelihood. Recently spread to breed in S Kazakhstan's N&C Tien Shan & Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan & Tajikistan Tien Shan (Elena Kreuzberg-Mukhina *in litt*); rare BM Tien Shan SE Kazakhstan 2300-3100m Wassink 2015b; breeding records for Kyrgyzstan & Tajikistan here attributed to *M.(c.) calcarata* aligning with attributed distributions in Ayé *et al* 2012. Extralimital breeding distribution Gilgit-Baltistan, N Kashmir, Tibetan plateau E at least to westernmost Sichuan, Cina Ferlini & Malling Olsen 2021. Koblik *et al* 2006 removed *M. calcarata* from Russian Checklist - border changes from USSR. Breeds E Iran HBW9, SB Khaleghizadeh *et al* 2017, N Iran A&M 2003, possibly into Turkmenistan, NE Afghanistan Paludan 1959 & C (Bamiyan) Busuttil & Ayé 2009, Ferlini & Malling Olsen 2021, & along Turkmenistan-Iran border Ferlini & Malling Olsen 2021, maps H&E 1970 Roberts 1992, & Afghan Pamirs Niethammer 1973). Rare 3-record spring PM Oman **OBL7.** Winters to Indian subcontinent R&A 2012. 1st record Turkey May 2011 Kirwan *et al* 2014; 1st for Azerbaijan at Kyzil Agach May 2019 **DB41(4):** 275. **NB1** extralimital but now invalid ssp *weigoldi* resident China A&M 2003. **NB2** Wielstra *et al* 2019 maintain that *werae* & *calcarata* can be distinguished by calls: only males in breeding plumage can be identified by sight.
1096	Grey Wagtail	*Motacilla cinerea*	3 sspp, nominate in Region (other sspp are Atlantic Island isolates). *M.c. cinerea* & *melanope* resident SW Turkmenistan, Bukreev 1997, subsumed into *cinerea* Kazakhstan W&O 2007, iaw A&M 2003; 1st Kazakh winter record Dec 2014 Wassink 2015a, 2nd 16 Dec 2015 Almaty Wassink 2016; common BM, PM Tien Shan (up to 2400m) to Altai (up to 3000m) Wassink 2015b. Resident Turkey, localised breeder Cyprus Richardson 2014, Caucasus, N Iraq Salim *et al* 2012, SB mountains N&S Iran Khaleghizadeh *et al* 2017, summer breeder Kyrgyzstan (Ven 2002), Tajikistan, E Uzbekistan (quite widespread in SE Martin *et al* 2014), E Turkmenistan, Afghanistan Ayé *et al* 2012, summer breeder Iraq, winters widely to S, A&M 2003, uncommon WV Socotra Porter & Suleiman 2020. Egypt Avib, BE
PT	White Wagtail **PT**	*Motacilla alba*	IOC4.4 omits mention of any degree of separation. We follow Tyler 2004, H&M4 in 4 groupings, group 2 being wholly extralimital (Morocco, *subpersonata* only). Li *et al* 2015 identify 4 **Clades,** 3 (North [N}, Southeast [SE] and Southwest [SW]) in the Region (Extralimital **Clade M** for Morocco, *subpersonata*). Haplotypes for *alba, yarrelli, leucopsis* & *lugens* were found in populations (in differing proportions) other than those identified as such, implying complicated population histories, perhaps even reallocation of taxa in some populations whose distribution limits as yet unknown. This complexity is explained by white wagtails being extremely mobile across an extensive largely homogenous habitat during the last glacial maximum, where populations met and separated often, resulting in extremely fast plumage divergence: low genetic diversity reflects a mitochondrial history of <1My, but see Pirayesh Shirazinejad *et al* 2019 below. Taxon line entries remain with H&M4 grouping. Semenov *et al* 2018 assessed population divergence and structure in 17 microsatellite nuclear markers across *alba, personata, baicalensis, ocularis, leucopsis* & (extralimital) *lugens*. Allopatric *lugens* formed a a distinct genetic structure, but elsewhere neutral population structure was weak & only partly congruent with plumage variation and sspp delineation.Conversely, they found instances of divergent genotypes maintained in close geographic proximity, suggestive of restricted gene flow. It likely is another indication that a comparatively small fraction of the otherwise undifferentiated genome can underlie conspicuous plumage variation where a suite of molecular techniques finds little genetic variation. Based on the foregoing, Pirayesh Shirazinejad *et al* 2019 established that ancestral **Clade N** colonised from the Black Sea region E to easternmost Eurasia 220KYa. **Clade SE** colonised from the Iran regiom eastwards to Tibet & C China 135Ya, then **Clade N** reverse-colonised westwards 28KYa. Separately, **Clade SW** colonised WNW from Iran as far as NW Europe 19KYa. Glacial retreats and refugia at glacial maximum drove the colonisation pattern & the plumage pattern divergence despite low overall genetic variation. **NB** breeding distributions, extent of interbreeding, clines often poorly known A&M 2003; *Dutch Birding* elevates most ssp to full species, but we prefer emphasiing uncertainty by using round brackets.
			In Clade SW: Haplotypes are part *alba* (Krasnodar & Iran) & part *yarrellii* (UK), which are present also in Clade N; hence we do not present a separate entry for Clade SW.
Clade N: Haplotype incongruences: N includes part *alba* (Europe eastwards) & part *yarrelli* (English Channel to Germany coasts) that also occur in Clade SW. Clade N also includes small parts of leucopsis & extralimital subpersonata haplotypes.			
1097	White Wagtail	*Motacilla (alba) alba*	Group 1, 4 taxa, all having occurred in Region. Li *et al* 2015 found *alba* haplotype also in **Clade SW**. 1st record *baicalensis* Sorbulak Almaty 800km WSW of easternmost Kazakhstan Wassink 2015a; IOC6.2 subsumes *dukhunensis* in *alba*. Breeds Asia Minor, N Iraq (Salim *et al* 2012) NW Iran to Golestan Khaleghizadeh *et al* 2017(*dukhunensis: alba* is PM), N Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan (Ven 2002), *alba*×*personata* W Iran, A&M 2003, *alba* common BM N third of Kazakhstan, common PM throughout, rare resident, rare WV in S Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b; E Kazakhstan migrants may be *dukhunensis* Rogacheva 1992, winters S of Caucasus-N Afghanistan line; '*dukhunensis*' (intergrade *baicalensis* & *alba* A&M 2003) passage & winterer Afghanistan Paludan 1959, Iran Zarudny 1911 ('*orientalis*'). Passage throughout Region: abundant PM & WV Oman **OBL7**, regular WV & PM Socotra Porter & Suleiman 2020**.** Egypt Avib, BE. **NB** *alba* intergrades with personata at contact zone breeding ranges Wassink 2015b
1098	Pied Wagtail {White Wagtail}	*Motacilla (alba) yarrellii*	Group 1. Li *et al* 2015 found *yarellii* haplotype also in **Clade SW**. Recorded Cyprus 13 May 07 Colin Richardson pers comm; one reported Eilat Israel Feb 2021 Yoav Perlman *in litt*. **NB1** Photos Cyprus Oct 07 of another bird (John Waterbury) were not of this taxon (Ghassan Ramadan-Jaradi pers comm). **NB2 DB** 2011 treat as full species
1099	'Masked Wagtail' {White Wagtail}	*Motacilla (alba) personata*	Group 1. ≡ *M. personata* K-M *et al* 2005. Li *et al* 2015 found *personata* haplotype also in **Clade SE**. *M.(a.) personata* Turkmenistan, Bukreev 1997 & 2005; breeds Uzbekistan Atadjanov *et al* 2003, Elena Kreuzberg-Mukhina *in litt*, as Masked Wagtail Kazakhstan G&G 2005; common BM E & S Kazakhstan, occasional WV SE-most Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b; 2nd winter record 2008 Belyalov & Karpov 2009, Wassink 2010a, 5th SE Kazakhstan 01 Jan 2016 Wassink 2016. CA, E Iran (also Zarudny 1911), SE Iran Jan 2009 Winkel *et al* 2010 ('*persica*'), 4-record vagrant Cyprus 1966 2010 2011 **CBR11** 2014 **SG36(2) ATR**, fairly common PM & WV Oman **OBL7,** 2nd modern record Qatar Dec 2014, 3rd Oct 2016, 4th Dec 2017, 5th Al Shamal Oct 2019 **QBRC,** vagrant Kuwait 4th record Jul 2013, 7th Dec 2020 **KORC,** 3rd record Israel southern Dead Sea Mar 2016 **IRDC;** Afghanistan, A&M 2003, Paludan 1959, also Bamiyan breeder Busuttil & Ayé 2009 & Wakhan Niethammer 1973; summer visitor, passage & winterer. Occurs UAE; UAE Checklist 2008. **NB1** forms clade with *alboides* and *leucopsis* A&M 2003; *alba* intergrades with *personata* at contact zone breeding ranges Wassink 2015b. **NB2 DB 2011** treat as full species.
1100	'Baikal Wagtail'	*Motacilla (alba) baicalensis*	Group 1. 1st record Apr 2014 at Sorbulak Lake just N of Almaty, Kazakhstan, 800km WSW of easternmost point of OSME Region Wassink 2015a, 2015b, 2nd at Altai May 2020 Wassink *et al* 2021. Known scarce, probably erratic WV N&SE Iran Khaleghizadeh *et al* 2017. **NB** *baicalensis* rare vagrant Chokpak Andrei Gavrilov *in litt*.
1101	'East Siberian Wagtail' {White Wagtail}	*Motacilla (alba) ocularis*	Group 3, 2 sspp, *lugens* extralimital to northern Far East. Scarce PM E Kazakhstan Wassink 2010b, rare spring PM E third of Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b, from Yenisei westernmost range limit. 3rd record in 2007 Hendricks 2007, W&O 2008, 2nd autumn record E Kazakhstan Sep 2017 Wassink 2018; rare winterer Seistan Iran Zarudny 1911. 1st for UAE at Abu Dhabi Nov 2017 Partridge 2018 **EBRC**, 1st for Cyprus Phasouri Mar-Apr 2018 **CRBC**, 2nd same location same period 2019 **CRBC,** 2nd (3rd?) same location Jan 2021 **CBRC**; 1st for Oman Nov 2018 Wouter Faveyts *in litt*. **SG41(1)ATR:** 146.
Clade SE: Haplotype incongruences: *personata* & extralimital *lugens* also present			
1102	'Amur Wagtail'	*Motacilla (alba) leucopsis*	Group 4, 2 sspp, both in Region. Li *et al* found *leucopsis* haplotype also in **Clade N**. 4th record Sep 2015 Oman **OBRC**, 1st Kazakhstan record Kanshegel, Taklaman desert May 2018 Ashby 2018, Ławicki & van den Berg 2018, 2nd at Karatal River Taldykorgan, Almaty Dec 2021 Wassink 2022**.** 1st for UAE al Wathba, Abu Dhabi Jan 2021, Campbell 2022, **EBRC**. **NB1** A&M 2003 suggest forms clade with *personata* and *alboides* but Tyler 2004 suggests groupings at lower level as given here. **NB2 DB** 2009 separate *M. leucopsis* as Amur Wagtail.

1103	'Himalayan Wagtail' (Hodgson's Pied Wagtail)	*Motacilla (alba) alboides*	Group 4. Treatment here follows Sangster *et al* 1999. Claimed record E Kazakhstan 43:12N+76:37E W&O 2008 (and 9 others up to 2015) reassessed as *personata* Masked Wagtail. Breeds Pakistan N Chitral to Baltistan, along border with Afghanistan Grimmett *et al* 2009, therefore likely breeds Wakhan, suggested from R&A 2012 map. **NB** forms clade with *personata* and *leucopsis* A&M 2003: if these 3 taxa separated from *alba,* new species name would be *M. alboides*.
1104	African Pied Wagtail	*Motacilla aguimp*	2 sspp: *vidua* in Region, nominate extralimital South Africa. Egypt, Goodman & Meininger 1989. Continuing records Aswan & beyond in **BLDZ** map May 2017; many pairs bred between Aswan & Abu Simbel spring 2017 **DB39(5):** 350, survey results of at least 14 nests Hering *et al* 2019; breeding pairs, juveniles, singletons in many locations between Abu Simbel & Aswan Jun 2022 Jens Hering pers comm Jul 2022 (one open nest in a tamarisk).
1105	White-browed Wagtail	*Motacilla maderaspatensis* (*Motacilla madaraspatensis*; changed via Per Alström)	Monotypic. E Afghanistan in map in A&M (2003); support in Grimmett *et al* 1998 ('summer visitor' above '1700m', 'resident, locally common' 'NW Pakistan'). Roberts 1992 maps at or close to Pakistan/Afghan border Kurram & Khyber as do Grimmett *et al* 2009. Probably this taxon uncommon all along Kabul River & in Kabul 2002 Anssi Kullberg *in litt*. **BLDZ** map Feb 2017 shows breeds within 100km of Afghan border at Torkham Pass used by A Kullberg.
1106	Golden Pipit	*Tmetothylacus tenellus*	Monotypic. NW Somalia to E Kenya, HBW9; one record vagrant Oman 1983, Porter *et al* 1996 **OBL7**, also vagrant Yemen Porter & Aspinall 2010, Eriksen & Porter 2017, Lees & Gilroy 2021.
PT	Richard's Pipit **PT**	*Anthus richardi* (Formerly *A. novaeseelandiae*)	Many older records refer only to **Parent Taxon** or even antedate old split of such as *A. rufulus* & *A. cinnamomeus* (*qv* both); beware inconsistencies. IOC/H&M4 split from extralimital Australian *A.[n.] australis* and New Zealand *A.[n.] novaseelandiae* Pipits. Wink 2011 agrees. Dufour *et al* 2021 establish that the the occurrence of wintering birds in westernmost mainland Europe is not vagrancy-driven but regular, if anomalous, migration, 6000km each way & crossing the northern OSME Region, & its rapid increase is likely due to suitable wintering niches expanding with climate change. See also Lees & Gilroy 2021 for discussion of vagrants and 'founder effect'.
1107	Richard's Pipit	*Anthus richardi*	Monotypic. Voelcker 1999, A&M 2003. *A. richardi centralasiae* scarce BM E Tien Shan to Altai E Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b, E Kyrgyzstan (irregular migrant, Ven 2002), E Tajikistan, winters mostly SE India, SE Asia, with widely scattered 'outliers', *eg* SW Iberia, Nile delta, SE Oman; wanders widely, A&M 2003. **BLDZ** map Oct 2021 shows as PM E Kyrgyzstan, E Tajikistan & E Afghanistan: westernmost wintering area near Bannu, Pakistan on border with Afghanistan. Scarce breeder Kyrgystan Ayé *et al* 2012, abundant breeder Karkyra steppes, Issyk-Jul Region Kyrgyzstan 2021 van Els & Hiddes 2022. Fairly common PM & WV Oman **OBL7**, some probably winter S Turkey Kirwan *et al* 2014, 4th Qatar record Mar 2014, 6th Oct 2016, 7th Apr 2017, 8th Irrikaya Nov 2019 **QBRC**, 9th there Feb 2020 **SG42(2):** 329; 2 Del Goraz, Hormozgan, Iran Jan 2016 **IBRC** rare WV, PM E&S Iran Khaleghizadeh *et al* 2017. Group comprises *richardi,&* extralimital *dauricus, centralasiae, ussuriensis* & *sinensis* HBW9. Egypt Avib. BE
1108	Paddyfield Pipit (Oriental Pipit)	*Anthus* rufulus (≡ *A. richardi rufulus*)	5 sspp, only nominate in Region, remainder (*malayensis, lugubris, albidus* & *medius*) HBW9. H&M4 far to S & SE. Breeds NE Afghanistan Alström & Mild 2003,E Afghanistan (*waitei*, now subsumed in nominate), Paludan 1959, R&A 2005, Ayé *et al* 2012, likely breeds SE Iran Ayé *et al* 2014, certainly 2-record WV there 2010 Khaleghizadeh *et al* 2017: post-breeding joins resident Pakistan, India population. 1st for UAE, Hamraiyah Nov 2017, 2nd Wamm Farms Fujairah Oct 2018 **EBRC**; ID details given by Campbell *et al* 2020..
1109	African Pipit (Grassveld Pipit)	*Anthus* cinnamomeus (≡ *A. richardi cinnamomeus*)	13 African sspp, plus *eximius* resident population SW Arabia, A&M 2003. Rare breeder SW Saudi Arabia, local W Yemen where most of *c* 500bp occur Jennings 2010, 2 al Mefah Park, Tanoumah, one singing Al Namas Asir Province, Saudi Arabia, the most northerky recent records **SG41(1)ATR:** 148. The first biometrics of *eximius* were obtained in 2016; the taxon's certain range is above 2500m in a 105km-long strip (it may be larger), but it was found to be common in a few small areas in SW Saudi Arabia Babbington & Roberts 2020, sometimes alongside Long-billed Pipit *A. similis arabicus*. **NB** *annae* may wander from Djibouti.
1110	Blyth's Pipit	*Anthus godlewskii*	Monotypic. Possibly breeds just inside easternmost Kazakhstan, winters S India, otherwise vagrant, A&M 2003, winters also Gulf H&M4. Recorded UAE James 1994, Bahrain Skakuj & Stawarcyk 1997; 2nd record Turkey Sep 2006 Kirwan *et al* 2014, one at Milleyh Hatay Dec 2018 **SG41(1)ATR:** 149: one reported Cape Kormatis Jan 2017 **DB39(2):** 132, but that reported at Paphos & Mandria Oct 2016 was accepted **SG39(1)ATR**; 3rd record Mar 2018 Mandria MB pers obs, also **CRBC**. 8-record vagrant Oman 1999-2010 **OBL7,** vagrant Israel **IRDC,** 6th record Arsuf Mar-Apr 2016 **IRDC**, 9th Hatzuk Beach Tel Aviv Oct 2020 **SG43(1):** 173. 1st record 2011 Jordan **JBRC.** Uncommon/locally fairly common PM/WV UAE Pedersen & Aspinall 2010.
1111	Tawny Pipit	*Anthus campestris*	H&M4 now treat as monotypic over its vast distribtion. *A.c. boehmi* & *griseus* Turkmenistan, Bukreev 1997. Summer breeder Turkey, Levant, Caucasus, common SB N Iran uplands, common PM across Iran, uncommon WV Iranian S lowlands Khaleghizadeh *et al* 2017, almost all CA; common BM, PM Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b; Afghanistan (*griseus* Paludan 1959) now all sspp subsumed in campestris, widespread on passage, winters Arabian peninsula, S Iran, India, sub-Saharan Africa, A&M 2003: abundant PM & WV Oman **OBL7**; rare PM Socotra Porter & Suleiman 2020. Egypt Avib. BE
1112	Long-billed Pipit (formerly Persian or Brown Rock Pipit)	*Anthus similis* (obsolete taxonomy, *A. sordidus*)	Taxonomic part review leaves 15 sspp in *A.similis* Pieterson *et al* 2018: extralimital Nicholson's Pipit (Angola to Nambia and S to S Africa) *A. nicolsoni* split off. 5 *similis* sspp in Region: endemic *sokotrae* resident Socotra Porter & Suleiman 2020; *captus* Syria-Jordan; *arabicus* SW Arabia, Halaib Triangle & vagrant to SE-most Egypt **EORC,** extralimital NE Sudan, NE Eritrea; *decaptus* NE Arabia, uncommon SB Iran mountains Zagros, Kerman, Baluchestan Khaleghizadeh et al 2017, SE Afghanistan into Pakistan, wintering India; *jerdoni* NE Afghanistan E to Nepal, wintering India. Levant mountains including Syria Murdoch & Betton 2008, uncommon S Iran, resident E Afghanistan (R&A 2005) (*decaptus* SE, *jerdoni* E Paludan 1959): Ayé *et al* 2012 omit mention of *jerdoni;* Oman, Yemen, SW Arabia, vagrant Iraq Salim *et al* 2012, winter Iran coast (?), A&M 2003, UAE Aspinall 1996, uncommon dispersive resident/rare winter migrant UAE Pedersen & Aspinall 2010. 1st record Qatar Irkayya Farm Nov 2021, 2nd at Sailiya Dec 2021 **QRBC**. Disjunct breeding distribution Arabia (1450-3000m asl), ssp *nivescens* (perhaps better subsumed in *arabicus* Kirwan & Grieve 2010b) mountains inland of Tihama (400+bp?), *decaptus* UAE/E Oman (*c* 5000bp), uncertain Dhofar (5000bp) & Socotra (*c* 80 000bp) Jennings 2010, fairly common montane resident breeder N & S Oman **OBL7.** Migrates past Kuwait- Bourne 1991. Egypt Grieve *et al* 2001, accepted **EORC** 2011. **NB** Resident (A&M 2003) Socotra form, *sokotrae* ('Socotra Pipit'), candidate for elevation after further research.
1113	Meadow Pipit	*Anthus pratensis*	Monotypic. Caucasus, winters there & Syria, Iraq, Iran, Afghanistan, E Turkmenistan SE Uzbekistan, common WV N Iran Khaleghizadeh *et al* 2017, scarce PM, rare WV E Caspian coast Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b 1st wintering record 01 Jan 16 Taldy-Kurgan, Almaty Wassink 2016, common migrant from E Russia, A&M 2003; rare WV Oman **OBL7.** Egypt Avib, BE
1114	Tree Pipit	*Anthus trivialis*	2 sspp, both in Region: nominate breeds N Turkey, Caucasus, NW Iran, Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan, Tajikistan, Kazakhstan (away from semi-desert Flint *et al* 1984; *trivialis* Kazakhstan W&O 2007 & *haringtoni* Afghanistan Arend Wassink *in litt* Dec 2014); common BM, PM Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b, 1st wintering record [15 birds] Karakol Province Wassink 2010a, common PM & WV Oman **OBL7,** passage *schlüteri* (now treated as invalid), '*sibiricus*' *haringtoni* Afghanistan Paludan 1959, winters Chitral area Pakistan (*haringtoni*? Afghanistan?), India, sub-Saharan Africa, sometimes Yemen (vagrant Socotra Porter & Suleiman 2020), Oman, UAE, common migrant A&M 2003, Afghanistan R&A 2005. Egypt Avib, BE **NB** ssp *haringtoni* wintering population India may have migratory subset that continues across Western Indian Ocean to E Africa following dragonfly swarms Anderson 2009.

1115	Olive-backed Pipit	*Anthus hodgsoni*	2 sspp, only *yunnannnsis* occurs in Region. Breeds E Kazakhstan, A&M 2003, easternmost Kazakhstan Flint et al 1984, very rare BM, occasional PM Wassink 2015b, Ayé *et al* 2012; migrants Wakhan Afghanistan Sep 65 Niethammer & Niethammer 1967, vagrant Turkey Kirwan *et al* 1999, 2nd record Turkey 2006 Kirwan *et al* 2014, 4th record at Hatay 29 Nov 2016 **DB39(1):** 60, 6th Hatay Feb 2019 **DB41(2):** 134, 10th record Subaşı, Hatay Nov 2021 Semire Atahan, Turkish Birding website **TBEC**; 5th record Cyprus Apr 2014 **SG36(2) ATR**, 6th at Nicosia Nov 2016 **CRC**. Known breeder Kazakhstan only in Altai, 1 recorded Zhabagly, S Kazakhstan Nov 2021 Wassink 2022. 15 in Israel Nov 2021 Yoav Perlman *in litt*, 3 Palestine records since2012 Awad *et al* 2022: 1st record Egypt Feb 2012 **SG35(2) ATR**, Jordan **JBRC,** UAE 2006 winter PH pers comm, rare PM & WV (mostly Masirah) Oman **OBL7,** first record Bahrain Skakuj & Stawarcyk 1997, winter vagrant Iran Scott & Adhami 2006, 3rd record Iran, 6 birds, Hormozgan Jan 2016 Ullman & Ullman 2016 **IBRC** 6h & 7th Bandar-e Lengeh Hormozgan Jan & Feb 2021 **IBRC**. 3 W Kazakhstan records, 3rd Jun 2020 Wassink *et al* 2021. 4-record vagrant Iran Khaleghizadeh *et al* 2017, one Shiraz Nov 2016 **IBRC**, occurs Afghanistan E Dickinson pers comm.
1116	Pechora Pipit	*Anthus gustavi*	3 spp, only nominate likely in Region as PM. Uzbekistan on migration K-M&K 2005. Breeds Arctic Urals to E, winters Philippines, Greater Sundas, A&M 2003.
1117	Rosy Pipit (Formerly Vinaceous or Rose-breasted Pipit; see Working Notes at right	*Anthus roseatus*	Monotypic. Breeding SV NE Afghanistan (eastern Afghan Safed Koh H&E 1970), SE Tajikistan ([?] Ayé *et al* 2012), possibly S Kyrgyzstan (not recorded Kyrgyzstan but possible migrant Ven 2002), mapped also as SV S Kyrgyzstan & SE Uzbekistan **BLDZ** May 2017, winters to S, A&M 2003, including C Afghanistan **BLDZ** May 2017; common in Pakistan Himalayas to 4275m in summer, Grimmett *et al* 1998, up to 13 000ft Bates & Lowther 1952 & E to China. This taxon referred to as Hodgson's Pipit in some old texts – possible duplication of English name or confusion/conflation with *Anthus hodgsoni*, Olive-backed Pipit?
1118	Red-throated Pipit	*Anthus cervinus* (*A. cervina* in some Russian references)	Monotypic. Palearctic Arctic breeder, winters SE Asia, sub-Saharan Africa, some Syria, UAE, Sinai, migrant through OSME Region (including Afghanistan Paludan 1959), common PM Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b, A&M 2003, common PM Iran Khaleghizadeh *et al* 2017 some WV Scott & Adhami 2006, localised winterer Cyprus Richardson 2014, common PM & WV Oman **OBL7**; vagrant Socotra Porter & Suleiman 2020**.** Egypt Avib, BE. **NB** often regarded as monotypic, but well-supported case for sspp *rufulus* (W of C Taymyr) & *cervinus* (E of Taymyr) Stepanyan 1990: *rufulus* here would be an invalid name, given that *A, rufulus* Vieillot 1818 has nomenclatural priority.
PT	Buff-bellied Pipit **PT**	*Anthus rubescens*	H&M4 notes case for separation of *japonicus* in Zink *et al* 1995, Hendricks & Verbeek 2012 (the latter developed from Verbeek & Hendricks 1994). Recent DNA work undertaken to examine the relationships of Water Pipit *A. spinoletta* taxa and their distance from the Buff-bellied complex, showed a sizeable genetic difference between *rubescens* and *japonicus.* Although more DNA work is needed, the data so far merit listing *japonicus* separately.
1119	Siberian Buff-bellied Pipit (Buff-bellied Pipit)	*Anthus (rubescens) japonicus*	Monotypic (& Palearctic) taxon if split. Recorded Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan (K-M&K 2005), breeds to NE of Region, very rare PM Kazakhstan as far W as Ural River Wassink 2015b; trapping at Chokpak Pass & number of records S of Kazakhstan suggest commoner than field observations indicate, 1st record for western Altai May 2017 Wassink 2018, 1st confirmed winter record Sorbulak lakes Dec 2020 Wassink *et al* 2021, 3rd western Kazakhstan Tengiz ponds, Mangystau Oct 2021 Wassink 2022; winters SE Asia also regular SE CA in winter: 1st for Kyrgyzstan Mikhaylovkova, Issyk-Kul Oct **SG44(1):** 241. 2-record vagrant Iran Khaleghizadeh *et al* 2017; Syria Murdoch & Betton 2008, Turkey Atahan & Atahan 2009; regular winterer small numbers southernmost Turkey Kirwan *et al* 2014, 1st midwinter record Azerbaijan Jan 2016 **SG38(2):** 225, 3 certain records Egypt Jan 2009 Sharm el Sheik **EORC,** Israel Perlman & Meyrav 2009, 3 Palestine records since 2010 Awad *et al* 2022. 2nd Cyprus record Nov 2013 **CRC,** 4th Nicosia Nov 2016, 5th Akhna Dam Nov -Dec 2016 **CRC**, 6th at Mandria Dec 2020 **CRBC,** one at Anarita Park 27 Mar 2022, another at Petounta Marsh 27 Mar 2022 Jane Stylianou *in litt*: 170; 1st record Georgia Jan 2014 **SG36(2) ATR**, 3rd Kumisi Lake S of Tbilisi Dec 2021 Images FB & Twitter; 1st record Bahrain Jan 2012 Babbington 2013, 8-record vagrant Oman 2002-2013 **OBL7,** 18 records UAE Pedersen & Aspinall 2010, 3rd for Iran at Tabas, S Khorasan Dec 2017 **DB40(2):** 123, 5th at Kahir, SE Iran Dec 2020 Emin Yoğurtcuoğlu, Mitra Daneshvar *Birding Iran in litt*. A&M 2003, straggler Afghanistan Paludan 1959, Pakistan Roberts 1992. 2 records Egypt since 2007. On WBDB 2008 Afghanistan database as vagrant. **NB1** IOC7.4 lumps under *rubescens.* **NB2** Populations bear divergent cytochrome c oxidase 1 (CO1) lineages, potentially including cryptic taxa Kerr *et a*l 2009.
PT	Water Pipit PT	*Anthus spinoletta*	Garner *et al* 2015 list call differences, plumage differences & provide a preliminary genetic analysis for the 3 *spinoletta* taxa, noting that not all populations were sampled . Nevertheless, we deem Garner *et al* 2015 allows our 'don't know' approach to be applied to keep each taxon in view separately. Shirihai & Svensson 2018 subsume *blakistoni* in *coutelli*.
1120	' European Water Pipit'	*Anthus (spinoletta) spinoletta*	Monotypic if split. Occurs on migration in European Turkey, birds taken in W & C Turkey most closely resembling *spinoletta* Kirwan *et al* 2008, main wintering grounds NW Africa, perhaps winter straggler to Turkey, Cyprus, Egypt
1121	'Caucasian Water Pipit'	*Anthus (spinoletta) coutelli*	Monotypic if split. Breeds much of Asia Minor, Caucasus, N Iran around S Caspian, wintering to SE Asia, NE Africa, oases Western Desert Egypt in particular Goodman *et al* 1986: *coutellii* resident Turkmenistan, Bukreev 1997; fairly common PM & sometimes scarce WV to Cyprus Peter Flint pers comm; widespread passage Iran Zarudny 1911; *coutelli* probably breeds N Iraq, passage Salim *et al* 2012. SB Turkey, Caucasus, N Iran A&M 2003 (high mountains Khaleghizadeh *et al* 2017 common PM, WV throughout). Fairly common to common WV Oman **OBL7.** Egypt Avib, BE. **NB** CA 'Dark Pipit' *blakistoni* not in Rock Pipit *A. petrosus* group.
1122	'Asian Water Pipit' ('Blakiston's Pipit')	*Anthus (spinoletta) blakistoni*	Monotypic if split. Breeds NE Afghanistan, C Asia to Tien Shan, E to China, wintering SW Asia, Pakistan-China: *blakistoni* PM Turkmenistan, Bukreev 1997; widespread passage Iran Zarudny 1911; NE Afghanistan (R&A 2005), E Uzbekistan (Elena Kreuzberg-Mukhina *in litt*) common BM E&SE Kazakhstan very rare resident, WV Wassink 2015b, Tajikistan, Kyrgyzstan Ayé *et al* 2012, A&M 2003. **NB** CA 'Dark Pipit' *blakistoni* not in Rock Pipit *A. petrosus* group.
1123	Upland Pipit	*Anthus sylvanus*	Monotypic. Probably resident Pakistan border A&M (2003), N side of Thal Roberts 1992, breeds NE Afghanistan (resident Paludan 1959) R&A 2005 H&E 1970, old records Ayé *et al* 2012; map Afghan-Pakistan border Grimmett *et al* 1998, but Grimmett *et al* 2009 map only isolated populations, none on border; no acceptable modern records (?) Afghanistan Ayé *et al* 2012, although R&A 2012 map in NE. **BLDZ** map May 2017 shows isolated population in NW Pakistan, near Peshawar only 20km from Torham Pass on Afghan border, expanding in area S to Kohat and beyond, but unlike maps for other spp, the mapped shape is pixelated.
		Fringillidae	Zuccon et al 2012 examined the phylogenetic relationships and generic limits of **Fringillidae**, with considerable changes of genera; IOC3.3 largely agreed, with resequencing of species. Recuerda *et al* 2021 recommend North African Chaffinch taxa *spodiogenys*, *africana* and *harterti* be split off as *Fringilla spodiogenys* (sspp *spodiogenys* & *harterti* not sampled): nominate & *africana* are distantly extralimital, but *harterti* (Svensson 2015) less so, being given as resident in Cyrenaica, NE Libya, but not east of Derna. However, there seemingly is another resident population, identity uncertain, in a small area just south of Tobruk (**IUCN**, **BLDZ** maps Aug 2021). Svensson & Shirihai 2018 map *harterti* as per Svensson 2018, but include a small population of wintering birds (taxon not given) in NE Libya near Nardiyah just on the Egyptian border: they also map *F. coelebs schiebeli* as being the sole taxon in Egypt, and only as wintering there (BoA Vol VII & Goodman *et al* 1989 agree wintering aspect, but do not assign ssp ID). However IUCN & BirdLife confidently map four separate **breeding** populations (taxon/taxa unattributed) in northern Egypt, largely aligning with the distribution of wintering populations which also are taxon/taxa unattributed. Lastly, most authorities subsume *schiebeli* in *coelebs*. **CSNA**/*Dutch Birding* Jan 2022 adopt findings of Recuerda *et al* 2021, but note that Tunisian & Moroccan call & song have consistent differences, indicating that further changes are possible..

1124	Common Chaffinch	*Fringilla coelebs*	18 sspp (IOC), 14 sspp (H&M4); 7 in Region (IOC) 5 in Region (H&M4): nominate (perhaps subsumung *caucasica* of IOC) Turkey, NW Iran, Caucasus, wintering to S; *solomkoi* SW Caucasus; *syriaca* (possibly synonymous with *schiebeli* of IOC: IOC 6.4 to subsume *schiebeli* in nominate Clement 2010) Cyprus (Strong increase 2006-2015 Hellicar 2016), Levant, SE Turkey, N Iraq; *alexandrovi* N Iran; *transcaspia* NE Iran, SW Turkmenistan; *F.c. transcaspicus* Turkmenistan, Bukreev 1997 (now *transcaspica*), *coelebs* common BM, abundant PM, scarce WV Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b: 1st record Qatar Dec 2015 **DB38(4)** p253. Resident Turkey, Caucasus, local breeding resident Cyprus Richardson 2014, winters S Turkmenistan, N Iraq (scarce breeder Ararat *et al* 2011), N Iran, WV to most of CA, incl Afghanistan (NW Paludan 1959), Clement *et al* 1993. Egypt Avib, BE. **NB1** Only distinct Caucasus ssp is *solomkoi,* S slopes W Caucasus NW Georgia, K Roselaar pers comm. **NB2** Recuerda *et al* 2021 recommend splitting Common Chaffinch into 4 spp, all extralimital except perhaps for 'North African Chaffinch' *F. spodiogenys* ssp *harterti* which may occur, from Cyrenaica, NE Libya into NW Egypt. Be that as it may, the ID of Chaffinch taxa in Egypt is unclear. See ORL Hypothetical Section.
1125	Brambling	*Fringilla montifringilla*	Monotypic. Scarce BM Kazakh Altai, abundant PM, common WV Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b, K Roselaar pers comm, abundant PM, WV Turkmenistan Rustamov 2015. Winters Asia Minor, Caucasus S CA, Iraq-Iran-Afghanistan, Clement *et al* 1993, uncommonly Israel Perlman & Meyrav 2009; considered vagrant Gulf, but rare late autumn PM & WV Oman **OBL7**, 2nd Qatar record Dec 2017 **QBRC**, 3rd record Irkayya Farm Nov 2021 **QRBC.** Egypt Avib BE
1126	Black-and-yellow Grosbeak	*Mycerobas icterioides*	Monotypic. E Afghanistan Clements *et al* 1993, Grimmett *et al* 1998, NE-most, R&A 2005, perhaps Ayé *et al* 2012; recorded Golestan (NE Iran) Jan 2010 Winkel *et al* 2010. Summer records Afghan Safed Koh & NE Afghanistan, K Roselaar pers comm, eastern Afghan Safed Koh H&E 1970. **BLDZ** map May 2017 shows occurs E Afghanistan from Wakhan entrance, Badakhshan SW to Paktika & E past Kabul. **NB** Older references cite *icteroides* in error.
1127	White-winged Grosbeak	*Mycerobas carnipes*	3 sspp, nominate easternmost Kazakhstan breeder, NE Afghanistan; *merzbacheri* C Asia Pamir-Tien Shan; then in adjacent China; *speculigerus* SW Turkmenistan, NE Iran, N Afghanistan S to Pakistan. *M.c. speculigerus* & *merzbacheri* Turkmenistan, Bukreev 1997, *carnipes* common resident 1900-3000m Tien Shan to Altai & Irtysh E & SE Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b, Ayé *et al* 2012, E Afghanistan Paludan 1959; *merzbacheri* subsumed in nominate IOC11.2 Clement *et al* 1993, Clement 2006. Resident NE Iran (scarce Scott & Adhami 2006), SE CA, N Afghanistan, Clement et al 1993, N & E Afghanistan R&A 2005 (presumably resident E Paludan 1959), Grimmett *et al* 1998, across C Afghan mountains & also eastern Safed Koh H&E 1970, Kurram to S of Khyber Pakistan Roberts 1992. Breeds Kazakh Tien Shan G&G 2005. Also breeds N Tajikistan, Kyrgyzstan & extralimitally E to NW China, along N Tibet border to C&E China, neeting trans-Himayan continuous distribution from Pakistan **BLDZ** map May 2017.
1128	Hawfinch	*Coccothraustes coccothraustes*	6 sspp, 3 in Region: nominate rare resident or BM E-most Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b & scarce WV, rare PM; *humii* very rare breeder Kazakhstan, commoner C Asia E from E Uzbekistan, wintering Pakistan & extralimitally; *nigricans* Caucasus, N&NE Iran wintering Middle East. *C.c. humii* (SE) & *nigricans* (vagrant SW) Turkmenistan, Bukreev 1997, *coccothraustes* in E; *humii* very rare resident 2 disparate locations only, Lower Ugam western Tien Shan & Ushbaluq in Zhungarsky Alatau foothills S & E Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b. Resident N (mostly NE Roselaar 1995) Turkey, Caucasus, N Iran: in CA: S Turkmenistan, breeds N Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, E Uzbekistan Ayé *et al* 2012, mostly resident; winters C CA, Clement et al 1993, nominate extralimital northern populations winter across N Kazakhstan Ayé *et a*l 2012, uncommon winterer Iraq Salim *et al* 2012. Breeds W Afghanistan (*humii* Paludan 1959) R&A 2005. 2nd Kuwait record Abraq Farm 16 Nov 2016 **DB38(7):** 479, 3rd-4th Jahra East outfall, Mutla'a ranch Nov 2017 **KORC**. Egypt Avib BE
PT	Pine Grosbeak PT	*Pinicola enucleator*	Drovetski *et al* 2010 found a 6.4% mtDNA divergence between the Eurasian clade (*enucleator, kamtschatkensis, sakhalinesis*) and the 2-3 Nearctic clades (*carlottae, montanus, californicus, leucurus, flammula*). Because the Nearctic clade relationships are complex & unclear, further research using other molecular techniques is needed to establish their relationships more definitively, likely reinforcing the distance between Eurasian & Nearctic populations, very likely the reason fot IOC10.1 not splitting off Eurasian taxa. *Pro tem*, we suggest the informal@OSME names of 'Eurasian' Pine Grosbeak and 'American' Pine Grosbeak.
1129	Eurasian Pine Grosbeak	*Pinicola (enucleator) enucleator*	Holarctic species, 8 sspp (5 Nearctic), nominate common resident far N & NE Kazakhstan Wassink 2015, K-M&K 2005, resident far NE Kazakhstan, Clement *et al* 1993, *kamtshcatkensis* (rare WV from E?) Ayé *et al* 2012, *sakhalinensis* remote NW Pacific coasts, islands. Summer records E Kazakh Altai, K Roselaar, pers comm. **NB** Populations bear divergent cytochrome c oxidase 1 (CO1) lineages, potentially including cryptic taxa Kerr *et al* 2009.
1130	Orange Bullfinch	*Pyrrhula aurantiaca*	Monotypic. Occurs up to 3500m R&A 2005. Map in Arlott 2007 erroneously suggests non-continuous band Uzbekistan, Tajikistan, Afghanistan; present only in NE Aghanistan **BLDZ** map May 2017, from Nurestan province S to northern Nangahar & E to Nuristan city. (R&A 2005 map almost reaches Afghani Wakhan, N Chitral Roberts 1992; Grimmett *et al* 2009 reinforce). Bates & Lowther 1952 record breeding above 4000m & residency at altitude above Chitral. BMNH skin series from around Gilgit Töpfer 2012. Spencer & Sharma 2021 recorded song & calls in Western Himalayas Endemic Area in June, finding it sympatric & syntopic with Spectacled Finch *Callacanthis burtoni*.
PT	Eurasian Bullfinch (Common Bullfinch) **PT**	*Pyrrhula pyrrhula*	IOC2.0, Sangster *et a*l 2011 accept separation from extralimital Azores Bullfinch *P. [p.] murina* (which lacks sexual dimorphism), but do not acknowledge 'Grey Bullfinch' *P.(p.) cineracea*, nor does IOC10.1. **NB** H&M4 groups sspp as per 3 sp of Stepanyan 1990; we follow (Group 3 is extralimital to Far East.).
1131	Eurasian Bullfinch	*Pyrrhula (pyrrhula) pyrrhula*	H&M4 Group 1: 7 sspp, 3 in Region - nominate scarce resident (2 locations only: far N & E-most Kazakhstan, common WV rare PM Wassink 2015b; *rossikowi* Asia Minor, Caucasus, NW Iran; *caspica* N Iran. Resident N Turkey-Caucasus, N Iran (scarce Scott & Adhami 2006), at least 25 in winter 2016/2017 Khalaeghizadeh 2019; may winter W Turkmenistan Ayé *et al* 2012 . First 4 records for Lebanon were shot 2014-2016 Ramadan-Jaradi *et al* 2017; Iran, 1 Chalus Mazandaran Province Dec 2016, 1 Gorgan Golestan province Dec 2016, 1 Tehran Dec 2016 **IBRC**. Single Cyprus record of 3 (Riverine vegetation, alders & brambles among black pines) Kryos Potamos, Caledonia trail, Troodos, Nov 2002 Peter Flint pers comm. See also *P.(p.) cineracea* below.
1132	Grey Bullfinch {Eurasian Bullfinch} (Baikal Bullfinch)	*Pyrrhula (pyrrhula) cineracea*	*Pro tem* we adopt the long-established informal English name @OSME. H&M4 Group 2: monotypic: in Region, rare resident E-most Kazakhstan & common WV, intergrades with *pyrrhula* in Altai Wassink 2015b. (≡*P. cineracea* NE Kazakhstan, K-M&K 2005, Clement *et al* 1993). Breeds several localities Kazakh Altai, some winter far NE Kazakhstan K Roselaar pers comm, Ayé *et al* 2012, winters Kyrgyzstan, migrant Uzbekistan Koblik & Arkhipov 2014. Intergrades with *P. pyrrhula* known. Common in spruce-fir forests Sayan Mts N of Region Rogacheva 1992 (as *P. cineracea*). **NB** treated as *P. cineracea* by BWP 1994.
PT	Crimson-winged Finch **PT**	*Rhodopechys sanguineus (sensu lato)*	IOC2.2 accepted split (Kirwan *et al* 2006), H&M4 acknowledges case, but lumps. Extralimital taxon in Africa is African Crimson-winged Finch *R.(s.) alienus*. IOC7.2 amends to Asian Crimson-winged Finch; Collar 2017 agrees.
1133	Asian Crimson-winged Finch (Eurasian Crimson-winged Finch)	*Rhodopechys sanguineus sensu stricto*	Monotypic. See Kirwan & Gregory 2005, Kirwan *et al* 2006 for insight into complexity of relationships between next 4 taxa and between them and *Carpodacus.* Breeds C-CE Turkey Kirwan *et a*l 2008, Syria Murdoch & Betton 2008, Caucasus, montane resident SE CA from E Kazakhstan SW to Afghanistan Ayé *et al* 2012, Iraq (vagrant Salim *et al* 2012), Iran where altitudinal migrant N Highlands Khaleghizadeh *et al* 2017. Rare resident, BM SE Kazakhstan from western Tien Shan to Manrak Mts Wassink 2015b. Afghanistan, Clement *et al* 1993, Paludan 1959 Roberts 1992, uncommon resident Mt Hermon Israel Perlman & Meyrav 2009, double-brooded Bcharre, Lebanon Aug 2017 Ramadan-Jaradi & Itani 2018, 1st record Cyprus Nov 2010 5 birds Gökeri & Fuller 2012, 2nd Mandria Cyprus Jan 2015 Bird News Cyprus, 3rd limed bird released Phassouri Feb 2017 **DB39(2):** 132; 4th Limassol-trapped bird found in pet shop Limassol released Phasouri Feb 2017 **CRC**, 6th claimed Karpasia March 2020 **DB42(3):** 218, but now considered as 5th Ian Harrison *in litt*.

1134	Trumpeter Finch (formerly Trumpeter Bullfinch)	*Bucanetes githagineus (=Rhodopechys githagineus)*	4 sspp, 2 in Region: nominate Egypt (extralimital S to NC&NE Sudan, but *zedlitzi* of NW Sudan may wander to Egypt); *crassirostris* S Turkey, Sinai, N Arabia, E to C Asia, Iran. Zuccon *et al* 2012 propose reversion to *Rhodopechys,* but H&M4 demur. *B.g. crassirostris* Turkmenistan, Bukreev 1997, Afghanistan Paludan 1959, 8-record vagrant Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b, 9th record of 2 birds same location May 2018, possible breeder there Wassink *et al* 2021, 2 bp found 1100km further E karaktau Range Kyzylkum Desert May 2021 Wassink 2022. Breeds mid-Caucasus, Iraq (Moore & Boswell 1956; small colony near Saudi border Moore & Boswell 1941-46, fairly common resident Iran save for NW Khaleghizadeh *et al* 2017, S Turkmenistan, S Uzbekistan, Tajikistan, Afghanistan, Clement *et al* 1993, locally S&E Turkey Kirwan *et al* 2008, Syria Murdoch & Betton 2008, common S Israel Perlman & Meyrav 2009, rare irregular spring PM Cyprus **CBR11.** Uncommon but widespread Arabia rocky habitats, perhaps 42 000bp+ overall Jennings 2010, uncommon resident breeder across Oman **OBL7,** 3rd record Qatar Apr 2013, 4th Apr 2017 **QBRC**, 3rd Irkayya Farm Nov 2021 **QRBC**; uncommon winterer Iraq Salim *et al* 2012, 1st for Russia in OSME Region at Anapsky, Krasnodar (NE Black Sea) May 2017 **DB39(5):** 350. H&E 1970 Sinai-Afghanistan; Roberts 1992 suggests usually occurs lower than *B. mongolicus* (*qv*) in Pakistan & Afghanistan & less in near-desert areas than *Rhodospiza obsoletus* (*qv*). **NB** Are all records C Uzbekistan, & E Uzbekistan & E Kyrgyzstan actually *B. mongolicus*? K Roselaar pers comm; Ven 2002 generally supports, as does Ayé *et al* 2012. Egypt Avib, BE
1135	Mongolian Finch (Mongolian Trumpeter Finch)	*Bucanetes mongolicus (Eremopsaltria mongolica.* Formerly *Bucanetes mongolicus = Rhodopechys mongolicus*)	Zuccon *et al* 2012 propose reversion to *Rhodopechys* & consider *Eremopsaltria* invalid; H&M4 demur, retaining *Eremopsaltria.* IOC7.2 gives *Bucanetes.* Resident Caucasus-Armenia Beddard *et al* 2002, Ananian & Busuttil 2003, locally uncommon resident SB & migrant N-C, NE&E Iran Khaleghizadeh *et al* 2017, S CA rare montane resident abundant BM C, rare RB, common BM arid areas E Kazakhstan Wassink 2014b, commoner all CA states to S Ayé *et al* 2012, Afghanistan (Paludan 1959), Clement *et al* 1993, also E Turkey (Roselaar 1995), S Transcaucasia (in Azerbaijan, only in Nakhichevan), K Roselaar, pers comm. Vagrant Kuwait **DB33(3)**. Egypt Avib, BE. **NB** Presence in *Rhodospiza/Bucanetes* was not a good fit - *Eremopsaltria* proposed Kirwan & Gregory 2005, accepted IOC 2.7, recognised HBW15, dropped by IOC3.3.
1136	Spectacled Finch (formerly Red-browed Finch, Red-spectacled Finch)	*Callacanthis burtoni*	Monotypic. Previously considered from NE Afghanistan-Pakistan border eastwards, R&A 2005 also, Grimmett *et al* 1998. Before 2015, unproven for Afghanistan, K Roselaar pers comm, HBW15 map reflects. Has loud ringing whistle, breeds 2750-3350m, Roberts 1992, who mapped it up to Kurram and Khyber border with Afghanistan, agreeing with Bates & Lowther 1959 that it must occur in Afghanistan. Grimmett *et al* 2009, R&A 2012 map Pakistan Safed Koh & Kurram valley. Spencer & Sharma 2021 recorded song & calls in Western Himalayas Endemic Area, finding it sympatric & syntopic with Orange Bullfinch *Pyrrhula aurantiaca*.
			NB BLDZ map May 2017 indicated extensive Afghan range E of Kabul from Kunar & S Nurestan S to Nangarhar (including Khyber) & N of Peshawar (Pakistan), but **BLDZ** map Aug 2019 indicates almost exactly 4.5km from border just S of Arandu, then a gap to just S of Torkham, where the distribution enters Afghanistan by a few hundred metres up to 1km along 130km of border to just N of Spin Wam. Odd!. **BLDZ** map Feb 2020 adds breeding area occupying the Pakistani Kurram Valley salient as an isolate breeding distribution, stopping precisely on the Afghan border for 175km. Odder! **BLDZ** map Jun 2020 indicates a small salient in Afghanistan fro Jaji Khwar (just NW of Alizai) dog-legging NW then N over the Patan Valley to meet the border again opposite Shalozan, a distance of 50km. The mountains on either side of the Patan valley maintain a relatively modest altitude for 20km into Afghanistan. Oddest of all!
1137	Plain Mountain Finch (formerly Hodgson's Rosy Finch, Stolizcka's Mountain Finch – *altaica* only?)	*Leucosticte nemoricola*	2 sspp, nominate extralimital to E, *altaica* common resident E&SE Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b, parts of E Central Asia, NE Afghanistan. Scarce Sayan Mts to N of Region Rogacheva 1992. Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan, AfghanistanAyé *et al* 2012 (*altaica* resident NE Afghanistan Paludan 1959 R&A 2005, Badakhshan H&E 1970), (E Turkmenistan – occurrence Kuhitangtau on Uzbek border needs confirmation, K Roselaar pers comm) – map in Clement *et al* 1993; up to at least 4700m Bates & Lowther 1959.. E Afghanistan, Grimmett *et al* 1998, Roberts 1992. **BLDZ** map May 2017 shows as SB most of Kazakhstan border with China, resident Tien Shan through Takistan, parts of Kyrgyzstan, S Turkmenistan, just into SE Uzbekistan, Afghanistan in broad swathe SW past Kabul, & as winterer Afghanistan over much wider area.
PT	Brandt's Mountain Finch **PT**	*Leucosticte brandti*	**PT** Putative separation of *L.b. margaritacea*, above 3000m (see below). IOC10.2 omits mention of split. No new data in HBW15. **NB** relationships of the 7 sspp (*sensu lato*) given below are tentative.
1138	Brandt's Mountain Finch (Black-headed Mountain Finch)	*Leucosticte (brandti) brandti*	Probably 6 sspp: 2 recorded in Region: nominate C Asia to Tien Shan; *pamirensis* C&NE Afghanistan, C Asia Pamirs-Tien Shan, extralimital to NW China: *brandti* rare resident 3000-4050m asl Tien Shan to Zhungarskiy Alatau SE Kazkhstan. Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan, Afghanistan (*pamirensis* Paludan 1959, NE R&A 2005 H&E 1970), Turkmenistan (map in Clement *et al* 1993, but as winterer **BLDZ** map May 2017), E Afghanistan, Grimmett *et al* 1998, Roberts 1992: *pamirensis* in SE of CA Ayé et al 2012, *haematopygia* in 'N Pakistan, nw Himalayas' IOC3.3.
1139	'Nacreous Mountain Finch' {Brandt's Mountain Finch} ('Margarit's Mountain Finch')	*Leucosticte (brandti) margaritacea*	Probably monotypic: Tarbagatay, then E extralimitally to SE Russian Altai & Mongolia. Very different from *L.(b.) brandti* (also emphasised Ayé *et al* 2012 though retaining *margaritacea* as ssp of *brandti*) & probably separate species, K Roselaar pers comm, rare breeder above 3000m in Tarbagatay Saur Mountains (E Kazakhstan & extralimital NW Xinjiang) rare resident Wassink 2015b, Kazakh Altai (winter Wassink 2015b) to extralimital SE Russian Altai. **NB** Change of English name from 'Margarit's' to 'Nacreous' (both informal@OSME) because former is not an eponym; latter reflects meaning (pearl-like) of *margaritacea* Jobling 2010, Richard Klim *in litt*.
1140	Asian Rosy Finch (Arctic Rosy Finch)	*Leucosticte arctoa*	5 sspp, 2 sspp recorded in Region: nominate rare resident S&W Altai; *brunneonucha* accidental vagrant (1st for Mongolia was near Ulaan Bataar, an erstwhile unidentified specimen in Mongolian Academy of Science collection Buchheim 2015); others extralimital to N & E. Scarce (*cognata*) Sayan Mts to N of Region Rogacheva 1992. Funk *et al* 2020, in a study of *Leucosticte* rosy finches found that *L. arctoa* was the most divergent taxon, whereas Nearctic taxa, though allopatric in breeding, may share non-breeding areas & thus are less distinct genetically from each other. Kazakhstan (K-M&K 2005), SE Kazakh highlands G&G 2005. *L.a. arctoa* breeds only in extreme E Kazakh Altai at c2200-3200m K Roselaar pers comm, Ayé *et al* 2012, Wassink 2015b.
Tietze *et al* 2013 established rosefinch clades. Clade I comprises only one rosefinch species.			
1141	Common Rosefinch	*Carpodacus erythrinus* (*Erythrina erythrina*)	5 sspp, 3 in Region: nominate common BM, abundant PM WNW & NE Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b; *kubanensis* Tukey-NE Iran; *ferganensis* common BM SE Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b, N Afghanistan, C Asia E to Tien Shan: all have extralimital breeding distributions; all winter well to SE of Region. Breeds NE Turkey, Caucasus, N, S & SE CA, N Iran, Afghanistan, passage through Region, winters India, SE Asia, Clement *et al* 1993; vagrant Iraq Salim *et al* 2012 1st Iraq record May 1968 Kainady 1969; 1st record Lebanon shot May 2015 Ramadan-Jaradi & Itani 2016, 13th for Cyprus May 2017 **DB39(4)**: 273. Afghanistan Paludan 1959: fairly common PM Oman (*kubanensis*?) **OBL7,** breeds N Oman (ssp ID?) above 2100m Jens Eriksen *in litt*. Egypt Avib, BE.
			NB1 Zuccon *et al* 2012 found *Carpodacus* to be more inclusive (*ie* includes extralimital *Haematospiza* & extinct *Chaunoproctus*), thus subsuming *Erythrina*; IOC7.2 accepts. **NB2** Lisovski *et al* 2021 geotracked birds from 5 European breeding populations (From Bulgarian in S to Finnish in N) to wintering ground in Pakistan & NW India & compared results to those predicted by detaled modelling of favourable winds & seasonally resource-rich regions. All populations bar Bulgarian initially headed E on outward migration via common near Great-Circle route N of Caspian, but Bulgarian birds also headed E, but S of Caspian almost (avoiding Iranian & Afghani deserts) directly to their wintering grounds. The return migration route chosen by all populations was generally the direct route; northern breeding population therefore performed loop migration, the Bulgarian did not.
Tietze *et al* 2013 established rosefinch clades. Clade II includes Clades 1-4 below.			
	Clade 1		

1142	Siberian Long-tailed Rosefinch	*Carpodacus sibiricus (Uragus sibiricus)* Zuccon *et al* 2012	Liu, S *et al* 2020 split into Siberian (*C. sibiricus*) & Chinese (*C. lepidus*) Long-tailed Rosefinches, but first subsume *ussuriensis* into *sanguinolentus* (both extralimital) within *C. sibiricus*: wholly extralimital polytypic *C. lepidus* has only 1 other ssp, *henrici*. IOC12.1 draft accepts split. Only the nominate *sibiricus* occurs in Region: rare resident N & NE-most Kazakhstan, scarce WV most Kazkahstan Wassink 2015b, some wintering S in C Asia. Scarce to locally common forest river valleys Krasnoyarsk Republic to N of Region Rogacheva 1992. Occasional winterer Aktau, Mangystau since 2009 Yasko 2017. Breeds E Kazakhstan Tolvanen *et al* 2005, recorded Chokpak Dernjatin 2005, winters Tajikistan, Clement *et al* 1993, winter N&E Kyrgyzstan, occasionally to Tashkent, K Roselaar pers comm, **BLDZ** map Jul 2020 agrees. Vagrant Uzbekistan (K-M&K 2005), Turkmenistan Rustamov 2015. 1st for Armenia reported Nov 2018 (via Bird Forum) & 1st for Azerbaijan at Besh Barmag Nov 2018 **DB41(1):** 61.
Tietze *et al* 2013 established rosefinch clades			
	Clade 1a - also includes extralimital Crimson-browed Finch *C. subhimachalus* (formerly *Pinicola subhimachala*).		
1143	Red-fronted Rosefinch (Red-breasted or Red-faced Rosefinch)	*Carpodacus puniceus* (formerly *Spiospiza punicea*: may revert to *Pyrrhospiza punicea*)	5 sspp, ID of sole ssp in Region disputed: *humii* very rare resident Tien Shan to Zhungarskiy Alatau SE Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b; H&M4 allot *kilianensis*, IOC10.2 remains with *humii.* Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan, map Clement *et al* (1993), not Turkmenistan K-M&K 2005 (Perhaps in easternmost Ayé *et al* 2012 map). Afghanistan (all *humii*), map Clements *et al* (1993). R&A 2005, 2012 map it as absent only from the Wakhan panhandle of Afghanistan, but continuously beyond the borders on both sides; habitat at above 2500m exists in the 'strip' for its length; Ayé *et al* 2012 map only N of Wakhan, but query S. Not mapped Afghanistan, Grimmett *et al* 1998. Resident Kazakh Alatau G&G 2005. The Wakhan has areas above 6000m; breeding known in Pamirs (Kuznetsov 1979) 4100-6500m (extralimital Kashmir over 4200m). Niethammer (1973) & Nogge (1973) may not have been able to survey high enough K Roselaar pers comm. In Pakistan, Chitral & Gilgit, usually breeds 3300-4400m Roberts 1992., Extensive distribution (mostly extralimita' mapped **BLDZ** May 2017: NE Afghanistan including Wakhan, much of Tajikistan, Kyrgyzstan, just into SE Turkmenistan & continuously past Almaty to SE Kazakhstan; to E, broad swathe almost to Chengdu, China.
Tietze *et al* 2013 established rosefinch clades			
	Clade 1b - also includes extralimital Three-banded Rosefinch *C. trifasciatus* and Chinese White-browed Rosefinch *C. dubius*.		
1144	Pallas's Rosefinch	*Carpodacus roseus*	2 sspp, only nominate reaches Region in easternmost Kazakhstan: very rare resident, WV (?) western Altai Wassink 2015b: only 9 valid WP records after Haas *et al* 2013 review. Scarce to locally common Sayan Mts to N of Region Rogacheva 1992. Winters N & E Kazakhstan, Clement *et al* 1993. Breeds Altai G&G 2005, also winters Kazakh Altai, K Roselaar pers comm. **NB1** Flint *et al* 1984 mapped westernmost breeding ground just E of easternmost Kazakhstan. **NB2** Commonly traded cagebird Harrop 2007.
PT	White-browed Rosefinch **PT**	*Carpodacus thura sensu lato*	IOC2.0 accepts split of extralimital polytypic Chinese White-browed Rosefinch *C. [t.] dubius* as treated by Tietze *et al* 2013: sspp *feminis, dubius, deserticolor*. **BLDZ** map Jun 2020 of *C. thura* shows an isolate population along the Pakistan-Afghanistan border on the mountains surrounding the Kurram salient through which by a tortuous road leads to the Kharlachi Pass and border crossing. That map and the map (Apr 2020) for C. *dubius* indicate an arbitrary contiguous boundary east of Bhutan almost due N of Tezpur in Assam.
1145	Himalayan White-browed Rosefinch	*Carpodacus thura sensu stricto*	2 sspp, *blythi* highly probably just in NE Afghanistan, nominate remote in E Himalayas. On NE Afghanistan-Pakistan border R&A 2005 (as *C.t. blythii*; not linked to Blyth's Rosefinch, now *C. grandis* formerly *C. rhodochlamys grandis*), NE Afghanistan, Clements *et al* 1993. Mapped erroneously E Afghanistan Arlott 2007 in band Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan Afghanistan: error originating (?) in Grimmett *et al* 1998, as *C.t blythii* after Roberts 1992; he & Grimmett *et al* 2009 map it in Pakistani N Kurram on Afghan border, likely on eastern Afghan Safed Koh range (western slopes) at 2400-3350m; H&E 1970 fairly emphatic about breeding 3000-5000m here; Bates & Lowther 1952 "reputed to occur in the N-W Frontier hills, Whitehead recording in the Safed Koh" (Pakistan?) as low as 2700m. However, distribution & allocation of populations variously treated as *blythii* not well documented. **NB** Subsequent to above, HBW15 now states distribution of *blythi* reaches NE Afghanistan; on H&M3 corrigenda list E Dickinson pers comm. R&A 2012 map in Pakistan exactly to E Afghan border; Ayé *et al* 2012 omit mention. **BDLZ** map May 2017 show a disjunct resident population in Afghanistan in an arc around the Kurram Valley salient, Pakistan: curiously, it almost adds on to the limit in **BLDZ** map for Spectacled Finch *Callacanthis burtoni*. The nearest point of the main dsitribution lies 200km NE at Mingora, stretching continuously E along Himalayas to E of Bhutan.
Tietze *et al* 2013 established rosefinch clades			
	Clade 2		
1146	Streaked Rosefinch	*Carpodacus rubicilloides*	2 sspp, likely *lucifer* found by WCS in Wakhan at 2900-3500m Dec 06 Ostrowski 2007 & mapped from there along Himalayans, also into E Tibet to China as far as Chengdu in E & Jiquan in N: nominate distant in China. However, **BLDZ** Jun 2020 maps no nearer Afghanistan than 425km from Kargil, in easternmost Pakistan, & 525km from Wakhan. Either WCS misidentified species (*eg* as *C. (rubicilla) severtzovi* Spotted Great Rosefinch, which does occur there), their birds were migrants, or possibly isolate populations exist (a pattern exhibited by several *Carpodacus* spp).
PT	Great Rosefinch **PT**	*Carpodacus rubicilla*	Parent Taxon: IOC4.1 confirms *severtzovi* incipient species, and so lumps within *rubicilla* Tietze *et al* 2013. Although ID differences are present, molecular results indicate relatively low degree of separation in a **Clade** with *C. rubicilloides*. Nevertheless, we include an entry for *severtzovi,* to highlight the need not only for poorly-known populations attributed as such to be confirmed or reattributed, but also to highlight similar difficulties with poorly-known populations attributed to *rubicilla* or *diabolicus.* We align with H&M4 sspp groups.
1147	Caucasian Great Rosefinch {Great Rosefinch}	*Carpodacus (rubicilla) rubicilla*	**Group 1:** monotypic. IOC7.2 lump with *severtzoi*: of the 2 resident disjunct populations separated by at least 1600km, the nominate is in the Caucasus, and *severtzovi* in C Asia to China; we remain with separate treatment *pro tem*. See *severtzovi* account below. Other, extralimital taxa are mostly intermediate or very similar forms. **NB** David & Gosselin 2002 make case for *diabolicus,* not *diabolica.*
1148	Spotted Great Rosefinch {Great Rosefinch}	*Carpodacus (rubicilla) severtzovi*	**Group 2:** 3 sspp, all in Region: group distribution follows IOC4.1, H&M4; *diabolicus* resident NE-most Afghanistan, C Asia to W Pamir & Alai ranges; *kobdensis* 3-record vagrant E-most Kazakhstan Katon-Karagay (not that K-K in Astana) NP southern Altai Wassink 2015b, 4th record from NP 04 Aug 16 suggests possible breeding Wassink 2016, 5th record same area Dec 2016 suggests probable breeding Wassink 2018; nominate C Asia E Pamirs to Tien Shan - rare/very rare WV, as yet unproven BM SE Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b. Grimmett *et al* 1998 map of *rubicilla* in E Afghanistan actually showed the R&A 2005/2012 *severtzovi* distribution! However Paludan 1959 sensibly assigned *diabolicus* to NE Afghanistan RB status, but were they actually *severtzovi*? Although split remains problematical, because of intermediate forms between these 3 taxa, note that *diabolicus* lies between *rubicilla* & *severtzovi.* For the moment, best treat *severtzovi* & *diabolicus* as linked taxa, but *diabolicus* may be more closely related to Streaked Rosefinch *C. rubicilloides* of Tibet and points E&SE (HBW15 R&A 2012), S Tajikistan R&A 2005. Widespread SE Kazakh mountains G&G 2005, who also suggest rare WV, perhaps RB (nesting in Pamirs at 4100m), but not Dzhungarian Alatau, Tarbagatay Saur Mts & Kazakh Altai (K Roselaar pers comm); *severtzovi* (including '*diabolicus*' N&E Tajikistan, E Uzbekistan Kyrgyzstan & neighbouring mountains of SE Kazakhstan) is linked with ssp *kobdensis* H&M4; seen in several locations near Eshekart and Jaman-suu, Sarykat-Erkash state reserve, Kyrgyzstan May-Aug 2014 Knoblauch 2019. 'Common' Wakhan Roberts 1992. Probably this taxon Salang Pass 1970 Madge 1978. **NB** Busuttil & Ayé 2009 assign *severtzovi* to probable breeders Bamiyan (NE Afghanistan), which taxon ('*diabolicus*' Ayé *et al* 2012) may be more closely related to extralimital Streaked Rosefinch *C. rubicilloides* HBW15 R&A 2012.
Tietze *et al* 2013 established rosefinch clades			
	Clade 3b		

PT	Red-mantled Rosefinch **PT**	*Carpodacus rhodochlamys*	IOC v2.3 lists split, strongly supported by Tietze *et al* 2013, H&M4. *Pro tem*, we leave the 2 taxa addressed separately given the morphological inconsistencies, which perhaps are more apparent than real. From the **BLDZ** breeding distribution map of unsplit Red-mantled Rosefinch & from the broad descriptions of IOC10.1 (Column K in the Master List), the contiguous boundary between the 2 taxa below lies along a 160km line from Kabul almost due north to Pol-e Khomri: both conurbations are on plains; the taxa occupy the mountains between them, a distance of *c* 125km.
1149	Blyth's Rosefinch (Greater Red-mantled Rosefinch)	*Carpodacus [rhodochlamys] grandis*	Monotypic IOC3.3. On NE Afghanistan-Pakistan border R&A 2005. 1st record vagrant (2014) S Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b, 2nd record Jan 2020 Zhabagly, Talasskiy Alatau S Kazakhstan Wassink *et al* 2021. Afghanistan eastwards, K Roselaar pers comm, agreed Ayé *et al* 2012. Mapped Gilgit-Baltistan 2021 as SB to Wakhan border. Winter, more widespread. Mapped NE Afghanistan in Clements *et al* 1993. Mapped E Afghanistan, Grimmett *et al* 1998; **BLDZ** map Sep 2021 (still lumped with *rhodochlamys*) places Himalayan distribution limit in E to abut W limit of extralimital Crimson-browed Rosefinch *C. subhimachalus* exactly along Nepal W border. **NB1** Paludan 1959 gives *C.r. grandis* as resident E & NW Afghanistan. Suggestion that NW Afghanistan residents refer to taxon below (formerly *C.r. rhodochlamys*) and E to *grandis* accepted IOC11.2, but note discordancy as follows: **NB2** In Pakistan *grandis* is heavy-billed, originally a characteristic claimed for *rhodochlamys* as differentiating it from the former – Roberts 1992. **NB3** There is no connection between the name 'Blyth's Rosefinch' & *C. thura blythii*.
1150	Red-mantled Rosefinch (Tien-Shan Red-mantled Rosefinch)	*Carpodacus [rhodochlamys] rhodochlamys*	Monotypic IOC3.3. Common resident NW Afghanistan & Uzbekistan IOC11.2, Tien Shan to Saur Mts SE Kazkahstan Wassink 2015b, breeds E Turkmenistan, SE Uzbekistan, SW Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan (but not E Pamirs) Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, vagrant Iran? – K Roselaar pers comm. **NB** some *C. rhodochlamys* × *C. grandis* hybrids occur
Tietze *et al* 2013 established rosefinch clades			
	Clade 4 comprises only two rosefinch species (Clade 3c is entirely extralimital).		
PT	Sinai Rosefinch **PT**	*Carpodacus synoicus*	IOC3.5 accepts split of extralimital taxa *salimalii, beicki* & *stoiliczkae as Stoliczka's* Rosefinch *C. stoliczkae*, backed by Tietze *et al* 2013, H&M4, Collar 2017, Schweizer 2020.
1151	Sinai Rosefinch (Pale Rosefinch)	*Carpodacus synoicus*	Monotypic. Resident discontinuously Negev, Sinai deserts, Also NW Saudi (Mike Jennings *in litt*), resident NW Arabia perhaps 5000bp Jennings 2010. Tietze *et al* 2013 present case for splitting extralimital east Asian populations as *C. stoliczkae*. Egypt Avib, BE
1152	Stoliczka's Rosefinch {Pale Rosefinch}	*Carpodacus stoliczkae*	3 sspp, only *salimalii* in Region, N&C Afghanistan; extralimital nominate in S Xinxiang, *beicki* further E. Tietze *et al* 2013 present case for splitting extralimital east Asian populations as *C. stoliczkae*, including *salimalii* NE Afghanistan (*contra* Paludan 1959 who limits to *C. salimalii* & is supported by Busuttil & Ayé 2009, Ayé *et al* 2012. Not recorded Kyrgyzstan but perhaps above 3000m Ven 2002: **BLDA** map Jun 2020 narrowly extralimital population In Xinjiang from just S of Kyrgyzstan, NW & N almost to Kazakhstan near Druzhba, a distance of 770km.
1153	European Greenfinch	*Chloris chloris (Carduelis chloris)*	10 sspp, 5 in Region: nominate common BM, PM, rare resident, WV Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b; *muehleri* Cyprus W Asia Minor; *chlorotica* SC Turkey, Levant, W Jordan, NE Egypt; *bilkevitchi* NE Turkey, Caucasus, N Iran, SW Turkmenistan; *turkestanica* C Asia, scarce resident, BM Syrdarya Valley E to Zaysan SE Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b. *C.c. bilkevitchi* & *turkestanicus* Turkmenistan, Bukreev 1997 (now *turkestanica*). Breeds Turkey, Cyprus Richardson 2014 common & widespread Peter Flint pers comm, moderate increase farmland, steep decline forest 2006-2015 Hellicar 2016: Levant, Caucasus, discontinuously mostly C CA, Iraq (likely, but unproven Salim *et al* 2012), Iran, Clement *et al* 1993, spreading in Kazakhstan, K Roselaar, pers comm. Winters N Afghanistan, R&A 2005. 1st record Kuwait Apr 2013 **KORC.** Egypt Avib, BE. **NB** Some earlier literature (eg Russian) placed in *Chloris;* Arnaiz-Villena *et al* 2008 raised *Chloris* from subgenus to genus, which Sangster *et al* 2011, Zuccon *et al* 2012 support.
1154	Himalayan Greenfinch {Yellow-breasted Greenfinch}	*Chloris spinoides* Zuccon *et al* 2011 (formerly *Carduelis spinoides*)	2 sspp, nominate just in Region, *heinrichi* remoter to E. Clement *et al* 1993 E Afghanistan, R&A 2005 maps small wintering area on E Afghanistan-Pakistan border, as does HBW15, no certain obs Afghanistan yet, K Roselaar pers comm: Ayé *et al* 2012 do not treat as hypothetical. Breeds 1500-3300m, unpredictably nomadic Roberts 1992, who maps up to S Chitral border and wintering near Khyber. Grimmett *et al* 2009 note residency; may occur Afghan Daryā-ye & Konar valleys. H&E 1970 query suggestion on Afghan-Iran border in Baluchestan: **BLDZ** map Feb 2018 indicates an isolated wintering area in Afghanistan around the head of the Kurram Valley pass; this is 260km from nearest part of its main distribution.. **NB1** Late breeder, Jul-Oct. Documentation? On WBDB 2008 Afghanistan checklist as uncertain. **NB2** Some earlier literature (eg Russian) placed in *Chloris;* Arnaiz-Villena *et al* 2008 to raised *Chloris* subgenus to genus: IOC3.1 places in *Chloris.*
1155	Desert Finch (Black-billed Finch, Lichtenstein's Finch, Pink-winged Rosefinch, Quetta Rosefinch)	*Rhodospiza obsoleta (=Rhodopechys obsoleta)*	Monotypic. Resident S & SW CA; rare resident, common BM southern third Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b, Iraq Moore & Boswell 1941-46; current status winterer, may breed Salim *et al* 2012, 4 breeding records: Apr 2012 Homer Qawm NW of Sulaimani City, May 2015 Hawari Shar Park, N of Sulaimani City, May 2016 E of Erbil (*c* 150km NE of Sulaimani) in N Erbil next day, possibly another family nearby same day, pair + juvenile Ararat & Rahim 2017: this may represent an extensive range increase; common resident across Iran, SB & migrant Khaleghizadeh *et al* 2017, Clement *et al* 1993, uncommon E&S Israel Perlman & Meyrav 2009, likely breeds Znoub/Mansoura Lebanon area after records in Jul 2017 Ramadan-Jaradi & Itani 2018, occasional local breeder Syria Lac Djabboul (Sabkhat al-Jabbul) Kumerloeve 1969; 1st record Armenia Jun 2012 **SG35(2) ATR**, 2nd record May 2016 same location **SG38(2)** 224, 1st for Cyprus Cape Andreas 5 Apr 17 per Colin Richardson, 3 in all **SG39(2):** 202/**CRBC**, Beton & Yor; N Afghanistan (disjunct SW) R&A 2005, where also winters Ayé *et al* 2012; SE Turkey Kirwan *et al* 2008, now breeds C Arabia Jennings 2004a, reported wandering to Qatar 2007 Jennings 2007: spread from N into Arabia in 1980s, N Arabia, Kuwait, Riyadh region following irrigation Alshamlih *et al* 2021b, likely above 65 000bp Jennings 2010: 1st breeding Kuwait Feb 2013 **KORC:** found breeding Armenia Ananian *et al* 2013b Egypt Avib, BE
PT	Socotra Golden-winged Grosbeak **PT**	*Rhynchostruthus socotranus*	**Parent Taxon** case: Kirwan & Grieve 2007. Endemic to SW Arabia, N Somalia, Socotra, Clement *et al* 1993. **NB** IOC v1.6 split includes extralimital Somali Golden-winged Grosbeak *R.[s.] louisae*, a path followed by del Hoyo *et al* 2016; alternatively, the 3 taxa may best be regarded as a superspecies. Shirihai & Svensson 2018 lump, pending any behavioural, vocalisation or molecular studies
1156	Socotra Golden-winged Grosbeak	*Rhynchostruthus socotranus (Rhynchostruthus [socotranus] socotranus)*	Monotypic. Endemic to Socotra. Jennings 2010 resists split, common Socotra *c* 4000bp. Comparatively straightforward to find in wooded Wadi Ayhaft near Hadibo, Socotra Eriksen 2018.
1157	Arabian Golden-winged Grosbeak	*Rhynchostruthus percivali (Rhynchostruthus [socotranus] percivali)*	Monotypic. Endemic to SW Arabia, SW Saudi Arabia (500bp), W Yemen (2000bp) & Dhofar, Oman (500bp) Jennings 2010 (who resists split). One at Wadi Shabraqa, Saudi Arabia Sep 2021, 1st record for years **SG44(1):** 250. Uncommon montane resident breeder S Oman **OBL7**, often can be seen at Ayn Hamran, E of Salalah, but more reliably at Ayn Tobrok, rather nearer to Salalah Eriksen 2018..
1158	Arabian Serin (Olive-rumped Serin)	*Crithagra rothschildi* (formerly *Serinus rothschildi*)	Monotypic. Transfer to *Crithagra* Zuccon *et al* 2012. SW Arabian endemic resident, Clement *et al* 1993, to at least 26°N (well above *menachensis*), K Roselaar pers comm, Jennings 2010, *c* 400 000bp. HBW15 remain with *Serinus*. Targeted by pet trade in Saudi Arabia for sale with KSA well out of normal breeding distribution Alshamlih *et al* 2021a.
1159	Yemen Serin	*Crithagra menachensis* (formerly *Serinus menachensis*)	Monotypic. Transfer to *Crithagra* Zuccon *et al* 2012. SW Arabian endemic, Clement *et al* 1993, W Yemen, highly localised resident breeder S Oman **OBL7;** K Roselaar pers comm. Smaller range than previous entry, *c* 100 000bp Jennings 2010. HBW15 remain with *Serinus.*
1160	Twite	*Linaria flavirostris (Carduelis flavirostris)* Zuccon *et al* 2012	9 sspp, 4 (H&M4) in Region: *brevirostris* S&E Turkey, Caucasus, NW&N Iran; *kirghizorum* (H&M4 & Russians) N Kazakhstan, but now subsumed in *korejevi* Arend Wassink (map) *in litt* Dec 2014; common resident, scarce BM in sizeable W-E band mostly in N half of Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b. Resident S&E Turkey Kirwan *et al* 2008, Caucasus, N Iran , N & SE CA, Afghanistan (*korejevi* Paludan 1959), N birds winter CA, Clement *et al* 1993, *contra* K Roselaar – N breeders winter Ukraine S Russia. Shukorov 1962 records, summer SW&W Turkmenistan, K Roselaar, pers comm (also E&S Turkey, N&NW Iran). **NB** Some earlier literature (eg Russian) placed in *Acanthis.*

1161	Eurasian Linnet (Common Linnet)	*Linaria cannabina (Carduelis cannabina)* Zuccon *et al* 2012	7 sspp, 3 in Region: nominate common PM W half Kazakhstan, very rare BM far N Kazakhstan, *bella* common BM, scarce resident NE to S-C Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b, winters SW Arabia; *bella* breeds Kazakhstan, Asia Minor, Levant-Caucasus, N Iran,Turkmenistan, N Afghanistan, Tien Shan, Altai; *mediterranea* W Asia Minor. *C.cann. fringillirostris* (now invalid) Turkmenistan, Bukreev 1997. Resident or breeder Turkey, Levant, Caucasus, Kazakhstan, SW & SE CA, N Iran, Iraq, Afghanistan (*bella* Paludan 1959; N, R&A 2005), Tajikistan, Kyrgyzstan, E Uzbekistan, S Turkmenistan Ayé *et al* 2012, winters CA (K Roselaar pers comm) & to S, Clement *et al* 1993, 1st record Qatar Nov 2015 **QBRC**, 5th UAE record Apr 2017 **EBRC.** Egypt Avib, BE. **NB** Some earlier literature (eg Russian) placed in *Acanthis.*
1162	Yemen Linnet	*Linaria yemenensis (Carduelis yemenensis)* Zuccon *et al* 2012	Monotypic. For some reason, H&M4 do not accept Zuccon *et al* 2012 recommendation & place in *Acanthis*. SW Arabian endemic, Clement *et al* 1993. Resident highlands from Taif south to SW Yemen *c*200 000bp Jennings 2010.
PT	Redpoll	*Acanthis flammea*	**PT** aspect: Mason & Taylor 2015 found little to no genetic separation at species level between any Redpoll populations, whether previously considered separable at species level or not, and so we lump accordingly, but list 2 sspp separately as shown, while noting that Amouret *et al* 2016 found evidence for morphological separation in most Redpoll taxa, except for the Iceland taxon which they were researching. The AOU have split Lesser Redpoll *A. cabaret* from 'all the rest', but this taxon (extralimital to OSME Region) is a vagrant to the Nearctic (specifically Greenland, recently included in the AOU Region), and although IOC7.3 suspends the lumping inferred from Mason & Taylor 2015 to follow AOU, we decline to follow. Herremans 2021, while acknowledging the genetic findings of Mason & Taylor 2015, found during a 2017 winter irruption of Lesser & Mealy Redpolls that separated decoy Lesser & Mealy Redpolls behind adjacent nets attracted mostly their own kind, thus proving significant voice recognition discrimination. Funk *et al* 2021 describe plausible genetic mechanisms that account for plumage variations within all populations, despite all individuals being genetically highly similar: the incidence of paler birds increases with latitude, thus reinforcing the case for a single Redpoll species. However, this conclusion is being challenged, on deeper genetic aspects.
1163	Common Redpoll (≡ Mealy Redpoll some sources)	*Acanthis flammea flammea (Carduelis flammea)* Zuccon *et al* 2012	3 spp, only nominate in Region. Parkin & Knox 2010 suggest best treat *rostrata* & *flammea* (& '*islandica*') jointly. Winters N CA, Caucasus, sometimes further S, Clement *et al* 1993, rare resident, BM, PM, E-most Kazakhstan common WV throughout Wassink 2015b. **NB1** extralimital Lesser Redpoll *C. cabaret* proposed as third species Knox *et al* 2001, but Mason & Taylor 2015 conclusive in lumping. **NB2** Some earlier literature (eg Russian) placed in *Acanthis,* which conclusion revived in Zuccon *et al* 2012; Arnaiz-Villena *et al* 2008 raised *Acanthis* subgenus to genus. **NB3** IOC7.2 listed only *flammea* & *hornemanni*, whereas IOC7.3 splits out *cabaret*. We will continue to monitor developments while remaining with our present arrangement as being applicable to the OSME Region. **NB4** Marthinsen *et al* 2008 (supported by Johnsen *et al* 2010) found no molecular differentiation between *hornemanni, flammea* & *cabaret,* so Collar 2013 counselled caution on conflicting morphological/reproductive isolation and molecular data as to assigning rank; borne out by Mason & Taylor 2015.
1164	Coues' Arctic Redpoll {Arctic Redpoll} (Hoary Redpoll); see Working Notes at right	*Acanthis flammea exilipes (Carduelis (hornemanni) exilipes)* Zuccon *et al* 2012	From Mason & Taylor 2015, best consider populations as *exilipes*-type & *hornemanni*-type: *hornemanni*-type solely in Nearctic (Parkin & Knox 2010 had suggested best treated as sspp pair, *hornemanni* & *exilipes*) Taxon limits unclear, so Clement *et al* 1993 distributions uncertain; *hornemanni*-type *sensu stricto* probably not applicable to old records Ayé *et al* 2012. Elsewhere, individuals wander widely to S in winter. Unfortunately Korelov's records lump *hornemanni* & *flammea* in Kazakhstan, K Roselaar pers comm, but 2 vagrancy records *hornemanni*-type Irtysh valley Jan 2014 Wassink 2015a, 2015b, 3rd record 15 Mar 2020 Arend Wassink *in litt* to Rob Sheldon pers comm, 4th record Karameny, Kustenai Mar 2020 Wassink *et al* 2021. **NB1** Persuasive case made for *hornemanni*-type to be confined to High Nearctic & *exilipes*-type assigned to circumpolar lower-latitude populations (*eg* as in Fraser *et al* 2007). **NB2** wintering population (claimed *exilipes*-type) to S of E Kazakhstan in China M&P 2000. **NB3** Some earlier literature (*eg* Russian) had already placed in *Acanthis.* **NB4** IOC7.2 lists only *A. flammea* & *A. hornemanni*, the latter confined to the New World where the latter is a vagrant (Greenland).. **NB5** Collar 2013 counselled caution on conflicting morphological/reproductive isolation and molecular data as to assigning rank
1165	Red Crossbill (Crossbill, Common Crossbill)	*Loxia curvirostra*	19 (H&M4) sspp (20 IOC), 8 Nearctic, 1 Philippines, 10 Eurasia: 4 in Region; *guillemardi* Cyprus Informal name 'Cyprus Crossbill'), Turkey-Caucasus; *curvirostra* common WV Kazakhstan save SW Wassink 2015b, likely at least PM, winterer northern C Asia; *altaiensis* common resident E Kazakh Altai Wassink 2015b; *tianschanica* common resident C to N Tien Shan SE Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b. Resident Turkey Caucasus, E Kyrgyzstan (*tianschanica* Ven 2002), some may winter S CA, Clement *et al* 1993. 1st record for Lebanon was pair shot Nov 2016 Ramadan-Jaradi *et al* 2017: 5 at Parod Galilee Israel Sep 2021 (possibly bred) Yoav Perlman *in litt*; 3 Orumieh, West Azerbaijan Province Dec 2016 **IBRC**, vagrant Iran Khaleghizadeh *et al* 2017. Vagrant Afghanistan (2 records 1973 & 78 Madge 2018) R&A 2005. Winter vagrant Iran Scott & Adhami 2006, 1st record Syria 2010 **SG33(1)**. May breed irregularly & locally NE Uzbekistan, Kyrgyzstan, Kazakhstan. Some breeding records elsewhere lacking proof, K Roselaar pers comm. **NB1** This taxon possibly a group of cryptic species & is not genetically distinct from *pytyopsittacus* (see Hypothetical Section), but distinct morphologically & mating assortatively Summers *et al* 2007, Johnsen *et al* 2010: Hill & Powers 2021 disagree with morphological distinctness. **NB2** Cyprus ssp named 'Cyprus Crossbill' in **DB 2011.**
PT	Two-barred Crossbill (White-winged Crossbill) **PT**	*Loxia leucoptera*	Elmberg 1993, Robb & van den Berg 2002 set out a plausible case for separation on Nearctic and Palearctic taxa on considerable vocalisation differences; Shirihai & Svensson 2018 agree in principle, but lament the lack of subsequent behavioural and genetic studies.
1166	Eurasian Two-barred Crossbill	*Loxia (leucoptera) bifasciata*	English name informal@OSME. 2sspp, in nominate Nearctic, *bifasciata* vagrant in Region, irregular winter Kazakhstan Clements *et al* 1993. Rare breeder Kazakh Altai? G&G 2005; vagrant Ayé *et al* 2012, 6-record vagrant N & NE Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b. Breeds N&E of Region, N Eurasia-Siberia WP vagrant, Fraser *et al* 2007.
PT	Goldfinch, Common or European Goldfinch **PT**	*Carduelis carduelis*	Re **Parent Taxon**: Scott & Adhami 2006 (Iran) include *caniceps* (*qv*). IOC8.1 does not split, but Collar 2017 does. Likely some populations indeterminate status, but diagnosable. HBW15 status lacks data. H&M4 lists 2 groups.
1167	European Goldfinch	*Carduelis carduelis*	Group 1, 10sspp, 5 in Region: *niediecki* Cyprus, W&SC Asia Minor, Levant, wintering SW Iran, Egypt; *brevirostris* E Turkey, Transcaucasia, N Iran; *colchica* N Caucasus; *volgensis* common WV, occasional SV NW Kazakhstan, *frigoris* (subsumed in *major*) common resident NE Kazakhstan, common WV eastern 60% Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b. Resident Turkey, Levant, Caucasus, CA (summer in N), Iran, Iraq (*niediecki* Moore & Boswell 1941-46), Caspian, Clement *et al* 1993, breeds arc round E Med, K Roselaar pers comm. In Arabia, *c*2000bp (*niediecki*) in NW at expanding irrigated orchards Jennings 2010, single-record vagrant Oman **OBL7**, 4th official Iran record at Pir-Gheib, Darb, Fars Feb 2022 **DB44(2):** 155.**;** popular in cagebird trade Aspinall & Porter 2011. Some intergrades in W of Region: see *caniceps/paropanisi* text below. Egypt Avib, BE
1168	Eastern Goldfinch ('Grey-headed Goldfinch') {European Goldfinch}	*Carduelis (carduelis) caniceps*	English name informal@OSME. Group 2, all 4 sspp thought to occur in Region: *paropanisi* E Iran, NW Afghanistan, C Asia W Turkmenistan-Tien Shan, SE Kazakhstan extending to NW China, wintering S Iran-S Afghanistan & into Pakistan; *subulata* Kazakh Altai extending to W Mongolia, Baikal, wintering C&SW Asia; nominate along W Pakistan border, possibly into Iran, very probably taxon seen breeding on Afghan side of Khyber, also those on the China (Xizang = Tibet) border with Wakhan Afghanistan, *ultima* C Iran (SE Fars, Kirman). Taxon *paropanisi* breeds Turkmenistan, Bukreev 1997. CA (K-M&K 2005) Tajikistan Ivanov 1940, *paropanisi* NE Iran, W, SW&E Turkmenistan, N&C Afghanistan (*subulata* Paludan 1959), W Tajikistan, E Uzbekistan, Kyrgyzstan, common resident, BM S&E Kazakhstan N to Dzhungarian Alatau & Tarbagatay & Saur Mountains W&O 2007, Wassink 2015b; *subulata* common resident, WV Kazakh Altai Wassink 2015b, *ultima* SE Iran K Roselaar pers comm: Ayé *et al* 2012 agree. Paludan 1959 *paropanisi* & *subulata* winter Afghanistan. **NB** Many authors refer to *C. paropanisi*.

1169	Red-fronted Serin (formerly Fire-fronted Serin, Gold-fronted Serin, or Finch)	*Serinus pusillus*	Monotypic. Resident disparate areas Syria Murdoch & Betton 2008, Turkey, Caucasus, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan, (N Iraq Ararat *et al* 2011), Iran, Afghanistan, Clement *et al* 1993, Tien Shan G&G 2005. Also Tajikistan, Kyrgyzstan, common resident S&E Kazakhstan Tien Shan NE to Tarbagatay & Saur Mountains, K Roselaar pers comm, W&O 2007, Wassink 2015b; recorded W Mongolia Reading *et al* 2011. Rare winter Israel Perlman & Meyrav 2009, 8-record migrant Cyprus **CBR11.** Egypt Avib, BE
1170	European Serin	*Serinus serinus*	Monotypic. Resident Turkey Kirwan *et al* 2008, (E Caucasus?), rare resident, BM far N Kazakhstan, common PM, WV throughout Wassink 2015b; local resident breeder Cyprus Richardson 2014, strong increase 2006-2015 Hellicar 2016: W Syria, W Jordan, K Roselaar pers comm. Vagrant Iran Scott & Adhami 2006, 1st record Armenia 15 Dec 2016 at Yerevan **DB34(1):** 60: males recorded holding territory Jul 2018 Raković *et al* 2018; uncommon winterer N Iraq Salim et al 2012), N migrants winter Levant (1st breeding record Apr 2015 Ramadan-Jaradi *et al* 2016), N Africa, Clement *et al* 1993, irregularly UAE Pedersen & Aspinall 2010. Egypt Avib, BE
1171	Syrian Serin (formerly Tristram's Serin)	*Serinus syriacus* **Vulnerable**	Monotypic. S Syria, N Israel, Clement *et al* 1993, SW Jordan K Roselaar pers comm, HBW15, Lebanon H&M4; winters Egypt. Earlier records of this species in Iraq, (Ticehurst *et al* 1926), come from an erroneus ID by Cox & Cheesman's collector, Vivian Stanley La Personne: these re-examined specimens now confirmed as European Serin *S. serinus* Porter 2014, thus validating ironically the 'no recent records Iraq' in Salim *et al* 2012. Unfortunately, H&M4 perpetuate the error. Almost 40 recorded Dec 2020 Jebel al-Laws (+ 2 before leaving the Jebel), Tabuk Province, Saudi Arabia Gregory Askew: images at https://saudibirding.com/2021/01/08/birding-saudis-northwest/ Egypt Avib, BE
1172	Eurasian Siskin	*Spinus spinus (Carduelis spinus)* Zuccon *et al* 2012	Monotypic. Breeds N Turkey, Caucasus, N Iran Mountains (K Roselaar pers comm) (scarce Scott & Adhami 2006), winters across C OSME Region to Iran, Clement *et al* 1993, uncommon Israel Perlman & Meyrav 2009, vagrant Afghanistan Reeb 1977, R&A 2005, 8-record vagrant Oman 1981-2013 **OBL7.** 5th Qatar record Irkayya Farm Dec 2021 **QRBC**. Egypt Avib, BE. **NB** Some earlier literature (eg Russian) placed in *Spinus;* AOU Checklist Supp 50 cites Arnaiz-Villena *et al* 2008 to raise *Spinus* subgenus to genus: IOC5.1 adopted. HBW15's sorely needed review of genus in Zuccon *et al* 2012.
		Calcariidae (Plectrophenacidae H&M4)	IOC v2.0 reverts to **Calcariidae** for the next two species, following Alström *et al* 2008b separation from *Emberiza*.
1173	Lapland Longspur (Lapland Bunting)	*Calcarius lapponicus*	5 sspp, 4 extralimital, only nominate in Region. Winters much of Kazakhstan, K-M&K (2005), Byers *et al* 1995, common PM, rare WV Wassink 2015b, elsewhere in C Asia. 2nd Turkish record Feb 2010 Kirwan *et al* 2014, 5th record Kızılırmak Delat Mar 2021 **TBRC**. 1st Azarbaijan Iran record Oct 2017 **SG40(1):** 113, 2nd Besh Barmag Dec 2021 **SG44(1):** 232..
1174	Snow Bunting	*Plectrophenax nivalis*	4 sspp, 3 distantly extralimital, *vlasowae* common WV much of Kazakhstan save S, in fluctuating numbers Wassink 2015b, overshootselsewhere to S. (≡*Calcarius nivalis* Klicka, Zink & Winker 2003) Winter vagrant Uzbekistan, Kyrgyzstan (K-M&K 2005), Byers *et al* 1995, irregularly Asia Minor H&E 1970, 9 at Kızılırmak Delta river mouth Dec 2021, Onder Kahraman *Birding Turkey* website: 1st for Israel Dec 2013 **SG36(1)ATR**.
		Emberizidae	**Emberizidae** may yet be subdivided into several genera or more deeply into subgenera: Sangster *et al* 2015 regard the suggested genera (*Fringillaria, Granativora, Schoeniclus*) as subgenera; we await IOC consideration, still unaddressed IOC6.3. The phylogeny of Päckert *et al* 2020b divides **Emberizidae** into 4 sub-families, which John Boyd in Taxonomy in Flux (**TiF** Oct 2021) has adopted: **TiF** here is largely coincident in intent with H&M4 & Sangster *et al* 2015, but not necessarily in taxonomic genus. We await further evaluation, but *pro tem* note proposed changes in Column C. **NB** Should the phylogeny of Päckert *et al* 2020b be adopted in the unification of World Lists, then the sequence of genera within **Emberizidae** will change, as will the overall sequence of species.
1175	Corn Bunting	*Emberiza calandra* (formerly *Miliaria calandra* to which **TiF** returns)	2 sspp, both in Region: nominate Asia Minor, Caucasus, N Iran; *buturlini* SE Turkey-Iran, C Asia to S Kazakhstan, N Afghanistan, then extralimital China, wintering SW Asia. Alström *et al* 2008b synonomise in *Emberiza: buturlini* Turkmenistan, Bukreev 1997, SW & SE Kazakhstan abundant RB, PM, WV Wassink 2015, 1st winter record Kazakh Altai Apr 2014 Wassink 2015a, Afghanistan Paludan 1959. Strong increase Cyprus 2006-2015 Hellicar 2016. Resident Turkey, Levant, Caucasus, Iraq Moore & Boswell 1956, N Iran, S&C CA (grasslands & semi-deserts all CA states Ayé *et al* 2012), winters Tigris-Euphrates, Gulf E Yemen border? - Byers *et al* 1995. Breeds N Afghanistan (Paludan 1959) R&A 2005. In Arabia, scarce WV & PM, but has bred Eastern province & probably UAE & N Oman *c* 50bp Jennings 2010. Uncommon PM & WV Oman **OBL7.** Egypt Avib BE. **NB** Vaurie in 1950s had placed in *Emberiza*
1176	Yellowhammer	*Emberiza citrinella*	3 sspp, 2 in Region: nominate breeds NE Turkey in small numbers Roselaar 1995, Turkish Thrace Özkan 2011; *erythrogenys* common resident, BM, far N Kazakhstan, common PM, WV throughout Wassink 2015b, S to Karaganda (Sëma 1985) & Lake Zaysan, K Roselaar pers comm W&O 2007; winters to S in all CA states Ayé *et al* 2012. Winters also Turkey Kirwan *et al* 2008, 9-record irregular WV Cyprus **CBR11,** Caucasus, N&C Iraq, N Iran, CA, Byers *et al* 1995, (accidental status Afghanistan Reeb 1977 amended to regular in N Ayé *et al* 2012), R&A 2005, 2nd record Kuwait Mar 2012 KORC. Egypt Avib, BE. **NB** Hybridises with Pine Bunting *E. leucocephalos* over wide area (N&E of NE Kazakhstan) Irwin *et al* 2009; see Ayé *et al* 2012 p310. Nikelski *et al* 2021 (preprint) show that the lack of mtDNA differentiation which permits the persistent hybridisation is accompanied by clear nuclear differentiation across the genome which allows plumage divergence between non-hybridising parts of the populations and plumages clines across the hybridisation zone.
1177	Pine Bunting	*Emberiza leucocephalos*	2 sspp, only nominate in Region; breeds NE, SE&E (K Roselaar pers comm) Kazakhstan, N to E & also SE Kazakhstan common resident, BM, but widespread common PM, WV Wassink 2015b, easternmost Kyrgyzstan, all ssp *leucocephalus* Ayé *et al* 2012, winters locally N, S Iran, Afghanistan (Paludan 1959), thinly CA, some Israel/Lebanon(?), Byers *et al* 1995, uncommonly N&C Iraq Salim *et al* 2012, 1st record S Iraq Najaf Desert Nov 2020 **SG43(1):** 172. Vagrant Armenia (2 records Mar 1996 & Nov 2016 Ananian *et al* 2017),Jordan, Minshull 1997 Oman (1st Nov 2010 **SG33(1)**), rare local winterer N Israel Perlman & Meyrav 2009, 2nd UAE record at Al Ain 16 Nov 2916 **DB39(1):** 60, 10th record Dec 2016 **SG39(1)ATR. NB** Hybridises with Yellowhammer *E. citrinella* over wide area (N&E of NE Kazakhstan) Irwin *et al* 2009; see Ayé *et al* 2012 p 310. Nikelski *et al* 2021 (preprint) show that the lack of mtDNA differentiation which permits the persistent hybridisation is accompanied by clear nuclear differentiation across the genome which allows plumage divergence between non-hybridising parts of the populations and plumages clines across the hybridisation zone.
1178	Rock Bunting (Western Rock Bunting) (formerly called Meadow Bunting in E distribution)	*Emberiza cia* (**TiF** places in *Cia*)	6 sspp, 4 in Region: nominate N Asia Minor; *hordei* SW&SC Asia Minor, Levant; *pregeri* E Turkey, Caucasus, SW&N Iran; *par* NE Iran, Afghanistan, C Asia to SW Altai, then E to China & Ladakh; *par* Turkmenistan, Bukreev 1997.RB Turkey, Levant, Caucasus, N (& locally SW) Iran, S&E CA (disjunct & likely under-recorded), NW Afghanistan; also BM from NE Kazakhstan, SW to C Afghanistan Ayé *et al* 2012; *par* common BM, very rare resident from western Tien Shan to Kalbinskiy Altai SE to NE Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b. Winters same general areas, Byers *et al* 1995; winters (may breed) N&C Iraq Salim *et al* 2012. Pale *par* RB & BM Afghanistan (Paludan 1969) N-Kazakh Altai (Kazakhstan W&O 2007), K Roselaar pers comm. 1st for Kuwait Abraq al-Habari, al Jahrah Apr 2022 **DB44(3):** 232. **NB** *stracheyi* extralimital to E in NW Himalayas, not as shown in R&A 2005.
1179	Godlewski's Bunting (Western Rock Bunting)	*Emberiza godlewskii* (**TiF** places in *Cia*)	5 sspp E Palearctic distribution, 2 in Region: *decolorata* very rare breeder SE Kazakhstan, E Kyrgyzstan Ven 2002, vagrant Uzbekistan K-M&K 2005, winters E Tajikistan, Kyrgyzstan, map Byers *et al* 1995; nominate vagrant NE-most Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b, 4th record Katon Karagay NP 25 Nov 15-17 Feb 16 of 2 birds Wassink 2016, occasional/very rare resident, SV a few locations SE Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b. Breeds small areas far SE Kazakhstan & far E Kyrgyzstan (*decolorata*), more migratory & at lower altitudes than Rock Bunting *E. cia*, Ven 2002, Ayé *et al* 2012. SE Kazakhstan 3rd breeding record 2006 Wassink 2009. Nominate vagrant to S Altai, south to Serebryansk, Katon-Karagay, Berel and Arshaty (G & G 2005; Vorobyov 2018; Wassink 2016; Berezovikov & Gabdullina 2019; Silan 2020) and at Serebryansk. Record away from Kazakh Altai, 15–16 March 1998 at Ridder, Kazakhstan *c* 55km west of Altai Republic of Russia, six birds (3 trapped) Berezovikov & Rubinich 2001 Arend Wassink *in litt* Jan 2022.

1180	Meadow Bunting (Long-tailed Bunting)	*Emberiza cioides* (**TiF** places in *Cia*)	5 sspp E Palearctic distribution, nominate may winter C Asia ranges, but only *tarbagataica* common, resident SW Altai S&E Tien Shan Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b, remarkable record Caspian coast Nov 2017 1500 km W of known,sedentary range Wassink 2018; Kyrgyzstan, Byers *et al* 1995; breeds C&N Kyrgyzstan. In Russian Altai replaced by nominate, which winters in Kyrgyzstan and Kazakhstan, Kees Roselaar pers comm (unmentioned by Ayé *et al* 2012). 1st record for Uzbekistan Nov 2016 Emirates Bird Breeding Center for Conservation, Kyzlkum Desert Collar & Dolman 2020.
1181	White-capped Bunting (Chestnut-breasted Bunting)	*Emberiza stewarti*	Monotypic. Summer breeder Afghanistan Paludan 1959 (possibly Iran (Scott & Adhami 2006); breeds all mountains Afghanistan W to Obeh, E Turkmenistan in Kuhitangtau, E Uzbekistan, W&C Tajikistan, all mountains Kyrgyzstan & nearby S Kazakhstan Kees Roselaar pers comm,common BM SE Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b. Winters Pakistan, India, Byers *et al* 1995. Vagrant 1992 UAE Aspinall & Porter 2011 2nd record Nov 2016 **EBRC**, Iran Mitchell 2017, last record 1973 Khaleghizadeh *et al* 2017.
1182	Grey-necked Bunting	*Emberiza buchanani* (**TiF** places in *Glycyspina*)	3 sspp, all in Region: *cerruti* E Turkey, Caucasus- Iran, SW Turkmenistan, wintering India; nominate Afghanistan, C Asia Pamir & Alai, wintering Indian subcontinent; *neobscura* C Asia Kazakhstan, Tien Shan, E to China, WV India. SB, largely local, *cerrutii* mountains EC&SE Turkey Kirwan *et al* 2008, E Caucasus, breeds SW, N&NW Iran Scott & Adhami 2006, rare NE Iraq Salim *et al* 2012, 4 at Sakram Mountain, Kurdistan, including adult feeding young new WP breeding area **SG44(1):** 239. S, S-C & E CA, Afghanistan (also R&A 2005), *cerrutii* (SW) & *buchanani* Turkmenistan Bukreev 1997, Afghanistan Paludan 1959, 4-record vagrant Oman 1991-2010 **OBL7,** 1st record Hurghada Egypt 29 Mar 2013 **EORC,** 4th record Kuwait Jan 2015 **KORC,** 5th record sep 2015 **KORC,** winters India, Byers *et al* 1995. Common E Kazakh BM G&G 2005. Nominate breeds S&SE Iran Afghanistan Pamirs-N Tajikistan, *neobscura* common BM S-c, SE & E Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b, C&NE Uzbekistan Kyrgyzstan K Roselaar pers comm, Ayé *et al* 2012. **NB** in CA, breeding distribution seldom overlaps with Ortolan *E. hortulana* Ayé *et al* 2012.
PT	Cinereous Bunting **PT** (Ashy-headed Bunting, Strickland's Bunting)	*Emberiza cineracea*	**PT:** In The Photographic Handbook of the Birds of the Western Palearctic Svensson & Shirihai 2018 admit that 'the rather well-marked differences and the apparent gap in range' of the two taxa could merit them being treated 'as separate monotypic species', but decide to await a comprehensive genetic & voice analyses. Given that ecological and habitat separation has long suggested that separate treatment is justified, the ORL *pro tem* interprets their conclusions as worthy of our 'don't know for sure' usage. IOC10.2 & H&M4 do not split.
1183	Western Cinereous Bunting ('Smyrna Bunting')	*Emberiza (cineracea) cineracea* (**TiF** places in *Glycyspina*)	Monotypic if split: W, SW&SC Asia Minor, wintering NE Africa. Breeds W&S Turkey, probably winters NE Africa (including 1971 record of '*E. cineracea* ' Tunisia) Walter 2006, rare irregular spring PM Cyprus, rarer autumn **CBR11,** uncommon migrant Israel Perlman & Meyrav 2009 probably this taxon; 1st for Georgia Apr 2019 **DB41(3):** 203. Egypt Avib, BE. English name informal@OSME.
1184	Eastern Cinereous Bunting	*Emberiza (cineracea) semenowi* (**TiF** places in *Glycyspina*)	Monotypic if split: SE Turkey, SW Iran, wintering southern NE Africa, SW Arabia. Breeds SE Turkey & SW (Kees Roselaar pers comm) local & uncommon SB Zagros S to Khuzestan Iran Khaleghizadeh *et al* 2017, N Iraq Moore & Boswell 1956 (as taxon *cineracea*) where *semenowi* not uncommon Ararat *et al* 2011; Apr-Jun 2016 survey of Qara Dag & Khoshk mountain areas, a ridge between Kirkuk & Sulaymaniya found 52bp **SG39(1)ATR**; many recorded migrating southern deserts Iraq Nov 2020 **SG43(1):** 172. 1st Iran record likely female collected Mar 1885 Sharpe 1886b; 6 Sarv-Abad, Kordestan, Iran (on Iraq border) May 2016 **IBRC**, one at Bostaneh, Bandar Lengeh Hormozgan Province Apr 2020 **SG42(2):** 324: but also to Afghanistan E Dickinson pers comm, local; Ayé *et al* 2012 accept old record Turkmenistan. Two at oilrig NW Gulf 25 Aug 1985 *Sea Swallow* **36**: p19 (1987): one PM collected Tanb Island 1920 Ticehurst *et al* 1925. From very few winter records, wintering grounds today probably mostly SW Arabia (SW Saudi and Yemen) and Eritrea; Walter 2006. Passage Syria Murdoch & Betton 2008 & Qatar (thin) 2014 **SG36(2) ATR**, UAE (spring only Pedersen & Aspinall 2010) & Oman probably this taxon. English name from Svensson & Shirihai (*in litt* from Simon Aspinall). English name informal@OSME; name 'Smyrna Bunting' suggests tiny distribution.
Long-term decline rate is -84% for the Ortolan Bunting, mainly to habitat loss Vickery *et al* 2014. BLI yet to reappraise its Least Concern assessment. Brambilla *et al* 2016 establish that the EU Rural Development Programme should contain an agri-environmemt scheme for the conservation of bare soil, grassland & shrubs in its typical habitats, the optimum model being Appenine Italy's mosaic farming. Jiguet *et al* 2019a make unarguable case for hunting ban in France. Jiguet *et al* 2019b demonstrate that feather hydrogen isotope ratios differ between wild-reared, wild-caught individuals and captive-bred/long-captive individuals, exposing fraudulent misrepresentation of origin.			
1185	Ortolan Bunting	*Emberiza hortulana* (**TiF** places in *Glycyspina*) **Vulnerable in W of distribution? IUCN 2020 assess as decreasing, but of Least Concern over entire range**	Monotypic. Summer breeder E Med, W&S Turkey Kirwan *et al* 2008, Caucasus, Iraq Moore & Boswell 1956, N&NE Iran, SW Turkmenistan, to N&E Kazakhstan S to Tarbagatay & Saur Mountains K Roselaar pers comm: common BM N Kazakstan, W from Ural River to Saur Mts E-most Kazakhstan, common PM throughout Wassink 2015b. Winters Sudan, Byers *et al* 1995. Fairly common spring PM, uncommon autumn PM Oman **OBL7**, vagrant Socotra Porter & Seleiman 2020**,** autumn migrant NW Afghanistan, R&A 2005. Egypt Avib, BE. Also in C Siberia N of Region, likely expanding E Rogacheva 1992. Jiguet *et al* 2016 record declines in 14 of 15 northern European countries, & call for data from Middle East & Central Asia. Jiguet*et al* 2019a prove shooting tolls in SW France are proximate cause in declines of SW flyway population from Norway to Spain & should confirm the EU ban on hunting this species in France. Jiguet *et al* 2019b reveals the impact of lght isotope ratio analysis in discriminating between fully wild and captive birds. Jiguet *et al* 2019 found that the winter moult of the central rectrices share a common light-isotope signature; winter moult of these feather tracts was previously unknown & the isoptope signature suggests a common wintering ground for the entire population, possibly a factor in the species' decline. **NB** in CA breeding distribution seldom overlaps with Grey-necked Bunting *E. buchanani* Ayé *et al* 2012.
1186	Cretzschmar's Bunting	*Emberiza caesia* (**TiF** places in *Glycyspina*)	Monotypic. Breeds E Mediterranean, area of Jordan, Cyprus (Moderate increase farmland, strong increase forest 2006-2015 Hellicar 2016), W Syria, W, SW&S-C Turkey (Kees Roselaar pers comm), uncommon N&C Israel Perlman & Meyrav 2009, vagrant Iran but no recent records Scott & Adhami 2006; winters southern NE Africa. 1st for Qatar 19 Mar 2010 **SG 32(2)**, 4-record vagrant Oman 1994-2013 **OBL7,** 5th record Mudday, Dhofar Feb 2016 **OBRC**, Qatar Yemen Aspinall & Porter 2011, 1st & 2nd records UAE Jan 2011 & Mar 2013 **EBRC**, 3rd Abu Dhabi Mar 2019 **DB41(2):** 134**;** winters Sudan W Red Sea, Nile, Byers *et al* 1995. Egypt Avib, BE
1187	Cirl Bunting	*Emberiza cirlus*	Monotypic. Westernmost Region breeding limit N Turkey, Byers *et al* 1995, updated to N, W&SW Turkey Kirwan *et al* 2008. Lone singers Georgia & NW Iran probably vagrants, K Roselaar pers comm. Vagrant Iran Scott & Adhami 2006, but no recent records. Egypt Avib, BE
PT	House Bunting **PT**	*Emberiza striolata*	IOC2.0 accepts split, Kirwan & Shirihai 2007, Svensson et al 2009. H&M4 does not split, but lists groups, then transfers to new genus *Fringillaria.* Schweizer *et al* 2017 agree, and account for seeming intermediates, alloting them to *sahari* . Given the morphological data, which found no distinction between *E. striolata 'jebelmarrae'* & *E.s. striolata* , the clustering of all samples of E. *striolata 'jebelmarrae'* in a subclade **within** *E. sahari* was thus rather surprising. The population at Jebel Uweinat (A relatively small area athwart SW Egypt, NW Sudan & SE Libya) was not sampled by Schweizer *et al* 2017, but it is closest to *sahari*/'*jebelmarrae* ' populations 300km SSW in Chad; the nearest known *striolata* population is an isolate 1000km SE near Atbara, Sudan. We considered that the clustering data tends toward the Jebel Uweinat population probaly being *sahari*; Schweizer 2020, after re-examination of the data, suggests that the anomaly may have arisen because of limited secondary contact during a brief 'greening' period that allowed range expansions.. **NB** Collar 2013 counsels caution on conflicting morphological/reproductive isolation and molecular data as to assigning rank

1188	Striolated Bunting {House Bunting} (Mountain Bunting)	*Emberiza [striolata] striolata* (H&M4 & **TiF** place in *Fringillaria*)	H&M4 group 2, partly African species, 4 sspp H&M$, 3sspp IOC6.2, only nominate known in Region (occurs extralimitally NE Sudan, Eritrea, Ethiopia & to Pakistan). Locally common resident much of Arabia, S Iran-C India, Byers *et al* 1995 (as ssp), E UAE Aspinall 1996, rarer Israel Perlman & Meyrav 2009: localised & widespread Arabia, perhaps above 125 000bp overall Jennings 2010, common resident breeder N Oman, less so S Oman **OBL7,** 3rd record Qatar Feb 2013 **SG35(2) ATR**, 6th Irakayya Farm Nov 2018 **QBRC**, 1st & 2nd Kuwait records Aug & Nov 2013 **KORC.** uncommon Iran resident from Fars to Baluchestan Khaleghizadeh *et al* 2017, summer breeder SE Afghanistan (Jalalabad-Kabul valley, Niethammer & Niethammer 1967, Sayer & van der Zon 1981, Ayé *et al* 2012), possibly elswhere in SE (breeds W Pakistan border), Kees Roselaar pers comm, SE Iran R&A 2005.
1189	House Bunting (Mountain Bunting)	*Emberiza [striolata] sahari* (H&M4 & **TiF** place in *Fringillaria*)	H&M4 group 1 monotypic post-split. Vast majority of post-split *sahari*-related populations remote from OSME Region from NW Africa to Chad, but one 1928 Egyptian specimen (BMNH 1965 M 16315) (collected by Meinertzhagen at Sallum on Egypt's northwesternmost coast but assigned to '*jebelmarrae*' is consider likely another fraud on his part) is not representative (Schweizer *et al* 2017) of small scattered populations in SW Egypt at Jebel Uweinat where 1st record for Egypt made in 1968, Misonne 1974, Goodman *et al* 1986; *pro tem* as stated in **PT** above, we think it likely that this population would cluster with *sahari* . **NB BLDZ** map Apr 2020 assigns this population to *E. striolata* .
PT	Cinnamon-breasted Bunting **PT**	*Emberiza tahapisi sensu lato* (H&M4 places in *Fringillaria*)	IOC4.1 splits Gosling's Bunting *E. goslingi* as monotypic, extralimital from SW Sudan southeast to Democratic Republic of Congo *E. tahapisi sensu stricto* has 4 sspp; H&M4 does not split, but transfers *sensu lato* to new genus *Fringillaria* . **BLDZ** also split some time ago.
1190	Cinnamon-breasted Bunting (African Rock Bunting)	*Emberiza tahapisi sensu stricto* (H&M4 & **TiF** place in *Fringillaria*)	4 sspp, 2 wholly African mainland, 2 in Region: *arabica* resident SW Arabia, *tahapisi* (subsuming *insularis*) Socotra Kirwan 2007. Widespread highlands inland from Tihama, Dhofar Oman (c1Mbp mainland) & Socotra (12 000bp) Jennings 2010, Abundant resident breeder S Oman **OBL7.** Egypt Avib
1191	Socotra Bunting	*Emberiza socotrana* (H&M4 & **TiF** place in *Fringillaria*) **IUCN 2020 Assess as** Near-Threatened**, up from Vulnerable**	Monotypic. Socotra endemic, Byers *et al* 1995. Perhaps 1000bp Jennings 2010; Vulnerable. Distinctiveness emphasised in Schweizer & Kirwan 2014, who while noting its morphological resemblance to the African extralimital Cape Bunting *E. capensis* , emphasise its much closer relationship to the Striolated/House Bunting *E. striolata/sahari* & Cinnamon-breasted/Gosling's Bunting *E. tahapise/goslingi* species groups (*goslingi* African extralimital), thus building upon Olsson *et al* 2013b & Olsson *et al* 2013c.
1192	Chestnut-eared Bunting (Grey-headed Bunting)	*Emberiza fucata* (**TiF** places in *Spina*)	Ayé *et al* 2012 reject: 'Accidental' Afghanistan ssp *arcuata* Paludan 1959 (R&A 2005 considered this 'doubtful'; a single juvenile specimen possibly mis-labelled); Kyrgyzstan record K-M&K 2005). However, Ayé *et al* 2012 accept the Uzbekistan records in Byers *et al* (1995), as do Koblik & Arkhipov 2014. Breeds N Pakistan, Grimmett *et al* 1998. Likely vagrant in Region, breeding up to Pakistan border, (in Chitral) Roberts 1992, Kees Roselaar, pers comm. Grimmett *et al* 2009 map suggests Afghan Daryā-ye & Konar valleys: **BLDZ** map May 2017 SV distribution extends NW to Chitral, <25km from Afghanistan border & <40km from the Konar valley.. **NB** 1st vagrancy to UK 2004, Fraser *et al* 2007, Shaw 2008, so must have crossed OSME Region.
1193	Little Bunting	*Emberiza pusilla* (*Schoeniclus pusillus* H&M4: **TiF** places in *Orospina*)	Monotypic. Common northernmost Russian open forest Rogacheva 1992. Very rare PM, accidental WV W half Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b; 2nd winter record Dec 2104 Wassink 2015a, but migration through Kyrgyzstan (Ven 2002) & much of OSME Region (*eg* Afghanistan Smith 1974) to SE Asia for winter, Byers *et al* 1995. Egypt Avib, BE. 1st - 7th Azerbaijan records Oct 2017 Fetting & Buddemeier 2021 trapping & sound-recording.**SG40(1)**; 10th for Turkey Kızılırmak Delta Oct 2021 **TBRC:** 113; 3-record vagrant Cyprus **CBR11/CRC**, 4th Apr 2015 **CRC**,5th ringed Polis reedbeds Apr 2017, 6th ringed Nov 2017 **CRC**: 2-record vargrant Iran Khaleghizadeh *et al* 2017, rare PM & WV (all singletons) Oman **OBL7,** very rare winter Israel Perlman & Meyrav 2009, one at Ein Hanatziv, Bet She'an Valley Nov 2021 Yoav Perlman *in litt* ; vagrant Middle East Aspinall & Porter 2011.
1194	Yellow-browed Bunting	*Emberiza chrysophrys* (*Schoeniclus chrysophrys* H&M4: *Ocyris chysophrys* : **TiF** places in *Orospina*)	Monotypic. Long-distance migrant from Russian breeding grounds N of Mongolia & China borders to S China. Rare WP vagrant Harrop 2007; 1st record for OSME Region photographed at Kolshengel, Almaty Kazakhstan 21 Sep 2019 Wassink *et al* 2021, imaged by Askar Isabekov. Vagrants to Europe probably crossed the N OSME Region. Common mid-taiga Krasnoyarsk Republic to N of Region Rogacheva 1992. Nearest breeding grounds are 1150km to ENE, S Baikal region (120km W of Irkutsk) **BLDZ** Jul 2019. **NB** H&M4 transferred to new genus *Schoeniclus* .
Global decline of up to 87% at an annual rate of -8.9% due to habitat loss Edenius *et al* 2016			
1195	Rustic Bunting	*Emberiza rustica* (**TiF** places in *Orospina, contra* H&M4)	Monotypic. Breeds to N of region, possibly irregularly easternmost Kazakhstan, winters Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan (& E China), Byers *et al* 1995, very rare passage N&S Khorasan Iran Zarudny 1911, Khaleghizadeh *et al* 2017, vagrant now elsewhere Scott & Adhami 2006, one record E Azarbaijan Province Iran 23 Oct 2016 **IBRC**, another E Azarbaijan Province Oct 2016 **SG39(1)ATR**; vagrant Iraq Salim *et al* 2012, E Afghanistan R&A 2005, Jordan, Tebb & Hamidan 2002, Turkey Kirwan *et al* 2008 5th record Mar 2009 Kirwan *et al* 2014. Probably breeds Kazakh Altai G&G 2005, but nearest confirmed record in most distant Russian Altai, Kees Roselaar pers comm; rare PM throughout, occasional WV SE & E Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b, 2nd record Nov 2014 Jordan **JBRC,** Ayé *et al* 2012. Egypt Avib, BE. Regular vagrant to WP, Fraser *et al* 2007, rare Israel Perlman & Meyrav 2009, 4 exceptional records: 1 ringed at Ma'agan Michael, 1 observed on Mt. Hermon, 1 ringed at Kfar Menachem, 1 ringed at Agamon Hula, all Nov 2021, Yoav Perlman in *litt* , one at Ma'ale HaHamisha late Jan 2022, 1 at Kiryat Anayim Feb 2022 Yoav Perlman *in litt* , vagrant Middle East Aspinall & Porter 2011, 1st for Cyprus Paphos Nov 2016 **CRC**, 2nd Akrotiri Gravel Pits Nov 2020 **CRBC**; 6-record vagrant Oman 1974-2010 **OBL7.**
Population decline of up to 94% since 1980 due in part to habitat loss Kamp *et al* 2015, but has become a widespread Chinese fad food via fringe Chinese medicine Wang *et al* 2019 (cited thus by Lees & Gilroy 2021).			
1196	Yellow-breasted Bunting	*Emberiza aureola* (*Schoeniclus aureolus* H&M4: **TiF** places in *Orospina*) **Critically Endangered**	E Palearctic species, 2 sspp, only nominate in Region, very rare breeding & PM NNE Kazakhstan; *ornatus* E of nominate. Earlier westward range extension Krasnoyarsk Republic N of Region over broad front in wet meadows & bogs from forest-steppe up to alpine meadows Rogacheva 1992, but now in severe range contraction Kamp *et al* 2015. Formerly bred N Kazakhstan & E Kazakh Altai, K Roselaar pers comm, W&O 2007 & perhaps elsewhere in Kazakhstan Ayé *et al* 2012: now very rare BM - only one recent breeding record NNE Kazakhstan, very rare PM Wassink 2015b, 16 Jun 16 male in Katon Karagay NP Wassink 2016. Migrates through E CA (2-record vagrant Iran Khaleghizadeh *et al* 2017) to winter SE Asia, Byers *et al* 1995, vagrant Israel Perlman & Meyrav 2009, Gulf countries Aspinall & Porter 2011, rare PM Oman **OBL7;** possible subject for stable-isotope ratio studies as per Fox & Bearhop 2008? Egypt Avib, BE
1197	Chestnut Bunting	*Emberiza rutila* (*Schoeniclus rutilus* H&M4: **TiF** places in *Orospina*)	Monotypic. Breeds E taiga Krasnoyarsk Republic (recent spread?) N of region Rogacheva 1992. Vagrant Tajikistan, Byers *et al* 1995, accepted by Ayé *et al* 2012, who also accept more regular occurrence in Tajikistan. Rare vagrant to WP Harrop 2007, & so has crossed OSME Region. 1st for Israel Nov 2021, IBRCE Eilat, photo Ito Shanni, seen briefly again 2 days later Yoav Perlman *in litt* , added to national list 2022 **DB44(2):** 156.
1198	Black-headed Bunting	*Emberiza melanocephala* (H&M4 & **TiF** place in *Granativora*)	Monotypic. Breeds Asia Minor, Caucasus, E Med, Levant, Iraq, N, W Iran, (SW Turkmenistan Belousov 1990), Byers *et al* 1995, migrant in S&SE Afghanistan R&A 2005, perhaps so Ayé *et al* 2012. Ćiković *et al* 2021 tagged migrating birds from Croatia to W-C India; loop migration occurred, the return migration shited 1000km W of outward leg: long stopovers sandwiched the longest direct flights, Iranian Plateau on outward migration, less long stopvers for Saudi Arabian desert on return; outward migration at 2 months was almost twice the time on return. Moderate decline Cyprus 2006-2015 Hellicar 2016. Locally common BM W of Volga Delta Arkhipov 2006, possibly bred Kazakh Volga valley 1965 (singing male) G&G 2005; very rare Spring PM E Caspian shore Kazakhstan, accidental summer visitor Wassink 2015b, but singing male N Caspian coast 09 Jun 16 Wassink 2016. Fairly common PM Oman **OBL7**, 6th Qatar record al Shamal Park Apr 2018, 7th there Apr 2021 **QBRC.** Abundant SB N&NW Iran, abundant PM spring SE Iran Khaleghizadeh et al 2017; area of sympatry & hybridisation with Red-headed Bunting *E. bruniceps* S of Caspian in Iran expanding Gholamhosseini *et al* 2017. Egypt Avib, BE. **NB** Red- & Black-headed Buntings known to hybridise E Iran & possibly SE Caspian (perhaps on Russian side of Volga); males should be identifiable Ayé *et al* 2012.

1199	Red-headed Bunting	*Emberiza bruniceps* (H&M4 & **TiF** place in *Granativora*)	Monotypic. Breeds N, E Iran, Afghanistan (Paludan 1959), SW&S & E&NE Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan, W Tajikistan, Kyrgyzstan, locally common BM E of Volga Delta Arkhipov 2006, abundant BM Kazakhstan except extreme N Wassink 2015b, Kees Roselaar pers comm, Area of sympatry & hybridisation with Black-headed Bunting *E. melanocephala* S of Caspian in Iran expanding Gholamhosseini *et al* 2017. , winters India, Byers *et al* 1995; vagrant Israel Perlman & Meyrav 2009, 5-record vagrant Oman 2001-13 **OBL7/OBRC**, 7th record Ryam Park, Muttrah Jun 2021 **OBRC**, vagrant Gulf countries 9th UAE record Sep 2016 **EBRC**, 1st for Egypt May 2016 de Rouck *et al* 2022, **EORC**; also popular cagebird Aspinall & Porter 2011. **NB** Red- & Black-headed Buntings known to hybridise E Iran & possibly SE Caspian (perhaps on Russian side of Volga); males should be identifiable Ayé *et al* 2012.
1200	Black-faced Bunting	*Emberiza spodocephala* (*Schoeniclus spodocephala* H&M4 -case agreement subsidiary: **TiF** places in *Orospina*)	Polytypic. Easternmost taxon *personata* proposed elevation to species rank as Masked Bunting in draft IOC12.1: Weissensteiner 2013, Weissensteiner *et al* 2014, Päckert *et al* 2015, Brazil 2018. Thinly widespread-locally common in riverside growth in Russian forest-steppe & subtaiga E to c 90ºE & may have retreated E since 1950s Rogacheva 1992. Reports of vagrancy Kazakhstan rejected W&O 2007 & Uzbekistan (K-M&K 2005) but both accepted by Ayé *et al* 2012; unequivocal singing male Uba valley western Altai June 2017 first for Kazakhstan **DB39(4):** 273, likely calling female also heard suggesting possible breeding Wassink 2018, although one imaged by Natalya Borovaya Jun 2016 in the settlement 'Black Uba' Vostochno-Kazakhstanskaya Oblast. Taxon *oligoxantha* (recently erected or resurrected?) may be valid Kees Roselaar *et al* 2010. Rare vagrant to WP Harrop 2007, so must have crossed OSME Region. 1st for Israel trapped & ringed at Heffer Valley Ringing Station, photo Francis Argyle, seen briefly again, briefly at Agamon Hefer Nov 2021, Yoav Perlman *in litt* , added to national list 2022 **DB44(2):** 156. **NB** Populations bear divergent cytochrome c oxidase 1 (CO1) lineages, potentially including cryptic taxa Kerr *et al* 2009: Collar 2017 notes elevation of extralimital taxon *personata* to sp, Masked Bunting of Japan.
1201	Pallas's Reed Bunting (Pallas's Bunting)	*Emberiza pallasi* (*Schoeniclus pallasi* H&M4 & **TiF**)	E Palearctic pecies, 4 sspp, only *polaris* known to occur in Region in Kazakh Altai. Locally common Krasnoyarsk Republic to N of Region, *polaris* in forest-steppe and shrub tundra, *pallasi* high in extralimital Sayan Mts Rogocheva 1992. Has occurred E Kyrgyzstan, E Kazakhstan, Byers *et al* 1995, common BM southern Altai 2100-2600m asl E-most Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b, winters S to E China. Common BM Kazakh Altai Arend Wassink *in litt* Dec 2014; also breeds nearby Chinese Tien Shan & Russian Altai, Kees Roselaar pers comm. Also wanders widely, with 8 European WP (excluding European Russia) records Corso *et al* 2019, but none in OSME Region away from breeding grounds.. **NB** Populations bear divergent cytochrome c oxidase 1 (CO1) lineages, potentially including cryptic taxa Kerr *et al* 2009.
1202	Common Reed Bunting	*Emberiza schoeniclus* (*Schoeniclus schoeniclus* H&M4 & **TiF**)	18 sspp, 10 perhaps 11+ breed or winter wetlands in the Region: *schoeniclus* SW Asia; *passerina* common PM, WV Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b, wintering Iran; *palliodor* scarce BM N to NE Kazakhstan common PM throughout Wassink 2015b, wintering SW&C Asia, Afghanistan & extralimitally; *incognita* common BM, occasional resident NW, N-C Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b, wintering Caspian & extralimitally to E of Region; *pyrrhuloides* common resident, rare BM across the Eurasian desert/semi-desert steppe of S Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b; *harterti* rare BM E-most Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b; *reiseri* W&C Turkey; tsuschii Georgia-Sea of Azov; *caspius* E Turkey, E Transcaucasia, NW&N Iran; *korejewi* SE Turkey, Syria, SW&E Iran, S Turkmenistan. *E.s. pyrrhuloides* Turkmenistan, Bukreev 1997. Breeds W,C&E Turkey Roselaar 1995 Turkey, Caucasus, CA, Syria, N Iran (scarce Scott & Adhami 2006); winters E Iraq Moore & Boswell 1941-46, but some birds puzzlingly small (possibly misidentified Little Bunting *E. pusilla* , which would have been first Iraq record: Richard Porter & Simon Aspinall). 2-record vagrant Oman 1990 **OBL7**, 2nd at Filim, Barr al-Hikman Nov 2019 **DB42(1):** 63; 10th UAE record Zakher Lake Dec 2020 **EBRC .** Ayé *et al* 2012 grade 7 sspp in CA thus: 1. 'Northern group'; *harterti* (E Kazakhstan), *passerina* (PM,WV), *schoeniclus* (PM, WV) all darker overall & with finer bills than 2. 'Southern group'; *pyrrhuloides* (W to SE Kazakhstan), *korejewi* (SW&E Iran, S Turkmenistan; 3. 'Intermediate group'; *incognita* (N&C Kazakhstan), *palliodor* (N&NE Kazakhstan). However, H&M4 list 3 groups, not quite as above, but do not allocate extrlimital *centralasiae* (actually NW China); we await IOC view on groupings. Uncommon winter migrant Israel Perlman & Meyrav 2009. **NB** Bill thickness may be basis of separation as species (reverting to Zarudny 1911?); **DB** 2011 agree group 1, 'Thick-billed Reed Bunting' group, but no consensus on group compositions.

PASSERINE REFERENCES See Part D for full Passerine Reference List

The 'Notes' column of this Table cites abbreviated References. Full citations are given in **Part D**.

NB IH = Ian Harrison, ST = Simon Tull, Oman former report collators and PH = Peter Hellyer, former UAE report collator.

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(As amended by subsequent developments, subject to interpretation by the ORL team)

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Ibis = The journal of the British Ornithologists' Union.

IBRC = Iran Bird Records Committee

IRDC = Israel Rarities and Distribution Committee

JBRC = Jordan Bird Records Committee

KORC = Kuwait Ornithological Records Committee

LBRC = Lebanon Bird Records Committee

OBRC = Oman Bird Records Committe

QBRC = Qatar Bird Records Committee

TBRC = Turkish Birds Record Committee

SG = *Sandgrouse* . ATR = Around The Region

OTHER ACKNOWLEDGED CURRENT MAJOR BIRD LISTS & SOURCES

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