

The OSME Region List of Bird Taxa

Part C: Passerines. Version 10.2: January 2025

(OSME Region Map: 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 Lebanon.

Includes changes indicated in IOC15.1 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 Please do not cite them in any formal correspondence or papers.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.

Fields in Column A shaded thus indicate sequence changes of taxa since the previous version.

A broad dark orange line, as below, indicates the last taxon in a new or suggested species split, or where ssp 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 allopecies – we use the same convention for semispecies and we use round brackets (...) where the status of a taxon is not entirely clear-cut; eg the evidence may not be wholly convincing and subject to debate, it may not yet be fully available, we may have overlooked it or not found it, or the evidence on one part of a taxon's range may differ from that in another. In its simplest form this is our 'Don't know' category. (Terms such as 'superspecies' are explained in the [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			
628	Rosy-patched Bush-Shrike	<i>Telophorus cruentus</i> (<i>Rhodophoneus cruentus</i>)	Monotypic. Vagrant SE Egypt (ssp <i>cruentus</i> 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 within 20km direct to Perim Island, Yemen, or 17km from nearest Djibouti Island to Perim; breeds Eritrean coast, recorded Dahlak Islands de Monti <i>et al</i> 2009. NB Mapped in Assab Bay Islands & in half-degree square including Perim Island Ash & Atkins 2009. Taxonomy follows Fuchs <i>et al</i> 2004; IOC 2.6. Shirihai & Svensson 2018 remain with <i>Rhodophoneus</i> .
PT	Black-crowned Tchagra	<i>Tchagra senegalus</i> (formerly <i>T. senegala</i>)	Morphological differences of taxon <i>percivali</i> from <i>T. senegalus</i> African ssp 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 <i>percivali</i> has very different song and calls from <i>senegalus</i> ; CSNA/Dutch Birding Jan 2022 suggest English name 'Arabian Tchagra'.
629	Arabian Black-crowned Tchagra (Black-crowned Tchagra, Black-crowned Bush-Shrike)	<i>Tchagra (senegalus) percivali</i>	English name informal@OSME. CSNA treat as full sp DB44:1 Babbington & Ebels 2023. African species, ssp <i>percivali</i> HBW14 breeding S Yemen Porter & Warr 1985, S Yemen Warr 1992 & Oman Harris & Franklin (H&F) 2000. In SW Arabia, taxon <i>percivali</i> resident bushy scrub on slopes and in wadis in & adjacent to Tihama, but also <i>percivali</i> 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 <i>et al</i> 2021, who also are the first to describe a nest of this population (in Asir). NB <i>T.s. habessinicus</i> reported to have strayed to Region, possibly from Djibouti via Perim Island (17.5 km longest sea crossing).
Campephagidae			
630	Long-tailed Minivet	<i>Pericrocotus ethologus</i>	NE Afghanistan, Roberts 1992, MacKinnon & Phillips (M&P) 2000, HBW10, R&A 2005; IOC4.1 ssp <i>favillaceus</i> . N Nuristan Ayé <i>et al</i> 2012. Common summer visitor to Pakistan up to NE Afghanistan border, Grimmett <i>et al</i> 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 <i>in litt</i> refer this species to <i>P. brevirostris</i> , Short-billed Minivet: 1950s ID separation criteria then inadequate: the latter's range does not reach Kashmir to the west.
631	Rosy Minivet	<i>Pericrocotus roseus</i>	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 Betton 2005, based on the primitive taxonomy of UN Food & Agriculture (FAO) 1981 Afghanistan Checklist: Small Minivet <i>P. cinnamomeus</i> (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 <i>et al</i> 1998 for 'rare & local' in NE Pakistan, very close to W end of Afghanistan's Wakhan panhandle possibly muddled understanding more.
632	Black-headed Cuckooshrike	<i>Lalage melanoptera</i>	1st for OSME Region and extended WP at Nobandian, near Chabahar, Sistan & Baluchestan, Iran, 50km from southwesternmost Pakistan border, some 50km N of Jiwani Bay Jan 2025 IBRC . IUCN map Feb 2025 shows breeding distribution not reaching Pakistan from India near Lahore 1500km away & non-breeding distribution from Ahmedabad 1190km away. The species is known to travel long distances between breeding & non-breeding areas in India.
Oriolidae			

PT	Eurasian Golden Oriole PT	<i>Oriolus oriolus</i>	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 <i>et al</i> 2015 note sonograms of the two taxa differ. Jönsson <i>et al</i> 2019, in a subspecies-level phylogeny (113 taxa) of the Old World orioles strongly support the separation of <i>oriolus</i> & <i>kundoo</i> , noting their close genetic links to <i>O. chinensis diffusus</i> probably reflects their shared migratory tendency. Few of the other 110 taxa are strongly migratory, the corollary being that many <i>chinensis</i> Asian island taxa my warrant species status. NB Sequence change follows IOC10.1 via Jönsson <i>et al</i> 2019
633	Indian Golden Oriole {Eurasian Golden Oriole}	<i>Oriolus kundoo</i>	Monotypic. Taxonomy follows R&A 2005 HBW13. <i>O.o. kundoo</i> Turkmenistan, Bukreev 1997. Breeds E CA, Afghanistan (widely, Paludan 1959, supported in maps in Roberts 1992 & H&E 1970; possibly also Bamiyan Busuttill & 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 <i>et al</i> 2018. Two examined in the hand Masirah (autumn 2006 Łukaszyk <i>in litt</i> 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 <i>et al</i> 2012 confirm <i>kundoo</i> , 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, though the current official list restored it, noting one photographed on Konark coast, Chabahar, Sistan & Baluchestan Dec 2021 also 1st for WP IBRC , 2nd for Iran at Jihad Park, Hormozgan, Bandar Abbas Feb 2024 DB46:2 127, 3rd at Tiss, Sidtan & Baluchestan Jan 2025 IBRC . BLDZ Oct 2021 maps summer breeding in most of C & E Afghanistan, most of Kyrgyzstan, Far S of Kazakhstan & both sides of Uzbekistan-Turkmenistan border to Lake Sarygamys, extending into N Uzbekistan past Muynak.
634	Eurasian Golden Oriole	<i>Oriolus oriolus</i>	Monotypic. <i>O.o. oriolus</i> S Turkmenistan, Bukreev 1997. Breeds Türkiye, uncommon Israel Perlman & Meyrav 2009, N Syria, N Iraq (male calls like Jay <i>Garrulus glandarius</i> Moore & Boswell 1941-46), Caucasus, N&W Iran Khaleghizadeh <i>et al</i> 2017; common BM, PM N-C & E Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b, Ayé <i>et al</i> 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 , uncommon autumn vagrant to Socotran Archipelago Porter & Sulemiman 2020, 2022; localised breeder Cyprus Richardson 2014, winters mostly sub-equatorial Africa. Egypt Avib, BE
635	Black-naped Oriole	<i>Oriolus chinensis</i>	1st OSME record Thumrait Oman 13 Dec 2011 OBL7 , probably <i>diffusus</i> , which is known to differ widely from some SE Asian island ssp Jönsson <i>et al</i> 2010; the 18 current ssp may well see some elevated. One immature at Dubai, Safa Park 18-25 Feb 2012 (Found by A & M Günther & others) EBRC . A record of at least 2, possibly 3 birds for Iran at Jahad Park Bandar Abbas 7 & 8 Feb 2023, Pedrambird <i>in litt</i> , imaged by Houman Doroudi, Seyed Mahdi Naghibi & Elham Shaniti was accepted as Iran's 2nd record by IBRC Doroudi <i>et al</i> 2023, the 1st being a resurrected record imaged Dec 2019 at Qeshm Island Hormozgan DB46:2 127. Given that the nearest known breeding area of <i>diffusus</i> to the Region is W-C & SW India (IUCN Map Feb 2023), perhaps there is a closer unknown population, say in the hilly forests of S Gujarat near the Vansda National Park?
		Dicruridae	The rearrangement of this family by Pasquet <i>et al</i> 2007 & Jönsson <i>et al</i> 2016 towards monophyly results in the western drongos being assigned to <i>Edolius</i> . Fuchs <i>et al</i> 2018a (remaining with <i>Dicrurus</i>), in an analysis of the Fork-tailed Drongo across Africa, favour splitting it into 6 spp, in which process revise ssp distributions. A reduced <i>Dicrurus</i> (<i>Edolius</i>) <i>adsimilis</i> occupies eastern Africa from Ethiopia to South Africa, ssp <i>jubaensis</i> being the northernmost in southern Ethiopia & Somalia. Now (as per IOC13.2), the 2 taxa briefly split as Glossy-backed Drongo <i>divaricatus</i> & <i>lugubris</i> revert to ssp of Fork-tailed Drongo Fuchs <i>et al</i> 2018a/2018b; <i>lugubris</i> is the taxon that occupies the central & southernmost Eritrean, Djiboutian (including Bab al-Mandab Strait) and N Somalian coasts. The relumping notes that the fragment of mtDNA gene indicating a possible split is unsupported: furthermore, hybridisation is now documented between <i>jubaensis</i> and <i>lugubris</i> . (The BLDZ map Jul 2020 is of the unsplit Fork-tailed Drongo.)
636	Ashy Drongo	<i>Edolius leucophaeus</i> (<i>Dicrurus leucophaeus</i>)	NE Afghanistan (to E China), Dickinson 2003 ssp <i>longicaudatus</i> HBW14. Breeds NE Afghanistan R&A 2005 Paludan 1959. Grimmett <i>et al</i> 1998, 2009 support, as does Roberts 1992 (E Afghan Safed Koh, also H&E 1970); confirmed summer breeder S Nuristan Ayé <i>et al</i> 2012. 1st for Kazakhstan photographed by Alexandr Fedulin at Korgalzhyn June 2019 Wassink <i>et al</i> 2021. 20 records UAE/Kuwait/Israel/Oman/Iran Khil <i>et al</i> 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, 4th at Kuwait University Feb 2023 KORC . Haas 2017, 1st for Israel Dec 2014 Israel Checklist 2015. 1st record Oman Nov 2014 Klunderud <i>et al</i> 2016, 2nd Khawr Taqah Dec 2021 OBRC : putative 3rd reorted at Duqm, al-Wusta Jan 2024 DB46:2 127 re-identified as Grey-bellied Cuckoo <i>Cacomantis passerinus</i> DB46:3 194. 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 ssp extralimital to E H&M4. NB1 Khil <i>et al</i> 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
637	Fork-tailed Drongo (Relumped to include Glossy-backed Drongo as ssp)	<i>Edolius adsimilis divaricatus</i> (earlier <i>Dicrurus adsimilis</i>)	Polytypic: ssp <i>lugubris</i> occurs S Red Sea African coast Ash & Atkins 2009, HBW14. Extralimital is the nominate (Lake Chad and points W) and <i>fugax</i> (Kenya to S Africa). One (as Fork-tailed Drongo <i>Dicrurus adsimilis</i>) reported Yemen 28 Oct 1946 Phoenix 30: 9, confirmed <i>Dicrurus</i> , probably <i>adsimilis</i> Browne 2015 (PWP Browne original observer 1946!). From description & location, highly unlikely to be any other Drongo ssp, although modern ID knowledge would require particular characters to be included in description. NB1 Though Fuchs <i>et al</i> 2017 made a reasonable case for elevating ssp <i>divaricatus</i> to species rank, the deeper analysis of Fuchs <i>et al</i> 2018a/2018b indicated stronger links to related African taxa at ssp level. NB2 At Bab al Mandab Strait, island-hopping from Djibouti via 3 islets to Kadga Dabali covers 12km, then the longest sea crossing leg is Kadga Dabali-Birim (Perim) Island 17.5km, then Birim-Yemen mainland 3km. Long classed as uncertain Yemen WBDB 2008 Checklist, Mike Evans† pers comm.
638	Black Drongo	<i>Edolius macrocercus</i> (<i>Dicrurus macrocercus</i>)	ssp <i>albrictus</i> 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 Khorasan-e-Razavi Mar 2017 DB40:1 54, Khaleghizadeh <i>et al</i> 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 'Pedrambird' <i>in litt</i> . 7-record vagrant Oman OBL7 , another at Khawr Taqah Dec 2021 DB44:1 61. Becoming less rare & irregular UAE: 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, al-Suwaidi <i>et al</i> 2023, who note predominance in urban Dubai not easily explained. Kuwait 1st record Pekka Fågel (not the finder) <i>in litt</i> Nov 2015, KORC , present until 02 Dec 2015 Haas 2017; 1st for Uzbekistan at Aktepa hunting lodge, Surkhandarya Region, imaged by Timur Abduraupov Jun 2019. Breeds NE Afghanistan R&A 2005, widely so Paludan 1959, Ayé <i>et al</i> 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 ssp extralimital to E H&M4.
		Monarchidae	
639	Black-naped Monarch	<i>Hypothymis azurea</i>	Photographed Feb 2011 near Jask, Hormozgan, Iran, in woodland, by Ali Alieslam (Alieslam 2014) vagrant Iran Khaleghizadeh <i>et al</i> 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) <i>Sea Swallow</i> 38: 49: nearest known breeding area near Karachi, Pakistan, some 450km from Iranian border IUCN map Aug 2024. Likely ssp <i>styani</i> of S Asia, vagrant to Region, all 23 other ssp being extralimital even further E. NB del Hoyo <i>et al</i> 2016 split Pale-blue Monarch <i>H. puella</i> (extralimital, Sulawesi).
640	African Paradise Flycatcher	<i>Terpsiphone viridis</i>	African species, 10 African ssp; ssp <i>harterti</i> SW Arabia to S Oman, Dickinson 2003. Mainly southern Tihama up to 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 <i>et al</i> 2015.

641	Indian Paradise Flycatcher (Asian Paradise Flycatcher)	<i>Terpsiphone paradisi</i>	<i>T.p. leucogaster</i> 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 Zialyskiy 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 <i>et al</i> 2020, who also eliminated other taxa formerly treated as sspp of Asian Paradise Flycatcher <i>T. paradisi sensu lato</i> . 1st for Iran Nov 2021 near Bandar Abbas <i>Birding Iran in litt</i> Feb 2023: 2 others reported; one near Gwadar (no details), 3rd record Feb 2023 at Mellat Park, Minab, Hormozgan IBRC , 6th at Minab Jan 2025 IBRC . All 3 other sspp extralimital to E. NB IOC5.4 accepted extralimital splits E of Region: del Hoyo <i>et al</i> 2016, Eaton <i>et al</i> 2016.
		Laniidae	Zhang <i>et al</i> 2007 formally concluded that Brown Shrike <i>Lanius cristatus</i> & Red-backed Shrike <i>L. collurio</i> are independent species & that Long-tailed Shrike <i>L. schach</i> & extralimital Grey-backed Shrike <i>L. tephronotus</i> are distinct species. Fuchs <i>et al</i> 2019 validates these conclusions, adding that <i>L. phoenicuroides</i> & <i>L. isabellinus</i> are just as distant as <i>L. collurio</i> is from <i>L. cristatus</i> ; all are separate lineages, which position is taken by Lefranc & Worfolk 2022. NB1 The documented tendency for migratory birds to spend the northern hemisphere non-breeding season has now been proven linked to Climate Change Lehtikoinen <i>et al</i> 2021. NB2 IOC13.2 resequences Laniidae .

In the 14 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 omits *L. borealis* taxa, hence the IOC13.2 resequencing. 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. Lefranc & Worfolk 2022 align likewise.

NB1 This kind of taxonomic complexity is far from uncommon; eg the *flavalcitreola* 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 & Lefranc & Worfolk 2022.

Clade 4 (Fuchs in Lefranc & Worfolk 2022) includes *L. excubitor* (as a superspecies comprising *L. excubitor* [*sensu stricto*] , *L. borealis* (which the ORL does not include in this superspecies) plus [extralimital to the OSME Region] Iberian Grey Shrike *L. meridionalis*, Loggerhead Shrike *L. ludovicianus*, & Giant Grey Shrike *L. giganteus*, & treat Chinese Grey Shrike *L. sphenocercus* as a sister sp of Giant Grey Shrike *L. giganteus*.

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 <i>meridionalis</i> . Olsson <i>et al</i> 2010 & Fuchs <i>et al</i> 2019 essentially agree with Vaurie's original arrangement.	<i>Lanius excubitor</i>	Previous morphological comparisons of the large grey shrikes anomalous to some degree (unquantified) with DNA studies of small groups. Olsson <i>et al</i> 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 <i>et al</i> 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 <i>in litt</i> 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 <i>Motacilla flava</i> (<i>sensu lato</i>) complex, & that recent gene flow often evident (Bannikova 2010). Olsson <i>et al</i> 2010 also suggest as potential spp Somali Fiscal <i>L. somalicus</i> , (Hartlaub 1859), some sspp of Loggerhead Shrike <i>L. ludovicianus</i> (Linnaeus 1766 [8 sspp]) (extralimital), Chinese Grey Shrike <i>L. sphenocercus</i> (Cabanis 1873) & Giant Grey Shrike <i>L. giganteus</i> (Przevalski 1887) (<i>qv</i> ORL Hypothetical List); relationships of these taxa to those below are not yet known. The AOU accepted the split of Northern Shrike <i>L. borealis</i> (including E Palearctic <i>sibiricus</i> , <i>bianchii</i> , <i>mollis</i> , <i>funereus</i>) from Great Grey Shrike <i>L. excubitor</i> in June 2017 accepting the submission by Pam Rasmussen 2017. IOC8.2 transferred sspp <i>koenigi</i> , <i>algeriensis</i> , <i>elegans</i> , <i>leucopygus</i> , <i>aucheri</i> , <i>theresae</i> , <i>buryi</i> , <i>uncinatus</i> & <i>lahtora</i> from <i>L. meridionalis</i> to <i>L. excubitor</i> : note <i>theresae</i> may be invalid, Rand 1960. We treat the <i>excubitor sensu stricto</i> complex as a superspecies, but separate from the <i>borealis</i> complex, much as do Lefranc & Worfolk 2022; Schweizer 2020 recommends a genome-wide examination of the <i>L. excubitor</i> complex. NB1 Ayé <i>et al</i> 2012 & Rasmussen & Anderton 2012 support. NB2 Collar 2013 counsels caution on conflicting morphological/reproductive isolation and molecular data as to assigning rank. NB3 Populations bear divergent cytochrome c oxidase 1 (CO1) lineages, potentially including cryptic taxa Kerr <i>et al</i> 2009. NB4 Red'kin <i>et al</i> 2015 acknowledge the approach of Olsson <i>et al</i> 2010 & Poelstra 2010. NB5 IOC11.2 has accepted split between extralimital Chinese Grey Shrike <i>L. sphenocercus</i> & Giant Grey Shrike <i>L. giganteus</i> .
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Clade A3 in Olsson et al 2010

642	Great Grey Shrike (Northern Shrike)	<i>Lanius [excubitor] excubitor</i>	Taxa in OSME Region are <i>excubitor</i> , <i>homeyeri</i> (Cabanis 1873 & <i>leucopterus</i> (Severtzov 1873). (Vaurie's OSME-extralimital taxa were <i>L.e. bianchii</i> , <i>L.e. mollis</i> , <i>L.e. funereus</i> [Asia]) <i>L.e. borealis</i> , <i>L.e. invictus</i> [N. America] plus all taxa by 2009 included in <i>L. meridionalis</i> [except <i>L. meridionalis</i> itself], eg <i>koenigi</i> , <i>algeriensis</i> , <i>elegans</i> , <i>leucopygus</i> , <i>aucheri</i> , <i>buryi</i> , <i>lahtora</i> , <i>pallidirostris</i> , <i>uncinatus</i> .) Clade A3 comprises <i>excubitor</i> , <i>homeyeri</i> & <i>leucopterus</i> (Severtzov 1873) only: Poelstra 2010 and Red'kin <i>et al</i> 2015 agree; <i>leucopterus</i> not recognised in Dickinson 2003 or by IOC, though Lefranc & Worfolk 2022 acknowledge that Tajkova & Red'kin 2014, in recognising <i>leucopterus</i> for certain populations distinct from the occurrence of <i>homeyeri</i> , it may be a valid ssp if these breeding distributions are supported by further fieldwork. (Distribution: SW France to N & E continental Europe between c45°N & subarctic as far E as c90°E). <i>Pro tem</i> , all Turkish records (save <i>pallidirostris</i>) assigned to <i>L. excubitor sensu lato</i> Kirwan <i>et al</i> 2014; Ayé <i>et al</i> 2012, R&A 2012 (<i>homeyeri</i> vagrant Indian subcontinent) support ORL approach; <i>excubitor</i> scarce WV, PM Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b & <i>homeyeri</i> scarce PM, WV, accidental BM or resident, <i>contra</i> L&W 1997; Ayé <i>et al</i> 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 <i>et al</i> 2017. 1st record of nominate Agios Theodoros, Larnaca Cyprus Feb 2018 CBRC . NB1 Johnsen <i>et al</i> 2010 also confirm Scandinavian <i>excubitor</i> further from Nearctic <i>borealis</i> than <i>borealis</i> from Loggerhead Shrike <i>L. ludovicianus</i> . NB2 Tajkova & Red'kin 2014 document 20th century <i>L. borealis sibiricus</i> specimens & observations from Ukraine. NB3 validity of <i>leucopterus</i> debated; <i>przewalskii</i> (Bogdanov 1881) has proponents, but possibly synonymous with <i>homeyeri</i> . NB4 TIF Checklist John Boyd Jan 2016 largely supports, though slightly more conservatively.
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From the *sensu lato* 'southern group' of Vaurie's 1955 correspondence & of Rand 1960, our arrangement below is the most likely from Shirihai & Svensson 2018 & Lefranc & Worfolk 2022, 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 & Bannikova 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

643	Saharan Grey Shrike NB This name previously used with combinations of taxa listed in Notes column. ('Elegant Grey Shrike' Lefranc & Worfolk 2022; Desert Grey Shrike DBWP 2024)	<i>Lanius [excubitor] elegans</i> (<i>Lanius elegans</i> : DBWP 2024)	English name informal@OSME. Taxon <i>elegans</i> formerly treated as ssp of <i>L. meridionalis</i> . Clade B comprises <i>elegans</i> (Swainson 1832), <i>leucopygos</i> (Hemprich & Ehrenberg 1833) (former reaches OSME Region in SE Egypt, latter possibly occurs from NE Sudan in SE Egypt); <i>algeriensis</i> (Lesson 1839) & <i>koenigi</i> (Hartert 1901) (both extralimital); Poelstra 2010 & Red'kin <i>et al</i> 2015 agree: 'jebelmarrae' included in <i>aucheri</i> Rand 1960, Yosef & ISWG 2008. 6th record Cyprus Apr 2014 CRC . Claim of Egypt-S Lebanon as <i>elegans</i> L&W 1997 now needs re-evaluation. NB1 Fuchs 2019, Lefranc & Worfolk 2022 suggest <i>elegans</i> may warrant full species status with ssp <i>leucopygos</i> (subsuming <i>theresae</i>), <i>algeriensis</i> , & <i>koenigi</i> . NB2 DBWP 2011 call this taxon 'Desert Grey Shrike', but see reservations in next account.
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Clade A2 in Olsson *et al* 2010 (CSNA, Dutch Birding combine Clades A1 & A2)

644	Arabian Grey Shrike (Name 'Levant Grey Shrike' DBWP 2011) poorly descriptive of taxon's distribution, despite mention in Lefranc & Worfolk 2022.)	<i>Lanius [excubitor] aucheri</i>	English name informal@OSME. If split as given here, polytypic with one ssp <i>buryi</i> . English name informal@OSME. Taxon <i>aucheri</i> previously treated as ssp of <i>L. meridionalis</i> . Clade A2 comprises <i>aucheri</i> (Bonaparte 1853) & <i>buryi</i> (Lorenz & Hellmayr 1901). Breeding distributions (Evgeniy Panov unpub map): <i>buryi</i> Yemen (S Arabia); <i>aucheri</i> sedentary S&W Iran Khaleghizadeh <i>et al</i> 2017, C Iraq Salim <i>et al</i> 2012 (as <i>L. meridionalis</i>), SE Syria, E&W Arabia; abundant resident breeder Oman OBL7 . Jennings 2010 from surveys (as <i>L. meridionalis</i>) agrees with Panov, but maps <i>aucheri</i> into C Arabia, an extension into recently irrigated areas: perhaps (splitting Jennings' 2010 total) 75 000bp <i>buryi</i> 175 000bp <i>aucheri</i> (also a passage migrant), but Olsson <i>et al</i> 2010 map also W of Red Sea supplanting previous mapping as <i>elegans</i> ; probably <i>aucheri</i> 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 2018, 7th (breeding record), 8th Apr 2019 KORC . Earlier idea of <i>aucheri</i> 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 <i>et al</i> 2010 for exemplary doubts re specimens & descriptions. NB1 Olsson <i>et al</i> 2010 note Clades A1 & A2 may be sisters but 'with poor support': others suggest links close enough for amalgamation. NB2 Fuchs <i>et al</i> 2019, Lefranc & Worfolk 2022 suggest <i>aucheri</i> may warrant full species status (<i>buryi</i> being ssp). NB3 Informal name of <i>buryi</i> 'Yemen Grey Shrike' Lefranc & Worfolk 2022.
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Clade C in Olsson *et al* 2010 (Sole member)

645	Socotra Grey Shrike (informal@OSME)	<i>Lanius [excubitor] uncinatus</i>	Monotypic. Socotra island endemic taxon . English name informal@OSME. Taxon <i>uncinatus</i> previously treated as ssp of <i>L. meridionalis</i> . Clade C comprises <i>uncinatus</i> (Sclater & Hartlaub 1881) only; Olsson <i>et al</i> 2010 support treatment as species. Note that interpretation of molecular data strongly counters meticulous morphological conclusions of Kirwan 2007 (who suggested synonymy with <i>aucheri</i> on morphology). Olsson <i>et al</i> 2010 treatment makes <i>uncinatus</i> essentially a cryptic species. Breeding population from surveys c8000bp Jennings 2010. Hering & Hering 2022d, 2023 described several nests & obtained 1st sonograms of song. Socotra population c26,000 ind Porter & Suleiman 2022. NB Fuchs <i>et al</i> 2019, Lefranc & Worfolk 2022 suggest <i>uncinatus</i> may warrant full species status.
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Clade A1 in Olsson *et al* 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 ssp 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 & Lefranc & Worfolk 2022. 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*.**

646	Maurayan Grey Shrike (Extent of Mahajanapada federation \equiv <i>lahtora</i> & <i>pallidirostris</i> distribution). {Steppe Grey Shrike} (Asian Grey Shrike). 'Desert Grey Shrike' has been applied to another taxon; 'Saxaul Grey Shrike' inadequate. 'Steppe Grey Shrike' for ssp <i>pallidirostris</i> long customary in UK	<i>Lanius [excubitor] lahtora</i> Note <u>name <i>lahtora</i> has priority.</u>	English name informal@OSME. If split as given here, polytypic with one ssp <i>pallidirostris</i> . English name informal@OSME. Taxon <i>pallidirostris</i> formerly treated as ssp of <i>L. meridionalis</i> or as monotypic sp 'Steppe Grey Shrike' <i>L. pallidirostris</i> . IOC9.1 relumps as ssp of <i>L. excubitor pro tem</i> , pending further resolution, but we remain as given here. Clade A1 comprises <i>lahtora</i> (Sykes 1832), mostly sedentary + junior to ssp migrant <i>pallidirostris</i> (Cassin 1852) Panov & Bannikova 2010; Ayé <i>et al</i> 2012, R&A 2012 support; <i>pallidirostris</i> 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 <i>et al</i> 2012. Winters; Arabia Jennings 2010, <i>pallidirostris</i> 2-record vagrant Socotra Porter & Suleiman 2022; Ethiopia Ash & Atkins 2009, fairly common PM & WV Oman OBL7 , 3 records Türkiye Kirwan <i>et al</i> 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 IBRC & one at Pal Yam Israel Nov 2021 Yoav Perlman <i>in litt</i> . 1st record Egypt Dec 2010 EORC accepted; vagrant Socotra Porter & Suleiman 2020; one at Qhooqa Plain Socotra, Yemen, Dec 2021 SG44:1 257. English name informal@OSME; possible alternatives 'Mughal' or 'Timur' Grey Shrike. Taxon <i>lahtora</i> resident largely Indian subcontinent, but W as far as SE Iran Evgeniy Panov <i>in litt</i> , Zarudny 1903, Khaleghizadeh <i>et al</i> 2017; <i>pallidirostris</i> 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 <i>et al</i> 2017; moreover, name 'Steppe Grey Shrike' earlier applied to <i>L.(e.) homeyeri</i> Dement'ev & Gladkov 1968. Dutch Birding apply 'Desert Grey Shrike' to African <i>elegans</i> . NB1 Russian molecular data suggest our view of this group is valid Evgeniy Panov <i>in litt</i> . NB2 Olsson <i>et al</i> 2010 note Clades A1 & A2 may be sisters but 'with poor support': others suggest links are close enough for amalgamation. NB3 DBWP 2014 <i>lahtora</i> + <i>pallidirostris</i> + <i>aucheri</i> + <i>buryi</i> 'Asian Grey Shrike' as do Poelstra 2010 & Red'kin <i>et al</i> 2015, but Fuchs <i>et al</i> 2019, Lefranc & Worfolk 2022 suggest <i>lahtora</i> may warrant full species status, but with only <i>pallidirostris</i> as ssp. NB4 Vaurie had considered <i>lahtora</i> for 'southern group' name.
647	Somali Fiscal	<i>Lanius somalicus</i>	Two-record vagrant to Abd-al-Kuri, Socotra Nov 2021 (Mike Jennings <i>in litt</i> to Richard Porter) & Oct 2022 (Mike Beaman <i>in litt</i> to Richard Porter) Porter & Suleiman 2022.

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.

648	Northern Grey Shrike Collar 2017 supports split & English name: <i>cv</i> earlier use of 'Northern Shrike' for solely Nearctic taxa). Vaurie 1959 had considered <i>borealis</i> group as solely Nearctic taxon.	<i>Lanius borealis</i> . NB The 'unexpected presence' of taxa east of c120°E sharing common ancestry with Nearctic taxa is far from unique (<i>qv</i> eg Mongolian Gull in Non-passerines and Barn Swallow in Passerines); it would not be surprising if <i>sibiricus</i> is a localised breeder much further W than 120°E.	Vaurie 1959 had taxon <i>sibiricus</i> as ssp of <i>L. excubitor</i> but Olsson <i>et al</i> 2010, IOC 8.2 & Shirihai & Svensson 2018 place this East Palearctic taxon as ssp of the Nearctic <i>L. borealis</i> (including ssp <i>invictus</i>). Clade D1 therefore comprises <i>borealis</i> (Viellot 1808), Sakhalin & Kurile Islands <i>bianchii</i> (Hartert 1907), Mongolian <i>mollis</i> (Eversmann 1853), E Siberian <i>sibiricus</i> (Bogdanov 1881), & N China <i>funereus</i> (Menzies 1894). Ayé <i>et al</i> 2012 support: AOU accepted June 2017; <i>mollis</i> & <i>sibiricus</i> likely vagrants to Indian subcontinent, but R&A 2012 omit mention; taxon <i>mollis</i> likely breeder high altitude forest edges from E of Kazakhstan to Kyrgyzstan along Chinese border Ayé <i>et al</i> 2012. (Mostly extralimital breeders but <i>sibiricus</i> & <i>funereus</i> PM in OSME Region); <i>funereus</i> occasional or very rare RB SE Kazakhstan (Dzhungarian Mts) Wassink 2015b; possibly still WV easternmost Kyrgyzstan, but no recent records Arend Wassink <i>in litt</i> 2009; putative breeding distribution of <i>funereus</i> comprises an isolate in SE Kazakhstan adjacent to Alagol Nature reserve and S to Tacheng Prefecture, Xinjiang, China (map in Lefranc & Worfolk 2022) & may not be a valid ssp Shirihai & Svensson 2018; <i>mollis</i> 2-record vagrant E Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b & <i>sibiricus</i> 3-record vagrant: Wassink 2022 notes that only 2 of 6 Kazakh records of <i>mollis/sibiricus</i> meet modern standards (3 specimens untraceable); <i>funereus</i> may be taxon breeding in W&N Kyrgyzstan, Ven 2002. Tajkova & Red'kin 2014 document 20th century <i>L. borealis sibiricus</i> specimens & observations, winterers & outward migrants, from Ukraine at c35°E. As <i>L. borealis</i> , mapped as wintering extensively N-C & NE Mongolia Gombobaatar & Leahy 2019. NB1 Close relationship of <i>borealis</i> & extralimital <i>L. meridionalis</i> (Clade D2 in Olsson <i>et al</i> 2010). NB2 N-S breeding distribution of <i>funereus</i> & <i>mollis</i> athwart that (W-E) of eastern <i>pallidirostris</i> (<i>qv</i>): Wassink 2022 notes Shirihai & Svensson 2018 synonymise <i>funereus</i> in <i>mollis</i> . NB3 Johnsen <i>et al</i> 2010 independently confirm Nearctic <i>borealis</i> closer to Loggerhead Shrike <i>L. ludovicianus</i> than to Scandinavian <i>excubitor</i> . NB4 DB33:1 name <i>L. b. sibiricus</i> (only Northern Shrike. as do IOC 8.2
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Clade 1 (sole member) in Lefranc & Worfolk 2022

649	Masked Shrike	<i>Lanius nubicus</i>	Monotypic. A relatively little-studied sp; Lefranc 2017 summarises behavioural observations of the Cyprus population. BM W & S Türkiye, Levant, Syria, N&C Iraq Salim <i>et al</i> 2012 to border with Iran, where common SV Zagros oak forest Khaleghizadeh <i>et al</i> 2017, winters SW Arabia, L&W 1997, but mostly in eastern Sahel in Chad, Sudan & Ethiopia Zwarts <i>et al</i> 2023a. Pair seen Armenia Adamian & Moffat 2009, fairly common spring PM Oman OBL7 , 1st Kazakh record Fetisovo Mangghystau Aug 2010 Wassink <i>et al</i> 2011, Wassink 2015b, 2nd record May 2017 Ustyurt Plateau Wassink 2018, 3rd & 4th Prorva Point Mangghystau May-Jun 2020 Wassink <i>et al</i> 2021. 3rd for Georgia at Batumi, Choroki River delta Sep 2023 DB45:6 412. Egypt Avib, BE. Vagrant recorded as far E as S Gujrat Praveen <i>et al</i> 2019. NB This species has no known extant relatives & diverged from other proto-species 7-9MYa Lefranc & Worfolk 2022.
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Clade 2 (complete) in Lefranc & Worfolk 2022

650	Lesser Grey Shrike	<i>Lanius minor</i>	Now regarded as monotypic H&M4. Türkiye Kirwan <i>et al</i> 2008, CA K-M&K 2005 Armenia Dahl 1954, widespread BM Kazakhstan W&O 2007, Wassink 2015b, all CA countries Ayé <i>et al</i> 2012. Also NW Iran, L&W 1997, SW Iran, N Afghanistan R&A 2005, possibly Bamiyan Busuttill & Ayé 2009. Migrant through Region, vagrant Israel Perlman & Meyrav 2009, likely oftener on return migration, given that the species is a loop migrant, the outward migration mostly being west of the OSME Region, crossing the Mediterranean directly Adamik <i>et al</i> 2023. 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 <i>minor</i> breeds E to Caucasus & N Iraq (passage only confirmed Salim <i>et al</i> 2012), <i>uranicus</i> E & N from Armenia HBW13 . IOC treats as monotypic. NB3 Its closest relative is Woodchat Shrike <i>L. senator</i> Fuchs <i>et al</i> 2019. NB4 Declining sharply on its western range limits, even in its Slovakian stronghold whose current upper limit of 400 pairs was the lower limit in 2000 Lefranc & Worfolk 2022. Antón Krištín <i>in litt</i> to Norbert Lefranc.
651	Woodchat Shrike	<i>Lanius senator</i>	Polytypic. BM W Türkiye <i>L. s. senator</i> , Caucasus Dahl 1954, S Türkiye, Levant, Syria, Iraq Salim <i>et al</i> 2012. SV N&NW, PM W&S Iran Khaleghizadeh <i>et al</i> 2017 (<i>niloticus</i>), 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 <i>et al</i> 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 <i>et al</i> 2021 (submitted preprint) find conflict between sssp distribution, current identity & their mtDNA & nuclear DNA analysis; ssp <i>niloticus</i> differs significantly, but some birds from this taxon's westernmost breeding distribution cluster genetically with the nominate & <i>badius</i> , which latter two seem genetically near-identical. No taxonomic conclusion was reached. NB1 Breeding numbers in Cyprus are declining, but appear to be <i>senator/niloticus</i> intergrades Peter Flint pers comm Nov 2021. NB2 Its closest relative is Lesser Grey Shrike <i>L. minor</i> Fuchs <i>et al</i> 2019.
652	Bay-backed Shrike	<i>Lanius vittatus</i>	Polytypic. Only SE Turkmenistan in CA, K-M&K 2005. <i>L. v. nargianus</i> , also Iran (SE Jan 2009 Winkel <i>et al</i> 2010), Afghanistan, L&W 1997; rare PM & WV Oman OBL7 , bred UAE 2010 DB32:2 . 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 <i>in litt</i> , DB42:3 215; 1st for Kuwait Jahra East Outfall Sep 2020 KORC . NB HBW13 suggestive of winter occurrence of <i>vittatus</i> in SE Iran; seemingly resident in small numbers in 50 x 300km wide strip of easternmost Iran along Pakistan border from the coast to Parome, Panjur, Balochistan (map in Lefranc & Worfolk 2022).

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. Lefranc & Worfolk 2022 find that recent molecular work supports Pearson 2000 & Pearson *et al* 2012. *L. isabellinus* likely winterer Iran & *L. phoenicuroides* breeds & winters. The extralimital breeding populations of WC China comprise 'arenarius' (undefined population) & *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.

653	Daurian Shrike {Isabelline Shrike} (Daurian Isabelline Shrike, Rufous-tailed Shrike)	<i>Lanius isabellinus</i> [Fuchs <i>et al</i> 2019] (formerly considered as <i>Lanius [cristatus] isabellinus</i>) (in some older texts = <i>L. i. isabellinus</i>)	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 sssp, <i>isabellinus</i> , (subsuming <i>speculigerus</i>) <i>tsaidamensis</i> , <i>arenarius</i> : the name <i>arenarius</i> applies now only to those previously attributed to <i>speculigerus</i> ; populations earlier described as <i>arenarius</i> are now considered to be part of <i>isabellinus</i> Lefranc & Worfolk 2022. Acceptance of Panov 2009 means breeding distributions of <i>isabellinus sensu stricto</i> 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 <i>et al</i> 2012 agree, mapping <i>isabellinus sensu stricto</i> as passage migrant across S half of CA, wintering in S Afghanistan. Winters much of S CA, SE Iran (scarce Khaleghizadeh <i>et al</i> 2017), Afghanistan to India R&A 2012, 3rd modern record Georgia Oct 2015 DB37:6 414, some reaching Türkiye Kirwan <i>et al</i> 2008, Cyprus rare (spring) PM, very rare (autumn) PM CBR11 , rare but probably annual Egypt EORC , Iraq Salim <i>et al</i> 2012, Kuwait, SW Arabia in Tihama Jennings 2010, common PM, WV Eastern Province Saudi Arabia Babbington & Meadows 2022; 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 JBRC , 4th there Oct 2022 JBRC . One at Gediz Delta Izmir, Türkiye Jan 2024 imaged by Ergün Cengiz Birding Türkiye <i>in litt</i> . Hybridises with <i>L. collurio</i> & <i>L. phoenicuroides</i> where breeding ranges overlap. NB Regular vagrant to WP Fraser <i>et al</i> 2007.
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654	Red-backed Shrike <i>Lanius collurio</i> [Fuchs <i>et al</i> 2019] (formerly considered as <i>L. [crisatus] collurio</i>)	<p>Monotypic. Päråu <i>et al</i> 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 <i>et al</i> 2019 had demonstrated separate lineage from mtDNA. H&M4, IOC6.2 support monotypicity, subsuming ssp erected previously. Not Turkmenistan (K-M&K 2005), breeds (sspp from HBW13) N of Caucasus, Türkiye, Israel (rare) where common migrant Perlman & Meyrav 2009, Iran Scott & Adhami 2006, common BM, PM Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b & hybrid population with Turkestan/Isabelline Shrike <i>L. phoenicuroides</i>) southern Altai, Saur Mts, Tarbagatai & Zaysan Depression Wassink 2015b, suggested also N Kyrgyzstan (mostly), Ven 2002: Lefranc & Worfolk 2022 add Ayteke Bi District in NE-Central Kazakhstan & S Caspian Iran, Gilan/Mazandaran Provinces. They note it also hybridises with Daurian/Isabelline Shrike <i>L. isabellinus (sensu stricto)</i> at around 50°E across the Mongolia-Russia border. Passage Iraq Salim <i>et al</i> 2012, Cyprus Peter Flint pers comm, fairly common PM Oman OBL7, rare vagrant Socotra Porter & Suleiman 2020, 2022; 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 <i>phoenicuroides</i>, Mallalieu & Seargeant 2016 on advice from Tim Worfolk re-identify a 2009 image of Bay-backed Shrike <i>L. vittatus</i> as <i>L. collurio</i>, antedating records of <i>collurio</i> in 2012 (Bamiyan Province, Anssi Kullberg <i>in litt</i>) and in 2012 & 2013 (Mallalieu & Kaestner 2015): Ostrowski <i>et al</i> 2021 from scattered records & reports confirm <i>collurio</i> as an autumn & likely spring migrant in Afghanistan, surmising that <i>kobylini</i> (now subsumed in the nominate) that breeds in NE Iran (Aliabadian <i>et al</i> 2011) may also breed in NW Afghanistan. Occurs Egypt Avib, BE.</p> <p>NB1 Despite monotypicity, populations bear divergent cytochrome c oxidase 1 (CO1) lineages, potentially including cryptic taxa Kerr <i>et al</i> 2009: Päråu <i>et al</i> 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 Türkiye, the Levant and Egypt or Saudi Arabia to reach their non-breeding areas Tøttrup <i>et al</i> 2017, Briedis <i>et al</i> 2020. NB3 Vagrant to Ascension Island (Bourne & Simmons 1998), Ghana (Hulme <i>et al</i> 2012) and St Lawrence Island, Alaska (1st for Western Hemisphere Pyle <i>et al</i> 2018); a hybrid with Turkestan Shrike <i>L. phoenicuroides</i> reached California (Pyle <i>et al</i> 2015), cited by Lees & Gilroy 2021. NB4 Re Päråu <i>et al</i> 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.</p>
655	Turkestan Shrike (Red-tailed Shrike) (Turkestan Isabelline Shrike, Rufous-tailed Shrike, Rufous Shrike: sometimes informally called Kurdistan Shrike)	<p>Monotypic. Fuchs <i>et al</i> 2019 demonstrate as separate lineage. Monotypic Panov 2009, W Central Asia (K-M&K 2005); E & S of a line Aral-S Caspian (<i>karelini</i>-i-type [lowland] W&O 2007 (as <i>L. phoenicuroides</i>, largely beneath <i>collurio</i> range) including much Iran, Afghanistan, L&W 1997 (E Kandahar Roberts 1992), but also (<i>phoenicuroides sensu stricto</i> Panov 2009) SE Kazakhstan (Terskey Alatau, K 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 (<i>sensu stricto</i>) widespread Kyrgyzstan Ven 2002. (Note earlier <i>phoenicuroides</i>-type [montane Kazakhstan] W&O 2007) breeding Volga-Ural interfluvium Jun 2007 Wassink 2009 (first for Europe), Turkmenistan Bukreev 2005; summer breeder most dry habitats CA Ayé <i>et al</i> 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 <i>L. [i.] isabellinus</i> Jennings 2010; common PM Eastern Province Saudi Arabia Babbington & Meadows 2022. Winters SE Iran (uncommon, but fairly common SB, PM S&E Iran Khaleghizadeh <i>et al</i> 2017), possibly S Iraq but uncommon passage Salim <i>et al</i> 2012, Kuwait, Arabia & E & W Africa, vagrant Türkiye Kirwan <i>et al</i> 2008, has occurred Cyprus CBR11; 2nd for Jordan as this taxon Aqaba May 2017 JBRC; 2 records Israel Ovda & Yovata Mar 2018 IRDC, 3rd for Georgia Abuladze 2023, Budagashvili & Javakishvili 2024.. Hybridises with <i>L. collurio</i> & <i>L. isabellinus</i> (ss) where breeding ranges overlap. Egypt Avib, BE birds this taxon. NB Regular vagrant to WP, Fraser <i>et al</i> 2007, Lefranc & Worfolk 2022.</p>
656	Brown Shrike <i>Lanius cristatus</i> [Fuchs <i>et al</i> 2019] (formerly considered as <i>L. [crisatus] cristatus</i>)	<p>Fuchs <i>et al</i> 2019 demonstrate as separate lineage. 4 ssp HBW13; <i>cristatus</i> likely only ssp to reach Region, seasonal occurrence of <i>confusus</i>, <i>lucionensis</i> & <i>supercilliosus</i> being distantly extralimital Lefranc & Worfolk 2022, but some long-distance vagrancy, W to Scotland and E to California, has been documented for <i>lucionensis</i>, Gujarat being the closest to our Region Lefranc & Worfolk 2022. Very common breeder north of Kazakhstan in southern taiga (c56-60°N) 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 <i>in litt</i> 2009, Ayé <i>et al</i> 2012, Wassink 2015b), perhaps Kyrgyzstan, Lefranc & Worfolk (L&W) 1997, H&F 2000. Vagrant Oman (2 records OBL7.6), 2nd Ayn Hamran Nov 2018 DB41:1 56, SG41:1 ATR: 145, one reported Salalah Dec 2021 not submitted to OBRC, possible 3rd Ayn Hamran Nov 2022 Ian Harrison <i>in litt</i> probably same bird as Jan 2023 confirmed as 3rd DB45:2 133, 4th Ayn Hamran Jan 2023 OBRC; UAE winter Porter & Aspinall 2010, 7 records to 2013 (<i>lucionensis</i> 'Philippine Shrike') EBRC Mitchell 2017, 1st for Iran at Minab, Hormozgan Feb 2020 IBRC, 2nd at Kish, Hormozgan Dec 2024 IBRC: 1st for Turkmenistan Dec 2017 DB39:4 272: if accepted. 1st for Saudi Arabia, juv at al Asfa Lake, Hufuf Dec 2022 SG45:1 155. 1st for Israel Mar 2019 Yoav Perlman <i>in litt</i>. 1st for Kuwait Jahra Jan 2020 DB42:1 58.</p> <p>NB1 Original separation from PT <i>L. cristatus</i> by Voous (1977). NB2 Little interspecific hybridisation known Parkin & Knox 2010, Lefranc & Worfolk 2022, though mixed ssp breeding may explain <i>confusus</i> to some extent Moores 2015. NB3 As a ssp possibly worthy of species status, <i>supercilliosus</i> is declining very quickly & is close to Critically Endangered. Lefranc & Worfolk 2022.</p>
657	Long-tailed Shrike (Black-headed Shrike)	<p>Polytypic. S CA (K-M&K 2005) <i>L. s. erythronotus</i> Turkmenistan, Bukreev 1997, also Tajikistan, Kyrgyzstan, S-C & S Kazakhstan, NE Afghanistan Ayé <i>et al</i> 2012. Other 8 ssp extralimital over vast range E to China coast & SE to E New Guinea Lefranc & Worfolk 2022. Breeds mostly W Kyrgyzstan & Ferghana, Ven 2002, common BM SE Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b, A record of 2 adults & 3 young at Atyrau at the mouth of the Ural River, N Caspian Jan 2016 the 1st record for the WP Wassink 2016, Sarayev 2017, Haas 2017: likely range extension N to Betpak-Dala Martin <i>et al</i> 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, 10th there Feb-Mar 2022 EBRC, vagrant Jordan Dufoury 2006, single-record vagrant Apr 2015 Eastern Province 1st for Saudi Arabia Babbington & Meadows 2022; Türkiye Kirwan <i>et al</i> 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 <i>et al</i> 2016, 1st breeding reported Jul 2015 IBRC. NB1 Parasitised by Common Cuckoo <i>Cuculus canorus</i> in Kashmir Bates & Lowther 1952. NB2 Extralimital polytypic Grey-backed Shrike <i>L. tephronotus</i> was split from <i>L. schach</i> Zhang <i>et al</i> 2007, Fuchs <i>et al</i> 2019, but <i>L. schach</i> likely will be split further Lefranc & Worfolk 2022</p>
Corvidae		
658	Siberian Jay <i>Perisoreus infaustus</i>	<p>N Kazakhstan (K-M&K 2005), Madge & Burn (M&B) (1994). Rare resident NE Kazakhstan <i>opicus</i> (Altai) Wassink 2015b, Ayé <i>et al</i> 2012. Kryukov 2019, using mitochondrial and complete genome variation, found no genetic variation across its vast boreal Palearctic distribution. Song <i>et al</i> 2020a, using 11 microsatellite markers to assay genetic diversity across 58 Sichuan Jay <i>P. internigrans</i> 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 <i>infaustus</i> (as isolate?) <i>inter alia</i> in SE Russia (cis-Caucasus?), but error suspected; 3 other Eurasian ssp extralimital.</p>
659	Eurasian Jay <i>Garrulus glandarius</i>	<p>Polytypic, currently with 34 ssp IOC14.2 (qv for distributions, but 7 known in Region). Considerable plumage variation between ssp. Asia Minor, Caucasus, N Iraq (plumage so different from W European birds that initial ID difficult Moore & Boswell 1941-46). Common forests N&W Iran ssp <i>anatoliae</i>, <i>krynickyi</i>, <i>hyrcanus</i> Khaleghizadeh <i>et al</i> 2017, N&C Israel Perlman & Meyrav 2009. W Afghanistan? M&B 1994, scarce resident Gaza al-Safadi 2006. 9 of 34 ssp in Region HBW14. NW, N-C & NE Kazakhstan, <i>brandtii</i> rare resident, WV Wassink 2015b; <i>brandtii</i> (with <i>pekingensis</i>) suggested as separable 'Brandt's Jay' (as are other eastern taxa) Brazil 2009: perhaps 10 of 34 ssp (8 or 9 H&M4) breed, winter in or stray to Region. Extralimital eastern taxa <i>bispecularis</i>, <i>leucotis</i> 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 <i>et al</i> 2009.</p>
660	'Cyprus Jay' <i>Garrulus glandarius glaszneri</i>	<p>Island endemic of Cyprus. Moderate population increase Cyprus 2006-2015 Hellicar 2016. English name is informal @ OSME.</p>

661	Black-headed Jay (Lanceolated Jay)	<i>Garrulus lanceolatus</i>	Monotypic HBW14, H&M4. E Afghanistan, M&B (1994), NE, R&A 2005 H&E 1970, resident Nurestan Paludan 1959 Ayé <i>et al</i> 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	<i>Pica pica</i>	Previous splits removed Nearctic Yellow-billed (<i>P. nuttalli</i>) and Black-billed (<i>P. hudsonia</i>) Magpies. The suggested split below occasioned first by species account in HBW14 (Steve Madge) & reinforced by Song <i>et al</i> 2018 & Kryukov <i>et al</i> 2017: IOC 8.2 accepts split, Shirihai & Svensson 2018 yet unreadable to: BLDZ maps indicate taxon <i>asirensis</i> at least 2250km from taxon <i>pica</i> in Türkiye & 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 <i>et al</i> 2010 system, but Kryukov <i>et al</i> 2017 & Song <i>et al</i> 2018 provide strong support: they also indicate separation (extralimital) under <i>serica</i> , ssp <i>anderssoni</i> & <i>jankowski</i> (the latter not listed by IOC); Kryukov <i>et al</i> 2020 strengthen support for this split. Kryukov <i>et al</i> 2022 propose split via integrative taxonomy into a western group that loses 3 taxa to extralimital <i>P. serica</i> (Chinese Magpie: informal English name @OSME): <i>serica</i> , <i>alashanica</i> & <i>jankowskii</i> . Lee <i>et al</i> 2003 noted degrees of mtDNA distinctiveness among <i>Pica</i> 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 <i>Pica</i> 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 <i>et al</i> 2009. NB2 Although Song <i>et al</i> 2018 & Brazil 2009 called extralimital <i>P. serica</i> 'Oriental Magpie', given that all 3 ssp detached by Kryukov <i>et al</i> 2022 occur mostly in China, we suggest that 'Chinese Magpie' is preferable. NB3 Song <i>et al</i> 2018 also split extralimital Maghreb Magpie <i>P. mauretanicus</i> & Black-rumped Magpie <i>P. bottanensis</i> IOC13.2.
662	Eurasian Magpie (We retain English name post Kryukov <i>et al</i> 2022, who detached only 3 ssp as separate species <i>P. serica</i> .) [Black-billed Magpie]	<i>Pica pica</i>	<i>P.p. bactriana</i> Turkmenistan Bukreev 1997, abundant resident Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b Afghanistan Paludan 1959. Resident Asia Minor (<i>pica</i>), Caucasus, CA, Iraq (<i>bactriana</i> voice as European ssp 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 <i>in litt</i> now assessed as escape, as Aug 2023 record possibly also Yoav Perlman <i>in litt</i> , but in Lebanon, now considered scarce irregular PM Ramadan-Jaradi <i>et al</i> 2019. 1st for Egypt, Apr 2023, Port Fouad Albahry 2024. NB1 <i>bactriana</i> once thought separable Haring <i>et al</i> 2007 but rejected in Kryukov <i>et al</i> 2017 (Haring a co-author), eastern taxa <i>camtschatica</i> & <i>serica</i> (latter ssp corrected spelling H&M4) both likely separable, but ranges & differences then incompletely known Brazil 2009: former now aligned with <i>P. pica</i> , latter as full species Oriental Magpie Song <i>et al</i> 2018, reinforced by Kryukov <i>et al</i> 2020 & Kryukov <i>et al</i> 2022 (who did not suggest an English name).
663	Arabian Magpie {Asir Magpie}	<i>Pica asirensis</i> 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 <i>in litt</i> disagrees, Babbington 2016 supports HBW14. While bemoaning lack of sound recordings, Kryukov <i>et al</i> 2017 confirm long isolation of <i>asirensis</i> , 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 <i>et al</i> 2018 agree. Song <i>et al</i> 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; <i>P. asirensis</i> 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 <i>in litt</i> , 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 SG42:1 177; 4 recorded Raydah Escarpment Apr 2023, 1st confirmed records here since 2010 SG45:2 277.
PT	Ground Jay spp	<i>Podoces</i> PT	Opaev <i>et al</i> 2019 note strong divergence of voice & song of the 'black-crowned' ground jays (Mongolian & extralimital Xinjiang [Biddulph's] <i>Podoces biddulphi</i>) & the 'black-breasted' ground jays (Turkestan & Iranian) which correlates with differences in nest shape & structure & differences in hatchling state (altricial v near-precoocial) Ilyashenko <i>et al</i> 2017, Ilyashenko 2018. Opaev <i>et al</i> 2019 suggest that their integrative taxonomy approach merits the transfer of Mongolian & Xinjiang Ground Jays to <i>Eupodoces</i> (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.
664	Mongolian Ground Jay (Henderson's Ground Jay)	<i>Podoces hendersoni</i> (may move to <i>Eupodoces</i>)	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 <i>et al</i> 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.
665	Turkestan Ground Jay (Pander's Ground Jay)	<i>Podoces panderi</i>	Turkmenistan Bukreev 1997. Also Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan M&B 1994; probably locally widespread in habitat Uzbekistan Martin <i>et al</i> 2014; strong association with mature saxaul spp in breeding season Showler <i>et al</i> 2014, who note that distinctive far-carrying territorial whistle should make full-scale survey relative easy. NW Afghanistan? R&A 2005; Ayé <i>et al</i> 2012 map well away: ssp <i>panderi</i> resident S Kazakhstan, very rare Kyzyl Kum desert, ssp <i>ilensis</i> (sole Kazakh endemic taxon) very rare resident from Taukum desert to Aksu valley; becoming rarer W&O 2007, 2008 Wassink 2015b.
666	Iranian Ground Jay (Pleske's Ground Jay)	<i>Podoces pleskei</i>	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 <i>et al</i> 2012, H&M4: one at Jajarm, North Khorasan, Iran Feb 2024 DB46:2 127. BLDZ Feb 2018 maps as distinct Iranian endemic.
PT	Eurasian Nutcracker PT {Spotted Nutcracker}	<i>Nucifraga caryocatactes</i>	Re Parent Taxon , IOC2.0 accepts split, following dos Anjos 2009; HBW also; H&M4 agree, but further split <i>hemispila</i> as sp, extralimital Southern Nutcracker, Collar 2017: <i>hemispila</i> is probably sympatric with <i>N.[c.] multipunctata</i> in Kashmir & is possibly sympatric with <i>N.[c.] caryocatactes</i> in Ar Horqin Banner, Chifeng, Inner Mongolia (Google Maps), China BLDZ Apr 2021 (ssp <i>interdicta</i> is allotted to polytypic <i>N.[c.] hemispila</i> , joining <i>macella</i> & <i>owstoni</i> as ssp: accepted split IOC 14.2); hence Collar 2017/IOC14.2 split leaves <i>N.[c.] caryocatactes</i> comprising nominate, <i>macrorhynchos</i> , <i>rothschildi</i> & extralimital <i>japonica</i> . 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 sympatric breeding after these two populations subsequently met. Our basic treatment as superspecies was supported by de Raad <i>et al</i> 2022, whose genetic, phylogenomic and morphometric comparison between the Eurasian nutcracker species established significant taxonomic differences between Northern (Eurasian) Nutcracker <i>N.[c.] caryocatactes</i> (4 ssp), Southern Nutcracker <i>N.[c.] hemispila</i> (4 ssp, all extralimital to the OSME Region) and Kashmir Nutcracker <i>N.[c.] multipunctata</i> . All 3 spp are declining and since the rationalising of World Lists has accepted them as independent species, we follow that aim. English names as per IOC 14.2. NB1 Westernmost distribution of Southern Nutcracker extends into Himachal Pradesh as far as Kullu & Sundarnagar, 650km from the OSME Region, though Kashmir Nutcracker <i>N. multipunctata</i> distribution stretches E almost to Kullu almost adjacent to Southern Nutcracker. NB2 Swedish BirdLife Taxonomic Committee calls <i>N. hemispila</i> 'Chinese Nutcracker' Oct 2022. NB3 The nearest Southern Nutcracker population to the OSME region is at distant Kullu, Himachal Pradesh, at least 610km from both Wakhan and Torkham Passes.

667	Northern Nutcracker {Eurasian Nutcracker} (Spotted Nutcracker)	<i>Nucifraga caryocatactes</i> (<i>Nucifraga [caryocatactes]</i> <i>caryocatactes</i>)	Polyploid: nominate, <i>macrorhyncus</i> , <i>rothschildi</i> , <i>japonica</i> ; nominate may winter in S Russia (cis-Caucasus?); <i>rothschildi</i> breeds E & SE Kazakhstan & <i>macrorhyncus</i> 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 <i>macrorhynchus</i> scarce resident E Kazakhstan sometimes common WV NE Kazakhstan (Altai) & <i>rothschildi</i> common resident SE Kazakhstan (Tien Shan & Dzhungarians) W&O 2007, Wassink 2015b, Ayé <i>et al</i> 2012. Resident N Kyrgyzstan, Ven 2002. Vagrant Türkiye (5 records) Kirwan <i>et al</i> 2014, 2 recent records Iran Khaleghizadeh <i>et al</i> 2017. English name used retained as reversion to better description after R&A 2005 split, which recognised by HBW14. NB English name originally changed from Spotted to Eurasian IOC14.1: ORL preference is the retention of the name 'Northern Nutcracker' which IOC14.2 now accepts.
668	Kashmir Nutcracker (Large-spotted Nutcracker)	<i>Nucifraga multipunctata</i> (<i>Nucifraga [caryocatactes]</i> <i>multipunctata</i>)	Monotypic. Taxonomy follows R&A 2005, dos Anjos <i>et al</i> 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 <i>et al</i> 2012 accept Nuristan. BLDZ Aug 2019 maps extensively in E Afghanistan, from most of Badakhshan (including the Wakhan) to Paktia & 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 <i>N.[c.] hemispila</i> at that nominate's westernmost distribution de Raad <i>et al</i> 2022 (At least 300km from Afghanistan). Imaged, likely nominate, Fairy Meadows, Diامر, Gilgit Baltistan, Pakistan, Jun 2023 c160km from Afghanistan Wakhan Imran Shah <i>in litt</i> .
669	Red-billed Chough (Chough)	<i>Pyrhcorax pyrrhcorax</i>	W Türkiye-Afghanistan-E Kazakhstan in mountainous area BLDZ map Mar 2018, scarcer to S; <i>docilis</i> , <i>brachypus</i> Turkmenistan Bukreev 1997 (<i>brachypus</i> now assigned to populations in NE & E China only), <i>docilis</i> Afghanistan Paludan 1959. Caucasus, N Iraq Salim <i>et al</i> 2012 (local), Iran (common & widespread resident Khaleghizadeh <i>et al</i> 2017), CA (E&SE Kazakhstan W&O 2007, common resident Wassink 2015b ssp <i>centralis</i>), Afghanistan M&B 1994 <i>docilis</i> IOC9.2. Vagrant Israel Perlman & Meyrav 2009. Egypt Avib, BE. 6 extralimital ssp. Tytonidae & Corvidae normally have an antagonistic relationship because corvid chicks are likely prey items, but one study has found that where Barn Owl nestboxes are placed in old buildings, Red-billed Choughs <i>Pyrhcorax pyrrhcorax</i> nesting on top of nest-boxes used by Western Barn Owls have a higher fledging rate than nests built elsewhere Villanúa <i>et al</i> 2022: <i>T. alba</i> productivity is unchanged.
670	Yellow-billed Chough {Alpine Chough}	<i>Pyrhcorax graculus</i>	Taxon <i>graculus</i> in N Türkiye, Caucasus, N Iraq Ararat <i>et al</i> 2011 very local Salim <i>et al</i> 2012, N Iran: <i>digitatus</i> S Türkiye, Lebanon, SW&NW Iran H&M4, Khaleghizadeh <i>et al</i> 2017, <i>forsythi</i> , 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 <i>P. pyrrhcorax</i> ; <i>digitatus</i> E Afghanistan only Paludan 1959. English name used to align with that of <i>P. pyrrhcorax</i> .
671	Western Jackdaw (Eurasian Jackdaw)	<i>Coloesus monedula</i> (Formerly <i>Corvus monedula</i>)	Türkiye (<i>sommerringii</i> Kirwan <i>et al</i> 2008) - Afghanistan; Caucasus, Iraq (uncommon breeder Salim <i>et al</i> 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; (<i>sommerringii</i> common resident Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b, Afghanistan Paludan 1959 [<i>soemeringii</i> (<i>sic</i>)]), 1st for Kuwait at Sabah al-Salem by Ali Dehrah Oct 2023, AbdulRahman al-Sirhan <i>in litt</i> , DB45:6 412. migrant in N. Egypt Avib, BE. Reversion to <i>Coloesus</i> supported Brazil 2009, IOC2.0 (but not by H&M4); both jackdaws are only distantly related to the <i>Corvus</i> genus, which now probably becomes monophyletic (Corvid systematic discussion HBW14). NB1 separation of <i>monedula</i> & <i>dauuricus</i> emphasised in Haring <i>et al</i> 2007. NB2 BLI remain with <i>Corvus</i> May 2017, as do Shirihai & Svensson 2018.
672	Daurian Jackdaw	<i>Coloesus dauuricus</i> (Formerly <i>Corvus dauuricus</i>) (C. <i>daurica</i> in some references)	Monotypic. Vagrant Kazakhstan Uzbekistan, K-M&K 2005 M&B 1994; rare WV Kazakhstan Andrei Gavrilov <i>in litt</i> , very rare Wassink 2015b; 2 hybrid <i>dauuricus/monedula</i> spring 1980 reported Markakol lake, but convincingly revised as 2nd-calendar <i>dauuricus</i> 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 <i>monedula</i> W&O 2007. Reversion to <i>Coloesus</i> supported Brazil 2009, IOC2.0. NB2 BLI remain with <i>Corvus</i> Feb 2018, as do Shirihai & Svensson 2018.
673	House Crow (Indian House Crow)	<i>Corvus splendens</i>	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, but one (likely ship-assisted) present Hadiboh 2021 & present Mar 2022 Porter & Suleiman 2022; abundant in places around Arabian coasts, despite 250 000 birds destroyed in Aden Jennings 2010, while Alshamlil <i>et al</i> 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 <i>et al</i> 2017), R&A 2005. Likely only <i>zugmayeri</i> in Region HBW14, but Shirihai & Svensson 2018 advise ID of sssp 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 <i>et al</i> 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 sssp.
PT	Rook PT	<i>Corvus frugilegus</i>	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 <i>frugilegus</i> and eastern <i>pastinator</i> Rook populations, thus reinforcing previous conclusions expressed by HBW14, HBW Alive & Haring <i>et al</i> 2007.
674	'Western Rook'	<i>Corvus (frugilegus) frugilegus</i>	Monotypic if split. Krukov 2019 & earlier studies note that the seemingly extralimital taxon <i>pastinator</i> 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 Türkiye Kirwan <i>et al</i> 2008, Caucasus, CA <i>frugilegus</i> (widespread) abundant BM, PM Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b, common NW Iran Khaleghizadeh <i>et al</i> 2017; mostly (some resident) wintering Iraq, Iran, Afghanistan, M&B 1994 (also China (?) Arend Wassink <i>in litt</i>); N&C Israel Perlman & Meyrav 2009, has reached Kuwait (1956, 1963) Bundy & Warr 1979: 9th for Cyprus Akrotiri Marsh May 2020 CRBC , 2 at Mandria Jan 2024 Colin Richardson <i>in litt</i> . Egypt Avib, BE. NB Populations bear divergent cytochrome c oxidase 1 (CO1) lineages, potentially including cryptic taxa Kerr <i>et al</i> 2009.
PT	Carrion Crow PT	<i>Corvus corone</i>	Separation of <i>C. corone</i> & <i>C. cornix</i> as per dos Anjos <i>et al</i> 2009. Most earlier records will not separately mention the next four taxa: eg Scott & Adhami 2006 (Iran) include <i>C. (corone) orientalis</i> , <i>C. cornix</i> & <i>C. (cornix) capellanus</i> . IOC7.2 now accept. Kryukov 2019 maps a newly-discovered 4800km-long hybrid zone in the eastern Palearctic between <i>C.[c.] cornix</i> & taxon <i>orientalis</i> , much as between <i>C.[c.] corone</i> & <i>C.[c.] cornix</i> in the western Palearctic. We adopt the same approach in elevating <i>orientalis</i> to a full member of the <i>C.[c.]</i> superspecies as we did over a decade ago in grouping <i>C.[c.] corone</i> & <i>C.[c.] cornix</i> , a mild form of integrative taxonomy. NB1 although Svensson <i>et al</i> 2009 accept split of <i>C. cornix</i> , their map of <i>cornix</i> includes 'black crow' taxon <i>orientalis</i> (<i>qv</i>) and <i>C. corone</i> map's easternmost distribution aligns with River Oder (German-Polish border); they align with reductionist conclusions (single 'species' W of Central Asia) of Haring <i>et al</i> 2007 only in part. We follow Kryukov 2019 who confirms Parkin & Knox 2010, of <i>C.[c.] cornix</i> geographically separating <i>C.[c.] corone</i> and <i>C. (corone) orientalis</i> , also Shirihai & Svensson 2018, but see distribution summaries of following 4 taxa. NB2 Haring <i>et al</i> 2012 emphasise that 'grey crow' plumage evolved independently several times. NB3 H&M4 await consideration of a 3-sp split to <i>corone</i> , <i>cornix</i> (including <i>capellanus</i>) & <i>orientalis</i> . NB4 Populations bear divergent cytochrome c oxidase 1 (CO1) lineages, potentially including <i>crvotic taxa</i> Kerr <i>et al</i> 2009.
675	Carrion Crow	<i>Corvus [corone] corone</i>	Vagrant to OSME Region from W Europe, eg Türkiye, M&B 1994. Egypt Avib, BE. NB Haring <i>et al</i> 2007 note that molecular data inconclusive on separation from <i>cornix</i> & <i>orientalis</i> , possibly because post-glaciation secondary contacts did not have consistent consequences across distributions (cv case of Yellow Wagtail <i>Motacilla flava</i> taxa?).

PT	Oriental Crow PT	<i>Corvus corone orientalis</i>	Treating Oriental Crow <i>C. orientalis</i> as a full species, Zhigir & Red'kin 2020a identify 5 ssp., 2 of which are ssp. <i>novo</i> . The 5 ssp. 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 ssp. are: nominate <i>orientalis</i> (Eversmann 1841) of eastern Kazakhstan & Kazakh Altai, extraliminally to Sea Of Okhotsk, Mongolia & E China; <i>turkestanicus</i> (Zhigir & Red'kin 2020a ssp. <i>novo</i>) of C&S Kazakhstan, Central Asia, Afghanistan, extraliminally Pakistan, parts of India & W China; <i>saghalense</i> (Kumagai 1926) of Sakhalin; <i>lobkovi</i> (Zhigir & Red'kin 2020a ssp. <i>novo</i>) of Kamchatka & <i>interpositus</i> (Laubmann 1917) of Japan. The unexamined population of C China they attribute to <i>yunnanensis</i> (La Touche 1922), which should have the thinnest bill. NB Donald & Collar 2022 counsel caution: Zhigir & Red'kin 2020a sample sizes mostly <10.
676	Oriental Crow {Carrion Crow}	<i>Corvus [corone] orientalis</i>	Polytypic Zhigir & Red'kin 2020a. Kryukov 2019 (see PT above) notes that there is a cline from west to east in <i>orientalis</i> plumage proportions, but outlines a mechanism that accounts for plumage variation not being directly linked with genetic clinal changes. Hence, southeastermost <i>orientalis</i> is genetically close to extraliminally Collared Crow <i>C. torquatus</i> (Formerly & in Kryukov 2019 <i>C. pectoralis</i>) of S-C China & Vietnam. Oriental Crow is an incipient species Haring <i>et al</i> 2007, who emphasised that extraliminally E China <i>orientalis</i> very distinct from western populations, which contain both <i>corone</i> & <i>cornix</i> ancestry and occupy a then undefined hybridisation zone in which 'grey' plumage genes might be recessive. Haring <i>et al</i> 2012 note that extraliminally Collared Crow <i>C. pectoralis</i> (now <i>C. torquatus</i>) falls within molecular limits of eastern <i>C. orientalis</i> sampling! Although IOC2.10 proposed split, decision postponed for additional vocals IOC4.1; unchanged IOC9.2. Flint <i>et al</i> 1984 (despite wrong caption Map 297) in error attributed <i>corone</i> up to E of Kara Kum desert S of Aral: this population since known as <i>orientalis</i> , but now attributed to <i>turkestanicus</i> by Zhigir & Red'kin 2020a. Previously, N&E of Aral, <i>orientalis</i> (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 <i>et al</i> 2017. Vagrant Lebanon (Richard Prior <i>in litt</i>). E CA, Afghanistan M&B 1994, breeding & winterer Paludan 1959 Roberts 1992. Assessed as <i>C. orientalis</i> Turkmenistan, Bukreev 1997; likewise Ven 2002 wrongly cited <i>corone</i> as resident Kyrgyzstan in distinguishing it from wintering <i>cornix</i> - resident taxon is <i>orientalis</i> . Ayé <i>et al</i> 2012 assessed all CA populations as <i>orientalis</i> ; hybrids with <i>cornix</i> known, but only 2 trapped Chokpak Andrei Gavrilov <i>in litt</i> . NB1 Nearest <i>C.[o.] orientalis</i> breeding area (W of Aral Sea) to <i>corone</i> c3000km from C Poland HBW14, Shirihai & Svensson 2018. NB2 Zarusny 1911 does not distinguish from <i>corone</i>
677	Hooded Crow	<i>Corvus [corone] cornix</i>	Polytypic. Taxonomy follows dos Anjos <i>et al</i> 2009: Zhigir & Red'kin 2020b provide support for 2 ssp. <i>novo</i> in Russia, <i>khozaricus</i> from Cis-Caucasus to N Caspian, & E to Urals & <i>kaukasicus</i> in the Bolshoi Caucasus & Trans-Caucasus, intergrading with <i>khozaricus</i> in Cis-Caucasus. <i>C. cornix sharpii</i> Turkmenistan, Bukreev 1997. Winters Kyrgyzstan, Ven 2002. Asia Minor, Cyprus <i>sardonius</i> (now subsumed in <i>sharpii</i> , although H&M4 cites <i>pallascens</i> for Cyprus & perhaps S Türkiye) Caucasus, Iran <i>sharpii</i> , N Iraq Salim <i>et al</i> 2012, N CA, little breeding overlap with <i>C.[c.] orientalis</i> , 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 <i>sharpii</i> as common RB, BM, PM, WV Kazakhstan, <i>cornix</i> mostly WV; scarce RB in NW, also defining sizeable & shifting hybridisation zone with <i>orientalis</i> . Flint <i>et al</i> 1984 assign <i>cornix</i> to CA S&E of Aral, but Ayé <i>et al</i> 2012 allow <i>cornix</i> only as WV. Türkiye ssp. <i>sharpii</i> (subsuming <i>sardonius</i>) Kirwan <i>et al</i> 2008, resident Israel Perlman & Meyrav 2009. RB NW Afghanistan (<i>sharpii</i> Paludan 1959 Roberts 1992), also winters elsewhere in the country, R&A 2005. Egypt Avib, BE; 2nd record (<i>sharpii</i>) Kuwait Feb 2015 KORC . NB1 Considerable size difference across distribution likely cause of early 'distinction' between <i>sharpii</i> & <i>sardonius</i> eg as in Ticehurst <i>et al</i> 1926. NB2 <i>pallascens</i> generally smaller than <i>capellanus</i> qv. NB3 Zarusny 1911 distinguishes <i>cornix</i> & <i>sharpii</i> 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.
678	Mesopotamian Crow {Hooded Crow} ('Pied Crow')	<i>Corvus (cornix) capellanus</i>	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 interfluvium SE Iraq, SW Iran, M&B 1994 Zagros and Mesopotamian Persia Zarusny 1911. Common lowlands Iraq, Tigris to Iran border Moore & Boswell 1956; 1983 near Baghdad & towards Babylon Rasmussen 1992a, supported Salim <i>et al</i> 2012 noting breeding on floating reedbeds S Iraq marshes; 1st record UAE Nov 2012 Gubiani <i>et al</i> 2013, 2nd Mar 2015 EBRC , 3rd Umm al Quwain Mar 2018 EBRC : Kuwait Oct 2012 al Ghanem 2013, 2nd Sep 2013 KORC , 3rd Sulaiybiya Feb 2018 KORC . Certainly separated from Hooded Crow <i>C. cornix</i> , Derek Scott pers comm: 5 Shadegan Reserve Feb 2017 SG39:2 203; large-billed & almost black-and white appearance in Iraq & SW Iran (most contrasty post-breeding Ticehurst <i>et al</i> 1926) supports speciation case HBW14. Extent of intergradation at range limits unknown. NB <i>capellanus</i> , larger than <i>pallascens</i> , is either a subspecies of Hooded Crow or a separate semispecies within the <i>Corvus cornix</i> superspecies.
679	Himalayan Crow (pre-split, included in Large-billed Crow) (Also known as Large-billed Jungle Crow)	<i>Corvus [macrorhynchos] intermedius</i> (Formerly considered as <i>C.(m.) japonicus</i> or <i>C. japonensis</i> [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 ssp.) Large-billed Crow (only ssp. <i>intermedius</i> known in the OSME Region) & extraliminally monotypic Indian Jungle Crow <i>C. culminatus</i> & Eastern Jungle Crow <i>C. levallantii</i> : Iqbal <i>et al</i> 2019 confirm <i>C. culminatus</i> as full sp. There is a plausible case for Himalayan Crow <i>C. intermedius</i> (with extraliminally ssp. <i>tibetosinensis</i> & <i>colonorum</i>) to be recognised, partly on vocal analysis (Mike Nelson <i>in litt</i>), which <i>pro tem</i> 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 <i>et al</i> 2012, R&A 2005-alternative taxonomy. M&B 2000 map hints ESE Afghanistan. Bates & Lowther 1952, Paludan 1959 <i>intermedius</i> 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 extraliminally to C Himalayas. Zarusny 1911 recorded as nesting in Parapamis & Seistan, Iran, but considered erroneous: now given as extinct Iran (last record 1900) Khaleghizadeh <i>et al</i> 2017. NB1 <i>macrorhynchos</i> complex needs review Dickinson <i>et al</i> 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 <i>C. levallantii</i> unlikely to reach Region from NE India; similarly Indian Jungle Crow <i>C. culminatus</i> IOC 2.6; HBW14 distributions of taxa relate well to IOC split, as do sonograms Mike Nelson xeno-canto <i>in litt</i> . NB3 Escapes recorded in UAE Porter <i>et al</i> 2024.
680	Pied Crow	<i>Corvus albus</i>	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 , 1st breeding record Hamata, Marsa Alam Jan 2024 DB 46:1 56; pair imaged at Ras Sukheir (W Gulf of Suez shore) Mar 2022 DB44:3 225, 6th Egypt record, probably 7th at El Qoseir Mar 2023 DB 45:3 204; 3 at Hamata Sep 2024 DB 46:5 348. 1st record in nearby Libya Apr 1931 SE desert, 2nd record (1st possible breeding record) NW Libya Jun 2013 2 ad + 2 juv Isenmann <i>et al</i> 2016, 1st for Oman Masirah Oct 2018 DB 40:6 416, 2nd Nov 2018 al Wusta/al Ajaja OBRC , 3rd at Wadi Sall Ala, Musandam, Mar 2022 AbdulRahman Alenezi <i>in litt</i> , accepted OBRC : 1st for Kuwait at Shuwaikh Feb 2019 KORC (Cat E), vagrant/rare (4 records, 5 birds, since 2003) Socotran Archipelago Porter & Suleiman 2020, 2022 (4 records, most recent 2013 AbdulRahman Alenezi <i>in litt</i>), escapes noted Kuwait Porter <i>et al</i> 2024; 1st for Iran Apr 2023 at Bahl, Jask, Hormozgan, probably ship-assisted DB 45:3 204, possibly same individual at Hendourabi, Hormozgan May 2023 DB 46:3 199, same bird Lavan Island Jun 2023 Abolghasem Khaleghizadeh <i>in litt</i> , IBRC . EBRC treat all records as Cat E. Has reached Thar Desert Rajasthan India Praveen <i>et al</i> 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 <i>C.(corax) corax</i> Feldman & Omland 2005, Parkin & Knox 2010, but is more closely related to Dwarf Raven (Somali Raven) <i>C. edithae</i> (see ORL Hypothetical List) Jönsson <i>et al</i> 2012.
681	Brown-necked Raven	<i>Corvus ruficollis</i>	Monotypic. Arabian peninsula where widespread perhaps above 250 000bp Jennings 2010, abundant resident breeder most of Oman save Dhofar OBL7 , Socotra 1500-bp resident Porter & Suleiman 2022; S Iraq, S Iran (common resident deserts, coastal lowlands Khaleghizadeh <i>et al</i> 2017), in CA Ayé <i>et al</i> 2012 map SW-E Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, Turkmenistan & isolate in S Afghanistan; S Israel Perlman & Meyrav 2009, 1st for Cyprus Cape Greco March 2016 Colin Richardson <i>in litt</i> CRC . 1st for Lebanon at Tripoli Feb 2022 DB45:4 275. 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 <i>et al</i> 2012. Egypt Avib, BE

PT	Northern Raven (Raven) PT	<i>Corvus corax</i>	Re future PT , Kerr <i>et al</i> 2007 reinforce case (Omland <i>et al</i> 2000) for splitting Nearctic <i>C. corax</i> into 2 (one Idaho/California only) or perhaps more lineages; Parkin & Knox 2010 advise that molecular data require revision of <i>corax</i> -related species limits. Boundaries and relationships between sspp <i>laurencei</i> & <i>tibetanus</i> not entirely clear but likely altitude separation plays a part. NB1 Use of <i>subcorax</i> as ssp of <i>C. corax</i> in error; priority requires this name confined to ssp of <i>C. ruficollis</i> Richard Klim <i>in litt</i> ; see corrigenda to Dickinson <i>et al</i> 2004 & Dickinson 2008 substituting taxon name as <i>laurencei</i> . NB2 Collar 2013 counsels caution on conflicting morphological/reproductive isolation and molecular data as to assigning rank. NB3 Rasmussen & Alderton 2012 assign informal English name 'Punjab Raven' only to ssp <i>subcorax</i> (but in the text state 'or <i>laurenci</i> ' [sic]), but limit its NW distribution to S-C Afghanistan.
682	Northern Raven (Common Raven)	<i>Corvus (corax) corax</i>	Türkiye Kirwan <i>et al</i> 2008; <i>corax</i> rare resident N Kazakhstan, <i>tibetanus</i> rare resident SE Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b. In OSME Region, M&B 1994 give as above Tropic of Cancer, Caucasus, Iraq, Iran, but Ayé <i>et al</i> 2012 admit <i>corax</i> in CA only in N Kazakhstan (also <i>tibetanus</i> at altitude Raffael Ayé <i>in litt</i> 2014), very rare S Israel Perlman & Meyrav 2009, <i>C. tibetanus</i> N Afghanistan, R&A 2005, Ayé <i>et al</i> 2012. Egypt <i>tingitanus</i> Isenmann & Thevenot 2018. NB <i>subcorax</i> twice invalid name; wrongly applied to <i>laurencei</i> (<i>qv</i> next row) populations, & name <i>subcorax</i> already within <i>C. ruficollis</i> (<i>qv</i> above).
683	Punjab Raven (Northern Raven)	<i>Corvus (corax) laurencei</i>	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 elsewhere Jane Stylianou BirdLife Cyprus <i>in litt</i> . <i>C. laurencei</i> Turkmenistan, Bukreev 1997, Türkiye Roselaar 1995, Kirwan <i>et al</i> 2008, <i>laurencei</i> scarce resident S Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b; Ayé <i>et al</i> 2012 map <i>laurencei</i> in CA from S Kazakhstan & all other 'stans, the distribution being in plains & foothills, Raffael Ayé <i>in litt</i> Jun 2014. IOC10.2 retains as ssp of <i>corax</i> . 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 <i>et al</i> 2017 assessing as common resident uplands N&W Iran, S to C Fars. Resident SE Afghanistan (Paludan 1959, R&A 2012 as <i>C corax subcorax</i>), no range overlap with other raven spp, R&A 2005, 2012. NB1 H&M3, Rasmussen & Anderton 2012 spell as <i>laurenci</i> . NB2 HBW14 distribution E Greece & Cyprus through Middle East to E Kazakhstan. NB3 Rasmussen & Anderton 2012 strongly recommend re-evaluation of taxonomic status of <i>laurencei</i> , given its habitat & elevational range, noting though it is outwardly similar to Brown-necked Raven <i>C. ruficollis</i> , it is morphologically closer to Northern Raven <i>C. corax</i> , & by showing little variability, does not appear to represent a hybrid swarm between the two. NB4 Shorter-tailed and shorter throat feathering than <i>C. corax</i> ; calls differ noticeably Porter <i>et al</i> 2024.
684	Fan-tailed Raven	<i>Corvus rhipidurus</i>	Taxon <i>stanleyi</i> (HBW14) Israel S to much of Arabian peninsula, M&B 1994, resident breeder limited but abundant in Oman to Dhofar OBL7 , less widespread than <i>C. ruficollis</i> but more concentrated, especially near garbage, perhaps 150 000bp Jennings 2010. Egypt Avib, BE; taxon <i>rhipidurus</i> likely SE Egypt on occasion HBW14; 1st record Libya adjacent SW Egypt border Mar 2005 Isenmann <i>et al</i> 2016. One record Türkiye Welch & Welch 2006, probably has occurred Syria Dominic Mitchell <i>in litt</i> . NB Very short-tailed, with bulging trailing edge of wings Porter <i>et al</i> 2024.
		Bombycillidae	
685	Bohemian Waxwing (Waxwing)	<i>Bombycilla garrulus</i>	Polytypic. Eurasian ssp <i>garrulus</i> WV PM Kazakhstan (András Schmidt pers comm), may breed N Kazakhstan but no records Arend Wassink <i>in litt</i> , 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 IBRC hence current status as rare WV Khaleghizadeh <i>et al</i> 2017, but collated records for winter 2016/2017 reveal irruption of around 2100 birds Khaleghizadeh 2019. Vagrant Israel Perlman & Meyrav 2009. Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan (winter?) Betton 2005. Winters N & W Kyrgyzstan, Ven 2002. 2nd record for Armenia was of 50+ Mt Aragats May 2017 DB39:3 211. Vagrant Cyprus. NB Batches of Cedar Waxwing <i>B. cedrorum</i> imported to Kuwait Gregory 2002.
686	Japanese Waxwing	<i>Bombycilla japonica</i>	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 photographed, probably a far-ranging outlier from that winter's westerly irruption past Lake Baikal. Accepted Polish record Jan 2009 at Bialystock (Ławicki 2013) Lees & Gilroy 2021 likely crossed the OSME Region.
		Hypocoliidae	IOC2.0 places this species in its own family
687	Hypocolius (Grey Hypocolius)	<i>Hypocolius ampelinus</i>	Monotypic. Summer breeder Iraq (C&S Salim <i>et al</i> 2012), Iran, S Turkmenistan Rustamov 2015 (previously vagrant Koblik & Arkhipov 2014), (SW?) Afghanistan Madge 1980, W Afghanistan (needs confirmation Ayé <i>et al</i> 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 SG41:1 ATR , UAE PH pers comm, fairly common WV in communal roosts Bahrain King 2018; seemingly wintering in increasing numbers Saudi Arabia al-Uqair & Haradh Dec 2022 SG45:1 155: very rare Israel Perlman & Meyrav 2009, one at Atlit Dec 2020 Yoav Perlman <i>in litt</i> , one ringed IBRC Eilat Jun 2024 Yoav Perlman <i>in litt</i> . 1st for Syria Apr 2017 Aidek 2024 , 2nd May 2023 imaged by Yasser al-Musa, registered Aidek 2023. 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 Gujarat 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 <i>et al</i> 2013, IOC3.5, & Alström <i>et al</i> 2013b. Until then, dismemberment of the <i>Parus</i> genus had been premature. IOC3.5 reflects the new standard, though earlier authorities such as Scott & Adhami 2006 retain <i>Parus</i> throughout. Current taxonomic listings may change further when more is known about contact zones, acoustics and molecular genetics Eck & Martens 2006. NB1 Dai <i>et al</i> 2010 found <i>Poecile</i> diverged earlier than <i>Parus</i> . NB2 Although some regard <i>Poecile</i> 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.
688	Rufous-naped Tit (formerly Black-breasted Tit, Simla Tit, Black Tit, Dark-grey Tit)	<i>Periparus rufonuchalis</i> (formerly <i>Parus rufonuchalis</i>)	Monotypic. Very similar in appearance to 'Spot-winged Tit' <i>P. ater melanolophus</i> but very different from all other <i>P. ater</i> ssp! Ayé <i>et al</i> 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 <i>P. rubidiventris sensu stricto</i> do not coincide with plumage differentiation. NB2 Kashmir birds invariably around-nesters in holes, unlike next taxon Bates & Lowther 1952.
PT	Coal Tit PT	<i>Periparus ater</i> (formerly <i>Parus ater</i>)	Unusually, we address PT for a subspecies, because reasonably complete recent molecular genetic analyses paint a complicated and new picture of the <i>Parus ater/melanolophus</i> 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 <i>et al</i> 2013 show that taxon <i>cypristes</i> , 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 <i>cypristes</i> , but Pentzold <i>et al</i> 2016 show that <i>cypristes</i> does not respond to songs of some Eurasian taxa (not all taxa were thus tested). We therefore suggest that <i>cypristes</i> (Guillemard 1888) deserves separate treatment, but future research might place it with or alongside <i>sardus</i> (Kleinschmidt 1903) of Corsica and Sardinia & with revalidated <i>abietum</i> (Brehm 1831) of Germany, S France & European Mediterranean coasts. Tritsch <i>et al</i> 2018, in a distribution-wide study of gene flow, emphasise how distinct <i>cypristes</i> is. NB Populations bear divergent cytochrome c oxidase 1 (CO1) lineages, potentially including cryptic taxa Kerr <i>et al</i> 2009.

689	Coal Tit ('Eurasian Coal Tit' [DBWP List Jan 2018])	<i>Periparus [ater] ater</i>	Kirwan & Grieve 2010a propose <i>gaddi</i> synonymous with <i>phaenotus</i> in Iran; <i>chorassanicus</i> also doubtfully distinct from <i>phaenotus</i> , though recorded as such in Turkmenistan, Bukreev 1997: H&M4, IOC6.2 list <i>phaenotus</i> as including <i>gaddi</i> & <i>chorassanicus</i> ; <i>ater</i> common resident, scarce WV, very rare PM (E&W) & <i>rufipectus</i> common resident (SSE) Kazakhstan W&O 2007, 2008, Wassink 2015b; Population found Burabay NP, 530km NW of known range Wassink 2023: ssp <i>derjugini</i> resident NE Türkiye-SW Caucasus, <i>ater</i> E CA: isolates in Syria/Lebanon (likely <i>ater</i> H&M3) H&Q 1996, Syria Murdoch & Betton 2008, ' <i>phaenotus</i> ' E Caucasus, SE Azerbaijan N Iran H&M4, Scott & Adhami 2006, vagrant Israel Perlman & Meyrav 2009, 1st record <i>ater</i> Cyprus Mar 2014 CR C: note that if <i>cypristes</i> formally raised to full sp, then this <i>ater</i> record will also need to be formally published Peter Flint pers comm. Extralimital Black-bibbed Tit <i>Periparus hypermelaenus</i> is proposed as split (Collar 2007, Johansson <i>et al</i> 2013). NB Finding of Johnsen <i>et al</i> 2010 that Scandinavian populations contain two intraspecific haplotype lineages, but lack any morphological differentiation perhaps key to reassessment of OSME Region populations.
690	Spot-winged Tit (Black-crested Tit, Crested Black Tit)	<i>Periparus ater melanolophus</i> (formerly treated as <i>Parus melanolophus</i> or <i>Periparus melanolophus</i>)	Very different in appearance from all other <i>P. ater</i> ssp, & very similar in appearance to Rufous-naped Tit <i>P. rufonuchalis</i> ! Ayé <i>et al</i> 2012. Eck & Martens 2006, Päckert & Martens 2008 summarise evidence in favour of this taxon as ssp of <i>P. ater</i> , but we list it separately here due to its striking diagnosability: Johansson <i>et al</i> 2013 note that <i>melanolophus</i> is nested within <i>ater</i> , 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 <i>et al</i> 2021 in the Himalayas are genetically similar to <i>P.a. melanolophus</i> 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 <i>et al</i> 2006, Päckert & Martens 2008) do not support separation from <i>P. ater</i> ; 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 <i>melanolophus</i> in <i>ater</i> . NB2 <i>melanolophus</i> cytochrome-b cluster very distinct (as are all <i>ater</i> -clusters) but its distribution is far from coincident with conventional species limits Eck & Martens 2006. NB3 Wolfgramm <i>et al</i> 2021 identify 3 putative hybrids of intermediate phenotypes between <i>P.a. melanolophus</i> of Afghanistan & extralimitaly E to westernmost Nepal along Himalayas and <i>P.a. martensi</i> of C Nepal (near Thoché): in this gap (W to E) are 'spot-winged type hybrids', 'cinnamon-bellied hybrids' and 'pale-bellied hybrids'. <i>P.a. martensi</i> itself has a tiny distribution, for <i>P.a. aemodius</i> extends E from here at least to E Bhutan.
691	Cyprus Coal Tit	<i>Periparus [ater] cypristes</i>	Monotypic, but see NB1 below. Endemic to Cyprus: <i>cypristes</i> (as ssp) first named as 'Cyprus Coal Tit' by Bannerman & Bannerman 1958, later by <i>Dutch Birding</i> in 2011. Differentiating ID characteristics from nominate are: smaller nape & cheek patches, black throat patch extends to mid-breast & underparts are brownish, note white or pale, van Duijvendijk 2024. Moderate increase Cyprus 2006-2015 Hellicar 2016. Pentzold <i>et al</i> 2013 showed this taxon had a separate lineage & Pentzold <i>et al</i> 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 <i>sardus</i> & <i>abietum</i> subsequently be linked with <i>cypristes</i> as ssp, <i>abietum</i> 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 <i>cypristes</i> & <i>abietum</i> (Alex Kirschel pers comm).
692	Crested Tit (European Crested Tit)	<i>Lophophanes cristatus</i> (formerly <i>Parus cristatus</i>)	Rare vagrant Georgia, Azerbaijan, vagrant Russian S Caspian Koblik & Arkhipov 2014, Armenia Mitchell 2017; no confirmed record Türkiye Kirwan <i>et al</i> 2008, but may wander from S Bulgaria (<i>bureschi</i>) to European Türkiye. 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 <i>in litt</i> 2009, through lack of proof K Roselaar pers comm; ssp <i>baschkirikus</i> 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.

693	Sombre Tit	<i>Poecile lugubris</i> (formerly <i>Parus lugubris</i>)	ssp <i>anatoliae</i> resident Türkiye, Caucasus, N Iraq (Ararat <i>et al</i> 2011), where Apr-Jun 2016 survey of Qara Dag & Khoshk mountain areas, a ridge between Kirkuk & Sulaymaniya found 75bp SG39:1 ATR : <i>dubius</i> SW Iran, H&Q 1996, <i>kirmanensis</i> S Iran H&M4, uncommon local resident Lebanon Ramadan-Jaradi <i>et al</i> 2008, Syria Murdoch & Betton 2008, Mt Hermon Israel Perlman & Meyrav 2009, vagrant, likely <i>dubius</i> from W Iran, Kuwait Mitchell 2017. However, Pourebrahimi <i>et al</i> 2021 find a deep divergence (Clade 1) between the nominate (SE Europe to N Greece) probably plus <i>lugens</i> of C & S Greece, if valid as ssp, & all other ssp. Furthermore they found 2 other divergent groups, <i>anatoliae</i> (Clade 2 Türkiye S to N Israel) & <i>dubius-kirmanensis</i> (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). NB Vagrant to Kuwait Porter <i>et al</i> 2024.
694	Siberian Tit (Grey-headed Chickadee)	<i>Poecile cinctus</i> (formerly <i>Parus cinctus</i>)	Kazakhstan (K-M&K 2005), wintering birds Altai Kazakhstan some years, H&Q 1996. Rare resident E Kazakhstan W Altai (<i>sayanus</i>) W&O 2007, Wassink 2015b. Extralimital <i>cinctus</i> NE Siberia, <i>lapponicus</i> Finnmark NW Russia & <i>lathamii</i> NW N America. Pourebrahimi <i>et al</i> 2021 compared a set of 3 genes from <i>cinctus</i> & Sombre Tit <i>P. lugubris</i> finding agreement with Tritsch <i>et al</i> 2017 & Johansson <i>et al</i> 2013. Sequence change follows IOC 10.1
695	Marsh Tit	<i>Poecile palustris</i> (formerly <i>Parus palustris</i>)	2 disparate species-groups, western (5ssp) & eastern (5ssp), may split. In OSME Region, W group reaches NW Türkiye (<i>stagnatilis</i>) Kirwan <i>et al</i> 2008 & <i>kabardensis</i> NE Türkiye to Caucasus (W Caucasus?); E group (<i>brevirostris</i> only) reaches easternmost Kazakhstan, Harrap & Quinn (H&Q) 1996, Ayé <i>et al</i> 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 <i>palustris</i> group morphologically distinct from <i>brevirostris</i> group, but little molecular divergence so far apparent Eck & Martens 2006.
696	Hyracanian Tit (Caspian Tit) (Hyracanian Chickadee)	<i>Poecile hyrcanus</i>	Hyracanian Tit preferred English name in Iran. IOC3.5 full species (≡ <i>Parus hyrcanus</i>) Iran (Clements 2000). Resident SE Azerbaijan (confirmed Talish Mountains Javid Gara Jul 2022 <i>in litt</i>), NW Iran (fairly common Khaheghzadeh <i>et al</i> 2017), H&Q 1996. Habitat differences. Geographically distinct Iran from <i>lugubris</i> , Derek Scott pers comm (Morphologically distinct SE Azerbaijan/N Iran, but darker plumage characteristic shared by many other wetter region ssp; no records <i>hyrcanus</i> E of Dasht, NE Iran or of southern <i>dubius</i> E of Kerman, K Roselaar pers comm). IOC3.5 notes not nearest relative to <i>lugubris</i> as previously surmised; precise molecular relationship to ' <i>songarus</i> group' of <i>P. montanus</i> unclear, but as tentative species, is ancestrally related to <i>montanus/palustris</i> group Johansson <i>et al</i> 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 <i>et al</i> 2017 & especially Pourebrahimi <i>et al</i> 2021. NB1 <i>Poecile</i> used by Zarudny 1911. NB2 Svensson <i>et al</i> 2009 omit mention of taxon <i>hyrcanus</i> .
PT	Willow Tit PT	<i>Poecile montanus</i> (formerly <i>Parus montanus</i>)	IOC7.2 still lumps <i>songarus</i> in <i>montanus</i> , but note extralimital split (Collar 2007) of Sichuan Tit <i>P. weigoldicus</i> . 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 <i>et al</i> 2001 & Salzburger <i>et al</i> 2002a delineates within PT 4 groups, all of which are intermediate between species and subspecies! Research in more traditional fields may clarify, but <i>pro tem</i> , 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
697	Willow Tit	<i>Poecile (montanus) montanus</i>	Resident N Kazakhstan, H&Q 1996: <i>uralensis</i> common resident, rare WV N Kazakhstan, <i>baicalensis</i> common resident E-most Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b SW Altai. Ayé <i>et al</i> 2012 mention only <i>uralensis</i> . NB Most numerous tit of Central Siberia Rogacheva 1992.

698	Songar Tit (Tien Shan Willow Tit) {Willow Tit}	<i>Poecile (montanus) songarus</i>	Informal English name adopted as such by OSME. (≡ <i>Parus songarus</i>). Kazakhstan (Clements 2000). HBW 12 retains as ssp of <i>montanus</i> . Common resident SE Kazakhstan, E limit Dzhungarian Alatau Wassink 2015b; note <i>suschkini</i> (?) of Saur Mountains, status uncertain (also Tarbagatay?) pending morphological & song research Wassink 2015b: possibly intermediate between <i>songarus songarus</i> & <i>montanus baicalensis</i> . K Roselaar pers comm, hybrid (?) HBW12. Shimba 2007 treats as <i>P. songarus</i> , possibly occurs NE Kyrgyzstan, Ven 2002, confirmed resident Koblik & Arkhipov 2014. Johansson <i>et al</i> 2013 had insufficient data to opine on taxon status, but note that little comprehensive research done on this group.
PT	Eurasian Blue Tit PT	<i>Cyanistes caeruleus</i> (formerly <i>Parus caeruleus</i>)	IOC2.0 accepted split of African Blue Tit <i>C.[c.] teneriffae</i> , under which all related North African sspp appear to be grouped, the split arising from Salzburger <i>et al</i> 2002b. NB Dai <i>et al</i> 2010 find <i>C. caeruleus</i> diverged before any <i>Parus</i> listed in the ORL.
699	Eurasian Blue Tit (European Blue Tit)	<i>Cyanistes [caeruleus] caeruleus</i>	<i>C.c. raddei</i> Turkmenistan Bukreev 1997, SW Iran H&M4. Resident Türkiye-Iran, N Syria (<i>caeruleus</i>), <i>satunini</i> E Iraq, Crimea, E Türkiye NW Iran H&M4: common resident, BM, PM, rare WV NW&W Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b, Ayé <i>et al</i> 2012). 1st record for Uzbekistan Karaqalqstan, eastern Usturt Nov 2019 SG42:1 184.
PT	Azure Tit PT	<i>Cyanistes cyanus</i> (formerly <i>Parus caeruleus cyanus</i>)	Formerly listed Iran as <i>P. cyanus</i> Scott & Adhami 2006. Yellow versus non-yellow minor step in evolution? <i>cv</i> other taxa that also differ in the same way, eg <i>Motacilla beema/leuca</i> , or <i>M. flava/flavissima</i> . "In any case, juvenile <i>cyanus</i> does have some yellow on breast & worn adult or juvenile of <i>flavipectus</i> 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 <i>flavipectus</i> . Case for PT weakly supported; that by Päckert & Martens 2008 more emphatic, involving very different ecological preferences, noted in Eck & Martens 2006. Taxon <i>flavipectus</i> unsampled by Johansson <i>et al</i> 2013.
700	Azure Tit	<i>Cyanistes (cyanus) cyanus</i>	Kyrgyzstan, Kazakhstan SE <i>koktalensis</i> Ayé <i>et al</i> 2012, NE <i>yenisseensis</i> & <i>tianschanicus</i> Ayé <i>et al</i> 2012, irruptive, H&Q 1996, also <i>hyperrhaphaeus</i> N Kazakhstan Ayé <i>et al</i> 2012, common resident N-C to NE Kazakhstan, <i>koktalensis</i> Balkhash-Alakol Depression & associated valleys, <i>tianschanicus</i> common resident E Tien Shan Wassink 2015b. Local Krasnoyarsk Republic to N of Region Rogacheva 1992. Also Afghanistan E Dickinson pers comm, but Ayé <i>et al</i> 2012 assign this population to 'Yellow-breasted Tit' <i>C. (cyanus) flavipectus</i> . Nominate unlikely to reach Region unless exceptional irruption as far as Trans-Caucasus.
701	Yellow-breasted Tit {Azure Tit} (Yellow-breasted Azure Tit)	<i>Cyanistes (cyanus) flavipectus</i>	English name informal@OSME. 3 ssp in group: <i>flavipectus</i> , <i>carruthersi</i> & extralimital <i>berezowskii</i> . Often inadequately described; <i>C.c. carruthersi</i> Turkmenistan, Bukreev 1997. Clements 2000. Koblik & Arkhipov adopt English name Yellow-breasted Tit as full sp. Resident CA, N Afghanistan, H&Q 1996 ≡ <i>Parus flavipectus</i> , R&A 2005, N Afghanistan, scarce Iran Scott & Adhami 2006 (<i>flavipectus</i>) which common resident SE Kazakhstan W Tien Shan Wassink 2015b, not sympatrically with Azure sspp <i>cyanus</i> or <i>koktalensis</i> Balkhash-Alakol Depression & associated valleys Wassink 2015b; Tajikistan Ayé <i>et al</i> 2012). 1 hybrid record N Tien Shan, where <i>C. cyanus</i> non-breeder (A Wassink pers comm). Roselaar advises: <i>C. cyanus tianschanicus</i> morphology = <i>flavipectus</i> (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 <i>flavipectus</i> as ssp of <i>cyanus</i> , admitting hybridisation with <i>tianschanicus</i> 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 <i>flavipectus</i> .

From James *et al* 2003, Groundpecker perhaps best placed in own family Pseudopodociidae, 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 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.

702	Groundpecker [Hume's Ground-Jay] (alternatively Ground Tit) (Ground-Tit – HBW 12) (Tibetan Ground-Tit OBC)	<i>Pseudopodoces humilis</i> (Formerly <i>Parus humilis</i>)	Monotypicity assumed. Previously classed as a small corvid, subsequently as a parid, but James <i>et al</i> 2003 show its genetic divergence from <i>Parus</i> 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 <i>Pseudopodoces</i> 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 Chaqmaqin Lake, to SE-most Tajikistan for c 100km N (a triangular area of c 90km ²) 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 1800km ² parallel to & half of which is over the Chinese border) into SSE Kyrgyzstan at Irkeshtan & Nura (c 500km ²): all these areas are flanked by larger areas in China; Cheng <i>et al</i> 2020 accept this distribution. Now regularly (in May & Jun) imaged at Khunjerab NP, Gojal, Gilgit-Baltistan, Pakistan Imran Shah <i>in litt</i> May 2023, only 45km S from easternmost Wakhan. We are persuaded by all this evidence that Groundpecker occurs in the OSME Region . Cai <i>et al</i> 2013 show genetic adaptability to high altitude. Johansson <i>et al</i> 2013 include in Paridae as sister to <i>Parus monticolus</i> & to the <i>Parus major</i> complex. Cheng <i>et al</i> 2017 establish through comparative transcriptomics likely evolution of its long decorated beak: Cheng <i>et al</i> 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, Khunjerab NP, Gilgit-Baltistan, c 50km S of Wakhan Corridor Jul 2021 (Amir Ali Abbasi in BirdingASIA 37: 121): the lowest route exceeds 4800m asl: 3rd record Khunjerab (110km from Wakhan) Dec 2021 <i>BirdingASIA</i> 38: 97. NB2 any record must address possibility of species being polytypic, K Roselaar pers comm. Documentation!
PT	Great Tit PT	<i>Parus major</i>	Scott & Adhami 2006 (Iran) omit mention of <i>P.m. intermedius</i> , but Tehrani <i>et al</i> 2021 found Iranian <i>intermedius</i> was the most divergent from <i>minor</i> , <i>cinereus</i> and <i>bokharensis</i> , which supports the transfer of <i>intermedius</i> from <i>P. cinereus sensu lato</i> to <i>P. major</i> Kvist <i>et al</i> 2007. The thrust of work on Paridae since Päckert <i>et al</i> 2005 & Eck & Martens 2006, as summarised by Päckert & Martens 2008 suggests that two groups, first, the northern subgroup comprising subspecies of <i>P. major</i> ('Northern Great Tit') and <i>bokharensis</i> , and second, the 'southern' subgroup comprising ' <i>P. cinereus</i> ' 'Southern Great Tit' and extralimital <i>P. minor</i> 'Eastern Great Tit' {Japanese Tit} on molecular grounds best represented as former 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 <i>et al</i> 2007 indicate that <i>intermedius</i> belongs to the <i>major</i> group, further work by Tehrani <i>et al</i> 2021 proving 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 <i>bokharensis</i> as of undecided status & <i>cinereus</i> as a full species, now including extralimital & polytypic 'Japanese Tit' taxon <i>minor</i> (& 4 island sspp) as lumped in <i>P. cinereus</i> , derived from Eck & Martens 2006 'subspecies groups', and as listed in H&M4: Johansson <i>et al</i> 2013 assessed <i>major</i> group (tentatively including <i>minor</i> , <i>cinereus</i> , <i>bokharensis</i>) as sister to (just) extralimital Green-backed Tit <i>P. monticolus</i> (see ORL Hypothetical List) & to <i>Pseudopodoces humilis</i> (qv above; BLDZ maps it quite extensively in Region). NB Concerns remain about sample geographic coverage, extent of sspp distributions & relationships between sspp. NB1 Populations bear divergent cytochrome c oxidase 1 (CO1) lineages, potentially including cryptic taxa Kerr <i>et al</i> 2009. NB2 Shirihai & Svensson 2018 align with ORL approach. NB3 A 5th group has been discovered in the eastern Himalayas Tehrani <i>et al</i> 2021, Zhao <i>et al</i> 2012, Song <i>et al</i> 2020b). NB4 IOC 14.2 lumps <i>Cinereus</i> Tit <i>P. cinereus</i> & extralimital Japanese Tit <i>P. minor</i> tentatively as 'Cinereous Tit' an expanded <i>P. cinereus</i> (Song <i>et al</i> 2020).

703	Great Tit	<i>Parus [major] major</i>	Polytypic. 9 of 14 ssp occur in OSME Region IOC14.2; ssp <i>karelini</i> Turkmenistan, Bukreev 1997, outlier of NW Iran & SE Azerbaijan population. Nominate resident Türkiye, Caucasus, N Iraq, Iran, (CA N Kazakhstan & N Kyrgyzstan Ayé <i>et al</i> 2012), common resident, scarce PM, WV Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b, <i>terrasanctae</i> H&M4 Israel Perلمان & Meyrav 2009 <i>aphrodite</i> in Cyprus (Strong increase 2006-2015 Heliçar 2016), <i>blanfordi</i> NC & SW Iran, <i>intermedius</i> NE Iran Kvist <i>et al</i> 2007, Tehrani <i>et al</i> 2021, the latter finding that phylogenetic relationships of the mt haplotypes show a deep split between the <i>intermedius</i> subclade and other members of the <i>major</i> subspecies group with a high posterior probability, supporting genetic differentiation of <i>intermedius</i> from <i>karelini</i> , <i>blanfordi</i> & other European populations of <i>major</i> tits; H&M4 suggests <i>kapustini</i> in SE Kazakhstan, as does IOC6.1, but not mentioned in Wassink 2015b; 7 other extralimital ssp to W & E. NB1 <i>major</i> 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
704	Turkestan Tit (Bokhara Great Tit, Grey Tit)	<i>Parus (major) bokharensis</i> (<i>bocharensis</i> by some)	IOC14.2 place as ssp in <i>P. major</i> : H&M4 elevate to species rank (3 ssp); Päckert <i>et al</i> 2003, Päckert & Martens 2008 state <i>major</i> & <i>bokharensis</i> are more closely related than to the similarly closely-related pair, <i>minor</i> & <i>cinereus</i> ; Parkin & Knox 2010 counsel caution until other work (vocal studies?) done. <i>P. b. bokharensis</i> & <i>ferghanensis</i> Turkestan: these & <i>turkestanicus</i> Kazakhstan W&O 2007, but Wassink 2015b seemingly subsumes in <i>bokharensis</i> in S Kazakhstan; Uzbekistan Atadjanov <i>et al</i> 2003 (preceding distribution supported by Ayé <i>et al</i> 2012). NB1 <i>ferghanensis</i> hybridises with <i>P. major</i> in Tien Shan foothills. Many <i>bokharensis</i> populations have strong morphological differences from <i>P. major</i> (pre- & post-PT) but strong genetic & vocal similarities; status of quite extensive hybridisation zones not known Collar & Pilgrim 2007. Resident Uzbekistan (Kreuzberg-Mukhina <i>et al</i> 2005), Kyrgyzstan, where hybridising in expanding distribution of <i>P.[m.] major</i> Irena Kreuzberg Apr 2024 <i>in litt</i> ; hybrids mostly resemble dull Great Tits. NE Iran (scarce Scott & Adhami 2006), CA, N Afghanistan, H&Q 1996. Widespread oases Turkmenistan, K Roselaar pers comm. NB2 ssp <i>intermedius</i> transferred from <i>P. cinereus sensu lato</i> into <i>P. major</i> may have affinities with the <i>P.(m.) bokharensis</i> group.
705	Cinereous Tit ('Grey Tit') {Great Tit}	<i>Parus [major] cinereus</i> [IOC2.7 <i>P. cinereus</i>] (<i>Parus major turkestanicus</i>)	Polytypic. H&M4 23 ssp in 2 groups now outdated with 3 Japanese ssp of former ' <i>P. minor</i> ' added and 3 new ssp established. IOC14.2 lists only 3 ssp in enlarged <i>P. cinereus</i> occurring in the OSME Region, <i>decolorans</i> , <i>ziaratensis</i> & <i>caschmirensis</i> In Afghanistan. axon <i>cinereus</i> . Although Viellot 1818 indicated <i>cinereus</i> has priority over <i>intermedius</i> Zarudny 1890, its transfer to <i>P. major</i> makes this point moot. However, anomalies still remain: Päckert & Martens 2008 stated <i>minor</i> & <i>cinereus</i> (including <i>intermedius</i>) are more closely related (genetic & acoustic markers) than they are to the closely-related <i>major</i> & <i>bokharensis</i> ; were their <i>intermedius</i> samples from localities different from those of Kvist <i>et al</i> 2007 & Tehrani <i>et al</i> 2021? Resident SW Turkmenistan (Koblik & Arkhipov 2014), NE Iran, resident Afghanistan Raffaél Ayé <i>in litt</i> , Ayé <i>et al</i> 2012, Anssi Kullberg <i>in litt</i> , 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. NB1 IOC14.2 lists 20 ssp for <i>P. cinereus</i> . NB2 <i>turkestanicus</i> 1905 Zarudny & Loudon of S Kazakhstan subsumed by some in <i>bokharensis</i> Lichtenstein 1823.
		Remizidae	
PT	Eurasian Penduline Tit PT	<i>Remiz pendulinus</i>	Scott & Adhami 2006 include <i>macronyx</i> & <i>coronatus</i> . Shimba 2007 treats extralimital <i>consobrinus</i> as sp, Chinese Penduline Tit, but Eck & Martens 2006 do not (Collar & Pilgrim 2007). HBW13, IOC v2.0-7.2 split <i>pendulinus</i> , <i>macronyx</i> , <i>coronatus</i> & extralimital <i>consobrinus</i> . H&M\$ retain <i>coronatus</i> in <i>consobrinus</i> . 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 <i>et al</i> 2011 (van Dijk as co-author) strengthen the case for recognising 3 species (<i>pendulinus</i> , <i>coronatus</i> & extralimital Chinese Penduline Tit <i>consobrinus</i>), 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 <i>et al</i> 2017 prudently propose <i>coronatus</i> , <i>consobrinus</i> & <i>pendulinus</i> as separable spp, & <i>macronyx</i> as conspecific with <i>pendulinus</i> , despite extensive phenotypic differences - how would the latter two taxa score in the Tobias <i>et al</i> 2010 system? A synthesis of all findings is called for. NB Shirihai & Svensson 2018 largely align with ORL approach.
706	Eurasian Penduline Tit	<i>Remiz [pendulinus] pendulinus</i>	All 4 ssp in Region. Breeds W-E Kazakhstan <i>caspius</i> common BM, PM in W, <i>jaxarticus</i> common BM, PM in N, occasional WV, resident Wassink 2015b, Türkiye <i>pendulinus</i> & <i>menzbieri</i> HBW13, S Turkmenistan, S Uzbekistan, S Tajikistan, Caucasus, Iraq until recently wintering only Salim <i>et al</i> 2012, but 1st breeding record Apr 2013 Ararat 2016, NW Iran, winters there or further afield (eg Israel Perلمان & Meyrav 2009), Afghanistan (passage [winter?] Paludan 1959), Arabia, H&Q 1996. Caspian Penduline Tit <i>R.p. caspius</i> occasional eruptive breeding visitor to Azerbaijan (2019) Heiss & Himmel 2022. Egypt Avib, BE. NB Bot <i>et al</i> 2011 suggest <i>pendulinus</i> not separable from <i>macronyx</i> on mtDNA grounds, and only weakly so on plumage and voice
707	Black-headed Penduline Tit {Eurasian Penduline Tit}	<i>Remiz [pendulinus] macronyx</i>	All 4 ssp in Region. <i>R.(p.) macronyx</i> & <i>neglectus</i> 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 <i>macronyx</i> scarce resident, BM in W & S Kazakhstan, <i>ssaposhnikowi</i> scarce resident E&SE Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b, with caveat that <i>macronyx</i> & <i>ssaposhnikowi</i> may not be sufficiently divergent to ensure taxon viability; Ayé <i>et al</i> 2012 omit mention of this taxon, but add <i>nigricans</i> for SW Afghanistan (possibly extinct H&M4). Eck & Martens 2006 supported <i>R. macronyx</i> . IOC2.0 accepted split. Single-record vagrant 1971 Oman OBL7 : 2 at Atyrau, Ural Delta Kazakhstan Jun 2017 DB39:4 272; 1st for Türkiye ringed at Aras Bird Ringing Station April 2022 Emin Yoğurtcuoğlu <i>in litt</i> . 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 <i>ssaposhnikowi</i> (Topar Lakes only) is separate species from <i>coronatus</i> (feathering, morphology & molecular genetics), but on limited sample size suspect the former may be identical (feathering, habitat & structure) to <i>R.p. caspius</i> , nearest known population 1000+km to west. NB2 Bot <i>et al</i> 2011 emphasise uncertain affinities between populations attributed to <i>ssaposhnikowi</i> , <i>caspius</i> & <i>macronyx</i> in SE Kazakhstan & around Caspian. NB3 Bot <i>et al</i> 2011 suggest <i>pendulinus</i> not separable from <i>macronyx</i> on mtDNA grounds, and only weakly so on plumage and voice
708	White-crowned Penduline Tit (White-headed Penduline Tit)	<i>Remiz [pendulinus] coronatus</i>	Monotypic if separate from <i>R. consobrinus</i> , 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 <i>coronatus</i> common BM occasional resident in S, SE&E and <i>stoliczkae</i> scarce BM SE&E W&O 2007, Wassink 2015b, M&P 2000 map. Eck & Martens 2006, H&M4 supported separation of <i>R. coronatus</i> from <i>pendulinus</i> & <i>macronyx</i> , but not from <i>consobrinus</i> .
		Panuridae	
709	Bearded Reedling (Bearded Tit, Bearded Parrotbill HBW 12)	.	All 3ssp in Region. <i>P.b. russicus</i> Turkmenistan, Bukreev 1997, Türkiye (locally Kirwan <i>et al</i> 2008) (<i>biarmicus</i> W Türkiye & <i>kosswigi</i> , possibly extinct, SW Türkiye), W Caucasus, CA, NW Afghanistan, BWP VII, but Ayé <i>et al</i> 2012 do not map in Afghanistan, although R&A 2012 align with northern Afghan border; <i>russicus</i> 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 Azerbaijan province since 2013 Khaleghizadeh <i>et al</i> 2017, rare PM & WV Cyprus CBR11 , vagrant Israel Perلمان & Meyrav 2009, 11th record (after 29 years) Beer Sheva Nov 2024 Yoav Perlman <i>in litt</i> ; 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 <i>Calandrella</i> and incorporating recent Russian rationalisation of their disparate earlier treatments. IOC8.1 provided a resequencing of Alaudidae . We follow Alström <i>et al</i> 2013a, 2013b in their comprehensively reviewed phylogeny as per IOC4.2, but modified <i>pro tem</i> for, inter alia, <i>Calandrella sensu stricto</i> by the inferred Clades in Stervander <i>et al</i> 2016: the same team have produced a consequent taxonomic revision, Stervander <i>et al</i> 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 ssp was small) listed potential species that will require further research. Where there were multiple ssp, most of which were not sampled, there as yet is no means of allocating the unsampled ssp to any Clade Per Alström pers comm Sep 2021. Furthermore, some of these multiple ssp may later be deemed invalid, but in any case ssp breeding distribution limits & boundaries are often poorly known or guessed at. NB1 Species diversification in larks beyond ancestral occupation of Africa & Arabia has occurred only since 7.5MYa, & may have reached its ecological limits, showing that ecological opportunity played a secondary role in the radiation of larks, even though this avian family has repeatedly colonized one of the most extreme environments on Earth Garcia-Navas <i>et al</i> 2024. NB2 Alström <i>et al</i> 2023 disassemble much of genus <i>Mirafra</i> , transferring some species to <i>Calendulauda</i> and erecting/re-erecting other genera.
PT	Greater Hoopoe-Lark PT (formerly Bifasciated Lark or Desert Lark)	<i>Alaemon alaudipes</i>	The implication of the deep divergence of 2.65MYa in Stervander <i>et al</i> 2020 in Greater Hoopoe-Lark taxonomy is that most populations in the OSME Region would come under polytypic <i>A. (alaudipes) desertorum</i> , allowing a reversion to the English name Bifasciated Lark in OSME Region; alternatives could be Desert Hoopoe-Lark or Eastern Great Hoopoe-Lark. Here, we treat <i>pro tem</i> the two Clades as potential species, albeit requiring confirmatory research. NB We note that for the OSME Region, the conclusions of Stervander <i>et al</i> 2020 are that NW African (<i>alaudipes</i> , <i>boavistae</i>) populations are extralimital (<u>apart, according to IOC13.1, from some <i>alaudipes</i> being resident in N Egypt as far as Sinai</u>). NE African/Arabian (<i>desertorum</i> , <i>doriae</i>) populations are resident, the former from NE Sudan through N Somalia & C Saudi Arabia to S Yemen, the latter from E Arabia to Iraq, Iran and NW India
710	Bifasciated Lark	<i>Alaemon (alaudipes) desertorum</i>	Polytypic. As Greater Hoopoe-Lark <i>sensu lato</i> , 2nd for Türkiye 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 <i>in litt</i> , TBRC , 6th to 10th (5 together) Milleyha Apr 2022 Emin Yoğurtcuoğlu, Soner Bekir <i>in litt</i> ; another 3 at Hancagiz Dam, Gaziantep (seemingly bred 2021) found by Goktug Guzelbey; Emin Yoğurtcuoğlu <i>in litt</i> ; another May 2022 at Ceylanpınar, Şanlıurfa DB44:3 231. 2 at Paphos Headland Cyprus Sep 2020 1st record SG43:1 169. 4th Lebanon likely this taxon seen displaying Ras Baalback, May 2022 (First live birds ever recorded in Lebanon) Ramadan-Jaradi <i>et al</i> 2022 LBRC . S Israel (rare) Perlman & Meyrav 2009, through Iran to SW Afghanistan R&A 2005, 2012 (<i>doriae</i> Paludan 1959 Ayé <i>et al</i> 2012), vagrant Lebanon, Türkiye Mitchell 2017. C Arabia, resident/local migrant perhaps c800 000bp Jennings 2010: ssp <i>doriae</i> 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 <i>Alauda arvensis</i> . Common resident breeder Oman OBL7 .
711	Greater Hoopoe-Lark	<i>Alaemon (alaudipes) alaudipes (sensu stricto)</i>	Polytypic. In OSME Region, nominate in N Egypt to Sinai (IOC13.1).
712	Thick-billed Lark	<i>Ramphocoris clotbey</i> (Some formerly used <i>Ramphocorys clotbey</i>)	Monotypic. Resident C Jordan, N Saudi Arabia, HBW9, S Syria H&M4, rare breeder Kuwait Spencer <i>et al</i> 2007; resident extreme N Arabia, winters a little further S perhaps 20 000bp overall Jennings 2010 erratic breeder and winterer - resident Saudi Arabian population distribution reaches northern Gul, <i>contra</i> IUCN map Aug 2024; Porter <i>et al</i> 2024 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 distant in NW Africa. Syria (vagrant [?] Murdoch & Belton 2008), Kirwan 2004b (for plausible Aharoni record) Kirwan <i>et al</i> 1999, Serra <i>et al</i> 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	Desert Lark PT	<i>Ammomanes deserti</i>	Polytypic: 22 ssp IOC11.2. Stervander <i>et al</i> 2020 found deep divergences suggestive of 3 spp within this complex: NW Africa (sampling taxon <i>payni</i> E Hartert 1924, although taxon <i>whitakeri</i> E Hartert 1911 would appear to be the senior name if in this group), NE Africa/Arabia (sampling Saudi Arabian <i>isabellina</i> & Jordanian <i>annae</i>) and Israel-Pakistan (sampling <i>deserti</i> & <i>phoenicuroides</i>); many ssp seem unsampled (or even invalid) & some Arabian samples may be from non-breeding areas. The latter is important, for both <i>deserti</i> (Lichtenstein) and <i>isabellina</i> (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 <i>deserti</i> & <i>phoenicuroides</i>) occurred 3.8MYa, & then that Clade including <i>isabellina</i> & <i>annae</i> subsequently split 3.28MYa from the Clade containing <i>payni</i> . The current Clades' composition of ssp 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.
713	Desert Lark (formerly Desert Finch Lark)	<i>Ammomanes deserti sensu lato</i>	Polytypic. 12 of 22 ssp in Region: <i>isabellina</i> NC&E Egypt, SC Türkiye Syria, N&SW Iraq, N Saudi: <i>cheesmani</i> E Iraq, SW Iran; <i>iranica</i> CS&E Iran, S Afghanistan; <i>orientalis</i> E Turkmenistan, E Uzbekistan (also C-E Uzbekistan Dhzangeldy, Showler 2017), S Tajikistan, N Afghanistan; <i>parvirostris</i> W Turkmenistan, NE Iran; <i>phoenicuroides</i> E Afghanistan; <i>annae</i> Jordan (Syria Matinez <i>et al</i> 2016); <i>azizi</i> NE Saudi; <i>insularis</i> Bahrain; <i>taimuri</i> E UAE, N Oman; <i>saturata</i> W Yemen; <i>deserti</i> S Egypt; <i>samharensis</i> W Saudi H&M4. Single Cyprus record Duivenduik 2024 . 1st for Kazakhstan May 2018, Karakiya District on Kazakhstan-Turkmenistan border Wassink 2023, only 50km from Kaplanka Lake in Turkmenistan and on the same latitude to the west as Turkmenistan's Karabogazgol Lake, where it breeds, ssp <i>parvirostris</i> . Alström <i>et al</i> 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 <i>parvirostris</i> & <i>orientalis</i> for W Turkmenistan. Breeds Levant, presumed resident SE Türkiye Kirwan <i>et al</i> 2014, Middle East, Iran, Afghanistan, Iraq Salim <i>et al</i> 2012, UAE Aspinall 1996. Sedentary: populations' plumage prone to match colour of substrate surroundings; Common Syrian basalt desert Martinez <i>et al</i> 2016, widespread Arabia, c6Mbp Jennings 2010, common to abundant resident breeder Oman OBL7 ; Afghanistan <i>iranica</i> SW&W, <i>orientalis</i> N, <i>phoenicuroides</i> E Paludan 1959. Commensal behaviour recorded Abu Dhabi Cowan 2008. Egypt Avib, BE NB1 The findings of Stervander <i>et al</i> 2020, if confirmed, produce 3 spp, which informally might be called: Western Desert Lark (including <i>payni</i> + ???) Arabian Desert Lark (including <i>annae</i> , <i>isabellina</i> + ???) Eastern Desert Lark (including <i>deserti</i> , <i>phoenicuroides</i> + ???) NB2 Each species would be polytypic, but the allotment of ssp to each Clade depends on confirming breeding distributions, validity of the ssp and confirmation of their genetic relatedness. The affiliations, or indeed the validity, of the remaining 17 ssp 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 ssp.
PT	Bar-tailed Lark PT (Formerly Bar-tailed or Black-tailed Desert Lark)	<i>Ammomanes cinctura</i>	Stervander <i>et al</i> 2020 note a 4.68MYa divergence between [NW African (<i>arenicolor</i>) & Cape Verdean (<i>cinctura</i>) taxa] & [NE African (<i>arenicolor</i>) Egypt to Sinai] + Arabian taxa (<i>arenicolor</i> to W, S Arabia & <i>zarudnyi</i> 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.

714	Bar-tailed Lark <i>sensu stricto</i>	<i>Ammomanes (cinctura) ssp indet.</i>	Polytypic. Nominated confined to Cape Verde Islands, but <i>A.(c.) arenicolor</i> may comprise two divergent taxa (Alström <i>et al</i> 2013); those populations occupying the NW African mainland treated here as ssp indeterminate , but precise boundary with eastern <i>arenicolor</i> distribution unknown. Perhaps this most likely is in C Libya, but until proven otherwise, <i>A.[c.] cinctura</i> 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. NB 1st for Greece found on Rhodes by Nikos Theofanous Apr 2024, Lefteris Rantos <i>in litt</i> .
715	'Arenaceous Bar-tailed Lark'	<i>Ammomanes (cinctura) arenicolor</i>	Polytypic. Much of the Region's distribution is under polytypic <i>A. arenicolor</i> , Egypt (westernmost distribution uncertain), 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 , 9th for Cyprus Apostolos Andreas, Karpas Peninsula Apr 2022 CRBC ; <i>arenicolor</i> uncommon resident breeder C & S Oman OBL7 . 3rd for Türkiye May 2021 Riva Fields, Istanbul DB43:3 229, 4th (& 5th?) for Türkiye Milleya Apr 2022 Emin Yoğurtcuoğlu, Soner Bekir <i>in litt</i> , another record (6 birds singing, 2 birds mating) May 2022 at Ceylanpınar, Şanlıurfa, Çağan Abbasoğlu <i>in litt</i> TBRC ; <i>ssp zarudnyi</i> , also Afghanistan Ayé <i>et al</i> 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 <i>arenicolor</i> .
PT	Black-crowned Sparrow-Lark PT (Black-crowned Finch-Lark)	<i>Eremopterix nigriceps sensu lato</i>	Stervander <i>et al</i> 2020 note divergence at 2.45MYA between NW African <i>albifrons</i> + Cape Verde <i>nigriceps</i> & NE African/Arabian/Asian <i>melanauchen</i> + <i>affinis</i> . Some authorities subsume <i>affinis</i> in <i>melanauchen</i> . Provisionally, we treat the 2 Clades as potential species, that comprising <i>albifrons</i> & <i>nigriceps</i> being polytypic & wholly extralimital (unless birds in the Halaib Triangle & just S of Wadi Gemal NP, Egypt are <i>albifrons</i> from Sudan: IOC show <i>melanauchen</i> in E Sudan & Somalia), retaining the English name (informal@OSME) Black-crowned Sparrow-Lark for <i>E. nigriceps sensu stricto</i> .
716	Black-crowned Finch Lark {Black-crowned Sparrow-Lark}	<i>Eremopterix (nigriceps) melanauchen</i>	Monotypic if split. The English name Black-crowned Finch-Lark is informal@OSME. E.(n.) <i>melanauchen</i> includes <i>forbeswatsoni</i> & <i>affinis</i> IOC5.3, Kirwan 2007: resident E Sudan to Somalia, Arabia, S Iraq, Socotra & Abd-al-Kuri, Iran & Pakistan IOC11.2, HBW9, abundant UAE Aspinall 1996, many on even small islands Richardson <i>et al</i> 1997, last bred S Iraq 1920s Salim <i>et al</i> 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 & Silvonon 2022. Possibly reaches Afghanistan, in Pakistan approaches within 30km of Afghan border at Naweoba, N of Zhob. Egypt Avib, BE. NB Taxon <i>albifrons</i> extends east to Sudan, but BLDZ map Nov 2020 indicates no likely boundary between it and <i>melanauchen</i> in NE Sudan, hence birds recorded in Halaib Triangle & SE Egypt may not comprise solely <i>melanauchen</i> : EORC List as of Nov 2020 makes no mention of any current ssp.
717	Chestnut-headed Sparrow-Lark	<i>Eremopterix signatus</i>	Polytypic. Likely <i>harrisoni</i> (SE S Sudan) 1983 vagrant Israel Shirihai 1996, Perlman & Meyrav 2009; skin comparison Tring.
718	Singing Bush Lark {Horsfield's Bush Lark}	<i>Mirafra javanica cantillans</i> (<i>Calendulauda javanica cantillans</i> Alström <i>et al</i> 2023)	Alström <i>et al</i> 2023 reassign various <i>Mirafra</i> spp to <i>Calendulauda</i> & other, extralimital genera. IOC13.1 (aligning with other world lists) lumps the <i>cantillans</i> group (<i>cantillans</i> [Indian sub-continent], <i>chadensis</i> , <i>marginata</i> [Sahelian & sub-Saharan Africa] & <i>simplex</i> [3 disparate populations in W&S Arabia]) into Horsfield's Bush Lark <i>M. javanica</i> (16 extralimital mostly disjunct ssp [SE Asia, Philippines, Australia]) as per del Hoyo & Collar 2016, BLI & Stervander <i>et al</i> 2020, but Alström <i>et al</i> 2023 find no support for lump. While retaining the English name 'Singing Bush Lark' for <i>cantillans</i> as informal@OSME, we note that Alström <i>et al</i> 2023 proposing that the taxon should not be lumped, if accepted, will justify our decision. We note Shirihai & Svensson 2018 cited behavioural and vocal differences. We note that direct distance from the distribution of the nearest of the Indian subcontinent populations is 1150km. Although <i>M. javanica</i> is genetically close to <i>M.c. cantillans</i> of Indian subcontinent HBW9, we note it is more distant from other Singing Bush Lark taxa, especially <i>simplex</i> of Arabia. 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 It has been suggested African & Middle East populations may be separable as <i>M. simplex</i> from Indian populations of <i>M. cantillans</i> Dickinson & Dekker 2001a. The <i>cantillans</i> 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 <i>et al</i> 2013a.
719	Woodlark (Wood Lark)	<i>Lullula arborea</i>	Nominate is extralimital, straggles to westernmost Kazakhstan; remaining <i>ssp pallida</i> resident Turkmenistan, Bukreev 1997, Türkiye Kirwan <i>et al</i> 2008. Breeds Caucasus, N Iraq (Ararat <i>et al</i> 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 <i>et al</i> 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, 2 records Eastern Province <i>ssp pallida</i> Saudi Arabia Babbington & Meadows 2022. Egypt Avib, BE
720	White-winged Lark	<i>Alauda leucoptera</i> (formerly in <i>Melanocorypha</i>)	Monotypic. Much more closely related to <i>Alauda</i> than <i>Melanocorypha</i> Alström <i>et al</i> 2013a, IOC4.2, H&M4. Common resident, BM, WV Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b, northern Astrakhan Region Arkhipov 2006, range extension to Betpak-Dala Martin <i>et al</i> 2018; perhaps northernmost Uzbekistan (rare WV Uzbekistan Martin <i>et al</i> 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 <i>et al</i> 2012, E Kyrgyzstan, Ven 2002. Scarce winterer S Caspian Schüz 1959, vagrant Türkiye Mitchell 2017.
721	Oriental Skylark (Small Skylark)	<i>Alauda gulgula</i>	Species status confirmed by Stervander <i>et al</i> 2020. Only <i>inconspicua</i> & <i>Ihamarum</i> (of 13 ssp H&M4, IOC11.2) recorded in Region: <i>inconspicua</i> Turkmenistan, Bukreev 1997. Breeds Uzbekistan (K-M <i>et al</i> 2005), S & E CA, E Iran, Afghanistan (<i>Ihamarum</i> Badakhshan Pamirs, <i>inconspicua</i> elsewhere Paludan 1959 Ayé <i>et al</i> 2012), winters India HBW9 to Iran Porter <i>et al</i> 2024; 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 <i>in litt</i> Dec 2015, 2nd at Batumi Oct 2023 DB45:6 412 (Which claims as 1st record); vagrant 2nd record Egypt Mar 2012 at El Gouna EORC , 1st for Türkiye Milleya, Hatay Mar 2018 DB40:2 121, 2nd at Tuzla Lake, Adana Province Nov 2023 TBRC ; 1st for Cyprus Oct 2020 Phassouri Reedbeds CBRC , one heard at 'Lark Corner', Mandria Dec 2023 Anders Gray <i>in litt</i> . 1st for Qatar Irkayya Farm Nov 2021 QRBC . WV Bahrain, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, UAE, vagrant Azerbaijan, Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon Mitchell 2017. NB <i>inconspicua</i> includes Includes <i>punjaubi</i> and <i>transcaspia</i> Alström 2023.
PT	Eurasian Skylark PT	<i>Alauda arvensis</i>	Wink 2011 split extralimital <i>pekinensis</i> , & Stervander <i>et al</i> 2020, having confirmed the earlier split of Oriental Skylark <i>A. gulgula</i> (<i>qv</i>), also split off eastern ssp (<i>japonicus</i> , <i>lonnbergi</i> , <i>pekinensis</i>) under 'Japanese Skylark' <i>A. japonica</i> : attribution of <i>intermedia</i> unclear.
722	Eurasian Skylark	<i>Alauda arvensis</i>	Polytypic. 3 of 8 (??) ssp in Region: <i>cantarella</i> N&C Türkiye; <i>armenica</i> SE Türkiye, Transcaucasia SW&N Iran; the splendidly-named <i>dulcivox</i> SE Russia-Kazakhstan. <i>A.a. cantarella</i> Turkmenistan Bukreev 1997 <i>contra</i> (<i>arvensis</i>) Ayé <i>et al</i> 2012, <i>dulcivox</i> common resident, PM, BM, WV Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b. Resident much of Türkiye, particularly in E, Kirwan <i>et al</i> 2008, Caucasus, N Iran, S CA, breeds N E & SE CA, winters Israel, Iran, Gulf, HBW9, passage Iraq Salim <i>et al</i> 2012, fairly common PM & WV Oman OBL7 , <i>dulcivox</i> 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 <i>et al</i> 2009.
PT	Thekla's Lark PT	<i>Galerida theklae sensu lato</i>	Stervander <i>et al</i> 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 (<i>G. t. theklae</i>) + Tunisia (<i>G. t. superflua</i>) and a Clade sampled in Ethiopia (<i>G. t. praetermissa</i> & <i>G. t. hueii</i>) and Somalia (<i>G. t. ellioti</i>). Assuming that all N African disjunct populations fall into the N African Clade, the only taxon that occurs in the Region is <i>carolinae</i> 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.

723	Thekla's Lark	<i>Galerida theklae sensu stricto</i>	Polytypic. Only ssp <i>carolinae</i> occurs (NW Egypt) of 6 ssp <i>sensu stricto</i> in this Clade . Guillaumet <i>et al</i> 2008 show that extralimital Malabar Lark <i>G. malabarica</i> of India does not form a superspecies with <i>G. theklae</i> , but instead is closely related to the <i>G. cristata</i> 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 <i>et al</i> 2009 suggest possibility of highland races being a separate species). However, Stervander <i>et al</i> 2020 using the mPTP technique, distinguish between Moroccan/Tunisian populations and those extralimital taxa in eastern Africa, which if split would come under <i>G. praetermissa</i> : 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 ssp may be invalid Isenmann & Thevenot 2018.
PT	Crested Lark PT	<i>Galerida cristata (sensu lato)</i>	Guillaumet <i>et al</i> 2008 show that extralimital Maghreb endemic <i>G. [cristata] randonii</i> 'Maghreb Lark' should be split; accepted in IOC2.3, but IOC3.5 assigns species name of <i>macrorhyncha</i> , on priority grounds, though Alström <i>et al</i> 2023 are unresponsive about its species rank. NB Alström <i>et al</i> 2013a indicate multiple <i>Galerida</i> spp likely in Horn of Africa..
725	Crested Lark	<i>Galerida cristata (sensu stricto)</i>	Total ssp disputed; H&M4 lists 35, of which 11 breed in Region & perhaps 3 straggle to it: <i>nigricans</i> , <i>maculata</i> , <i>halfae</i> Egypt; <i>cyprica</i> Cyprus; <i>tenuirostris</i> N Caucasus; <i>caucasica</i> Caucasus, N Asia Minor; <i>brachyura</i> NE Egypt-Israel, Jordan-N Saïdi & Iraq; <i>cinnamomina</i> W Lebanon, NW Israel; <i>zion</i> S Türkiye, Syria, E Lebanon, NE Israel; <i>subtaurica</i> C Türkiye-SW&N Iran, SW Turkmenistan; <i>magna</i> NE Arabia, N&E Iran, Afghanistan, Kazakhstan. Speculated stragglers <i>festae</i> NW Libya to Egypt, <i>lynesi</i> Gilgit Pakistan to Afghanistan, <i>chendoola</i> E&NE Pakistan to Iran & Afghanistan. Guillaumet <i>et al</i> 2006 (cited in Kirwan <i>et al</i> 2008) emphasise caution in over-assigning ssp status. <i>G.c. caucasica</i> & <i>ivanowi</i> Turkmenistan, Bukreev 1997 (<i>ivanowi</i> now thought invalid, subsumed in <i>subtaurica</i> Ayé <i>et al</i> 2012), <i>tenuirostris</i> common resident W Kazakhstan, <i>magna</i> common resident, BM S Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b. Türkiye-Levant-Afghanistan; resident Caucasus, Iran, C & S CA, Afghanistan (<i>magna</i> Afghanistan Paludan 1959), HBW9 , Iraq Salim <i>et al</i> 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.
Drovetski <i>et al</i> 2014 suggest that at least 6 species-groups comprise Horned Lark; 3 (<i>flava</i> , <i>penicillata</i> , <i>brandti</i>) 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 (?) ssp 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 ssp (citing many sources) by van Steenis 2014. H&M4 list 42 ssp. Ghorbani <i>et al</i> 2020a examine the mitochondrial phylogeography of the genus and come to close agreement with Drovetski <i>et al</i> 2014, but conservatively so, throwing into sharp relief some of the problems highlighted by them. Stervander <i>et al</i> 2020 aligns well with the summary given in the line entries below.			
PT	Horned Lark complex PT	<i>Eremophila (superspecies?)</i> taxa PT	The findings of Drovetski <i>et al</i> 2014, Alström <i>et al</i> 2013a and the analysis of van Steenis 2014 do not address all aspects of <i>Eremophila</i> taxa, be that distribution limits (Steve Preddy <i>in litt</i>), ssp validity, complete ssp 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 tax research coverage is improved. Accordingly, the extralimital species are the monotypic 'Atlas Horned Lark' <i>E. [a.] atlas</i> , 'American Horned Lark' <i>E. [a.] alpestris</i> (at least 20 ssp of a total of 35 [42 H&M4]) & the already established monotypic Temminck's Lark <i>E. bilopha</i> : Inskipp & Collar 2015 reach a congruent summary. OSME Region thus includes 4 spp in the new superspecies, although several ssp remain unallocated. English names informal@OSME. Amongst the 7 extralimital ssp E of OSME Region, <i>elwesi</i> (S&E Tibetan Plateau) may present a problem. Genetic data so far indicate that Temminck's Lark <i>E. bilopha</i> is nested within <i>elwesi</i> . Should that be confirmed, then it would at least require elevation to species rank. Ghorbani <i>et al</i> 2019 reaching broadly the same conclusions, are less adventurous, but note the complexity of the relationship of <i>elwesi</i> 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 <i>et al</i> 2020 noted that 6 spp (one Nearctic) derive via divergences and use of the mPTP technique. NB1 A study entitled 'Neo-Sex Chromosome Evolution and Phenotypic Differentiation across an Elevational Gradient in Horned Larks' (Shakya <i>et al</i> 2022) on birds from California & Nevada suggested (<i>inter alia</i>) 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 ssp (35-42: authorities differ) remains to be seen. NB2 Alström <i>et al</i> 2023 propose <i>penicillata</i> & <i>longirostris</i> be elevated to species status.
725	'Caucasian Horned Lark' (Mountain Horned Lark Ghorbani <i>et al</i> 2019; 'Alpine Horned Lark', Horned Lark, Shorelark)	<i>Eremophila (alpestris) penicillata</i>	Alström <i>et al</i> 2023 propose this taxon be elevated to species status. Includes <i>balcanica</i> , <i>albigula</i> & extralimital <i>bicornis</i> van Steenis 2014; Ghorbani <i>et al</i> 2020a find <i>penicillata</i> sister to Nearctic <i>atlas</i> , & include as ssp to <i>E. penicillata</i> ; we await sampling of all untested taxa before deciding further. Bukreev 1997 - <i>albigula</i> WV Turkmenistan, common resident, WV SE Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b, resident in parts of all CA states Ayé <i>et al</i> 2012, resident Türkiye, Caucasus, very local N Iraq (Ararat <i>et al</i> 2011), Iran <i>penicillata</i> , Afghanistan (abundant Afghan Pamirs Niethammer 1973); <i>albigula</i> 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 Irkaya Farm Jan 2021 likely nominate of this split species.
726	'Himalayan Horned Lark' (Horned Lark, Shore Lark)	<i>Eremophila (alpestris) longirostris</i>	Occurs (<i>longirostris</i>) in NE Afghanistan, then to extralimital points E, including <i>teleschowi</i> , <i>argalea</i> , <i>elwesi</i> , <i>khamensis</i> , <i>nigrifrons</i> van Steenis 2014. May also include <i>przewalski</i> . Ghorbani <i>et al</i> 2020a include <i>deosaiensis</i> , <i>elwesi</i> , <i>khamensis</i> , <i>przewalskii</i> , <i>argalea</i> , <i>teleschowi</i> , <i>nigrifrons</i> , while warning that some may not be valid ssp, and that <i>elwesi</i> , oncle fully sampled, might be separable, possibly subsuming <i>nigrifrons</i> , <i>khamensis</i> , <i>argalea</i> & <i>montana</i> . NB1 some populations attributed to <i>montana</i> may be attributable to <i>brandti</i> . NB2 Alström <i>et al</i> 2023 propose this taxon be elevated to species status.
727	'Eurasian Shore Lark' (Horned Lark, Shore Lark)	<i>Eremophila (alpestris) flava</i>	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 <i>et al</i> 2020a group this taxon with <i>brandti</i> & many other taxa from the northern Palearctic's North America and also northern South America.
728	'Steppe Horned Lark' ('Mongolian Horned Lark')	<i>Eremophila (alpestris) brandti</i>	Monotypic (position of <i>przewalski</i> unclear) under van Steenis 2014: see above entry re Ghorbani <i>et al</i> 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 interfluvium E through Kazakhstan into Mongolia and bordering northernmost China & southernmost Russia. rare vagrant to Iran - Zarudny specimen - Khaleghizadeh <i>et al</i> 2017. Note that Ghorbani <i>et al</i> 2020a group this taxon with <i>flava</i> & also with many other taxa from the northern Palearctic's North America & also northern South America.
729	Temminck's Lark (Temminck's Horned Lark)	<i>Eremophila bilopha</i>	Monotypic; Ghorbani <i>et al</i> 2020a support this conclusion. Resident Jordan, S Israel, S Syria, W&S Iraq (Salim <i>et al</i> 2012), N Egypt IUCN Map Jul 2023, 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 Türkiye Apr 2022 at Milleyha Emin Yoğurtcuoğlu, Soner Bekir <i>in litt</i> TBRC . Yemen Mitchell 2017. Egypt Avib, BE. Extralimital to W. as far as Mauretania.

PT	Short-toed Lark complex PT	<i>Calandrella</i> spp complex	Stervander <i>et al</i> 2016 found several clades and cryptic lineages (the latter will require some taxonomic revision). They analysed mitochondrial cytochrome <i>b</i> (<i>cytb</i>) and nuclear Restriction-site Associated DNA (RAD) sequences from all species, and for <i>cytb</i> 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 <i>et al</i> 2020 combined morphometrics (mainly Principal Component Analysis) and molecular species delimitation, multi-rate Poisson Tree Processes (mPTP) on cytochrome <i>b</i> sequences to evaluate the taxonomy of larks, finding three populations of <i>C. acutirostris</i> deeply divergent: one, wholly extralimital, is in Ladakh, the other concerns western populations from Afghanistan and some eastern (extralimital) populations formerly attributed to <i>C. a. tibetana</i> . 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 <i>et al</i> 2016 while incorporating the divergences in Stervander 2020.
Clade A comprises all <i>C. brachydactyla</i> spp except <i>dukhunensis</i>			
730	Greater Short-toed Lark (formerly Rufous Short-toed Lark in E)	<i>Calandrella brachydactyla</i> (= earlier authors, including Russian, as <i>C. cinerea</i>)	6 of 8 spp in Region (Stervander <i>et al</i> 2016 place <i>dukhunensis</i> in Clade C): <i>brachydactyla</i> W Asia Minor, Cyprus; <i>hermonensis</i> NE Sinai-W Syria & Iraq; <i>woltersi</i> SC Türkiye; <i>artemisiana</i> SC Türkiye; <i>longipennis</i> N Caucasus, Iran to SC Siberia, Tien Shan, wintering Arabia; <i>orientalis</i> C Asia. The previously erroneously treated <i>C. cinerea longipennis</i> (now <i>C. b. longipennis</i>), 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 <i>artemisiana</i> in SW & <i>longipennis</i> elsewhere), occasional breeder Cyprus Richardson 2014 (formerly common breeder Peter 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, uncommon irregular PM Socotra Porter & Suleiman 2022. 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 . Eastern spp winter eastern Sahel, Chad, South Sudan & Ethiopia Zwarts <i>et al</i> 2023a. Egypt Avib, BE. NB1 All <i>C. b. longipennis</i> taxa sampled lay in Clade A2 , but <i>C. b. brachydactyla</i> taxa samples were present in both Clades A1 & A2 , hence the reference to cryptic lineages in the Parent Taxon Notes above. NB2 extralimital spp are <i>hungarica</i> (C Europe) & <i>rubiginosa</i> (N Africa - Libya: possible vagrant Egypt).
Clade B2 comprises <i>C. acutirostris</i>, but Afghanistan birds may comprise <i>C. (a.) indet</i> (Stervander <i>et al</i> 2020), hence provisional entry below.			
731	Hume's Short-toed Lark (Eastern Short-toed Lark: formerly Slender-billed Lark by some Russian authors)	<i>Calandrella (acutirostris) acutirostris</i>	Informal English name adopted by OSME. Polytypic within Clade B . Taxon <i>acutirostris sensu lato</i> recorded NE Iran, S CA (E of Aral, possibly up to SW Kyrgyzstan Flint <i>et al</i> 1984), very rare BM Khazantau 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 <i>et al</i> 2020: once these divergent populations have been fully identified & formally named, Clade B2 likely to be extensively adjusted, possibly excluding <i>acutirostris sensu stricto</i> 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 <i>et al</i> 2017. Only other ssp <i>tibetana</i> (Clade B1) extralimital to E, but not all populations currently assigned to <i>tibetana</i> are genetically close Stervander <i>et al</i> 2020. However, <i>acutirostris</i> samples from India formed Clades B3 & B4 in cryptic lineages that will need further study. NB1 Ganpule 2020 notes rarity in Gujarat possibly from Baluchestan in Iran, difficult to distinguish from wintering Greater Short-toed Lark ssp. NB2 Nominative subspecies <i>C. a. acutirostris</i> falls within the clade ascribed to the eastern subspecies <i>C. a. tibetana</i> (Stervander <i>et al</i> 2020), rendering the latter name a synonym of the nominate <i>acutirostris</i> by priority. <u>Western populations, which now lack a name, may be sufficiently divergent to warrant separation at species level</u> Donald & Collar 2021.
732	'Afghan Short-toed Lark'	<i>Calandrella (acutirostris) indet</i>	English name informal@OSME. Stervander <i>et al</i> 2020 found un-named Clade mainly in Afghanistan & currently assumed as western distribution of <i>C. a. tibetana</i> & 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 <i>C. (a.) tibetana</i> may also be full sp; <i>C. (a.) acutirostris sensu stricto</i> likely would simply be reduced-distribution full sp, although <i>tibetana</i> more closely related to <i>acutirostris sensu stricto</i> than to the indeterminate populations Stervander <i>et al</i> 2020 (Fig5). Wintering distribution uncertain.
Clade C comprises <i>C. brachydactyla dukhunensis</i>			
733	Sykes' Short-toed Lark {Mongolian Short-toed Lark (also <i>Dutch Birding</i>)} ('Eastern Short-toed Lark' BLI)	<i>Calandrella [brachydactyla] dukhunensis</i>	Monotypic. IOC7.2 contains split: <i>dukhunensis</i> (Sykes, 1832) Collar 2017 agrees, as do Shirihai & Svensson 2018: vagrant to Region H&M4. Stervander <i>et al</i> 2016 note that Clade C established from only one of 6 samples, but from Alström <i>et al</i> 2013a <i>dukhunensis</i> already known to be remote from African <i>brachydactyla</i> taxa; Alström & Sundev 2020 revise distribution to C&E Mongolia, extending only slightly S into China & confirm as full sp; Stervander <i>et al</i> 2020 confirmed specific identity, accepting previous genomic & non-molecular data. Has occurred Israel, Colston & Shirihai 1986, confirmed (post-split) as 1st for Israel Nov 1983-Jun 1984 (kept in captivity after capture) but full description given in Shirihai <i>et al</i> 2023. 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 <i>tibetana</i> , which is ssp of related <i>C. acutirostris</i> Hume's Short-toed Lark. NB English name informal@OSME; note the Scots preference for the possessive's presentation
Clade G comprises <i>Calandrella blanfordi eremica</i>			
734	Arabian Rufous-capped Lark (Blanford's Lark, Blanford's Short-toed Lark, Aden Lark [John Boyd, TIF]) {Rufous-capped Lark}	<i>Calandrella [blanfordi] eremica</i>	Polytypic IOC9.1, extralimital ssp <i>daaroodensis</i> . Stervander <i>et al</i> 2016 noted that this Clade and the taxon's placement within it are inconclusive <i>pro tem</i> because one of the two samples lay within Clade G1 and not G . However, <i>eremica</i> ancestrally is close to <i>C. b. daaroodensis</i> (N Somalia) & remote from all other <i>blanfordi</i> taxa, these being closer to the Ethiopian Erlanger's Lark <i>C. erlangeri</i> . IOC9.1 splits <i>eremica</i> + <i>daaroodensis</i> iaw Stervander <i>et al</i> 2016, reinforced by Stervander <i>et al</i> 2020. IOC9.1 also lumps <i>erlangeri</i> in <i>blanfordi sensu stricto</i> ; no Blanford's Lark taxa now occur in the Region There are 3 extralimital African taxa across S Red Sea, one of which (<i>C. b. blanfordi</i>) will form Clade F1 , Blanford's Lark. IOC, HBW; probably superspecies with <i>C. brachydactyla</i> , <i>C. cinerea</i> [<i>sensu stricto</i> solely African species], <i>C. acutirostris</i> , <i>C. erlangeri</i> (latter, Clade F2 , not in ME or OSME Region), HBW9 p584: 4th subspecies in the <i>C. cinerea</i> extralimital complex identified by Stervander <i>et al</i> 2020, <i>C. c. rufipecta</i> , confined to Jos Plateau. <i>C. [b.] eremica</i> resident SW Arabia, N Yemen (previously under <i>C. cinerea</i>) Porter & Warr 1985 & in N Somalia IOC13.1, Babbington & Ebels 2023; probably resident SW Arabian highlands, perhaps above 50 000bp Jennings 2010, 4 Talea'a Valley Saudi Arabia Jul 2016 SG39:1 ATR (recorded as <i>C. blanfordi</i> 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.
735	Bimaculated Lark	<i>Melanocorypha bimaculata</i>	Monotypic. In OSME Region, less continuously distributed summer breeder than <i>M. calandra</i> ; winters well south of breeding area in Saudi Arabia, Iran, Oman (Porter <i>et al</i> 2024) and S Afghanistan; <i>M. b. 'torquata'</i> Turkmenistan Bukreev 1997, Afghanistan Paludan 1959. Also breeds W-C Türkiye, 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, 9th Shamal coastal scrub Mar 2022 QBRC , 10th 5 birds Irkayya Farm Dec 2022 QBRC . Fairly common localised WV Oman OBL7 . Egypt Avib BE. NB1 imported Kuwait from Iran Gregory 2002. NB2 ' <i>torquata</i> ' populations have been known as Eastern Calandra Lark (source OBC Images).

736	Calandra Lark	<i>Melanocorypha calandra</i>	All 4 ssp occur in Region: <i>psammochroa</i> Turkmenistan, Bukreev 1997, Uzbekistan, Turkmenistan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan Ayé <i>et al</i> 2012 N Afghanistan Paludan 1959, abundant BM, rare resident S&ESE Kazakhstan, <i>calandra</i> Abundant resident, BM W to C Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b; Arabia H&M4. Resident Türkiye (<i>calandra</i> most of N, Gaza SE extending to E Syria, Iraq, Iran, hebraica SC Türkiye extending to W Syria, Israel, W Jordan H&M4), Caucasus, parts of CA, S Turkmenistan, & Uzbekistan; W (?) Tajikistan & Kyrgyzstan Flint <i>et al</i> 1984), Iran, Afghanistan, HBW9, Iraq Salim <i>et al</i> 2012. Partial migrant, winterers mostly remaining above 30°Nin Arabia & Iran Porter <i>et al</i> 2024. 30K counted PanSeaCo shrimp site Golestan Iran near Turkmenistan Caspian border Dec 2018 SG41:1 ATR , 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, 4th record (15 birds) Irkayya Farms Feb 2022 QBRC , 5th of 7 birds, same location Jan 2023 QBRC . Some migration to S. Egypt Avib, BE
737	Black Lark	<i>Melanocorypha yeltoniensis</i>	Monotypic. Abundant resident, rare BM central belt Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b, perhaps northernmost Uzbekistan, some winter Caucasus, N Iran (rare Scott & Adhami 2006, vagrant Khaleghizadeh <i>et al</i> 2017, as of 2024 considered sporadic winter visitor Porter <i>et al</i> 2024), S Turkmenistan, locally CA, HBW9, rare migrant Kyrgyzstan, Ven 2002, vagrant Tazhikistan Ivanov 1940. Vagrant Lebanon Porter & Aspinall 2010, 2nd record Türkiye May 2011 Kirwan <i>et al</i> 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 <i>et al</i> 2016
738	Dupont's Lark	<i>Chersophilus duponti</i> Vulnerable	2 ssp, only <i>margaritae</i> in Region resident NW Egypt, HBW9, H&M4, likely declining to rare & local status as in adjacent NE Libya Isenmann <i>et al</i> 2016. However, 2 images 62km SW of Mersa Matruh May 2022 DB44:4 311, one imaged by Mohamed Shawky el-Omayed Protected Area, Matruh May 2024 DB46:3 199. Donald & Collar 2024 examined specimens and historical sightings across North Africa from Morocco to Egypt finding morphological differences supportive of considering elevation of <i>margaritae</i> to species rank, but cautioned that genetic evidence was also required; they note 3 records from Egypt. Egypt Avib, BE. Vagrancy Cyprus Porter & Aspinall 2010 not accepted Porter <i>et al</i> 2024. NB DBWP 2009 called ssp <i>margaritae</i> Koenig's Lark.
PT	Dunn's Lark PT	<i>Eremalauda dunnii</i> (<i>sensu lato</i>)	Recent split by del Hoyo & Collar 2016, Shirihai & Svensson 2018, also BLI & IOC11.2. The distribution of the largely sedentary <i>E. dunnii sensu lato</i> is highly disjunct, occurring geographically in 4 African and 6 Arabian separated locations. In terms of allopatry, the nearest known populations of <i>dunnii</i> and <i>eremodites</i> to each other are about 1125km southern Sudan to Saudi Arabia or about 1400km southern Sudan to Yemen (BLDZ maps & Google Map).
739	Dunn's Lark ('African Dunn's Lark')	<i>Eremalauda dunnii</i> (<i>sensu stricto</i>)	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' <i>E. dunnii sensu stricto</i> , 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 <i>pers comm</i> . 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, <i>elegans</i> '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 <i>et al</i> 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 Tafila, Albegger <i>et al</i> 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 <i>eremodites</i> Syrian population & some 1350 km from the Chad and Sudan <i>dunnii</i> populations.
740	Arabian Lark ('Arabian Dunn's Lark')	<i>Eremalauda eremodites</i>	Monotypic. BLDZ map Feb 2018 indicates Region endemic. S Jordan, S Israel (rare <u>irruptive</u> 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 <i>in litt</i> , influxes bred Negev, Arava Valleys Apr 2020 & influx C Israel & Med coast Apr 2022 Yoav Perlman <i>in litt</i> , one Tel Aviv Mar 2024 Yoav Perlman <i>in litt</i> ; 1st for Jordan Wadi Rum Feb 2023 DB45:2 133. 1st reported for Cyprus Cape Greco 06 Apr 2020 DB42:3 215, Jane Stylianou <i>in litt</i> Mar 2022, 2nd Spiros Pools Larnaca 9 Apr 2020 CRBC : 1st for Türkiye photographed Mar 2021 Milleyha shores, Samandag, Hatay, by Emin Yoğurtcuoğlu, 2nd there Apr 2021 TBRC . Rare, erratic WV Eastern Province Saudi Arabia Babbington & Meadows 2022. Egypt Baha el Din 1984. NB Dunn's Lark <i>E. dunnii sensu stricto</i> 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	<i>Alaudala rufescens sensu lato</i> (formerly in <i>Calandrella</i>) (Includes Sand Lark which Ghorbani <i>et al</i> 2020b confirm nested in <i>A. rufescens sl</i>)	Distinct from <i>Calandrella</i> Alström <i>et al</i> 2013a IOC4.2. Ghorbani <i>et al</i> 2020b examine in a wide-ranging study the relationships of Lesser Short-toed Lark <i>A. rufescens</i> taxa & Sand Lark <i>A. raytal</i> taxa: they found several wrongly-identified museum specimens of taxon <i>beicki</i> & confirmed deep divergences amongst cryptic taxa; <i>A. raytal</i> is confirmed as nesting in <i>A. rufescens sensu lato</i> ; by cyt B analysis <i>raytal</i> is the most recently divergent at 1.77MYA, but has since diverged the fastest in size, structure & plumage. Furthermore, <i>A. rufescens sensu lato</i> & Asian Short-toed Lark <i>A. cheleensis</i> 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 <i>et al</i> 2020b into 5 Clades . Only 4 of the 15 ssp 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 <i>et al</i> 2020b suggested that 5 spp might be recognised from further data, noting that Sand Lark and the <i>leucophaea</i> Clade have considerable molecular differences between populations. We thus arranged the Clades as groups and assigned informal English names. Alström <i>et al</i> 2021a then employed multiple species delimitation approaches, including sonogram analysis, to the Ghorbani <i>et al</i> 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 <i>leucophaea</i> . 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 <i>et al</i> 2020 emphasised the divergence, using morphometrics & mtDNA, but requiring other integrative DNA techniques to confirm. NB1 Roselaar 1995 referred <i>persica</i> and the endemic Turkish taxon <i>niethammeri</i> to Asian Short-toed Lark <i>C. cheleensis</i> (<i>qv</i>); the latter was convincingly contradicted by evidence discussed in Kirwan <i>et al</i> 2008; some of the problems that then remained have been solved by Ghorbani <i>et al</i> 2020b. NB2 The separation of <i>cheleensis</i> from <i>rufescens</i> was far from clear because the breeding distributions and relationships of many eastern populations were not known Dickinson & Dekker 2001a, but Ghorbani <i>et al</i> 2020b provide a much clearer understanding. NB3 The separation between Clade D , <i>cheleensis</i> & Clade E , <i>leucophaea</i> , appears less than between all other Clades & vocalisation differences between <i>cheleensis</i> & <i>leucophaea</i> support that view Paul Donald <i>in litt</i> , though Stervander <i>et al</i> 2020 did find a divergence supporting two ssp.

Reassign subspecies *persica* from *A. cheleensis* to *A. rufescens* (Dickinson & Christidis 2014).

741	'Heine's Short-toed Lark' {Turkestan Short-toed Lark: most countries in its distribution have Turkic-group languages}	<i>Alaudala heinei</i> (Alström <i>et al</i> 2021a. Formerly <i>A. (rufescens) heinei</i> ; also formerly in <i>Calandrella</i>)	Polytypic, Ghorbani <i>et al</i> 2020b. English name informal@OSME. Nomininate [<i>niethammeri</i> is a synonym of <i>heinei</i> Alström <i>et al</i> 2021] southernmost Russia (possibly), Kazakhstan, Turkmenistan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, possibly Wakhan in E Afghanistan, <i>aharonii</i> C Türkiye, <i>persica</i> E&S Iraq, <i>Arabian Peninsula</i> via C Iran to S&SW Afghanistan (also C-E Afghanistan, Ghorbani <i>et al</i> 2020b specimen), WV Pakistan H&M4, [<i>pseudobaetica</i> E Türkiye via Caucasus to N Iran is a synonym of <i>heinei</i> Alström <i>et al</i> 2021a, although Stervander <i>et al</i> 2020 accepts]; also C Iran & E-C Afghanistan (Ghorbani <i>et al</i> 2020b specimens). One reported NE Austria Jan 2021 Leander Khil <i>in litt</i> ; unusual timing! Up to 16 on coast near Mandria, Cyprus, Feb 2022 Colin Richardson, BirdLife Cyprus <i>in litt</i> . fairly regular migrant in small numbers Mandria Colin Richardson in litt Oct 2024. 1st for Israel (post split ID) Beit-Shean Valley, Nov 2024 Yosef Kiat in litt.
Clade B, <i>rufescens</i> Clade: comprises minor in OSME Region; extraliminally, <i>rufescens</i>, <i>apetzii</i>, <i>polatzeki</i> (& western minor populations)			
742	Mediterranean Short-toed Lark (Much of its distribution is around the Med; retention of name Lesser Short-toed Lark is a possible alternative)	<i>Alaudala rufescens</i> (<i>sensu stricto</i> Alström <i>et al</i> 2021a; formerly <i>A. (r.) rufescens</i> ; also formerly in <i>Calandrella</i>)	Polytypic, Ghorbani <i>et al</i> 2020b, though large geographical specimen gap between Morocco and Mazarat, Taif, Saudi Arabia. Nomininate, [<i>polatzeki</i> of the Canary Islands is a synonym of <i>rufescens</i> Alström <i>et al</i> 2021a, but Stervander <i>et al</i> 2020 address it as valid], <i>apetzii</i> extralimital, [<i>nicolli</i> is a synonym of <i>minor</i> Alström <i>et al</i> 2021a], <i>minor</i> from extralimital Morocco E to NW Egypt, Sinai S Türkiye & E Iraq; also S to Mahazat, Saudi Arabia (Ghorbani <i>et al</i> 2020b specimen). Common WV & PM Arabia, but up to a relict 500bp <i>minor</i> may breed in scattered locations N & C Arabia Jennings 2010; rare to uncommon PM & WV Oman OBL7 ; small numbers UAE Aspinall 1996, 1st breeding Qatar Apr 2013 SG35:2 ATR . Stervander <i>et al</i> 2020 do not address relationship of isolated <i>minor</i> population in Saudi Arabia. NB English name is IOC decision in the absence of better modifiers.
Clade C, <i>raytal</i> Clade: comprises <i>adamsi</i> in OSME Region; extraliminally <i>raytal</i>, <i>krishnakumarsinji</i>			
743	Sand Lark (Indian Sand Lark) (Indian Short-toed Lark)	<i>Alaudala (raytal) adamsi</i> (<i>A. raytal</i> by Alström <i>et al</i> 2021a. Formerly <i>A. (rufescens) raytal</i> ; also formerly in <i>Calandrella</i>)	Polytypic (if unsplit), Ghorbani <i>et al</i> 2020b. Only ssp in Region <i>adamsi</i> , which Stervander <i>et al</i> 2020 found to be divergent from the other 2 other ssp of NC & WC India <i>raytal</i> & <i>krishnakumarsinji</i> : Ganpule & Alström 2022 recommend the latter be subsumed in <i>adamsi</i> . Pro tem, we treat this taxon as <i>A. (r.) adamsi</i> . 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 <i>et al</i> 2017; first record Jalalabad Sep 1977 Inskipp & Inskipp 1979, NE Afghanistan (also Inskipp & Inskipp in R&A 2005), but Heine's Short-toed Lark <i>A. (rufescens) pseudobaetica</i> possible alternative; see Ghorbani <i>et al</i> 2020b map. Other populations resident Pakistan, some near Thal on Afghan border, Roberts 1992, Grimmett <i>et al</i> 1998, 2009. Ghorbani <i>et al</i> 2020b noted divergences between <i>adamsi</i> & <i>raytal</i> , but Alström <i>et al</i> 2021a obtained additional samples & validated this finding; Stervander <i>et al</i> 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 <i>adamsi</i> . NB Ganpule 2019 notes extent of individual variation of <i>adamsi</i> & <i>krishnakumarsinji</i> in Gujarat makes ID of vagrant Lesser-Short-toed Lark (<i>sensu lato</i>) ssp near-impossible. Re this variation, see Ganpule & Alström 2022 on <i>krishnakumarsinji</i> being invalid.
Clade D, <i>cheleensis</i> Clade: comprises extralimital nominate, <i>tuvinica</i>: Alström <i>et al</i> 2020 pro tem retains <i>leucophaea</i>, but Alström 2023 subsumes <i>kukoorensis</i> in the nominate			
744	Asian Short-toed Lark ('Cathay Short-toed Lark' is a possible alternative)	<i>Alaudala cheleensis</i> (Alström <i>et al</i> 2021a. Formerly <i>A. (rufescens) cheleensis</i> ; also formerly in <i>Calandrella</i>)	Polytypic, Ghorbani <i>et al</i> 2020b (presumably with <i>seebohmi</i> ? MB). Thought to winter Arabia, but no definite records Middle East Porter & Aspinall 2010, Pakistan, although Khaleghizadeh <i>et al</i> 2017 class as rare WV, but that may refer to previous taxonomy. Single Pakistan specimen that has been attributed to <i>cheleensis</i> (Roberts 1992) differs from wintering <i>rufescens</i> (possibly <i>persica</i> ssp of <i>A. rufescens</i> ? MB). Ghorbani <i>et al</i> 2020b had <i>tuvinica</i> specimens from Ervin, Tuva only 550km from E Kazakhstan, with ample habitat en route. IOC11.1 synonymise <i>seebohmi</i> , <i>becki</i> , <i>stegmanni</i> & <i>tangutica</i> with <i>kukunoorensis</i> , IOC 12.2 resurrects <i>seebohmi</i> in alignment with world lists & IOC14.1 subsumes <i>kukunoorensis</i> in the nominate, but retains <i>leucophaea</i> as ssp of <i>cheleensis</i> . NB1 ssp Uzbekistan Kreuzberg-Mukhina & Kreuzberg 2005 may be attributable as <i>rufescens</i> ssp. NB2 Shirihai & Svensson 2018 lump in <i>A. rufescens</i> .
Clade E, <i>leucophaea</i> Clade: comprises nominate in OSME Region, S Kazakhstan to Turkmenistan			
745	'Severtsov's Short-toed Lark'	<i>Alaudala (cheleensis) leucophaea</i> (Formerly <i>A. (r.) cheleensis leucophaea</i> ; also formerly in <i>Calandrella</i> : = earlier Russian <i>C. leucophaea</i> & <i>C. pispoletta</i>)	Polytypic even if split from <i>A. cheleensis</i> , Ghorbani <i>et al</i> 2020b; Alström <i>et al</i> 2021a retained as ssp of <i>A. cheleensis pro tem</i> while noting that it would qualify as a full species under the General Lineage Concept; Stervander <i>et al</i> 2020 found deep divergence between eastern <i>cheleensis</i> & <i>leucophaea</i> 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 recent record away from Syrdarya is of 2 birds at Lake Sorbulak Nov 2024, 2nd on 25 Oct 2015, Almaty Province Wassink 2016 (as amended Wassink 2023), over 800km distant, & 3rd Oct 2022: now considered to occupy much reduced breeding distribution confined to the remnant Aral Sea (Lesser Aral) of Kazakhstan Wassink 2023. Shimba 2007 map suggested E Kazakhstan, but no breeding records Arend Wassink <i>in litt</i> 2009, scarce PM, summer breeder Turkmenistan Rustamov 2015; 2 ringed Chokpak 1999; Dernjatin 2005. NB1 Ghorbani <i>et al</i> 2020b found indications of some divergence between <i>leucophaea</i> & <i>seebohmi</i> ; Alström <i>et al</i> 2021a treated as synonymous, but Stervander <i>et al</i> 2020 justified <i>seebohmi</i> as ssp. NB2 R&A 2012: disputed affiliation of <i>persica</i> resolved in H&M4: in <i>rufescens</i> , not <i>cheleensis</i> . NB3 Khaleghizadeh <i>et al</i> 2017 groups <i>persica</i> in <i>cheleensis</i> 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 <i>et al</i> 2015.			
746	Black Bulbul (Himalayan Black Bulbul)	<i>Hypsipetes leucocephalus</i> (formerly <i>Microscelis madagascariensis</i> or <i>M. psaroides</i>)	NE Afghanistan, HBW10, R&A 2005, supported Grimmett <i>et al</i> 1998. Paludan 1959 cites 1 record as <i>M. psaroides</i> , but was this Meinertzhagen? IOC 9.2 give <i>psaroides</i> for Afghanistan into N Pakistan. ' <i>M. madagascariensis</i> ' winters, resident in Pakistan Chitral region on Afghan border Roberts 1992, Grimmett <i>et al</i> 2009, suggesting presence in Afghan Daryā-ye & Konar valleys confirmed Ayé <i>et al</i> 2012: BLDZ map Aug 2019 shows in Afghanistan in broad swathe from S Badakhstan to Paktia; overlooked by H&M4, whose nearest ssp (of 12) is <i>psaroides</i> NB1 Genus <i>Hypsipetes</i> on priority grounds Dickinson & Gregory 2002. NB2 Change of genus contemporaneous with split of extralimital <i>H. madagascariensis</i> , confined to Madagascar Anderson <i>et al</i> 2009. NB3 Unaffected by the extensive revision of bulbul taxonomy by Shakya & Sheldon 2017.
747	Red-whiskered Bulbul	<i>Pycnonotus jocosus</i>	Introduced: nearest wild population Ludhiana, Indian Punjab. Popular cagebird & singing contestant; escapes thrive in warmer climes HBW10, but not urban areas, preferring woodland Aspinall 2010; introduced UAE after 1974, Aspinall 1996, Lever 2005, clinging on Aspinall 2010, now extinct Porter <i>et al</i> 2024. Recorded Dhahran & in SE arc to UAE, but probably fewer than 100bp Jennings 2010; single escape record Oman OBL7 . Possibly most traded birds have <i>fiscicaudatus</i> & <i>abuensis</i> (NW & W India) ancestry, but bird trade commonly sends fraudulently-documented shipments from distant sources.
748	Red-vented Bulbul	<i>Pycnonotus cafer</i>	Introduced: natural expansion into Afghanistan, towards Kabul. Traded birds likely of ancestry from <i>humayuni</i> (NW Pakistan, NC India) & <i>intermedius</i> (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 <i>et al</i> 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 Alshamli <i>et al</i> 2021b, in EP uncommon but increasing breeding resident Babbington & Meadows 2022; also Oman Jennings 2010, where fairly common near Muscat and spreading OBL7 : thriving feral population Bahrain King 2018; 7000bp & increasing, Iran Azin <i>et al</i> 2008, but essentially limited to Kish Island, Hormozgan, thriving population Khaleghizadeh <i>et al</i> 2017. NB hybridises with <i>P. leucogenys</i> (<i>leucotis</i> ?) Pakistan & with <i>leucotis</i> UAE Bundy & Warr 1979)
PT	White-cheeked Bulbul {Himalayan Bulbul} PT	<i>Pycnonotus leucogenys</i>	Parent Taxon: split into 2 species, losing ' <i>humii</i> ' ssp (NW Pakistan) as invalid. However, H&M4 note that ' <i>humii</i> ' 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 <i>leucotis</i> under this PT . NB1 H&E 1970 treated as 2 species. NB2 H&M4 corrected spelling from <i>leucogenys</i> to <i>leucogenis</i> on prior publication grounds, but this assumes that the single use of ' <i>leucogenis</i> ' in the index of the prefatory list of plates was the intended spelling, and that the numerous appearances of ' <i>leucogenys</i> ' in the original text were all wrong: we remain with IOC. NB3 Shirihai & Svensson 2018 note that a hybrid population <i>leucogenys</i> x <i>leucotis</i> 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 <i>leucogenys</i> or <i>leucotis</i> or hybrid is not known.

749	White-cheeked Bulbul {Himalayan Bulbul}	<i>Pycnonotus [leucogenys] leucogenys</i>	Uzbekistan, Turkmenistan (K-M&K 2005), (some may actually be introduced <i>P. leucotis</i> or stabilised hybrid 'humii' [see above]), HBW 10 NE Afghanistan (Nuristan to Khyber Ayé <i>et al</i> 2012) R&A 2005, Bates & Lowther 1952. Jennings 2010 does not distinguish from next taxon in distribution, save for <i>leucogenys</i> probably in N Gulf, <i>leucotis</i> in Oman/E UAE, the remainder between suggested as hybrids; perhaps 250 000bp and increasing. Former English name (see Paludan 1959) retained for ID differentiation from that of <i>P. (l.) leucotis</i> .
750	White-eared Bulbul	<i>Pycnonotus [leucogenys] leucotis</i>	2 ssp: <i>mesopotamia</i> Iraq, NE Arabia, SW&S Iran; <i>leucotis</i> S Iran, S Afghanistan. Round Gulf, Oman, S Iran, S Afghanistan (ssp <i>leucotis</i> Paludan 1959, Ayé <i>et al</i> 2012), HBW 10, Bates & Lowther 1952, S&C Iraq Moore & Boswell 1956 now spreading N Salim <i>et al</i> 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, Türkiye Nov 2012 SG35:1 ATR : one at Eilat, Israel Jul 2021, origin uncertain DB43:6 470 & at IBRC Oct 2-21 SG44:1 240. Widely introduced Arabia Jennings (2004), but likely often recorded as <i>P. leucogenys</i> eg UAE Aspinall 1996, Kuwait Gregory 2002 see above entry for Jennings 2010 assessment; Alshamli <i>et al</i> 2021b note as introduced C & N regions Saudi Arabia. Common resident S Iran & many cities Khaleghizadeh <i>et al</i> 2017. Natural distribution ssp <i>mesopotamia</i> W of S Iran, <i>leucotis</i> to E. 1st for Türkiye Oct 2012 DR34:6 403.
751	White-spectacled Bulbul {Yellow-vented Bulbul} (Black-capped Bulbul)	<i>Pycnonotus xanthopygos</i>	Monotypic. SW Türkiye to SW Arabia, Oman, HBW 10. Iraq, Rasmussen 1992b (rare in W Salim <i>et al</i> 2012), Israel Perlman & Meyrav 2009, UAE since early 1970s Bundy & Warr 1979. Resident <i>acacia</i> incomplete Arabia, slow to colonise, but now thriving Riyadh & other areas; c 3Mbp Jennings 2010: Alshamli <i>et al</i> 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 <i>P. goiavier</i> . Egypt Avib, BE
PT	Common Bulbul PT	<i>Pycnonotus barbatus sensu lato</i>	Although IOC2.2 shows the split (Sibley & Monroe 1990 p583), it seems unrecognised elsewhere until Fishpool & Tobias 2017 documented monotypic Somali Bulbul <i>P. somaliensis</i> (Djibouti, NW Somalia, NE Ethiopia), monotypic Dodson's Bulbul <i>P. dodsoni</i> (N Somalia, SE Ethiopia, E-C Kenya) & polytypic Dark-capped Bulbul <i>P. tricolor</i> (S Ethiopia, then to E C & S Africa). H&M4 & BLDZ remain with <i>P. barbatus sensu lato</i> ; 10 ssp, but IOC10.2 maintains the splits. For Somali & Dodson's Bulbuls, see ORL Hypothetical List . NB1 Sibley & Monroe 1990 initially proposed an extensive superspecies of 11 spp based on Red-vented Bulbul <i>P. cafer</i> : <i>P. barbatus sensu stricto</i> simultaneously was separated from <i>P. somaliensis</i> , <i>P. dodsoni</i> & <i>P. tricolor</i> . This superspecies has now dissolved into 11 separate spp. NB2 However, IOC 15.1 relumps Dodson's, Somali and Dark-capped Bulbuls as ssp of Common Bulbul on the basis of clinal differences, many intermediates and lack of significant vocal differences.
752	Common Bulbul	<i>Pycnonotus barbatus sensu stricto</i>	5 ssp, only <i>arsinoe</i> in Egyptian Nile Valley, although <i>schoanus</i> within reasonable distance of African S Red Sea coast. NB1 The Common Bulbul (<i>sl</i>) described as abundant on African side of Bab-el-Mandab Straits Ash & Atkins 2009 & Redman <i>et al</i> 2009, is now Somali Bulbul <i>P. somaliensis</i> , but ID of taxon in Halaib Triangle and slightly further N along Red Sea coast is uncertain.
		Hirundinidae	IOC11.2 1st revised linear sequence of Hirundinidae, IOC 14.1 2nd revision.
753	Banded Martin	<i>Neophedina cincta</i> (formerly <i>Riparia cincta</i>) (<i>Phedina cincta</i> [Dutch Birding])	IOC 11.2 resurrects genus of <i>Neophedina</i> (Sheldon <i>et al</i> 2005 placed in a separate Clade), aligning with AERCTAC 2011 & BLI; DB , Sangster <i>et al</i> 2013, H&M4 place in <i>Phedina</i> . African species, vagrant Yemen (Mar 82 N Yemen Cornwallis & Porter 1982), Porter <i>et al</i> 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 Sangster 2022, OBRC . 1st for Seychelles (Alphonse airstrip) Feb 2024 Bull ABC 31:2 238.
PT	Brown-throated Martin (Plain Martin) PT	<i>Riparia paludicola</i>	Re PT IOC4.2 has <i>paludicola</i> & <i>chinensis</i> as full species, H&M4 does not, while noting case made for splitting. BLDZ now accepts split.
754	Brown-throated Martin (Plain Martin) (BLI) African Plain Martin)	<i>Riparia paludicola</i>	Polytypic. May occur Arabia; likely ssp <i>minor</i> , from breeding colonies Sudan, S Sudan NW Ethiopia, although <i>schoensis</i> also a candidate from Ethiopian Highlands; 4 other distant extralimital ssp. 1st Egypt record 1990 Schekkerman, H & R van Westrienen 1991 (Rejected EORC Jiguet <i>et al</i> 2024) Jens Hering pers comm Jul 2022, Hering <i>et al</i> 2024. 4 observed Jun 2022 on small island N of Abu Simbel, 2nd record Egypt Jens Hering pers comm Jul 2022, 3rd (?) at Abu Simbel, Aswan Apr 2023 DB45:4 275: Juveniles (ssp <i>minor</i>) netted Apr 2023 near Abu Simbel, well outside migration period, very probably indicating that the species breeds along Lake Nasser, possibly contiguously with the established breeding area at Wadi Halfa, Sudan Hering <i>et al</i> 2024. BLDZ Jun 2024 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. Vagrant Israel Perlman & Meyrav 2009, Iran Khaleghizadeh 2011. Vagrant Saudi Arabia, Palestine Porter <i>et al</i> 2024. Possibly 1st for Cyprus ringed Polis May 2014 SG36:2 ATR . IOC14.1 accepts split of extralimital Madagascar Plain Martin <i>R. cowani</i> , amends English name to Madagascar Martin.
755	Grey-throated Martin (Brown-throated Martin) (BLI Asian Plain Martin: also formerly Indian Sand Martin) (Chinese Martin)	<i>Riparia chinensis</i>	Polytypic, 2 ssp; nominate in Region, <i>tantilla</i> remote in Philippines. Isolated population S Turkmenistan-Uzbekistan, Turner 1989, queried Ayé <i>et al</i> 2012; E Afghanistan population in Turner & Rose (T&R) 1989 as <i>R. paludicola</i> ss., Nuristan Ayé <i>et al</i> 2012, R&A 2012 as <i>R. chinensis</i> : 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 MamayZhub region on Pakistan border. 7-record (PM?) vagrant Oman OBL7 , irregular elsewhere, 2nd for Kuwait Dec 2017 (with 3 Pale Martins <i>qv</i>) DB40:1 55, 1st Nov 2017 Jahra (submitted 2nd) KORC : vagrant Iran Scott & Adhami 2006, possibly rare WV S coast Khaleghizadeh <i>et al</i> 2017, vagrant Israel, UAE Porter <i>et al</i> 2024; 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 DBWP Checklist 2017 splits.
PT	Sand Martin PT	<i>Riparia riparia</i>	Re Parent Taxon IOC update 2.0 accepted split of <i>diluta</i> : Dickinson & Dekker 2001b, Sangster <i>et al</i> 2011, AERCTAC 2011, H&M4 agree. Loskot 2006 denotes ID characteristics, some greater detail of <i>riparia sl/diluta sl</i> differences tabled in Chandran 2017. Tang <i>et al</i> 2021 found clear divergence between <i>R. riparia</i> & <i>R. diluta</i> .
756	Sand Martin (Bank Swallow Russia & USA: Collared Sand Martin)	<i>Riparia riparia</i>	Polytypic. IOC2.0 established split from Pale Sand Martin <i>R. diluta</i> : Dickinson & Dekker 2001b, Sangster <i>et al</i> 2011, AERCTAC 2011, H&M4 agreed. Only <i>ijimae</i> of 6 ssp definitely extralimital: <i>riparia</i> C Asia wintering Africa; <i>innominata</i> (now subsumed in nominate) SE Kazakhstan; <i>shelleyi</i> Egypt; <i>eilata</i> (now subsumed in <i>shelleyi</i>) SW Asia (?) wintering NE Africa (?); <i>taczanowskii</i> wanders from Baikal to E of Region. Summer breeder CA; <i>riparia</i> abundant BM, PM largely in N Kazakhstan & <i>innominata</i> abundant M in SE Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b, Uzbekistan, SW Turkmenistan Ayé <i>et al</i> 2012, Iraq Salim <i>et al</i> 2012, Iran Caspian Region Khaleghizadeh <i>et al</i> 2017, Afghanistan (migrator) <i>taczanowskii</i> Dickinson & Dekker 2001b, latterly some perhaps breed, T&R 1989. Abundant autumn PM, less common elsewhere Oman OBL7 , rare PM Socotra Porter & Suleiman 2020. Numerous between Abu Simbel & Aswan, Lake Nasser June 2022 (ssp <i>shelleyi</i> & perhaps <i>riparia</i> : breeders definitely <i>shelleyi</i>), such numbers never before recorded in June, Jens Hering pers comm Jul 2022. Shared colony with Pale Martin <i>R. diluta</i> near Tomsik sympatrically with no sign of hybridisation; <i>R. diluta</i> 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 <i>et al</i> 2009. NB1 <i>indica</i> (<i>qv</i>) subsequently split from <i>diluta</i> . NB2 <i>innominata</i> = <i>dolgushini</i> , but IOC8.2 subsumed <i>innominata</i> in nominate & <i>eilata</i> in <i>shelleyi</i> , following Schweizer <i>et al</i> 2018.
PT	Pale Martin PT	<i>Riparia diluta</i>	Loskot 2006 denoted ID characteristics separating from <i>R. riparia</i> , some greater detail of <i>riparia sl/diluta sl</i> differences tabled in Chandran 2017. Schweizer <i>et al</i> 2018 find significant genetic separation distances between ssp, but no significant plumage or biometric differences; further DNA studies & better data needed on parapatry/sympatry levels for their elevation. However, samples of taxon <i>indica</i> in Indian subcontinent are supportive; <i>pro tem</i> we treat as possible full sp that reaches E Afghanistan. Tang <i>et al</i> 2021, using population genomic data, showed that Pale Martin <i>R. diluta</i> 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.

757	Pale Martin (Pale Sand Martin)	<i>Riparia (diluta) diluta</i>	<p>Polytypic. Now 4 ssp. Breeds W CA: <i>diluta</i> abundant BM SE Kazakhstan & <i>gavrilovi</i> [erected in Loskot 2001] common BM E-most Kazakhstan, abundant PM SE Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b, (not N Iran Kirwan & Grieve 2013, <i>contra</i> T&R 2001): <i>diluta</i> passage NE Afghanistan, winterring SE Pakistan, Kyrgyzstan, Ven 2002, Ayé <i>et al</i> 2012 (also Tajikistan); 1st for Iran 2010 Rafael Ayé pers comm. Other ssp (largely?) extralimital <i>tibetana</i>, <i>transbaykalica</i> (now subsumed in nominate, as is <i>gavrilovi</i>), <i>fohkiensis</i> & <i>indica</i> Dickinson & Dekker 2001b; <i>diluta</i> may wander to C Kazakhstan Wassink 2013; <i>diluta</i> sympatric breeding with <i>R.r. innominata</i> (now <i>R. riparia</i>) in Kazakhstan Loskot & Dickinson 2001 (see also next entry below). Tang <i>et al</i> suggest that C Mongolian breeders are <i>tibetana</i>, not <i>diluta</i>: they suggest that <i>tibetana</i> 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 <i>fohkiensis</i> lowland breeders E & S of the Qinghai-Tibetan plateau comprise the deepest divergence within <i>R. diluta</i>. 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 <i>et al</i> 2017; 2nd record of 2 birds Mar 2018 Shadegan SG44:1 238, 3rd record imaged Nikshahr, Sistan & Baluchestan Dec 2021 Emin Yoğurtcuoğlu <i>in litt</i> IBRC. Likely wintering group of 10-12 found Jan-Feb 2021 Al Asfar Lake, Al Ahsa, Eastern Province, 1st for Saudi Arabia Greg Askew <i>in litt</i> (report: OSME.org/encounters 21/03) Babbington & Meadows 2022; vagrant Oman Porter <i>et al</i> 2024</p> <p>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 subsumed ssp <i>gavrilovi</i>, <i>transbaykalica</i> in nominate Schweizer <i>et al</i> 2018. NB3 Shared colony with Sand Martin <i>R. riparia</i> near Tomsk sympatrically with no sign of hybridisation; <i>R. diluta</i> mostly occupied higher nest-holes, but both formed single-species groups Scherbakova & Korobitsyn 2021.</p>
758	Indian Pale Martin	<i>Riparia (diluta) indica</i>	<p>If separable, probably monotypic. English name informal@OSME. NE Afghanistan Paludan 1959 R&A 2005. Interpretation of BLDZ Oct 2021, Tang <i>et al</i> 2021 maps of <i>P. diluta</i> occurrence allow sole indicated resident populations to be attributed to <i>indica</i>, thus showing it to be resident in 2 E Afghan locations (<i>P.(d.) indica</i> 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 <i>et al</i> 2018, Tang <i>et al</i> 2021 maps validate our interpretation. Possibly vagrant to Iran Khaleghizadeh <i>et al</i> 2017.</p>
759	Eurasian Crag Martin	<i>Ptyonoprogne rupestris</i> (formerly <i>Hirundo rupestris</i>)	<p>Monotypic. Breeds Türkiye, N Syria, Caucasus, scarce BM E&SE Kazakhstan W&O 2007, Wassink 2015b, then E to S CA (& W & SW Turkmenistan) Ayé <i>et al</i> 2012, Iraq, Iran; PM in Region T&R 1989, winters Red Sea; rare irregular PM & WV Oman OBL7. Egypt Avib, BE</p>
PT	Rock Martin PT	<i>Ptyonoprogne fuligula</i> (formerly <i>Hirundo fuligula</i>)	<p>IOC2.0 accepts initial split to <i>obsoleta</i> & <i>fuligula sensu stricto</i>, as do www.zoonomen.net, H&M4, Goodman <i>et al</i> 1986 treated as full sp; no proven records of <i>P.[f.] fuligula ss</i> in Region (nearest residents coastal N Eritrea BLDZ map Jul 2016, <u>but note that ssp <i>pusilla</i> (S Mali to Ethiopia & Eritrea) was first transferred [IOC14.1] to <i>P. obsoleta</i> & after further reassessment, to <i>P. rufigula</i> [IOC14.2]</u>); weather-system-driven vagrants likely Egypt, Yemen or SW Saudi Arabia (see ORL Hypothetical List). However, note further complication of understanding of taxon identities below. Unfortunately, Svensson <i>et al</i> 2009, Shirihai & Svensson 2018 remain with <i>P. fuligula sensu lato</i>, the related maps liable to misinterpretation of distribution of <i>fuligula sensu lato</i> & <i>sensu stricto</i> (<i>qv</i>). HBW Alive/BLI (accepted IOC14.2) have undertaken a deeper split, somewhat differently from previous proposals, erecting Large Rock Martin as <i>P. fuligula sensu superstricto</i> for the species only in southern Africa, and Red-throated Rock Martin <i>P. rufigula</i> (including ssp <i>bansoensis</i>) for the species occupying the region south of the Sahara as far as the northern edge of southern Africa; this split is supported by the phylogenomic analysis of Brown 2019 (of almost all Hirundinidae) & is accepted by IOC14.2</p> <p>NB1 There are no records of post-split <i>P. fuligula sensu stricto</i> (or post-subsequent BLI split <i>P. rufigula sensu superstricto</i>) in the OSME Region; all earlier records referred to pre-split Rock Martin <i>P. fuligula sensu lato</i>. Should a 1st record for the OSME Region occur, the species would be listed after <i>P. obsoleta</i> [IOC11.2]. NB2 Sibley & Monroe 1990 noted that Somali populations of <i>obsoleta</i> occur without any sign of intermediacy toward <i>fuligula</i> in neighbouring Ethiopia, but this latter population now considered as ssp <i>pusilla</i> of <i>P. obsoleta</i>. NB3 Extralimital nominate <i>rufigula</i> does reach Ethiopia</p>
<p>BLI have further split <i>P. fuligula sensu stricto</i> thus: populations (all extralimital) from S of the Sahel southwards, then in eastern half of Africa to from Ethiopia to S Mozambique Red-throated Rock Martin <i>P. rufigula</i> occurs with ssp <i>rufigula</i>, <i>bansoensis</i>. but note ssp <i>pusilla</i> was then reallocated to Pale Crag Martin <i>P. obsoleta</i> HBW/BLI IOC14.1, but since has been re-allocated to Red-throated Rock Martin IOC14.2. Large Rock Martin <i>P. fuligula sensu stricto reductio</i> (IOC14.2 adopts this English name) comprises ssp <i>fuligula</i>, <i>anderssoni</i>, <i>pretoriae</i>, occurring largely S of diagonal from C Angola to S Mozambique BLDZ maps 2018.</p>			
760	Pale Crag Martin (Pale Rock Martin BLI)	<i>Ptyonoprogne obsoleta</i> (formerly <i>Ptyonoprogne [fuligula] obsoleta</i> , & before that <i>Hirundo (fuligula) obsoleta</i>	<p>Polytypic. 7 ssp 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 <i>H. fuligula obsoleta</i> (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, uncommon RB & WV Socotran Archipelago Porter & Suleiman 2022. HBW/BLI Clements <i>et al</i> 2023 give 4 of 8 ssp occurring in Region, <i>obsoleta</i> Egypt, Sinai, N, C&E Arabia, Türkiye, Iran, some wintering Socotra; <i>perpallida</i> al-Huhuf area NE Arabia; <i>pallida</i> E Iran, Afghanistan; <i>arabica</i> SW Arabian Peninsula, Socotra; Redman <i>et al</i> 2009 agree (extralimital African ssp of <i>P. obsoleta</i> now are: <i>spatzi</i>, <i>presaharica</i>, <i>buchanani</i>, <i>pusilla</i>). Vagrant Bahrain, Kuwait Porter <i>et al</i> 2024. HBW9 & Redman <i>et al</i> list <i>arabica</i> also in Socotra. Egypt Avib, BE.</p> <p>NB1 <i>obsoleta</i> & <i>pallida</i> perhaps synonymous Kees Roselaar <i>in litt</i> in Dickinson & Dekker 2001b. NB2 ssp <i>pusilla</i> transferred from <i>P. fuligula ss</i>. NB3 The listing of 2 breeding sites at Sari Hassan Bag Mountain in Ararat <i>et al</i> 2011 now concerns Eurasian Crag Martin <i>P. rupestris</i> (Korsh Ararat <i>in litt</i>; a checklist revision is in prep)</p>
PT	Barn Swallow PT	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>	<p>PT rationale. Zink <i>et al</i> 2006a show colonisation of Baikal region derives from Nearctic taxon <i>erythrogaster</i> in westward expansion to c80-90°E: easternmost OSME Region 87.3°E in Kazakhstan (close to arc of eastern limit of taxon <i>tytleri</i>). Zink <i>et al</i> 2006a indicate 3 Clades: European + W Asia <i>rustica</i>, <i>transitiva</i>, <i>savigny</i>; Nearctic + Baikal <i>erythrogaster</i> + <i>tytleri</i> ("American Barn Swallow"); E Asia <i>gutturialis</i>; placement of easternmost Siberian <i>saturata</i> & NE China <i>mandschurica</i> not examined, but probably close to <i>gutturialis</i>. Scordato & Safran 2014 reinforce the findings of Zink <i>et al</i> 2006a. We think it helpful <i>pro tem</i> to keep that overall concept in view until other aspects of molecular research can be applied. The history of <i>tytleri</i> 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. <u>Parkin & Knox 2010 note that DNA separation of Nearctic & Palearctic populations equivalent to that between species</u>, & that the relationships between E Palearctic taxa not fully resolved. However, some evidence of sympatric breeding of <i>rustica</i> & <i>tytleri</i> found just W of Lake Baikal Leader <i>et al</i> 2021. Scordato <i>et al</i> 2017 had found that the more phenotypically differentiated were the subspecies pair (<i>rustica</i> & <i>tytleri</i>), 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 (<i>tytleri</i> & <i>gutturialis</i>), gene flow and phenotypic variation occurred over a wide geographic span, indicative of weaker isolation. Liu, Y <i>et al</i> 2020, researching phenotypic variation, suggest <i>mandschurica</i> not valid, possibly a hybrid between <i>tytleri</i> & <i>gutturialis</i>, but see NB3 below.</p> <p>NB1 Taxon ID of Barn Swallows thought to cross Western Indian Ocean following dragonfly swarms to E Africa (Anderson 2009) not known, but perhaps <i>rustica</i> or <i>gutturialis</i>, but <i>tytleri</i> 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 <i>et al</i> 2022, identifying a migratory divide in W China between ssp <i>rustica</i> & <i>gutturialis</i>, confirmed from tracking data that the former 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 <i>et al</i> 2022 did not track any other ssp in China</p>

761	Eurasian Barn Swallow	<i>Hirundo (rustica) rustica</i>	English name informal@OSME. 3 ssp in Europe-W Asia clade: <i>rustica</i> Türkiye (some trending towards <i>transitiva</i>), likely E to Caucasus, thence to Iran, Central Asia, abundant BM, PM SW Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b; <i>transitiva</i> Israel, Lebanon, S Syria, W Jordan, wintering Egypt; <i>savignii</i> Egypt. Widespread Region breeder T&R 1989 also Iran Khaleghizadeh <i>et al</i> 2017; all CA states Ayé <i>et al</i> 2012. Egypt Avib, BE. Negative population trend in much of Europe probably due to local farming practices (insect reduction, fewer nest sites) Zwarts <i>et al</i> 2009. May breed occasionally Arabia Jennings 2010, 1st confirmed record Feb 2015 Bracken 2016, 1st breeding UAE Apr 2021 Campbell <i>et al</i> 2022; PM/WV Socotra in small numbers Porter & Suleiman 2022; abundant PM & WV Oman - single known (failed) breeding attempt OBL7 ; PM Socotra Porter & Suleiman 2020. Small numbers possibly wintering Larnaca Sewage works, Cyprus Dec 2023 Chris Charalambides <i>in litt</i> . In settlements around Lake Nasser, Egypt, ssp <i>savignii</i> 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 Türkiye, some crossing the Caucasus before heading NW to Lithuania Briedis <i>et al</i> 2018. NB1 DBWP 2009 call ssp <i>savignii</i> Egyptian Barn Swallow. NB2 ssp <i>gutturialis</i> westernmost breeding distribution may just reach the Region in E Afghanistan: this taxon antedates <i>erythrogaster</i> & <i>tyleri</i> Zink 2006a, Scordato & Safran 2014.
762	American Barn Swallow	<i>Hirundo (rustica) erythrogaster tyleri</i>	English name informal@OSME. Sole ssp from Nearctic-Baikal Clade in E Palearctic is <i>tyleri</i> . Westernmost <i>tyleri</i> 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 <i>tyleri</i> (although E Med <i>transitiva</i> & resident Egyptian <i>savignii</i> known also to be rufous). Leader <i>et al</i> 2021 in Tunkinsky National Park 50km W of Lake Baikal found sympatric breeding of <i>tyleri</i> & <i>rustica</i> with no evidence of hybridisation. E Asia Clade of <i>gutturialis</i> extralimital; Clade placement of <i>saturata</i> & <i>mandschurica</i> not examined. Since winter 2021/2022, probable taxon <i>tyleri</i> recorded regularly in hirundine flocks at al Maha, northern Abu Dhabi & at 3 other sites in UAE, Campbell <i>et al</i> 2024; recorded Iran Porter <i>et al</i> 2024. NB Taxon ID of Barn Swallows thought to cross Western Indian Ocean following dragonfly swarms to E Africa (Anderson 2009) not known, but perhaps <i>rustica</i> or <i>gutturialis</i> , but <i>tyleri</i> does winter in Indian subcontinent.
763	Ethiopian Swallow	<i>Hirundo aethiopica</i>	African species, likely ssp <i>amadoni</i> vagrant Israel, Porter <i>et al</i> 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.
764	White-throated Swallow	<i>Hirundo albigularis</i>	One photographed Sakaka, al-Jouf, northern Saudi Arabia by Nader Fahd Jun 2021 DB4:3 310 is the 1st record for Saudi Arabia, the Arabian Peninsula, the OSME Region, Asia & the Northern Hemisphere Fahd <i>et al</i> 2023. It was 4450km from its northernmost non-breeding area near S Tanzanian border with Zambia. Its plumage was heavily worn & ragged, the post-moult feathering being incomplete, likely delayed.
765	Wire-tailed Swallow	<i>Hirundo smithii</i>	<i>H.s. bobrinskoi</i> (<i>filifera</i> , T&R 1989). Turkmenistan, Bukreev 1997, Uzbekistan Koblik & Arkhipov 2014. S & E CA, Afghanistan (<i>filifera</i> Paludan 1959) (certainly S Tajikistan, N&SE Afghanistan Ayé <i>et al</i> 2012). 1st record Iran 2 juveniles Dec 2015 IBRC , 2nd possible record Raisi Dam, Sistan Baluchestan 26 Jan 2017 DB39:2 128, 4th record of 2 at Kore-Band, Bushehr Mar 2023 IBRC . 8th Oman record Dec 2013 OBRC , Porter & Aspinall 2010, vagrant to Al Wathba Wetland Reserve, Abu Dhabi Campbell <i>et al</i> 2018, 1st Qatar record Sailiya Apr 2023 QBRC . 1st for Saudia Arabia, 2 birds at al-Sadd Lake Feb 2024 DB46:2 127. Claim for Egypt Rosier 1996 rejected EORC 2011 ; <i>filifera</i> extralimital Pakistan to continental SE Asia. Nominate is only other ssp in disjunct but widespread African population; nearest breed Sudan & Eritrea.
PT	House Martin PT	<i>Delichon urbicum</i>	IOC2.0, H&M4 accept split to <i>D. dasypus</i> Asian House Martin, also Parkin & Knox 2010, Dickinson & Dekker 2001b. del Hoyo & Collar 2016, Collar 2017 split <i>D. lagopodum</i> Eastern House Martin. Leader <i>et al</i> 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.
766	Western House Martin (Common House Martin, Northern House Martin)	<i>Delichon urbicum</i>	Monotypic (Taxon <i>meridionale</i> subsumed in nominate Shirihai & Svensson 2018). Mostly thinly spread or local in CA (away from semi-desert Flint <i>et al</i> 1984), Türkiye- Iran, possibly into Afghanistan, commoner elsewhere in OSME region, T&R 1989; fairly common PM Oman OBL7 , vagrant/rare PM Socotra Porter & Suleiman 2022. Moderate increase Cyprus 2006-2015 Hellicar 2016. Egypt Avib, BE. (Case change, David & Gosselin 2002). <i>D. lagopodum</i> reported Chokpak Andrei Gavrilov <i>in litt</i> . Several between Aswan & Abu Simbel Lake Nasser, Egypt, firsts for June in 2022 Jens Hering <i>in litt</i> Jul 2022. NB1 English name follows Leader <i>et al</i> 2021, better representing distribution. NB2 Since the breeding distribution of Eastern House Martin <i>D. lagopodum</i> extends just as far north over a similar-sized longitudinal area as <i>D. urbicum</i> , we adopt the modifier 'Eastern' for the latter because the modifier 'Northern' is highly misleading.
767	Eastern House Martin (Siberian House Martin)	<i>Delichon lagopodum</i>	Monotypic. English name from BLI . who recognise as full sp. <i>D. lagopodum</i> vagrant (2 trapped) Chokpak Andrei Gavrilov <i>in litt</i> , but no photos or published descriptions known; specimens checked by Arend Wassink, who concluded they were <i>urbicum</i> Arend Wassink pers comm Jan 2022. BLDZ Mar 2018 map summer breeding range just into easternmost Kazakhstan, east of a line from Saraykuduk to Aqsharbaq, but since the species' entire eastern distribution limit neatly adjoins the westernmost distribution of <i>D. urbicum</i> , some degree of intergrade seems possible.
768	Asian House Martin (Asiatic House Martin)	<i>Delichon dasypus</i>	Polytypic: extralimital sssp <i>nigrimentale</i> & <i>dasypus</i> . 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 <i>cashmeriense</i>). Migrant autumn Chokpak Andrei Gavrilov <i>in litt</i> , then thought ssp <i>dasypus</i> , but, photos or published descriptions; specimens checked by Arend Wassink, who concluded they were <i>urbicum</i> 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 <i>et al</i> 2021, using their ID criteria, suggest this was <i>lagopodum</i> . Ayé <i>et al</i> 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 Paktika & Shakin, breeding distribution still E of Kabul, perhaps extending to southernmost Tajikistan on the southern aspect of the mountains that border the Wakhan. NB Populations bear divergent cytochrome c oxidase 1 (CO1) lineages, potentially including cryptic taxa Kerr <i>et al</i> 2009.
PT	Red-rumped Swallow PT	<i>Cecropis daurica</i> (formerly <i>Hirundo daurica</i>)	Change of genus follows Sheldon <i>et al</i> 2005, Sangster <i>et al</i> 2009. Parkin & Knox 2010 had noted species limits need evaluation, <i>rufula</i> & <i>daurica</i> possibly being separable. Eaton <i>et al</i> 2016 examined species limits: firstly taxa <i>stanfordi</i> , <i>mayri</i> & <i>vernayi</i> were reassigned as sssp of wholly extralimital Striated Swallow <i>C. striata</i> . They split <i>C. rufula</i> as limiting Red-rumped to Africa & S Europe, but stretching across as far as NW India & presumably (?) including Afghanistan. <i>C. daurica</i> was named 'Daurian Swallow' & diminished to nominate & presumably + 3 extralimital sssp, <i>japonica</i> , <i>erthyropygia</i> & <i>nipalensis</i> , but see NB1 below for subsequent revision; extralimital taxa <i>hyperthyra</i> & <i>badia</i> were elevated to spp as Sri Lanka & Malayan Swallow respectively: IOC8.1 agreed, but named the latter Rufous-bellied Swallow. del Hoyo & Collar 2016 largely agreed, but use some BLI English names. Eaton <i>et al</i> 2021 remained with their original findings; Schield <i>et al</i> 2024 mostly aligned with Eaton <i>et al</i> 2016, 2021, but note that taxon <i>rufula</i> is nested within <i>daurica</i> , conceding that their sample sizes were small. NB1 IOC14.2 lump Striated Swallow with 'Eastern Red-rumped Swallow' (= Daurian Swallow <i>C. daurica</i>) with sssp <i>mayri</i> , <i>daurica</i> , <i>stanfordi</i> , <i>vernayi</i> , <i>striolata</i> , <i>japonicus</i> , <i>nipalensis</i> & <i>erthyropygia</i> , though <i>mayri</i> & <i>japonica</i> appear indistinguishable. NB2 IOC14.2 adopt English name European Red-rumped Swallow for <i>C. rufula</i> .
769	Western Red-rumped Swallow [European Red-rumped Swallow] (Red-rumped Swallow <i>sensu stricto</i>)	<i>Cecropis rufula</i>	Monotypic (IOC14.2). S Europe, N Africa E to Iran & NW India; <i>H.d. rufula</i> Turkmenistan, Bukreev 1997; scarce BM SE Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b. Local to widespread summer breeder mostly S & SE CA, perhaps Armenia Adamiyan & Klein 1999; Iran, Afghanistan, and (pre-split of Eaton <i>et al</i> 2026) throughout OSME Region, T&R 1989; common SW Arabian highlands, isolated colonies in C & W, c45 000bp Jennings 2010, uncommon PM Oman OBL7 . 6th Azerbaijan record Nov 2022 Besh Barmag SG45:1 141. 1st confirmed breeding Armenia Aghababayan & Slobodyanik 2023 (as unsplit <i>C. daurica</i>). Egypt Avib, BE. NB Has begun to winter in the WP in Western Sahara and Morocco Dufour <i>et al</i> 2020, a phenomenon that has been repeated in the OSME Region below 33° N in S&E Arabia Porter <i>et al</i> 2024.

770	Eastern Red-rumped Swallow (Daurian Swallow) (Pre-split: Red-rumped Swallow) (Asian Red-rumped Swallow: HBW Alive; Amur Red-rumped Swallow van Duivendijk 2024)	<i>Cecropis daurica</i> (<i>Hirundo daurica</i>)	Polytypic. See PT above for IOC14.2 revision of the 'Red-rumped complex'. English name from Eaton <i>et al</i> 2016 adopted here. Taxon <i>daurica</i> very rare BM Irtysh valley NE-most Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b: any other sssp unlikely in Region. If accepted, 1st for Israel Maayan Tzvi Dec 2019, 2nd Nekarot Reservoir Arava Valley Jan 2020 DB 42:1 58, 3rd (2 birds) IBRCE Eilat Dec 2020 IRDC , 4th Atlit Dec 2020 SG43:1 173 (May be regular winterer in small numbers), one at IBRCE Eilat Dec 2023 Yoav Perlman <i>in litt</i> . 4th for Israel at IBRCE Jan 2025 Yoav Perlman in litt . 1st for UAE (3 birds) at al Maha, Abu Dhabi Dec 2021-Feb 2022 EBRC , (nominate or <i>japonica</i>) Campbell <i>et al</i> 2024, 2nd at Ajban Farms Dec 2024 DB 47:1 63 1st for Oman, 5 birds at Wadi Darbat, Feb 2025 René Pop <i>in litt</i> . 1st for Iran Bandar Abbas Jan 2025 IBRC . NB Though DBWP List Jul 2021 named <i>C.d. japonica</i> Amur Red-rumped Swallow, but the 2024 List gives Asian Red-rumped Swallow DB 44:2 154.
771	Lesser Striped Swallow	<i>Cecropis abyssinica</i> (formerly <i>Hirundo abyssinica</i>)	African species. Single-record vagrant 1986 Masirah Oman OBL7 , likeley ssp <i>abyssinica</i> , but slightly more distant candidates are <i>bannermani</i> & <i>unitatus</i> ; 3 much more distant sssp. Change of genus follows Sheldon <i>et al</i> 2005, Sangster <i>et al</i> 2009.
772	Red Sea Cliff Swallow	<i>Petrochelidon perdita</i> 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 <i>Petrochelidon</i> genus: 1st, at 22°44'N, 36°49'E 22 Aug 1965 of 3 "Cliff Swallows <i>Petrochelidon pyrrhonota</i> " (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 c550km further S (Worgan 1966): <u>taken as being just in 2018 OSME Region</u> . 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. <i>Pro tem</i> we regard <i>P. perdita</i> 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 <u>OSME Region</u> , between Halaib Triangle (legally part of Egypt but administered by Sudan) and Saudi Arabia c100km N of Jeddah. NB2 <u>The two sightings are equidistant N and S from the type location established 19 years later</u> . NB3 No other African taxon in this genus is known to occur within 2000km and only recently has the very different Streak-throated Swallow <i>P. fluvicola</i> become an extreme vagrant to N Egypt from the Indian subcontinent. NB4 All issues of <i>Sea Swallow</i> are now searchable on-line from the RNBWS website.
773	Streak-throated Swallow (Indian Cliff Swallow)	<i>Petrochelidon fluvicola</i>	Breeds NE Afghanistan, R&A 2005 (T&R 1989), perhaps so Ayé <i>et al</i> 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, Hifl Nov 2017 OBRC , 8th Raysut Nov 2017 OBRC , 9th Qatbit Nov 2021 OBRC , 10th al Qurm Park Nov 2022 OBRC ; vagrant UAE Porter & Aspinall 2010 EBRC ; 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 comprise 1st Iran record DB42:1 58, 2nd at Bandar-e Hendijan, Khuzestan Dec 2023 IBRC . 4th (2 birds) at Bandar Abbas Hormozgan Jan 2025, 5th at Nakhle Nakhoda jetty, Bandar Abbas Hormozgan Jan 2025, both IBRC . 1st for Türkiye Jan 2021 at Milleyha, Hatay Kuzey Cem Kulacoglu <i>in litt</i> TBRC . 1st for Qatar at Madinah ash Shamal Oct 2023 DB46:6 407.
		Cettiidae	IOC v2.0 placed Cettiidae ahead of Aegithalidae . NB family name may be invalid on priority grounds Ed Dickinson <i>in litt</i> . Alström <i>et al</i> 2011c found <i>Tesia</i> , <i>Tickellia</i> & Mountain Tailorbird <i>Orthotomus cucullatus</i> to be nested within Cettia , but many taxa formerly included in Cettia removed to new genera, including <i>Horornis</i> . English name below informal @OSME. NB The name Cettiidae has priority over Scotocercidae Laurent Raty <i>in litt</i> .
PT	Cetti's Warbler PT	<i>Cettia cettia</i>	Alström <i>et al</i> 2011c noted sizeable separation within this taxon.
774	Western Cetti's Warbler	<i>Cettia (cetti) cetti</i>	English name informal@OSME. Monotypic if split. Moderate increase Cyprus 2006-2015 Hellicar 2016. <i>C. (cetti) cetti</i> breeds W Türkiye, perhaps to Iraq. 2-record vagrant (taxon unclear) Oman OBL7 . Egypt Avib, BE. NB <i>orientalis</i> (including <i>albiventris</i>) possibly best treated as separate species from W European <i>cetti</i> Alström <i>et al</i> 2011c.
775	Eastern Cetti's Warbler	<i>Cettia (cetti) orientalis</i>	English name informal@OSME. Includes <i>albiventris</i> as ssp. <i>C.c. albiventris</i> Turkmenistan, Bukreev 1997, Afghanistan Paludan 1959, this (C-SE CA) & <i>orientalis</i> C Türkiye, Cyprus, Levant to Kazakhstan & also N, W&S Iran Khaleghzadeh <i>et al</i> 2017. Collected (as <i>Cettia orientalis</i>) 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 <i>et al</i> 2011a, IOC2.7 found that Scrub Warbler <i>Scotocerca inquieta</i> belongs more to Cettiidae & not Cisticolidae . However IOC2.11 re-introduced the modifier 'Streaked' & proposed reversion <i>pro tem</i> to <i>Incertae sedis</i> ; IOC3.2. places in Scotocercidae , following Frejín <i>et al</i> 2012.
PT	Streaked Scrub Warbler PT	<i>Scotocerca inquieta sensu lato</i>	Shirihai & Svensson 2018 split off Saharan Scrub Warbler <i>S. saharae</i> breeding from NW Africa to Libya-Egypt border, remainder now <i>S. inquieta sensu stricto</i> , the separation from just W of Cairo to the mapped distribution of <i>saharae</i> in easternmost Libya being 600km. Bergier <i>et al</i> 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 <i>inquieta</i> , but positive ID not confirmed either way. DBWP 2021 split off <i>S. striata</i> 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 <i>S. inquieta</i> 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 <i>buryi</i> from Yemen & that from Oman seemingly have very different vocalisations from any other population & so may be separable 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.
776	Streaked Scrub Warbler (Scrub Warbler, Levant Scrub Warbler DBWP List Jan 2018, Shirihai & Svensson 2018)	<i>Scotocerca inquieta sensu stricto</i>	Polytypic. 6 of 8 sssp in Region: <i>inquieta</i> E Egypt, Syria, NW Arabia; <i>grisea</i> WC Arabia-E Yemen-E Arabia; <i>buryi</i> SW Saudi, W Yemen; <i>montana</i> montane NW Iran, N Afghanistan, SC Turkmenistan-W Tien Shan; <i>platyura</i> NW Turkmenistan-S Kazakhstan-foothills Tien Shan; <i>striata</i> S Afghanistan. <i>S.i. platyura</i> & <i>montana</i> 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 (<i>platyura</i> NE & <i>striata</i> S Paludan 1959), Baker 1997, S&SW CA Flint <i>et al</i> 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. DBWP 2021 split off <i>S. striata</i> as Striated Scrub Warbler of SC Iraq, S Iran, S Afghanistan & (extralimital) Pakistan.
777	Saharan Scrub Warbler	<i>Scotocerca saharae</i>	Polytypic: nominate & <i>theresae</i> , the latter of western Sahara. Nearest known breeding location to OSME Region (BLDZ map Jun 2020, Shirihai & Svensson 2018) is the Libyan Al Jaghub 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 <i>Scotocerca</i> 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 <i>et al</i> 2010 accepted in IOC 12.1
778	White-browed Tit-warbler (Severtzov's Tit-Warbler)	<i>Leptopoecile sophiae</i>	ssp <i>sophiae</i> 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, Tadzhikistan, SE Kazakhstan, E Uzbekistan Ayé <i>et al</i> 2012 Koblik & Arkhipov 2014, (S & SE CA Flint <i>et al</i> 1984). Roberts 1992, Grimmett <i>et al</i> 2009 map along Afghan E Wakhan border, breeds above 3000m; Gilgit-Baltistan Bird website 2021 maps very close to Wakhan, Afghanistan. 3 extralimital sssp to E.

PT	Long-tailed Tit PT	<i>Aegithalos caudatus</i>	PT extralimital Silver-throated Bushtit ('Silver-throated Tit') <i>A. glaucogularis</i> (China) split: IOC2.7, Päckert <i>et al</i> 2010 (see Inskipp <i>et al</i> 2011), Wink 2011, H&M4.
779	Long-tailed Tit (Long-tailed Bushtit)	<i>Aegithalos caudatus</i>	7 ssp from total of 17 (H&M4) 14 (IOC 12.1) in Region: <i>tephronotus</i> W&C Türkiye; <i>major</i> NE Türkiye, Caucasus; <i>europaeus</i> European Türkiye <i>macedonius</i> NW Türkiye (IOC 12.1); <i>alpinus</i> SE Azerbaijan, N Iran; <i>passerii</i> S Türkiye, SW Iran, <i>caudatus</i> from N Europe to Korea including Kazakhstan (IOC6.1). <i>A.c. alpinus</i> Turkmenistan, Bukreev 1997. Resident Türkiye, Syria Murdoch & Betton 2008, Caucasus, N&W Iran, N Iraq Ararat <i>et al</i> 2011, SW Turkmenistan; <i>caudatus</i> 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 Usturtk Nove 2019 SG42:1 184. English name used customary. Possibly 3 species groups/full species involved H&M4, Eck & Martens 2006 (or more: Päckert <i>et al</i> 2010, Inskipp <i>et al</i> 2011)
780	White-cheeked Tit (White-cheeked Bushtit)	<i>Aegithalos leucogenys</i>	Monotypic. Resident NE Afghanistan, H&E 1970, H&Q 1996, R&A 2005, Grimmett <i>et al</i> 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 <i>Phylloscopus</i> from Sylviidae and places with <i>Seicercus</i> in new family Phylloscopidae , ahead of Acrocephalidae sensu stricto , but the use of that family name considered invalid on priority grounds (Ed Dickinson <i>in litt</i> 2012), which decision is asserted in H&M4, where <i>Phylloscopus</i> & <i>Seicercus</i> are retained as families within a much expanded Phylloscopidae : H&M4 uses as rationale the findings of Olsson <i>et al</i> 2005 to : transfer some species from <i>Phylloscopus</i> to <i>Seicercus</i> , producing an expanded <i>Seicercus</i> : <i>Phylloscopus</i> is further reduced by H&M4 erecting the genera <i>Rhadina</i> & <i>Abrornis</i> , again citing Olsson <i>et al</i> 2005. However, Alström <i>et al</i> 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 <i>et al</i> 2019 show that song did not function as a signal of direct aggression in 2 leaf warbler spp, Large-billed <i>P. magnirostris</i> & extralimital Sulphur-breasted <i>P. ricketti</i> , and if typical of the genus, thus song aggression may be a labile trait prone to rapid evolution.
781	Wood Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus sibilatrix</i> (May move to <i>Rhadina</i>)	Monotypic. Breeds NW Caucasus, Turkish Thrace Özkan 2011, accidental BM E-most & N-most Kazakhstan, rare PM Wassink 2015b; rare migrant, erratic breeder Ayé <i>et al</i> 2012, reasonably common passage Volga-Ural interfluvium, rare elsewhere; vagrant migrant Iran Scott 2008 now rare PM Iran Khaleghizadeh <i>et al</i> 2017, Iraq Salim <i>et al</i> 2011, fairly common PM WV Oman OBL7 , vagrant Socotra Porter & Suleiman 2020, 2022; 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 <i>Rhadina</i> ; a number of European national authorities have adopted this genus.
PT	Bonelli's Warbler PT	<i>Phylloscopus bonelli</i>	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 <i>P. sibilatrix</i> . Furthermore, song differentiation between the two forms is documented in Groenendijk & Luijendik 2011. Citing Olsson <i>et al</i> 2005, H&M4 placed the next 2 spp in <i>Rhadina</i> , a view declined by Alström <i>et al</i> 2018, who also noted the deep divergence between <i>bonelli</i> & <i>orientalis</i> .
782	Western Bonelli's Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus bonelli</i> (formerly <i>P.b. bonelli</i>)	Monotypic. Passage Egypt Avib, BE (much less common than <i>orientalis</i>) 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 <i>et al</i> 2015) and are not part of the main route via Gibraltar. Identity of WV in Cyrenaica Libya (& possibly westernmost Egypt) uncertain Iseman <i>et al</i> 2016. 1st for Cyprus on Cape Greco Apr 2024 Phil Andrews <i>in litt</i> . NB Probable 1st for Romania at Agigea Bird Observatory, Alexandru Pintiloiu <i>in litt</i> .
783	Eastern Bonelli's Warbler (Balkan Warbler)	<i>Phylloscopus orientalis</i> (formerly <i>P.bonelli orientalis</i>)	Monotypic. SW, SC Türkiye, Syria, Lebanon, Israel, W Iran (status unconfirmed Scott & Adhami 2006, confirmed Roselaar & Alabadian 2010), likely rare passage Iraq Salim <i>et al</i> 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 Aug 2012 KORC , 3rd Mar 2017 DB39:3 211, 5th Jahra Pools Aug 2021 KORC . 2-record vagrant Iran Khaleghizadeh <i>et al</i> 2017, 4th at Marivan, Kordestan May 2021 IBRC , 5th of 2 birds Khedr-Abad, Piranshahr, W Azerbaijan May 2022 IBRC . Probably winters Sudan, Baker 1997, Egypt Goodman & Meininger 1989. Common return migrant Eilat, almost absent on outward passage Zduniak <i>et al</i> 2015, rare return migration record Cyprus Aug 2016 CRC . NB Population increasing, breeding range expanding in SE Europe BLDZ May 2017.
784	Hume's Leaf Warbler (Hume's Warbler, Hume's Yellow-browed Warbler)	<i>Phylloscopus humei</i> (<i>Abrornis humei</i> 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 <i>et al</i> 2012, E&NE Afghanistan Paludan 1959 (Badakhshan, also passage), H&E 1970 Roberts 1992, R&A 2005. 1st for Azerbaijan imaged Salyan Mar 2023 DB45:2 133, 2nd at Siyazan Oct 2923 DB46:6 407. 2nd (1st?) record Türkiye Nov 2011 Kirwan <i>et al</i> 2014, 3rd (2nd?) Dec 2022 Göcek Port, Mugla, western Türkiye, Emin Yoğurtcuoğlu <i>in litt</i> TBRC , 4th (3rd?) Hatay Dec 2022 Mehmet Atahan <i>in litt</i> , 5th (4th?) at Kadiköy, Istanbul Mar 2023 found by Koray Öğreten, Kuzey Cem Kulaçoğlu <i>in litt</i> , 6th (5th?) Samsun, Batipark Mar 2023 Mustafa Erturhan <i>in litt</i> : however, TBRC accept as 6th record at Subaşı, Hatay Nov 2023. If accepted, 1st for Lebanon found by Tamsin Itani Feb 2022 Ramadan-Jaradi <i>et al</i> 2022. Winters in small numbers S Iran 4 records Jan 2016 Hormozgan Province IBRC now locally fairly common WV SE Iran Khaleghizadeh <i>et al</i> 2017, rare winterer or passage Iraq Salim <i>et al</i> 2012, 7th Kuwait record Nov 2015 KORC UAE, rare PM & WV Oman OBL7 ; one reported at Leveria Nov 2019 DB42(1) : 59, but no record submitted; 1st for Cyprus Paphos Headland Mar-Apr 2023 sound-recorded Jane Stylianou <i>in litt</i> ; one possibly wintering at Stavros tis Psokas, Cyprus, Dec 2023 Anders Gray <i>in litt</i> , 3rd for Cyprus sound-recorded Paphos Feb 2024 DB46:2 127. Rare S Israel Perliman & Meyrav 2009, one Eilat Apr 2022 Yoav Perliman <i>in litt</i> , 1st for Georgia at Batumi Oct 2022, 2nd at Poti coast Budagashvili & Javakishvili 2024, DB44:6 456. 2-record vagrant Eastern Province Saudi Arabia Babbington & Meadows 2022. Vagrant Qatar, Bahrain, Kuwait Mitchell 2017, Pakistan to Thailand, Baker 1997; ssp <i>mandelli</i> extralimital. Overview – Rheindt 2006. NB H&M4 place in <i>Abrornis</i> .
785	Yellow-browed Warbler (Inornate Warbler)	<i>Phylloscopus inornatus</i>	Monotypic. Abundant in forest-tundra to N of Region. Suggestions of breeding NE Kazakhstan (eg Baker 1997) antedate split of <i>P. humei</i> (<i>qv</i>) Rheindt 2006; <i>inornatus</i> 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 Safed 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 <i>Periparus ater</i> song, Rogacheva 1992. NB2 H&M4 place in <i>Abrornis</i> .
786	Brooks's Leaf Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus subviridis</i> (<i>Abrornis subviridis</i> H&M4)	Monotypic. Breeds E Afghanistan (possibly incl Wakhan), also Naltar Valley, Gilgit-Baltistan June 2022 Eaton 2022 (70km S of Wakhan): winters lower Pakistan, Baker 1997, but Ayé <i>et al</i> 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 <i>Abrornis</i> .
PT	Lemon-rumped Warbler PT	<i>Phylloscopus chloronotus</i>	Martens 2010 Inskipp <i>et al</i> 2011 split extralimital Sichuan Leaf Warbler <i>P. forresti</i> . H&M4 place in <i>Abrornis</i> .
787	Lemon-rumped Warbler (Simla Leaf Warbler)	<i>Phylloscopus [chloronotus] chloronotus</i>	Nominate extralimital E of <i>simlaensis</i> , which possibly wanders to Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, but most likely Afghanistan Clements 2000) where may breed Ayé <i>et al</i> 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 <i>P.(c.) simlaensis</i> ('Ticehurst's Willow Warbler'), known breeder Chitral up to 2700m, close to similar Afghan Nurestan habitats Roberts 1992. NB H&M4 place in <i>Abrornis</i> .
PT	Pallas's Leaf Warbler PT	<i>Phylloscopus proregulus</i>	Split after Martens 2010, Inskipp <i>et al</i> 2011, of extralimital Gansu Leaf Warbler <i>P. kansuensis</i> .

788	Pallas's Leaf Warbler (Pallas's Warbler)	<i>Phylloscopus [proregulus] proregulus</i>	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 <i>et al</i> 2012, H&E 1970 suggest eastern Afghan Safed Koh breeding, vagrant elsewhere - 3 Israel records this taxon Yoav Perlman <i>in litt</i> Nov 09, 4th Israel record Yeruham 28 Oct 2016, 5th Jan-Mar Wadi David, Ein Gedi IRDC , 6th at Atzmon Nov 2024 Phil Andrews, Yoav Perlman in litt t . 3rd record Türkiye Nov 2011 Kirwan <i>et al</i> 2014, 7th record Kızılırmak Delta Oct 2021 TBRC : 1st wintering record for Türkiye European Istanbul (58 days by 28 Dec) Çağan Abbasoğlu <i>in litt</i> , 10th record Kocaçay, Bursa Nov 2022 TBRC . 1st record Georgia Oct 2015 DB37:6 414, 1st record Azerbaijan Oct 2018 SG41:1 ATR , 1st record Iran Gol <i>et al</i> 2014, 2nd NE Tehran Apr 2016 SG38:2 231, 3rd Rig Yalam, Bam, Kerman Province Nov 2016 IBRC Khaleghizadeh <i>et al</i> 2017, 4th at Mashhad, Khorasan-e Razavi Mar 2023 IBRC . 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.
789	Tytler's Leaf Warbler (Formerly Slender-billed Leaf Warbler)	<i>Phylloscopus tytleri</i>	Monotypic. Breeds NE Afghanistan (Nurestan Paludan 1959 Roberts 1992 Rasmussen 1998, Ayé <i>et al</i> 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.
790	Radde's Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus schwarzi</i>	Monotypic. Baker 1997 in error re breeding NE Kazakhstan; single-record vagrant Gavrillov & Gavrillov (G&G) 2005, W&O 2007, Ayé <i>et al</i> 2012, Wassink 2015b, reinforcing Flint <i>et al</i> 1984. Breeds fairly near northeasternmost Kazakhstan HBW11, in Sayan Mts & in southern taiga, at density 300 birds/km ² 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. NB 1st for Greece on Symi/Simi Island Oct 2024 Yannis Malouhos <i>in litt</i> ; only c8km from Taşlıca Peninsula SW Türkiye.
791	Sulphur-bellied Warbler (Olivaceous Leaf Warbler)	<i>Phylloscopus griseolus</i>	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 <i>et al</i> 2012; CE & NE Afghanistan (Paludan 1959 H&E 1970 Roberts 1992, R&A 2005), Bamiyan Busuttil & Ayé 2009, Ayé <i>et al</i> 2012. Winters India. NB 1st for UK Lundy Island, Devon Jun 2021
792	Tickell's Leaf Warbler ('Alpine Leaf Warbler')	<i>Phylloscopus affinis</i>	ssp <i>perflavus</i> 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; Grimmer <i>et al</i> 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. Regularly imaged in Borit, Gojan, Hunza Nagar Pakistan, only 80km from Afghan Wakhan Imran Khan <i>in litt</i> Jul 2023. NB Extralimital populations from E Tibetan plateau & points E&S split as West Chinese Leaf Warbler <i>P. occisinesis</i> Martens <i>et al</i> 2008 ('Alpine Leaf Warbler' H&M4), but Alström <i>et al</i> 2018 return to ssp status pending formal description.
793	Dusky Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus fuscatus</i>	ssp <i>robustus</i> probably likeliest to wander to Region, possibly <i>fuscatus</i> : <i>tibetanus</i> sedentary; Locally common in thickets, pine-tea tree <i>Caragana</i> 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 <i>et al</i> 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 , 13th at Rosh Tzipor, Tel Aviv Nov 2021 Yoav Perlman <i>in litt</i> IRDC . 1st record Egypt 1988 EORC 2011 , 3rd record Nov 2015 Oman OBRC , 2nd Georgia Oct 2015, 3rd Türkiye Oct 2015, 4th Samsun 12 Oct 2016 DB38:7 464 6th Kızılırmak Delta Oct 2021 TBRC . 3rd for Georgia Oct 2022 Budagashvili & Javakhsivili 2024. 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 , 10th Abu Dhabi Heritage Park Nov 2023 EBRC . 1st for Iran Gilan Province Dec 2016-05 Jan 2017 Khaleghizadeh <i>et al</i> 2017, 2nd at Zahedan, Sistan & Baluchestan Oct 2023 DB45:6 413. NB Regular WP vagrant Harrop 2007, also N Yemen Porter & Warr 1985.
794	Plain Leaf Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus neglectus</i>	Monotypic. Mountain breeder; Iran, S & E CA (SW Kyrgyzstan, Ven 2002), recorded Türkiye 2004, 2005 Gotschling <i>et al</i> 2015; one breeding site Peramagroon Mts, Suleymaniyah Iraq 2011 SG33:2 ATR , 8bp 2012 Haas 2017, Afghanistan (W&NE Paludan 1959, C&N Ayé <i>et al</i> 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 <i>et al</i> 2012 map), 1st for Kuwait April 2015 KORC , 4th Qatar record at Rawdat, Al Jamaliya (2 birds) Jan-Feb 2021 QBRC , 12 dispersing Sakran Mountain Kurdistan Jul 2021, new WP breeding area SG44:1 239. 1st Saudi Arabian record at al Uqayr Farm Feb 2023 SG45:2 277. Vagrant Bahrain, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Türkiye Mitchell 2017.
795	Willow Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus trochilus</i>	3 ssp, 2 in Region: <i>acredula</i> ubiquitous open deciduous forests to N of Region (Rogacheva 1992); no fieldwork proof of recent breeding <i>acredula</i> or <i>yakutensis</i> in Kazakhstan, where common PM (both ssp treated together due to lack of separation criteria) Wassink 2015b; However, genetic and phenotypic analyses suggest that <i>pro tem</i> , breeding birds E of Urals be treated as <i>yakutensis</i> & those W of Urals <i>acredula</i> Sokolovskis <i>et al</i> 2019. Baker 1997 assumed <i>yakutensis</i> migrates to southern Africa through Region, but Sokolovskis <i>et al</i> 2018 geotracked a 13 000km migration from Far East Russia to S Tanzania & Mozambique over 3-4 month period; <i>acredula</i> is believed to winter much further W in Africa. One <i>yakutensis</i> ssp at Beirut waterfront, Lebanon Nov 2023 SG46:1 139. Fairly common PM Oman OBL7 , vagrant Socotra Porter & Suleiman 2020, 2022; common widespread PM Iran Khaleghizadeh <i>et al</i> 2017. Egypt Avib, BE NB1 From data collection over an 8-year period on 4 small passerines wintering in Ghana, Thorup <i>et al</i> 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. NB2 Andersson <i>et al</i> 2024 found a hybrid swarm of ssp <i>trochilus</i> x <i>acredula</i> in the Åland Archipelago, which separates the Gulf of Bothnia from the Baltic Sea, indicating that this population breeds in a migratory divide, possibly of the kind that might exist further E between <i>acredula</i> & <i>yakutensis</i> .
PT	Mountain Chiffchaff PT (formerly Caucasian Chiffchaff)	<i>Phylloscopus sindianus</i>	Alström <i>et al</i> 2018 in a complete phylogeny of Phylloscopidae treat <i>sindianus</i> as basal to <i>collybita</i> & so our previous sequencing is superseded. PT IOC 4.4 retained <i>sindianus</i> & <i>lorenzii</i> as the only 2 ssp of <i>P. sindianus</i> , which Alström <i>et al</i> 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, <i>pro tem</i> we list them separately here on an allopatric basis. We think the H&M4 English names less than appropriate: we suggest that 'Mountain Chiffchaff' <i>sensu stricto</i> is better restricted to <i>sindianus</i> 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 <i>sindianus</i>), is misleading as a present-day English name. We revert to 'Caucasian Chiffchaff' for <i>lorenzii</i> . Both English names are informal@OSME. Raković <i>et al</i> 2019 note allopatry despite relatively low genetic divergence, but posit that both populations suffered genetic bottlenecks in explanation. NB Taxon <i>caucasicus</i> is ssp of Common Chiffchaff <i>P. collybita</i> ; previously, some had linked it with <i>lorenzii</i> before the latter was split.
796	Mountain Chiffchaff (Kashmir Chiffchaff H&M4)	<i>Phylloscopus (sindianus) sindianus</i>	English name@OSME preferred for the taxon occupying vast mountain ranges in Central Asia Koblik & Arkhipov 2014 agree. Monotypic: <i>sindianus</i> SE Kyrgyzstan, E Tajikistan & N Afghanistan Ayé <i>et al</i> 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 <i>et al</i> 2008 & Svensson <i>et al</i> 2009.

797	Caucasian Chiffchaff (Mountain Chiffchaff H&M4)	<i>Phylloscopus (sindianus) lorenzii</i>	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: <i>lorenzii</i> breeds Caucasus, NE Türkiye, Transcaucasia. H&M4 consider resident (we assume it is an altitudinal migrant with occasional vagrancy), locally common SV Iran Azarbaijan Province winters S Iran, Khaleghzadeh <i>et al</i> 2017, but only 7th confirmed record Solduz westland, Naghadeh, west Azarbaijan Nov 2017 IBRC . Oman (?) to India, Baker 1997, passage Iraq Salim <i>et al</i> 2012. 1st record Oman Musandam Dec 2021 accepted OBRC . 2nd record <i>lorenzii</i> (ringed) Cyprus Apr 2013 CRG , 3rd Avagas Gorge 6 Nov 2016 CBC , vagrant Israel 1983 Perlman & Meyrav 2009, 2nd & 3rd Kfar Ruppim ponds Dec 2022 IRDC ; rare WV Kuwait KORC , 1st claimed for Kazakhstan imaged at Fakel, Mangistau Region by Gennadiy Dyakin May 2018, but now amended to Siberian Chiffchaff <i>P. tristis</i> Wassink 2023. 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 <i>et al</i> 2008 & Svensson <i>et al</i> 2009.
PT	Common Chiffchaff PT	<i>Phylloscopus collybita</i>	Stable isotope ratio studies (Inger & Bearhop 2008) have shown that breeding <i>collybita</i> in Sweden have a migratory divide to widely-separated African wintering areas, possibly indicating a future potential split. In a major paper, Raković <i>et al</i> 2019 find <i>tristis</i> to be a separate or incipient species, but also establish across a broad area mtDNA Clades for <i>tristis</i> , <i>collybita</i> , <i>brevirostris/caucasicus</i> , <i>menzbieri</i> & <i>abietinus</i> , all in the OSME Region; furthermore a new haplotype found on Mount Hermon may be an undescribed ssp. Despite Alström <i>et al</i> 2018 & Raković <i>et al</i> 2019, we regard, somewhat conservatively, the Chiffchaff complex as a superspecies. NB1 IOC v2.3 also accepts extralimital <i>tristis</i> Canary Islands Chiffchaff <i>P.[c.] canariensis</i> . NB2 No reliable morphological differentiation yet known between <i>tristis</i> & <i>abietinus</i> ; de Kniff <i>et al</i> 2012 - reliable separation limited to cytochrome B + mtDNA analyses; Collar 2017 accepts split.
798	Common Chiffchaff	<i>Phylloscopus [collybita] collybita</i>	Raković <i>et al</i> 2019 state "The existence of 'fulvescens' individuals of <i>P. c. tristis</i> E of Urals that have olive and yellow tones to the mantle & supercilium respectively, characteristics associated with <i>P. c. abietinus</i> , suggests more widespread introgression." 5 sssp, all in Region: <i>abietinus</i> E Türkiye, Transcaucasia, wintering in an arc from Türkiye to Arabia, some to Sahel; <i>collybita</i> Levant, Egypt & beyond, rarely sub-Sahara; <i>brevirostris</i> N&W Asia Minor; <i>caucasicus</i> N Caucasus, perhaps Azerbaijan; <i>menzbieri</i> Turkmenistan, NE Iran. Breeds Türkiye (<i>brevirostris</i>) Kirwan <i>et al</i> 2008, ubiquitously so in open deciduous and dark-coniferous forests to N of OSME Region (Rogacheva 1992), <i>abietinus</i> common PM, accidental WV, mostly in W Kazajhstan Wassink 2015b, PM Ayé <i>et al</i> 2012, migrant Kyrgyzstan, Ven 2002, <i>P. c. menzbieri</i> 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, 2022. Ringed Egypt Hilgerloh & Raddatz 2009; <i>abietinus</i> common PM, WV Oman OBL7.3 : 3 <i>menzbieri</i> genetically IDd UAE Spring 2019/winter 2020 <i>Brit Birds</i> 115: 500-509. Scrub clearance to increase grazing areas in the Sahel forces wintering <i>P. collybita</i> to forage more where mature trees exist Zwarts <i>et al</i> 2023b. NB1 Most distribution maps show <i>P. collybita</i> wintering in a broad band across the Sahel, but Zwarts <i>et al</i> 2023 indicate a dearth of records there except in northern Eritrea (birds using the East Mediterranean Flyway): several factors may interplay here; the extent of any increase in numbers wintering in N Africa or southern Europe has not been measured, nor has the increase wintering in Saudi Arabian irrigated pivot fields, while it is unknown if sizeable numbers winter in the higher rainfall zones S of the Sahel. NB2 In Feb & Mar 2023, 59 chiffchaffs ringed at Jubail & Dhahran, Saudi Arabia, genetically comprised 52 ssp <i>abietinus</i> , 3 as <i>brevirostris/caucasicus</i> , 3 as <i>collybita</i> and one as <i>P. tristis</i> Siberian Chiffchaff; only <i>abietinus</i> had been recognised in Saudi Arabia previously Babbington <i>et al</i> 2024b. NB3 Raković <i>et al</i> 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 sssp. NB4 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
799	Siberian Chiffchaff (Common Chiffchaff)	<i>Phylloscopus [collybita] tristis</i>	Common BM, abundant PM, occasional resident, WV, breeds far N&E Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b, Ayé <i>et al</i> 2012, common autumn migrant Volga Delta Arkhipov 2006; PM Paludan 1959 & winters Afghanistan R&A 2005. Previously considered uncommon winterer UAE, but now no confirmed records (J Babbington <i>in litt</i> Aug 2023), probably due to improved sssp ID (see NB2 above). 1st for Saudi Arabia Sabkhat al Fasl, Jubail Eastern Province, confirmed genetically Babbington <i>et al</i> 2024a, 2024b. Ringed Egypt Hilgerloh & Raddatz 2009. 1st for Syria 'near Euphrates' Feb 2007 Hofland & Keijl 2008, Aidek 2024; 1st for Türkiye at Şile, Istanbul (Asian side) Mar 2023 imaged by Çağan Abbasoğlu <i>in litt</i> . NB1 H&M4 subsume <i>fulvescens</i> in <i>tristis</i> , but include <i>tristis</i> as ssp of <i>collybita</i> ; here, subsampling <i>fulvescens</i> would make <i>P. tristis</i> monotypic. Reasonable splitting case made by Martens & Eck 1995, McGeehan 2011, Marova <i>et al</i> 2013, but IOC11.1 still lumps. Svensson <i>et al</i> 2009 admit possibility of being incipient species. NB2 Clements 2007 retains as ssp, Shimba 2007, Brazil 2009 as <i>P. tristis</i> , Siberian Chiffchaff. NB3 Parkin & Knox 2010 suggested that if breeding in the area of overlap of <i>tristis</i> & <i>abietinus</i> is assortative, then <i>tristis</i> might best be regarded as polytypic species (to include <i>fulvescens</i>). NB4 Stepanyan (1990) suggests <i>fulvescens</i> may also be full sp, but Raković <i>et al</i> 2019 disagree. NB5 Summary of authorities supporting full species' status Doniol-Valcroze 2024
800	Iberian Chiffchaff	<i>Phylloscopus [collybita] ibericus</i>	One seen & sound-recorded Musandam March 2016 by David McAdam, Killian Mullarney <i>in litt</i>
801	Brown Woodland Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus umbrovirens</i>	9 sssp, 8 in Africa: <i>yemenensis</i> 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 <i>Seiurus</i> .
PT	Green/Greenish Warbler PT	<i>Phylloscopus nitidus/P. trochiloides</i>	Scott & Adhami 2006 (Iran) retain as full species – Green = <i>P. nitidus</i> , Greenish <i>P. trochiloides</i> . IOCv2.0 retained 3 separate species, but Rheindt 2006 made a strong case for retention as single species. However, Knox <i>et al</i> 2008, having considered vocalisation and additional mtDNA data make the case for <i>nitidus</i> at least be an allopecies with <i>trochiloides</i> , ie removed from the ring species. Status of <i>plumbeitarsus</i> best left <i>pro tem</i> as shown; case for elevation reasonable but not comprehensive; although H&M4 elevate <i>plumbeitarsus</i> while placing all related taxa in <i>Seiurus</i> , unresolved issues acknowledged. The wide-ranging complete phylogeny of Phylloscopidae by Alström <i>et al</i> 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 <i>Seiurus</i> . NB2 Populations bear divergent cytochrome c oxidase 1 (CO1) lineages, potentially including crvotic taxa Kerr <i>et al</i> 2009
802	Green Warbler (Green Leaf Warbler, Bright Green Warbler)	<i>Phylloscopus nitidus</i>	Monotypic. Breeds N Türkiye, Caucasus, SE CA, common SB N Iran montane forest Khaleghzadeh <i>et al</i> 2017, winters India, Sri Lanka, Baker 1997 vagrant Israel Perlman & Meyrav 2009, 8th record Jerusalem Bird Obs Jun 2018 IRDC , 9th Mt Scopos Oct 2022 IRDC 148, 10th Ma'agan Michael Aug 2023 Yoav Perlman <i>in litt</i> . Breeds W Afghanistan Paludan 1959, perhaps so Ayé <i>et al</i> 2012, mostly passage; resident E Afghanistan R&A 2005. <i>nitidus</i> doubted Ayé <i>et al</i> 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.
803	Two-barred Warbler (Two-barred Leaf Warbler)	<i>Phylloscopus plumbeitarsus</i>	IOC, HBW & BLI treat as full species, but if ring species (Rheindt 2006, Newton 2003), would be <i>P. trochiloides plumbeitarsus</i> . 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..
804	Greenish Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus trochiloides</i>	Subspecies of <i>P. trochiloides</i> occurring in Region are <i>viridanus</i> (allopecies to some) & <i>ludlowi</i> (vagrant); extralimital sssp are <i>trochiloides</i> in Himalayas & <i>obscuratus</i> in E China. Taxon <i>viridanus</i> 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 <i>et al</i> 2012; intergrades with <i>ludlowi</i> (qv) of SE Afghanistan, rare PM N&E Iran Khaleghzadeh <i>et al</i> 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 <i>Sandgrouse</i> breeding records Middle East. Has bred Baluchistan (Pakistan); Grimmitt <i>et al</i> 1998, 2009. Rheindt 2006 ring sp. NB <i>P. trochiloides ludlowi</i> distributed C&E Afghanistan in Region, extraliminally to N Pakistan & NW Himalayas to S India. Baker 1997 & HBW 11 distributions (Himalayas E of <i>ludlowi</i> & eastwards) make taxon <i>trochiloides</i> vagrant in OSME Region (misorientation Berthold 1999). Paludan 1959 gives <i>ludlowi</i> as summer breeder Afghan Badakhshan; NE Afghanistan R&A 2005.

805	Large-billed Leaf Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus magnirostris</i>	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 <i>et al</i> 1998, 'scarce & local SV up to 3200m' & note confusable with <i>P. t. trochiloides</i> , but Grimmett <i>et al</i> 2009 map entire Pakistan Safed Koh exactly to Afghan border; may be BM Ayé <i>et al</i> 2012, assumed as such in BLDZ map May 2017, SV from Nuristan S to Pakitia, some 100km into E Afghanistan. 1st record extended WP, UAE & Arabia Oct 2014 Smiles 2014, 2nd Abu Dhabi Formal Park Sep 2022 Lloyd <i>et al</i> 2024, EBRC . 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 <i>Seicircus</i> .
PT	Arctic Warbler PT	<i>Phylloscopus borealis</i> , <i>sensu lato</i>	IOC2.8 & Sangster <i>et al</i> 2012 accept split of extralimital Kamchatka and Japanese Leaf Warblers, <i>P. examinandus</i> & <i>P. xanthodryas</i> respectively; H&M4 places all 3 spp in <i>Seicircus</i> .
806	Arctic Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus borealis</i> (<i>sensu stricto</i>)	Monotypic IOC8.2, Alström <i>et al</i> 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 <i>et al</i> 2012, single-record vagrant Oman OBL7 , vagrant Saudi Arabia, Türkiye Mitchell 2017, 1st for Israel ringed IBRC, Eilat Sep 2018 IRDC ; winters SE Asia, wanders widely, Baker 1997. NB1 extralimital taxa <i>xanthodryas</i> (Far E Siberia) & <i>kennicottii</i> (Alaska) were made full spp by Reeves <i>et al</i> 2008, Wink 2011, Alström <i>et al</i> 2011d: all previous morphological ID criteria of all 3 taxa need revision; H&M4 recognise <i>xanthodryas</i> as full sp, but retain <i>kennicottii</i> as other ssp of <i>borealis</i> . NB2 Populations bear divergent cytochrome c oxidase 1 (CO1) lineages, potentially including cryptic taxa Kerr <i>et al</i> 2009.
807	Western Crowned Warbler (Western Crowned Leaf Warbler)	<i>Phylloscopus occipitalis</i> (<i>Seicircus occipitalis</i> H&M4)	Monotypic. Previously plausibly but erroneously <i>occipitalis</i> thought ssp of, then a split from <i>P. coronatus sensu stricto</i> on morphology, but now known to be but distantly related Olsson <i>et al</i> 2005: note Vaurie in 1950s treated <i>occipitalis</i> as full species, but subsequently considered it conspecific with <i>coronatus</i> Olsson <i>et al</i> 2005. BM Uzbekistan, Tajikistan Koblik & Arkhipov 2014, BLDZ map May 2017 plots as SV to N & E Afghanistan. NB1 H&M4 place in <i>Seicircus</i> . NB2 Sikkim Meinertzhagen record fraudulent (see history in Garfield 2007). In Assam Meinertzhagen <i>occipitalis</i> records misidentified Blyth's Leaf-Warbler <i>P. reguloides</i> ; R&A 2005 (see also Garfield 2007).
		Acrocephalidae	IOC v2.0 removes <i>Acrocephalus</i> & <i>Hippolais</i> from Sylviidae & places with some African genera in new Acrocephalidae , after Phylloscopidae sensu stricto . Restructuring of <i>Acrocephalus</i> genus inevitable from Fregin <i>et al</i> 2009; details per taxon, but 2 alternative taxonomic approaches outlined, the broader (<i>sensu lato</i> , or <i>sl</i> below) providing less phylogenetic information than the other (<i>sensu stricto</i> : <i>ss</i>), 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 <i>Calamodius</i> or <i>Notiocichla</i> genera as discussed in Fregin <i>et al</i> 2009. NB Kennerley & Pearson 2010 adopt a nominally conservative taxonomic approach, but emphasise strongly that much change is likely to follow
808	Basra Reed Warbler (Babylonian Reed Warbler)	<i>Acrocephalus griseldis</i> Endangered	Monotypic. Lower Tigris-Euphrates interfluvium, migrant Arabia-Rift Valley Baker 1997 S to Mozambique via Ethiopia Ash & Atkins 2009; near-endemic local breeder along rivers in marshes Iraq Salim <i>et al</i> 2012, small numbers nesting only on reed stems during survey in Apr-Jun Faza'a <i>et al</i> 2017, breeder & common passage Kuwait Cleere & Kelly 2009, 4bp Riyadh River from 1997 Nikolaus & Ash 1997, c20bp Jennings 2010, local uncommon SB Khuzestan marshes Khaleghizadeh <i>et al</i> 2017, probably so C Arabia Jennings 2004a where migrants trapped Jennings 2010; scarce PM Eastern province Saudi Arabia Babbington & Meadows 2022. Uncertain status Syria Murdoch & Betton 2008, considered rare visitor Israel Perlman & Meyrav 2009. Vagrant Cyprus Flint & Stewart 1992. Vagrant Bahrain, Syria Mitchell 2017; 1st record Al Ruwais, Qatar May 2017, 2nd al-Biddha Park May 2022 QBRC , 1st breeding Israel Eilat May 2018 & one ringed Kfar Menachem Jun 2023 Yoav Perlman <i>in litt</i> , one ringed IBRC Jul 2024 Yoav Perlman <i>in litt</i> ; 1st for Türkiye Aras, Erzurum, near border with Armenia May 2018 Neate-Clegg <i>et al</i> 2019. 1st for UAE at Abu Dhabi Apr 2018, 2nd Bab-al-Shams lake May-Jun 2020 EBRC . 1st for Jordan Khoury <i>et al</i> 2024. 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 <i>A. arundinaceus</i> , <i>A. stentoreus</i> Pearson & Backhurst 1988. NB Fregin <i>et al</i> 2009: <i>griseldis</i> remote from other large <i>Acrocephalus</i> warblers, but exact relationship unclear, hence genus left unchanged (<i>sl</i> & <i>ss</i>).
PT	Great Reed Warbler PT	<i>Acrocephalus arundinaceus</i>	Parent Taxon: in H&M3; IOC2.0 accepts split, which Kennerley & Pearson 2010 emphasise.
809	Great Reed Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus [arundinaceus] arundinaceus</i>	2 ssp, both In Region: nominate Asia Minor, Levant, wintering much of Africa below Sahara, <i>zarudnyi</i> common BM, PM Kazakhstan (Wassink 2015b) & N Kyrgyzstan, perhaps irregularly Uzbekistan, SW&W Turkmenistan & W Tajikistan Ayé <i>et al</i> 2012; hybrids with <i>A. (stentoreus) brunnescens</i> known from S-C Kazakhstan. Türkiye-Caucasus Roselaar 1995, Iraq, Iran, Afghanistan, CA, Baker 1997, also possibly 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, <i>zarudnyi</i> PM N Iran Khaleghizadeh <i>et al</i> 2017. Also common to abundant migrant; uncommon to fairly common PM & WV Oman, but status uncertain from possible confusion with <i>A. brunnescens</i> OBL7 , fairly common migrant rare breeder Israel Perlman & Meyrav 2009. One Afghan record (Meinertzhagen?) <i>zarudnyi</i> 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 <i>et al</i> 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 <i>et al</i> 2020.
810	Oriental Reed Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus [arundinaceus] orientalis</i>	Monotypic. 2 Israel Shirihai 1996, descriptions Shirihai 1999; 4 possibly intermediate <i>A. arundinaceus zarudnyi</i> × <i>A. orientalis</i> ; 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 <i>et al</i> 2009. NB2 Genetically closer to Indian Reed Warbler <i>A. (s.) brunnescens</i> , but differs morphologically from Great Reed Warbler <i>A. arundinaceus</i> Red'kin <i>et al</i> 2015.
PT	Clamorous Reed Warbler PT	<i>Acrocephalus stentoreus</i>	Scott & Adhami 2006 (Iran) include <i>A. s. brunnescens</i> 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 <i>in litt</i> Nov 09. Kennerley & Pearson 2010 bemoan absence of thorough phylogenetic overview of <i>stentoreus</i> complex and also of that presently included under Australian Reed Warbler <i>A. australis</i> , 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.			
811	Clamorous Reed Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus (stentoreus) stentoreus</i>	Polytypic. Resident Egypt, large numbers breeding in trees Lake Nasser May 2016 DB38:4 251, but also populates Western Desert oases Goodman <i>et al</i> 1986 (ssp <i>stentoreus</i>); occurs Israel & Levant to Syria (ssp <i>levantinus</i> , but <i>contra</i> Jennings 2007b not UAE; Jennings 2010 notes no confirmed record of <i>stentoreus</i> taxon in Arabia, only <i>brunnescens</i> agreed H&M4 although IOC8.2 still lists NW Arabia), breeding Syria Murdoch & Betton 2008. Kennerley & Pearson recognise <i>levantinus</i> for Israel & Jordan breeders, but some others subsome in <i>stentoreus</i> ; extralimital <i>amyae</i> & <i>meridionalis</i> post IOC12.1 in Indian sub-continent to China related to <i>brunnescens</i> . Has declined at southern breeding limit in Jordan Valley Khoury 2018. NB1 Alström <i>et al</i> 2021b suggest in passing that sssp <i>stentoreus</i> , <i>levantinus</i> & <i>brunnescens</i> might best be treated as species. NB2 genus maintained Fregin <i>et al</i> 2009, but genetic links to Australasian taxa Fregin 2012: extralimital ssp <i>harterti</i> , <i>siebersi</i> , <i>celebensis</i> & <i>lentecaptus</i> transferred to equally extralimital Australasian Reed Warbler <i>A. australis</i> Eaton <i>et al</i> 2021, proposed draft IOC12.1, but paused & omitted from Final IOC12.1; English name thus remains Australian Reed Warbler in IOC14.1, but note that extralimital ssp <i>sumbae</i> has been transferred from Clamorous Reed Warbler Dickinson & Christides 2014, Beehler & Pratt 2016.

812	Indian Reed Warbler {Clamorous Reed Warbler} (formerly Indian Great Reed Warbler)	<i>Acrocephalus (stentoreus) brunnescens</i>	<i>brunnescens</i> 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. <i>brunnescens</i> 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 <i>in litt</i> 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.
813	Moustached Warbler (formerly Moustached Sedge Warbler by some)	<i>Acrocephalus melanopogon (Luscinola melanopogon by some)</i>	Nominate in NW Africa (Egypt?), W Asia Minor, <i>mimicus</i> C Türkiye, Levant to E Kazakhstan, Afghanistan. <i>A. m mimica</i> Turkmenistan, Bukreev 1997, Afghanistan Paludan 1959. Breeds Türkiye, 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 DB38:4 253; 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 ; <i>mimicus</i> scarce BM, disparate locations NW, S-C, SE Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b. Winters SE Afghanistan R&A 2005, Tigris-Euphrates interfluvie HBW11, rare UAE <i>eg</i> reported Dec 06 PH pers comm, vagrant Bahrain Mitchell 2017. Origin Kuwait (?) Lever 2005 App B Egypt Avib, BE NB1 DBWP 2009 name ssp <i>mimicus</i> as Eastern Moustached Warbler. NB2 Fregin et al 2009 favour retention in <i>Acrocephalus (sl) pro tem</i> , but adoption of <i>Calamodius</i> genus (ss) may be justifiable. NB3 ID characters cited in favour of <i>Luscinola</i> now known to overlap with many other <i>Acrocephalus</i> Kennerley & Pearson 2010. NB4 Ceresa et al 2016 explain the nesting separation between Eurasian Reed Warbler <i>A.(s.) scirpaceus</i> & Moustached Warbler as being due to Moustached Warbler arriving earlier on return migration and selecting preferred reed patches for nesting, and when <i>A.(s.) scirpaceus</i> arrive, they avoid direct competition by nesting away from occupied Moustached Warbler nesting patches.
814	Aquatic Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus paludicola</i> Vulnerable	Monotypic. Possibly breeds NW Kazakhstan, & in pockets further NE & extraliminally near Novosibirsk: long-surmised population in C Siberia may be mythical or much-diminished, but an absence of recent records in Cyprus, Türkiye, 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, Türkiye 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 waterbodies. For Ukraine breeding birds, one stopover chosen by one bird was in the region of the Türkiye-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 <i>Acrocephalus (sl) pro tem</i> , but adoption of <i>Calamodius</i> genus (ss) may be justifiable.
815	Sedge Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus schoenobaenus</i>	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 Türkiye Kirwan et al 2008, has bred Iraq Mitchell 2017 (rediscovered 2022), PM across Region, may breed N Iran Khaleghizadeh et al 2017, uncommon PM Oman OBL7 , single-record vagrant Socotra 2007 Porter & Suleiman 2020, 2022; 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 <i>Acrocephalus (sl) pro tem</i> , but adoption of <i>Calamodius</i> genus (ss) may be justifiable.
816	Blunt-winged Warbler (ssp <i>haringtoni</i> formerly known as Harington's Reed Warbler)	<i>Acrocephalus concinens</i>	In Region, ssp <i>haringtoni</i> : other 2 ssp extraliminally to E: isolate western population N Afghanistan, Baker 1997 (<i>haringtoni</i> 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 reedbeds, admittedly up to 9500ft Bates & Lowther 1952. NB Fregin et al 2009 favour retention in <i>Acrocephalus (sl) pro tem</i> ; others previously have suggested adoption of <i>Notiocichla</i> genus (ss), which may be justifiable, but the name <i>Calamodius</i> has priority over <i>Notiocichla</i> .
817	Large-billed Reed Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus orinus</i>	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 al 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 <i>orinus</i> within their account of <i>dumetorum</i> . Wakhan breeding sites found 2009 Timmins et al 2010; also found breeding in Tajikistan 2009 Raffael Ayé <i>in litt</i> 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 x 100km southwesternmost corner (and points N) Kwartalnov et al 2013, eight recorded June 2023at Khorog, SW Tajikistan SG46:1 145 (inside updated IUCN Map Aug 2023). Koblik et al 2011, suggested reports of <i>A. dumetorum</i> breeding in Central Asian mountains may be attributable to <i>A. orinus</i> : Samotskaya et al 2016 via song analysis (on migration & on breeding grounds) conclude that <i>A. dumetorum</i> 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 <i>Acrocephalus (sl) pro tem</i> ; others previously have suggested adoption of <i>Notiocichla</i> genus (ss as <i>N. orina</i>), which may be justifiable, but the name <i>Calamodius</i> has priority over <i>Notiocichla</i> .
818	Paddyfield Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus agricola</i>	Now considered monotypic IOC15.1, taxon <i>septimus</i> subsumed in nominate Dyrce 2020. E Türkiye-SW Asia; <i>agricola</i> NE Iran, Kazakhstan. A.a. ' <i>brevipennis</i> ' (synonym for <i>septimus</i>) Turkmenistan, Bukreev 1997. Breeds E Türkiye, 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 Zehntindjev et al 2010 in press, SE Iran Jan 2010 Winkel et al 2010, scarce breeder SE Türkiye 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 CRBC : 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 , 4th Qatar record Purple Island, al Khor (DNA blood sampling) QBRC , 1st for Saudi Arabia imaged at Trojena Base Camp, Tabuk Sep 2024 DB46:5 348. 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, <i>agricola</i> only Ayé et al 2012.

			<p>NB1 PT aspect: <i>septima</i> (breeds N Black Sea, mostly(? see below) migrates through Türkiye <i>et seq</i> to winter Indian subcontinent, perhaps E Iran) may be cryptic species; DNA-divergent, but best await vocalisation findings Kennerley & Pearson 2010. NB2 Brik <i>et al</i> 2018 geotracked Bulgarian breeders (recent westward colonisation) to Indian non-breeding ground: its 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 <i>et al</i> 2009 favour retention in <i>Acrocephalus</i> (<i>sl</i>) <i>pro tem</i>; others previously have suggested adoption of <i>Notiocichla</i> genus, which may be justifiable, but the name <i>Calamodus</i> has priority over <i>Notiocichla</i>.</p>
819	Blyth's Reed Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus dumetorum</i>	<p>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 <i>et al</i> 2017), Afghanistan (breeds & passage Paludan 1959; may breed SE&S CA Ayé <i>et al</i> 2012), migrates through Iran to India, Baker 1997, vagrant Israel Perlman & Meyrav 2009 3rd record Kuwait Sep 2012 KORC, 5-record vagrant Oman OB17, 6th Ayn Hamran Dec 2019 OBRC, 7th Ayn Hamran, Nov 3021 OBRC; vagrant Cyprus (2nd record Karpaz Peninsula May SG44:2 463; Jordan, Saudi Arabia, Syria, Türkiye Mitchell 2017. Reports of this sp breeding in mountains of Central Asia may refer to <i>A. orinus</i> <i>qv</i> above Koblik <i>et al</i> 2011: Samotskaya <i>et al</i> 2016 via song analysis (on migration & on breeding grounds) conclude that <i>A. dumetorum</i> does not breed in C Asia, but to the N. NB Fregin <i>et al</i> 2009 favour retention in <i>Acrocephalus</i> (<i>sl</i>) <i>pro tem</i>; others previously have suggested adoption of <i>Notiocichla</i> genus (<i>ss</i> as <i>N. dumetora</i>), which may be justifiable, but the name <i>Calamodus</i> has priority over <i>Notiocichla</i>.</p>

The status of a number of African and Arabian populations within the *Acrocephalus scirpaceus/A. baeticatus* complex do not align comfortably as spp or sssp. 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	<p><i>Acrocephalus scirpaceus</i> (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')</p>	<p>HBW Alive notes 8 lineages across 10 sssp require detailed future analysis. Olsson <i>et al</i> 2016, in a wide-ranging study, found 8 lineages (<i>scirpaceus</i>, <i>fuscus</i>, <i>avicenniae</i>, <i>ambiguus</i>, <i>minor</i>, <i>cinnamomeus</i>, <i>halla</i>, <i>baeticatus</i>: <i>halla</i> & <i>baeticatus sensu stricto</i> are (so far) wholly extralimital; <i>ambiguus sp novo</i> may occur in westernmost Egypt). Olsson <i>et al</i> 2016 call for reed warbler complex to be comprehensively re-analysed (iaw Parkin & Knox 2010, Winkler <i>et al</i> 2012; reinforcing the need for redefining sssp 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 <i>et al</i> 1986, 1989 had no reason to question '<i>scirpaceus</i>' taxa at western Egypt oases. Kirwan <i>et al</i> 2008 warned individual variations risked blurring morphological & ID conclusions, since documented by significant rate of mislabelled specimens found by Arbabi <i>et al</i> 2014a who also proved <i>avicenniae</i> basal to <i>scirpaceus</i> & <i>fuscus</i> (0.7MYA v 0.48mya). Babbington <i>et al</i> 2019 show that Arabian Red Sea populations in mangroves comprise <i>avicenniae</i>; they note Palestinian samples aligned with that taxon. We align with Olsson <i>et al</i> 2016 & Hering <i>et al</i> 2022 in treating the complex as a superspecies <u>while recognising that considerable future rearrangement is likely</u>.</p> <p>NB1 Olsson <i>et al</i> 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 <i>A. ambiguus</i> 'Brehm's Reed Warbler' (see ORL Hypothetical List), incorporating the '<i>baeticatus</i>' individuals of Hering <i>et al</i> 2011; <i>ambiguus</i> may yet be found in western Egypt oases. NB2 Hering <i>et al</i> 2016 propose a new ssp of <i>A. scirpaceus</i>, <i>ammon</i> ('Siwa Reed Warbler' Isenmann <i>et al</i> 2016: breeds in trees & palms & reeds) for largely sedentary & tree-breeding population at oases in C & W Egypt & W Libya: <i>pro tem</i>, we concur with this arrangement while recognising it may later be placed in <i>baeticatus</i>, <i>avicenniae</i> or <i>ambiguus</i>! NB3 Given that Olsson <i>et al</i> 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 sssp of <i>A. scirpaceus</i>. However, in the ORL, we will accept <i>pro tem</i> the null hypothesis of a lack of free interbreeding to suggest possible full species, but within the constraint of an overall superspecies. NB4 Hering <i>et al</i> 2009, 2010a, 2010b, 2011 documented puzzlingly 'odd' breeding populations scattered across N Africa. NB5 Ilahinae <i>et al</i> 2022, analysing genetic history of Italian & other southern European populations, show genetic cohesion & population structure likely linked at glaciation refugia in Iberia for <i>A. baeticatus ambiguus</i>, Caucasus for <i>A.s. fuscus</i> and Italy & Balkans for <i>A.s. scirpaceus</i>. NB6 BLDZ Jul 2019 remains with a lumped <i>A. scirpaceus</i>, but the map has changed to show fully resident populations as defined in much of the recent literature: IOC 12.2 proposes lumping African <i>A. baeticatus</i> & Eurasian <i>A. scirpaceus</i> as Common Reed Warbler <i>A. scirpaceus sensu lato</i>, until more data are available on the relationships between populations</p>
820	Mangrove Reed Warbler (Red Sea Warbler) {IOC 13.1 relump into 'Common Reed Warbler'}	<p><i>Acrocephalus [scirpaceus] avicenniae</i> (formerly considered as <i>A. baeticatus avicenniae</i>) However, <i>avicenniae</i> appears basal to <i>scirpaceus</i> & <i>fuscus</i>: more data needed, but perhaps: <i>A. (avicenniae) avicenniae</i>, <i>A. (av.) scirpaceus</i>, & <i>A. (av.) fuscus</i>?</p>	<p>Clade 3 Olsson <i>et al</i> 2016. Monotypic. Previously, following Ash <i>et al</i> 1989, Leisler <i>et al</i> 1997 grouped under African Reed Warbler <i>A. baeticatus</i>, but Dickinson 2003 placed under <i>scirpaceus</i>. Arbabi <i>et al</i> 2014a, 2014b found <i>avicenniae</i> diverged from <i>baeticatus</i> 0.7Mya & concluded <i>avicenniae</i> is basal to <i>scirpaceus</i> & <i>fuscus</i>, hence listed here first. Breeds & semi-resident in mangroves along central Red Sea; found breeding Hodeidah, Yemen 31 Mar 98 Hansbro & Sargeant 2000, c2000bp Yanbu al-Sinaiyah Saudi Arabia 1984 (SSE of Medina) Meadows 1999: c3000bp resident W Red Sea mangroves Jennings 2010, found much more widespread Arabian Red Sea Babbington <i>et al</i> 2019, possibly linked to Palestine populations; Yemen coast Porter & Stanton 2011, 1st record Djibouti Hering <i>et al</i> 2015; Olsson <i>et al</i> 2016 found <i>avicenniae</i> ancestry in Israel specimens. IOC6.2 as ssp. See Ash <i>et al</i> 1989, & for occurrence in W Egypt oases, Hering <i>et al</i> 2009, 2010, 2011 where 2 lineages (<i>avicenniae</i> & '<i>baeticatus</i>' [<i>ambiguus</i> Olsson <i>et al</i> 2016]) may be present, but '<i>baeticatus</i>' (<i>ambiguus</i>) is present S Libya oases 2012 DB34:3 189, 130km from OSME Region. Hering <i>et al</i> 2017 document <i>avicenniae</i> 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 <i>et al</i> 2020d. NB1 Brian Meadows long championed habitat selection differences merited speciation. Jennings 2008b, 2010 calls Arabian breeding birds Red Sea Warbler <i>A. avicenniae</i>. NB2 Fregin <i>et al</i> 2009 favour retention in <i>Acrocephalus</i> (<i>sl</i>) <i>pro tem</i>; others previously have suggested adoption of <i>Notiocichla</i> genus, which may be justifiable, but the name <i>Calamodus</i> has priority over <i>Notiocichla</i>.</p>

821	Eurasian Reed Warbler {IOC 13.1 relump into 'Common Reed Warbler'}	<i>Acrocephalus [scirpaceus] scirpaceus</i>	<p>Clade 1 in Olsson <i>et al</i> 2016. Monotypic. Migrates through W of Region, breeding W Türkiye Roselaar 1995 & further N, passage Iraq Salim <i>et al</i> 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 <i>et al</i> 2009; single-record vagrant Socotra 2006 Porter & Suleiman 2020, 2022. Origin Kuwait (?) Lever 2005 App B. Hering <i>et al</i> 2016 proposed new ssp <i>ammon</i> for sedentary & mostly tree-breeding populations in C & W Egypt & E Libya: wings & tarsi are short, & song is paced like <i>avicenniae</i>; haplotypes indicate separation from <i>scirpaceus</i> began 0.6 & 0.25MYa, but relationships with <i>ambiguus</i>, <i>avicenniae</i> or <i>ambiguus</i> yet to be clarified, one partially so in Hering <i>et al</i> 2022 with <i>ambiguus</i> confirmed as the taxon in E Libya. Egypt Avib, BE.</p> <p>NB1 Helbig & Seibold (1999) noted <i>avicenniae</i> clustered with <i>scirpaceus</i> more closely than with <i>baeticatus</i>, vindicated by Arbabi <i>et al</i> 2014a, 2014b, who also concluded <i>avicenniae</i> was the basal taxon. NB2 Fregin <i>et al</i> 2009 favour retention in <i>Acrocephalus (sl) pro tem</i>; others previously have suggested adoption of <i>Notiocichla</i> genus (ss as <i>N. scirpacea</i>), which may be justifiable, but the name <i>Calamodius</i> has priority over <i>Notiocichla</i>. NB3 Ceresa <i>et al</i> 2016 explain the nesting separation between Eurasian Reed Warbler & Moustached Warbler <i>A. melanopogon</i> 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 Warbler nesting patches.</p>
822	Caspian Reed Warbler (Eastern Reed Warbler) {IOC 13.1 relump into 'Common Reed Warbler'}	<i>Acrocephalus [scirpaceus] fuscus</i>	<p>Clade 2 in Olsson <i>et al</i> 2016. Monotypic. IOC 6.2 retains as ssp of <i>scirpaceus</i>. Turkmenistan, Bukreev 1997, Paludan 1959, Armenia (Ananian 2006). Breeds Türkiye (not W) Roselaar 1995, Cyprus Flint & Stewart 1992, common SB Iran wetlands common PM throughout Khaleghizadeh <i>et al</i> 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 <i>et al</i> 2009, & now C Arabia (irrigation) Jennings 2004a, likely this taxon (under <i>scirpaceus</i>) UAE Aspinall 1996; SE Iraq Ararat <i>et al</i> 2011; NW & E Arabia, Kuwait-UAE 1000bp Jennings 2010, Fairly common PM & WV Oman OBL7. Breeds N Afghanistan R&A 2005. Arbabi <i>et al</i> 2014a, 2014b concluded <i>avicenniae</i> was basal taxon. NB1 Fregin <i>et al</i> 2009 say retain in <i>Acrocephalus (sl) pro tem</i>; another suggestion: adopt <i>Notiocichla</i> genus (ss as <i>N. fusca</i>), which may be justifiable, but the name <i>Calamodius</i> has priority over <i>Notiocichla</i>. NB2 Haplotype distance <i>scirpaceus-fuscus</i> greater than <i>dumetorum-orinus</i> (Blyth's Reed Warbler-Large-billed Reed Warbler) Aye <i>et al</i> 2010, but this character needs to be checked for SW Asian & C Asian populations in redefinition of ssp boundaries Kennerley & Pearson 2010.</p>
823	Marsh Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus palustris</i>	<p>Monotypic. Arbabi <i>et al</i> 2014c conclude that <i>A. palustris</i> 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 Türkiye (Roselaar 1995), NW Iran (scarce, Scott & Adhami 2006, local Khaleghizadeh <i>et al</i> 2017), Baker 1997, NW Kazakhstan Flint <i>et al</i> 1984, scarce B, PM Wassink 2015b, Ayé <i>et al</i> 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 <i>et al</i> 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 <i>et al</i> 2009 favour retention in <i>Acrocephalus (sl) pro tem</i>; others previously have suggested adoption of <i>Notiocichla</i> genus, which may be justifiable, but the name <i>Calamodius</i> has priority over <i>Notiocichla</i>.</p>
824	Thick-billed Warbler	<i>Arundinax aedon (Phragamaticola aedon) (Iduna aedon)</i> (formerly <i>Acrocephalus aedon</i>).	<p>IOC4.4 list 2 ssp, as tentatively does H&M4: latter notes case for monotypicity; <i>aedon</i> extralimital SC Siberia, Baikal N Mongolia; <i>rufescens</i> further E. Likely on NE Kazakhstan border, Baker 1997, Flint <i>et al</i> 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 Sarraf Feb 2017 DB 40:1 56. 1st for Kuwait at al-Abraq Jan 2025 DB 47:1 63. Egypt Avib, BE. Kennerley & Pearson 2010 emphatically place in <i>Phragamaticola</i>, although their citing of Fregin <i>et al</i> 2009 not quite the clearcut support implied: indeed, Fregin 2012 reasserts <i>Acrocephalus</i>, IOC4.1 agreed; Sangster <i>et al</i> 2011 reluctant to erect a monotypic genus, but Arbabi <i>et al</i> 2014 emphatic in resurrection of <i>Phragamaticola</i>. However, Pittie & Dickinson 2013, with whom BLI and we align, have shown that <i>Arundinax</i> (Blyth 1845) has precedence over <i>Phragamaticola</i> (Jerdon 1846) because the intended 1843 publication of Jerdon's description was delayed until 1846 for financial reasons.</p> <p>NB1 Rare vagrant to WP, Harrop 2007. NB2 Scarce to locally abundant breeder Krasnoyarsk Republic below 60°N Rogacheva 1992. NB3 Reasonably strong case to consider this taxon as sister to <i>Iduna</i> taxa; Dickinson 2007 recommends await resolution (<i>sensu stricto</i>), but some may prefer to leave in <i>Acrocephalus (sl)</i> Fregin <i>et al</i> 2009, Fregin 2012. NB4 Priority of <i>Phragamaticola</i> as spelling Dickinson & Gregory 2006. NB5 Shirihai & Svensson lump in <i>Acrocephalus</i>.</p>
PT	Booted Warbler PT	<i>Iduna caligata (formerly Hippolais caligata)</i>	<p>Old records may include as <i>H. rama</i> or <i>I. rama</i>. Castell & Kirwan 2005 make case for separation; Scott & Adhami 2006 separate in their footnote (as <i>Hippolais</i>). Position of <i>Iduna</i> genus reinforced Fregin <i>et al</i> 2009, Kennerley & Pearson 2010, IOC v2.2, H&M4. NB long treated in Russian-language literature as separate from Booted Warbler <i>I. caligata</i> Red'kin <i>et al</i> 2015.</p>
825	Booted Warbler	<i>Iduna caligata (=Acrocephalus caligatus by some)</i>	<p>Monotypic. Common BM, PM N half Kazakhstan, some overlap with <i>rama</i> 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 <i>Caragana</i> sp & forest-steppe of Krasnoyarsk Republic Rogacheva 1992; vagrant Israel Perlman & Meyrav 2009, 3rd IBRC Eilat Oct 2019 IRDC, 5th for Israel at Ma'agan Michel Aug-Sep 2023 Phil Andrews, Yoav Perlman <i>in litt</i>; vagrant Eastern Province Saudi Arabia Babbington & Meadows 2022, 4 Kuwait records by Aug 2013 KORC, 7th in Aug 2018 8th Al Abraq Aug 2019 KORC, 10th, 11th Jahra East Outfall & Farms Aug & Sep 2021 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 <i>et al</i> 2007. NB2 genus maintained (<i>sl</i> & <i>ss</i>); closely related to next taxon Fregin <i>et al</i> 2009.</p>
826	Sykes's Warbler	<i>Iduna rama (=Acrocephalus rama by some)</i>	<p>Monotypic. Breeds Transcaspiya, CA (Kyrgyzstan as <i>caligata</i>, Ven 2002), common BM S half Kazakhstan, some overlap with <i>caligata</i> Wassink 2015b; Iran, Afghanistan (& passage Paludan 1959), common SB mostly S&E Iran Khaleghizadeh <i>et al</i> 2017; UAE Aspinall 1996, Jennings 2007b: tiny isolate or relict E Arabian mangrove-breeding population perhaps cryptic species or intermediate with <i>caligata</i>? (Castell & Kirwan 2005) - enigma remains, with perhaps 50bp overall, some in Oman Jennings 2010, assigned as <i>rama</i> rare migrant or resident breeder Batinah N Oman OBL7, vagrant Israel Perlman & Meyrav 2009, 1st for Türkiye in Hakkara May 2015 DB37:4 3rd for Türkiye ringed Aras, Kars May 2020 DB42:4 282: small 1990s breeding population Eastern province Saudi Arabia probably extinct after mangrove clearance Babbington & Meadows 2022; winters India, Baker 1997. NB genus maintained (<i>sl</i> & <i>ss</i>): closely related to previous taxon Fregin <i>et al</i> 2009.</p>
PT	Olivaceous Warbler PT	<i>Iduna pallida (formerly Hippolais pallida)</i>	<p>Position of <i>Iduna</i> genus reinforced Fregin <i>et al</i> 2009, Kennerley & Pearson 2010, accepted IOC v2.2, Dong <i>et al</i> 2010, H&M4. Further rearrangement of taxa within PT possible Parkin & Knox 2010.</p>
827	Eastern Olivaceous Warbler (Olivaceous Warbler HBW11)	<i>Iduna pallida (=Acrocephalus pallidus by some)</i>	<p>Only <i>elaica</i> & <i>pallida</i> of 5 ssp in Region: Breeds Egypt (<i>pallida</i>), Türkiye (W <i>elaica</i>, (<i>tamaraceti</i> [now subsumed in <i>elaica</i>]), 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 <i>et al</i> 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 <i>tamaraceti</i>), <i>elaica</i> breeds Taman' Peninsula Krasnodar Republic Russia Lohman <i>et al</i> 2011. <i>I.p. elaica</i>, UAE Aspinall 1996: <i>elaica</i> passage migrant & scattered breeding summer visitor Arabia, biased to C & UAE to Kuwait, c1500bp Jennings 2010, <i>elaica</i> common PM Oman OBL7, Turkmenistan, Bukreev 1997, Armenia Ananian 2006, Afghanistan Paludan 1959. Origin Kuwait (?) Lever 2005 App B. Several ringed on weight-gain stopover Hurgada Egypt Hilgerloh & Raddatz 2009. Most of the migratory populations winter in the eastern Sahel via the East Mediterranean Flyway Zwarts <i>et al</i> 2023a</p> <p>NB1 DB2010 also adopt informal English names for ssp <i>reiseri</i> 'Saharan', <i>pallida</i> 'Egyptian' and <i>alulensis</i> 'Mangrove' Olivaceous Warblers (latter recorded singing in Bab-el-Mandab mangroves Jennings 2010, common in mangroves, Safaga Egypt DB37:4. NB2 Leisler <i>et al</i> 1997 had suggested slightly closer to <i>Acrocephalus</i>. NB3 There is a large resident population in the central Sahel Zwarts <i>et al</i> 2023a & several smaller resident populations in the central & eastern Sahara. NB4 next taxon not as closely related as had been assumed Helbig & Seibold 1999, but one sympatric breeding area mapped in Morocco. BLDZ May 2017.</p>

828	Western Olivaceous Warbler (Isabelline Warbler HBW11)	<i>Iduna opaca</i> (= <i>Acrocephalus opacus</i> 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 <i>Iduna</i> genus reinforced Fregin <i>et al</i> 2009, Kennerley & Pearson 2010; accepted IOC v2.2. DBWP 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.
829	Upcher's Warbler	<i>Hippolais languida</i>	Monotypic. Breeds Levant, C&S-C & SE Türkiye (HBW11), mid-Caucasus, SW, N Iraq Ararat <i>et al</i> 2011, fairly common SB W, S&NE Iran, widespread PM Khaleghizadeh <i>et al</i> 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 <i>et al</i> 2018; Afghanistan (Paludan 1959), Baker 1997 (probably Durani, Kandāhar Roberts 1992); 1st for Cyprus 04 Sep 02 Corso 2004, perhaps 2nd Akrotiri May 2017 DB39:4 272, 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 <i>et al</i> 2009.
830	Olive-tree Warbler	<i>Hippolais oliveterum</i>	Monotypic. Breeds W&SE Türkiye, 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 <i>et al</i> 2017, 1st Iraq record May 2012 Ararat 2016; 2-record vagrant 1998, 2001 Oman OBL7 . Uncommon migrant Cyprus Colin Richardson <i>in litt</i> , one at Smygies early May 2023 one at Zakaki Marsh mid-May SG45:2 270. Egypt Avib, BE. NB closely related to previous taxon Fregin <i>et al</i> 2009.
831	Melodious Warbler	<i>Hippolais polyglotta</i>	Monotypic. Vagrant to Region from western Europe, Baker 1997, 1 record Türkiye Kirwan <i>et al</i> 2008. NB closely related to next taxon Fregin <i>et al</i> 2009. NB From data collection over an 8-year period on 4 small passerines wintering in Ghana, Thorup <i>et al</i> 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.
832	Icterine Warbler	<i>Hippolais icterina</i>	1st documented breeding Gostenay Kazhstan Jul 2011 Wassink 2015a, more locations found here from 2008-2016 Wassink 2016, very rare BM Wassink 2015b, very scarce Türkiye Roselaar 1995, Caucasus H&M4, rare localised migrant breeder Armenia Ananian <i>et al</i> 2013a, vagrant/rare passage Iraq Salim <i>et al</i> 2012, fairly common SV Iran S Caspian forests & PM Khaleghizadeh <i>et al</i> 2017, 4th Qatar record May 2014 QBRC , 9-record vagrant 1971-2002 Oman OBL7 , single-record vagrant (juv 2022) Abd-al-Kuri, Socotra Porter & Suleiman 2022: migrates through Region to southern Africa, Baker 1997. First recorded breeding populations in Russian North Caucasus Kwartalnov & Komarov 2022. Egypt Avib, BE. NB closely related to previous taxon Fregin <i>et al</i> 2009.
		Helopsaltes	New family Alström <i>et al</i> 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.
833	Pallas's Grasshopper Warbler (Rusty-rumped Warbler)	<i>Helopsaltes certhiola</i> (formerly <i>Locustella certhiola</i>)	Polytypic. Only <i>centralasiae</i> of 5 ssp breeds in Region; all other ssp 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 [<i>qui citatis</i> P Campeau pers comm]), possibly Tajikistan & Afghanistan (Paludan 1959 uncertain of status of <i>centralasiae</i> & <i>rubescens</i> ; 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 <i>et al</i> 2012. Vagrant Israel Perlman & Meyrav 2009. NB1 Geographical distribution listed in H&M4 may have (mis)attributed OSME Region breeders as <i>sparsimstriata</i> (SC Siberia E to Baikal...). NB2 Numerous breeder southern taiga N of Kazakhstan Rogacheva 1992. NB3 ssp <i>rubescens</i> hybridises extraliminally with Middendorff's Grasshopper Warbler <i>H. ochotensis subcerthiola</i> in Okhotsky District, Khabarovsk Krai, Sleptsov <i>et al</i> 2023a, forming a stable hybrid population. (IOC13.1 treats <i>H ochotensis</i> as monotypic). A similar hybrid population exists in northern Amur & nearby northernmost Sakhalin Sleptsov <i>et al</i> 2023b; both hybrid populations are known to winter in <i>H. certhiola</i> wintering grounds
		Locustellidae	IOC v2.0 removed <i>Bradypterus</i> & <i>Locustella</i> from Sylviidae and placed in existing Megaluridae, which followed new families of <i>Phylloscopidae</i> and <i>Acrocephalidae</i>. IOC 2.6 reverted to <i>Locustellidae</i> on priority grounds; H&M4 follows. Kennerley & Pearson 2010 remained with <i>Locustellidae</i> as family name, although they were unable to take into account the most recent molecular phylogenetic conclusions. Alström <i>et al</i> 2011b subsume all Asian <i>Bradypterus</i> in <i>Locustella</i>, noting Common Grasshopper Warbler <i>L. naevia</i> seems closer to former <i>B. major</i> Long-billed Bush Warbler than to other <i>Locustella</i> warblers, but there is yet no widely-sampled molecular phylogeny of the <i>L. naevia</i> complex, although song and morphology divide into 'eastern' and 'western' groups Miles <i>et al</i> 2015. Alström <i>et al</i> 2018a examined all bar 3 <i>Locustellidae</i>: extensive revision required at genus level, but little effect on Region taxa.
834	Lanceolated Warbler	<i>Locustella lanceolata</i>	Nominate migrant/vagrant in Region. Vagrant Russian Caspian, sporadic migrant Uzbekistan, Georgia Koblik & Arkhipov 2014. Wintering grounds in SE Asia & islands beyond.; other ssp <i>hendersonii</i> in very Far East. Claimed N Kazakhstan K-M <i>et al</i> 2005, Baker 1997, NNE Flint <i>et al</i> 1984; all 6 Kazakhstan reports insufficiently documented Wassink 2015b; vagrant Ayé <i>et al</i> 2012; vagrant trapped Batumi Georgia Sep 2010 DB32 . Passage of westernmost breeders to NE India via CA HBW 11
835	River Warbler	<i>Locustella fluviatilis</i>	Monotypic. Rare BM, scarce PM NW Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b, NW Kazakhstan HBW11, migrates Türkiye (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 <i>et al</i> 2012 certainly overlooked; single-record vagrant 1978 Oman OBL7 & also Khuzestan Iran Khaleghizadeh <i>et al</i> 2017; 2nd Iran record Naghadah, West Azarbaijan DB42:4 282, 3rd Marivan Kordestan May 2020 IBRC . 3rd for Lebanon May 2023 LBRC . 1st & 2nd Djibouti records May 2014 S of Djibouti City Dove <i>et al</i> 2017, some 130 km from the OSME Region. Passage vagrant Iran Scott & Adhami 2006, Iraq May 2011 SG33:2 . Egypt Avib, BE. Sister (with <i>L. luscinioides</i>) to African extralimital Bamboo Warbler <i>L. alfredi</i> (formerly <i>B. alfredi</i>) Alström <i>et al</i> 2018. NB1 Locally numerous breeder N of Kazakhstan Rogacheva 1992. NB2 2 records May 2014 Djibouti, 1st for the country Dove <i>et al</i> 2017
836	Savi's Warbler	<i>Locustella luscinioides</i>	All 3 ssp occur in Region: nominate N Caucasus wintering NE Africa, Afrotropics; <i>sarmatica</i> S Russia; <i>fusca</i> Asia Minor to Arabia, Kazakhstan. NW&C Türkiye (<i>fusca</i> Roselaar 1995), Caucasus-Armenia Ananian & Busuttil 2002, Levant, CA, Baker 1997, now known widespread breeder Syria Murdoch & Betton 2008; rare-uncommon passage Iraq Salim <i>et al</i> 2012 likely overlooked; perhaps 30bp breed on occasion W Gulf Jennings 2010, thinly widespread CA Kennerley & Pearson 2010 uncommon Ayé <i>et al</i> 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 <i>et al</i> 2015, 2nd Qatar record, Saliya STP Sep 2015 QBRC . Fairly common PM across Iran, probably breeds Anzali wetlands Gilan Khaleghizadeh <i>et al</i> 2017; males found holding territory there through the breeding season in 2015 Ashoori 2019. Probably NW Afghanistan, R&A 2005; <i>sarmatica</i> rare BM N Caspian Kazakhstan, <i>fusca</i> 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 <i>L. fluviatilis</i>) to African extralimital Bamboo Warbler <i>L. alfredi</i> (formerly <i>B. alfredi</i>) Alström <i>et al</i> 2018.
837	Long-billed Bush Warbler (formerly Large-billed Bush Warbler) (Long-billed Grasshopper Warbler - BLI, OBC)	<i>Locustella major</i> (Formerly <i>Bradypterus major</i>)	2 ssp; both have wandered to Region. Vagrancy Tajikistan K-M&K 2005 & anywhere in E CA accepted by Ayé <i>et al</i> 2012. NB Breeding areas (in N Pakistan): one is 50km S (Grimmett <i>et al</i> 2009 map) of Afghanistan's Wakhan (<i>major</i>) imaged only 70km in Naltar Valley (where regular), Gilgit, Jul 2023 Imran Khan <i>in litt</i> ; another is 40km, slightly NE of Wakhan in China R&A 2005 (<i>innae</i>) 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 <i>et al</i> 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. Found breeding in tiny numbers Naltar Valley Jun 2022 Eaton 2022..
PT	Grasshopper Warbler PT	<i>Locustella naevia</i>	Provisional possible split from Oppel <i>et al</i> 2018 if vocal differences found in S Kazakhstan are repeated through non-intergrading populations of taxon <i>straminea</i> .

838	Western Grasshopper Warbler {Common Grasshopper Warbler}	<i>Locustella (naevia) naevia</i>	Polytypic if split. English name informal@OSME. If split, 2 ssp, both in Region. Nominated W Russia, <i>obscurior</i> E Türkiye-Caucasus (probably above 1500m Miles <i>et al</i> 2015), possible breeding Jun 2023 at İközdere, Rize, NC Türkiye (c 140km SW of Batumi, Georgia) Çağan Abbasoğlu <i>in litt</i> . Probably this taxon breeds Kalibar Mountains Azarbaijan Province Iran Khaleghizadeh <i>et al</i> 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 <i>et al</i> 2012, vagrant Israel Perlman & Meyrav 2009, one ringed (17th record) Kfar Adumin Jun 2024 Yoav Perlman <i>in litt</i> . Egypt Avib, BE. NE Türkiye HBW11 . NB despite morphological similarities, not the closest relative to Lanceolated Warbler <i>L. lanceolata</i> Kennerley & Pearson 2010.
839	Eastern Grasshopper Warbler {Common Grasshopper Warbler} (Seebohm's Grasshopper Warbler)	<i>Locustella (naevia) straminea</i>	Monotypic if split. English name informal@OSME. If split, monotypic: IOC6.2, H&M4 agree <i>mongolica</i> (Seebohm 1881) is subsumed in <i>straminea</i> (Sushkin 1925); <i>straminea</i> probably breeds N Caucasus foothills Miles <i>et al</i> 2015, common BM, PM N&SE Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b, Tien Shan, NE Africa, wintering mostly to S Asia; Ayé <i>et al</i> 2012 treat E Kazakh birds as grey-morph <i>straminea</i> (likely existence of plumage intergrades over unknown area to E including W China, SE Siberia & NW Mongolia); <i>straminea</i> 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 <i>et al</i> 2017; Afghanistan (passage Afghanistan Paludan 1959), Baker 1997, has bred E Türkiye Kirwan <i>et al</i> 2008. 1st Iraq record Shafi N of Basra 1974 Kainady & al-Joborae 1975. Possibly this taxon rare PM Oman OBL7 & vagrant to Qatar, 4th record Irkkaya Farm Lagoons Mar 2021 QBRC , 4th Sealine Beach Resort Mar 2023 (as <i>L. naevia sensu lato</i>) QBRC . NB1 DBWP 2009 separated <i>straminea</i> as Seebohm's Grasshopper Warbler, but taxon not in 2015 DBWP List . NB2 Oppel <i>et al</i> 2018 noted markedly different song from <i>L.(n.) naevia</i> in Karatau State nature Reserve, S Kazakhstan.
		Cisticolidae	Alström <i>et al</i> 2011a, IOC2.7 find that Scrub Warbler <i>Scotocerca inquieta</i> belongs to Cettidae (qv) & not Cisticolidae; H&M4 place in Scotocercidae, as does IOC4.4.
840	Zitting Cisticola	<i>Cisticola juncidis</i>	17 ssp France to Australia: only 3, <i>juncidis</i> W Asia Minor, Egypt; <i>neuroticus</i> SC Türkiye, Cyprus (Moderate increase 2006-2015 Hellicar 2016.), Levant to SW Iran where rare local resident Khaleghizadeh <i>et al</i> 2017; <i>cursorians</i> E Afghanistan (IOC4.4, not H&M4) definitely in Region. S Türkiye, Cyprus, Syria, Iraq, S&C Iraq, W Iran (one recorded Hashilan wetland, Kermanshah Province NW Iran Nov 2016 IBRC , E Afghanistan, Baker 1997 HBW11 (Ayé <i>et al</i> 2012 suggest vagrant only), accidental Armenia Koblik & Arkhipov 2014, Yemen 2006, Jennings 2007c: S Tihamra, mostly W-most Yemen, recorded Kuwait (7th record Abraq al Habari Nov 2023 KORC , 9th at Abraq Farm Jan 2025 Phil Andrews in litt .) & 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
841	Socotra Cisticola (Island Cisticola)	<i>Cisticola haesitatus</i>	Monotypic. Socotra island endemic, Porter <i>et al</i> 1996, IOC. Habitat generalist Štaštný & Bejček 2002. Perhaps from surveys 7000bp Richard Porter in Jennings 2010 9000 ind/3000-4000bp Porter & Suleiman 2022.
842	Socotra Warbler	<i>Incana incana</i> (<i>Cisticola incanus</i> = <i>C. inquieta</i>)	Monotypic. Affinity uncertain HBW11 (has characteristics of <i>Prinia</i> or <i>Sylvia</i> Redman <i>et al</i> 2009): H&M4 remain with <i>Incana incana</i> , as does IOC10.1; Socotra island endemic, Porter <i>et al</i> 1996, IOC. Survey estimates 8000bp Richard Porter in Jennings 2010, 26 000ind Porter & Suleiman 2022. Hering & Hering 2022d, 2023 provide 1st formal description of egg & obtained 1st photo of nest, tallying with drawing in Ogilvie-Grant & Forbes 1903.
PT	Striated Prinia PT	<i>Prinia crinigera sensu lato</i>	Alström <i>et al</i> 2019 deconstruct the <i>Prinia crinigera/P. polychroa</i> complexes into 5 spp, all of which bar <i>P. cringera striatula</i> are extralimital to S, E & SE Asia (Donald & Collar 2021). IOC10.2 accepts split.
843	Himalayan Prinia (Formerly part of Striated Prinia aka Brown Hill Warbler)	<i>Prinia crinigera sensu stricto</i>	6 ssp, of which <i>striatula</i> extends into Region (Donald & Collar 2021; map in Alström <i>et al</i> 2019), resident 600-2500m occasionally up to 3100m, from Nuristan S to Khost, & W almost to Kabul BLDZ Jul 2019 (<i>P. crinigera</i> s!); nominate resident mostly below 300m Indus Valley Pakistan, but close to Afghan passes. Remaining 4 ssp further E. NE Afghanistan, Baker 1997, IOC supported Grimmett <i>et al</i> 1998, 2009 Paludan 1959 presumes breeding Nurestan, map Roberts 1992 on border W of Chitral. Breeds E Afghanistan HBW11 , but Ayé <i>et al</i> 2012 assume only vagrancy.
PT	Graceful Prinia PT	<i>Prinia gracilis sensu lato</i>	Alström <i>et al</i> 2021b using a detailed integrative taxonomic approach split Graceful Prinia into <i>P. gracilis sensu stricto</i> occupying the southern & western distribution of <i>P. gracilis sensu lato</i> , with Delicate Prinia <i>P. lepida</i> occupying the northern and eastern distribution. Accepted IOC11.2 , CSNA/Dutch Birding Jan 2022. Both thought to occur in Qatar. Updated distribution data in Arabia & ID info Askew 2023a, 2023b.
844	Graceful Prinia (formerly Streaked Longtail Warbler <i>inter alia</i>)	<i>Prinia gracilis sensu stricto</i>	Polytypic. 7 of 9 ssp in Region: <i>natronensis</i> tiny distribution Wadi Natrun Egypt between next 2 taxa: <i>deltae</i> Nile delta to W Israel; <i>gracilis</i> Cairo S to Sudan; <i>yemenensis</i> SW Saudi, Yemen, S Oman; <i>hufufae</i> E Saudi, Bahrain; <i>palaestinae</i> S Syria, E Israel, Lebanon. Extralimital: <i>carlo</i> of NE Sudan & N Somalia subsumed in nominate, <i>ashi</i> ssp <i>novo</i> c 200km coastal strip, E Somalia N of Mogadishu). <i>Sensu lato</i> , scattered through ME, S Türkiye-Iran-Afghanistan, Baker 1997, R&A 2005, increasing UAE Aspinall 1996: <i>sensu stricto</i> distribution map Arabia & environs at Askew 2023a, 2023b. In Arabia resident widely distributed mostly in broadish band coastwise; c 130 000bp Jennings 2010, abundant resident breeder N (<i>P.I. carpenteri</i>) & S Oman OBL7 , but further to Alström <i>et al</i> 2019, <i>P. gracilis</i> occurs rest of KSA (other than as reported for <i>P.I. irakensis</i> below) including <i>hufufae</i> in Al Asfar and Hubail lakes in Al Hasa/Hufuf in Eastern Province Jem Babbington <i>in litt</i> Dec 2021, common breeding resident inland reedbeds Babbington & Meadows 2022. In Qatar, this taxon seemingly prefers drier habitats & parks SG44:1 247; likely overlaps with Delicate Prinia <i>P. lepida</i> in Qatar & E Saudi Arabia Porter <i>et al</i> 2024. Vagrant Cyprus Mitchell 2017. NB1 <i>carlo</i> probably should be synonymised with <i>gracilis</i> Alström <i>et al</i> 2021b NB2 Central Arabian populations assumed to be <i>hufufae</i> , but genetics unknown Alström <i>et al</i> 2021b; some may be <i>P.I. carpenteri</i> or hybrid, the latter being suspected near the Kuwait-Saudi border Askew 2023a, though a more nuanced view may be required to account for the extent of song variation Askew 2023b.
845	Delicate Prinia	<i>Prinia lepida</i>	Polytypic. For full species account, see Alström & Rasmussen 2022. 4 of 5 ssp in Region: <i>lepida</i> SE Iran eastwards including S Afghanistan Paludan 1959; <i>irakensis</i> E Syria, Iraq, SW Iran; <i>akyildizi</i> SC Türkiye, N Syria; <i>carpenteri</i> UAE, N Oman; (extralimital: <i>stevensi</i> 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 <i>in litt</i> Dec 2021: <i>irakensis</i> 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, common breeding resident Eastern province Babbington & Meadows 2022; likely overlaps with Graceful Prinia <i>P. gracilis</i> in Qatar & A Saudi Arabia Porter <i>et al</i> 2024, similar overlap sought near UAE border Tommy Pedersen <i>in litt</i> . In Qatar, this taxon seemingly prefers reedbeds SG44:1 247 NB1 <i>irakensis</i> synonymised with <i>lepida</i> Alström <i>et al</i> 2021b. NB2 Genetic placement of <i>carpenteri</i> dependent on further genetic research Alström <i>et al</i> 2021b. NB3 For ID separation of Graceful Prinia from Delicate: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Yr7EXxQpvqk & guest blog with map of current distribution in Arabia in Askew 2023a: see also Askew 2023b.
846	Plain Prinia	<i>Prinia inornata</i>	E Pakistan, R&A 2005, first record Jalalabad Afghanistan Sep 1977 Inskipp & Inskipp 1979, likely ssp <i>terrícola</i> from Pakistan (all 9 other ssp extralimital E & SE) mapped E Afghanistan Grimmett <i>et al</i> 1998, 2009, <i>terrícola</i> HBW 11, Roberts 1992 maps to Afghan border at Khyber and Thal to S, but Ayé <i>et al</i> 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 <i>Locustella</i> & <i>Bradypterus</i> in existing Megaluridae; see eg Alström <i>et al</i> 2006; IOC v2.0 adopted this major revision, but Alström <i>et al</i> 2011b notes Megaluridae junior to Locustellidae, which is reinstated IOC2.7. Voelcker & Light 2011, <i>inter alia</i>, revealed within Sylviidae a genus-level divergence (Clade 1 versus Clade 2 + Clade 3); H&M4 retain <i>Sylvia</i> for Clade 1 (4 spp) and resurrect <i>Curruca</i> for Clades 2 & 3 (25 spp including lumped Lesser Whitethroat ssp), involving considerable resequencing. Although IOC 9.1 draft omits reference to these changes (& notwithstanding Sangster <i>et al</i> 2015 regarding <i>Curruca</i> as a sub-genus), we adjudge the comprehensive examination of babbler phylogeny (402 of 452 spp including the Sylviidae) of Cai <i>et al</i> 2019 as fully establishing <i>Curruca</i> as a full genus as do IOC 10.2. The genera <i>Sylvia</i> & <i>Curruca</i> form Clade A in Cai <i>et al</i> 2019. Abdilzadeh <i>et al</i> 2019, 2020 confirm the identity of <i>Sylvia</i> warblers in Iran.

847	Eurasian Blackcap	<i>Sylvia atricapilla</i>	Clade 1 Voelcker & Light 2011. 2 of 5 spp in Region: <i>atricapilla</i> W Asia Minor, <i>dammholzi</i> Caucasus, E Asia Minor, N Iran, wintering E Africa mostly. Breeds Türkiye, Caucasus, NW Iran, scarce PM, accidental SV N-most Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b, taxon <i>atricapilla</i> in CA Ayé <i>et al</i> 2012, passage Iraq Salim <i>et al</i> 2012, uncommon PM rare WV Oman OBL7 , some migrants overwinter OSME Region, most to Sudan, Ethiopia, Shirihai <i>et al</i> 2001; vagrant (3♀/imm) 2002 Abd-al-Kuri Porter & Suleiman 2022. Wynn <i>et al</i> 2023 found that northwards migrants were recovered closer to the sites specified by a precise axis reversal than would be expected by chance, consistent with the rapid evolution of new migratory routes via bi-axial variation in orientation: they suggest that the surprisingly high probability of axis reversal might allow birds to expand their wintering ranges rapidly. Egypt Avib, BE. NB IOC2.0 limits Sylviidae to only <i>Sylvia</i> (including former <i>Parisoma</i>) and places after Timaliidae and before Zosteropidae
848	Garden Warbler	<i>Sylvia borin</i>	Clade 1 Voelcker & Light 2011. Monotypic (ssp <i>woodwardi</i> subsumed in nominate H&M4.. Abundant in Russian forest-steppe zone to N (Rogacheva 1992), breeds N Türkiye, Caucasus, N Kazakhstan Flint <i>et al</i> 1984; common PM across Iran Khaleghizadeh <i>et al</i> 2017, breeds Khoy region NW Azarbaijan Province Abdizadeh <i>et al</i> 2019; very rare BM in N, common PM Wassink 2015b; winters sub-Saharan Africa, migrates through OSME Region, 7th Qatar record May 2014 QBRC , 8th Karanah ponds (2 birds) Oct 2022 QBRC . Rare PM Oman OBL7 , passage Iraq Salim <i>et al</i> 2012, Shirihai <i>et al</i> 2001. Egypt Avib, BE
849	Barred Warbler	<i>Curruca nisoria</i> (formerly <i>Sylvia nisoria</i>)	Clade 3 Voelcker & Light 2011. 2 sspp, both in Region & wintering E Africa: nominate Türkiye, Caucasus; <i>merzbacheri</i> NE Iran (PM, possibly breeds N Azarbaijan Province, nominate PM Khaleghizadeh <i>et al</i> 2017), N Kazakhstan to Tien Shan. Ancient lineage with no close <i>Sylvia</i> relatives Parkin & Knox 2010. Breeds Türkiye, Caucasus, N Iran (scarce Scott & Adhami 2006), N Afghanistan (<i>merzbacheri</i> Paludan 1959) S&E CA, most Kazakhstan Ayé <i>et al</i> 2012, scarce BM, accidental resident, WV Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b, 3rd winter record at Almaty 01 Dec 2015-01 Jan 2016 Wassink 2016, migrant OSME Region, uncommon PM Oman OBL7 , passage Iraq Salim <i>et al</i> 2012, vagrant (5 imm) Abd-al-Kuri 2022 Porter & Suleiman 2022; winter E Africa Shirihai <i>et al</i> 2001. Egypt Avib, BE. NB odd mention of 'red-eyed' individuals Iraq Moore & Boswell 1941-46.
PT	Lesser Whitethroat PT	<i>Curruca curruca</i> (formerly <i>Sylvia curruca</i>)	(Previously in Clade 3 of Voelcker & Light 2011). H&M4 list all <i>C. curruca</i> taxa as ssp, but acknowledge likely strength of splits. IOC 10.2 adopt <i>Curruca</i> . Olsson <i>et al</i> 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 <i>blythi</i> was very different by some indicators from other <i>S. curruca</i> taxa. Aliabadian <i>et al</i> 2013 reinforce this suggestion through barcode analysis. Parkin & Knox 2010 had noted two Clades in PT: <i>margelanica</i> , <i>minula</i> & <i>althaea</i> being separate (but distant from each other) from <i>curruca/halimodendri</i> ; this now appears an oversimplification. Olsson <i>et al</i> 2013a radically revise (from specimens) some taxa distributions; Ayé <i>et al</i> 2012 farsightedly opted for <i>halimodendri</i> , with <i>minula</i> perhaps only passage migrant. Olsson <i>et al</i> 2013a confirm difficulties with current systems of species limits. Votier <i>et al</i> 2016 by applying stable isotope ratio analyses found that taxa <i>halimodendri</i> and <i>blythi</i> have very different habitat requirements & specimens exhibit no evidence of intergradation, contra morphological conclusions: details in taxa accounts below. NB1 Findings of Olsson <i>et al</i> 2013a re <i>halimodendri</i> may revise Svensson & Shirihai's view on 'Kazakh Lesser Whitethroat (original view <i>in litt</i> from Simon Aspinall); our earlier suggestion as stabilised hybrid now much less likely, but subject to establishment of group phylogeny. NB2 Populations bear divergent cytochrome c oxidase 1 (CO1) lineages, potentially including cryptic taxa Kerr <i>et al</i> 2009. NB3 Vaurie had treated <i>minula</i> & <i>althaea</i> as separate species in 1950s; IOC had agreed, but OC13.2 proposes relumping at least until more comprehensive genomic and vocal analyses: we tentatively defer lumping at present. NB4 Abdizadeh <i>et al</i> 2023 show (<i>inter alia</i>) <i>halimodendri</i> is closer to <i>althaea</i> than to <i>curruca</i> , thus reinforcing Olsson <i>et al</i> 2013a. NB5 Lack of trapping and biometric data in UAE prevents secure ID of several likely [<i>curruca</i>] taxa; possibly both <i>halimodendri</i> and <i>blythi</i> occur on migration at different times Campbell & Moran 2016. Likewise in Iran, ringing history has little ssp IDs & museum specimens are undetermined as to ssp ID Khaleghizadeh <i>et al</i> 2017. NB6 Recent genetic research identifies only <i>halimodendri</i> wintering in S Iran SheykhAlikelayeh & Ghasempouri 2023. Abdizadeh <i>et al</i> 2020 confirmed that ssp <i>zagrossiensis</i> could not be upheld from the molecular data, but should be subsumed in <i>C. c. caucasica</i> .
Clade 5 in Olsson <i>et al</i> 2013a			
850	Lesser Whitethroat (Northern Lesser Whitethroat)	<i>Curruca [curruca] curruca</i> (formerly <i>Sylvia [curruca] curruca</i>)	Monotypic if split: but see NB3 in PT above. Abundant in Russian open forest & forest-steppe zones to N (Rogacheva 1992), breeds Türkiye, Syria, Lebanon, Caucasus, N&W Iran. Passage Iraq Salim <i>et al</i> 2012, fairly common PM & WV Oman OBL7 , rare WV, PM Socotra Porter & Suleiman 2020, 2022 (taxa unknown, but likely <i>curruca</i>): <i>curruca</i> relatively uncommon spring PM Eastern Province Saudi Arabia Babbington & Meadows 2022: western breeding populations use the East Mediterranean Flyway on through Egypt to winter in the eastern Sahel in Chad, South Sudan and Ethiopia Zwarts <i>et al</i> 2023a; some perhaps winter NE & E Africa. Egypt Avib, BE. NB1 Only <i>Sylvia</i> to migrate SE from breeding grounds; although some European populations linked to Sahel conditions, overall population dynamics far from clear Zwarts <i>et al</i> 2009. NB2 taxon <i>caucasica</i> thought not valid Olsson <i>et al</i> 2013a, subsumed in nominate IOC6.2.
Clade 6 in Olsson <i>et al</i> 2013a			
851	Desert Whitethroat (Desert Lesser or Small Whitethroat)	<i>Curruca [curruca] minula</i> (formerly <i>Sylvia [curruca] minula</i>)	Monotypic if split: but see NB3 in PT above. IOC10.2 sequence as polytypic full sp ahead of Lesser Whitethroat as polytypic, assigning <i>margelanica</i> as its ssp. Most old breeding records in Region of <i>minula</i> not congruent with current understanding of its China-only breeding distribution. Furthermore, old ID of taxa perhaps often in error; <i>jaxartica</i> recorded as such Turkmenistan, Bukreev 1997, but now subsumed in nominate IOC6.2. Shirihai <i>et al</i> 2001 mapped as breeding NE Iran (<i>contra</i> Scott & Adhami 2006 & Abdizadeh <i>et al</i> 2020, with the caveat that the Iranian part of the Hari Ruud valley might be a breeding location, but access is currently denied; WV SA Iran & PM E Iran Khaleghizadeh <i>et al</i> 2017) & previously thought to occupy SW Afghanistan, Turkmenistan, C & W Uzbekistan, parts S Kazakhstan (W&O 2007 then as <i>S.c. minula</i> , since refuted by Olsson <i>et al</i> 2013a) & Kyrgyzstan (Ven 2002), but Ayé <i>et al</i> 2012 map this area as <i>halimodendri</i> . The suggestion that the extralimital <i>margelanica</i> may be full species HBW11 & proposed in IOC2.9 (Shirihai, as 'Margelanic' Whitethroat), now rejected in IOC3.1, but <i>curruca</i> group is polytypic, <i>margelanica</i> including <i>blythii</i> Olsson <i>et al</i> 2013a. Split of <i>margelanica</i> accepted in Clements 2009 v6.4, which issue annexes distribution of <i>minula sensu lato</i> populations in Uzbekistan & Kyrgyzstan, leaving <i>minula</i> distribution confined to W China deserts, partly in agreement with Olsson <i>et al</i> 2013a. Olsson <i>et al</i> 2013a note that existence of breeding populations in N Iran unconfirmed, those in S Iran tentatively assigned to ' <i>snigirewskii</i> ', whose status is uncertain; they suggest that any <i>minula</i> recorded in Iran at high altitude and in spring are passage migrants: H&M4 suggest WV. Wassink 2015b rejects all of several reports of <i>minula</i> 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 . Bundy <i>et al</i> 1989 presumed pale thinly widespread form overwintering in Eastern Province Saudi Arabia was <i>minula</i> Babbington & Meadows 2022. Passage Afghanistan Paludan 1959 R&A 2005. NB Votier <i>et al</i> 2016 show that stable isotope ratio analyses unequivocally place in <i>blythi</i> many specimens morphologically identified & catalogued as <i>minula</i> or <i>halimodendri</i> .
Clade 3 in Olsson <i>et al</i> 2013a			
852	Cathay Whitethroat ('Margelanic Whitethroat')	<i>Curruca [curruca] margelanica</i> (formerly <i>Sylvia [curruca] margelanica</i>)	Monotypic if split: but see NB3 in PT above. Vagrant (3 records) SE Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b. Olsson <i>et al</i> 2013 noted a slightly greater separation of <i>margelanica</i> from all other [<i>curruca</i>] taxa than for <i>blythii</i> . Shirihai <i>et al</i> 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 <i>et al</i> 2013a. IOC 10.2 place tentatively as ssp of Desert Whitethroat <i>C. minula</i> while noting case for species status. The name <i>margelanica</i> 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 <i>et al</i> 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 <i>et al</i> 2017. NB Although stable isotope differentiation between <i>margelanica</i> and <i>blythi</i> is low, this may be due to the former's southern distribution being wetter than other southern <i>curruca</i> taxa and thus approximating to the wetter habitat of the northern <i>blythi</i> Votier <i>et al</i> 2016.
Clade 4 in Olsson <i>et al</i> 2013a			

853	Hume's Lesser Whitethroat (Hume's Lesser Whitethroat) (Mountain Whitethroat)	<i>Curruca [curruca] althaea</i> (formerly <i>Sylvia [curruca] althaea</i> , <i>S. curruca althaea</i> or <i>S. c. affinis</i>)	Monotypic if split: but see NB3 & NB4 in PT above. <i>S.[c.] althaea</i> , <i>S.[c.] blythi</i> & <i>S.[c.] halimodendri</i> in much of Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b & northernmost Uzbekistan, Shirihai <i>et al</i> 2001, R&A 2005. Monotypic IOC6.2. Breeds N Iran-Turkmenistan border, but also in juniper woodland Baluchestan Iran Khaleghizadeh <i>et al</i> 2017, confirmed Abdilzadeh <i>et al</i> 2019; C Afghanistan (Busuttil & Ayé 2009) (& NE Afghanistan R&A 2005; Paludan collected <i>althaea</i> 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, 5th at Khor Kahlid-al Majaz Park. 3-record vagrant Oman, but singing Oman Jun 2013 OBL7 , perhaps 4th at Barik 18 Feb 2017 DB39:2 129; Rare PM Eastern Province Saudi Arabia Babbington & Meadows 2022. Possible breeding, extralimital Pakistan, Kashmir, parts of westernmost China, Shirihai <i>et al</i> 2001. Winters to S, Iran to Sri Lanka. NB1 EBRC notes this & other spp in this complex present considerable ID difficulties . NB2 Votier <i>et al</i> 2016 note that where breeding <i>althaea</i> & <i>halimodendri</i> overlap, they are separated by altitude, but show little differentiation in isotope ratio analyses.
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Clade 2 in Olsson *et al* 2013a

854	'Central Asian Lesser Whitethroat' ('Desert Lesser Whitethroat' Dutch Birding)	<i>Curruca [curruca] (althaea) halimodendri</i> (formerly <i>Sylvia [curruca] (althaea) halimodendri</i> or <i>S. (c.) halimodendri</i>)	English name informal@OSME. Monotypic if split: but see NB3 & NB4 in PT above. IOC10.2 leave as ssp of <i>C. curruca</i> . <i>S.[c.] althaea</i> , <i>S.[c.] blythi</i> & <i>S.[c.] halimodendri</i> in much of Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b & northernmost Uzbekistan, Shirihai <i>et al</i> 2001, R&A 2005. <i>S. curruca</i> & <i>S. [c.] halimodendri</i> in most Kazakhstan & northernmost Uzbekistan, Shirihai <i>et al</i> 2001, passage Iran Zarudny 1911: records in SE Iran by H&E 1970, wintering Hormozgan Abdilzadeh <i>et al</i> 2019; also see Khaleghizadeh <i>et al</i> 2017 & NB1 below. Following Olsson <i>et al</i> 2013a, <i>halimodendri</i> 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 <i>minula</i>) OBL7 , Biometric & plumage data from birds trapped in Saudi Arabia & Bahrain indicate <i>halimodendri</i> as wintering there as an uncommon WV Babbington & Meadows 2022. Migrant Afghanistan (<i>blythi</i> & <i>halimodendri</i> Paludan 1959; but note Jul 1972 record Afghan N Badakshan Niethammer 1973) R&A 2005, winters Arabian Peninsula, India. Egypt Avib, BE. NB1 Votier <i>et al</i> 2016 show that stable isotope ratio analyses unequivocally place in <i>blythi</i> many specimens morphologically identified & catalogued as <i>minula</i> or <i>halimodendri</i> ; also, there is a complete absence of evidence of any intergradation between <i>halimodendri</i> & <i>blythi</i> , although Wassink 2015b would beg to differ - see next entry. NB2 <i>telengita</i> subsumed in <i>halimodendri</i> IOC6.2.
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Clade 1 in Olsson *et al* 2013a

855	Taiga Whitethroat ('Taiga Lesser Whitethroat', 'Blyth's Whitethroat', 'Northeastern Lesser Whitethroat', 'Siberian Lesser Whitethroat')	<i>Curruca [curruca] (althaea) blythi</i> (formerly <i>Sylvia [althaea] blythi</i> or <i>Sylvia [curruca] blythi</i>)	Monotypic if split: but see NB3 in PT above. <i>S.[c.] althaea</i> , <i>S.[c.] blythi</i> & <i>S.[c.] halimodendri</i> in much of Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b & northernmost Uzbekistan, Shirihai <i>et al</i> 2001, R&A 2005. From Olsson <i>et al</i> 2013a & Aliabadian <i>et al</i> 2013, it is worthwhile provisionally to treat taxon <i>blythi</i> as distinct from taxon <i>curruca</i> taxa by some distance. However, its breeding distribution is poorly known, sample sizes remain small; the status of <i>blythi</i> in relation to both <i>curruca</i> and <i>halimodendri</i> depends on its evolutionary history, which needs first to be determined. Olsson <i>et al</i> 2013a considered <i>blythi incertae sedis</i> ; Aliabadian <i>et al</i> 2013 provide more support for its distinctiveness, hence we omit 'Lesser' from the informal@OSME English name which merely reflected the Olsson <i>et al</i> 2013a breeding specimen locations pro tem. We considered 'Northeastern Lesser Whitethroat' (Dutch Birding, Aliabadian <i>et al</i> 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 <i>halimodendri</i> where distributions adjoin; breeds easternmost Kazakhstan (map in Olsson <i>et al</i> 2013a), possibly N Afghanistan (<i>blythi</i> & <i>halimodendri</i> recorded Paludan 1959; but note Jul 1972 record Afghan N Badakshan Niethammer 1973). The dark form arriving Eastern Province Saudi Arabia Sep-Oct as PM is presumed <i>blythi</i> Babbington & Meadows 2022; as spring PM, presumed <i>blythi</i> are well-marked, but well-marked males in 1980s were documented as <i>althaea</i> . NB1 Given the various revisions of allocating known (and assumed) populations to one taxon or another, the wintering grounds of <i>blythi</i> are uncertain eg Khaleghizadeh <i>et al</i> 2017 mention NE & E Iran records by H&E 1970; also R&A 2012 reassign all Pakistan records of <i>blythi</i> (dark birds) to <i>halimodendri</i> citing Shirihai <i>et al</i> 2001 (who emphasise that their ' <i>blythi</i> ' is pale). However, assuming the maps in Olsson <i>et al</i> 2013a are sound, these Pakistan records may merit reassessment, particularly since a specimen of <i>blythi</i> was a bird wintering in India & Votier <i>et al</i> 2016 show that stable isotope ratio analyses unequivocally place in <i>blythi</i> many specimens morphologically identified & catalogued as <i>minula</i> or <i>halimodendri</i> . NB2 IOC6.3 recognised taxon <i>blythi</i> !, but IOC 10.2 decline to alter status beyond that of ssp of <i>C. curruca</i> .
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856	Yemen Warbler (formerly Arabian Tit-Warbler) (Yemen Parisoma)	<i>Curruca buryi</i> (formerly <i>Sylvia buryi</i> or <i>Parisoma buryi</i>) Vulnerable	Clade 3 Voelcker & Light 2011. Monotypic. Taxonomy as per Shirihai <i>et al</i> 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.
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857	Arabian Warbler (Red Sea Warbler)	<i>Curruca leucomalaena</i> (formerly <i>Sylvia leucomalaena</i>)	Clade 3 Voelcker & Light 2011: ancestral to Orphean Warblers. Polytropic. Resident, 4 ssp3 in Region, from Negev both sides Red Sea to Somalia, Yemen, Oman, Shirihai <i>et al</i> 2001: status in Arabia; <i>negevensis</i> SE Israel, SW Jordan; <i>blanfordi</i> SE Egypt S to Eritrea; <i>somaliensis</i> 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.
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PT	Orphean Warbler PT	<i>Curruca hortensis</i> (<i>sensu lato</i> : formerly <i>Sylvia hortensis</i>)	Re Parent Taxon , HBW does not split. IOC v1.6 follows Shirihai <i>et al</i> 2001, who split. Parkin & Knox 2010 note the lack of published DNA evidence: <i>balchanica</i> (NE Iraq, SE Turkmenistan, SE Iran) & <i>jerdoni</i> 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 .
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858	Western Orphean Warbler (Orphean Warbler)	<i>Curruca hortensis</i> (<i>sensu stricto</i> : formerly <i>Sylvia [hortensis] hortensis</i> or <i>S.h. hortensis</i>)	Clade 3 Voelcker & Light 2011. One ringed Israel Shirihai 1996. May wander Egypt during migration or from NE Libya breeders, Shirihai <i>et al</i> 2001, Jeremy Gaskell, pers comm, HBW11: Libya-breeding ssp <i>cyrenaicae</i> Svensson 2012 likely in decline; no record since 1923 E Libya al-Marj 300km from Egypt Isenmann <i>et al</i> 2016. One collected at Mulla-Ali (Qazvin) Iran on 28 May 1904 (Zarudny 1911) now in Nat Hist Mus Tashkent confirmed ID Khaleghizadeh <i>et al</i> 2017. Egypt Avib
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859	Eastern Orphean Warbler (Orphean Warbler)	<i>Curruca crassirostris</i> (formerly <i>Sylvia [hortensis] crassirostris</i> or <i>S.h. crassirostris</i>)	Clade 3 Voelcker & Light 2011. 2 ssp, both in Region: nominate Türkiye-Levant, probably W Caucasus; <i>jerdoni</i> (subsuming <i>balchanica</i>) Caucasus, Transcaucasia, Transcaspia, Iran, Afghanistan; <i>jerdoni</i> scarce BM, W Tien Shan, spreading E Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b. Breeds Türkiye, Levant, S Caucasus, SW Turkmenistan (<i>balchanica</i>), N Iraq Ararat <i>et al</i> 2011, much of Afghanistan (& passage Paludan 1959), Iran Scott & Adhami 2006 fairly common SB highlands Iran, PM across Iran, uncommon winterer S coast lowlands Khaleghizadeh <i>et al</i> 2017, breeds Fars Abdilzadeh <i>et al</i> 2019; W Kyrgyzstan Ven 2002, <i>jerdoni</i> breeds E Afghanistan Paludan 1959 Roberts 1992. 1st for Kyrgyzstan of 2 at Bishkek Mar 2020. Breeding distribution Azerbaijan greater than thought 2018 SG41:1 ATR ; 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, western breeding populations winter in the eastern Sahel via the East Mediterranean Flyway Zwarts <i>et al</i> 2023a, Shirihai <i>et al</i> 2001. Egypt? BE
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PT	Desert Warbler PT	<i>Curruca nana</i> (<i>sensu lato</i> : formerly <i>Sylvia nana</i>)	Basal to Clades 2 & 3 Voelcker & Light 2011. HBW Alive & BLDZ now accept split. IOC2.0 & H&M4 split to African Desert Warbler <i>S. deserti</i> . 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.
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860	African Desert Warbler	<i>Curruca deserti</i> (H&M4, Cai <i>et al</i> 2019) (formerly <i>Sylvia [n.] deserti</i> & <i>S.n. deserti</i>)	1st for OSME Region & Cyprus Akrotiri Mar 2021 found by Thomas Hadjikyriakou: Jane Stylianou <i>in litt</i> CRBC . Resident W Libya; BLDZ Jul 2019 confines occurrence W Libya, resident & wintering to c 15% of W-most Libya: Isenmann <i>et al</i> 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 as post-split reassessment IRDC , 2nd at Haifa late Mar 2024 Yoav Perlman <i>in litt</i> , DB46:3 203. Claimed Egypt Avib. Highly likely vagrant. NB 1st for Greece imaged by Tim Collins at Cape Tainaron (southernmost point of mainland Greece & part of Cape Matapan), Peloponnese Apr 2024 Pavel Simeonov <i>in litt</i> .
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861	Asian Desert Warbler (Desert Warbler)	<i>Curruca nana</i> (<i>sensu stricto</i> : formerly <i>Sylvia [nana] nana</i> or <i>S.n. nana</i>)	Monotypic. Breeds CA, mostly C&SW Ayé <i>et al</i> 2012; common BM S half of Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b; fairly common SB deserts E & SE Iran, PM across Iran, some winter S coast lowlands Khaleghizadeh <i>et al</i> 2017, N Afghanistan, winters S Afghanistan, S Iran, Middle East including Syria Murdoch & Betton 2008 (uncommon Iraq Salim <i>et al</i> 2012, rare Israel Perlman & Meyrav 2009, one on a beach near Haifa Mar 2024, found by Sagi Shual imaged by Yoav Perlman <i>in litt</i> . 15-record PM Cyprus CBR11 , common PM & WV Oman OBL7 ; from Iraq southwards, Red Sea coast to Somalia, E Egypt, Sudan, Shirihai <i>et al</i> 2001. Egypt Avib, BE
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862	Ménétriés's Warbler {Menetriés's Warbler}	<i>Curruca mystacea</i> (formerly <i>Sylvia mystacea</i>)	Clade 2 Voelcker & Light 2011. 3 ssp, all in Region, all winter Arabia & NE Africa: nominate NE Türkiye, E Transcaucasia, N Iran, W Caspian shore to Volga interfluvium; <i>rubescens</i> SE Türkiye, Syria E Jordan-Iraq, SW Iran; <i>turcomenica</i> NE Iran, Turkmenistan, SC Kazakhstan, E Uzbekistan, W Tajikistan- Pakistan. <i>S.m. turcomenica</i> Turkmenistan, Bukreev 1997. Breeds SE Türkiye, 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 <i>et al</i> 2012, Afghanistan (Paludan 1959 [& passage] NW & SE R&A 2005), winters S Iran, Arabia, Red Sea coasts, Shirihai <i>et al</i> 2001, vagrant Socotra Porter & Suleiman 2020, 2022; fairly common PM & WV Oman OBL7 . 3rd record, female, Larnaca Cyprus Apr 2016 CRBC 4th Capr Greco Apr 2018 CRBC , 5th (female) Cape Greco Apr 2022 CRBC , 6th found at Paralimni by Pierre-André Crochet, Jane Stylianou <i>in litt</i> , 7th Cape Greco Apr 2023 Jane Stylianou <i>in litt</i> . One ringed IBRCE Eilat Jun 2024 Yoav Perlman <i>in litt</i> . 6th record Wadi Gemal, Egypt Mar 2015 EORC . NB1 Once lumped with <i>melanocephala</i> . 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.
863	Rüppell's Warbler	<i>Curruca ruppelli</i> (formerly <i>Sylvia ruppelli</i> or <i>Sylvia rueppellii</i>)	Clade 2 Voelcker & Light 2011. Monotypic. Breeds W to SC Türkiye, NW Syria, winters Sudan, Chad, Shirihai <i>et al</i> 2001, via East Mediterranean Flyway Zwarts <i>et al</i> 2023a, though some winter in NW Africa littoral. Rare vagrant Iran Scott & Adhami 2006, no records since 1950s. 1st for Uzbekistan & C Asia, a male in Kyzylkum desert Apr 2017 Ten <i>et al</i> 2019, by 1000km the easternmost record of this species. Fairly common (spring) & rare (autumn) PM Cyprus CBR11 , single-record 1941 vagrant Lorestan Iran Khaleghizadeh <i>et al</i> 2017. Egypt Avib, BE. NB change of spelling in scientific name is reversion to original description (H&M4. IOC2.4).
864	Cyprus Warbler	<i>Curruca melanothorax</i> (formerly <i>Sylvia melanothorax</i>)	Clade 2 Voelcker & Light 2011. Monotypic. Breeds Cyprus. Initially, any decline since expansion of Sardinian Warbler <i>S. melanocephala</i> imperceptible Pomeroy & Walsh 2000, but since evident Pomeroy 2009. Now evident that Sardinian Warbler is steadily displacing Cyprus Warbler over all suitable habitats in W Cyprus Flint & McArthur 2014; Pomeroy <i>et al</i> 2016 find decline is 59% per decade, but that C & E Cyprus remain free of <i>S. melanocephala</i> . Cyprus Warbler's main wintering area is in southern Sudan Xenophontos <i>et al</i> 2017. 7th Turkish record Apr 2010 Kirwan <i>et al</i> 2014. Winters around head of Red Sea, along Red Sea W coast, Shirihai <i>et al</i> 2001, uncommon S Israel Perlman & Meyrav 2009. Egypt Avib, BE.
865	Sardinian Warbler	<i>Curruca melanocephala</i> (formerly <i>Sylvia melanocephala</i>)	Clade 2 Voelcker & Light 2011. 2 extant ssp: nominate Asia Minor, Cyprus; <i>momus</i> Syria, Lebanon, Israel, W Jordan, NE Sinai. Breeds, or resident N, W & S Türkiye (Roselaar 1995), Levant, Cyprus (where many now resident Richardson 2014; strong increase 2006-2015 Hellicar 2016.), Shirihai <i>et al</i> 2001. Range expansion northwards reaching Switzerland & southwards S-C Türkiye; formerly winterer N Iraq, but no record since 1920s Salim <i>et al</i> 2012. 1st for Georgia at Saghalvaso May 2020 DB42:3 217. Steadily displacing <i>S. melanothorax</i> , Cyprus island endemic Flint & McArthur 2014. Single-record vagrant Oman 2004 OBL7 . Egypt Avib, BE NB1 taxon <i>momus</i> SC Türkiye through to Sinai sometimes treated separately; Zarudny recorded as winterer Iran Gulf littoral and Mesopotamian edge, breeding Zagros. NB2 DBWP 2014 call ssp <i>momus</i> Levantine Sardinian Warbler and the presumed extinct <i>norrisae</i> Egyptian Sardinian Warbler
PT	Subalpine Warbler PT (Taxa morphologically very similar, esp. ♀♀; syntopic populations consequential of pre-mating isolation (Brambilla <i>et al</i> 2008) in winter quarters? cf <i>Ficedula</i> females Sætre & Sæther 2010	<i>Curruca cantillans</i> (<i>sensu lato</i> : formerly <i>Sylvia cantillans</i>)	PT history is complex: initially, 1 sp (4 ssp) <i>inornata</i> (NW Africa) <i>albistriata</i> (W form: Trieste area down Dalmatian coast. E form: continuously to Greece, Crete, Tyrrhenian islands & W Türkiye) <i>cantillans</i> (W form: Iberia & S France. E form Italy) & (the then doubtful) <i>moltonii</i> (=subalpine; often subsumed in <i>cantillans</i>) of W Mediterranean islands. 1st taxonomic revision: the split into E & W groups (as in ORL to v.2.2) was arbitrary, less evidence-based. 2nd taxonomic revision based on breeding dynamics (Italian mainland, mostly); DNA & song research supports 3 main mtDNA lineages (but across previous concepts): <i>moltonii</i> (Balearics, Sardinia, Corsica & NW Italy [formerly partly within <i>cantillans</i> continuity]); western <i>cantillans</i> Iberia/S France; Italian (southern) <i>cantillans</i> & <i>albistriata</i> (data then lacking for <i>inornata</i> assessment Brambilla <i>et al</i> 2008). By <i>moltonii</i> being partly cryptic (Brambilla <i>et al</i> 2009), it occupies different distribution to any ever described under 'subalpine' while warranting species status. IOC v2.3 agreed as Moltoni's Warbler (see ORL Hypothetical List), but in 3rd revision, Svensson 2013 finalises relationships into 3 lineages as forecast by Brambilla <i>et al</i> 2008, but name <i>subalpine</i> has priority over <i>moltonii</i> . We aligned with Svensson 2013 & H&M4. Voelcker & Light 2011 acknowledge Brambilla <i>et al</i> 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 <i>S. subalpine</i> . The 4th revision of Zuccon <i>et al</i> 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 <i>iberia</i> differed too little from taxon <i>inornata</i> 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, <i>cantillans</i> and <i>albistriata</i> . IOC10.2 draft adopts Zuccon <i>et al</i> 2020. ID characters and a deeper explanation of the taxonomy are in Corso <i>et al</i> 2021 & Brambilla & Zuccon 2021 respectively.
866	Western Subalpine Warbler (Subalpine Warbler)	<i>Curruca iberiae</i> (formerly <i>Curruca inornata</i> , <i>Sylvia [cantillans] inornata</i>)	Monotypic Zuccon <i>et al</i> 2020. Clade 2 Voelcker & Light 2011. The former ssp <i>inornata</i> & <i>iberiae</i> , nominally extralimital to W, have been subsumed by priority into <i>iberiae</i> Zuccon <i>et al</i> 2020. One collected Israel 1968 Shirihai 1996. Very likely occurs irregularly in Egypt, especially if westernmost populations perform loop migration (Shirihai <i>et al</i> 2001). Svensson 2013 grouped western (Iberia & S France) populations of <i>cantillans</i> as <i>iberiae</i> (ssp <i>novo</i>) and all <i>inornata</i> (NW Africa) together, as an allopecies separate from those described in the row above (Brambilla <i>et al</i> 2008), but Zuccon <i>et al</i> 2020 suggest that monotypicity is justified.
867	Eastern Subalpine Warbler (formerly Subalpine Warbler)	<i>Curruca cantillans</i> (<i>sensu stricto</i> : formerly <i>Sylvia [cantillans] cantillans</i>)	Polytypic Zuccon <i>et al</i> 2020. Clade 2 Voelcker & Light 2011. Only ssp <i>albistriata</i> in Region, nominate extralimital to W. IOC 4.1 proposes split; ssp <i>albistriata</i> breeds Dalmatian coast, Greece, Aegean islands, W & SW Türkiye, isolates near Türkiye-Syria W border, winters Sahara or sub-Saharan Africa, Shirihai <i>et al</i> 2001, Western Desert Egypt down to Jebel Uweinat Goodman <i>et al</i> 1986, uncommon migrant Israel Perlman & Meyrav 2009. Single-record vagrant 1991 Eastern Province Saudi Arabia Babbington & Meadows 2022. Egypt BiE. Svensson 2013 grouped this taxon and southern (mainland Italy) populations of <i>cantillans</i> together as an allopecies (<i>cantillans</i> as priority) separate from those described in the row below (Brambilla <i>et al</i> 2008), thus becoming <i>sensu stricto</i> , <i>S.c. albistriata</i> . However, Zuccon <i>et al</i> 2020 treats both as ssp.
868	Common Whitethroat	<i>Curruca communis</i> (formerly <i>Sylvia communis</i>)	Clade 2 Voelcker & Light 2011. 4 ssp all in Region: <i>communis</i> N Asia Minor & PM for Russian populations; <i>volgensis</i> N Kazakhstan; <i>icterops</i> S&SE Türkiye, Levant-Caucasus, Iran, SW Turkmenistan; <i>rubicola</i> abundant breeder & PM E montane Kazakhstan. <i>S.c. icterops</i> & <i>rubicola</i> S Turkmenistan, Bukreev 1997; <i>rubicola</i> common BM montane SE Kazakhstan, <i>volgensis</i> common BM, PM lowlands of N&E Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b. Breeds Türkiye, Caucasus, W&N Iraq, N Iran, N Afghanistan (<i>icterops</i> passage Paludan 1959), S E&N CA, common PM Oman OBL7 , vagrant Socotra Porter & Suleiman 2020, winters sub-Saharan & eastern Africa, Shirihai <i>et al</i> 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 <i>et al</i> 2009. Scrub clearance to increase grazing areas in the Sahel forces wintering <i>C. communis</i> to forage more where mature trees exist Zwarts <i>et al</i> 2023b.
869	Spectacled Warbler	<i>Curruca conspicillata</i> (formerly <i>Sylvia conspicillata</i>)	Clade 2 Voelcker & Light 2011. 2 ssp: nominate Cyprus, Levant, SW Türkiye, Egypt; <i>orbitalis</i> extralimital Atlantic Islands. Illera <i>et al</i> 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. <i>S.c. conspicillata</i> breeds Türkiye (SE Anatolia) Kirwan <i>et al</i> 2008, another population seemingly resident Kirwan <i>et al</i> 2014, Hatay province Gül & Mehmet 2011, Israel, Jordan, Syria, Lebanon, Cyprus, winters there & N Egypt; vagrant Iraq Salim <i>et al</i> 2012, 1st for Saudi Arabia near Haql Oct 2021 SG44:1 250, <i>orbitalis</i> resident NW Libya, Shirihai <i>et al</i> 2001. Egypt Avib, BE NB Northward range extension predicted due to climate change Assandri & Morganti 2015.
PT	Marmora's Warbler PT	<i>Curruca sarda</i> (<i>sensu lato</i> : formerly <i>Sylvia sarda</i>)	PT : Bairlein <i>et al</i> 2006 split to extralimital Balearic Warbler <i>S.[s.] balearica</i> (on morphology, vocalisation & genetics, Anderson <i>et al</i> 2009) BLDZ now concurs (see ORL Hypothetical List), as did IOC2.0, Sangster <i>et al</i> 2012, H&M4. Nespoli <i>et al</i> 2021 carried out phylogenetic & phylogeographic analyses of <i>sarda</i> & <i>balearica</i> , revealing a wide separation between them: indeed <i>balearica</i> is closer to Dartford Warbler <i>C. undata</i> .
870	Marmora's Warbler	<i>Curruca sarda</i> (<i>sensu stricto</i> : formerly <i>Sylvia [sarda] sarda</i> or <i>S.s. sarda</i>)	Clade 2 Voelcker & Light 2011. Monotypic. Winters NW Libya, Shirihai <i>et al</i> 2001, once collected at Sollum Egypt Jan 1928 Goodman & Meininger 1989, Isenmann <i>et al</i> 2016.

		Zosteropidae	<p>This family is being subjected to considerable revision across its vast distribution. The diversification of <i>Zosterops</i> 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 <i>et al</i> 2020. Manthey <i>et al</i> 2020 find strongly supportive evidence in the southwest Pacific White-eye radiation. Gwee <i>et al</i> 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 <i>Zosterops</i> into 3 main Clades: Indo-African, Asian, & Australasian. Borneo is the prime centre of diversity; only here do the 3 main Clades overlap</p> <p>NB1 Cibois 2022 notes that Martins <i>et al</i> 2020 showed that <i>Z. abyssinicus</i> & <i>Z. senegalensis</i> are not monophyletic, and together may encompass up to 20 lineages of species rank. NB2 Angola White-eye <i>Zosterops kasaicus</i> (including <i>heinrichi</i> and <i>quanzae</i>) is split from Northern Yellow White-eye <i>Z. senegalensis</i> on the basis of phylogenetic divergence Martins <i>et al</i> 2020. (<i>kasaicus</i> has priority over <i>quanzae</i> IIOC14.21).</p>
PT	Abyssinian White-eye PT	<i>Zosterops abyssinicus</i>	<p>PT Much evidence to support split of Socotran form <i>contra</i> Kirwan 2007 by Cox <i>et al</i> 2014, Lim <i>et al</i> 2018 & Martins <i>et al</i> 2020, who sampled Arabian mainland <i>Z. abyssinicus arabs</i>. Although <i>arabs</i> clustered with <i>omensis</i> & <i>abyssinicus</i>, all three have distinct and separated distributions, which Martins <i>et al</i> 2020 recommended being analysed further; we presume <i>pro tem</i> that <i>arabs</i> merits possible separate recognition. Previously, Husemann <i>et al</i> 2016 had found that East African <i>Zosterops</i> were non-monophyletic and that African Yellow White-eye <i>Z. senegalensis</i> was polyphyletic, one population of which being basal to all the <i>Zosterops</i> taxa examined and the other population being sister to <i>Z. abyssinicus</i>; 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 <i>Zosterops</i> in East Africa; <i>Z. senegalensis</i> African White-eye (extralimital) & <i>Z. abyssinicus</i> 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.</p>
871	'Arabian White-eye' {Abyssinian White-eye} (White-breasted White-eye)	<i>Zosterops (abyssinicus) arabs</i> (formerly <i>Z. abyssinicus/Z. abyssinica</i>)	<p>Monotypic; English name informal@OSME. Although Martins <i>et al</i> 2020 did not come to a decision on the status of <i>arabs</i>, they called for other molecular techniques to be applied, while emphasising its allopatry. (Only <i>arabs</i> of 3 ssp of <i>Z. abyssinicus sensu lato</i> in Region: 2 extralimital ssp from NE Sudan to Tanzania.; <i>arabs</i> SW Saudi Arabia, S Oman, Dickinson 2003, N Yemen Porter & Warr 1985). Status in Arabia: common to abundant in woodland & juniper, mostly from 1000-3000m asl S Tihamah 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 <i>et al</i> 2020 had only 2 samples of <i>arabs</i> (SW Saudi & Yemen; none from the Oman population), but seemingly they diverged from different populations of <i>abyssinicus</i>. Furthermore some of their Sudan <i>abyssinicus</i> samples were quite close to <i>arabs</i>, which suggests that <i>arabs</i> may not be monophyletic (Manuel Schweizer <i>in litt</i>).</p>
872	'Mangrove White-eye'	<i>Zosterops (abyssinicus)</i> 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)	<p>A population exists of a <i>Zosterops</i> taxon (seemingly differentiated from montane <i>Z. (abyssinicus) arabs</i> populations at Asir, 100km away) in mangrove habitat, smaller size, & general biometrics, & seemingly unrelated to <i>Z. palpebrosus</i> (plumage differences, bill colour (although one <i>palpebrosus</i> population inhabits mangroves on Mahawt Island, Oman: Eriksen <i>et al</i> 2001)), occurs in mangroves on the Saudi SW Red Sea coast (Jizan/Jazan Province Babbington <i>et al</i> 2020 (3 ringed Jun 2016 SG38:2 233), Newton 2006, Porter & Aspinall 2010, Babbington & Roberts 2014. Babbington <i>et al</i> 2020 documented that Mangrove White-eye is smaller in all measurements than the <i>Z. (a.) arabs</i> that they trapped and were much more brightly-plumaged. They found that the 'Mangrove White-eye' is phenotypically distinct from montane Abyssinian White-eye <i>Z.(a.) arabs</i>, 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 Babbington & Ebels 2023. 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 <i>Z. socotranus</i>. Hering <i>et al</i> 2020d obtained blood samples from Djibouti birds for later analysis. The taxon appears rare & very local; mangrove clearance may drive it to extinction. This taxon is regionally Data-Deficient.</p> <p>NB1 There are current precedents in rapid speciation: the population on the north Somali coast is a new species, <i>Z. sp nova</i> Martins <i>et al</i> 2020 (Formerly included with <i>socotranus</i>). Similarly, an extralimital unidentified population in <i>Z. palpebrosus</i> in the Nicobars has yet to be classified R&A 2005, 2012; the findings of Manthey <i>et al</i> 2020 in SW Pacific white-eyes reveals the same patterns. NB2 Note the findings of Husemann <i>et al</i> 2016 summarised in the PT line above. From the conclusions in Cai <i>et al</i> 2020 that <i>Zosterops</i> 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</p>
PT	Oriental White-eye PT	<i>Zosterops palpebrosus sensu lato</i>	<p>Included as Clade C in the comprehensive babbler phylogeny of Cai <i>et al</i> 2019. although many <i>Zosterops</i> spp were not covered therein, given the upheaval of Husemann <i>et al</i> 2016, Pearson & Turner 2016 and current studies within the genus, eg Lim <i>et al</i> 2018 who separate extralimital far eastern of <i>Z. palpebrosus sensu lato</i> 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 <i>et al</i> 2020 in an examination of babbler diversity reinforce this view, but as atypical of babblers, in that <i>Zosterops</i> island populations diverged most rapidly. NB We speculate that mangrove-living populations in Arabia are in effect living in 'islands' in desert or semi-desert.</p>
873	Indian White-eye (Oriental White-eye)	<i>Zosterops palpebrosus sensu stricto (Zosterops palpebrosa)</i>	<p>Polytypic. English name-change IOC9.1. Only 2 of 12 ssp in Region, <i>occidentis</i>; all other ssp extralimital to E & SE. NE Afghanistan, Dickinson 2003, R&A 2005 – Paludan 1959 proposed <i>egregia</i> (now <i>egregius</i> & limited to lowland India), but now attributed to <i>occidentis</i>; eastern Afghan Safed Koh H&E 1970, IUCN Map Jul 2023. In Arabia, nominate breeds at only a single site, Mahawt (Muhut) island mangroves SE Oman, in the bay at Bar al-Hikman (found 1999 Eriksen <i>et al</i> 2001), unsurveyed population likely tiny Jennings 2010, presumed resident breeder OBL7, still present Jan 2018 DB40:2 123: on IUCN Map Jul 2023; probable <i>occidentis</i> imaged by Imran Khan at Ampheri, Gilgit, Pakistan, 125km north of IUCN map Jul 2024. Nominate recorded Iran Reynolds 1978, may breed or be resident Scott & Adhami 2006 rare & local resident Hormozgan Khaleghizadeh <i>et al</i> 2017: recorded Iran Jan 2009 Winkel <i>et al</i> 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: IUCN Map Jul 2023 shows 3 small coastal sites Hormozgan, Iran, Hara-e Roud-e Gaz Protected Area, Bandar-e-Jask & S of Shahreni to the coast.</p> <p>NB1 <i>palpebrosus</i> accepted as distinct from <i>occidentis</i>, IOC13.2. NB2 Two lineages detected in Thailand Round <i>et al</i> 2018, suggesting that the genetic makeup of this sp across its large distribution may be complex, meriting a re-examination of species limits. Lim <i>et al</i> 2018 draw new distributions for various <i>Zosterops</i> spp, including <i>Z. palpebrosus</i>. NB3 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.</p>
<p>Cox <i>et al</i> 2014 shows that the Socotran endemic taxon <i>socotranus</i> is distinct from mainland African <i>abyssinicus</i> taxa; IOC9.1 resolves as full sp unrelated to current <i>abyssinicus</i>.</p>			

874	Socotra White-eye (Formerly included in Abyssinian White-eye, earlier called White-breasted White-eye)	<i>Zosterops socotranus</i> (formerly treated in error as <i>Z. (abyssinicus) socotranus</i>)	Monotypic. Endemic to Socotra . Unrelated to any current <i>Z. abyssinicus</i> taxa IOC9.1 (Which sequences after mainland Arabian/African <i>Zosterops</i>). Formerly considered as Socotran form of African species to grant it separate identity Hugh Buck pers comm., full species ID Martins <i>et al</i> 2020; c5000bp Jennings 2010, 27 500 ind Porter & Suleiman 2022. Case ending, David & Gosselin 2002. Cox <i>et al</i> 2014 noted distinctiveness wrt East African <i>abyssinicus</i> taxa (<i>flavilateralis</i> , <i>jubaensis</i>); they also suggest that <i>socotranus</i> originated 1.75Mya, and the other two 1.35Mya, the Arabian mainland taxon <i>arabs</i> was not sampled. H&M4 list distribution extending to N Somalia, which is doubtful; that doubt confirmed by Martins <i>et al</i> 2020, who confirmed <i>A. socotranus</i> as an island endemic, the N Somali population being raised to full species rank as <i>Z. sp. novo</i> . NB1 1st formal description of nest, eggs & recordings of vocalisations Hering & Hering 2022a, 2023. NB2 The very limited molecular data available for 'Mangrove White-eye' suggests it is possibly related to <i>Z. socotranus</i> Babbington <i>et al</i> 2020.
		Timaliidae	
875	Rusty-cheeked Scimitar Babbler	<i>Erythrogonys erythrogonys</i> (Formerly <i>Pomatorhinus erythrogonys</i> & <i>Megapomatorhinus erythrogonys</i>)	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. IOC 14.2 accepts split of extralimital (& easternmost) ssp <i>imberbis</i> & <i>celata</i> as Red-eyed Scimitar Babbler <i>E. imberbis</i> .
		Leiothrichidae (Leiothrichidae: Elliot & David 2024)	New family as per IOC 2.6 for certain taxa formerly in Timaliidae . H&M4 & del Hoyo & Collar 2016 extract several ssp from <i>Turdoides</i> into new genus <i>Argya</i> on molecular trends indicating monophyly. Cibois <i>et al</i> 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 <i>Argya</i> , hence our adoption here. The genera <i>Trochalapteron</i> & <i>Argya</i> are included in Clade G of the comprehensive babbler phylogeny of Cai <i>et al</i> 2019.
Clade B: Cibois et al 2018.			
876	Streaked Laughingthrush	<i>Trochalopteron lineatum</i> (formerly <i>Garrulax lineatus</i> & <i>Strophocinclia lineata</i>)	6 ssp, 3 possibly 4 in Region: <i>bilkevitchi</i> S Tajikistan, E Afghanistan; <i>schachdarensis</i> lower SE Tajikistan; <i>gilgit</i> Afghanistan; possibly nominate from NE Pakistan; 2 other extralimital ssp to E. Taxonomy follows IOC 2.6 & Moyle <i>et al</i> 2012. E Turkmenistan Bukreev 1997 (<i>bilkevitchi</i>), <i>schachdarensis</i> SE Tajikistan, <i>gilgit</i> Afghanistan (M&P 2000) Dickinson 2003, R&A 2005, summer breeder N&E Afghanistan Paludan 1959 H&E 1970 Ayé <i>et al</i> 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 <i>T. imbricatus</i> , as does Collar 2006). NB1 Collar 2006 retained in <i>Garrulax</i> . NB2 Cibois <i>et al</i> 2018 included samples of <i>gilgit</i> , <i>inter alia</i> .
877	Variiegated Laughingthrush	<i>Trochalopteron variegatum</i> (formerly <i>Garrulax variegatus</i>)	3 ssp, likely only <i>nuristani</i> NE Afghanistan in region; 2 other extralimital ssp to E. Taxonomy follows IOC 2.6 & Moyle <i>et al</i> 2012. Afghanistan, Dickinson 2003, R&A 2005 Nuristan Ayé <i>et al</i> 2012. Grimmett <i>et al</i> 1998 claims endemic to subcontinent; not repeated in short Grimmett <i>et al</i> 2009 text. Arlott 2007 map does not reach Afghanistan: probable erroneous map swap with White-throated Laughingthrush <i>T. [Garrulax] albogularis</i> ; 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 <i>nuristani</i> in Region, as do Paludan 1959, H&E 1970 Ayé <i>et al</i> 2012 in Nurestan province. NB ssp <i>nuristani</i> not sampled by Cibois <i>et al</i> 2018.
Clade D1: Cibois et al 2018. (& Clade D in Cai et al 2019); resequencing law IOC 10.2			
878	Jungle Babbler	<i>Argya striata</i> (<i>Turdoides striata</i>)	Grimmett <i>et al</i> 1998, 2009 map ssp <i>sindiana</i> 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 ssp to E & S. NB Although not sampled by Cibois <i>et al</i> 2018, placement in phylogenetic tree within <i>Argya</i> from data in their cited references.
879	Iraq Babbler	<i>Argya altirostris</i> (<i>Turdoides altirostris</i>)	Monotypic. Resident lower Tigris-Euphrates BWP VII; now known upper Euphrates Syria, Murdoch 2005; small numbers near Birecik SE Türkiye Kirwan <i>et al</i> 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 <i>et al</i> 2017. Range expanding Porter <i>et al</i> 2024. 3 at Amik Baraj Golu, Hatay Türkiye Sep 2021 DB43:5 400, one at Milleyha, Hatay May 2022 Emin Yoğurtcuoğlu <i>in litt</i> . NB Although not sampled by Cibois <i>et al</i> 2018, they suggest its retention as a species and place in <i>Argya</i> from their cited references
PT	Common Babbler PT	<i>Argya caudata sensu lato</i> (formerly <i>Turdoides caudata</i>)	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 <i>et al</i> 2009, H&M4 lump, the latter noting case for split. BLI remain lumped May 2017 & follow H&M4 in adoption of <i>Argya</i> genus, confirmed by Cibois <i>et al</i> 2018. Shirihaï & Svensson 2018 remain lumped. IOC10.2 split & resequence.
880	Afghan Babbler {Common Babbler}	<i>Argya [caudata] huttoni</i> (<i>Turdoides (caudata) huttoni</i>)	H&M4 note polytypic if split, 2ssp, <i>huttoni</i> SE Iran, S Afghanistan, <i>salvadorii</i> C Iraq-SW Iran. Taxon <i>salvadorii</i> C Iraq-SW Iran resident lower Tigris-Euphrates E through S Iran Khaleghizadeh <i>et al</i> 2017 note <i>huttoni</i> common resident E Iran, <i>salvadorii</i> likewise W Iran but intergrades occur inland Baluchestan; <i>huttoni</i> S Afghanistan (probably Shorawak, S Kandahar – map in Roberts 1992, H&E 1970, Paludan 1959), BWP VII, Ayé <i>et al</i> 2012; (Taxonomy here follows Collar 2006, not R&A 2005. Population forms a <i>huttoni-caudata</i> cline with <i>eclipses</i> [N Pakistan] in the middle Collar 2006; Ayé <i>et al</i> 2012 speculate breeding n Nuristan). HBW 12 retain these taxa (with <i>salvadorii</i>) as ssp of <i>caudata</i> , asserting variation predominantly clinal. First bred Kuwait 2007, Gregory 2008; likely <i>salvadorii</i> Jennings 2010, but only a few bp: 12 resident Abdaly Farm Nov 2018 SG41:1 ATR . NB Samples from Iran used by Cibois <i>et al</i> 2018.
881	Common Babbler	<i>Argya [caudata] caudata sensu stricto</i> (<i>Turdoides (caudata) caudata</i>)	H&M4 note that if split, 2 ssp, <i>eclipses</i> N Pakistan to NW India; nominate SE Pakistan, most of India; ssp <i>eclipses</i> reaches SE Afghanistan 50km NW of Zhob BLDZ map Nov 2018, Grimmett <i>et al</i> 1998 perhaps (map Roberts 1992) just S of Khyber. However, Grimmett <i>et al</i> 2009 map extensively on Afghan border W of Quetta. NB This taxon not sampled by Cibois <i>et al</i> 2018.
882	Fulvous Babbler (formerly Fulvous Chatterer)	<i>Argya fulva</i> (<i>Turdoides fulva</i>)	4 ssp, essentially all extralimital Africa Morocco-Eritrea save for small enclave in SE Egypt (Halaib) holding a population of <i>acaciae</i> , but the map in Shirihaï & Svensson 2018 suggests it has reached southernmost Egypt beside Lake Nasser at the Sudan border. Egypt Avib, BE. NB Extralimital ssp <i>fulva</i> (Algeria) sampled by Cibois <i>et al</i> 2018
883	Arabian Babbler	<i>Argya squamiceps</i> (<i>Turdoides squamiceps</i>)	Polytypic; 3 ssp, all endemic to Region; nominate Sinai, Israel, W Jordan, NW& inland C&S Saudi Arabia; <i>yemensis</i> SW Saudi Arabia (sampled by Cibois <i>et al</i> 2018), W Yemen; <i>muscatensis</i> 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 <i>tristis</i> [Tajikistan] + <i>japonensis</i> [extralimital to E] as full species (3.6-5% cyt-b genetic divergence, Martens & Päckert 2003), similarly elevation likely of <i>himalayensis</i> [Afghanistan] + <i>yunnanensis</i> , vocal analyses (Päckert <i>et al</i> 2003) supportive, Martens <i>et al</i> 2011 more so. H&M4, IOC7.2 do not split. We consider the cited papers are persuasive in allotting 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 closely related to mainland populations Päckert & Martens 2004.
884	Common Firecrest	<i>Regulus ignicapilla</i>	4 ssp, 2 in Region: <i>caucasicus</i> W Caucasus; nominate Asia Minor; extralimital <i>tauricus</i> Crimea, <i>balearicus</i> Balearic Islands, NW Africa. Resident Caucasus, N Türkiye, Baker 1997, 1st record, 2, Israel Dec 2011 DB34:1 58, 2nd record Biriya, Safed, Upper Galilee Dec 2021 Jonathen Meyrav <i>in litt</i> SG44:1 , still present 1st week Jan 2022 Yoav Perlman <i>in litt</i> IRDC ; 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 <i>R. goodfellowi</i> belongs to the Goldcrest phylogeny Päckert <i>et al</i> 2009.
PT	Goldcrest PT	<i>Regulus regulus</i>	PT From Martens & Päckert 2003, Päckert <i>et al</i> 2003, Martens <i>et al</i> 2011, Jochen Martens pers comm Dec 2014, we tentatively extract two groups from the Goldcrest taxa that exhibit haplotype (cytochrome-b) & song distinctiveness.

885	European Goldcrest	<i>Regulus (regulus) regulus</i>	English name informal@OSME. 10 ssp (including <i>coatsi</i> 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; <i>buturlini</i> Asia Minor, Caucasus, uncommon WV N Iran (<i>hyrcanus</i>) Khaleghizadeh <i>et al</i> 2017; <i>coatsi-regulus</i> intergrades (<i>coatsi</i> -i-type?) likely majority E Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b. Largely resident Caucasus, Türkiye, S & SE CA, rare winterer to S, 1st record Kuwait (2 birds) Nov 2013 KORC , 1st breeding record Qammouha, Lebanon Aug 2018 Ramadan-Jaradi <i>et al</i> 2019: males observed holding territory in Armenia Jul 2010 & Jul 2018 Raković <i>et al</i> 2020. Egypt Avib, BE. NB1 Populations bear divergent cytochrome c oxidase 1 (CO1) lineages, potentially including cryptic taxa Kerr <i>et al</i> 2009. NB2 cyt-b distance values: <i>regulus-japonensis</i> 5.0%; <i>regulus-tristis</i> 3.6%; <i>regulus-himalayensis</i> 4.8% Martens <i>et al</i> 2011.
886	Himalayan Goldcrest	<i>Regulus (regulus) himalayensis</i>	English name informal@OSME. 3 ssp, only one in Region: nominate NE Afghanistan, extraliminally through N Pakistan to Nepal; <i>sikkimensis</i> E of Nepal, <i>yunnanensis</i> NC China, but <i>sikkimensis</i> validity as ssp appears weak Jochen Martens pers comm Dec 2014; <i>himalayensis</i> breeds NE Afghanistan, Paludan 1959. NB cyt-b distances to <i>regulus</i> 4.8% & <i>japonensis</i> 6.2% Martens <i>et al</i> 2011.
887	Eastern Goldcrest	<i>Regulus (regulus) japonensis</i>	English name informal@OSME. 2 ssp, only one in Region: nominate extralimital SE Siberia Baikal to Russian far East, Sakhalin, S Kurils, Japan, N Korea, NE China; <i>tristis</i> common resident SE Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b, Tien Shan, wintering SW Asia; <i>tristis</i> Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan Ayé <i>et al</i> 2012, Iran (<i>contra</i> Scott & Adhami 2006, scarce winterer), Afghanistan, Baker 1997, <i>tristis</i> winters W Afghanistan Paludan 1959 R&A 2005. NB cyt-b distance values: <i>japonensis-himalayensis</i> 6.2% <i>japonensis-tristis</i> 3.0% Martens <i>et al</i> 2011.
Troglodytidae			
PT	Eurasian Wren PT	<i>Troglodytes troglodytes</i> (may move to <i>Nannus</i> Barker 2017)	PT: Kerr <i>et al</i> 2007 reinforced case for splitting Nearctic <i>T. troglodytes</i> into 6 lineages; AOU & IOC 2.6 recognise 3, that below & 2 Nearctic spp, Winter Wren <i>T. hiemalis</i> & Pacific Wren <i>T. pacificus</i> . Rice <i>et al</i> 1999 proposed erecting <i>Nannus</i> for this species only from others in <i>Troglodytes</i> , citing song differences. Recently the DBWP List followed suit. Barker 2017 made a strong case for <i>Nannus</i> to include Palearctic Eurasian Wren <i>T. troglodytes</i> , & Nearctic Pacific Wren <i>T. pacificus</i> & Winter Wren <i>T. hiemalis</i> . Albrecht <i>et al</i> 2020 (also using <i>Nannus</i>) found evidence that taxa <i>hyrcanus</i> , <i>juniperi</i> , <i>cypristes</i> , <i>tianshanicus</i> & <i>nipalensis</i> , 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, <i>kabylorum</i> of the Maghreb (NW Africa) and <i>juniperi</i> 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 <i>kabylorum</i> in S Iberia & the second requires much more fieldwork to establish its distribution in an exceedingly unstable political area. We have <i>pro tem</i> , added <i>T.(t.) juniperi</i> Cyrenaic Wren to the ORL Hypothetical List as a likely vagrant. Hering <i>et al</i> 2021a, 2021b note the relict nature of the North African populations.
888	Eurasian Wren (Once included Winter Wren. Common Wren or Wren earlier English names)	<i>Troglodytes troglodytes</i> (may move to <i>Nannus</i> Barker 2017)	IOC4.4 lists 28 ssp, 7 perhaps 8 occur in Region: <i>cypristes</i> S&W Türkiye, Cyprus (Strong increase 2006-2015 Hellicar 2016), Levant; <i>hyrcanus</i> Caucasus, N (resident) & WV SW Iran Khaleghizadeh <i>et al</i> 2017, N Türkiye; <i>subpallidus</i> NE Iran, NW Afghanistan, NW Turkmenistan, S Uzbekistan; <i>tianshanicus</i> common resident SE Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b; <i>troglodytes</i> rare WV W Kazakhstan Arend Wassink <i>in litt</i> Dec 2014; <i>neglectus</i> NE Afghanistan; <i>magrathi</i> SE Afghanistan; <i>juniperi</i> from NE Libya may wander to Egypt, hence its inclusion in the ORL Hypothetical List . <i>T.t subpallidus</i> Turkmenistan, Bukreev 1997, <i>tianshanicus</i> range extension N to Altai 2012 Wassink 2013. Present all N CA, & Türkiye-Afghanistan (<i>tianshanicus</i> N, <i>magrathi</i> SE & <i>neglectus</i> Nurestan Paludan 1959), HBW10, Syria Murdoch & Betton 2008, likely scarce breeder N Iraq Ararat <i>et al</i> 2011, also SE CA Flint <i>et al</i> 1984. 1st record 1992 Egypt EORC accepted 2011, 3rd for Kuwait ar al-Abrq Feb 2017, 4th Al Abrq Oct 2020 KORC . Avib, BE. NB Populations bear divergent cytochrome c oxidase 1 (CO1) lineages, potentially including cryptic taxa Kerr <i>et al</i> 2009.
Sittidae			
PT	White-cheeked Nuthatch PT (formerly Przewalski's or Przewalski's Nuthatch)	<i>Sitta leucopsis</i>	Re Parent Taxon ; IOC8.1 accepts split of extralimital Przewalski's Nuthatch <i>S.(l.) przewalskii</i> (R&A 2005), supported by HBW13, elevating <i>leucopsis</i> (noted by Dickinson 2006 & H&M4. However Pasquet <i>et al</i> 2014 in near-complete phylogeny of <i>Sitta</i> taxa establish taxon <i>przewalskii</i> as having no close relatives, and so we followed accordingly, thus matching Inskipp & Collar 2015; Päckert <i>et al</i> 2020 confirm; we follow their Clade sequence.
889	White-cheeked Nuthatch	<i>Sitta leucopsis</i>	In Clade I in Päckert <i>et al</i> 2020. Monotypic IOC4.4. Resident NE Afghanistan, H&Q 1996, R&A 2005, Grimmett <i>et al</i> 1998; Roberts 1992 – Nurestan & N side of eastern Safed Koh in Afghanistan, also H&E 1970, <i>leucopsis</i> E Paludan 1959, regularly imaged at Gilgit, Gilgit-Baltistan, Pakistan by Imran Shah in litt.
890	Krüper's Nuthatch	<i>Sitta krueperi</i>	In Clade IV in Päckert <i>et al</i> 2020. Monotypic. Resident Türkiye, NW Caucasus, H&Q 1996, including Georgia & adjacent Russia Koblik & Arkhipov 2014. Probably confined to Asia Minor distribution of Calabrian Pine <i>Pinus brutia</i> ; <i>S. krueperi</i> largely responsible for continued spread of 'abnormal' (wingless) <i>P.brutia</i> seeds by remotely caching them Frankis 1991. Agile and dainty cleaner.
PT	Rock Nuthatch PT	<i>Sitta neumayer/tephronota</i>	Elverice <i>et al</i> 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. <i>Pro tem</i> , following the sequence of the Parsimony bootstrap & the mtDNA concatenated tree diagrams in Elverice <i>et al</i> 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 <i>et al</i> 2021.
891	Western Rock Nuthatch (Neumayer's Nuthatch)	<i>Sitta neumayer</i>	In Clade VI in Päckert <i>et al</i> 2020. Polytypic: all 3 ssp in Region: nominate Türkiye, Transcaucasia, N Iran, Levant-N Israel; <i>tschittscherini</i> Iraq, resident Zagros Iran <i>rupicola</i> N&W Iran; <i>plumbea</i> local resident S-C Iran Khaleghizadeh <i>et al</i> 2017. Resident Türkiye, Lebanon, Israel (common Mt Hermon Perlman & Meyrav 2009), S Caucasus, NE Iraq, Iran, H&Q 1996, Syria Murdoch & Betton 2008. Elverice <i>et al</i> 2021 give the taxon in Clade A & confined to the Zagros Mountains as <i>tschittscherini</i> , which shares no haplotypes with any other Rock Nuthatch taxon and so it appears to be completely allopatric (absence of gene flow).
892	Eastern Rock Nuthatch (Great Rock or Persian Nuthatch)	<i>Sitta tephronota</i>	In Clade VI in Päckert <i>et al</i> 2020. Polytypic: all 4 ssp in Region: <i>dresseri</i> SE Türkiye-SW Iran, Iraq; <i>obscura</i> S Transcaucasia-N&C Iran & NE Türkiye; nominate C Asia-Afghanistan; <i>iranica</i> SW Turkmenistan, NE Iran-Uzbek Kyzylkum desert: <i>tephronota</i> common resident W Tien Shan- Zhungarsky Alatau SE Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b; that & <i>iranica</i> Turkmenistan, Bukreev 1997. Resident SE Türkiye Kirwan <i>et al</i> 2008, NW Iraq, arid hills mountains across Iran Khaleghizadeh <i>et al</i> 2017, S CA, Afghanistan (Paludan 1959; Darwaz Badakhshan Niethammer 1973; not uncommon C Afghanistan Redman 1981, Bamian Busuttill & Ayé 2009), H&Q 1996. NB DBWP 2011 call ssp <i>obscura</i> 'Armenian Rock Nuthatch'. Elverice <i>et al</i> 2021 give the taxon in Clade D in the Zagros Mountains as <i>dresseri</i> , 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	<i>Sitta europaea</i>	IOC2.0 accepts split of extralimital <i>arctica</i> (monotypic) as supported by Collar & Pilgrim 2007, Sangster <i>et al</i> 2012 & implied in Redkin & Konovalova 2006, suggested in Zink <i>et al</i> 2006b) as <i>S. arctica</i> Siberian Nuthatch; species status confirmed by Lei <i>et al</i> 2019. However, much better English name would be 'Arctic Nuthatch' (Richard Klim <i>in litt</i>), because some populations grouped under <i>S.e. asiatica</i> previously informally known as 'Siberian Nuthatch' (taxa <i>asiatica</i> , <i>baicalensis</i> , <i>sakhalensis</i> , <i>clara</i> , <i>takatsukasai</i> & <i>albifrons</i> in 'white-bellied <i>asiatica</i> ' group of Redkin & Konovalova 2006); Päckert <i>et al</i> 2020a add <i>amurensis</i> 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 <i>S. asiatica</i> 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. Redkin <i>et al</i> 2015 emphasise that extralimital <i>S. arctica</i> is morphologically cryptic, but genetically distant from <i>S. europaea</i> . 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 <i>et al</i> 2019 identify 6 lineages in Eurasian Nuthatch that merited further analysis; Päckert <i>et al</i> 2020a found 3 strongly-supported subclades covering 5 of these lineages, but the Iranian lineage was poorly supported. Nevertheless, Redkin & Konovalova 2006 on eastern taxa align well with the prescient groupings of Vaurie 1959. H&M4 illustrate Vaurie's 5 groups (after extralimital <i>S. arctica</i> elevated). NB2 Populations bear divergent cytochrome c oxidase 1 (CO1) lineages, potentially including cryptic taxa Kerr <i>et al</i> 2009.

893	Eurasian Nuthatch	<i>Sitta [europaea] europaea</i>	In Clade X in Päckert <i>et al</i> 2020a: first of 3 subspecies-groups. H&M4 groups 1 (<i>europaea</i> only) & 2 comprise together 9 ssp., 4 perhaps 5 (all group 2) occur in the Region: <i>levantina</i> Israel, S Türkiye, formerly Lebanon: may have recolonised Lebanon, 1st record for 140 years 2019, several 2020 observations Ramadan-Jaradi & Sawan 2021. <i>caucasica</i> N, S Türkiye, Caucasus; <i>persica</i> SE, S Türkiye, N Iraq, N Iran forests Khaleghizadeh <i>et al</i> 2017; <i>rubiginosa</i> N Iran, Azerbaijan; <i>caesia</i> may reach European, S Türkiye from Greece. Resident montane W to NE, S Türkiye Kirwan <i>et al</i> 2008, Syria Murdoch & Betton 2008, Caucasus, NE Iraq (Ararat <i>et al</i> 2011), N, W-C Iran, H&Q 1996. NB1 Overlap between <i>europaea</i> , <i>asiatica</i> & <i>arctica</i> and separation from <i>baicalensis</i> detailed well in Päckert <i>et al</i> 2020a. NB2 Vaurie's groups 4 & 5 remote in Far East.
894	'Siberian Pine Nuthatch' (Not to be confused with extralimital Siberian Nuthatch <i>S. arctica</i>)	<i>Sitta (europaea) asiatica</i> (white-bellied group)	In Clade X in Päckert <i>et al</i> 2020a, second of 3 subspecies groups. H&M4 group 3 comprises 6 ssp (see PT above) as recognised by Redkin & Konovalova 2006 (IOC7.2 aligns well), of which only ssp <i>asiatica</i> is known in Region; Päckert <i>et al</i> 2020a add <i>amurensis</i> to this group, but defer elevating polytypic <i>asiatica</i> (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, but new population found Jul 2012-Sep 2022 Burabay NP 225km W of Astana, 700km W of known distribution Wassink 2023; remaining 5 ssp extralimital to E. NB <i>asiatica</i> strongly linked to <i>Pinus sibirica</i> seeds Rogacheva 1992, hence our informal@OSME English name. We note that Päckert <i>et al</i> 2020a in their Fig 3 , Time-calibrated multi-locus phylogeny, use the informal name 'Asian Nuthatch' for this group.
895	Kashmir Nuthatch (formerly Brook's Nuthatch)	<i>Sitta cashmirensis</i>	In Clade IX in Päckert <i>et al</i> 2020a. Monotypic. Resident NE Afghanistan, H&Q 1996, R&A 2005, Grimmett <i>et al</i> 1998, 2009, E Afghanistan Paludan 1959, Roberts 1992, suggested by Bates & Lowther 1952. Once considered a relict of <i>S. europaea</i> 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
896	Wallcreeper	<i>Tichodroma muraria</i>	2 ssp., both in Region: nominate, S Türkiye, Caucasus, N Iran; <i>nepalensis</i> E Iran, N Afghanistan, C Asia, Tien Shan, extralimital to Nepal. Resident or breeds mountains, S Türkiye (<i>muraria</i>) Kirwan <i>et al</i> 2008, NW Iraq Moore & Boswell 1956 (status now uncommon winterer Salim <i>et al</i> 2012), Caucasus, uncommon resident Iran Khaleghizadeh <i>et al</i> 2017, S&E CA (K-M&K 2005), <i>nepalensis</i> scarce resident Tien Shan E to Saur Mts Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b, 2nd record Katon-Karagay NP in Altai Oct 2020 Wassink 2023; 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 Redman 1981, vagrant Jordan Mitchell 2017. NB Zhao <i>et al</i> 2016 found that, based on the concatenated sequences, <i>Tichodroma</i> was most closely related to <i>Sitta</i> , while <i>Certhia</i> was in a separate clade.
		Certhiidae	
PT	Eurasian Treecreeper PT	<i>Certhia familiaris (sensu lato)</i>	IOC1.6 accepts split (Tietze <i>et al</i> 2006) of Hodgson's Treecreeper <i>C. [familiaris] hodgsoni</i> as do HBW13, H&M4, distributed in Kashmir and N Pakistan (Dickinson 2003); extralimital ssp <i>mandelli</i> & <i>khamensis</i> strongly separated, possibly full species Martens & Tietze 2006. See also IOU Hypothetical List . A separate lineage incorporating Corsica (<i>corsa</i>) & Caucasus (<i>caucasicus</i>) populations has been revealed Pons <i>et al</i> 2015a, but not as full sp. NB1 Pons <i>et al</i> 2019 confirm the genetic closeness of the extralimital Corsican ssp <i>corsa</i> & Caucasus ssp <i>caucasicus</i> , 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 <i>et al</i> 2009.
897	Eurasian Treecreeper	<i>Certhia familiaris (sensu stricto)</i>	10 ssp., 5 in Region: <i>caucasica</i> N, S Türkiye (perhaps full sp with extralimital <i>corsa</i> Pons <i>et al</i> 2019), Caucasus; <i>persica</i> SE Azerbaijan, N Iran; <i>tianshanica</i> rare resident Kazakh Tien Shan, extralimital to NW China, <i>daurica</i> Altai Kazakhstan <i>extralimital</i> to NE China, Korea; <i>familiaris</i> very rare PM & rare WV Ural Valley, N-C Kazakhstan, <i>tianshanica</i> rare resident N&C Tien Shan, Zhungarsky Alatau, <i>daurica</i> rare resident E-most Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b; trapped W Kazakhstan. Widespread in Russian forest belt Rogacheva 1992; <i>familiaris</i> rare winter, N, S Türkiye, Caucasus, N Iran (scarce Scott & Adhami 2006, uncommon resident Khaleghizadeh <i>et al</i> 2017), Kyrgyzstan, H&Q 1996, SE CA (E&N Kyrgyzstan, Ven 2002). NB interbreeding with <i>brachydactyla</i> in Sweden Anderson <i>et al</i> 2009; due to niche pressures?
898	Hodgson's Treecreeper	<i>Certhia hodgsoni</i>	Nominate in Kashmir and N Pakistan: that it occurs in neighbouring Afghan Nurestan appeared confirmed by BLDZ map Nov 2015 indicating significant range occupied E & NE of Kabul. However, Jul 2023 IOU map shows its presence in N Pakistan some 20km S of Wakhan Corridor in 3 places, & 50km E of Nurestan in Dir area; lack of recent surveys in Afghanistan unhelpful. Imaged by Imran Khan Apr 2024 at Naltar, Gilgit, Gilgit-Baltistan, Pakistan, c 70km from Afghan eastern Wakhan.
899	Short-toed Treecreeper	<i>Certhia brachydactyla</i>	5 ssp., 3 in Region: nominate, S Türkiye; <i>rossocaucasica</i> SW Caucasus; <i>dorotheae</i> Cyprus. Resident W half of, S Türkiye (not centre) Kirwan <i>et al</i> 2008, W Caucasus, H&Q 1996. NB DBWP 2011 name Cyprus ssp <i>dorotheae</i> 'Cyprus Short-toed Treecreeper', perhaps more accurate than the 'Cyprus Treecreeper' of Bannerman & Bannerman 1971?
900	Bar-tailed Treecreeper (Himalayan Treecreeper)	<i>Certhia himalayana</i>	4 ssp., 2 in Region: <i>taenuria</i> N Afghanistan, C Asia; nominate SE Afghanistan, extralimital to S & E. ssp <i>taenuria</i> Turkmenistan, Bukreev 1997 & only one fully-documented vagrancy record S Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b. Resident parts S CA; occurs Kyrgyzstan, Ven 2002, Afghanistan - NW <i>taeniura</i> , <i>E limes</i> (subsumed in <i>himalayana</i>) Paludan 1959, H&Q 1996; NW & E Afghanistan, S Tajikistan R&A 2005. NB Possibly this taxon ' <i>Certhia</i> spec ?' in Zagros Iran cited in Zarudny 1911.
		Sturnidae	Zuccon <i>et al</i> 2008 found relationships of Palearctic-Oriental starlings & mynas in need of revision. NB Many sturnid ssp 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 <i>et al</i> 2015.
901	Bank Myna	<i>Acridotheres ginginianus</i> (formerly <i>Sturnus ginginianus</i> by some)	Introduced. Monotypic. IOC2.0 follows Zuccon <i>et al</i> 2008. Colonial, near-commensal; vagrancy to Region F&C 1998 (Old specimen SE Afghanistan: Meinertzhagen) suspect R&A 2005, but accepted by Ayé <i>et al</i> 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 Alshamli <i>et al</i> 2021b, which reduction perhaps due to competition from Common Myna (see below), & thus may not be self-sustaining in Eastern Province Babington & Meadows 2022, though 15 recorded Old Diriyah Feb 2023 & singleton at Wadi Hanifah Jun 2023 SG45(2): 278. Recorded 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 <i>et al</i> 2018, 3rd record at Dashtiari, Sistan & Baluchestan Jan 2025 IBRC . NB Nearest natural population to Iran is 550km W of border with Pakistan.
902	Common Myna (Indian Myna)	<i>Acridotheres tristis</i>	2 ssp: nominate SE Iran, Central Asia E to SC Kazakhstan; <i>melanostrenus</i> extralimital Sri Lanka. Elsewhere in OSME Region, introduced. Bird trade may have bred mixed populations for export. IOC2.0 follows Zuccon <i>et al</i> 2008. Common cagebird & commensal natural resident SE Iran, Afghanistan (<i>tristis</i> 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, S Türkiye Kirwan <i>et al</i> 2008, seemingly resident Izmir 2023 Suzan Örsçek <i>in litt</i> . 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 Alshamli <i>et al</i> 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, S Türkiye; extirpation requires data collected systematically Per 2022: first outbreak Cyprus Jan 2022 since found at various points by April. Has reached 'plague proportions' Bahrain King 2018; 3 records Jordan JBRC , Khoury & Alshamli 2015; abundant and rapidly increasing resident N&NE Oman, also Salalah S Oman OBL7 . S Iraq, Salim 1998, Egypt, Millington 2000, Rabia <i>et al</i> 2015, N&C Israel Perlman & Meyrav 2009, West Bank Palestine Handal & Qumsiyeh 2021. Kazakhstan G&G 2005, increasing Uzbekistan, but removal is being attempted Shahzod Dehqonov <i>in litt</i> Nov 2022. Egypt Avib, BE
903	Burmese Myna (Vinous-breasted Starling, Vinous-breasted Myna) (IOC13.1)	<i>Acridotheres burmannicus</i> (formerly <i>Sturnus burmannicus</i>)	Pre-split, 2 ssp., both extralimital in SE Asia. Introduced. Not uncommon cagebird; bird trade may have bred mixed populations. IOC2.0 follows Zuccon <i>et al</i> 2008. Introduced Israel & Palestine Porter <i>et al</i> 2024; uncommon in Tel Aviv region Perlman & Meyrav 2009; invasive. IOC 13.1 accepts split of monotypic Burmese Myna <i>A. burmannicus</i> from Vinous-breasted Myna <i>A. leucocephalus</i> (now monotypic) Dec 2022.

904	Black-collared Starling	<i>Gracupica nigricollis</i> (formerly <i>Sturnus nigricollis</i>)	Introduced. 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.
905	Indian Pied Myna (Formerly Asian Pied Starling & Pied Myna)	<i>Gracupica contra</i> (= <i>Sturnus contra</i>)	Introduced: 2 ssp, nominate in Region, <i>superciliaris</i> 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 <i>et al</i> 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 <i>jalla</i> elevated to sp as Javan Pied Myna, Eaton <i>et al</i> 2016. IOC11.2 splits into 3 taxa; <i>G. contra</i> reduces to Indian Pied Myna, split off from extralimital Siamese/Thai Pied Myna <i>G. floweri</i> & Javan Pied Myna <i>G. jalla</i> : Baveja <i>et al</i> 2020.
906	Chestnut-tailed Starling	<i>Sturnia malabarica</i>	Polytypic. 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 . 4th record at Tizz, Sistan & Baluchestan Jan 2025 IBRC .
907	Brahminy Starling (formerly Brahminy Myna, Black-headed Starling)	<i>Sturnia pagodarum</i> (= <i>Sturnus pagodarum</i> ; formerly <i>Temenuchus pagodarum</i>)	Monotypic. IOC2.0 follows Zuccon <i>et al</i> 2008. Summer breeder E Afghanistan, IOC, (range expanding W in Pakistan), F&C 2001, R&A 2005, Nuristan Ayé <i>et al</i> 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 Kobiik & Arkhipov 2014; present & imaged in Baltistan valleys, Pakistan within 50km of Afghan Wakhan, Imran Khan <i>in litt</i> . Origin suspect in Gulf UAE, Lever 2005, App B; but also likely rare vagrant Porter <i>et al</i> 2024; small population Dubai Aspinall 2010, Rare PM & WV Oman OBL7 . Perhaps 100bp UAE, slowly increasing Jennings 2010, singles at Sir Bani Yas Jan 2023 & Ajban Mar 2023 considered wild birds SG45:2 283. 1st Iran record Oct 2014 Khaleghizadeh <i>et al</i> 2016, 2nd Feb 2016 Kish Island Hormozgan IBRC , 3rd Kangan Bushehr Oct 2017 DB40:3 199, 4 at Bandar-e Shenash & 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 <i>Sturnus</i> , IOC2.0 erects <i>Sturnia</i> .
908	Rosy Starling (Rose-coloured Starling, Rosy Pastor)	<i>Pastor roseus</i> (reversion from <i>Sturnus roseus</i>)	Monotypic. Reversion to <i>Pastor</i> Lovette & Rubenstein 2007, Lovette <i>et al</i> 2008, Knox <i>et al</i> 2008, Zuccon <i>et al</i> 2008, now in Svensson <i>et al</i> 2009. Locust-dependent nomadic breeder, S Türkiye, Syria, N Iran (where common PM Khaleghizadeh <i>et al</i> 2017; widespread in CA Ayé <i>et al</i> 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 <i>et al</i> 2012, uncommon migrant Israel Perlman & Meyrav 2009 9th record Azraq Jordan May 2020 SG42:2 325, rare PM Cyprus, one at Episkopi village cemetery May 2023 reported by Marios Philippou, Jane Stylianou <i>in litt</i> . Over 200,000 passed through Besh Barmag, Azerbaijan, bottleneck in autumn Heiss <i>et al</i> 2020. Egypt Avib, BE
909	Common Starling (European Starling)	<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>	13 ssp 8 perhaps 9 in Region: nominate reaches NW Kazakhstan; <i>poltaratskiy</i> N Kazakhstan; <i>tauricus</i> Sea of Azov, Asia Minor, wintering Middle East; <i>caucasicus</i> W Kazakhstan, N Caucasus, E Transcaucasia-N, W&SW Iran, wintering SW Asia; <i>purpurascens</i> E, S Türkiye, N Iraq, W Transcaucasia wintering Egypt, Middle East; <i>oppenheimi</i> SE, S Türkiye, N Iraq wintering Middle East; <i>nobilior</i> NE Iran, S Turkmenistan, Afghanistan wintering Indian subcontinent; <i>porphyronotus</i> SE Kazakhstan & other 'stans wintering Pakistan to NW China; <i>humei</i> in N Pakistan may occur Afghanistan. <i>S.v. nobilior</i> , <i>caucasicus</i> & <i>porphyronotus</i> Turkmenistan, Bukreev 1997: <i>caucasicus</i> common BM, possibly common RB W Kazakhstan; <i>porphyronotus</i> common BM SE Kazakhstan; <i>vulgaris</i> common BM, rare RB, WV NW Kazakhstan; <i>poltaratskiy</i> common resident, BM, PM N-C to NE Kazakhstan, vv further S Wassink 2015b; <i>caucasicus</i> Afghanistan Paludan 1959. Resident NW OSME Region, incl, S Türkiye, Iran Scott & Adhami 2006, N Iraq purpurascens Ararat <i>et al</i> 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; <i>nobilior</i> , <i>porphyronotus</i> (?) 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 <i>et al</i> 2009.
910	Wattled Starling	<i>Creatophora cinerea</i>	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 Lulu Island Nov 2020 EBRC , 4th record al-Maha Forest/southern desert lakes Nov-Dec 2021 EBRC , 5th at Mamzar Park, Dubai Apr 2023 EBRC , 7th at al Maha Pivot Fields Aug-Nov 2023 EBRC . 1st for Saudi Arabia (4 birds) at Jizan Feb 2023 DB45:2 133, 2nd record of a pair at al Hambas Park Nov 2023, 3rd record of singleton associating with the pair Dec 2023, possibly returnees from 2022 SG46:1 145.
911	Superb Starling	<i>Lamprotornis superbus</i> (Formerly in <i>Spreo</i>)	Introduced. 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, but local breeding established UAE Porter <i>et al</i> 2024; escapes known Oman 2013 SG35:2 ATR ; OBL7 holds 3 escape records 2001-2013. On Avibase website Israel list Aug 08
912	Violet-backed Starling (Amethyst Starling)	<i>Cinnyricinclus leucogaster</i>	Polytypic. Single-species genus, 3 ssp, 2 in Africa, <i>arabicus</i> in SW Arabia; BM N Yemen Porter & Warr 1985, SW Arabia littoral, F&C 2001. SB mostly S Tihama foothills & highlands c80 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.
913	Somali Starling (Somali Red-winged Starling)	<i>Onychognathus blythii</i>	Monotypic. Somalia, Ethiopia, Socotra archipelago F&C 2001; Socotra moult differences, enough to separate ssp <i>creaghi</i> which H&M4 does not recognise. More evidence needed for elevating, Kirwan 2007; c28 000bp overall Jennings 2010; RB Socotran Archipelago, 102 000+ind Porter & Suleiman 2022. One of unknown origin photographed May 2021 on Qeshm Island, Hormozgan Iran DB43:4 310: not an IUCN traded species.
914	Socotra Starling (Socotra Red-winged Starling)	<i>Onychognathus frater</i>	Monotypic. Socotra island endemic, F&C 2001. Relationship to Socotra form of <i>O. blythii</i> ? Jennings 2010 suggests c8000bp: 25 100+ind Porter & Suleiman 2022, endemic to Socotra Island.
915	Tristram's Starling (Tristram's Grackle)	<i>Onychognathus tristramii</i>	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.
916	Red-billed Oxpecker	<i>Buphagus erythrorhynchus</i>	Monotypic African species. Recorded Yemen, Hansbro & Sargeant 1999, 4 records in the Tihama Jennings 2010; nearest populations Ethiopia, Somalia & Eritrean Dahlak Islands de Monti <i>et al</i> 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 <i>et al</i> 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.
917	White's Thrush (Formerly part of Scaly, or Common Scaly Thrush)	<i>Zoothera aurea</i> (called <i>Z. varia</i> by Russians Kobiik & Arkhipov 2014)	H&M4 recognise 2 ssp, nominate of E Russia & S Siberia; <i>toratogumi</i> further S in Far East. R&A 2005 & IOC2.3 agree English name White's Thrush, although other names offered eg Parkin & Knox 2010 support Scaly Thrush as <i>Z. aurea</i> , which rare & local Krasnoyarsk Republic to N of Region Rogacheva 1992, breeds far NE Kazakhstan & on Kazakh-Kyrgyzstan border Ayé <i>et al</i> 2012 rare BM occasional PM Wassink 2015b, migrant E OSME Region, vagrant elsewhere HBW10, single-record vagrant Oman 1989 OBL7 , 1st record Qatar at al Ruwais Park, Shamal Oct 2022 QBRC ; Zarudny 1911 noted Blanford & St John had seen this taxon earlier NW Iran, however, 1st accepted record at Mawbar, Tabas, South Khorasan found dead in garden Nov 2021 DB46:3 203. Probably bred Jun 2021 Chon Assu Pass Issyk-Kul Region Kyrgyzstan van Els & Hiddes 2022. We consider R&A 2005 sound in limiting <i>Z. dauma</i> to just Small-billed Scaly Thrush - breeds Himalayas winters to S; taxon in our Region is <i>aurea</i> . NB1 Treatments prior to 2009 varied & contrary, but H&M4 & IOC4.4 not too dissimilar eg Inskipp <i>et al</i> 1996, Inskipp <i>et al</i> 2001, W&O 2007 & Grimmett <i>et al</i> 2009, Clements 2007. NB2 prime <i>aurea</i> habitat is <i>Picea</i> -dominated taiga very vulnerable to climate change; many bird taxa likely to undergo reduction & northward movement of breeding areas Huntley <i>et al</i> 2007. NB3 Mention of both <i>Z. dauma</i> & <i>Z. aurea</i> on Avibase website Kazakhstan Aug 08 list assumed refer to old records of same taxon under <i>dauma</i> & later <i>aurea</i> .

918	Siberian Thrush	<i>Geokichla sibirica</i> { <i>Zoothera sibirica</i> } (<i>Turdus sibiricus</i> in some Russian literature)	2ssp; probably nominate wanderer to Region from C-E Siberia, <i>davisoni</i> extralimital 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. DBWP 2009 accepted <i>Geokichla</i> , which Parkin & Knox 2010 support, citing 3 recent evolutionary studies; IOC v2.9, Sangster <i>et al</i> 2011 agree genus change. Voelker & Kilička 2008, Voelker & Outlaw 2008.
919	Song Thrush	<i>Turdus philomelos</i>	2 of 4 ssp in Region: nominate N Kazakhstan, N, S Türkiye, Caucasus N Iran winters N Africa, SW Asia, <i>nataliae</i> rare BM NE-most Kazakhstan, common PM, very rare WV Wassink 2015b, resident N, S Türkiye, Caucasus, N Iran (scarce Scott & Adhami 2006), irregular winter Iraq Salim <i>et al</i> 2012, winters to S, HBW10, fairly common PM & WV Oman OBL7 . 4th record (1st to be imaged) Kyrgyzstan at Cholpon Ata, Toktogul, Jalalabad Oct 2022 SG45:1 150. Egypt Avib, BE
920	Mistle Thrush (old spelling Missel Thrush)	<i>Turdus viscivorus</i>	2 of 3 ssp in Region: nominate W Siberia to Iran; <i>bonapartei</i> Altai, N Iran Afghanistan, C Asia, Tien Shan; <i>viscivorus</i> & <i>bonapartei</i> Turkmenistan, Bukreev 1997, nominate rare BM, common PM, very rare WV W Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b, <i>bonapartei</i> common resident, BM E Kazakhstan, rare PM, WV SE Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b; , S Türkiye, N Iraq Ararat <i>et al</i> 2011, Iran (scarce Scott & Adhami 2006), Afghanistan, winters mid-OSME Region, HBW10, 7-record vagrant Oman 1989-2006 OBL7 , 8th As Sayh, Musandam Jan 2023 OBRC ; rare Israel Perلمان & Meyrav 2009. Egypt Avib, BE
921	Redwing	<i>Turdus iliacus</i> (= Russian <i>T. musicus</i>)	ssp <i>coburni</i> 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 <i>et al</i> 2017, widespread on migration, HBW10, uncommon Israel Perلمان & Meyrav 2009, rare/vagrant Iraq Salim <i>et al</i> 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 <i>et al</i> 2007
PT	Eurasian Blackbird PT {Common Blackbird}	<i>Turdus merula</i> (<i>sensu lato</i>)	Re Parent Taxon ; IOC2.0 accepts splits of Tibetan Blackbird <i>T.[m.] maximus</i> & disjunct extralimital Indian Blackbird <i>T.[m.] similimus</i> R&A 2005. NB IOC5.2 split of extralimital Chinese Blackbird <i>T. mandarinus</i> included <i>sowerbyi</i> but placed <i>intermedius</i> in <i>merula pro tem</i> : IOC11.2 confirms. Large numbers <i>intermedius</i> SE Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b, WV Iran Khaleghizadeh <i>et al</i> 2016.
922	Common Blackbird (Eurasian Blackbird)	<i>Turdus merula</i> (<i>sensu stricto</i>)	7 ssp 4 in Region: nominate scarce PM & WV SW-to C Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b (H&M4 distribution text error); <i>aterimus</i> W&N, S Türkiye, Caucasus, N Iran winters Middle East; <i>syriacus</i> S, S Türkiye (Cyprus?) Levant, Egypt-Iran (Found breeding, perhaps resident at 5 remote oases NE & C Egypt 2014 at 50+°C amid severe sandstorms Hering <i>et al</i> 2014); <i>intermedius</i> C Asia, Tien Shan-Afghanistan: <i>intermedius</i> common resident S-C to E-most Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b; breeding Burabay NP some 430km NW of known distribution Wassink 2023. <i>T.m syriacus</i> & <i>intermedius</i> Turkmenistan, Bukreev 1997, <i>intermedius</i> Afghanistan Paludan 1959. , S Türkiye, Levant, resident Cyprus upland woodland Richardson 2014, SE CA, Iran, Afghanistan, HBW10, N Iraq Salim <i>et al</i> 2012. Ayé <i>et al</i> 2012 <i>merula</i> passage & winterer CA. 4th Qatar record Irkkaya Farm Nov 2020 QBRC . Egypt Avib, BE. NB1 Kirwan <i>et al</i> 2008 synonymised <i>syriacus</i> with <i>aterimus</i> in , S Türkiye, but Cyprus birds appear not to have been examined closely enough for similar or contrasting conclusion Peter Flint pers comm. NB2 <i>intermedius</i> in Afghanistan assumed from BLDZ map May 2017 of <i>T. merula</i> to breed or be resident from N Badakhshan WSW to Herat, neatly meeting northwesternmost distribution of Tibetan Blackbird <i>T. maximus</i> (<i>qv</i>) in SE Tajikistan, mapped BLDZ May 2017 for latter taxon
923	Yemen Thrush	<i>Turdus menachensis</i> 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; <i>T. menachensis</i> 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.
924	Tickell's Thrush	<i>Turdus unicolor</i>	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 <i>et al</i> 2012 treat as vagrant to Region; probable vagrant, possible occasional BM Tajikistan Koblik & Arkhipov 2014 based on Kwartalnov <i>et al</i> 2012 (Fully published 2015) who described an irruption in Panj River valley, Gorny Badakhshan Autonomous Region.
925	Eyebrowed Thrush	<i>Turdus obscurus</i>	Monotypic. N of Region, breeds W to 78°E, rare to locally common Rogacheva 1992. HBW10 small-scale map indicates breeds easternmost Kazakhstan, vagrant elsewhere in Region. Raffael Ayé (<i>in litt</i> Jun 2014) & Arend Wassink (<i>in litt</i> 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 DB 39(1) : 56/ OBRC , one at al-Qurm Park, Muscat Feb 2024 DB 46:2 127, 2 at Qatbit, Dhofar Nov 2024-Jan 2025 DB 47:1 63. Single-record vagrant Socotra 2021, 1st record for Socotra & Yemen Porter & Suleiman 2022; 1st for Lebanon shot Nov 2017 Ramadan-Jaradi & Itani 2018, 2nd shot Ras Al Ain, Baalbek Oct 2020 Ramadan-Jaradi <i>et al</i> 2021, 4th shot Aitat Ramadan-Jaradi <i>et al</i> 2022; 1 photographed Al Areen Wildlife Park, Bahrain Nov 2018 SG41:2 245. Vagrant Qatar, Israel Porter <i>et al</i> 2024 3rd for Israel at Be'erSheva Nov 2024 Phil Andrews, Yoav Perlman <i>in litt</i> .
926	Tibetan Blackbird	<i>Turdus maximus</i>	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. Jul 2023 IUCN maps now show absence of <i>merula</i> & <i>maximus</i> 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, Jul 2023 IUCN map indicating within 20km near Dir. Bates & Lowther 1952 attributed the westernmost distribution of this taxon to elevations above 11000ft in Kurram Valley, which includes a portion of Afghanistan. Imaged at Mayoone Berr, Hunza, Gilgit-Baltistan, Pakistan, less than 75km S of Wakhan, Afghanistan Dec 2021, & in Avgarch Valley, Gojal, Gilgit-Baltistan only 50km from Afghanistan Jul 2023 Imran Shah <i>in litt</i> . NB Extralimital Chinese Blackbird <i>T. mandarinus</i> borders <i>T. maximus</i> in Myanmar & SW China, & occurs E to Chinese coast.
927	Fieldfare	<i>Turdus pilaris</i>	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 <i>et al</i> 2017, uncommon winter Iraq Salim <i>et al</i> 2012, 6th UAE record Jebel Dhanna Nov 2017 EBRC , vagrant Afghanistan Smith 1974. Egypt Avib, BE
928	Ring Ouzel	<i>Turdus torquatus</i>	2 of 3 ssp in Region: <i>alpestris</i> W Asia Minor winters NE Africa; <i>amicorum</i> C&E, S Türkiye, Caucasus, N Iran, SW Turkmenistan, winters SW Asia; <i>amicorum</i> SW Turkmenistan, Bukreev 1997, 3-record vagrant W Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b, 4th record at Aktau Oct 2023 Wassink 2024. Widespread passage, S Türkiye, scattered breeder Kirwan <i>et al</i> 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 Perلمان & Meyrav 2009, 1 at Sde Boker Nov 2017, 1 at Kiryat Arba Yoav Perlman <i>in litt</i> , 2nd record Qatar Nov 2015 DB38:4 253; 9th Kuwait record, Jahra Pools Nov 2019 KORC . Egypt Avib, BE. Rare winter Qatar Nov 2010 SG33:1 , Iraq Salim <i>et al</i> 2012, 5 Jordan records JBRC , Oman rare WV OBL7.6 . NB DBWP 2009 call ssp <i>alpestris</i> Southern & <i>amicorum</i> Caucasian Ring Ouzels.
PT	Dark- (Black- or Red-) throated Thrush PT	<i>Turdus ruficollis</i>	Parent Taxon recorded Egypt Avib, BE before split. Scott & Adhami 2006 (Iran) do not split, nor do Perlman & Meyrav 2009. Split supported by Knox <i>et al</i> 2008, Sangster <i>et al</i> 2009, Brazil 2009, IOC2.0, Svensson <i>et al</i> 2009 H&M4; we treat as semispecies <i>pro tem</i> . Old records Arabia of PT likely refer to <i>atroglularis</i> , & we suggest that BLDZ maps May 2017 of the 2 taxa perpetuate this confusion: eg Wassink 2015b records only of <i>T.[r.] ruficollis</i> , but relevant BLDZ map suggests extensive breeding area along entire SE Kazakhstan well into E Kyrgyzstan. NB Based on a large-scale study of E & S China populations of the next 4 taxa, An <i>et al</i> 2024 via coalescence-based species delimitation and the gen-morph species concept concluded that taxon <i>ruficollis</i> is best treated as a ssp of <i>T. atrogularis</i> , and taxon <i>eunomus</i> is best treated as a ssp of <i>T. naumanni</i> (Ongoing hybridization was taken into account, though <i>ruficollis</i> sample sizes were small. Whether these relationships are repeated in unsampled populations remains unknown).

929	Black-throated Thrush (Dark-throated Thrush)	<i>Turdus [ruficollis] atrogularis</i>	Monotypic. N of Region, usually N of <i>ruficollis</i> 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 ' <i>relicta</i> ' (taxonomy speculative) repeatedly seen S & E Kazakhstan, hybrid <i>atrogularis</i> × <i>ruficollis</i> can comprise 10% migrants trapped Chokpak Pass, perhaps leading to misattribution as <i>ruficollis</i> ; winterer, migrant Iraq, S CA, Iran (widespread but scarce passage Zarudny 1911, finding ' <i>relicta</i> ' only in S Caspian: fairly common WV Khaleghizadeh <i>et al</i> 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), single-record (♀) 2011 Socotra Porter & Suleiman 2020, 2022; 19 in single tree Jahra Pools Kuwait DB39:1 56, 30+ Bahrain Dec 2016 King 2018, c30 birds in 2nd Qatar record Dec 2016, 4th at Irikaya Nov 2019 QBRC , 5th Irkayya Farm Dec 2022 QBRC 6th (Jan-Feb 2023) & 7th (Feb 2023) records Irkayya Farm & shot Shamal area respectively QBRC . 2nd Turkish record Mar 2011 comprised some 14 birds Kirwan <i>et al</i> 2014, 5th record 13 birds Yüsekova, Hakkari Nov 2019, flock of 30 Gevaş, Van, Nov 2019 DB42:1 59, another at Yüsekova, Hakkari Nov 2023 imaged by Emrah Kayhan Emin Yüğürtçuoğlu <i>in litt</i> . 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 <i>et al</i> 2012; all Israel records this taxon Yoav Perlman <i>in litt</i> Nov 09: 2 in Israel Dec 2019 & Jan 2020 DB42:1 59. NB Some variations have 'Dark' and not 'Black' throats in breeding plumage.
930	Red-throated Thrush	<i>Turdus [ruficollis] ruficollis</i>	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 <i>ruficollis</i> × <i>atrogularis</i> caught at Chokpak Pass may have been misattributed as <i>ruficollis</i> in past Wassink 2015b. Vagrant elsewhere <i>eg</i> 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 . 5th for Iran at Sarigol NP, N Khorasan Feb 2023 DB45:2 : 133.
PT	Naumann's Thrush (Dusky Thrush) PT	<i>Turdus naumanni</i>	Re Parent Taxon : split supported by Knox <i>et al</i> 2008, Sangster <i>et al</i> 2009, Brazil 2009, IOC2.0, Svensson <i>et al</i> 2009, H&M4; we treat as semispecies. NB1 Dong <i>et al</i> 2018 suggest that genetic data alone is insufficient to support the split Collar & Donald 2020. NB2 Based on a large-scale study of E & S China migratory and breeding of these two taxa and the two taxa above, An <i>et al</i> 2024 via coalescence-based species delimitation and the gen-morph species concept concluded that taxon <i>eunomus</i> is best treated as a ssp of <i>T. naumanni</i> and taxon <i>ruficollis</i> is best treated as a ssp of <i>T. atrogularis</i> (Ongoing hybridization was taken into account, though <i>ruficollis</i> sample sizes were small. Whether these relationships are repeated in unsampled populations remains unknown).
931	Dusky Thrush	<i>Turdus [naumanni] eunomus</i> (formerly <i>T. naumanni eunomus</i>)	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) EBRC , 5th Emirates Palace Mar 2022 EBRC . 5 records Oman 1990-2010 OBL7 , 6th at Mudday, Dhofar Dec 2019 DB42:1 59, 1st Qatar record Bahwa City Nov 2015 QBRC ; single-record vagrant 1993 Eastern Province Saudi Arabia Babbington & Meadows 2022. Winters Pakistan Nuristan R&A 2012. Single-record vagrant Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b.
932	Naumann's Thrush	<i>Turdus [naumanni] naumanni</i>	Monotypic. Locally abundant in N Krasnoyarsk Republic to N of Region Rogacheva 1992. Vagrant to Kuwait, Israel (but categorised as lumped <i>T. naumanni</i> in Perlman & Meyrav 2009, Yoav Perlman <i>in litt</i> Nov 09), Cyprus Porter <i>et al</i> 1996. Single-record vagrant Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b, imaged by Ivan Bevza at Almaty.
933	Chestnut Thrush (Grey-headed Thrush)	<i>Turdus rubrocanus</i>	2 ssp nominate in Region; <i>gouldi</i> extralimital China. NE-most Afghanistan, Sayer & van der Zon 1981, IOC, HBW10, R&A 2005, Grimmett <i>et al</i> 1998, H&E 1970 eastern Afghan Safed Koh, Roberts 1992 (Thal), Nuristan to Nangarhâr BLDZ map May 2017.
		Muscicapidae The sequence of genera below largely follows the recommendations of Sangster <i>et al</i> 2011	IOC4.1 subsumes <i>Erythropgyia</i> in <i>Cercotrichas</i> . Zhao <i>et al</i> 2023 produced a comprehensive species-level phylogeny of 92% of Muscicapidae , but though they recommended many taxonomic changes, the ORL required but a few sequence changes: IOC13.2. NB Disappointingly, Svensson <i>et al</i> 2009 declined to accord with the not-so-recent revision that placed <i>eg</i> <i>Luscinia</i> , <i>Phoenicurus</i> , <i>Saxicola</i> , <i>Oenanthe</i> & <i>Monticola</i> into Muscicapidae from Turdidae ; their policy of 'author's choice' of taxonomy vague option. However, Svensson, as co-author in Sangster <i>et al</i> 2011 supports the revisions wholeheartedly!
934	Black Scrub Robin (formerly Black Bush Robin)	<i>Cercotrichas podobe</i>	2 ssp, sub-Saharan nominate; <i>melanoptera</i> 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 <i>et al</i> 2004, 1st bred near Eilat Israel spring 2015 Ottens <i>et al</i> 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 <i>C. galactotes</i> 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 .
935	Rufous-tailed Scrub Robin (formerly Rufous-tailed Bush Robin, Rufous Bush-chat, Rufous Warbler Grey-backed Warbler)	<i>Cercotrichas galactotes</i> (<i>Erythropgyia galactotes</i>)	3 of 5 ssp in Region: nominate Egypt-Israel, SW Syria; <i>syriaca</i> W&S, S Türkiye, W Syria, Lebanon; <i>familiaris</i> SW, S Türkiye, NE Arabia, C Asia E to S Kazakhstan; <i>familiaris</i> Turkmenistan, Bukreev 1997, Afghanistan Paludan 1959, common BM S third Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b, breeds S CA, S Türkiye (Syria Murdoch & Betton 2008), Levant (UAE Aspinall 1996), Iraq, Iran (where common SB across Iran Khaleghizadeh <i>et al</i> 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, c5000bp, 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 DBWP 2009 call ssp <i>familiaris</i> & <i>syriaca</i> Eastern Rufous-tailed Scrub Robin, a possibility acknowledged by Shirinai & Svensson 2018, given allopatry and well-marked morphological differences. NB2 taxon <i>familiaris</i> once was <i>Aëdon galactotes familiaris</i> Grey-backed Warbler
936	Indian Robin (formerly Indian Black Robin)	<i>Copsychus fulvicatus</i> (<i>Saxicoloides fulvicatus</i>)	5 ssp, none recently recorded in Region. Sangster <i>et al</i> 2010 indicate relationship within <i>Copsychus</i> , hence propose <i>C. fulvicatus</i> ; higher-level support in Zuccon & Ericson 2010b, who justify genus change; IOC4.4 agree: H&M4 retain in <i>Saxicoloides</i> . One Afghanistan specimen record, mentioned in Paludan 1959 (1840, Madge 1980) lacking full verification R&A 2005, accepted by Ayé <i>et al</i> 2012. Breeds very close to Afghanistan-Pakistan border, Roberts 1992 (Thal & N) Grimmett <i>et al</i> 1998, Arlott 2007, Grimmett <i>et al</i> 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.
937	Oriental Magpie-Robin (formerly Indian Magpie-Robin)	<i>Copsychus saularis</i>	7 ssp, likely nominate that wanders to Afghanistan; all other ssp remote to E. Recent expansion in Pakistan to Khyber Pass 2002 Anssi Kullberg <i>in litt</i> , 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 Sergeant <i>in litt</i> . Popular cagebird?
PT	Spotted Flycatcher PT	<i>Muscicapa striata</i> (<i>sensu lato</i>)	Viganò & Corso 2015 split off extralimital taxa <i>tyrrhenica</i> & <i>balearica</i> as Mediterranean Flycatcher, which sp has not been recorded in OSME Region.
938	Spotted Flycatcher	<i>Muscicapa striata</i> (<i>sensu stricto</i>)	5 ssp, 3 in Region: nominate N&NW Kazakhstan, migrant, S Türkiye- Egypt; <i>neumanni</i> Cyprus, Levant-Caucasus, N&SW Iran, E Kazakhstan; <i>sarudnyi</i> E Iran, N Afghanistan C Asia to Tien Shan, scarce in S Kazakhstan; <i>neumanni</i> Turkmenistan, Bukreev 1997 Afghanistan Paludan 1959; <i>neumanni</i> common BM, PM NE Kazakhstan, <i>striata</i> common BM, PM in disparate areas NW & N Kazakhstan, <i>sarudnyi</i> scarce BM disparate areas S Kazkhstan Wassink 2015b; <i>sarudnyi</i> SE Kazakhstan SE to Afghanistan Ayé <i>et al</i> 2012. Breeds, S Türkiye, Levant, Cyprus, Iraq Moore & Boswell 1956 (confirmed Ararat <i>et al</i> 2011), Iran, Caucasus, CA BWP VII, NE Afghanistan R&A 2005; (largely absent C CA, Flint <i>et al</i> 1984). Abundant PM & WV Oman OBL7 , vagrant Socotran Archipelago Porter & Suleiman 2020, 2022. Egypt Avib, BE. NB Pons <i>et al</i> 2015b found wide diversity among western ssp, particularly in sedentary island taxa, but noted in passing the lack of differentiation between continental Palearctic <i>striata</i> & <i>neumanni</i> , possibly making the latter invalid.
939	Gambaga Flycatcher	<i>Muscicapa gambagae</i>	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.

940	Dark-sided Flycatcher (Sooty Flycatcher)	<i>Muscicapa sibirica</i>	4 ssp, 2 in Region: <i>sibirica</i> E Kazakhstan (rare); <i>gulmergi</i> E Afghanistan. To N of Region, <i>sibirica</i> rare to locally common southern taiga to Sayan Mts Rogacheva 1992, rare BM NE-most Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b, <i>gulmergi</i> E Afghanistan Paludan 1959, Dickinson 2003, NE R&A 2005. NB1 Although Zarudny 1911 did record <i>M. sibirica</i> as breeding in Iran, the taxon involved is actually <i>M. striata sarudny</i> (named by Snigirevsky 1928). NB2 Populations bear divergent cytochrome c oxidase 1 (CO1) lineages, potentially including cryptic taxa Kerr <i>et al</i> 2009.
PT	Asian Brown Flycatcher PT	<i>Muscicapa dauurica</i> (<i>Muscicapa latirostris</i> , previously <i>M dauurica</i>)	IOC3.3 supports splits iaw HBW12 into oriental extralimital Brown-streaked Flycatcher <i>M. williamsoni</i> , but H&M4 does not. Species name change via priority, argued for arcane but scholarly reasons, Milkovsky 2012. However, Dickinson <i>et al</i> 2014, argue for arcane but scholarly reasons that <i>dauurica</i> should prevail: Laurent Raty <i>in litt</i> at length politely disagrees & Thomas Donegan <i>in litt</i> equally politely agrees! Unsurprisingly, H&M4 also agrees, as did IOC5.1.
941	Asian Brown Flycatcher	<i>Muscicapa dauurica</i>	3 ssp (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 ; 1st for UAE imaged at Jebel Dhanna, Abu Dhabi Jan 2023, present until Mar 2023 EBRC . 1st for Iran at Tiss, found by Mahmoud Hoseyni Jan 2025 Birding Iran in litt , IBRC . RNBWS report on board ship Kuria Muria Is 1960s.
942	Blue-and-white Flycatcher	<i>Cyanoptila cyanomelana</i> (formerly <i>Muscicapa cyanomelana</i>)	2 ssp, both extralimital to Region: <i>intermedia</i> vagrant from SE Russia, nominate more remote. 2-record vagrant Oman 1982 & 2010 OBL7 , UAE Pedersen & Aspinall 2010: Porter <i>et al</i> 1996. Vagrant Oman, UAE Porter <i>et al</i> 2024.
943	Verditer Flycatcher	<i>Eumyias thalassinus</i> (formerly <i>Muscicapa thalassina</i>)	2 ssp, likely nominate from Kashmir single-record vagrant SE Iran, Roth <i>et al</i> 2005, Scott & Adhami 2006, Khaleghzadeh <i>et al</i> 2017, likely W Afghanistan local in summer, Grimmett <i>et al</i> 1998. Current IUCN map (Aug 2024) shows westernmost distribution reaching Islamabad area, Pakistan, c 190km from Afghan border. Other ssp <i>halassoides</i> remote in S SW Asia & Sundas.
944	European Robin	<i>Erithacus rubecula</i>	9 ssp, 4 in Region: nominate W Asia Minor, common PM, scarce WV W Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b, winters Egypt; <i>hyrcanus</i> SE Azerbaijan, N Iran, winters Middle East; <i>tataricus</i> scarce PM, WV Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b; <i>caucasicus</i> E, S Türkiye, Caucasus, winters Middle East. Ayé <i>et al</i> 2012 suggest all 4 ssp as PM or WV, resident N half, S Türkiye, Caucasus, N Iran, fairly widespread winterer Iraq Salim <i>et al</i> 2012, 1st bred Lebanon Apr 2020 Ramadan-Jaradi <i>et al</i> 2022. 1st for Afghanistan Raffael Ayé <i>in litt</i> , 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 <i>et al</i> 2010 (support in & Zuccon & Ericson 2010b) place extralimital Japanese & Ryukyu Robins (<i>akahige</i> & <i>komadori</i>) in genus <i>Larvivora</i> : IOC11.2 draft proposes split of Izu Robin (<i>tanensis</i>) from Japanese Robin. NB2 Sangster <i>et al</i> 2022 propose splits of extralimital Gran Canaria Robin <i>E. marionae</i> & Tenerife Robin <i>E. superbus</i> by plumage, morphometrics, bioacoustics & supporting molecular analysis, noting the two differ from each other by song, calls and a high level of genetic divergence. NB3 Populations bear divergent cytochrome c oxidase 1 (CO1) lineages, potentially including cryptic taxa Kerr <i>et al</i> 2009.
945	White-throated Robin (formerly White-throated Irania, Persian Robin)	<i>Irania gutturalis</i>	Monotypic. Summer breeder, S Türkiye, Levant E to Iran (N Iraq Salim <i>et al</i> 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 <i>et al</i> 2014, rare to uncommon PM Oman OBL7 ; NW, C, & NE Afghanistan, R&A 2005. One at Kibbutz Yahel, Israel Aug 2022 Yoav Perlman <i>in litt</i> . Egypt Avib, BE
PT	Bluethroat PT	<i>Luscinia svecica</i>	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' ssp, '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 ssp. NB Cryptic taxa may exist.
946	Red-spotted Bluethroat {Bluethroat}	<i>Luscinia (svecica) svecica</i>	English name not ideal due to extent of local individual variation. 8 ssp 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; <i>volgae</i> PM C Asia, Middle East; <i>pallidogularis</i> much of N&E Kazakhstan, C Asia wintering India; <i>abbotti</i> E Afghanistan, <i>saturator</i> PM in E of Region. Breeds CA; ssp <i>saturator</i> & <i>pallidogularis</i> Kazakhstan Ayé <i>et al</i> 2012, Iran (<i>pallidogularis</i> breeding suggested only for N Khorasan Zarudny 1911; possibly, Scott & Adhami 2006), Afghanistan (<i>abbotti</i> Paludan 1959 Roberts 1992; passage <i>svecica</i> , <i>pallidogularis</i> , <i>saturator</i> & <i>kobdensis</i>), likely this taxon passage E Iraq Salim <i>et al</i> 2012, common PM & WV Oman OBL7 , WV & PM Socotra Porter & Sulerman 2020, 2022, but ssp ID unknown; sp recorded Wakhan Sep 2006 Ayé 2007b; <i>svecica</i> , <i>pallidogularis</i> passage, S Türkiye Roselaar 1995, winters to S and Africa, HBW10: 4 <i>svecica</i> (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 <i>et al</i> 2015. Egypt Avib, BE. NB <i>pallidogularis</i> , <i>tianshanica</i> genetically close to <i>svecica</i> Johnsen <i>et al</i> 2006, hence <i>svecica</i> only ssp in Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b. Other <i>L. (s.) svecica</i> taxa in this group uncertain at present, but provisionally all ssp save <i>cyaneceula</i> , <i>namnetum</i> and <i>magna</i> (Invalid name H&M4: now <i>luristanica</i>) in this group.
947	White-spotted Bluethroat {Bluethroat}	<i>Luscinia (svecica) cyaneceula</i>	English name not ideal due to extent of local individual variation. 3 ssp in this group. <i>L. (s.) cyaneceula cyaneceula</i> probably rare on migration through Egypt (BWP V), but <i>L. (s.) cyaneceula magna</i> (renamed <i>luristanica</i>) breeds, S Türkiye Roselaar 1995, <i>luristanica</i> (formerly <i>magna</i>) breeds E, S Türkiye, Caucasus, NW Iran wintering Arabia. Fairly common PM & WV (<i>cyaneceula</i> , <i>luristanica</i>) Oman OBL7 , extent of occurrence of other <i>L. (s.) cyaneceula</i> taxa in OSME Region to be established: provisionally, <i>cyaneceula</i> , <i>namnetum</i> (extralimital) and <i>magna</i> (replaced by <i>luristanica</i> H&M4) usually lacks any spot) in this group; likely <i>magna</i> (<i>luristanica</i>) passage Iraq Moore & Boswell 1956 W&C Iraq Salim <i>et al</i> 2012. NB1 DBWP 2009 call taxon <i>magna</i> (<i>luristanica</i>) Turkish Bluethroat. NB2 <i>magna</i> (<i>luristanica</i>) given as Caucasian Bluethroat in OBL7 .
948	Thrush Nightingale (Sprosser)	<i>Luscinia luscinia</i>	Monotypic. Vokurková <i>et al</i> 2013 demonstrate that in areas of sympatry, <i>L. luscinia</i> and <i>L. megarhynchos</i> 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 <i>et al</i> 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 <i>et al</i> 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	<i>Luscinia megarhynchos</i>	Parent Taxon case not yet complete; IOC6.1 still not split. Svensson <i>et al</i> 2009 mention ID differences of <i>golzii</i> , but do not split. NB Populations bear divergent cytochrome c oxidase 1 (CO1) lineages, potentially including cryptic taxa Kerr <i>et al</i> 2009.
Khoury 2018 records decline of Common Nightingale in Jordan valley, Jordan due to habitat destruction and increased tourism.			
949	Common Nightingale	<i>Luscinia (megarhynchos) megarhynchos</i>	Sole member this group is <i>megarhynchos</i> : in W&C, S Türkiye. All 3 taxa winter Africa. Vokurková <i>et al</i> 2013 demonstrate that in areas of sympatry, <i>L. luscinia</i> and <i>L. megarhynchos</i> incorporate each others' songs by learning and not genetically, thus validating the hypothesis advanced in Blair 2008. Breeds, S Türkiye-Iran including Syria Murdoch & Betton 2008, migrates through E Mediterranean HBW 10; biometrics of Cyprus passage birds correspond to eastern <i>megarhynchos</i> Walton 2011, breeders Iraq Salim <i>et al</i> 2012 seemingly mostly not <i>golzii</i> . Has declined at southern breeding limit in Jordan Valley Khoury 2018. Fairly common PM S Oman OBL7 (see also next taxon), vagrant (likely this taxon) Socotra Porter & Suleiman 2020, 2022. Egypt Avib, BE. NB1 Dickinson 2003 assigned eastern breeding populations to <i>L. megarhynchos baerhmanni</i> (now subsumed in <i>megarhynchos</i> H&M4), but Croatian population of nominate also migrate through E Mediterranean (eg perhaps in general passage Egypt István Moldován <i>in litt</i>). NB2 <i>megarhynchos</i> & <i>africana</i> breed, S Türkiye, most <i>megarhynchos</i> are PM Roselaar 1995.

950	Eastern Nightingale {Common Nightingale}	<i>Luscinia (megarhynchos) golzii</i> (grouped with <i>L.(m.) africana</i>)	Note <i>golzii</i> has priority over <i>hafizi</i> Dickinson 2008, Knox <i>et al</i> 2008. Both group members occur in Region: <i>africana</i> Caucasus & E , S Türkiye- SW&N Iran; <i>golzii</i> E Iran- Kazakhstan; <i>africana</i> Turkmenistan Bukreev 1997 NW Afghanistan Ayé <i>et al</i> 2012; <i>hafizi</i> Turkmenistan Bukreev 1997, <i>hafizi</i> Armenia (Ananian 2006), <i>golzii</i> common BM much of Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b, as far E as 57°26'E Kovshar <i>et al</i> 2007 , S Türkiye Roselaar 1995; breeds C & S CA (away from deserts Flint <i>et al</i> 1984); <i>golzii</i> mapped all CA countries Ayé <i>et al</i> 2012, Caucasus, Iraq Moore & Boswell 1941-46 & Caspian Iran (<i>africana</i> although Zarudny 1911 notes <i>hafizi</i> widespread breeding & passage), possibly this taxon N Iraq Moore & Boswell 1956, Afghanistan (<i>hafizi</i>), 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.
PT	White-tailed Rubythroat PT	<i>Calliope pectoralis (sensu lato: formerly Luscinia pectoralis)</i>	Liu <i>et al</i> 2016 demonstrate through integrative taxonomy that White-tailed Rubythroat <i>C. pectoralis sensu lato</i> merits separation into two species, polytypic Himalayan Rubythroat <i>C. pectoralis sensu stricto</i> (ssp <i>pectoralis & bailloni</i>) & extralimital polytypic Chinese Rubythroat <i>C. tschebaiewi</i> (ssp <i>tschebaiewi & confusa</i>): Collar 2017 accepts; the latter is listed in ORL Hypoethical List.
951	Himalayan Rubythroat	<i>Calliope pectoralis (sensu stricto: formerly Luscinia pectoralis)</i>	2 ssp, <i>pectoralis & bailloni</i> , both in Region, the former in E Afghanistan E to C Nepal, the latter in Pamirs, Tien Shan & NE Afghanistan. Sangster <i>et al</i> 2010 find this sp (<i>sensu lato</i>), the next and the extralimital Firethroat (<i>C. pectardens</i>) as a separate Clade (possibly including extralimital <i>C. obscura</i> - Blackthroat), and erect genus <i>Calliope</i> (Gould 1836); higher-level support in Zuccon & Ericson 2010b; <i>bailloni</i> common BM SE Kazakhstan Tien Shan to Zhungarskiy Alatau Wassink 2015b, Kyrgyzstan (widespread, Ven 2002), Tajikistan, Uzbekistan, Afghanistan <i>bailloni</i> Paludan 1959, but this may include <i>pectoralis</i> 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.
952	Siberian Rubythroat	<i>Calliope calliope (Luscinia calliope)</i>	Monotypic. Sangster <i>et al</i> 2010 find this sp, the previous and extralimital Firethroat (<i>C. pectardens</i>) as a separate Clade (possibly including extralimital <i>C. obscura</i> - Blackthroat), and erect genus <i>Calliope</i> (Gould 1836); higher-level support in Zuccon & Ericson 2010b. Sangster <i>et al</i> 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
953	Little Forktail	<i>Enicurus scouleri</i>	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 <i>et al</i> 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, but also edging into Uzbekistan N of Tashkent & just into Kyrgystan NE of Tashkent. Confirmed breeding in the Ala-Buka Region Kyrgyzstan Oct 2023 Elena Kreuzberg pers comm.
954	Spotted Forktail	<i>Enicurus maculatus</i>	4 ssp, 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 <i>et al</i> 2012, though R&A 2012 map it there: BLDZ map May 2017 from Nuristan S to Nangarhar & W to Kapisa.
955	Blue Whistling Thrush	<i>Myiophonus caeruleus</i>	6 ssp, only <i>temmincki</i> in region, Afghanistan, C Asia to Tien Shan; remainder remote to E. Moved from Turdidae to Muscicapidae Outlaw <i>et al</i> 2010, Sangster <i>et al</i> 2010, sequenced after <i>Enicurus</i> Sangster <i>et al</i> 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 <i>et al</i> 2012; vagrant WV N Khorasan Iran Zarudny 1911 (sole record from 1900 Khaleghizadeh <i>et al</i> 2017). Occurs Turkmenistan (K-M&K 2005). NB this genus mis-spelt historically as <i>Myiophonus</i> .
956	Indian Blue Robin (formerly Indian Bluechat)	<i>Larivora brunnea (Luscinia brunnea)</i>	2 ssp, nominate in Region, NE Afghanistan, <i>wickhami</i> remote in Myanmar. Sangster <i>et al</i> 2010 find this and the next two species (and including Japanese Robin <i>Erithacus akahige</i> and Ryukyu Robin <i>E. komadori</i>) meriting their own genus and erect <i>Larivora</i> (Hodgson 1837); higher-level support in Zuccon & Ericson 2010b; Sangster <i>et al</i> 2011, IOC 4.4, H&M4 agree. NE Afghanistan (Thal Roberts 1992, Nurestan H&E 1970 ssp <i>brunnea</i> Paludan 1959), HBW10, R&A 2005. 'Local summer visitor, locally common in Himalayas' in Pakistan, Grimmett <i>et al</i> 1998. Grimmett <i>et al</i> 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 border.
957	Siberian Blue Robin	<i>Larivora cyane (Luscinia cyane)</i>	3 ssp, nominate very rare BM E-most Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b; other 2 ssp much more remote to E. See Notes for <i>brunnea</i> . Sangster <i>et al</i> 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 <i>et al</i> 2012, vagrant most of OSME Region, winters SE Asia, HBW10.
958	Rufous-tailed Robin (Swinhoe's Red-tailed Robin)	<i>Larivora sibilans (Luscinia sibilans)</i>	Monotypic. See Notes for <i>brunnea</i> . Sangster <i>et al</i> 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 <i>Erithacus</i> by some, others support genus change Parkin & Knox 2010, Clement & Rose 2015..
959	Ultramarine Flycatcher	<i>Ficedula supercilialis</i>	2 ssp; nominate breeds E Afghanistan (to China), Dickinson 2003, IOC, R&A 2005; Grimmett <i>et al</i> 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. IUCN map Aug 2024 indicates westernmost distribution is a long, 500km-long, 100km-wide swathe of easternmost Afghanistan from Kamdesh in the north to Wor Mamay in the south. Vagrant, 1st record NE Iran 25 Apr 09 Cheraghi & Tohdifar 2010, Khaleghizadeh <i>et al</i> 2017, 2nd record Feb 2022 in Sirik, SE Iran, by M Ghasemi, MA Aghebrahimi & M Hashemi <i>Birding Iran</i> FB website IBRC . Other ssp <i>aestiama</i> remote in China.
960	Slaty-blue Flycatcher	<i>Ficedula tricolor</i>	4 ssp, nominate westernmost; extreme W of wintering area assumed to NE of Afghanistan. Maps in R&A 2005, 2012 indicated possibility, some support Grimmett <i>et al</i> 1998, none in Roberts 1992. Bates & Lowther 1952 noted breeds Kashmir forests up to 3300m (3500m Grimmett <i>et al</i> 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'at Gunbad.
961	Rusty-tailed Flycatcher	<i>Ficedula ruficauda</i> (formerly treated as <i>Muscicapa ruficauda</i>) Hooper <i>et al</i> 2016.	Monotypic. Tajikistan, Uzbekistan, Afghanistan (E Paludan 1959) Dickinson 2003 (NE R&A 2005); Ayé <i>et al</i> 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 <i>Ripleyia</i> Voellker <i>et al</i> 2016, but Laurent Raty (<i>in litt</i>) analysing phylogenetic trees in Price <i>et al</i> 2014, suggested transfer to <i>Ficedula</i> was justified, borne out by Hooper <i>et al</i> 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	<i>Ficedula parva (sensu lato)</i>	Scott & Adhami 2006 (Iran) cite both English names, but make no comment as to taxa. Re Parent Taxon , split in IOC1.7, Svensson <i>et al</i> 2005, Brazil 2009, Svensson <i>et al</i> 2009, H&M4. Noting the little variation in <i>F. albicilla</i> mtDNA across its distribution, it does share a long breeding distribution border (BLDZ Mar 2020) along the N-S axis of the Urals with <i>F.(p.) parva</i> , which species shows great mtDNA variation: we interpret this as an effective geographical barrier, making any intergradation zone tiny.
962	Red-breasted Flycatcher	<i>Ficedula parva (sensu stricto)</i>	Monotypic. Breeds Caucasus, N Iran (suggestion of NW Kazakhstan Dickinson 2003 countered: common PM only Wassink 2015b). Scattered along Turkish Black Sea coast Kirwan <i>et al</i> 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 <i>et al</i> 2012, fairly common PM & WV Oman OBL7 ; winters India, SE Asia. Egypt Avib, BE. NB Considerable variation in mtDNA across populations, unlike sister taxon <i>F.(p.) albicilla</i> Hung & Zink 2014.

963	Taiga Flycatcher (Red-throated Flycatcher)	<i>Ficedula albicilla</i>	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 , one (likely PM) at Chong Kenin, Kyrgyzstan May 2023 imaged by Neil & Lucy Rogers SG45:2 276. 1st for Iran Feb 2025 in Tis, Sistan & Baluchestan, <i>Birding Iran in litt</i> . 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 <i>F.(p.) parva</i> Hung & Wink 2014. NB2 As <i>Siphia hyperthyra</i> (Cabanis; also Hartert?) in Kashmir, known to breed mountain forests near Chitral, near Afghan border Bates & Lowther 1952.
964	Semi-collared Flycatcher {Semicollared Flycatcher}	<i>Ficedula semitorquata</i>	Monotypic. Breeds Caucasus, NW Iran, largely local, S Türkiye, passage Iraq Salim <i>et al</i> 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 <i>et al</i> 2012, winters E Africa, BWP VII. Rare PM Oman OBL7 . Egypt Avib, BE. NB1 Older Russian records under <i>albicollis</i> . NB2 some males & many females unidentifiable in the hand, due to morphological cline between this and the next taxon, which aspect unmentioned in Svensson <i>et al</i> 2009.
PT	Eurasian Pied Flycatcher PT	<i>Ficedula hypoleuca (sensu lato)</i>	IOC v2.3, Svensson <i>et al</i> 2009, Wink 2011 split extralimital <i>speculigerus</i> as Atlas Flycatcher <i>F. speculigera</i> . NB1 Collar 2013 counsels caution on conflicting morphological/reproductive isolation and molecular data as to assigning rank. NB2 The 4 European <i>Ficedula</i> 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.
965	European Pied Flycatcher (Eurasian Pied Flycatcher)	<i>Ficedula hypoleuca (sensu stricto)</i>	3 ssp, 2 in Region: nominate PM, <i>tomensis</i> (supplanting <i>sibirica</i>) rare breeder N Kazakhstan. Taxon <i>sibirica</i> breeds N Kazakhstan BWP VII, very rare BM, scarce PM N Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b, 1st winter record Nov 2014 Wassink 2015a: Ayé <i>et al</i> 2012 suggest breeds just in northernmost tip of Kazakhstan; winters W Africa, PM, S Türkiye, Levant to Iran (Uncommon PM N&W Iran Scott & Adhami 2006 Khaleghizadeh <i>et al</i> 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 <i>et al</i> 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 <i>et al</i> 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 & Alatalo 1992, Briedis <i>et al</i> 2020.
966	Collared Flycatcher	<i>Ficedula albicollis</i>	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 <i>et al</i> 2016. 1st record Kuwait Apr 2013 KORC , 2nd May 2018 Jahra KORC . 2nd record Armenia Mar 2016 DB38:4 253. Egypt Avib, BE. Old reports Iran now attributed to <i>F. semitorquata</i> , formerly thought ssp of <i>F. albicollis</i> , Scott & Adhami 2006, similarly Iraq Salim <i>et al</i> 2012.
PT	Red-flanked Bluetail PT	<i>Tarsiger cyanurus (sensu lato)</i>	IOC1.7 accepts split (R&A 2005, Knox <i>et al</i> 2008) of <i>T.(c.) rufilatus</i> and changes English name to Himalayan Bluetail: Inskipp & Collar 2015 concur, Luo <i>et al</i> 2014 offer molecular case. We treat as allopecies. NB Additional PT aspect – further to the suggestion to subsume <i>Tarsiger</i> in <i>Luscinia</i> . Sangster <i>et al</i> 2010 robustly argue for retention of <i>Tarsiger</i> ; higher-level support in Zuccon & Ericson 2010b. See also Shimba 2007, Clements 2007, H&M3 corrigenda & Brazil 2009. Wei <i>et al</i> 2022 propose split of extralimital Qilian Blu Robin <i>T. albocoeruleus</i> : IOC14.2 accepts split . NB Shirihai & Svensson 2018 offer support for separation of Himalayan Bluetail <i>T. [c.] rufilatus</i> .
967	Red-flanked Bluetail (Orange-flanked Bluetail, Northern Red-flanked Bluetail, Orange-flanked Bush-robin)	<i>Tarsiger cyanurus (sensu stricto: formerly Luscinia cyanura)</i>	Monotypic. Breeds to NE & NW of Region (locally common to N Rogacheva 1992), once thought of only as migrant or vagrant in Region (HBW10) <i>contra</i> Wassink 2015b assessment as common BM, occasional PM, accidental WV W&S Altai, also Ayé <i>et al</i> 2012. Vagrant UAE Aspinall & Porter 2011, Israel DB34:1 59. Old (1958) record from Lebanon, of <i>T. cyanurus sensu lato</i> - Blach 1959, notified by Ari Rajasärkkä <i>in litt</i> April 2015; 2nd for, S Türkiye 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 . 1st for Georgia Oct 2022 at Sataplia Reserve, Tskaltubo, Imereti Budagashvili & Javakhishvili 2024. 3rd for Cyprus Akhna Dam N of Larnaca imaged by Stavros Christodoulides Nov-Dec 2021 (CBR2021) CRBC , 4th at Livadi tou Passia Troodos Nov 2023 Phil Andrews <i>in litt</i> , BLI Cyprus, DB45:6 413. 1st for Iran Jan 2025 at Astaneh Ashrafieh, Gilan Province <i>Birding Iran in litt</i>, IBRC .
968	Himalayan Bluetail (Himalayan Red-flanked Bluetail, Red-flanked Bluetail, Himalayan Red-flanked Bush-robin)	<i>Tarsiger rufilatus</i> (formerly <i>T. cyanurus rufilatus</i>)	2 ssp, nominate extralimital, <i>palliodor</i> 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.
Voelcker <i>et al</i> 2015 find <i>Phoenicurus</i> monophyletic, but noted deep mtDNA divergences between eastern & western Common Redstart <i>P. phoenicurus</i> populations, and similar divergences within Black Redstart <i>P. ochruros</i> & Daurian Redstart <i>P. auroreus</i> across breeding ranges, warranting further phylogeographic analyses of haplotype distributions.			
969	Eversmann's Redstart (Rufous-backed Redstart)	<i>Phoenicurus erythronotus</i> (<i>Phoenicuroopsis erythronotus</i> 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 <i>et al</i> 2012 confine residency to Kyrgyzstan & SE Kazakhstan, SB E Kazakhstan and wintering SE & S directions; vagrant Iraq Salim <i>et al</i> 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 <i>et al</i> 2017 & much of Afghanistan Paludan 1959 R&A 2005, rare WV Oman OBL7 , vagrant Israel Perlman & Meyrav 2009, Bahrain Nov 2010 SG33:1 , 6th Qatar record, male near al Ghuwayriyah Nov-Dec 2022, 7th, female at Irkayya Farm Dec 2022 QBRC . NB Ertan 2006 notes mtDNA cyt-bb ancient divergence from <i>P. caeruleocephala</i> (<i>qv</i>)
970	Blue-capped Redstart (formerly Blue-headed Redstart)	<i>Phoenicurus caeruleocephala</i> (<i>P. caeruleocephalus/coeruleocephala</i>) (<i>Phoenicuroopsis caeruleocephala</i> 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 <i>P. erythronotus</i>
PT	Black Redstart PT	<i>Phoenicurus ochruros</i>	Re Parent 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- <i>phoenicuroides</i> & - <i>rufiventris</i> 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; <i>Dutch Birding's</i> suggestion of limiting 'Western' to <i>gibraltariensis</i> 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 complicated pattern of variation which does not correspond to morphology, geography or ssp limits: Sangster 2021 acknowledges differences in other types of data, such as songs (<i>vide</i> Martinez & Spek 2022, NB4 below) and nuclear DNA marker may exist, noting that how morphologically distinct taxa interact where they come into contact is not fully understood (<i>eg</i> , <i>gibraltariensis</i> & <i>ochruros</i> in the Caucasus & , S Türkiye, <i>ochruros</i> & <i>semitrurus</i> in the Levant & , S Türkiye, & <i>ochruros</i> & <i>phoenicuroides</i> in NE Iran and W Turkmenistan). <i>Pro tem</i> , 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 <i>et al</i> 2009. NB2 Any Black Redstart female identified as such outside its easternmost distribution may be suspect, because female Daurian Redstarts <i>P. aureus</i> 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 ' <i>ochruros</i> ' would be invalid. Sangster 2021 notes the complexities associated with that issue. NB4 Martinez & Spek 2022 in a wide-ranging sonogram analysis, identified 3 main patterns and types of calls. Geographically, these aligned neither with current sspp groupings nor with the genetic data of Sangster 2021. They also advocate that the name <i>murinus</i> is a junior synonym of <i>phoenicuroides</i> , noting that a new name is required.
971	Western Black Redstart {Black Redstart}	<i>Phoenicurus (ochruros) ochruros</i>	English name informal@OSME. Group contains <i>ochruros</i> , <i>gibraltariensis</i> , <i>aterrimus</i> & <i>semirufus</i> . Breeds SW CA (Flint <i>et al</i> 1984), Levant, S Türkiye N Iraq Ararat <i>et al</i> 2011 (Salim <i>et al</i> 2012 note this taxon breeds N Iraq), Iran where common SB in N Khaleghizadeh <i>et al</i> 2017), NW Afghanistan R&A 2005, (Not <i>ochruros</i> in W Kazakhstan because <i>gibraltariensis</i> cannot safely be excluded from ID: latter rare BM, very rare WV W&W-C Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b), 1st Kazakh breeding record <i>gibraltariensis</i> Karabalyk, Qostonay Province Wassink 2018; winters to S (& Syria R. Porter pers comm), HBW10. 4th UAE record Jebel Hafeet Dec 2020 EBRC . Egypt Avib, BE. NB1 DBWP 2011 link <i>semirufus</i> with <i>phoenicuroides</i> 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 <i>semirufus</i> is Levant Black Redstart, but adequate only, as we contend, if the <i>semirufus</i> breeding population is considered confined to the Levant, and wintering range in a shallow arc W of breeding range. NB3 H&M4 subsume <i>aterrimus</i> in <i>gibraltariensis</i> . (Alternatively, DBWP 2009 suggested name Western be limited to ssp <i>gibraltariensis</i> , remaining sspp being called Caucasian Black Redstart.)
972	Central Asian Black Redstart (Eastern Black Redstart, Turkestan Black Redstart) {Black Redstart}	<i>Phoenicurus (ochruros) phoenicuroides</i>	Group contains only <i>phoenicuroides</i> . Provisional separation aligns with Ertan <i>et al</i> 2006; <i>phoenicuroides</i> 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 <i>et al</i> 2017; 1st for Cyprus Nov 2011 CBR11 , 2nd at Mandria Oct 2021 SG44:1 237, common PM & WV Oman OBL7 , winterer Iraq Salim <i>et al</i> 2012, NW Iran (?) H&E 1970, winters UAE; UAE Checklist 2008; mention of migration Iraq Moore & Boswell 1941-46; 1st record Cyprus, Crane 2012; vagrant Socotra Porter & Suleiman 2020, 2022. NB some of the foregoing observers may not have separated <i>rufiventris</i> from <i>phoenicuroides</i> .
973	Eastern Black Redstart {Black Redstart}	<i>Phoenicurus (ochruros) rufiventris</i>	English name informal@OSME. Group contains only <i>rufiventris</i> . Provisional separation aligns with Ertan <i>et al</i> 2006; the <i>rufiventris</i> of Turkmenistan, Bukreev 1997 likely hindsight misattribution & may be vagrant WV only. Ayé <i>et al</i> 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 <i>phoenicuroides/rufiventris</i> 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 <i>et al</i> 2011, Salim <i>et al</i> 2012 strongly refuted by Fedorenko 2018, who attributes these populations to <i>phoenicuroides</i> .
974	'Sayan Black Redstart'	<i>Phoenicurus ochruros murinus</i> 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 <i>phoenicuroides</i> spans the China-W Mongolia border at 90°E. We list taxon <i>murinus</i> separately on its geographic isolation. Accepted as ssp <i>novo</i> by IOC11.1. English name informal@OSME. NB1 The clinal nature, extent and clinal slope of plumage variation in populations adjoining or near-adjacent to <i>murinus</i> have yet to be clarified Arend Wassink pers comm. NB2 Martinez & van der Spek 2022 note that the holotype of <i>phoenicuroides</i> may have come from the breeding area allotted to <i>murinus</i> ; the implication is that <i>phoenicurus</i> would then apply only to the <i>murinus</i> population, the name <i>murinus</i> then becoming a junior synonym. All other areas previously allotted to <i>phoenicurus</i> would require a new name.
PT	Common Redstart PT	<i>Phoenicurus phoenicurus</i>	It is worth quoting Shirihai & Svensson in full: "Considering the generally clear differences in ♂ plumage, the race <i>samamiscus</i> 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 morphological variation in the region closest to ssp <i>phoenicurus</i> ." 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 <i>et al</i> 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.
975	Common Redstart	<i>Phoenicurus p. phoenicurus</i>	2 sspp, both in Region: nominate common breeder PM in N, NE&SE Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b, 1st breeding record Kazakh Caspian Jul 2023, 1st wintering record Dec 2023 Atyrau Wassink 2024; <i>samamiscus</i> treated as distinct taxon below, Asia Minor-Turkmenistan, S Uzbekistan, Iran; winter in Africa SW Asia. Johnsen <i>et al</i> 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 <i>et al</i> 2012 who found large-scale interbreeding between individuals of the 2 haplotype groups, the two lineages coexisting without phenotypic divergence. <i>P.p. samamiscus</i> Turkmenistan, Bukreev 1997, <i>phoenicurus</i> breeds N Kazakhstan, passage [both taxa] Iraq Salim <i>et al</i> 2012, fairly common spring PM Oman, rare WV autumn PM (<i>phoenicurus</i>), 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 <i>et al</i> 2009. NB1 <i>samamiscus</i> long-known as Ehrenberg's Redstart, but extent of cline with <i>phoenicurus</i> now thought large, possibly unstable. NB2 Populations bear divergent cytochrome c oxidase 1 (CO1) lineages, potentially including cryptic taxa Kerr <i>et al</i> 2009.
976	Ehrenberg's Redstart	<i>Phoenicurus phoenicurus samamiscus</i>	Long-established informal English name adopted@OSME. Taxon <i>samamiscus</i> Asia Minor-Turkmenistan, S Uzbekistan, Iran (single-record <i>samamiscus</i> vagrant Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b, 2nd Apr 2016 DB38:4 253 since declared insufficiently documented to eliminate nominate Wassink 2016). <i>P.p. samamiscus</i> Turkmenistan, Bukreev 1997. Taxon <i>samamiscus</i> Hissar Alai & Kugitang mountains Uzbekistan (Elena Kreuzberg-Mukhina <i>in litt</i>), SW Tajikistan Ayé <i>et al</i> 2012, S Türkiye & Syria Murdoch & Betton 2008, N Iraq Ararat <i>et al</i> 2011 to Iran, Levant, migrant possible breeder Kyrgyzstan, Ven 2002, Afghanistan Vielliard 1969, Edward Dickinson pers comm, winters SW Arabia, HBW10; very rare <i>samamiscus</i> OBL7 ; likely this taxon vagrant Abd-al-Kuri, Socotran Archipelago 2022 Mark Beaman <i>in litt</i> to Porter & Suleiman 2022. NB1 <i>samamiscus</i> long-known as Ehrenberg's Redstart, but extent of cline with <i>phoenicurus</i> now thought large, possibly unstable. NB2 Populations bear divergent cytochrome c oxidase 1 (CO1) lineages, potentially including cryptic taxa Kerr <i>et al</i> 2009.
977	Daurian Redstart	<i>Phoenicurus aureus</i>	2 extralimital sspp to E; nominate vagrancy perhaps more likely than <i>leucopterus</i> . Misorientation (?) (Berthold 1999) migrant Uzbekistan K-M <i>et al</i> 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 <i>et al</i> 2009; Lee <i>et al</i> 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 <i>P. ochruros</i> ; any female Black Redstart found out of range is therefore suspect Lamont 2016.
978	Güldenstädt's Redstart (White-winged Redstart)	<i>Phoenicurus erythrogastrus</i>	2 sspp, both in Region: nominate Greater Caucasus, wintering Transcaucasia; <i>grandis</i> NE Afghanistan, C Asia E to Uzbekistan Tien Shan, then extralimital to Nepal. Rare in Sayan Mts to N of Region Rogacheva 1992. Caucasus, <i>grandis</i> scarce resident SE&E Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, E Uzbekistan, HBW10 Ayé <i>et al</i> 2012 breeds E-C & NE Afghanistan (Roberts 1992, H&E 1970, <i>grandis</i> 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 <i>et al</i> 2017.

979	Blue-fronted Redstart	<i>Phoenicurus frontalis</i> (<i>Phoenicuroopsis frontalis</i> H&M4)	Monotypic. NE Afghanistan H&M4, (presumably breeds Paludan 1959) Roberts 1992, IOC, HBW10, R&A 2005, (S Tajikistan?); from Grimmett <i>et al</i> 2009 map, may breed Afghan Darya-ye & Konar valleys, pinpointed Ayé <i>et al</i> 2012, R&A 2012 maps: mapped as SV from southernmost Tajikistan S through Badakhshan & including Darya-ye & Konar valleys also southern Wakhan BLDZ June 2023. Common in Gigit-Balistan Jun 2023 images by Imran Shah <i>in litt</i> .
980	Plumbeous Water Redstart (Plumbeous Redstart)	<i>Phoenicurus fuliginosus</i> (formerly <i>Rhyacornis fuliginosa</i> , to which H&M4 reverts)	2 spp, nominate NE Afghanistan then extralimital to montane continental Asia to E; <i>affinis</i> island isolate Taiwan. Sangster <i>et al</i> 2010, Zuccon & Ericsson 2010b find belongs in <i>Phoenicurus</i> as <i>P. fuliginosus</i> . 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 <i>et al</i> 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.
981	White-capped Redstart (White-capped River Chat)	<i>Phoenicurus leucocephalus</i> (formerly <i>Chaimarrornis leucocephalus</i> , to which H&M4 reverts)	Monotypic. Sangster <i>et al</i> 2010, R&A 2012 suggest belongs in <i>Phoenicurus</i> . Vast extralimital range through Himalayas to much of China. Tajikistan, Uzbekistan (K-M&K 2005), 1st unequivocal record Uzbekistan Oct 2013 Roman Kashkarov <i>in litt</i> ; 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 <i>et al</i> 2012, winters along Afghan-Pakistani border R&A 2012. BLDZ map May 2017 confirms foregoing, but as SB.
982	Common Rock Thrush (Rufous-tailed Rock Thrush)	<i>Monticola saxatilis</i>	Monotypic. Distant from other <i>Monticola</i> spp, earlier origin Zuccon & Ericson 2009. S Türkiye Levant, Caucasus, Iran, Iraq (local Salim <i>et al</i> 2012), S Turkmenistan, Afghanistan, HBW10, widespread Kyrgyzstan, Ven 2002, common BM E half Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b, SE CA Flint <i>et al</i> 1984. Fairly common PM Oman OBL7 , rare visitor Socotran Archipelago Porter & Suleiman 2020, 2022. Egypt Avib, BE. (English name reversion IOC2.9)
983	Little Rock Thrush	<i>Monticola rufocinereus</i>	Mostly African species: nominate on continent & <i>sclateri</i> in SW 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 c25 000bp thus possibly vulnerable Jennings 2010, up to 2500m Porter <i>et al</i> 2024.
PT	Blue Rock Thrush PT	<i>Monticola solitarius</i>	PT Zuccon & Ericson 2010a recommend split of eastern <i>philippensis</i> , to include <i>pandoo</i> & extralimital <i>madoci</i> from western <i>solitarius</i> & <i>longirostris</i> (latter perhaps questionable status, Kirwan <i>et al</i> 2008). H&M4 note likely split, but type locality of <i>pandoo</i> is remote from Zuccon & Ericson's sample, thus not positively excluding clinal explanation.
984	Western Blue Rock Thrush	<i>Monticola (solitarius) solitarius</i>	English name informal@OSME. 2 spp, both in Region: nominate N, S Türkiye, Transcaucasia, wintering N Africa, Arabia; <i>longirostris</i> SWAsia/Mediterranean-C Asia E to NE Afghanistan, then extralimital to S & E, wintering tropical Africa. Summer breeder W&S, S Türkiye Kirwan <i>et al</i> 2008, Levant, localised Cyprus Richardson 2014, Caucasus, S & SE CA, W Afghanistan <i>longirostris</i> Paludan 1959, which resident Ayé <i>et al</i> 2012), Iraq, Iran, HBW10. Re <i>solitarius</i> & <i>longirostris</i> , cline in, S Türkiye, but <i>longirostris</i> usually taxon attributed to Cyprus & NE Africa, E to much of CA including W Afghanistan (IOC4.4); fairly common PM & WV Oman (<i>longirostris</i>) OBL7 ; vagrant Socotra Kirwan 1998a, now rare WV Porter & Suleiman 2020, 2022. Egypt Avib, BE. NB Clearer resolution of Zuccon & Ericson 2010a may require studies on Afghanistan-Pakistan border, which may take some time Inskipp <i>et al</i> 2011.
985	Eastern Blue Rock Thrush	<i>Monticola (solitarius) philippensis</i>	English name informal@OSME. 3 spp, only <i>pandoo</i> occurs in Region: <i>philippensis</i> & especially <i>madoci</i> remote to E; <i>pandoo</i> occurs Turkmenistan Bukreev 1997, rare BM SE Kazakhstan W&O 2007, Wassink 2015b, N&C Afghanistan Nurestan Paludan 1959, there resident Ayé <i>et al</i> 2012, E Afghanistan Zuccon & Ericson 2010a. NB H&M4 listed distributions for <i>longirostris</i> & <i>pandoo</i> appear to attribute the latter's easternmost distribution to the former.
986	Blue-capped Rock Thrush	<i>Monticola cinclorhyncha</i>	Monotypic. NE Afghanistan-IOC, Paludan 1959 H&E 1970 E & E Safed Koh, Roberts 1992, HBW10, R&A 2005. Grimmett <i>et al</i> 1998, 2009 maps support strongly; Ayé <i>et al</i> 2012, R&A 2012 agree. H&M4 assert <i>cinclorhyncha</i> as correct original spelling. Mapped as SV to much of S&W Tajikistan & all of NE Afghanistan BLDZ May 2017.
987	Whinchat	<i>Saxicola rubetra</i>	Monotypic. Breeds E, S Türkiye, Caucasus, rare BM, scarce PM N&E Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b, scarce breeder Iran Scott & Adhami 2006, passage only (?) Iraq Salim <i>et al</i> 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
988	White-browed Bush Chat (White-browed Bushchat) (Stoliczka's Bushchat)	<i>Saxicola macrorhynchus</i> Vulnerable	Monotypic. Resident Afghanistan, Madge 1980, IOC, Urquhart (2002), SE Afghanistan (isolated), R&A 2005, H&E 1970. Current status Afghanistan unknown Ayé <i>et al</i> 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 <i>Birding ASIA</i> 36: 114; almost certainly no longer regular Afghanistan.
989	White-throated Bush Chat (White-throated Bushchat, Hodgson's Bushchat)	<i>Saxicola insignis</i> 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 <i>et al</i> 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 c2900m 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 <i>et al</i> 2002.
PT	Eurasian/Common/ European Stonechat PT	<i>Saxicola torquatus</i> (formerly <i>torquata</i>) covering 23 spp, but see Working Notes at right. Our initial approach was generally supported by Sangster <i>et al</i> 2011, as modified by Svensson <i>et al</i> 2012, and now aligns with IOC6.3 (<i>S. rubicola</i> is European, <i>S. torquatus</i> African and <i>S. maurus</i> Siberian Stonechats).	Inclusive of <i>S.t maura</i> . (now <i>maurus</i>) <i>eg</i> see Kirwan & Bates 2008. Taxonomic revision, Wittmann <i>et al</i> 1995 Urquhart 2002, IOCv1.6) increasingly accepted (now finalised in Svensson <i>et al</i> 2012); presents superspecies <i>S. torquatus</i> of 4 species. The 2 European taxa are under <i>rubicola</i> , the new <i>torquatus</i> group (13 taxa) being distributed south of the Sahara to South Africa (<i>torquatus</i> type locality Cape of Good Hope), hence the name African Stonechat (only 1 ssp <i>felix</i> (<i>qv</i>) in OSME Region). Eastern taxa (6) now within <i>maurus</i> (<i>qv</i>). 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: <i>S. rubicola</i> as European Stonechat, <i>S. maurus</i> as Asian (Siberian being a misnomer), <i>S. torquatus</i> as African and <i>S. tectes</i> (extralimital to Region) as Réunion (monotypic). However, the superspecies' lineal descent may not yet be settled (<i>eg</i> Wittmann <i>et al</i> 1995 suggest <i>S. axillaris</i> for African Stonechat), outline evidence suggesting <i>maurus</i> as priority for superspecies name (Martin Collinson pers comm). Svensson <i>et al</i> 2012 revise and reduce <i>variegatus</i> distribution to south of Caucasus E to Iran, synonymising <i>armenicus</i> ; former ' <i>variegatus</i> ' distribution N of Caucasus convincingly separated into <i>hemprichii</i> . NB1 BLDZ Aug 2024 now seriously out of date & misaligned with all other World Lists , still lumping all taxa below save <i>caprata</i> into <i>torquatus</i> . NB2 Pro tem , Shirihai & Svensson 2018 is considered as the basis upon which developments in the authoritative taxonomy of European Stonechat <i>S. rubicola</i> , should be argued; Opaev <i>et al</i> 2018 make a good, if not exhaustive, case to revisit the taxon names of Svensson <i>et al</i> 2012. NB3 Loskot & Bakhtadze 2020 go further in rejecting the arrangement of Shirihai & Svensson 2018 and of Svensson <i>et al</i> 2012 thus: a. Museum specimens had been wrongly labelled. b. Early accounts of measurements had not been corrected when translating the Russian measurement system to the English system. c. A review of the contemporaneous literature of the collection of specimens (including unpublished mss & notes of Nesterov & of Gmelin) would allow a re-interpretation of specimen locations pertinent to the identity of taxa populations. <u>Until such time as Svensson responds, we refrain from (further) revision of Caucasus region taxa, although some revision is likely.</u>
990	European Stonechat (formerly Eurasian or Common Stonechat)	<i>Saxicola rubicola</i> (= <i>S.[torquatus] rubicola</i>) (formerly <i>Saxicola (torquatus) torquatus/hibernans</i>)	2 spp, only nominate in Region: S Türkiye, Caucasus, wintering N Africa, Middle East; <i>hibernans</i> extralimital westernmost Europe. This taxonomy, adopted by Urquhart (2002) via Sangster <i>et al</i> 1998 was only slowly accepted (Clements 2007 supports), but save resolution of easternmost taxa, BOU in support (Sangster <i>et al</i> 2011) - see also Wittman <i>et al</i> 1995 and Wink <i>et al</i> 2002, with whom IOC2.0 complied. In our Region, <i>rubicola</i> breeds Asia Minor, winters Middle East to Iran; PM Iraq Salim <i>et al</i> 2012, PM, WV Cyprus Peter Flint pers comm, rare PM & WV Oman OBL7 . However a pair were imaged at Aktau Mar 2023, the nearest known <i>rubicola</i> distribution being some across the Caspian 475km SSW in S Azerbaijan Wassink 2023. NB Parkin & Knox 2010 note that <i>rubicola</i> , <i>maurus</i> & <i>stjegegeri</i> are not each others' closest relatives. Svensson <i>et al</i> 2012 revise and reduce <i>variegatus</i> distribution to south of Caucasus E to Iran, synonymising <i>armenicus</i> ; former ' <i>variegatus</i> ' distribution N of Caucasus convincingly separated into <i>hemprichii</i> .

PT	Siberian Stonechat PT	<i>Saxicola [torquatus] maurus</i>	PT IOC v2.2 recognised separation of <i>maurus</i> via Illera <i>et al</i> 2008. The extralimital Stejneger's Stonechat <i>S. (m.) stejnegeri</i> accepted as split from <i>S. maurus</i> Zink <i>et al</i> 2009, IOC v2.4, as summarised in Parkin & Knox 2010. Sangster <i>et al</i> 2011 cautious, because if <i>przewalskii</i> is placed in <i>stejnegeri</i> , the former is the priority name! Svensson <i>et al</i> 2012 reduce <i>variegatus</i> distribution, subsume <i>armenicus</i> & name result <i>hemprichii</i> for N Caspian population, limiting <i>variegatus</i> to populations below the Caspian, on priority grounds. van Doren <i>et al</i> 2017, in work on relationships between Stonechat species groups, confirm that the <i>maurus</i> group is basal to the <i>torquatus</i> & <i>rubicola</i> groups, but did not include the <i>stejnegeri</i> group in the research. NB1 Populations bear divergent cytochrome c oxidase 1 (CO1) lineages, potentially including cryptic taxa Kerr <i>et al</i> 2009. NB2 see PT for <i>S. rubicola</i> above.
991	Siberian Stonechat (Western Siberian Stonechat) (Eurasian, Asian or Eastern Stonechat)	<i>Saxicola maurus</i> (= <i>Saxicola [torquatus] maurus</i>)	English name now aligns with IOC. 4 ssp post-splits, <i>hemprichii</i> & <i>variegatus</i> allotted separate entries below: <i>maurus</i> & <i>przewalskii</i> remained grouped <i>pro tem</i> , but see <i>S. stejnegeri</i> below: nominate from extralimital E Finland N&E Siberia to C Asia E to Tien Shan, extralimital to S & E; <i>przewalskii</i> extralimital C Tibet E to China.N Afghanistan. Taxa in Region formerly were grouped as <i>maurus</i> , <i>armenicus</i> , <i>variegatus</i> (Arabia Jennings 2010) + extralimital <i>indicus</i> , but Svensson <i>et al</i> 2012 convincingly revised to <i>maurus</i> , <i>variegatus</i> (S of Caucasus only & E to Iran, synonymising <i>armenicus</i>) & <i>hemprichii</i> (N of Caucasus to Caspian) not including <i>indicus</i> (see 'Indian Stonechat' below); <i>maurus</i> winterer in S of Region Urquhart 2002. Breeds CA (SW-SE Turkmenistan Bukreev 2005) & from easternmost Kazakhstan SW to Afghanistan Ayé <i>et al</i> 2012; E Afghanistan (Summer breeder, passage & winterer Paludan 1959; likely breeds Bamiyan Busuttil & Ayé 2009), S Tajikistan R&A 2005; <i>maurus</i> 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 <i>maurus</i> common breeder N of Region Rogacheva 1992. Fairly common PM & WV Oman OBL7 vagrant Socotra Porter & Suleiman 2020, 2022; common SB NE Iran Khaleghizadeh <i>et al</i> 2017, uncommon WV Dhahran, Saudi Arabia Babbington 2018, rare Israel Perlman & Meyrav 2009, scarce PM, WV Palestine Awad <i>et al</i> 2022. Very rare (?) spring PM Cyprus CBR11 10th record Mar 2014 CR C. 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 <i>rubicola</i> , <i>maurus</i> & <i>stejnegeri</i> are not each others' closest relatives. NB4 Opaev <i>et al</i> 2018 reveal that <i>S. stejnegeri</i> is a cryptic species in that it cannot be distinguished by morphometrics or when in worn spring plumage from <i>S. maurus</i> , but differs noticeably in male song
992	Caspian Stonechat {Siberian Stonechat} (Eurasian Stonechat)	<i>Saxicola maurus hemprichi</i> (= <i>Saxicola [torquatus] maurus hemprichii</i>) (formerly <i>S. [t.] maurus variegatus</i>)	Following <i>Dutch Birding</i> , English name is informal@OSME. Urquhart 2002 mapped <i>variegatus</i> Azerbaijan & Russian W Caspian N just into Kazakhstan at easternmost Volga Delta; Svensson <i>et al</i> 2012 revise and reduce <i>variegatus</i> distribution to south of Caucasus E to Iran (see below), synonymising <i>armenicus</i> ; former ' <i>variegatus</i> ' distribution N&E Caucasus N to lower River Ural & westernmost Kazakhstan (Arend Wassink in litt Dec 2014 <i>hemprichii</i> niche BM W Kazakhstan) convincingly separated into <i>hemprichii</i> . Winters Africa, likely UAE; UAE Checklist 2008. Vagrant Cyprus Oct 2010 SG33:1 , rare spring PM Cyprus CBR11 , 1st record, S Türkiye Mar 2010 Kirwan <i>et al</i> 2014, PM & WV W Iran Khaleghizadeh <i>et al</i> 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 ' <i>Pratincola hemprichii</i> ' ("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 <i>et al</i> 2012) OBL7 , scarce WV Dhahran, Saudi Arabia Babbington 2018. English name informal@OSME. NB1 Because <i>variegatus sensu stricto</i> & <i>hemprichii</i> are so different, we assign a row to each, applying the name 'Caspian' only to <i>hemprichii</i> , as does DBWP . NB2 Opaev <i>et al</i> 2018 argue for retention of <i>variegatus</i> on priority grounds and on their interpretation of the intention of the Original Description (Stegmann 1935)
993	Byzantine Stonechat {Siberian Stonechat} (Eurasian Stonechat)	<i>Saxicola maurus variegatus</i> (= <i>Saxicola [torquatus] maurus variegatus</i>) (formerly <i>S. [t.] maurus armenicus</i>)	English name informal@OSME, for reasons below & its distribution lies with the former Byzantine Empire. Urquhart 2002 mapped <i>armenicus</i> Caucasus, E, S Türkiye-Caucasus Roselaar 1995; E Iraq W & NE Iran & southern Caspian. Svensson <i>et al</i> 2012 revise and reduce <i>variegatus</i> distribution to south of Caucasus E to Iran, synonymising <i>armenicus</i> ; former ' <i>variegatus</i> ' distribution N of Caucasus convincingly separated into <i>hemprichii</i> (see above). Common SB N&NW Iran & S Caspian Region, many wintering S&SE Iran Khaleghizadeh <i>et al</i> 2017, SB N Iraq Ararat <i>et al</i> 2011. 1st UAE record Sil'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 <i>et al</i> 2012), we assign a row to each. NB1 The mapped distribution in Urquhart 2002 of <i>armenicus</i> (now the reduced-distribution <i>variegatus</i>) suggests worthwhile English name would be 'Byzantine' Stonechat, informal@OSME, but DBWP retain 'Armenian' Stonechat despite mapped distribution change. NB2 Opaev <i>et al</i> 2018 argue for retention of <i>armenicus</i> on priority grounds and interpretation of the intention of the Original Description (Stegmann 1935)
994	Indian Stonechat	<i>Saxicola (maurus) indicus</i> (= <i>Saxicola [torquatus] maurus indicus</i>)	English name informal@OSME. Monotypic post-splits; <i>indicus</i> merits separate treatment Illera <i>et al</i> 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 <i>S.m. variegatus sensu stricto</i> , '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 <i>indicus</i> more likely in S Nurestan R&A 2012; mapped thus for 1000+km Urquhart 2002, Bot <i>et al</i> 2012. Opaev <i>et al</i> 2018 call for a suite of DNA techniques to be applied to Eurasian taxa (less <i>felix</i>) to establish <i>inter alia</i> the taxonomic status of <i>indicus</i> & <i>przewalskii</i> .
995	Amur Stonechat (Stejneger's Stonechat, Eastern Siberian Stonechat, Siberian Stonechat, Japanese Stonechat: Opaev <i>et al</i> 2018)	<i>Saxicola stejnegeri</i> (= <i>Saxicola [torquatus] stejnegeri</i>)	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 <i>et al</i> 1999, do not exclude other eastern ssp Dominic Mitchell in litt Nov 2014. Zink <i>et al</i> 2009 show that although <i>maurus</i> & <i>stejnegeri</i> appear to be very similar, they differ strongly in their mtDNA patterns (as strongly as <i>rubicola</i> & <i>torquatus</i> 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 <i>et al</i> 2009 called <i>variegatus</i> , 2 were genetically indistinguishable from <i>stejnegeri</i> (Gen Bank data per Martin Collinson), and so until more data are available, <i>stejnegeri</i> 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 confirmed record at A'Sila'a Abu Dhabi Nov-Dec 2020 after DNA analysis & extensive comparison to field characters against many other specimens (eg Ebels <i>et al</i> 2021) as detailed in Campbell <i>et al</i> 2023 following Laurent Raty's advice above; EBRC . However, <i>stejnegeri</i> may be closely related to <i>przewalskii</i> (which winters to Himalayan foothills R&A 2012) in which case this species would take name <i>S. przewalskii</i> on priority grounds. NB1 <i>Dutch Birding</i> retain eponymous English name. NB2 Opaev <i>et al</i> 2018 reveal that <i>S. stejnegeri</i> is a cryptic species in that it cannot be distinguished by morphometrics or when in worn spring plumage from <i>S. maurus</i> , but differs noticeably in male song
PT	African Stonechat PT	<i>Saxicola [torquatus] torquatus</i>	PT; The extralimital Madagascan Stonechat <i>S. (t.) sibilla</i> has been split from <i>S. [t.] torquatus</i> Woog <i>et al</i> 2008 & IOC2.4 (but not by H&M4), incorporating the putative Madagascan ssp <i>ankaratrae</i> & <i>tsaratananae</i> (lack of specimens of the described but unvalidated Madagascar taxa prevented their evaluation). NB1 Wittmann <i>et al</i> 1995 suggest <i>S. axillaris</i> as name for African Stonechat. NB2 IOC15.1 relumps Madagascar Stonechat into African Stonechat.
996	Arabian Stonechat (Eurasian Stonechat) (African Stonechat)	<i>Saxicola torquatus felix</i> (= <i>Saxicola [t.] torquatus felix</i>) (<i>S. axillaris felix</i>)	English name informal@OSME. Of the 13 ssp of African Stonechat, only <i>felix</i> occurs (as resident) in our Region. All other ssp are either in isolated sub-Saharan pockets or are distributed much further S in Africa Urquhart 2002; <i>felix</i> 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.

997	Pied Stonechat {Pied Bush Chat}	<i>Saxicola caprata</i>	16 ssp 2 in Region: <i>rossorum</i> NE Iran, N Afghanistan, C Asia to Pamirs & SC Kazakhstan, wintering SW Asia; <i>bicolor</i> SE Iran extralimital across Indian subcontinent; 14 ssp extralimital as far as New Guinea & Philippines; <i>rossorum</i> 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 <i>et al</i> 2012 map as breeding mostly S CA, but into all CA states along narrow lines. Vagrant to Cyprus Flint & Stewart 1992, Egypt Gauger & Völm (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, 10th for Israel Jan 2023 found by Yishay Ben Adar, near Ma'or Yoav Perlman <i>in litt</i> ; 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; single-record vagrant 1993 Eastern Province Saudi Arabia Babbington & Meadows 2022.. 1st for Iraq Suweilha, Salman Mar 2019 DB44:4 312. 1st for S Türkiye Istanbul Airport entrance Sep 2021, 2nd Milleyha, Hatay Oct 2021 Kuzeycem <i>in litt</i> TBRC : 1st for Georgia Batumi, Choroki Delta Oct 2023 Budagashvili & Javakhishvili 2024; 1st for Azerbaijan at Absheron NP, near Baku Jun 2024, found by Elvin Məmmədov & Colin Steer, Tomas Axén Haraldsson <i>in litt</i> . NB1 Illera <i>et al</i> 2008 note <i>rossorum</i> distinct enough from <i>bicolor</i> (SE Iran, Pakistan, N India; SW Afghanistan?) to treat as spp, but distinctions from other, non-island, ssp <i>burmanicus</i> & <i>nilgiriensis</i> further E yet unsampled. NB2 Extended WP records up to Mar 2022 in Ławicki 2022.
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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			
998	Northern Wheatear (formerly Wheatear, Common Wheatear)	<i>Oenanthe oenanthe</i>	Polytypic. 4 ssp, 2 in Region; nominate PM most locations, breeds N Kazakhstan; <i>libanotica</i> Asia Minor, Levant-Transcaucasia, Iran, C Asia, Kazakhstan, N Afghanistan. Common N of Region Rogacheva 1992. Breeds , S Türkiye, S Syria, Caucasus, N Iraq Ararat <i>et al</i> 2011, passage Iraq Salim <i>et al</i> 2012, Iran, CA Panov 2005 (<i>oenanthe</i> only in Kazakhstan as common BM, PM (N half) Wassink 2015b, contra earlier assumption of occurrence of <i>libanotica</i> in SE Kazakhstan); <i>libanotica</i> occurs in S CA to Afghanistan Ayé <i>et al</i> 2012, <i>libanotica</i> SB, PM Iran Khaleghizadeh <i>et al</i> 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 (70m ²) 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 elsewhere OBL7 , vagrant Socotra Porter & Suleiman 2020, 2022. Wintering populations N Gulf, mostly sub-Saharan Africa, HBW10. Wang <i>et al</i> 2020 used next-generation sequencing to assemble 117 complete mitochondrial genomes covering <i>O.o. oenanthe</i> , <i>O.o. leucorhoa</i> and <i>O. seebohmi</i> , finding 2 different lineages, but could not discriminate between ssp & ssp, suggesting that high resolution markers, such as genome-wide Single Nucleotide Polymorphisms, could (Paper in prep). Egypt Avib, BE. NB DBWP 2009, Svensson <i>et al</i> 2009 separate extralimital <i>seebohmi</i> as Seebohm's Wheatear (mountains NW Africa) on unstated grounds, although it lacks any molecular divergence from <i>O.o. libanotica</i> Aliabadian <i>et al</i> 2007; IOC11.2 accepts split of <i>seebohmi</i> , following Shirihai & Svensson 2018 (plumage differences) & del Hoyo and Collar 2016 (acoustics).
999	Atlas Wheatear (Seebohm's Wheatear, Black-throated Wheatear)	<i>Oenanthe seebohmi</i>	Monotypic. Split from Northern Wheatear <i>O. oenanthe</i> from striking plumage differences & bioacoustic differences Shirihai & Svensson 2018, HBW/BirdLife. Fragmented breeding areas along Atlas Mountains NW Africa, winters westernmost Sahel. 1st for OSME Region unexpected vagrant Cyprus Cape Greco Apr 2023, imaged by Agamemnon Loutsios; Jane Stylianou <i>in litt</i> .
1000	Buff-breasted Wheatear (Red-breasted Wheatear, Botta's Wheatear)	<i>Oenanthe bottae</i>	Former spp, <i>frenata</i> split as monotypic extralimital Rusty-breasted Wheatear of montane Eritrea (rare) & inland Ethiopia IOC13.1, del Hoyo and Collar 2016. Monotypic <i>O. bottae</i> occurs in SW Arabia from inland of Mecca southward in mountains to just above Aden. Sequence reflects likely superspecies with <i>Isabellina O. isabellina</i> & Heuglin's Wheatear <i>O. heuglinii</i> (qv OTL Hypothetical List). Nominated in SW Saudi, W Yemen, HBW10; locally common, mostly sedentary in highlands mostly between 2300 & 3000m asl, c40 000bp, majority in Yemen Jennings 2010, N Yemen Porter & Warr 1985.
1001	Isabelline Wheatear (formerly Isabelline Chat)	<i>Oenanthe isabellina</i>	Monotypic. Breeds , S Türkiye Kirwan <i>et al</i> 2008, Caucasus, the whole of CA, Iran Khaleghizadeh <i>et al</i> 2017, N Iraq Salim <i>et al</i> 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. Westernmost breeding populations migrate via the East Mediterranean Flyway & winter in the eastern Sahel Zwarts <i>et al</i> 2023a. PM & 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 Socotran Archipelago Porter & Suleiman 2020, 2022. Li <i>et al</i> 2016 sequence the complete mt genome of <i>O. isabellina</i> . Egypt Avib, BE
1002	Hooded Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe monacha</i>	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), one at Paphos Apr 2024 Colin Richardson <i>in litt</i> . 1st & 2nd for Lebanon Apr 2021 Ramadan-Jaradi <i>et al</i> 2021. 1st for Iraq at Abu-Ghraab Feb 2017 DB44:4 312. 1st record , S Türkiye Feb 1998 Kirwan <i>et al</i> 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 , 9th Manavgat, Antalya Apr 2023 found by Kuzey Cem Kulaçoğlu, Pavel Simeonov <i>in litt</i> (8th? TBRC) Resident S Iran SW Afghanistan, HBW10, S Iran R&A 2005, uncommon resident barren desert hills C & SE Iran Khaleghizadeh <i>et al</i> 2017; vagrant Cyprus Panov 2005. Reported winter UAE. Egypt Avib, BE
1003	Desert Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe deserti</i>	3 ssp, all occur in Region: <i>homochroa</i> NW Egypt; nominate NE Egypt, Levant- most of Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b (1st winter record Jan 2015 Wassink 2015a), Afghanistan, wintering NE Africa, SW Asia; <i>oreophila</i> C Asia Pamirs, then extralimital to E. <i>O.d. salina</i> (subsumed in <i>deserti</i>) 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 , S Türkiye Kirwan <i>et al</i> 2014, Iraq Moore & Boswell 1956 (currently passage, winterer only Salim <i>et al</i> 2012), common SB Iranian E & SE deserts, common PM across Iran & common WV southern lowlands Iran Khaleghizadeh <i>et al</i> 2017, N Afghanistan; 'atrogularis' passage & winter but <i>oreophila</i> (breeds Pamirs) also breeder Afghanistan Paludan 1959; juvenile 12 Aug 72 4000m Wakhan Niethermer 1973; probably breeds Bamiyan Busuttil & Ayé 2009), winters widely to S, HBW10 . Panov 2005 has <i>deserti</i> breeding N Saudi (Jennings 2010 suggests rare, opportunistic breeder [c50bp], but allows possibility of undiscovered population), S Syria, E Israel & 'atrogularis' (subsumed in <i>oreophila</i>) elsewhere in OSME Region; uncommon resident S Israel Perlman & Meyrav 2009; common migrant, winterer Arabia Jennings 2010, abundant PM & WV Oman OBL7 , <i>oreophila</i> very common WV & PM Socotran Archipelago Porter & Suleiman 2020, 2022; 4th for Georgia Sep 2024 at Adjara Phil Andrews <i>in litt</i> . Egypt Avib, BE. NB Panov 2005 from <i>in situ</i> fieldwork establishes convincing case for <i>atrogularis</i> recognition.
PT	Black-eared Wheatear PT NB We follow Schweizer <i>et al</i> 2019, Schweizer & Burri 2019.	<i>Oenanthe hispanica</i>	IOC10.1 supports split. Molecular analysis of Randler <i>et al</i> 2011 suggested separation merited, likewise Aliabadian <i>et al</i> 2012. Randler <i>et al</i> 2011 also found mtDNA differences between North African populations of Western Black-eared Wheatear <i>O.(h.) hispanica</i> . Schweizer <i>et al</i> 2018 in a genome-wide study of 4 wheatear taxa are emphatic that both forms are full species & also support the Aliabadian <i>et al</i> 2012 suggestion that Cyprus Wheatear <i>O.cypriaca</i> separated from Western Black-eared Wheatear <i>O.(hispanica) hispanica</i> before Eastern Black-eared Wheatear <i>O.(h.) melanoleuca</i> did, at which time Pied Wheatear <i>O.[h.] pleschanka</i> split from <i>O.(h.) melanoleuca</i> , thus accounting for close DNA relatedness of all these taxa. Schweizer <i>et al</i> 2019a agree: Schweizer <i>et al</i> 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. BLDZ. IUCN still remain with <i>O. hispanica sensu lato</i>. Apr 2024.

			NB1 both <i>hispanica</i> taxa include pale- and dark-throated morphs. NB2 Outlaw <i>et al</i> 2010 found in passing that <i>O. hispanica</i> and <i>O. pleschanka</i> genetically are very close. Although Randler <i>et al</i> 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 <i>O. pleschanka</i> & Eastern Black-eared Wheatear <i>O. melanoleuca</i> . At present there is no gene flow into this population other than from Pied Wheatear. Hence the ' <i>aurita</i> '-type should be regarded as a morph of Pied Wheatear, with c 11% of the ' <i>aurita</i> '-type being part of the white-throated ' <i>vittata</i> ' 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 <i>in litt</i> to Arend Wassink) only c 27km from easternmost Kazakhstan, indicating a wider distribution. Extraliminally, it has been recorded as far E as W China. Males with ' <i>aurita</i> '-type characters were at Atyrau Jun 2013 & at Inderbor on 1 June 2016 (birds.kz). NB4 The presence of taxon <i>hispanica</i> in N Croatia long had support, but Krajl <i>et al</i> 2017 examined all specimens held in Croatian museums from throughout the country & found all were <i>melanoleuca</i> . Shirihai & Svensson 2018 map <i>hispanica</i> no nearer than just W of Genoa on Italy's Tyrrhenian Sea coast. Any certain individuals of Western Black-eared Wheatear <i>O.(h.) hispanica</i> (see ORL Hypothetical List) that may reach and pass through W, S Türkiye (especially Aegean islands), Cyprus or Egypt are misoriented vagrants.
1004	Eastern Black-eared Wheatear (Black-eared Wheatear)	<i>Oenanthe melanoleuca</i> (formerly <i>Oenanthe (hispanica) melanoleuca</i>)	Monotypic Schweizer <i>et al</i> 2019, IOC10.1. Breeds, S Türkiye, Levant, Caucasus, SW Caspian, N Iraq, common SB & PM W Iran Khaleghizadeh <i>et al</i> 2017, (CA: Flint <i>et al</i> 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. Migrates via the East Mediterranean Flyway to winter in the eastern Sahel Zwarts <i>et al</i> 2023a. Panov notes hybrid <i>pleschanka/(hispanica sl) melanoleuca</i> populations around Caspian; rare PM Oman OBL7 , uncommon PM Eastern Province Saudi Arabia Babbington & Meadows 2022. NB W&O 2007 also elevate <i>melanoleuca</i> to species, rare W Kazakhstan Mangghystau Province. Egypt Avib, BE
1005	Cyprus Wheatear (Cyprus Pied Wheatear)	<i>Oenanthe cypriaca</i>	Monotypic. Randler <i>et al</i> 2011 support species status on playback and reactions to dummies, although <i>cypriaca</i> is not separable via mtDNA from Pied (<i>pleschanka</i>) & Eastern Black-eared (<i>melanoleuca</i>) 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 <i>et al</i> 2017. 5th Lebanon record Hannahouch May 2021 Ramadan-Jaradi <i>et al</i> 2021. Panov 2005 suggests <i>O. cypriaca</i> is ancestor of <i>O. pleschanka</i> & 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
1006	Pied Wheatear (formerly Siberian Chat)	<i>Oenanthe pleschanka</i> (Obsolete taxonomy <i>O. leucomela</i>)	Monotypic: Schweizer & Burri 2019. Probably breeds E, S Türkiye Kirwan <i>et al</i> 2008, N Caucasus, CA (preponderantly in E Ayé <i>et al</i> 2012), Common SB Iran: Alborz, Tehran & eastward common PM C Iran Khaleghizadeh <i>et al</i> 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 <i>O.(h.) melanoleuca</i> genes giving rise to an ' <i>aurita</i> '-morph population in WSW Kazakhstan but creating white-throated ' <i>vittata</i> '-type individuals elsewhere Panov 2005, Wassink 2015b; the only gene-flow into this population now is from <i>pleschanka</i> . Passage Iraq Salim <i>et al</i> 2012, 4-record vagrant Cyprus CBR11/CRC , another Oct 2024 Cape Andreas Karpasia Phil Andrews <i>in litt</i> . 4th for Egypt Makadi Bay Mar 2018 EORC , fairly common PM & WV Oman (several ' <i>vittata</i> ' records) OBL7 , uncommon WV & PM Socotran Archipelago Porter & Suleiman 2020, 2022, including single ' <i>vittata</i> ' record; rare migrant Israel Perlman & Meyrav 2009. NB1 White-throated ' <i>vittata</i> ' 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 <i>O. melanoleuca</i> . At present there is no gene flow into the population other than from Pied Wheatear. Hence the ' <i>aurita</i> '-type bird should be regarded as a morph of Pied Wheatear, with c 11% of the ' <i>aurita</i> '-type belonging to the white-throated ' <i>vittata</i> ' 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 <i>in litt</i>), indicating a wider distribution. In fact, it has been recorded as far east as W China. Males with characters of the ' <i>aurita</i> ' type were found at Atyrau on 11 June 2013 and at Inderbor on 1 June 2016 (birds.kz). NB3 hybrid <i>pleschanka/hispanica</i> populations around Caspian Panov 2005, the 2 taxa appearing genetically close Outlaw <i>et al</i> 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			
1007	Red-rumped Wheatear (formerly Buff-rumped Wheatear)	<i>Oenanthe moesta</i>	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 IRD . - (W Iraq? Panov 2005 disagrees - re ID, small individuals more likely to be <i>xanthopyrma</i> or hybrid <i>xanthopyrma</i> × <i>chrysopygia</i>), non-breeders inland W Gulf, HBW10, NW Arabia, where reputed to have bred occasionally near Jordan border Jennings 2010; last record Iraq 1920s Salim <i>et al</i> 2012. Female Uvda Dec 2017 DB40:1 56, female Eilat Feb 2018 DB40:2 123. Egypt Avib, BE
1008	Blackstart	<i>Oenanthe melanura</i>	6 ssp, 4 in Africa, 2 in Region: nominate Israel, Jordan., Sinai-NW & interior C&S Arabia; <i>neumanni</i> 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 <i>melanura</i> (C & N Arabia, interior, E Yemen) & <i>neumanni</i> (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 <i>Oenanthe</i> , in line with Outlaw <i>et al</i> 2010, who note that taxonomic history of <i>Cercomela</i> has never been congruent; 5 of investigated taxa are closer to <i>Oenanthe</i> , the rest being nearer to other existing genera or become new monotypic genera. Sangster <i>et al</i> 2010, Zuccon & Ericsson 2010b suggest subsuming all <i>Cercomela</i> taxa in <i>Oenanthe</i> .
1009	Familiar Chat (Red-tailed Chat)	<i>Oenanthe familiaris</i> (<i>Cercomela familiaris</i>)	Polytypic extralimital African species (7 ssp), either <i>falkensteini</i> (NW Ethiopia) or <i>omoensis</i> (SE Sudan, SW Ethiopia) thought likely to be rare visitor to SW Arabia, likely following rains, HBW10; report of vagrant S Yemen Warr 1992 considered by some as not meeting current ID standards possibly confusable with Red-tailed Wheatear <i>O. chrysopygia</i> Mitchell 2017. However, BLDZ Aug 2024 accepts vagrancy & as do Porter <i>et al</i> 2024. IUCN map Aug 2024 shows distribution 70km from Red Sea on Eritrea/Ethiopia border. IOC3.5 accepts subsuming all <i>Cercomela</i> in <i>Oenanthe</i> , following Outlaw <i>et al</i> 2010, Sangster <i>et al</i> 2010, Zuccon & Ericsson 2010b.
1010	Brown Rock Chat	<i>Oenanthe fusca</i>	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], <i>in litt</i> , pers obs).
PT	Variable Wheatear PT	<i>Oenanthe picata</i>	Re Parent Taxon : not split in IOC11.2 where monotypic; Clement & Rose 2015 recognise 3 ssp. Shirihai & Svensson 2018 treat as full species on the radical but pragmatic basis that plumage characteristics persist in sympatric areas perhaps (our guess) 85% of the time ('unusual for geographically connected subspecies to differ distinctly' & 'subspecies rarely co-exist in areas like these three'). Somewhat tentatively, we follow <i>pro tem</i> , 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.
1011	Blyth's Wheatear (Variable Wheatear, Eastern Pied Wheatear, Pied Chat; Afghan Wheatear [Swedish Taxonomic Committee])	<i>Oenanthe [picata] picata</i>	IOC7.2, H&M4 treat <i>O. picata sensu lato</i> as monotypic, Shirihai & Svensson 2018 split into 3 monotypic species. <i>O.p. picata</i> & <i>capistrata</i> Turkmenistan, Bukreev 1997 Kazakhstan W&O 2007. Breeds CA, common SB, PM E Iran, common WV S coastal lowlands Khaleghizadeh <i>et al</i> 2017; N Afghanistan, winters mostly Pakistan, India, HBW10: Ayé <i>et al</i> 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 <i>et al</i> 2011 suggest merit in assigning taxa rank to the 3 plumage types.

1012	Gould's Wheatear (Karakoram Wheatear [Swedish Taxonomic Committee])	<i>Oenanthe [picata] capistrata</i>	Monotypic. Breeds above 1000m asl Afghanistan & Tajikistan, perhaps into Kyrgyzstan (map in Panov 2005). Zarudny 1911 recorded <i>capistrata</i> passage only Khorasan-N Baluchestan Iran, but generally few records Iran Khaleghizadeh <i>et al</i> 2017. Ayé <i>et al</i> 2012 suggest from S Kazakhstan to N Afghanistan. Panov 2005 doubts <i>capistrata</i> sufficiently distinct because stabilised hybrid <i>capistrata</i> × <i>opistholeuca</i> occupies most of <i>capistrata</i> distribution, whereas <i>opistholeuca</i> remains distinct across most of historical distribution. The S Kazakhstan, very rare, BM Variable Wheatear population in montane Kyzylkum Desert comprises only <i>capistrata</i> × <i>opistholeuca</i> individuals & is polymorphic Panov 2005. Shirihai & Svensson 2010 note that such a hybridogenous population is not unlikely, but <i>pro tem</i> regard it as similar to that between Yellowhammer <i>Enberiza citrinella</i> & Pine Bunting <i>E. leucocephalos</i> .
1013	Strickland's Wheatear (Alay Wheatear [Swedish Taxonomic Committee]) ('Black-bellied Wheatear': once considered to include Basalt Wheatear <i>qv</i> below)	<i>Oenanthe [picata] opistholeuca</i>	We consider this form merits a separate entry. = <i>O. opistholeuca</i> Turkmenistan (K-M&K 2005). Panov 2005 suggests what we now call <i>capistrata</i> may originate from ancestral <i>capistrata</i> × <i>opistholeuca</i> hybrids, two lines of ancestry (<i>qv</i> yellow wagtails, large grey shrikes). E Afghanistan R&A 2005, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan Panov 2005: Ayé <i>et al</i> 2012 suggest N AFG, S Tajikistan, intergrading with <i>capistrata</i> to N. Rare passage N Khorasan, Parapamis Iran Zarudny 1911. Panov also notes that gene-flow is dominant from <i>opistholeuca</i> to <i>picata</i> where distributions adjoin – <i>picata</i> perhaps at long-term risk as separate identity but <i>opistholeuca</i> remains distinct across most of historical distribution; 2-record April vagrant Iran Khaleghizadeh <i>et al</i> 2017. NB1 Eilat 1986 record of <i>opistholeuca</i> re-evaluated as Basalt Wheatear <i>O. lugens warriae</i> Haas 2017. NB2 size range of 'black' wheatears: Basalt (taxon <i>warriae</i>) smallest; Variable (<i>opistholeuca</i>) medium, Black <i>O.leucura</i> largest.
1014	Black Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe leucura</i>	2 spp, 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 <i>et al</i> 2014 demonstrate that Western Sahara taxon of Black Wheatear should properly be <i>O.I. riggenbachi</i> , not <i>syenitica</i> as previously assumed, the lone type specimen of taxon <i>syenitica</i> being better treated <i>pro tem</i> as belonging to Mourning Wheatear, <i>O. lugens (qv)</i> 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 <i>warriae</i>) smallest; Variable (<i>opistholeuca</i>) medium, Black <i>O.leucura</i> largest.
PT	White-crowned Wheatear PT (White-crowned Black or White-tailed Wheatear)	<i>Oenanthe leucopyga</i>	Re Parent Taxon Aliabadian <i>et al</i> 2012 notes that the coenzyme NADH separation between <i>leucopyga</i> & <i>ernesti</i> at 4.8% was surprisingly high, possibly meriting species rank. Other DNA techniques are needed to evaluate the detailed implications. <i>Pro tem</i> , we allot a separate entry to keep these taxa in view.
1015	White-crowned Wheatear (White-crowned Black or White-tailed Wheatear)	<i>Oenanthe (leucopyga) leucopyga</i>	If split, monotypic. C&E Egypt & extralimital NE Sudan, Eritrea, Djibouti. Egypt Avib, BE. The following not attributed to taxon, but possibly either <i>leucopyga</i> or <i>ernesti</i> : 3 records, S Türkiye Kirwan <i>et al</i> 2008, 4th at Milleyha Mar 2023 Emin Yoğurtcuoğlu <i>in litt</i> , DB46:2 127, 5th Medan, near Milleyha Jan 2025 Emin Yoğurtcuoğlu <i>in litt</i> ; Cyprus 3 records up to 1974 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 Kerai Protected Area Sep 2021 IBRC , 10th at Shabankareh, Bushehr Dec 2024 IBRC . 1st breeding record Al Zour Kuwait SG42:2 359. 2nd for Lebanon Hannouch-Selaata Jan 2021 Ramadan-Jaradi <i>et al</i> 2021, 3rd Terbol N Lebanon Feb 2022 accepted LBRC . 3rd Qatar record one shot at Fuweirat Oct 2020, 4th record a juvenile N of Umm Bab Nov 2020-Feb 2021 OBRC .
1016	'Hartert's Wheatear'	<i>Oenanthe (leucopyga) ernesti</i>	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 <i>et al</i> 2012, apparent breeding Zichri, Basra 2014 al-Obeidi 2016. The following likely <i>ernesti</i> : 1st record Syria Feb 2009 Martinez <i>et al</i> 2016, 1st for Lebanon shot Sep 2014 Ramadan-Jaradi & Itani 2016 & 3rd (see above entry), 8-record vagrant Oman 1971-2006 OBL7 , 1904 single-record vagrant Ahwaz Khuzestan Iran Zarudny 1911 Khaleghizadeh <i>et al</i> 2017, 1st confirmed records since Zarudny 1911: Dec 2016 in Khuzestan Province not far from the Iran-Iraq border Rahimi <i>et al</i> 2019, 2nd Ghatroyaeh NP Fars, Feb 2019. 1st record Iraq Feb 2010 Salim 2010, 2nd record Jun 2015 Qatar QBRC .
1017	Hume's Wheatear (formerly Hume's Chat)	<i>Oenanthe albonigra</i>	Monotypic. E Iraq Moore & Boswell 1956, Salim <i>et al</i> 2012; NE Arabian Peninsula, common resident C&S Iran Khaleghizadeh <i>et al</i> 2017, SW Afghanistan, HBW10 Ayé <i>et al</i> 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 Shah 2022 may be most northerly record SG44:1 237, Budagashvili & Javakhishvili 2024.
1018	Finsch's Wheatear (formerly Black-necked Wheatear, Barnes' Chat)	<i>Oenanthe finschii</i>	2 spp, both in Region: nominate altitudinal or short-range migrant Asia Minor, Levant-Transcaucasia, N&SW Iran; <i>barnesi</i> NE&E Iran, W Turkmenistan, E Afghanistan, SC Kazakhstan extralimital W Pakistan, wintering SW Asia. C to E, S Türkiye, Levant, Panov 2005, E Caucasus, common BM, accidental resident S-C & SW Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b, easternmost sighting at Chu-Ili mountains Nov 2023, c 250km beyond nearest known breeders Wassink 2024; Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan, Afghanistan (<i>barnesi</i> Paludan 1959), 1st for Kyrgyzstan Samarkandy Apr 2017 DB40:1 56, many resident CA distributions Ayé <i>et al</i> 2012, W & NE Iran, Iraq (Ararat <i>et al</i> 2011), winters mostly to S, often locally, HBW10, <i>eg</i> 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 QBRC . 1st Kazakhstan wintering record imaged at Kyzyl Tobe, just E of Aktau Dec 2022 Wassink 2023. Egypt Avib. BE
PT	Mourning Wheatear PT	<i>Oenanthe lugens, sensu lato</i>	Shirihai & Svensson 2018 diminish Mourning Wheatear to nominate & <i>persica</i> , which in Iran would warrant species rank, but populations towards Syria have not been assessed. Simon Aspinall <i>in litt</i> had forewarned that Svensson & Shirihai 2018 radically treated <i>halophila</i> as 'Maghreb' (DBWP 2011 use Western Mourning) Wheatear, & <i>lugens</i> (presumably also <i>persica</i>) as (Eastern) Mourning Wheatear. Förschler <i>et al</i> 2010a, 2010b support narrow separation of <i>lugens, lugentoides, lugubris</i> (extralimital Ethiopian/Abyssinian Wheatear) & <i>persica</i> , but not <i>halophila</i> ! IOC2.0 accepted split of <i>lugentoides</i> as Arabian Wheatear, but sequences it after extralimital Abyssinian Wheatear <i>O. lugubris</i> . IOC8.1 does not split <i>halophila</i> . We follow Shirihai & Svensson 2018 with Egypt-breeding & extralimital <i>O. halophila</i> . Shirihai <i>et al</i> 2011 recognised 'Basalt Wheatear' as a valid taxon, <i>warriae</i> , 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 <i>lugens</i> does not accord with any definition of ' <i>morph</i> '. Schweizer & Shirihai 2013 identify close link (via mtDNA-nuclear dataset) of <i>lugens</i> group with Red-tailed Wheatear Parent Taxon , but, via the multispecies coalescent approach, found a more distant link; their conclusions reinforce much of Förschler <i>et al</i> 2010a, 2010b. Schweizer & Burri 2019 eloquently & lucidly explain the deconstruction of 'traditional' <i>O.lugens</i> taxonomy; Schweizer 2020 recommends genome-wide research into the <i>O. lugens</i> complex. NB The type specimen of taxon <i>syenitica</i> (previously considered descriptive of western North African Black Wheatear <i>O. leucura</i> populations) was referred to the <i>O. lugens</i> complex provisionally as ssp (possibly a morph); in the limited mtDNA analysis, not separable from <i>leucura</i> or <i>warriae</i> , and though it resembles <i>warriae</i> 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 <i>et al</i> 2014, who go on to demonstrate that the Western Sahara taxon of Black Wheatear should properly be <i>O.I. riggenbachi</i> , not <i>syenitica</i> as previously assumed, the lone type specimen of taxon <i>syenitica</i> being better treated <i>pro tem</i> as belonging to Mourning Wheatear, <i>O. lugens (qv)</i> 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.

1019	Eastern Mourning Wheatear (Mourning Wheatear)	<i>Oenanthe [lugens] lugens, sensu stricto</i>	Monotypic if <i>persica</i> elevated. As stated above, Shirihai & Svensson 2018 allotted nominate & <i>persica</i> as ssp. Given their caution on <i>persica</i> , 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 <i>et al</i> 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 ; 7th Mandria Apr 2022 CBRC , 8th Mandria Mar-Apr 2023 Jane Stylianou <i>in litt</i> , putative 9th Akrotiri Feb 2024 Anders Gray <i>in litt</i> . Although Kirwan <i>et al</i> 2014 accept 4th & 5th Turkish records, fomer (Mar 2008: 2nd calendar-year bird) may have been <i>persica</i> , here provisionally elevated to species rank One Turkish record (Jun 2011) involved 'Basalt Wheatear' <i>O. warriae</i> pairing with female Finsch's Wheatear <i>O. finschii</i> . 2nd <i>O.[l.] lugens sensu stricto</i> for Türkiye at Dalaman, Muğla Apr 2023 imaged by Esin Özden Doğan & Süleyman Erçalışkan; Kuzey Cem Kulaçoğlu <i>in litt</i> . Suggestion that relict S & SW CA populations likely <i>O. picata</i> variants/hybrids Panov 2005?
1020	'Aswan Wheatear'	<i>Oenanthe lugens syenitica</i> , ssp <i>inquirenda</i> . (<i>syenitica</i> formerly applied to a Black Wheatear <i>O. leucura</i> population in NW Africa, now revised to <i>riggenbachi</i>)	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 <i>syenitica</i> (previously considered descriptive of western North African Black Wheatear <i>O. leucura</i> populations) is now referred to the <i>O. lugens</i> complex, provisionally as a black-plumaged ssp (possibly a morph); in the limited mtDNA analysis, not separable from <i>leucura</i> or <i>warriae</i> , and though it resembles <i>warriae</i> more, it differs in morphometrics & plumage Shirihai <i>et al</i> 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 <i>et al</i> 2014. Whatever the uncertainty, we list it separately to keep it in view. NB1 From Heuglin's diary, we know he collected <i>syenitica</i> 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 5000km ² 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 <i>pro tem</i> for the English informal @OSME name, Aswan Wheatear (Syene was the Greek name for Aswan).
1021	Western Mourning Wheatear (Maghreb Wheatear)	<i>Oenanthe [lugens] halophila</i>	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 <i>et al</i> 2016; Svensson <i>et al</i> 2009 include as 'Maghreb Wheatear'. NB Förschler <i>et al</i> 2010a, 2010b do not split from <i>lugens</i> ; even Schweizer & Shirihai 2013 are inconclusive (small sample size).
1022	Basalt Wheatear (name formally proposed first by Shirihai <i>et al</i> 2011) ('Black-bellied Wheatear') (once included in Variable Wheatear)	<i>Oenanthe [lugens] warriae</i> sp <i>novo</i> (Formerly <i>O. [l.] (lugens) warriae</i> (ssp <i>novo</i>). Status as 'black morph' is unsupported (see PT Notes)	Monotypic sp Shirihai & Svensson 2018. NE Jordan, S Syria (2009 Martinez <i>et al</i> 2016), perhaps SW-most Iraq & N-most Saudi Arabia on predominant black basalt, to which taxon tied Khoury <i>et al</i> 2010 (N Arabia? Jennings 2010). Retention mechanism of 'black' plumage uncertain; juveniles also dark, suggesting adaptation to dark environment Khoury <i>et al</i> 2010; no recorded cline to standard <i>O.[l.] lugens</i> plumage Khoury <i>et al</i> 2010 (part-albino recorded Andrews <i>et al</i> 1999). Previously placed in Variable (Eastern Pied) Wheatear <i>O. picata</i> under <i>opistholeuca</i> (eg Ferguson-Lees 1968, Wallace 1983), but Wallace (1988: BWP 5) accepted Lindon Cornwallis (& Andrews 1994) view as melanistic morph of Eastern Mourning Wheatear <i>O. lugens</i> (Panov 2005). Svensson <i>et al</i> 2009 noted morph has white, not the buff undertail coverts of <i>lugens</i> . Khoury <i>et al</i> 2010: 'black morph' should have independent taxonomic status; Förschler <i>et al</i> 2010a support, Shirihai <i>et al</i> 2011 confirmed at least as ssp: a slightly fuller narrative is given in Perlman <i>et al</i> 2018; accepted by IOC11.2. CSNA/Dutch Birding Jan 2022. Some evidence of occasional hybridisation with <i>lugens</i> Khoury <i>et al</i> 2013. Regular winter visitor to S Israel, mostly Ovda valley, in small numbers IRDC ; 1st for Palestine Mar 2020 Awad <i>et al</i> 2022. Egypt Shirihai <i>et al</i> 2011; 1st for Syria Palmyra Apr 2006, 2nd E of Jebel al-Arab Feb 2009 Aidek 2024. NB1 sizes of 'black' wheatears: Basalt smallest; Variable (<i>opistholeuca</i>) medium, Black <i>O. leucura</i> largest. NB2 Tye 1994 identified 2 BMNH specimens (1881 & 1926) as basalt morph. NB3 Alaei Kakhi <i>et al</i> 2023 place Basalt Wheatear in a Clade with nominate Mourning Wheatear <i>O. lugens</i> , thus reinforcing species status for Iranian Wheatear <i>O. persica</i> .
1023	Iranian Wheatear (Persian Wheatear; Zagros Wheatear [Swedish Taxonomic Committee])	<i>Oenanthe [lugens] persica</i>	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 <i>O. lugens</i> . We approach this puzzle from the opposite direction: Iranian Wheatear we treat as a monotypic species (as do CSNA Feb 2025 DB47: 1 48) 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 <i>et al</i> 2017, probably this taxon Iraq Moore & Boswell 1956, confirmed Ararat <i>et al</i> 2011), but winters E & C-N Arabia as uncommon WV, PM Eastern Province Saudi Arabia Babbington & Meadows 2022. Scarce Gulf states, rare Oman Jennings 2010; rare PM & WV Oman (likely all <i>lugens</i> -related records, save <i>lugentoides</i> 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 <i>et al</i> 2010 from all other <i>lugens</i> taxa. NB2 Alaei Kakhi <i>et al</i> 2023 place Basalt Wheatear in a Clade with nominate Mourning Wheatear <i>O. lugens</i> , thus reinforcing species status for Iranian Wheatear <i>O. persica</i> . NB3 Shirihai <i>et al</i> 2011, Shirihai & Svensson 2018 cautionary re ID of populations W of Iran through to Syria: perhaps <i>persica</i> , perhaps new taxon, perhaps hybrid.
1024	Arabian Wheatear (South Arabian Wheatear)	<i>Oenanthe [lugens] lugentoides</i>	Polytypic, 2 ssp, nominate SW Saudi, W Yemen, <i>boscaweni</i> NE Yemen, S Oman. (HBW10, H&M4 treat as <i>O. lugens lugentoides</i>); resident SW Saudi Arabia, Yemen, & isolated in S Oman/E Yemen (as <i>O. lugentoides boscaweni</i> Panov 2005); <i>lugentoides</i> highland resident breeder 1000-3500m asl Tihama hills (c 800 000bp [50% SW Yemen]), <i>boscaweni</i> 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 <i>lugens</i> . NB Förschler <i>et al</i> 2010a & 2010b split from <i>lugens</i> , <i>lugubris</i> (Extralimital Ethiopian/Abysinian Wheatear) & <i>persica</i> .
PT	Red-tailed Wheatear PT	<i>Oenanthe xanthopyrmyna</i>	Re Parent Taxon ; Scott & Adhami 2006 (Iran) do not separate; IOC v1.7, H&M4 do.
1025	Kurdistan Wheatear {Kurdish Wheatear} (formerly Persian, Chestnut-rumped, & Rufous-tailed Wheatear)	<i>Oenanthe xanthopyrmyna</i> (formerly treated here as <i>Oenanthe [xanthopyrmyna] xanthopyrmyna</i>)	Monotypic. English name from Panov 2005: it makes better distinction between the two now separate taxa; accepted IOC2.7. Breeds SE, S Türkiye & Syria Murdoch & Betton 2008 (as 'Red-tailed Wheatear' <i>O. xanthopyrmyna</i>), local N Iraq Ararat <i>et al</i> 2011, Zagros Mts SW Iran only Khaleghizadeh <i>et al</i> 2017, rare breeder Uzbekistan (Elena Kreuzberg-Mukhina <i>in litt</i>), 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 , single-record vagrant 2004 Eastern Province Saudi Arabia Babbington & Meadows 2022, 1st for Lebanon Apr 2022 found by Michel Sawan, Ramadan-Jaradi <i>et al</i> 2022 LBRC . 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 <i>O.[x.] chrysopygia</i> in N Iraq 2009 Richard Porter pers obs; might <i>cummingi</i> be valid?
1026	Red-tailed Wheatear (formerly Red-tailed Chat) (Persian Wheatear)	<i>Oenanthe chrysopygia</i> (formerly treated here as <i>Oenanthe [xanthopyrmyna] chrysopygia</i> = <i>O. xanthopyrmyna chrysopygia</i>)	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) Busuttill & Ayé 2009; however, Ayé <i>et al</i> 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 <i>et al</i> 2017: Clement & Rose 2015 map wintering as far as Gujarat (Seen in good numbers 2010 MB pers obs). May breed E, S Türkiye Kirwan <i>et al</i> 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; uncommon WV Eastern Province Saudi Arabia Babbington & Meadows 2022. NB1 Breeding sympatrically with <i>O.[x.] xanthopyrmyna</i> in N Iraq 2009 Richard Porter pers obs, uncommon passage Salim <i>et al</i> 2012. NB2 Shirihai & Svensson 2018 express a preference for the English name Persian Wheatear, which appears a recipe for confusion, given that taxon <i>persicus</i> , formerly a ssp of Mourning Wheatear <i>O. lugens</i> and previously called 'Persian Wheatear' may yet be elevated to a full species, for which we would prefer 'Iranian Wheatear'.
		Cinclidae	

1027	White-throated Dipper (White-bellied Dipper) (Dipper)	<i>Cinclus cinclus</i>	14 ssp, <i>rufiventris</i> of W Syria & Lebanon perhaps extinct, although specimen data lacking as to ssp validity (Benson 1970 noted presence of presumed <i>rufiventris</i> in streams on W side of Lebanon range), <i>olympicus</i> of Cyprus extinct by late 1940s Flint 2019; of S Türkiye probably so. 4 to 6 ssp in Region: <i>uralensis</i> possibly reaching W Kazakhstan; <i>caucasicus</i> N Asia Minor, Caucasus, N Iran; <i>persicus</i> SE , S Türkiye & SW Iran; <i>leucogaster</i> scarce resident SE Kazakhstan (Tien Shan to Manrak & Saur Mts) Wassink 2015b S through C Asia to N Afghanistan; <i>baicalensis</i> rare resident Kazakh Altai & Manrak & Saur Mts Wassink 2015b & points E; <i>cashmeriensis</i> perhaps in E Afghanistan from NE Pakistan Resident in much of OSME Region, HBW10 incl Caucasus , , S Türkiye N Iraq Ararat <i>et al</i> 2011 to N Afghanistan, R&A 2005, Wakhan Ayé 2007b. NE (<i>baicalensis</i>) to S (<i>leucogaster</i>) CA (permanent streams) Flint <i>et al</i> 1984, Ayé <i>et al</i> 2012. NB1 The name "White-bellied Dipper" properly describes only <i>leucogaster</i> ; <i>baicalensis</i> also has a dark morph. NB2 Mention of any Crete record other than a single vagrant not found in any references.
1028	Brown Dipper	<i>Cinclus pallasii</i>	3 ssp, only <i>tenuirostris</i> in Region, the others extralimital over vast distribution to E. Taxon <i>tenuirostris</i> : 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 <i>et al</i> 2005); Ayé <i>et al</i> 2012. Mapped NE Afghanistan Grimmitt <i>et al</i> 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 <i>C. cinclus</i> . Examples of feathers, blood or muscle are being sought from the entire range of <i>pallasii</i> Jochen Martens pers comm.
		Nectariniidae	
1029	Nile Valley Sunbird	<i>Hedydipna metallica</i> (formerly <i>Anthodiaeta metallica</i> , <i>H. metallica</i> & <i>Anthreptes metallicus</i>)	Monotypic. Mann & Cheke 2006 indicated <i>Anthodiaeta</i> took priority; also H&M3, DBWP 2010; IOC3.5 retained <i>Hedydipna</i> , Pierre-André Crochet agreeing; now Mann & Cheke 2014 propose that if two genera are recognised, this sp should be placed in <i>Hedydipna</i> . Occurs E Egypt, large part of SW Arabia, Cheke <i>et al</i> 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 , though highly nomadic Porter <i>et al</i> 2024. Egypt Avib, BE.
1030	Socotra Sunbird	<i>Chalcomitra balfouri</i> (formerly <i>Nectarinia balfouri</i>)	Monotypic. Endemic to Socotra Island & Abd-al Abd-al-Kuri, Cheke <i>et al</i> 2001. David Showler in Jennings 2010 makes no mention of Abd-al-Kuri, neither do Porter & Suleiman 2020, 2022: between 11 000 & 18 000bp Jennings 2010, 66 800ind Porter & Suleiman 2022. 1st images of nest & recorded vocalisations Hering & Hering 2022c, 2023.
1031	Palestine Sunbird (Orange-tufted Sunbird)	<i>Cinnyris osea</i> (formerly <i>Nectarinia osea</i>)	2 ssp, <i>decorsei</i> 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 <i>et al</i> 2001, Jennings 2010 (who estimates 600 000bp overall): common resident breeder S Oman OBL7 , 3rd Kuwait record Mutla'a ranch Nov 2017 KORC . 1st Türkiye record Jan 2025 at Meydan, Hatay by Metin Cenkiler & Önder Kahraman; Emin Yođurtcuođlu & Cađan Abbasođlu <i>in litt</i> . Egypt Avib, BE
1032	Arabian Sunbird	<i>Cinnyris hellmayri</i>	Polytypic; <i>hellmayri</i> W Saudi Arabia, Yemen, S Oman, <i>kinneari</i> W Saudi Arabia. See also Cheke <i>et al</i> 2001, Jennings 2010, but latter's maps range to N of Jeddah, Jennings 2010 estimating in excess of 500 000bp (both ssp), expanding distribution N to Tabuk DB46:1 271 some 100km from Jordan: common resident breeder S Oman OBL7 . (Suggestion of E Hormozgan Iran report Jan 2009). English name follows del Hoyo <i>et al</i> 2016.
PT	Shining Sunbird PT	<i>Cinnyris habessinicus sensu lato</i> (formerly <i>Nectarinia habessinica</i>)	BLDZ & HBW Alive recognise 'Arabian Sunbird' <i>C. hellmayri</i> as a full species, with ssp <i>kinneari</i> del Hoyo <i>et al</i> 2016, but although peer-reviewed justification unavailable, the authors of <i>Sunbirds</i> 2001 support the split, Robert Cheke & Clive Mann <i>in litt</i> & pers comm. Plumage and structural characteristic differences between the 5 ssp 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. Split accepted IOC14.1 citing Shirihai & Svensson 2018. 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.
1033	Abyssinian Sunbird (IOC14.2) (Shining Sunbird)	<i>Cinnyris habessinicus sensu stricto</i>	3 ssp, only nominate in Region, resident in Halaib Triangle Dora 2019 & vagrant SE-most Egypt EORC . Nominate also extensively extralimital as are <i>alter</i> of E Ethiopia & N Somalia and <i>turkanae</i> of SE Sudan, S Ethiopia, S Somalia, N Kenya & NE Uganda Porter & Warr 1985 IOC9.1. Egypt Avib, BE
1034	Purple Sunbird	<i>Cinnyris asiaticus</i> (formerly <i>Nectarinia asiatica</i>)	3 ssp, only <i>brevirostris</i> known in Region, Gulf E to NE Afghanistan; extralimital nominate occurs Kashmir eastwards, <i>intermedius</i> beyond. Common resident S Iran from Bushehr to Baluchestan Khaleghizadeh <i>et al</i> 2017 (also Zarudny 1911), N & E Oman, E Saudi Cheke <i>et al</i> 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 Funaites (m+f) Dec 2019, 7th Nov 2020 Jahra East Outfall KORC , Haas 2017, up to 4 wintering Kuwait City DB 42:1 59, 6th record Fintas Park Feb 2020 SG42:2 327, 7th at Kuwait Institute for Scientific Research (KISR) West Nov 2023 SG46:1 138, 8th record of 6 al Shaheed Park Kuwait Dec 2023 SG46:1 138; 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, 4th heard Education City Golf Club Jan 2023 QBRC . 1st documented for Saudi Arabia Dec 2021 at al Ghuwaifat, al Batha, Eastern Province Greg Askew <i>in litt</i> , SG44:1 250, status vagrant Babbington & Meadows 2022. 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: <i>brevirostris</i> Ayé <i>et al</i> 2012. Duetting subsong between two males has been observed in UAE Weller 2018. NB1 Zarudny used <i>Cinnyris</i> 1911, & Vaurie in 1950s. NB2 Grounds for future placement in <i>Cyrstostomus</i> .
		Passeridae	IOC11.2 revised the sequence of taxa within Passeridae . Ranges of the snowfinch species listed here and in the ORL Hypothetical List overlap considerably in geographical areas that are remote and under-watched, making distribution limits tentative; Islam <i>et al</i> 2024 clarify some aspects of taxonomic status of snowfinch species and subspecies.
1035	Pale Rockfinch (Pale Rock Sparrow)	<i>Carpospiza brachydactyla</i> (formerly <i>Petronia brachydactyla</i>)	Change of family as per IOC 11.2. Monotypic. SW&S Turkmenistan (K-M&K 2005), W AFG Ayé <i>et al</i> 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 <i>et al</i> 2011, SE , S Türkiye Kirwan <i>et al</i> 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 <i>et al</i> 1996 Khaleghizadeh <i>et al</i> 2017, Jordan, Khoury & Janaydeh 2011, 1st for Kazakhstan imaged by Alexandr Belyaev, Mangistau, Caspian May 2018 DB40:4 266, 1st Kazahstan breeding records (multiple) N & E coasts of Lesser Aral Sea spring 2022 SG44:2 469 Wassink 2023. 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 Viellard 1969, R&A 2005. Flock of 200 Kuwait 2006 Jennings 2007c. Pakistan? Winters Egypt (Avib, BE) S to Ethiopia Ash & Atkins 2009.
1036	Rock Sparrow (Common/Eurasian Rock Sparrow)	<i>Petronia petronia</i>	7 ssp, 5 in Region: nominate W Asia Minor; <i>puteicola</i> S , S Türkiye-Syria, N Israel, Jordan; <i>exigua</i> C , S Türkiye-N Caucasus, N Iraq, N Iran; <i>kirhizica</i> lower Volga-Aral Sea; <i>intermedia</i> SW&E Iran, C Asia, wintering Pakistan. Largely W&ESE CA (K-M&K 2005), Clement <i>et al</i> 1993: N Kazakhstan <i>kirhizica</i> elsewhere CA <i>intermedia</i> Ayé <i>et al</i> 2012, resident/summer visitor also , S Türkiye, Levant, Caucasus, Iraq Ararat <i>et al</i> 2011, Iran NW Afghanistan. <i>P.p. intermedia</i> Turkmenistan, Bukreev 1997, Afghanistan Paludan 1959; <i>kirhizica</i> rare resident, common BM in W & <i>intermedia</i> rare resident common BM in SE&E Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b. Irregular rare PM & WV Cyprus CBR11 ; a few wintering Ineia Dec 2023 Anders Gray <i>in litt</i> . NB Päckert <i>et al</i> 2021 support <i>Petronia</i> as a separate genus.
1037	White-winged Snowfinch (Snow Finch)	<i>Montifringilla (nivalis) nivalis</i>	Polytypic. 7 ssp, 4 in Region: <i>leucura</i> S&E Asia Minor; <i>alpicola</i> Caucasus, NW&N Iran, Afghanistan, W Pamirs; <i>gaddi</i> SW&S Iran; <i>tianshanica</i> N Tajikistan-W&C Tien Shan: rare resident Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b, 1st S Kazakh Altai record Mar 2021 Wassink 2022, 2nd Katon-Karagay NP Jan 2023 Wassink 2023, now assessed as regular, rare WV in southern Altai Wassink 2024. S&E , S Türkiye Kirwan <i>et al</i> 2008, W Caucasus, SE CA not Turkmenistan (K-M&K 2005) <i>contra</i> Bukreev 1997 re Turkmenistan (<i>alpicola</i>); resident most alpine meadows SE Kazakhstan to E & N Afghanistan (possibly SW Turkmenistan) Ayé <i>et al</i> 2012, Iraq Moore & Boswell 1956, confirmed Ararat <i>et al</i> 2011, N Iran, N Afghanistan Paludan 1959 & C (Bamiyan) Busuttill & Ayé 2009, Clement <i>et al</i> 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 <i>M. henrici</i> , Tibetan Snowfinch. NB2 Päckert <i>et al</i> 2021 found wide genetic separation between samples from western and eastern populations, but because so few ssp have been analysed, refrained from assessing any taxonomic split; Islam <i>et al</i> 2024, using improved specimen data and integrated molecular techniques, concluded that incomplete lineage sorting may mask extent of differences in more recently isolated ssp populations, but nevertheless found the extralimital ssp <i>groumgrzimaili</i> strongly divergent. However, better geographic coverage & assessment of relationships to unsampled ssp are needed for a firm determination of taxonomic status, hence our use of round brackets here & for polytypic extralimital group <i>M.(n.) groumgrzimaili</i> (& ssp <i>kwenlunensis</i>): see ORL Hypothetical List . NB3 Shirihai & Svensson 2018, likely following Vaurie 1959 (p587) had synonymised <i>tianschanica</i> & <i>groumgrzimaili</i> in <i>alpicola</i> , but the depth of the study by Islam <i>et al</i> 2024 concludes otherwise..
1038	Black-winged Snowfinch	<i>Montifringilla adamsi</i>	Polytypic: 2 ssp. 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 <i>et al</i> 2021 indicating occurrence, likely ssp <i>adamsi</i> , just in Nuristan, Afghanistan; niche innovation probability plot suggests occurrence in Tajikistan just N of Afghan Wakhan Pass. Imaged Mar 2015 (Wrongly identified as Tibetan Snowfinch <i>M. henrici</i>) at Tashkurgan, Kashgar Prefecture, Xinjiang, China, less than 15km from Tajikistan & 45km from Wakhan Pass, Afghanistan by Gloden Euphratica <i>in litt</i> (<i>Birds of Xinjiang China</i> website). NB Päckert <i>et al</i> 2021 found only weak support for paraphyly with White-winged Snowfinch <i>M. nivalis</i> , but Islam <i>et al</i> 2024 confirmed <i>M. nivalis</i> as a monophyletic taxon and sister to <i>M. adamsi</i> .
1039	Afghan Snowfinch (Theresa's or Bar-tailed Snowfinch)	<i>Pyrgilauda theresae</i> (formerly <i>Montifringilla theresae</i>)	Monotypic. BLDZ 2021 maps as Afghan breeding endemic & resident. Turkmenistan K-M&K 2005 (perhaps winter only), Afghanistan Clement <i>et al</i> 2003, R&A 2005, C Afghanistan Paludan 1959 H&E 1970 Busuttill & Ayé 2009 (breeding Bamiyan Busuttill <i>et al</i> 2010), Ayé <i>et al</i> 2012 (possibly in N Afghanistan) S Tajikistan H&M4. Common in Band-e Pitaw National Park highlands, Afghanistan Jul-Aug 2021 SG44(1) : 232. Islam <i>et al</i> 2024 found (due to missing molecular sequence data) that "a taxon-complete phylogeny showed that <i>P. theresae</i> likely originated from a more ancient Pliocene out-of-Tibet split between 5.8 mya (SNP data set) and 3.3 mya, probably from a common ancestor with [extralimital] Rufous-necked Snowfinch <i>P. ruficollis</i> (mitogenome data set). The Afghan endemic <i>P. theresae</i> would thus represent a comparatively ancient species-level lineage". NB HBW14 uses English name of 'Ground-sparrow' for <i>Pvraillauda taxa</i> .
1040	Sahel Bush Sparrow (Bush Petronia, Lesser Rock Sparrow, Bush Sparrow)	<i>Gymnoris dentata</i> (formerly <i>Petronia dentata</i>)	Monotypic. English name iaw IOC9.1. Resident sub-Saharan African species, Tegion population tip of SW Arabia, Clement <i>et al</i> 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 <i>Petronia</i> genus resolved via IOC9.1. NB2 Päckert <i>et al</i> 2021 support <i>Gymnoris</i> as a separate genus.
1041	Yellow-throated Sparrow (Chestnut-shouldered Petronia, Yellow-throated Petronia)	<i>Gymnoris xanthocollis</i> (formerly <i>Petronia xanthocollis</i>)	English name iaw IOC9.1. Both ssp in Region: <i>transfuga</i> SW Asia E from , S Türkiye & Kuwait, S Afghanistan to Indian subcontinent; nominate NE Afghanistan, then E to Nepal. Breeds SE , S Türkiye (small populations <i>transfuga</i> Roselaar 1995) through Syria, Iraq, Kuwait UAE, Oman, <i>transfuga</i> continuous SW Iran-S AFG; E Afghanistan <i>xanthocollis</i> Paludan 1959, Ayé <i>et al</i> 2012, WV India, Clement <i>et al</i> 1993; breeding status confirmed Syria Murdoch & Betton 2008, small numbers breeding cultivated landscape just N of the Al Asi river, east of Hama, western Syria 2023 & earlier found by Ehab Jabr, Tomas Axén Haraldsson <i>in litt</i> . Fairly common PM & WV (& BM in N) Oman OBL7 , fairly common breeder eastern UAE & a few may overwinter on islands Campbell <i>et al</i> 2022a; 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) IRDC ; 1st breeding for Israel Jun 2022 IRDC , 10 pairs Zir Hanef, Golan Heights; breeding for 2nd year Mt Hermon May 2023 Yoav Perlman <i>in litt</i> , 6 seen Syria at Tall Dira, Hama Jun 2023 DB45:4 275. 1st for Egypt 5 June 10 EORC 2011 Dettori & Moldován 2011, 2nd Lahami Sep 2018 EORC ; 1st for Jordan 01 Jun 2011 Khoury <i>et al</i> 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 <i>G. superciliaris</i> . NB2 Päckert <i>et al</i> 2021 support <i>Gymnoris</i> as a separate genus.
1042	Jungle Sparrow (Sind Sparrow) (Sind Jungle Sparrow)	<i>Passer pyrrhonotus</i>	Monotypic. SE Iran S Baluchestan Zarduny 1911, scarce Scott & Adhami 2006, Clement <i>et al</i> 1993, Porter <i>et al</i> 1996, rare & local resident 1975 SE Baluchestan Khlaeghizadeh <i>et al</i> 2017. HBW14 omits mention Afghanistan, but suggests old Iran records are 'small' <i>P. domesticus</i> (presumably <i>indicus</i>) & occasional movement to Oman (not in OBL7.6). Resident Pakistan fairly close to Khyber R&A 2012. IUCN map Aug 2024 maps well W of Peshawar, close to Khyber but also into SE Iran as far as Sistan & Balochistan border with Hormozgan, as do Shirihai & Svensson 2018. However, Porter <i>et al</i> 2024 are uncertain as to species' status in Iran.
1043	Russet Sparrow (Cinnamon Sparrow)	<i>Passer cinnamomeus</i> (<i>Passer rutilans</i>)	3 ssp, only nominate in Region:2 other ssp remote to E to Sakhalin. NE Afghanistan, IOC, Clement <i>et al</i> 1993 H&E 1970, <i>cinnamomeus</i> Paludan 1959, HBW14, H&M4; possibly former resident R&A 2005, vagrant Ayé <i>et al</i> 2012. See maps Grimmett <i>et al</i> 1998, 2009, likely in Afghan Daryā-ye & Konar valleys, where BLDZ May 2017 maps from Badakhshan to Paktia. Imaged Aug 2023 at Thore Valley, Diamer, Gilgit-Baltistan, Pakistan Imran Shah <i>in litt</i> ., 95km from Wakhan, Afghanistan. NB The name <i>cinnamomeus</i> has priority Milkovský 2011, & Päckert <i>et al</i> 2021 found this so to be basal to the genus <i>Passer</i> .
1044	Eurasian Tree Sparrow	<i>Passer montanus</i>	9 ssp, 3 in Region: nominate SE , S Türkiye E-eastwards, N Kazakhstan; <i>transcaucasicus</i> N&E Asia Minor, Caucasus, N Iran & lower Volga; <i>dilutus</i> E Iran, C Asia N to Kazakhstan. Remnants ssp extralimital to E & SE. <i>P.m. dilutus</i> Turkmenistan, Bukreev 1997, Afghanistan Paludan 1959: <i>montanus</i> common resident, scarce BM, rare WV, PM most Kazakhstan save SE Wassink 2015b; <i>dilutus</i> ('Afghan Tree Sparrow') common resident, rare BM SE Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b, who notes common hybridisation with <i>P. hispaniolensis</i> ; also , S Türkiye (<i>transcaucasicus</i> Roselaar 1995), Caucasus, Iraq (winterer 2 records Moore & Boswell 1941-46; rare Salim <i>et al</i> 2012) to Afghanistan, CA, Clement <i>et al</i> 1993, rare PM & WV Cyprus CBR11 , vagrant Israel Perlman & Meyrav 2009, 1st for Oman Nov 2015 Jens Eriksen <i>in litt</i> , 2nd record for Lebanon in over 65 years shot Qa'a Valley Nov 2018 Ramadan-Jaradi <i>et al</i> 2019. Egypt Avib, BE. NB In N&E OSME Region & in Russia to N, where more strongly commensal with human settlement than House Sparrow <i>P. domesticus</i> Rogacheva 1992.
1045	Saxaul Sparrow	<i>Passer ammodendri</i>	Only <i>stoliczkae</i> of 3 ssp extralimital Mongolia eastwards; nominate Iran (?), N Afghanistan, C Asia E to SC Kazakhstan; <i>nigricans</i> C Asia SE&E Kazakhstan, then E to China. Disjunct in SW & mid-CA (<i>ammodendri</i> rare resident Kyzylkum desert bordering Syrdarya River S-C Kazakhstan & <i>nigricans</i> 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 & SE Kazakhstan possibly others in that area Ayé <i>et al</i> 2012. Occurs NE Iran (may breed Scott & Adhami 2006), Clement <i>et al</i> 1993 (possibly winters northeasternmost Afghanistan R&A 2005); old Iranian reports there (Hari Rud); 1st official record for Iran at Pesh Robat, Taybat, Khorasan-e Razavi Nov 1900 IBRC , Zarudny & Härms 1913, 2nd record (2 males) at Sarakhs Khorasan-e Razavi Apr 2004 Ayé 2008 (IBRC). (Confirms recent reports Raffael Ayé, Derek Scott pers comm). Possibly rare SB Iranian Hari Rud NE Khorasan Khlaeghizadeh <i>et al</i> 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)	<i>Passer</i> spp	Previously it had been surmised that the Parent Taxon had been Great Sparrow <i>Passer motitensis</i> (aka African Rufous Sparrow, Southern Rufous Sparrow) after Summers-Smith 2010 proposed ancestral descent from <i>P. motitensis</i> . However, Päckert <i>et al</i> 2021 found strong support for a Clade of House Sparrow <i>P. domesticus</i> , Spanish Sparrow <i>P. hispaniolensis</i> , Italian Sparrow <i>P. italiae</i> and Socotra Sparrow <i>P. insularis</i> , but refrained from taxonomic conclusions; this means that the putative PT of Great Sparrow is rejected. However, they were unable to include other <i>Passer</i> taxa probably relevant to future taxonomic changes. NB1 BLI Dec 2014 rejected the lumping of <i>P. motitensis</i> by Dowsett & Forbes-Watson 1993 by the recognition of 3 spp, <i>P. motitensis sensu stricto</i> being relegated to southern Africa only. IOC v2.3 recognised splits of Socotra Sparrow, <i>P. insularis</i> and Abd al-Kuri Sparrow <i>P. hemileucus</i> . NB2 HBW14 refers to previous lumping with other African <i>Passer</i> isolates (even the numerous <i>P. motitensis sensu stricto</i> is remote in southern Africa). H&M4 chooses middle ground with <i>hemileucus</i> & <i>insularis</i> as one species.
1046	Abd al-Kuri Sparrow (formerly African Rufous Sparrow)	<i>Passer hemileucus</i> (formerly wrongly subsumed in <i>P. motitensis</i>) Vulnerable	Monotypic. Endemic to Abd al-Kuri island, Socotra archipelago. Case for species rank Kirwan 2008; Redman <i>et al</i> 2009 agree, Ryan <i>et al</i> 2010 confirm. Population size not known Jennings 2010, c 400bp (mostly around villages) Porter & Suleiman 2022. Abd al-Kuri is 105 km from Socotra, but only 96km from the African mainland.

1047	Socotra Sparrow (formerly African Rufous Sparrow)	<i>Passer insularis</i> (formerly wrongly subsumed in <i>P. motitensis</i>)	Monotypic. Endemic breeding resident Socotra Archipelago . Case for species rank Kirwan 2008; Redman <i>et al</i> 2009 agree, Ryan <i>et al</i> 2021 confirm. Probably c100 000bp Jennings 2010, almost 329 000bp Porter & Suleiman 2022.. Ryan <i>et al</i> 2021 note that the population on Samha Island probably deserves subspecies status from its smaller size; Samha is 46km SE of Socotra. Commonest breeding bird Socotran Archipelago Porter & Suleiman 2022, common also on Darsah Island . Hering & Hering 2022d, 2023 obtained 1st sonograms & egg description; they noted cliff-nesters share rock faces with Somali Starling <i>Onychognathus blythii</i> near adjacent Socotra Starling <i>O. frater</i> nests.
1048	Spanish Sparrow	<i>Passer hispaniolensis</i>	2 spp, both in Region: nominate W Asia Minor, wintering NE Africa, SW Asia; <i>transcaspicus</i> Cyprus, E, S Türkiye E to Afghanistan & C Asia E to S Kazakhstan, then on to China, wintering to S. <i>P.h. transcaspicus</i> 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 (<i>indicus</i>) and Tree Sparrow (<i>P. mptanus</i>) in Kazakhstan; BM Afghanistan Paludan 1959, abundant PM. Resident Asia Minor, Lebanon, W Caucasus, N&C Iraq (Ararat <i>et al</i> 2011), widespread Iran Khaleghizadeh <i>et al</i> 2017, C, S&SE CA, Afghanistan (N,R&A 2005), Clement <i>et al</i> 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 (c4000bp) Arabia overall, but predominantly PM and WV Jennings 2010. Former breeding resident UAE, as of 2023 vagrant EBRC . Some migration to India, R&A 2005, uncommon PM & WV Oman OBL7 . Egypt Avib, BE. NB hybrids with <i>domesticus</i> , <i>bactrianus</i> & <i>montanus</i> known at Chokpak.
PT	House Sparrow PT	<i>Passer domesticus</i>	Molecular analysis of Belkacem <i>et al</i> 2016 of House/Spanish Sparrow <i>P. domesticus</i> / <i>P. hispaniolensis</i> hybrids in North Africa reveals rapid spread from W to E began post-1900: haplotypes of Italian Sparrow <i>P. italiae</i> are present only at low levels wrt those of <i>P. domesticus</i> or <i>P. hispaniolensis</i> 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 <i>bactrianus</i> 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 sympatric isolation between <i>domesticus</i> & <i>indicus</i> groups (possibly due to staggered arrival of breeding populations) in most areas but some <i>indicus</i> hybridisation with <i>P.d. biblicus</i> . Hering <i>et al</i> 2020d noted that <i>P. domesticus</i> is now hybridising extensively with extralimital Somali Sparrow <i>P. castanopterus</i> in Djibouti City, many obvious hybrids being in evidence. Päckert <i>et al</i> 2021 found strong support for a Clade of House Sparrow <i>P. domesticus</i> , Spanish Sparrow <i>P. hispaniolensis</i> , Italian Sparrow <i>P. italiae</i> and Socotra Sparrow <i>P. insularis</i> . NB Dadam <i>et al</i> 2019 positively link blood parasite <i>Plasmodium relictum</i> 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.
1049	House Sparrow	<i>Passer (domesticus) domesticus</i>	7 spp in group, 6 certainly in Region: nominate N Kazakhstan; <i>bleairoibericus</i> N, W&C, S Türkiye; <i>biblicus</i> SE, S Türkiye, Levant-NW Iran; <i>hyrcanus</i> SE Azerbaijan, N Iran; <i>persicus</i> C Iran-SW Afghanistan <i>tingitanus</i> probably wanders to NW Egypt from NE Libya; <i>niloticus</i> Egypt. Abundant resident OSME Region Clement <i>et al</i> 1993: strong increase Cyprus 2006-2015 Hellicar 2016. Taxon <i>domesticus</i> resident across Kazakhstan, probably also just into countries to S, but Wassink 2015b notes <i>domesticus</i> absent largely from sizeable southern arc mid-Caspian E coast to W Tien Shan; <i>persicus</i> resident SW Afghanistan Ayé <i>et al</i> 2012. HBW14 asserts only taxa from 'indicus' group breed in Arabia (<i>indicus</i> & <i>hufufae</i>); Jennings 2010 agrees (<i>qv</i> next entry) but advises no acceptable Arabian records of birds from <i>domesticus</i> 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 <i>P. montanus</i> Rogacheva 1992.
1050	Indian House Sparrow {House Sparrow} ('Oriental Sparrow'; Oriental House Sparrow [DBWP 2011])	<i>Passer (domesticus) indicus</i> (spp <i>indicus</i> & <i>bactrianus</i>)	English name informal@OSME. 5 spp in group, 3 in Region: nominate S Israel to SW Asia, then extralimital to SE Asia; <i>bactrianus</i> NE Iran, C Asia to S Kazakhstan, extralimital Pakistan much of China; <i>hufufae</i> NE Arabia. Wholly extralimital <i>parkini</i> Pakistan E along Himalayas, <i>rufidorsalis</i> Sudan, Eritrea. <i>P. indicus</i> <i>bactrianus</i> Turkmenistan, <i>hyrcanus</i> Turkmenistan, Bukreev 1997, <i>persicus/indicus</i> intergrades not uncommon, <i>bactrianus</i> Paludan 1959. Summer breeder from S half of Kazakhstan, S to all CA states Ayé <i>et al</i> 2012. Wassink 2015b map its presence in S half Kazakhstan, intergrades with <i>domesticus</i> having been recorded: hybrids with <i>hispaniolensis</i> often trapped - presumably (from distributions) these are mostly with <i>indicus</i> ; migrant Kyrgyzstan Ven 2002, Afghanistan, N Iran, Clement <i>et al</i> 1993. Likely separation in Iran of <i>bactrianus</i> on morphology fraught with uncertainty at present, Derek Scott, pers comm (Zarudny 1911 records species nesting across much of Iran, but does not note <i>bactrianus</i> or 1911 equivalent). Status in Arabia: pre-1984, <i>hufufae</i> near Hufuf Oaasis, perhaps E Saudi coastal area and possibly UAE/Oman, but <i>indicus</i> mostly in Arabian port areas, likely of dhow/ship-assisted origin, & those in NW of uncertain origin; post-1984, <i>indicus</i> more adaptable to commensal behavior, has expanded quickly and fecundly into oil-agriculture- & commerce-based settlements; c6Mbp Jennings 2010, who also suggests <i>hufufae</i> swamped out of existence by hybridisation and being out-competed. Taxon <i>indicus</i> present in Arabia south of Jordan to Kuwait, & also NE Iran southward Porter <i>et al</i> 2024. Abundant resident breeder N & NE Oman, but occurs elsewhere (<i>hufufae</i> , <i>indicus</i>) OBL7 . Absent from Socotra. Informal English name not of OSME origin, but seems apt.
PT	Desert Sparrow PT	<i>Passer simplex</i>	Kirwan <i>et al</i> 2009 separate <i>zarudnyi</i> on various grounds, including relative lack of sexual dimorphism, but call for DNA investigation to finalise status. IOC v2.7 retained <i>simplex</i> 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 <i>simplex</i> and <i>zarudnyi</i> are not each other's closest relative, then they are independent species without a Parent Taxon . Päckert <i>et al</i> 2021 found an Afro-Arabian Clade , albeit poorly supported & likely incomplete, of 4 spp: African Desert Sparrow <i>P. simplex</i> , Sudan Golden Sparrow <i>P. luteus</i> (Sahel Region), Dead Sea Sparrow <i>P. moabiticus</i> (Near East & Middle East), & the extralimital Cape Verde endemic <i>lago</i> Sparrow <i>P. iagoensis</i> .
1051	African Desert Sparrow {Desert Sparrow}	<i>Passer simplex</i>	2 spp: <i>simplex</i> recorded southeasternmost Egypt (in line with H&M4 'NW Sudan'), but <i>saharae</i> not known in OSME Region, although Dickinson 2003, H&M4 place nearest population 'W Libya'. However Isenmann <i>et al</i> 2016 cite records attributed to <i>saharae</i> at Kufrah Oasis Libya & at Jabel Uwaynat Libya, both very close to Egyptian border. Egypt, Avib, BinE. NB1 some suggestion of intergrades Kirwan <i>et al</i> 2009. NB2 English name informal@OSME.
1052	Asian Desert Sparrow {Zarudny's Sparrow} (Desert Sparrow)	<i>Passer zarudnyi</i>	Monotypic. <i>P.s. zarudny</i> Turkmenistan, Bukreev 1997, CA K-M&K 2005, E Turkmenistan, C Uzbekistan (NW Afghanistan?), Clement <i>et al</i> 1993. 1st record for Kazakhstan Kyzylkum Desert on Uzbekistan border Oct 2020 Wassink 2022, 2023, Shakula <i>et al</i> 2022. Possibly NW Afghanistan, R&A 2005. Recorded in Khorasan Zarudnyi 1911 (see Kirwan <i>et al</i> 2009, in which English name Zarudny's Sparrow proposed); not Kerman in the Daht-e Lut sand deserts (Vaurie 1956, in error), thus <i>contra</i> Derek Scott pers comm, giving rise to 'status uncertain' in Scott & Adhami 2006: probably extinct Iran Khaleghizadeh <i>et al</i> 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.			
1053	Sudan Golden Sparrow	<i>Passer luteus</i>	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 <i>et al</i> 2009; SE Range limit close to northward-advancing Arabian Golden Sparrow <i>P. euchlorus</i> Ash & Atkins 2009, BLDZ maps suggesting small area of sympatry NW Djibouti. Egypt Avib, BE. Päckert <i>et al</i> 2021 found an Afro-Arabian Clade , albeit poorly supported & likely incomplete, of 4 spp: African Desert Sparrow <i>P. simplex</i> , Sudan Golden Sparrow <i>P. luteus</i> (Sahel Region), Dead Sea Sparrow <i>P. moabiticus</i> (Near East & Middle East), & the extralimital Cape Verde endemic <i>lago</i> Sparrow <i>P. iagoensis</i> .
1054	Arabian Golden Sparrow	<i>Passer euchlorus</i>	Monotypic. N Somalia (where spreading N towards Sudan Golden Sparrow <i>P. luteus</i> Ash & Atkins 2009, BLDZ maps suggesting small area of sympatry NW Djibouti), but mostly SW Arabia, Clement <i>et al</i> 1993. Tihama resident & probably erratically a little to E in SW Yemen, but c150 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 AI Abraja in 2010; targeted by pet trade in Saudi Arabia for sale with KSA well out of normal breeding distribution Alshamlh <i>et al</i> 2021a, introduced via pet trade Riyadh & Qassim Alshamlh <i>et al</i> 2021b.

PT	Dead Sea Sparrow PT	<i>Passer moabiticus</i>	Parent Taxon: Scott & Adhami 2006 (Iran) include <i>yatii</i> taxon. IOC10.1 does not split, nor do Shirihai & Svenson 2018, who await molecular analysis. Shams <i>et al</i> 2021 note, in a multilocus analyses, that the differences between the isolated populations of <i>moabiticus</i> and <i>yatii</i> 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 <i>et al</i> 2021 suggest that Desert Sparrow <i>P. simplex</i> is closely related to <i>P. moabiticus</i>
Khoury 2018 records decline of Dead Sea Sparrow in Jordan valley, Jordan due to habitat destruction, water shortages & increased tourism.			
1055	Dead Sea Sparrow	<i>Passer [moabiticus] moabiticus</i>	H&M4 monotypic; <i>mesopotamicus</i> presumably subsumed in nominate. Breeds discontinuously SE, S Türkiye Roselaar 1995 (<i>mesopotamicus</i>), Syria Murdoch & Betton 2008, Israel, Jordan. Iraq Moore & Boswell 1956, 3 recorded May 2016 Erbil Iraqi Kurdistan SG39:1 ATR , common resident Khuzestan & Bushehr E to Maroun River Kaboli <i>et al</i> 2016, occurs Gulf, UAE, Clement <i>et al</i> 1993; found Lebanon Oct 2011 SG34:1 ATR , 2nd record Saudi Arabia Jubail Feb 2016 (flock of 13) DB38:2 193; national & Eastern Province status 3-record vagrant covering 108 birds Babbington & Meadows 2022. Has declined at southern breeding limit in Jordan Valley Khoury 2018 & also at Einot Tzukim, Israel where colony on edge of Dead Sea has shifted S as sea level has reduced, direct and indirect effects reducing nesting habitat Haran <i>et al</i> 2023. Bred Cyprus at least 1976-1990 Flint 2019. 1st for Egypt at Ten Nuweiba, Sinai Nov 1987 EORC
1056	Afghan Scrub Sparrow (Sistan Scrub Sparrow) {Dead Sea Sparrow} (formerly Yate's Sparrow)	<i>Passer [moabiticus] yatii</i> (= <i>P. yatii</i>)	Monotypic. See Kirwan 2004a. Resident E Iran, SW Afghanistan (Seistan Paludan 1959), resident Iran-Afghan Ayé <i>et al</i> 2012, 2012b, H&E 1970, Clement <i>et al</i> 1993, Kirwan 2004, R&A 2005; locally common resident Iranian Seistan wetlands & oases Khaleghizadeh <i>et al</i> 2017, 5 at Lorgeh Bagh, Zabol May 2021 IBRC . Suggestion that winters inland Baluchistan (W Pakistan & SE Iran) Grimmett <i>et al</i> 1998, 2009 challenged by Ayé <i>et al</i> 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 <i>et al</i> 2015.
1057	Rüppell's Weaver	<i>Ploceus galbula</i>	Monotypic. African species, resident Arabia S Red Sea hinterland to Yemen, S Oman, Porter <i>et al</i> 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 Alshamlh <i>et al</i> 2021a, also in Riyadh Alshamlh <i>et al</i> 2021b: in Eastern Province, rare breeding (introduced) resident Babbington & Meadows 2022.
1058	Lesser Masked Weaver	<i>Ploceus intermedius</i>	Extralimital African species, 3 spp 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 <i>P. i. intermedius</i> Dove <i>et al</i> 2017.
1059	Vitelline Masked Weaver	<i>Ploceus vitellinus</i>	Extralimital African species, 3 spp, nearest populations nominate C Sudan, <i>uluensis</i> South Sudan, S Ethiopia, Somalia. Popular cagebird, ancestry unknown. Reported pair Qurm Park, Oman 13 Dec 07 (Dave Seargeant <i>in litt</i>), in more locations 2011, but no breeding confirmation Aspinall & Porter 2011.
1060	Village Weaver (Black-headed Weaver)	<i>Ploceus cucullatus</i>	African species, 7 spp, <i>abyssinicus</i> range includes Sudan, South Sudan, Eritrea, W&C Ethiopia, <i>bohndorffi</i> 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 by Pierre-André Crochet, DB44:2 155, 1st breeding on island in Lake Nasser near Abu Simbel Aug 2024 DB46:5 348, 12 nests there Jan 2025 DB47:1 63. Likely wild birds may have colonised Egypt at Abu Simbel, reflecting species northward expansion in Sudan Jenner & Taha 2016
1061	Golden-backed Weaver	<i>Ploceus jacksoni</i>	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.
1062	Bengal Weaver (Black-breasted Weaver)	<i>Ploceus benghalensis</i>	Monotypic. Breeds to NW Pakistan border with Afghanistan HBW15, but from IUCN map Jul 2023, not close to Afghanistan except in an isolate E of Bannu, some 75km from the border. Introduced in Region Porter & Aspinall 2010 UAE breeding attempted, but status uncertain Aspinall & Porter 2011. Recorded Baluchestan Iran Zarudny 1911.
1063	Streaked Weaver	<i>Ploceus manyar</i>	Indo-SE Asian species, 4 spp, 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 Alshamlh <i>et al</i> 2021b. Introduced Egypt EORC , IUCN map Jul 2023 indicates occupation of Nile Delta; in Pakistan, current distribution extends within 55km of Afghanistan from SE of Peshwar.
1064	Baya Weaver	<i>Ploceus philippinus</i>	5 spp: nominate breeds India & Pakistan W to near Khyber HBW15; IUCN map Jul 2023 indicates present in Afghanistan, Wor Mamey District between Gunar River SW to Sanzali Kili, occurring into Afghanistan for c20km as far as Shinkay Kur. Introduced Saudi Arabia, Lever 2005, App B citing Jennings 2004b (<i>Phoenix</i> 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 .
1065	Red-billed Quelea	<i>Quelea quelea</i>	3 extralimital spp Africa, nearest population <i>aethiopica</i> 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.
1066	Red Fody (Madagascan Red Fody)	<i>Foudia madagascariensis</i>	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.
1067	Yellow-crowned Bishop	<i>Euplectes afer</i>	African species, 4 spp, 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.
1068	Southern Red Bishop	<i>Euplectes orix</i>	African species, 3 spp. SW Kenya <i>nigritrons</i> nearest range limit to OSME Region, Dickinson 2003, but more likely <i>nigroventris</i> 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 <i>E. franciscanus</i> natural range includes Somalia & Ethiopia, also common cage-bird traded (HBW15) – more likely vagrant Yemen or introduction?
		Estrilidae	Many estrilid 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 <i>et al</i> 2015. Olsson & Alström 2020, in a wide-ranging examination of estrilid phylogeny, make extensive taxonomic suggestions, but none affect those listed below, but see ORL Hypothetical List for single exception.
PT	Zebra Finch PT	<i>Taeniopygia guttata</i>	Heavily traded, both legally (mostly aviculturists) and illegally (mostly Lesser Sundas), commonly kept as pets in warm & temperate OSME Region counties, frequently escapes, breeds, but very vulnerable to predators, leading to local extinction. Frequent and widespread reports of observations, mostly anecdotal, suggest the possibility in the Region of self-sustaining local populations, as has happened in Portugal and Porto Rico. However, the suspicion is that many captive birds are hybrids of the two subspecies, <i>guttata</i> and <i>castanotis</i> , which following Olsson & Alström 2020 and Eaton <i>et al</i> 2021 were elevated to species status, Sunda Zebra Finch and Australian Zebra Finch respectively. Consequently, we tentatively add this species as Zebra Finch sp <i>Taeniopygia guttata/castanotis</i> . NB1 Wild populations of both spp are stable (IUCN). NB2 Australia has banned the export of <i>castanotis</i> .
1069	Zebra Finch sp (hybrid?)	<i>Taeniopygia guttata x castanotis</i>	Bred Lebanon 2023 Sawan & Namnoum 2024 . Reported from UAE, Oman, Türkiye? Israel, Jordan, Saudi Arabia? References sought.
1070	African Silverbill	<i>Euodice cantans</i> (formerly in <i>Lonchura</i>)	Mostly African species, 2 spp; <i>orientalis</i> SW Arabia, S Oman, Clement <i>et al</i> 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).

1071	Indian Silverbill (White-throated Munia)	<i>Euodice malabarica</i> (formerly in <i>Lonchura</i>)	Monotypic. Common cagebird; possibly established Afghanistan, <i>contra</i> R&A 2005, who map to border, also Grimmett <i>et al</i> 1998, 2009. Resident S Iran (Scott & Adhami 2006), range expanding Khaleghizadeh <i>et al</i> 2017, H&E 1970 cite Ticehurst collecting 2 near Hormoz 1921; Ticehurst <i>et al</i> 1925 recorded it Mid-Hormuz Straits on Tanb Island 1920, but note even then the popularity as cagebird, Oman (reported Masirah Dec06, 1H pers comm), Abu Dhabi, UAE, E Saudi Arabia Clement <i>et al</i> 1993, Oman Porter <i>et al</i> 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 Alshamli <i>et al</i> 2021b. A population of Indian Silverbills exists in the city of Aqaba, Jordan, and is believed to have originated from the Saudi population Khoury <i>et al</i> 2012a. Common resident breeder N Oman, spreading OBL7 . IOC2.5 retains <i>Euodice</i> . NB Many populations W of UAE likely from introduced stock Aspinall & Porter 2011
1072	Scaly-breasted Munia	<i>Lonchura punctulata</i>	Mostly Asian species, 8 ssp 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 <i>et al</i> 2012. IUCN Map Aug 2024 indicates area from Afghan border to Kabul occupied & separate main distribution in westernmost Pakistan close to Afghan border just S of Chitral. Breeds up to 1800m Pakistan Roberts 1992.
1073	Common Waxbill	<i>Estrilda astrild</i>	African species, 16 ssp, 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.
1074	Crimson-rumped Waxbill	<i>Estrilda rhodopyga</i>	African species, both ssp close to Region: nominate E Sudan, Eritrea, N Ethiopia, NW Somalia; <i>centralis</i> 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 <i>Tarsiger.com</i> & Michael Mills <i>in litt</i> & SG44:1 237. EORC 2018 reject all records for Aswan, Egypt as insufficiently documented DB41:2 133.
1075	Arabian Waxbill	<i>Estrilda fufbarba</i>	Monotypic SW Arabian endemic, Clement <i>et al</i> 1993, perhaps 30 000bp Jennings 2010, but also traded as cagebird <i>eg</i> UAE 1970s Bundy & Warr 1979. First nest description al-Omari <i>et al</i> 2018.
1076	Orange-breasted Waxbill (Zebra Waxbill)	<i>Amandava subflava</i>	African species, 2 ssp; that reaching SW Yemen, Porter <i>et al</i> 1996, HBW15 likely nominate, whose nearest population listed H&M4 is in W Ethiopia (!), but possibly expanding range there c 10 000bp Jennings 2010.
1077	Red Avadavat	<i>Amandava amandava</i>	Asian species, 3 ssp, widely popular traded cagebird, nearest population, nominate in Pakistan, possibly rare resident Baluchistan Iran Khaleghizadeh <i>et al</i> 2017. Introduced Arabian peninsula, Porter <i>et al</i> 1996. Introduced Bahrain, Israel, Saudi Arabia, UAE, Egypt, Lever 2005, currently established 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 Alshamli <i>et al</i> 2021b. In Iran Scott & Adhami 2006, Kuwait, but in UAE perhaps extirpated Aspinall & Porter 2011; 7 escape records of several birds 1982-2012 Oman OBL7 . Breeding suspected Abu Ali, Tripoli, Lebanon, flock of 9 still present Dec 2023 SG46:1 139. Mapped Pakistan-E Afghanistan border, Grimmett <i>et al</i> 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 & Shamukzavi. Egypt Avib. BE
		Prunellidae	Stepanyan 2003, Hatchwell 2005 subdivided <i>Prunella</i> into two, erecting <i>Laiscopus</i> for the 2 larger taxa. Drovetski <i>et al</i> 2013 acknowledged that this may be valid. <i>Pro tem</i> , we align with Drovetski <i>et al</i> 2013 in treating the difference as 2 Clades . Clade A contains the only truly sympatric accenter species. Those in Clade B are allopatric, with the exception of extralimital <i>P. koslowi</i> .
Clade A. Large, alpine species. <i>P. collaris</i> & <i>P. himalayana</i> underwent the first divergence in Prunellidae 3.04 Mya			
PT	Alpine Accenter PT	<i>Prunella collaris</i> (<i>sensu lato</i>) (May move to <i>Laiscopus</i>)	Red'kin <i>et al</i> 2015 identify taxon <i>erythrogygia</i> as a morphologically cryptic taxon that by behaviour & ecology is markedly distinct from taxon <i>collaris</i> . Drovetski <i>et al</i> 2013 found that these two taxa diverged from each other 0.93MYa, before any other divergences within Prunellidae
1078	Alpine Accenter	<i>Prunella collaris</i> (<i>sensu stricto</i>) (May move to <i>Laiscopus</i>)	9 ssp, 3 in Region: <i>subalpina</i> W&S, S Türkiye; <i>montana</i> E, S Türkiye, Caucasus, Iran; <i>rufilata</i> NE Afghanistan, C Asia E to Tien Shan, extralimital in arc to E & SE. <i>P.c. rufilata</i> Turkmenistan Bukreev 1997 Afghanistan Paludan 1959 rare resident Tien Shan E to western Zhungarsky Alatau SE Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b; the findings of Liu <i>et al</i> 2017, who called for a taxonomic revision of <i>P. collaris</i> & better geographic sampling over its vast distribution, allow for the affiliations of <i>rufilata</i> to be questioned, perhaps with <i>erythrogygia</i> , possibly with the extralimital <i>nipalensis</i> as a new sp. Resident S, SE & E CA, S-E, S Türkiye-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 <i>in litt</i> . Iraq Salim <i>et al</i> 2012. Breeds sympatrically (at least a week earlier) with Altai Accenter <i>P. himalayana</i> Salang Pass Afghanistan 1970 Madge 1978. NB Known to breed up to at least 5000m Bates & Lowther 1952.
1079	Mongolian Alpine Accenter	<i>Prunella erythrogygia</i> (May move to <i>Laiscopus</i>)	IOC14.1 treats as ssp of Alpine Accenter <i>P. collaris</i> . English name informal@OSME. Wassink 2015b lists taxon <i>erythrogygia</i> as an unproven occurrence in the Kazakh Altai, because the skins on which Gavrillov & Gavrillov 2005 based their assessment as a probable breeder cannot be found. However, the habitats that taxon <i>erythrogygia</i> 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 <i>rufilata</i> or <i>nipalensis</i> , but only after a full taxonomic review and better geographic sampling Liu <i>et al</i> 2017. The English name is a literal translation of the informal name in Russian (Vladimir Arkhipov 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'. <i>P. erythrogygia</i> occurs patchily from Mongolia to the E (easternmost China), NE (eastern Palearctic Siberia to Magadan) and SSE through northern China to the Korea & Japan (Sergie Drovetski pers comm).
1080	Altai Accenter (Rufous-streaked Accenter, formerly Himalayan Accenter)	<i>Prunella himalayana</i> (May move to <i>Laiscopus</i>)	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 Accenter <i>P. collaris</i> Salang Pass Afghanistan 1970 Madge 1978.
Clade B. Smaller, shrub- & scrub-dwelling species, whose divergences date from 0.91MYa onwards			
1081	Robin Accenter	<i>Prunella rubeculoides</i>	2 ssp, <i>muraria</i> 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 <i>et al</i> 2009 map 80km E of Wakhan, BLDZ Apr 2020 map extends just into the easternmost Wakhan in Afghanistan in Wakhan at Chinese/Pakistan border. Imaged at Deosai, Skardu, Gilgit-Baltistan, Pakistan Aug 2023 Imran Khan <i>in litt</i> . H&E 1970 also suggested the possibility.
1082	Rufous-breasted Accenter (formerly Jerdon's Accenter)	<i>Prunella strophiata</i>	2 ssp, nominate extralimital E to Myanmar; <i>jerdoni</i> breeds NE Afghanistan (<i>jerdoni</i> Paludan 1959) R&A 2005; up to 3600m N Pakistan Himalayas, Grimmett <i>et al</i> 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 Accenter <i>P. ocellaris</i> .
1083	Siberian Accenter	<i>Prunella montanella</i>	N&E Kazakhstan <i>montanella</i> very rare PM & WV Wassink 2015b, migratory, uncommon PM Mongolia Gombobaatar & Leahy 2019; some vagrancy to OSME Region, HBW 10, 1st species record Türkiye ssp <i>badia</i> Nov 2006 also 1st record <i>badia</i> in WP; 2nd species record Türkiye Oct 2007 (both by Soner Bekir) ssp <i>montanella</i> Kirwan <i>et al</i> 2014, vagrant Lebanon Mitchell 2017. NB1 Milkovský & Red'kin 2023 reviewed the status of <i>P. montanella</i> via specimen comparisons. They describe 2 new ssp <i>gebleri</i> & <i>loskoti</i> ; ssp <i>badia</i> attributed distribution remains as per IOC 14.1 (NE Siberia), <i>loskoti</i> probably present from just north of Lake Baikal eastwards & <i>gebleri</i> from Yermakovskiy District (400km due south of Krasnoyarsk) eastwards fairly close to Russia's southern border as far as Lake Baikal, swinging north to parallel Baikal's eastern shore. A diminished <i>montanella</i> occupies north-central Siberia from western Komi Republic east to Sakha Republic. The Türkiye records probably merit re-evaluation as to ssp ID. NB2 At least 245 identified in unprecedented eruption into Europe Oct 2016-Mar 2017 DB39:2 249.

1084	Brown Accentor	<i>Prunella fulvescens</i>	6 ssp, 2 in region: nominate NW Afghanistan to C Tien Shan, extralimital along Himalayas to Himachal Pradesh; <i>dahurica</i> 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 <i>et al</i> 2012, also R&A 2005, K-M&K 2005, HBW 10, mapped Wakhan Afghanistan, Grimmett <i>et al</i> 1998, Bamiyan Busuttill & Ayé 2009.
PT	Radde's Accentor (Revision of PT status)	<i>Prunella ocularis</i>	There is a long history of dispute as to whether the taxa <i>ocularis</i> and <i>fagani</i> are species or subspecies. Vaurie (1955, 1959) settled on the former. Drovetski <i>et al</i> 2013 concluded that genetically they were sister species, though separated recently 0.19MYa. Liu <i>et al</i> 2017 reinforced that view, but placed that separation at 1.5-2.0 MYa, thus seeming to settle any debate. Kirwan <i>et al</i> 2021, in a detailed analysis that also covered sonogram data, disagreed. Firstly, "In song, on the limited evidence available, <i>P. fagani</i> seems essentially indistinguishable from <i>P. ocularis</i> ". Secondly, they also questioned the dating of Liu <i>et al</i> 2017, who for many of the branching events within the entire <i>Prunella</i> phylogeny placed them much earlier than Drovetski <i>et al</i> 2013 had done: eg the split of <i>P. ocularis</i> from <i>P. fagani</i> was presented as 1.5-2.0 Mya, almost ten times older than the former estimate: "However, the double peaks in the Liu <i>et al</i> 2017 chromatograms of the cyt b sequences for the two <i>P. fagani</i> and one <i>P. atrogularis</i> specimens mean that <u>their divergence times should be treated with caution.</u> " NB Päckert <i>et al</i> 2020b independently places <i>P. fagani</i> as recently diverged from <i>P. ocularis</i> .
1085	Radde's Accentor	<i>Prunella ocularis ocularis</i>	H&M4 subsumed <i>fagani</i> in <i>ocularis</i> , citing Drovetski <i>et al</i> 2013, on grounds that the 2 ssp of Black-throated Accentor <i>P. atrogularis</i> (nominate & <i>huttoni</i>) had similar degrees of separation to that between <i>P. ocularis</i> & <i>P. fagani</i> ; Liu <i>et al</i> 2017 supported that view, but see above for the rebuttal by Kirwan <i>et al</i> 2021 Accordingly, we treat these two taxa as being far more likely as ssp. Mountain tops S-C & E , S Türkiye Roselaar 1995, Caucasus, N Iran (Rogers 2001), S Turkmenistan (rare/irregular Kopet Dagh S TKM Ayé <i>et al</i> 2012), winters N Levant, N Gulf, S Iran, HBW 10, possibly N Iraq Salim <i>et al</i> 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 EBRC . Vagrant Lebanon, Syria & Jordan Mitchell 2017, 1 at Golan, Israel Nov 2011, 1 Mt Bental, Golan Feb 2022 Yoav Perlman <i>in litt</i> . NB1 Drovetski <i>et al</i> 2013 classed <i>P. ocularis</i> & <i>P. fagani</i> as sister species, despite their relatively recent divergence 0.19MYa, when the benign conditions vanished from the interior of Arabia. NB2 Kirwan <i>et al</i> 2021, noting that all <i>ocularis</i> specimens in Drovetski <i>et al</i> 2013 & Liu <i>et al</i> 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 , S Türkiye, to achieve a more robust overview of the phylogeographic history of this group.
1086	Arabian Accentor (Yemen Accentor)	<i>Prunella ocularis fagani</i>	Informal English name long in use. Previously considered sister sp to <i>P. atrogularis</i> Drovetski <i>et al</i> 2013, despite their relatively recent divergence of 0.19MYa, when the benign conditions vanished from the interior of Arabia: Liu <i>et al</i> 2017 had estimated a 0.7MYa separation, but Kirwan <i>et al</i> 2021 concluded that Liu <i>et al</i> 2017's interpretation of genetic data was flawed & supported the 0.19MYa separation of Drovetski <i>et al</i> 2013. Consequently, we now follow Kirwan <i>et al</i> 2021 in their detailed analysis of morphological data and song analysis & revert to ssp status. IOC12.1 propose reversion to ssp status. N Yemen Porter & Warr 1985, SW Arabia only, Porter <i>et al</i> 1996, W Yemen only c 1000bp Jennings 2010.
PT?	Black-throated Accentor PT?	<i>Prunella atrogularis</i>	Although Drovetski <i>et al</i> 2013 found the 2 taxa, <i>atrogularis</i> & <i>huttoni</i> , diverged more than Radde's Accentor <i>P. ocularis</i> did from Yemen Accentor <i>P. fagani</i> & more than Black-throated Accentor <i>P. atrogularis sensu lato</i> did from either (even though the divergence of <i>atrogularis</i> and <i>huttoni</i> was relatively recent at 0.13MYa), our suggestion that <i>atrogularis</i> & <i>huttoni pro tem</i> merited separate entries as full species is <u>not</u> supported by the comprehensive analysis of Kirwan <i>et al</i> 2021. Although Kirwan <i>et al</i> 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.
1087	'Ural Black-throated Accentor'	<i>Prunella atrogularis atrogularis</i>	English name informal@OSME. Breeds N of the Region, from Ufa northwards along the Urals, some 200km WSW to the nearest <i>P. huttoni</i> breeding grounds in N Tien Shan, Kazakhstan Sergei Drovetski pers comm. Monotypic. Rare PM E half Kazakhstan, rare WV SE Kazakhstan Kyzylkum E to Tien Shan & Ili Valley Wassink 2015b; winters Tajikistan, Kyrgyzstan, Turkmenistan Rustamov 2015 (as <i>sensu lato</i> 'Black-throated'), Iran (vagrant Iran Scott & Adhami 2006), though 11th record Chenaran, Razavi Khorasan Jan 2021 IBRC , HBW 10, 1st record , S Türkiye 31 Oct 2014 Ergen & Bariş 2016, 2nd Nov 2017 DB40:4 266; vagrant Israel Perlman & Meyrav 2009, single-record vagrant Oman OBL7 , Alström 1991, vagrant Kuwait Porter <i>et al</i> 2024. Future sonogram analysis may diminish uncertainty of taxon status.
1088	'Asian Black-throated Accentor'	<i>Prunella atrogularis huttoni</i>	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	<i>Prunella modularis sensu lato</i>	Split by Pavia <i>et al</i> 2021, based on 3 separate lineages (Drovetski <i>et al</i> 2018a), plumage and voice, of Caucasian Dunnock <i>P.[m.] obscura</i> . Pavia <i>et al</i> 2021 also elevate extralimital taxon Iberian Dunnock <i>P.[m.] mabbotti</i> , which occurs in southern France & may also occur in Italy & Greece. CSNA/Dutch Birding 2022 accept split. but adopt English name 'Northern Dunnock' for <i>P. modularis sensu stricto</i> .
1089	Dunnock (Hedge Accentor, Hedge Sparrow)	<i>Prunella [modularis] modularis</i>	Polytypic. Sole ssp in Region: <i>euxima</i> NW Asia Minor, wintering W&S , S Türkiye, NE Africa. Depending upon extent of synonymisation, 2-4 extralimital ssp (<i>menertzhageni</i> subsumed in nominate).
1090	Caucasian Dunnock	<i>Prunella [modularis] obscura</i>	Monotypic. Caucasus, NE , S Türkiye, N Iran wintering Middle East. <i>obscura</i> rare PM, WV W Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b, resident , S Türkiye, Caucasus, scarce resident Iran Scott & Adhami 2006, winters around S Caspian Iran, HBW 10, rare Iraq Salim <i>et al</i> 2012, uncommon Israel Perlman & Meyrav 2009; winters Afghanistan R&A 2012. Egypt Avib, BE
		Motacillidae	
1091	Forest Wagtail	<i>Dendronanthus indicus</i>	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 , 2nd at Jihad Park, Bandar Abbas Feb 2024 DB46:2 129, 3rd at Moradi Garde, Minab Hormozgan Jan 2025 IBRC ; vagrant Kuwait, Oman Mitchell 2017, 2nd record Dec 2020 AbdulRahman <i>in litt</i> , KORC . Nearest breeding grounds to Region western China, nearest wintering area s Gujarat 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	<i>Motacilla flava</i>	<p>The unknown extent and the undefined stability of many intergradation areas plague definitions of <i>flava</i> (<i>sensu lato</i>) taxa; they seem likely candidates for stable-isotope ratio studies as per Fox & Bearhop 2008. Tyler 2004 gave comprehensive overview of competing earlier 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 <i>et al</i> 2018: by applying multiple DNA techniques to almost all populations of <i>M. flava</i>, <i>citreola</i> & <i>alba</i>-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 <i>et al</i> 2018b reinforce that separation, the conclusions of Pavlova <i>et al</i> 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 unsupported.</p> <p>NB1 Collar 2013 counsels caution on conflicting morphological/reproductive isolation and molecular data as to assigning rank, which Harris <i>et al</i> 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 evolving 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 <i>et al</i> 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 <i>et al</i> 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 Vladimirovka, 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 '<i>zaissanensis</i>' and in its westernmost distribution is sympatric with <i>feldegg</i>.</p>
PT	Western Yellow Wagtail PT	<i>Motacilla [flava] flava</i>	<p>10 ssp, all in Region save <i>flavissima</i> (H&M4 9 & 8). (Eastern Yellow Wagtail is <i>M. [f.] tschutschensis</i> (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 <i>et al</i> 2009. Harris <i>et al</i> 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 <i>et al</i> 2018b found new unanswered questions: "However, the greater divergence of <i>M. flava</i>+<i>M.c. calcarata</i> pair from the southern <i>M.[f.] tschutschensis</i>+<i>M.c. werae</i> and the northern <i>M.[f.] tschutschensis</i>+<i>M.c. citreola</i> pairs than (from) some other wagtail species remains unexplained."</p> <p>NB1 '<i>dombrowskii</i>', '<i>superciliaris</i>', '<i>xanthophrys</i>' & '<i>perconfusus</i>' considered as invalid ssp, provenance of '<i>melanogrisea</i>' is uncertain, but all are useful (Tyler 2004) <i>pro tem</i>. NB2 CA/Siberian wagtail ssp scientific names can differ, as can published descriptions of extent of separation of taxa. NB3 the <i>flava</i> group and the <i>tschutschensis</i> group do not share recent common ancestry; their separation probably occurred at the same time as the Citrine Wagtail taxa, <i>M.[citreola] citreola</i> & <i>werae</i>, the <i>flava</i> group sharing some DNA history with <i>citreola</i>, & the <i>tschutschensis</i> group with <i>werae</i>, implying that glaciations separated their ancestral stock thus, & that present populations arose from secondary contact Pavlova <i>et al</i> 2003. NB4 An alternative suggested grouping places <i>iberiae</i> & <i>pygmaea</i> as ssp of an elevated <i>M. cinereocapilla</i>, 'White-throated Wagtail'</p>
1092	'Blue-headed Wagtail' {Western Yellow Wagtail, Yellow Wagtail}	<i>Motacilla (flava) flava</i>	We follow A&M 2003 who map breeding: <i>M.f. flava</i> W Kazakhstan, <i>beema</i> C-E Kazakhstan, <i>thunbergi</i> perhaps northernmost Kazakhstan, <i>leucocephala</i> 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 & WV Socotran Archipelago <i>sensu lato</i> as 'Western Yellow Wagtail' Porter & Suleiman 2020, 2022 (other taxa recorded but not quantified beyond status as vagrant). Egypt Avib, BE. Some (Including W&O 2007, DBWP 2011) treat as full species <i>M. flava</i> , Blue-headed Wagtail.
1093	'Ashy-headed Wagtail' {Western Yellow Wagtail}	<i>Motacilla (flava) cinereocapilla</i> (<i>M.c. cinereocapilla</i>)	Scarce east Mediterranean, accidental Saudi Arabia: rare irregular PM & WV Oman OBL7 ; vagrant, 2 positive IDs Socotra Porter & Suleiman 2022. NB DBWP 2011 treat as full species
1094	'Iberian Wagtail' ('Spanish Wagtail')	<i>Motacilla (flava) iberiae</i> (<i>M.c. iberiae</i>)	Vagrant Israel Porter & Aspinall 2010. NB DBWP 2011 treat as full species
1095	'Egyptian Yellow Wagtail' {Western Yellow Wagtail}	<i>Motacilla (flava) pygmaea</i> (<i>M.c. pygmaea</i>)	Essentially tied to the Nile littoral from Delta in Egypt probably as far as al-Golad Sudan (see Dickinson 2003).
1096	'Sykes's Wagtail' {Western Yellow Wagtail}	<i>Motacilla (flava) beema</i>	Breeds N half Kazakhstan to N Altai, migrant through OSME Region including Afghanistan: common PM & WV Oman OBL7 , fairly common PM across Iran Khaleghizadeh <i>et al</i> 2017. Abundant BM, PM: intergrades with <i>flava</i> & <i>feldegg</i> in Volga-Ural interfluvium, hybridises with <i>M tschutschensis</i> in several areas Wassink 2015b. This taxon uses different habitats in western Siberia when breeding in sympatry with <i>thunbergi</i> van Oosten & Emtsev 2013. Vagrant, possibly scarce spring migrant Socotra Porter & Suleiman 2022.
1097	'White-headed Wagtail' {Western Yellow Wagtail}	<i>Motacilla (flava) leucocephala</i>	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 <i>et al</i> 2017, rare PM SE Kazakhstan: breeding birds resembling <i>leucocephala</i> are aberrant or very pale <i>beema</i> Wassink 2015b. 1st record, S Türkiye Apr 2011 Kirwan <i>et al</i> 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 . 1st confirmed ID UAE of 2 at al Hamriyah overpass, Dubai EBRC . NB1 R&A map as spring migrant in Pakistan along Afghan NE border. NB2 DBWP 2011 treat as full species
1098	'Grey-headed Wagtail' {Western Yellow Wagtail}	<i>Motacilla (flava) thunbergi</i>	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 <i>et al</i> 2017. This taxon uses different habitats in western Siberia when breeding in sympatry with <i>beema</i> van Oosten & Emtsev 2013. Vagrant, 2 positive IDs Socotra 2011 Porter & Suleiman 2022. NB DBWP 2011 treat as full species
1099	'Black-headed Wagtail' {Western Yellow Wagtail}	<i>Motacilla (flava) feldegg</i>	= <i>M. feldegg melanogrisea</i> in many accounts (Although ' <i>melanogrisea</i> ' 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 <i>et al</i> 2017), Afghanistan. Winter, migration as above. A&M 2003. Common BM central third of Kazakhstan: intergrades Volga-Ural interfluvium with intergrades of <i>beema</i> & <i>flava</i> ; individuals in N Kazakhstan attributed to dark-headed <i>thunbergi</i> ; 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 . Vagrant, single positive ID Socotra 2006 Porter & Suleiman 2022. G&G 2005, Although intermediate forms exist to N & E (eg ' <i>melanocephalus</i> ' Zarudny 1911), note lack of intergradation of <i>feldegg</i> in S&E expansion (A&M 2003), lending support to species status on same basis as some gull taxa (75% rule?). NB DBWP 2011 treat as full species, as do Red'kin <i>et al</i> 2015 based on extensive Russian-language literature and research.
1100	'Eastern Black-headed Wagtail' ('White-chinned Wagtail') {Western Yellow Wagtail}	<i>Motacilla (flava) feldegg melanogrisea</i>	Although ' <i>melanogrisea</i> ' 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 <i>feldegg</i> (A&M) 2003.

1101	Unnamed population	<i>Motacilla (flava) ssp indet</i>	Hellquist <i>et al</i> 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 <i>feldegg</i> . The NE of this salient is occupied by the phenotype ' <i>zaissanensis</i> ' & the western boundary abuts Kazakhstan for c 1050km; in the latter area, 'Black-headed Wagtail' <i>M.(f.) feldegg</i> breed sympatrically with the unnamed taxon. Voice recordings suggest a relationship with <i>flava</i> wagtails and indicate some significant differences from <i>tschutschensis/citreola</i> taxa. It is the opinion of Hellquist <i>et al</i> 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	<i>Motacilla [flava] tschutschensis/citreola</i>	Tentatively, we include 4 ssp in group, 3 having occurred in Region: 'Chinese Yellow Wagtail' <i>M. macronyx</i> (designated thus by Red'kin <i>et al</i> 2015) is extralimital to Far East; confusingly, H&M4 call <i>M. tschutschensis</i> 'Green-headed Wagtail', & place <i>lutea</i> in <i>M. flava</i> (<i>qv</i>). Brazil 2009 earlier & more reasonably called just taxon <i>taivana</i> 'Green-headed Wagtail', which itself may merit elevation (as <i>M.[tschutschensis] taivana</i>) Pavlova <i>et al</i> 2003, including <i>M.(f.) lutea sensu lato</i> . Note that the <i>flava</i> group and the <i>tschutschensis</i> group do not share recent common ancestry Tyler 2004; their separation probably occurred at the same time as the Citrine Wagtail taxa, <i>M.[citreola] citreola</i> & <i>werae</i> , the <i>flava</i> group sharing some DNA history with <i>citreola</i> , & the <i>tschutschensis</i> group with <i>werae</i> , implying that glaciations separated their ancestral stock thus, & that present populations arose from secondary contact Pavlova <i>et al</i> 2003. Drovetski <i>et al</i> 2018b found some unanswered questions: "However, the greater divergence of the <i>M. flava</i> + <i>M.c. calcarata</i> pair from the southern <i>M.[f.] tschutschensis</i> + <i>M.c. werae</i> and northern <i>M.[f.] tschutschensis</i> + <i>M.c. citreola</i> pairs than (from) some other wagtail species remains unexplained."
1102	Eastern Yellow Wagtail (Alaska Wagtail, Beringian Yellow Wagtail)	<i>Motacilla [flava] tschutschensis</i>	Easternmost Kazakhstan taxon <i>tschutschensis</i> , A&M 2003, rare BM lowlands, foothills E-most Kazakhstan: hybridises with <i>beema</i> Irtys Valley NE Kazakhstan, Wassink 2015b, winters SE Asia, subsumes <i>angarensis</i> ; 1st <i>plexa</i> occurrence confirmed by voice recording as common PM mid-May in Tengiz-Korgalzhyn Region, end ssp for Kazakhstan Wassink 2023. 1st for Kuwait Jahra Jan 2020 DB42:1 59 , SG42:2 327 . 2-record vagrant Eastern Province Saudi Arabia Babbington & Meadows 2022. 1st for UAE at al Hamriyah overpass Jan-Apr 2023, 2nd at Ajman STP Feb-Mar 2023 EBRC . 1st for Cyprus Nov 2024 at Akrotiri Marsh Phil Andrews in litt. NB1 Intergrades of <i>beema</i> & <i>feldegg</i> can produce 'dombrowskii'-type individuals with grey ear-coverts and so cannot be separated from <i>tschutschensis</i> Wassink 2015b. NB2 taxon <i>taivana</i> , 'Green-headed Wagtail' Brazil 2009, may merit elevation (as <i>M.[tschutschensis] taivana</i>) Pavlova <i>et al</i> 2003, including <i>M.(f.) lutea sensu lato</i> ; descent also from ancestral <i>citreola</i> indicates complex history of post-glacial populations. NB3 DBWP List 2016 attributed <i>plexa</i> to Alaskan populations which now are treated as a <i>tschutschensis</i> population; IOC8.2 accepts <i>plexa</i> as ssp occupying NC Siberia.
1103	'Yellow-headed Wagtail' ('Yellow-backed Wagtail', 'Gmelin's Wagtail') {Western Yellow Wagtail}	<i>Motacilla (flava/tschutschensis) lutea</i>	(= <i>M. lutea</i>) 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 <i>et al</i> 1984.. Flint <i>et al</i> 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 <i>et al</i> 2017; vagrant, single positive ID Socotra Porter & Suleiman 2020, 2022; 10th recent record Akrotiri Marsh Cyprus Jul 2020 CRBC . This taxon is variously included in <i>M. flava</i> & <i>M. citreola</i> by others. Ferlini & Artemyeva 2020 reconstruct former and derive current breeding & non-breeding distributions for <i>lutea</i> . NB1 this taxon probably relates to <i>taivana</i> group Pavlova <i>et al</i> 2003, while possessing <i>flava</i> lineage also (see next row), hence its placement here. NB2 DBWP 2011 treat as full species, as do Red'kin <i>et al</i> 2015 based on extensive Russian-language literature and research. NB3 taxon <i>taivana</i> , 'Green-headed Wagtail' Brazil 2009, may merit elevation (as <i>M.[tschutschensis] taivana</i>) Pavlova <i>et al</i> 2003, including <i>M.(f.) lutea sensu lato</i> . NB4 Collar 2013 counsels caution on conflicting morphological/reproductive isolation and molecular data as to assigning rank
1104	'Green-headed Wagtail'	<i>Motacilla (tschutschensis/citreola) taivana</i>	4-record vagrant Oman 2002-2011 OBL7 , but 5th record Oct 2013 OBRC . Pavlova <i>et al</i> 2003 noted this taxon ('Green-headed Wagtail' Brazil 2009), may merit elevation (as <i>M.[tschutschensis] taivana</i>), including <i>M.(f.) lutea sensu lato</i> [= <i>Motacilla (flava/tschutschensis) lutea</i> above]. Red'kin <i>et al</i> 2015 recognise as full species based on extensive Russian-language literature and research.
PT	Citrine Wagtail PT	<i>Motacilla citreola</i>	Re Parent Taxon : IOC4.4 does not split & subsumes <i>werae</i> into <i>citreola</i> (presumably on grounds of unknown extent of breeding grounds and population IDs), nor does it separate <i>calcarata</i> ; we note that CS Roselaar has examined long series of specimens (lacking in BMNH) and concludes <i>citreola</i> & <i>werae</i> are valid ssp Khaleghizadeh <i>et al</i> 2017. However, H&M4 note mtDNA distinctiveness, although nuclear DNA is less supportive: Harris <i>et al</i> 2018 conclude that <i>M. flava</i> and <i>M. citreola</i> are monophyletic and sisters, contrary to mtDNA findings, and accordingly cannot split <i>M. citreola</i> into two species. Alström & Ödeen 2002 had cautioned against splitting solely on mtDNA findings, but also noted that <i>citreola</i> & <i>calcarata</i> were sister taxa through an intron in the CHD1Z gene on the Z-chromosome. However, their ' <i>citreola</i> ' included <i>werae</i> , & so it is possible that they used only specimens from the distribution attributed to <i>werae</i> by Ferlini & Mallen Olsen 2021. <i>Contra</i> both H&M4 & Harris <i>et al</i> 2017, Drovetski <i>et al</i> 2018b, in a multi-technique analysis, conclude "Our autosomal tree also suggested the presence of geographically cohesive structuring of the citrine wagtail subspecies: <i>M.c. werae</i> was sister to its geographic neighbour <i>M.c. calcarata</i> , and <i>M.c. citreola</i> 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 & Mallen Olsen 2021 document westward spread of <i>werae</i> and <i>calcarata</i> from Iceland S to S Africa of occurrence & also of breeding from Sweden to , Türkiye & Syria: they also note the number of migrants in the Middle East has increased from a few instances in 1960s to many thousands; even <i>citreola</i> vagrancy has increased. NB1 Further to A&M 2003, Pavlova <i>et al</i> 2003 (subsequent to final edit of A&M 2003) reveal that the <i>flava</i> group and the <i>tschutschensis</i> group do not share recent common ancestry; their separation probably occurred at the same time as the Citrine Wagtail taxa, <i>M.[citreola] citreola</i> & <i>werae</i> , the <i>flava</i> group sharing some DNA history with <i>citreola</i> , & the <i>tschutschensis</i> group with <i>werae</i> , implying that glaciations separated their ancestral stock thus, & that present populations arose from secondary contact. NB2 Pavlova <i>et al</i> 2003 do not cover <i>calcarata</i> . NB3 BirdLife Checklist v2.0 treats <i>werae</i> as 'Western Citrine Wagtail' and <i>taivana</i> as 'Green-headed Wagtail', but within <i>flava</i> group! To sequence <i>lutea</i> and <i>taivana</i> consistently, best to place after <i>flava</i> group before <i>citreola</i> group.
1105	'Eastern Citrine Wagtail'. (Formerly Citrine, Yellow-headed or Yellow-hooded Wagtail)	<i>Motacilla (citreola) citreola</i>	Interpreting Alström & Mild 2003 distribution consequent to Drovetski <i>et al</i> 2018b, taxon <i>citreola</i> may breed E Kyrgyzstan NNE to E-most Kazakhstan Altai, supported in Ferlini & Mallen Olsen 2021, but individuals likely migrate through the E of the OSME Region. Most authorities have subsumed <i>werae</i> in <i>citreola</i> , but see PT above for conclusions of Drovetski <i>et al</i> 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 <i>et al</i> 2017; both taxa winter mostly separately Indian subcontinent & SE Asia & extraliminally to W HBW9. Possibly this taxon 1st for UAE at al-Maha Forest Mar 2024 DB46:3 203 . NB1 G&G 2005 elevated <i>calcarata</i> , Black-backed Citrine Wagtail (<i>qv</i>).

1106	'Western Citrine Wagtail' ('Lesser Citrine Wagtail'. Formerly Citrine, Yellow-headed or Yellow-hooded Wagtail)	<i>Motacilla (citreola) werae</i>	<p>Interpreting Alström & Mild 2003 distribution consequent to Drovetski <i>et al</i> 2018b, taxon <i>werae</i> breeds NE, S Türkiye, N Kazakhstan E to Altai, where it may abut taxon <i>citreola</i>. There appear to be many intergrades: <i>werae</i> 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 <i>citreola</i>) 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, c220km NNE of Almaty Wassink 2022: <i>werae</i> extraliminally breeds NW & N of Region. PM in Region; both taxa winter mostly separately Indian subcontinent & SE Asia & extraliminally to W HBW9. Breeds S Caucasus Ananian & Busuttil 2002, Afghanistan (perhaps passage only here, Paludan 1959), N Kazakhstan Ayé <i>et al</i> 2012, breeds in small numbers NE & EC, S Türkiye Kirwan <i>et al</i> 2014, increasingly so Ferlini & Malling Olsen 2021, who also suggest Georgia & W Armenia. Winters S Caspian (probably small numbers Iran wetlands Khaleghizadeh <i>et al</i> 2017, Zarudny 1911), but Korniluk <i>et al</i> 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; rare WV Socotra Porter & Suleiman 2020, 2022; 7th record Socotra Dec 2021 SG44:1 257.</p> <p>NB1 Taxon <i>werae</i> mostly PM through Region to northernmost breeding grounds, but breeds Türkiye Porter & Aspinall 2010; (recorded Wakhan Afghanistan Niethammer 1973; Cyprus May 2008; MB own notes). NB2 G&G 2005 elevated <i>calcarata</i>, Black-backed Citrine Wagtail (<i>qv</i>). NB3 Wielstra <i>et al</i> 2019 maintain that <i>werae</i> & <i>calcarata</i> can be distinguished by calls: only males in breeding plumage can be identified by sight.</p>
1107	Black-backed Citrine Wagtail {Citrine Wagtail}	<i>Motacilla (citreola) calcarata</i>	<p>Monotypic. G&G 2005 elevated <i>calcarata</i> to full species <i>contra</i> W&O 2007, Wassink 2015b; Drovetski <i>et al</i> 2018b support likelihood. Recently spread to breed in S Kazakhstan's N&C Tien Shan & Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan & Tajikistan Tien Shan (Elena Kreuzberg-Mukhina <i>in litt</i>); rare BM Tien Shan SE Kazakhstan 2300-3100m Wassink 2015b; breeding records for Kyrgyzstan & Tajikistan here attributed to <i>M.(c.) calcarata</i> aligning with attributed distributions in Ayé <i>et al</i> 2012. Extralimital breeding distribution Gilgit-Baltistan, N Kashmir, Tibetan plateau E at least to westernmost Sichuan, Cina Ferlini & Malling Olsen 2021. Koblik <i>et al</i> 2006 removed <i>M. calcarata</i> from Russian Checklist - border changes from USSR. Breeds E Iran HBW9, SB Khaleghizadeh <i>et al</i> 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 Türkiye May 2011 Kirwan <i>et al</i> 2014; 1st for Azerbaijan at Kyzil Agach May 2019 DB41:4 275. NB1 extralimital but now invalid ssp <i>weigoldi</i> resident China A&M 2003. NB2 Wielstra <i>et al</i> 2019 maintain that <i>werae</i> & <i>calcarata</i> can be distinguished by calls: only males in breeding plumage can be identified by sight.</p>
1108	Grey Wagtail	<i>Motacilla cinerea</i>	<p>3 ssp, nominate in Region (other ssp are Atlantic Island isolates). <i>M.c. cinerea</i> & <i>melanope</i> resident SW Turkmenistan, Bukreev 1997, subsumed into <i>cinerea</i> 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 Türkiye, localised breeder Cyprus Richardson 2014, Caucasus, N Iraq Salim <i>et al</i> 2012, SB mountains N&S Iran Khaleghizadeh <i>et al</i> 2017, summer breeder Kyrgyzstan (Ven 2002), Tajikistan, E Uzbekistan (quite widespread in SE Martin <i>et al</i> 2014), E Turkmenistan, Afghanistan Ayé <i>et al</i> 2012, summer breeder Iraq, winters widely to S, A&M 2003, uncommon WV Socotran Archipelago Porter & Suleiman 2020, 2022. Egypt Avib, BE</p>
PT	White Wagtail PT	<i>Motacilla alba</i>	<p>IOC4.4 omits mention of any degree of separation. We follow Tyler 2004, H&M4 in 4 groupings, group 2 being wholly extralimital (Morocco, <i>subpersonata</i> only). Li <i>et al</i> 2015 identify 4 Clades, 3 (North [N], Southeast [SE] and Southwest [SW]) in the Region (Extralimital Clade M for Morocco, <i>subpersonata</i>). Haplotypes for <i>alba</i>, <i>yarellii</i>, <i>leucopsis</i> & <i>lugens</i> 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 <i>et al</i> 2019 below. Taxon line entries remain with H&M4 grouping. Semenov <i>et al</i> 2018 assessed population divergence and structure in 17 microsatellite nuclear markers across <i>alba</i>, <i>personata</i>, <i>baicalensis</i>, <i>ocularis</i>, <i>leucopsis</i> & (extralimital) <i>lugens</i>. Allopatric <i>lugens</i> formed a distinct genetic structure, but elsewhere neutral population structure was weak & only partly congruent with plumage variation and ssp 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 <i>et al</i> 2019 established that ancestral Clade N colonised from the Black Sea region E to easternmost Eurasia 220KYa. Clade SE colonised from the Iran region 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; <i>Dutch Birding</i> elevates most ssp to full species, but we prefer emphasising uncertainty by using round brackets.</p> <p>In Clade SW: Haplotypes are part <i>alba</i> (Krasnodar & Iran) & part <i>yarellii</i> (UK), which are present also in Clade N; hence we do not present a separate entry for Clade SW.</p>
<p>Clade N: Haplotype incongruences: N includes part <i>alba</i> (Europe eastwards) & part <i>yarellii</i> (English Channel to Germany coasts) that also occur in Clade SW. Clade N also includes small parts of <i>leucopsis</i> & extralimital <i>subpersonata</i> haplotypes.</p>			
1109	White Wagtail	<i>Motacilla (alba) alba</i>	<p>Group 1, 4 taxa, all having occurred in Region. Li <i>et al</i> 2015 found <i>alba</i> haplotype also in Clade SW. 1st record <i>baicalensis</i> Sorbulak Almaty 800km WSW of easternmost Kazakhstan Wassink 2015a; IOC6.2 subsumes <i>dukhunensis</i> in <i>alba</i>. Breeds Asia Minor, N Iraq (Salim <i>et al</i> 2012) NW Iran to Golestan Khaleghizadeh <i>et al</i> 2017(<i>dukhunensis</i>: <i>alba</i> is PM), N Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan (Ven 2002), <i>alba</i>×<i>personata</i> W Iran, A&M 2003, <i>alba</i> common BM N third of Kazakhstan, common PM throughout, rare resident, rare WV in S Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b; E Kazakhstan migrants may be <i>dukhunensis</i> Rogacheva 1992, winters S of Caucasus-N Afghanistan line; '<i>dukhunensis</i>' (intergrade <i>baicalensis</i> & <i>alba</i> A&M 2003) passage & winterer Afghanistan Paludan 1959, Iran Zarudny 1911 ('<i>orientalis</i>'). Passage throughout Region: abundant PM & WV Oman OBL7, regular, common WV & PM Socotra Porter & Suleiman 2020, 2022 (from overall vagrancy pattern, <i>baicalensis</i> may also occur). Egypt Avib, BE. NB <i>alba</i> intergrades with <i>personata</i> at contact zone breeding ranges Wassink 2015b</p>
1110	Pied Wagtail {White Wagtail}	<i>Motacilla (alba) yarellii</i>	<p>Group 1. Li <i>et al</i> 2015 found <i>yarellii</i> haplotype also in Clade SW. Recorded Cyprus 13 May 07 Colin Richardson pers comm; one reported Eilat Israel Feb 2021 Yoav Perlman <i>in litt</i>. NB1 Photos Cyprus Oct 07 of another bird (John Waterbury) were not of this taxon (Ghassan Ramadan-Jaradi pers comm). NB2 DBWP 2011 treat as full species</p>
1111	'Masked Wagtail' {White Wagtail}	<i>Motacilla (alba) personata</i>	<p>Group 1. ≡ <i>M. personata</i> K-M <i>et al</i> 2005. Li <i>et al</i> 2015 found <i>personata</i> haplotype also in Clade SE. <i>M.(a.) personata</i> Turkmenistan, Bukreev 1997 & 2005; breeds Uzbekistan Atadjanov <i>et al</i> 2003, Elena Kreuzberg-Mukhina <i>in litt</i>, 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, breeds NE Iran Porter <i>et al</i> 2024 (also Zarudny 1911), occurs SE Iran Jan 2009 Winkel <i>et al</i> 2010 ('<i>persica</i>'), 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 6th 3 birds Saliya STP Oct 2022 QBRC; putative 1st fully documented for Egypt at El Gouna Mar 2023 Constance <i>et al</i> 2023; vagrant Kuwait 4th record Jul 2013, 7th Dec 2020 KORC; 3rd record Israel southern Dead Sea Mar 2016 IRDC; 4th at Maayan Zvi Feb 2023 Amir Ben Dov <i>in litt</i>; 1st for Türkiye at Milleyha Mar 2024 imaged by Emin Yoğurtcuoğlu <i>in litt</i>, DB46:3 203, 1st for Armenia at Lake Sevan Mar 2024 DB46:3 203. 1st for Azerbaijan at Dumistan Farm, Hamala Oct 2023 DB46:6 407. 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 <i>alboides</i> and <i>leucopsis</i> A&M 2003; <i>alba</i> intergrades with <i>personata</i> at contact zone breeding ranges Wassink 2015b. NB2 DB2011 treat as full species.</p>

1112	'Baikal Wagtail'	<i>Motacilla (alba) baicalensis</i>	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 <i>et al</i> 2021. Known scarce, probably erratic WV N&SE Iran Khaleghizadeh <i>et al</i> 2017. NB <i>baicalensis</i> rare vagrant Chokpak Andrei Gavrilov <i>in litt</i> .
1113	'East Siberian Wagtail' {White Wagtail} Siberian White Wagtail)	<i>Motacilla (alba) ocularis</i>	Group 3, 2 ssp, <i>lugens</i> 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 <i>in litt</i> , SG41:1 ATR : 146.
Clade SE: Haplotype incongruences: <i>personata</i> & extralimital <i>lugens</i> also present			
1114	'Amur Wagtail'	<i>Motacilla (alba) leucopsis</i>	Group 4, 2 ssp, both in Region. Li <i>et al</i> found <i>leucopsis</i> 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 at Wathba, Abu Dhabi Jan 2021, Campbell 2022, EBRC . 4th for Oman at Salalah, Dhofar, Nov 2023 DB46:1 62. NB1 A&M 2003 suggest forms clade with <i>personata</i> and <i>alboides</i> but Tyler 2004 suggests groupings at lower level as given here. NB2 DBWP 2009 separate <i>M. leucopsis</i> as Amur Wagtail.
1115	'Himalayan Wagtail' (Hodgson's Pied Wagtail)	<i>Motacilla (alba) alboides</i>	Group 4. Treatment here follows Sangster <i>et al</i> 1999. Claimed record E Kazakhstan 43:12N+76:37E W&O 2008 (and 9 others up to 2015) reassessed as <i>personata</i> Masked Wagtail. Breeds Pakistan N Chitral to Baltistan, along border with Afghanistan Grimmett <i>et al</i> 2009, therefore likely breeds Wakhan, suggested from R&A 2012 map. NB forms clade with <i>personata</i> and <i>leucopsis</i> A&M 2003: if these 3 taxa separated from <i>alba</i> , new species name would be <i>M. alboides</i> .
1116	African Pied Wagtail	<i>Motacilla aguimp</i>	2 ssp: <i>vidua</i> 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 <i>et al</i> 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).
1117	White-browed Wagtail	<i>Motacilla maderaspatensis</i> (<i>Motacilla maderaspatensis</i> ; changed via Per Alström)	Monotypic. E Afghanistan in map in A&M (2003); support in Grimmett <i>et al</i> 1998 ('summer visitor' above '1700m', 'resident, locally common' 'NW Pakistan'). Roberts 1992 maps at or close to Pakistan/Afghanistan border Kurram & Khyber as do Grimmett <i>et al</i> 2009. Probably this taxon uncommon all along Kabul River & in Kabul 2002 Anssi Kullberg <i>in litt</i> . BLDZ map Feb 2017 shows breeds within 100km of Afghan border at Torkham Pass used by A Kullberg.
1118	Golden Pipit	<i>Tmetothylacus tenellus</i>	Monotypic. NW Somalia to E Kenya, HBW9; one record vagrant Oman 1983, Porter <i>et al</i> 1996 OBL7 , also vagrant Yemen Porter & Aspinall 2010, Eriksen & Porter 2017, Lees & Gilroy 2021.
PT	Richard's Pipit PT	<i>Anthus richardi</i> (Formerly <i>A. novaezeelandiae</i>)	Many older records refer only to Parent Taxon or even antedated old split of such as <i>A. rufulus</i> & <i>A. cinnamomeus</i> (qv both); beware inconsistencies. IOC/H&M4 split from extralimital Australian <i>A.[n.] australis</i> and New Zealand <i>A.[n.] novaezeelandiae</i> Pipits. Wink 2011 agrees. Dufour <i>et al</i> 2021 establish that 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'.
1119	Richard's Pipit	<i>Anthus richardi</i>	Monotypic. Voelcker 1999, A&M 2003. <i>A. richardi centralasiae</i> 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 <i>et al</i> 2012, abundant breeder Karkyra steppes, Issyk-Jul Region Kyrgyzstan 2021 van Els & Hiddes 2022. Fairly common PM & WV Oman OBL7 , some probably winter S Türkiye Kirwan <i>et al</i> 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 <i>et al</i> 2017. Group comprises <i>richardi</i> , & extralimital <i>dauricus</i> , <i>centralasiae</i> , <i>ussuriensis</i> & <i>sinensis</i> HBW9. Egypt Avib, BE
1120	Paddyfield Pipit (Oriental Pipit)	<i>Anthus rufulus</i> (≡ <i>A. richardi rufulus</i>)	5 ssp, only nominate in Region, remainder (<i>malayensis</i> , <i>lugubris</i> , <i>albidus</i> & <i>medius</i>) HBW9. H&M4 far to S & SE. Breeds NE Afghanistan Alström & Mild 2003, E Afghanistan (<i>waiteri</i> , now subsumed in nominate), Paludan 1959, R&A 2005, Ayé <i>et al</i> 2012, likely breeds SE Iran Ayé <i>et al</i> 2014, certainly 2-record WV there 2010 Khaleghizadeh <i>et al</i> 2017: post-breeding joins resident Pakistan, India population. 1st for UAE, Hamraiya Nov 2017, 2nd Wamm Farms Fujairah Oct 2018 EBRC ; ID details given by Campbell <i>et al</i> 2020 3rd (3 birds) at Wamm Farms Fujairah Dec 2023 DB46:1 62.
1121	African Pipit (Grassveld Pipit, Grassland Pipit)	<i>Anthus cinnamomeus</i> (≡ <i>A. richardi cinnamomeus</i>)	13 African ssp, plus <i>eximius</i> resident population SW Arabia, A&M 2003. Rare breeder SW Saudi Arabia, local W Yemen where most of c500bp occur Jennings 2010, 2 al Mefah Park, Tanoumah, one singing Al Namas Asir Province, Saudi Arabia, the most northerly recent records SG41:1 ATR : 148. The first biometrics of <i>eximius</i> 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 <i>A. similis arabicus</i> . NB annae may wander from Diibouti.
1122	Blyth's Pipit	<i>Anthus godlewskii</i>	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 & Stawarczyk 1997; 2nd record Türkiye Sep 2006 Kirwan <i>et al</i> 2014, one at Milley Hatay Dec 2018 SG41:1 ATR : 149: one reported Cape Kormatis Jan 2017 DB39:2 132, but one reported at Paphos & Mandria Oct 2016 was accepted SG39:1 ATR ; 3rd record Mar 2018 Mandria MB pers obs, also CRBC . 7-record vagrant Oman 1999-2010 OBL7 , 8th Jarziz Farm, Salalah Apr 2022 OBRC accepted, vagrant Israel IRDC , 6th record Arsuf Mar-Apr 2016 IRDC , 8th Hatzuk Beach Tel Aviv Apr 2020 IRDC . 1st record 2011 Jordan JBRC . Uncommon/locally fairly common PM/WV UAE Pedersen & Aspinall 2010. 2nd for Kuwait at al-Abraq Oct 2024 Phil Andrews in litt , 3rd at United Poultry Farm Feb 2025 Phil Andrews in litt . 1st for Iran at Asaluyeh, Bushehr Dec 2024 IBRC . One imaged Borit, Gajal, Gilgit-Baltistan, less than 70km from Afghan Wakhan Pass Mar 2023, by Imran Shah.
1123	Tawny Pipit	<i>Anthus campestris</i>	H&M4 now treat as monotypic over its vast distribution. <i>A. c. boehmi</i> & <i>griseus</i> Turkmenistan, Bukreev 1997. Summer breeder Türkiye, Levant, Caucasus, common SB N Iran uplands, common PM across Iran, uncommon WV Iranian S lowlands Khaleghizadeh <i>et al</i> 2017, almost all CA; common BM, PM Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b; Afghanistan (<i>griseus</i> Paludan 1959) now all ssp subsumed in <i>campestris</i> , widespread on passage, winters Arabian peninsula, S Iran, India, sub-Saharan Africa, A&M 2003: abundant PM & WV Oman OBL7 ; rare WV Socotran Archipelago Porter & Suleiman 2020. 2022. Egypt Avib, BE
1124	Long-billed Pipit (formerly Persian or Brown Rock Pipit)	<i>Anthus similis</i> (obsolete taxonomy, <i>A. sordidus</i>)	Taxonomic part review leaves 15 ssp in <i>A. similis</i> Pieterse <i>et al</i> 2018: extralimital Nicholson's Pipit (Angola to Namibia and S to S Africa) <i>A. nicolsoni</i> split off. 5 <i>similis</i> ssp in Region: Socotra Island endemic ssp <i>sokotrae</i> (qv below); <i>captus</i> Syria-Jordan; <i>arabicus</i> SW Arabia, Halaib Triangle & vagrant to SE-most Egypt EORC , extralimital NE Sudan, NE Eritrea; <i>decaptus</i> NE Arabia, uncommon SB Iran mountains Zagros, Kerman, Baluchestan Khaleghizadeh <i>et al</i> 2017, SE Afghanistan into Pakistan, wintering India; <i>jerdoni</i> NE Afghanistan E to Nepal, wintering India. Levant mountains including Syria Murdoch & Betton 2008, uncommon S Iran, resident E Afghanistan (R&A 2005) (<i>decaptus</i> SE, <i>jerdoni</i> E Paludan 1959); Ayé <i>et al</i> 2012 omit mention of <i>jerdoni</i> ; Oman, Yemen, SW Arabia, vagrant Iraq Salim <i>et al</i> 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 Saliya Dec 2021 QBRC . Hering & Hering 2022d obtained in Socotra information on nest size and the appearance of the nestlings (lacking until now, and no photos of the nest and fledglings of this subspecies have previously been taken). Single-record vagrant 2002 Eastern Province Saudi Arabia Babbington & Meadows 2022. Disjunct breeding distribution Arabia (1450-3000m asl), ssp <i>nivescens</i> (perhaps better subsumed in <i>arabicus</i> Kirwan & Grieve 2010b) mountains inland of Tihama (400+bp?), <i>decaptus</i> UAE/E Oman (c5000bp), uncertain Dhofar (5000bp) & Socotra (c80 000bp) Jennings 2010, fairly common montane resident breeder N & S Oman OBL7 . Migrates past Kuwait-Bourne 1991. Egypt Grieve <i>et al</i> 2001, accepted EORC 2011. Vagrant Bahrain, Cyprus Porter <i>et al</i> 2024. NB Resident (A&M 2003) Socotra form, <i>sokotrae</i> ('Socotra Pipit'), candidate for elevation after further research.
1125	'Socotra Pipit'	<i>Anthus similis sokotrae</i>	Socotra Island endemic ssp <i>sokotrae</i> (Kirwan & Grieve 2007) resident Socotra Porter & Suleiman 2020, Hering & Hering 2023, population 94 500ind Porter & Suleiman 2022.

1126	Meadow Pipit	<i>Anthus pratensis</i>	Monotypic. Caucasus, winters there & Syria, Iraq, Iran, Afghanistan, E Turkmenistan SE Uzbekistan, common WV N Iran Khaleghizadeh <i>et al</i> 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
1127	Tree Pipit	<i>Anthus trivialis</i>	2 ssp, both in Region: nominate breeds N Türkiye, Caucasus, NW Iran, Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan, Tajikistan, Kazakhstan (away from semi-desert Flint <i>et al</i> 1984; <i>trivialis</i> Kazakhstan W&O 2007 & <i>haringtoni</i> Afghanistan Arend Wassink <i>in litt</i> Dec 2014); common BM, PM Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b, 1st wintering record [15 birds] Karakol Province Wassink 2010a, common PM & WV Oman OBL7 , passage <i>schlüteri</i> (now treated as invalid), ' <i>sibiricus</i> ' <i>haringtoni</i> Afghanistan Paludan 1959, winters Chitral area Pakistan (<i>haringtoni</i> ? Afghanistan?), India, sub-Saharan Africa, sometimes Yemen (vagrant Socotra Porter & Suleiman 2020), Oman, UAE, common migrant A&M 2003, Afghanistan R&A 2005. rare, irregular PM, WV Socotran Archipelago Porter & Suleiman 2022. Egypt Avib, BE NB ssp <i>haringtoni</i> wintering population India may have migratory subset that continues across Western Indian Ocean to E Africa following dragonfly swarms Anderson 2009.
1128	Olive-backed Pipit	<i>Anthus hodgsoni</i>	2 ssp, only <i>yunnannensis</i> occurs in Region. Breeds E Kazakhstan, A&M 2003, easternmost Kazakhstan Flint <i>et al</i> 1984, very rare BM, occasional PM Wassink 2015b, Ayé <i>et al</i> 2012; migrants Wakhan Afghanistan Sep 65 Niethammer & Niethammer 1967, vagrant Türkiye Kirwan <i>et al</i> 1999, 2nd record Türkiye Kirwan <i>et al</i> 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 ; 3rd Azerbaijan at Besh Barmag Nov 2022 SG45:1 141. 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 <i>in litt</i> , 3 Palestine records since 2012 Awad <i>et al</i> 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 & Stawarczyk 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 , 10th record Police Park Tehran Dec2023 SG46:1 135. 3 W Kazakhstan records, 3rd Jun 2020 Wassink <i>et al</i> 2021. 4-record vagrant Iran Khaleghizadeh <i>et al</i> 2017, one Shiraz Nov 2016 IBRC , occurs Afghanistan E Dickinson pers comm.
1129	Pechora Pipit	<i>Anthus gustavi</i>	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.
1130	Rosy Pipit (Formerly Vinaceous or Rose-breasted Pipit; see Working Notes at right)	<i>Anthus roseatus</i>	Monotypic. Breeding SV NE Afghanistan (eastern Afghan Safed Koh H&E 1970), SE Tajikistan ([?] Ayé <i>et al</i> 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 <i>et al</i> 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 <i>Anthus hodgsoni</i> . Olive-backed Pipit?
1131	Red-throated Pipit	<i>Anthus cervinus</i> (<i>A. cervina</i> 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 <i>et al</i> 2017 some WV Scott & Adhami 2006, localised winterer Cyprus Richardson 2014, common PM & WV Oman OBL7 , possible 1st for Kyrgyzstan N shore Lake Issyk Kul Apr 2023 SG45:2 276.; vagrant Socotra Porter & Suleiman 2020, 2022. Egypt Avib, BE. NB often regarded as monotypic, but well-supported case for ssp <i>rufulus</i> (W of C Taymyr) & <i>cervinus</i> (E of Taymyr) Stepanyan 1990: <i>rufulus</i> here would be an invalid name, given that <i>A. rufulus</i> Vieillot 1818 has nomenclatural priority.
PT	Buff-bellied Pipit PT	<i>Anthus rubescens</i>	H&M4 notes case for separation of <i>japonicus</i> in Zink <i>et al</i> 1995, Hendricks & Verbeek 2012 (the latter developed from Verbeek & Hendricks 1994). Recent DNA work undertaken to examine the relationships of Water Pipit <i>A. spinoletta</i> taxa and their distance from the Buff-bellied complex, showed a sizeable genetic difference between <i>rubescens</i> and <i>japonicus</i> . Although more DNA work is needed, the data so far merit listing <i>japonicus</i> separately. Doniol-Valcroze <i>et al</i> 2023 via 2 mtDNA loci & 9 bioacoustic parameters support split into <i>A.[r.] japonicus</i> & <i>A.r. rubescens</i> (Siberian & American Pipit respectively: accepted by <i>Dutch Birding</i> DB46:1 45, IOC14.2 & <i>Berryman et al</i> 2024.). Given that <i>japonicus</i> is thought to occur on the Chukotsky Peninsula & <i>rubescens</i> occurs across Alaska just across the Bering Strait, we prudently assumed that they form a superspecies, but the conclusions of Alström <i>et al</i> 2023 & Chesser <i>et al</i> 2024 suggest that a superspecies label is not required.
1132	Siberian Pipit (Siberian Buff-bellied Pipit) {Buff-bellied Pipit} (Japanese Pipit {Swedish Taxonomic Committee})	<i>Anthus japonicus</i> (formerly <i>Anthus [rubescens] japonicus</i>)	Monotypic (& Palearctic) taxon. 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 <i>et al</i> 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 2021 imaged by Tatiana Menchikova SG44:1 241. 2-record vagrant Iran Khaleghizadeh <i>et al</i> 2017, 3rd for Iran at Tabas, S Khorasan Dec 2017 DB40:2 123, 5th record Kahir, Sistan & Baluchestan Dec 2021 Emin Yoğurtcuoğlu, Mitra Daneshvar <i>Birding Iran in litt</i> IBRC ; Syria Murdoch & Betton 2008, Türkiye Atahan & Atahan 2009; regular winterer small numbers southernmost Türkiye Kirwan <i>et al</i> 2014, influx Mar/May 2023 Çağan Abbasoğlu <i>in litt</i> ; 1st midwinter record Azerbaijan Jan 2016 SG38:2 225, 3 certain records Egypt Jan 2009 Sharm el Sheikh EORC , Israel Perlman & Meyrav 2009, 3 Palestine records since 2010 Awad <i>et al</i> 2022. 2nd Cyprus record Nov 2013 CRC , 4th Nicosia Nov 2016, 5th Akhna Dam Nov -Dec 2016 CRC , 6th at Mandria Dec 2020 CRBC , 7th (6th?) at Anarita Park 27 Mar 2022 CRBC , another at Petounta Marsh 27 Mar 2022 Jane Stylianou <i>in litt</i> , another near Bishop's Pool Dec 2022 Anders Gray <i>in litt</i> , one Larnaca Sewage Works Feb 2023 Sam Jones <i>in litt</i> : 170, one at Mandria Dec 2023 Colin Richardson <i>in litt</i> . 1st record Georgia Jan 2014 SG36:2 ATR , 3rd Kumisi Lake S of Tbilisi Dec 2021 Images FB & Twitter Budagashvili & Javakhishvili 2024; 1st for Saudi Arabia al Sikak Farms, Salwa Dec 2022 SG45:1 155; 1st record Bahrain Jan 2012 Babbington 2013, 8-record vagrant Oman 2002-2013 OBL7 , 18 records UAE Pedersen & Aspinall 2010. 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 <i>rubescens</i> . NB2 Populations bear divergent cytochrome c oxidase 1 (CO1) lineages, potentially including cryptic taxa Kerr <i>et al</i> 2009. NB3 English name change mainly because taxon <i>japonicus</i> does not have a buff belly (NACC 2024 proposal supports this name change, aligning with <i>Dutch Birding</i> preferences). NB4 IOC14.2 splits Japanese Pipit <i>A. japonicus</i> from polytypic American Buff-bellied Pipit <i>A. rubescens</i> (& hence changes the English name of <i>A. rubescens</i> to American Pipit)
PT	Water Pipit PT	<i>Anthus spinoletta</i>	Garner <i>et al</i> 2015 list call differences, plumage differences & provide a preliminary genetic analysis for the 3 <i>spinoletta</i> taxa, noting that not all populations were sampled. Nevertheless, we deem Garner <i>et al</i> 2015 allows our 'don't know' approach to be applied to keep each taxon in view separately. Shirihai & Svensson 2018 subsume <i>blakistoni</i> in <i>cutelli</i> . Doniol-Valcroze <i>et al</i> 2023 suggest further work via mtDNA loci, nuclear DNA & bioacoustic parameters would reinforce the 3-way split of Garner <i>et al</i> 2015.
1133	'European Water Pipit'	<i>Anthus (spinoletta) spinoletta</i>	Monotypic if split. Occurs on migration in European Türkiye, birds taken in W & C Türkiye most closely resembling <i>spinoletta</i> Kirwan <i>et al</i> 2008, main wintering grounds NW Africa, perhaps winter straggler to Türkiye, Cyprus, Egypt
1134	'Caucasian Water Pipit'	<i>Anthus (spinoletta) cutelli</i>	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 <i>et al</i> 1986: <i>cutelli</i> resident Turkmenistan, Bukreev 1997; fairly common PM & sometimes scarce WV to Cyprus Peter Flint pers comm; widespread passage Iran Zaruđny 1911; <i>cutelli</i> probably breeds N Iraq, passage Salim <i>et al</i> 2012. SB Türkiye, Caucasus, N Iran A&M 2003 (high mountains Khaleghizadeh <i>et al</i> 2017 common PM, WV throughout). Fairly common to common WV Oman OBL7 . Egypt Avib, BE. NB CA 'Dark Pipit' <i>blakistoni</i> not in Rock Pipit <i>A. petrosus</i> group.
1135	'Asian Water Pipit' ('Blakiston's Pipit')	<i>Anthus (spinoletta) blakistoni</i>	Monotypic if split. Breeds NE Afghanistan, C Asia to Tien Shan, E to China, wintering SW Asia, Pakistan-China: <i>blakistoni</i> PM Turkmenistan, Bukreev 1997; widespread passage Iran Zaruđny 1911; NE Afghanistan (R&A 2005), E Uzbekistan (Elena Kreuzberg-Mukhina <i>in litt</i>) common BM E&SE Kazakhstan very rare resident, WV Wassink 2015b, Tajikistan, Kyrgyzstan Ayé <i>et al</i> 2012, A&M 2003. NB CA 'Dark Pipit' <i>blakistoni</i> not in Rock Pipit <i>A. petrosus</i> group.
1136	Upland Pipit	<i>Anthus sylvanus</i>	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 <i>et al</i> 2012; map Afghan-Pakistan border Grimmett <i>et al</i> 1998, but Grimmett <i>et al</i> 2009 map only isolated populations, none on border; no acceptable modern records (?) Afghanistan Ayé <i>et al</i> 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.
PT	Common Chaffinch PT	<i>Fringilla coelebs sensu lato</i>	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 <i>spodiogenys</i> , <i>africana</i> and <i>harterti</i> be split off as <i>Fringilla spodiogenys</i> (ssp <i>spodiogenys</i> & <i>harterti</i> not sampled): nominate & <i>africana</i> are distantly extralimital, but <i>harterti</i> (Svensson 2015) less so, being given as resident in Cyrenaica, NE Libya, but not east of Derna, though IUCN map residency of an unidentified population up to 30km E of Tobruk. Draft IOC13.2 accepts split into Eurasian, African, Azores, Madeira and Canary Islands Chaffinches, <i>F. coelebs</i> , <i>F. spodiogenys</i> , <i>F. moreletti</i> , <i>F. madeirensis</i> & <i>F. canariensis</i> respectively. Svensson & Shirihai 2018 map <i>harterti</i> as per Svensson 2018, and so provisionally, we assume that the resident population (identity unconfirmed), in a small area just south of Tobruk comprises <i>harterti</i> (IUCN , BLDZ maps Feb 2023, only 200km from a population in N Egypt as mapped by Svensson & Shirihai 2018 & attributed to <i>schiebeli</i>). They also map a small population of wintering birds (taxon not given) in NE Libya near Nardiyah just on the Egyptian border but omitted from IUCN/Birdlife maps: they also consider <i>F. coelebs schiebeli</i> 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 <i>schiebeli</i> in <i>coelebs</i> . We include African Chaffinch in the ORL Hypothetical List (qv). NB 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..
1137	European Chaffinch (Eurasian Chaffinch, Common Chaffinch)	<i>Fringilla coelebs sensu stricto</i>	18 ssp (IOC), 14 ssp (H&M4); 7 in Region (IOC) 5 in Region (H&M4): nominate (perhaps subsuming <i>caucasica</i> of IOC) Türkiye, NW Iran, Caucasus, wintering to S; <i>solomkoi</i> SW Caucasus; <i>syriaca</i> (possibly synonymous with <i>schiebeli</i> of IOC: IOC 6.4 to subsume <i>schiebeli</i> in nominate Clement 2010) Cyprus (Strong increase 2006-2015 Hellicar 2016), Levant, SE Türkiye, N Iraq; <i>alexandrovi</i> N Iran; <i>transcaspia</i> NE Iran, SW Turkmenistan; <i>F.c. transcaspicus</i> Turkmenistan, Bukreev 1997 (now <i>transcaspica</i>), <i>coelebs</i> common BM, abundant PM, scarce WV Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b: 1st record Qatar Dec 2015 DB38:4 253, 7th UAE record Aby Shabi Formal Park Dec 2021-May 2022 EBRC . Resident Türkiye, 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 <i>solomkoi</i> , 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' <i>F. spodiogenys</i> ssp <i>harterti</i> 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 List .
1138	Brambling	<i>Fringilla montifringilla</i>	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 QBRC . Egypt Avib BE
1139	Black-and-yellow Grosbeak	<i>Mycerobas icteroides</i>	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 Pakitka & E past Kabul. NB Older references cite <i>icteroides</i> in error.
1140	White-winged Grosbeak	<i>Mycerobas carnipes</i>	2 ssp, nominate easternmost Kazakhstan breeder, NE Afghanistan; <i>merzbacheri</i> (now subsumed in nominate) C Asia Pamir-Tien Shan; then in adjacent China; <i>speculigerus</i> SW Turkmenistan, NE Iran, N Afghanistan S to Pakistan. <i>M.c. speculigerus</i> & <i>merzbacheri</i> Turkmenistan, Bukreev 1997, <i>carnipes</i> common resident 1900-3000m Tien Shan to Altai & Irtysh E & SE Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b, Ayé et al 2012, E Afghanistan Paludan 1959; <i>merzbacheri</i> 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 & extralimital E to NW China, along N Tibet border to C&E China, meeting trans-Himayan continuous distribution from Pakistan BLDZ map Apr 2023.
1141	Hawfinch	<i>Coccothraustes coccothraustes</i>	6 ssp, 3 in Region: nominate rare resident or BM E-most Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b & scarce WV, rare PM; <i>humii</i> very rare breeder Kazakhstan, commoner C Asia E from E Uzbekistan, wintering Pakistan & extralimital; <i>nigricans</i> Caucasus, N&NE Iran wintering Middle East. <i>C.c. humii</i> (SE) & <i>nigricans</i> (vagrant SW) Turkmenistan, Bukreev 1997, <i>coccothraustes</i> in E; <i>humii</i> very rare resident 2 disparate locations only, Lower Ugam western Tien Shan & Ushbalaq in Zhungarsky Alatau foothills S & E Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b. Resident N (mostly NE Roselaar 1995) Türkiye, 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 al 2012, uncommon winterer Iraq Salim et al 2012. Breeds W Afghanistan (<i>humii</i> Paludan 1959) R&A 2005. 2nd Kuwait record Abraq Farm 16 Nov 2016 DB38:6 479, 3rd-4th Jahra East outfall, Mutla'a ranch Nov 2017 KORC . Single-record vagrant 1994 (as 1st for Saudi Arabia) Eastern Province Babbington & Meadows 2022. Egypt Avib BE
PT	Pine Grosbeak PT	<i>Pinicola enucleator</i>	Drovetski et al 2010 found a 6.4% mtDNA divergence between the Eurasian clade (<i>enucleator</i> , <i>kamtschatkensis</i> , <i>sakhalinensis</i>) and the 2-3 Nearctic clades (<i>carlottae</i> , <i>montanus</i> , <i>californicus</i> , <i>leucurus</i> , <i>flammula</i>). 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 for IOC10.1 not splitting off Eurasian taxa. <i>Pro tem</i> , we suggest the informal@OSME names of 'Eurasian' Pine Grosbeak and 'American' Pine Grosbeak.
1142	Eurasian Pine Grosbeak	<i>Pinicola (enucleator) enucleator</i>	Holarctic species, 8 ssp (5 Nearctic), nominate common resident far N & NE Kazakhstan Wassink 2015, K-M&K 2005, resident far NE Kazakhstan, Clement et al 1993, <i>kamtschatkensis</i> (rare WV from E?) Ayé et al 2012, <i>sakhalinensis</i> 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.
1143	Orange Bullfinch	<i>Pyrrhula aurantiaca</i>	Monotypic. Occurs up to 3500m R&A 2005. Map in Arlott 2007 erroneously suggests non-continuous band Uzbekistan, Tajikistan, Afghanistan; present only in NE Afghanistan IUCN/BLDZ map May 2023 indicates occurrence in Afghanistan limited to the Naray/Nari region's high mountains N&S of the Shamadan border crossing from Pakistan. Given that it is regularly encountered in valleys in the Gilgit Region of Pakistan (Birds of Gilgit-Baltistan <i>Imran Shah in litt</i> May 2023, <i>in litt</i> Sep 2024) some distance beyond the northern limit on IUCN/BLDZ maps (only 60km from Wakhan), the same may well apply in this underwatched high-altitude area. (R&A 2005 map almost reached Afghani Wakhan, N Chitral Roberts 1992; Grimmett et al 2009 reinforced). 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 <i>Callacanthus burtoni</i> .
PT	Eurasian Bullfinch (Common Bullfinch) PT	<i>Pyrrhula pyrrhula</i>	IOC2.0, Sangster et al 2011 accept separation from extralimital Azores Bullfinch <i>P. [p.] murina</i> (which lacks sexual dimorphism), but do not acknowledge 'Grey Bullfinch' <i>P. (p.) cineracea</i> , nor does IOC10.1. NB H&M4 groups sssp as per 3 sp of Stepanyan 1990; we follow (Group 3 is extralimital to Far East.).
1144	Eurasian Bullfinch	<i>Pyrrhula (pyrrhula) pyrrhula</i>	H&M4 Group 1: 7 ssp, 3 in Region - nominate scarce resident (2 locations only: far N & E-most Kazakhstan, common WV rare PM Wassink 2015b; <i>rossikowi</i> Asia Minor, Caucasus, NW Iran; <i>caspica</i> N Iran. Resident N Türkiye-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 . 1st Cyprus record of 3 (Riverine vegetation, alders & brambles among black pines) Kryos Potamos, Caledonia trail, Troodos, Nov 2002 Peter Flint pers comm, putative 2nd at Prodomos Dec 2023 DB47:1 64. See also <i>P. (p.) cineracea</i> below.

1145	Grey Bullfinch (Eurasian Bullfinch) (Baikal Bullfinch)	<i>Pyrrhula (pyrrhula) cineracea</i>	<i>Pro tem</i> 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 <i>pyrrhula</i> in Altai Wassink 2015b. (≠ <i>P. cineracea</i> NE Kazakhstan, K-M&K 2005, Clement <i>et al</i> 1993). Breeds several localities Kazakh Altai, some winter far NE Kazakhstan K Roselaar pers comm, Ayé <i>et al</i> 2012, vagrant winterer W Kazakhstan Wassink 2023. winters Kyrgyzstan, migrant Uzbekistan Koblik & Arkhipov 2014. Intergrades with <i>P. pyrrhula</i> known. Common in spruce-fir forests Sayan Mts N of Region Rogacheva 1992 (as <i>P. cineracea</i>). NB treated as <i>P. cineracea</i> by BWP 1994.
PT	Crimson-winged Finch PT	<i>Change English name of Rhodopechys sanguineus to Asian (not Eurasian) Crimson-winged Finch with split of R. alienus. Restore (15.1) English name Crimson-winged Finch with the re-lumping of R. sanguineus with R. alienus.</i>	IOC2.2 accepted split (Kirwan <i>et al</i> 2006), H&M4 acknowledges case, but lumps. Extralimital taxon in Africa is African Crimson-winged Finch <i>R.(s.) alienus</i> . IOC7.2 amends to Asian Crimson-winged Finch; Collar 2017 agrees. IOC15.1 re-lumps Asian & African Crimson-winged Finches to align with other World Lists - requires further vocal and genetic data: while acknowledging that, we adjust to uncertain status with addition of round brackets in trinomial.
1146	Asian Crimson-winged Finch (Eurasian Crimson-winged Finch) (Crimson-winged Finch)	<i>Rhodopechys (s.) sanguineus sensu stricto</i> (IOC 15.1 <i>Rhodopechys s. sanguineus</i>)	Monotypic. See Kirwan & Gregory 2005. Kirwan <i>et al</i> 2006 for insight into complexity of relationships between next 4 taxa and between them and <i>Carpodacus</i> . Breeds C-CE Türkiye Kirwan <i>et al</i> 2008, Syria Murdoch & Betton 2008, Caucasus, montane resident SE CA from E Kazakhstan SW to Afghanistan Ayé <i>et al</i> 2012, Iraq (vagrant Salim <i>et al</i> 2012), Iran where altitudinal migrant N Highlands Khaleghizadeh <i>et al</i> 2017. Rare resident, BM SE Kazakhstan from western Tien Shan to Manrak Mts Wassink 2015b. Afghanistan, Clement <i>et al</i> 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 Phassouri Feb 2017 CRC , 5th Karpasia March 2020 DB42:3 218 Ian Harrison <i>in litt</i> ; 6th, 2 at Petounta Point Jan 2025 Colin Richardson in litt.
1147	Trumpeter Finch (formerly Trumpeter Bullfinch)	<i>Bucanetes githagineus (=Rhodopechys githagineus)</i>	4 spp., 2 in Region: nominate Egypt (extralimital S to NC&NE Sudan, but <i>zedlitzi</i> of NW Sudan may wander to Egypt); <i>crassirostris</i> S Türkiye, Sinai, N Arabia, E to C Asia, Iran. Zuccon <i>et al</i> 2012 propose reversion to <i>Rhodopechys</i> , but H&M4 demur. <i>B.g. crassirostris</i> 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 <i>et al</i> 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 <i>et al</i> 2017, S Turkmenistan, S Uzbekistan, Tajikistan, Afghanistan, Clement <i>et al</i> 1993, locally S&E Türkiye Kirwan <i>et al</i> 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 QBRC , 6th al-Azwair Mar 2022 QBRC ; uncommon winterer Iraq Salim <i>et al</i> 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 <i>B. mongolicus</i> (<i>qv</i>) in Pakistan & Afghanistan & less in near-desert areas than <i>Rhodospiza obsoletus</i> (<i>qv</i>). NB Are all records C Uzbekistan, & E Uzbekistan & E Kyrgyzstan actually <i>B. mongolicus</i> ? K Roselaar pers comm; Ven 2002 generally supports, as does Ayé <i>et al</i> 2012. Egypt Avib, BE
1148	Mongolian Finch (Mongolian Trumpeter Finch)	<i>Bucanetes mongolicus (Eremopsaltria mongolica. Formerly Bucanetes mongolicus = Rhodopechys mongolicus)</i>	Zuccon <i>et al</i> 2012 propose reversion to <i>Rhodopechys</i> & consider <i>Eremopsaltria</i> invalid; H&M4 demur, retaining <i>Eremopsaltria</i> . IOC7.2 gives <i>Bucanetes</i> . Resident Caucasus-Armenia Beddard <i>et al</i> 2002, Ananian & Busuttil 2003, locally uncommon resident SB & migrant N-C, NE&E Iran Khaleghizadeh <i>et al</i> 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 <i>et al</i> 2012, Afghanistan (Paludan 1959), Clement <i>et al</i> 1993, also E Türkiye (Roselaar 1995), S Transcaucasia (in Azerbaijan, only in Nakhichevan), K Roselaar, pers comm. Vagrant Kuwait DB33:3 . Egypt Avib, BE. NB Presence in <i>Rhodospiza/Bucanetes</i> was not a good fit - <i>Eremopsaltria</i> proposed Kirwan & Gregory 2005, accepted IOC 2.7, recognised HBW15, dropped by IOC3.3.
1149	Spectacled Finch (formerly Red-browed Finch, Red-spectacled Finch)	<i>Callacanthis burtoni</i>	Monotypic. Previously considered from NE Afghanistan-Pakistan border eastwards, R&A 2005 also, Grimmett <i>et al</i> 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 <i>et al</i> 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 <i>Pyrrhula aurantiaca</i> . Imaged at Hudur Valley, Diامر, Gilgit-Baltistan, Pakistan, 95km from Wakhan, Afghanistan, Aug 2023 Imran Khan <i>in litt</i> . This is 35km N of IUCN map distribution. 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 Arand, 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 for 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! BLDZ/IUCN map Jul 2024 suggests not only presence in Pakistan's Kurram Valley as an isolate from Lawata and Jazara in the east almost to the Tari Magla Pass in the west, but also immediately adjacent to the Afghan border in the northwest and southwest
1150	Plain Mountain Finch (formerly Hodgson's Rosy Finch, Stolizcka's Mountain Finch – <i>altaica</i> only?)	<i>Leucosticte nemoricola</i>	2 spp., nominate extralimital to E, <i>altaica</i> 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, Afghanistan Ayé <i>et al</i> 2012 (<i>altaica</i> 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 <i>et al</i> 1993; up to at least 4700m Bates & Lowther 1959. E Afghanistan, Grimmett <i>et al</i> 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	<i>Leucosticte brandti</i>	PT Putative separation of <i>L.b. margaritacea</i> , above 3000m (see below). IOC10.2 omits mention of split. No new data in HBW15. NB relationships of the 7 spp (<i>sensu lato</i>) given below are tentative.
1151	Brandt's Mountain Finch (Black-headed Mountain Finch)	<i>Leucosticte (brandti) brandti</i>	Probably 6 spp: 2 recorded in Region: nominate C Asia to Tien Shan; <i>pamirensis</i> C&NE Afghanistan, C Asia Pamirs-Tien Shan, extralimital to NW China: <i>brandti</i> rare resident 3000-4050m asl Tien Shan to Zhungarskiy Alatau SE Kazkhstan. Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan, Afghanistan (<i>pamirensis</i> Paludan 1959, NE R&A 2005 H&E 1970), Turkmenistan (map in Clement <i>et al</i> 1993, but as winterer BLDZ map May 2017), E Afghanistan, Grimmett <i>et al</i> 1998, Roberts 1992: <i>pamirensis</i> in SE of CA Ayé <i>et al</i> 2012, <i>haematopygia</i> in 'N Pakistan, nw Himalayas' IOC3.3, imaged regularly by Imran Khan at Khunjarab, Gojal, Gilgit-Baltistan Pakistan 2024 <i>in litt</i> .
1152	'Nacreous Mountain Finch' (Brandt's Mountain Finch) ('Margarit's Mountain Finch')	<i>Leucosticte (brandti) margaritacea</i>	Probably monotypic: Tarbagatay, then E extraliminally to SE Russian Altai & Mongolia. Very different from <i>L.(b.) brandti</i> (also emphasised Ayé <i>et al</i> 2012 though retaining <i>margaritacea</i> as ssp of <i>brandti</i>) & 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 <i>margaritacea</i> Jobling 2010, Richard Klim <i>in litt</i> .
1153	Asian Rosy Finch (Arctic Rosy Finch)	<i>Leucosticte arctoa</i>	5 spp, 2 spp recorded in Region: nominate rare resident S&W Altai; <i>brunneonucha</i> 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 (<i>cognata</i>) Sayan Mts to N of Region Rogacheva 1992. Funk <i>et al</i> 2020, in a study of <i>Leucosticte</i> rosy finches found that <i>L. arctoa</i> 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. <i>L.a. arctoa</i> breeds only in extreme E Kazakh Altai at c2200-3200m K Roselaar pers comm, Ayé <i>et al</i> 2012, Wassink 2015b.

Tietze <i>et al</i> 2013 established rosefinch clades. Clade I comprises only one rosefinch species.		
1154	Common Rosefinch	<i>Carpodacus erythrinus</i> (<i>Erythrina erythrina</i>) 5 ssp, 3 in Region: nominate common BM, abundant PM WNW & NE Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b; <i>kubanensis</i> Türkiye-NE Iran; <i>ferganensis</i> 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 Türkiye, Caucasus, N, S & SE CA, N Iran, Afghanistan, passage through Region, winters India, SE Asia, Clement <i>et al</i> 1993; vagrant Iraq Salim <i>et al</i> 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 (<i>kubanensis</i> ?) OBL7 , breeds N Oman (ssp ID?) above 2100m Jens Eriksen <i>in litt.</i> Egypt Avib. BE. NB1 Zuccon <i>et al</i> 2012 found <i>Carpodacus</i> to be more inclusive (<i>ie</i> includes extralimital <i>Haematospiza</i> & extinct <i>Chaunoproctus</i>), thus subsuming <i>Erythrina</i> ; IOC7.2 accepts. NB2 Lisovski <i>et al</i> 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 detailed 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 <i>et al</i> 2013 established rosefinch clades. Clade II includes Clades 1-4 below.		
Clade 1		
1155	Siberian Long-tailed Rosefinch	<i>Carpodacus sibiricus</i> (<i>Uragus sibiricus</i>) Zuccon <i>et al</i> 2012 Liu, S <i>et al</i> 2020 split into Siberian (<i>C. sibiricus</i>) & Chinese (<i>C. lepidus</i>) Long-tailed Rosefinches, but first subsume <i>ussuriensis</i> into <i>sanguinolentus</i> (both extralimital) within <i>C. sibiricus</i> : wholly extralimital polytypic <i>C. lepidus</i> has only 1 other ssp, <i>henrici</i> . IOC12.1 draft accepts split. Only the nominate <i>sibiricus</i> occurs in Region: rare resident N & NE-most Kazakhstan, scarce WV most Kazakhstan 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 <i>et al</i> 2005, recorded Chokpak Dernjatin 2005, winters Tajikistan, Clement <i>et al</i> 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 <i>et al</i> 2013 established rosefinch clades		
Clade 1a - also includes extralimital Crimson-browed Finch <i>C. subhimachalus</i> (formerly <i>Pinicola subhimachala</i>).		
1156	Red-fronted Rosefinch (Red-breasted or Red-faced Rosefinch)	<i>Carpodacus puniceus</i> (formerly <i>Spirospiza punicea</i> : may revert to <i>Pyrrospiza punicea</i>) 5 ssp, ID of sole ssp in Region disputed: <i>humii</i> very rare resident Tien Shan to Zhungarskiy Alatau SE Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b, 1st confirmed winterer W Tien Shan Nov 2023 Wassink 2024; H&M4 allot <i>kilianensis</i> , IOC10.2 remains with <i>humii</i> . Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan, map Clement <i>et al</i> (1993), not Turkmenistan K-M&K 2005 (Perhaps in easternmost Ayé <i>et al</i> 2012 map). Afghanistan (all <i>humii</i>), map Clements <i>et al</i> (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 <i>et al</i> 2012 map only N of Wakhan, but query S; imaged c45km S of Wakhan at Khunjarab, Gojal, Gilgit-Baltistan Sep 2024 by Imran Shah <i>in litt.</i> Not mapped Afghanistan, Grimmett <i>et al</i> 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 extralimital) 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 <i>et al</i> 2013 established rosefinch clades		
Clade 1b - also includes extralimital Three-banded Rosefinch <i>C. trifasciatus</i> and Chinese White-browed Rosefinch <i>C. dubius</i> .		
1157	Pallas's Rosefinch	<i>Carpodacus roseus</i> 2 ssp, only nominate reaches Region in easternmost Kazakhstan: very rare resident, WV (?) western Altai Wassink 2015b: only 9 valid WP records after Haas <i>et al</i> 2013 review. Scarce to locally common Sayan Mts to N of Region Rogacheva 1992. Winters N & E Kazakhstan, Clement <i>et al</i> 1993. Breeds Altai G&G 2005, also winters Kazakh Altai, K Roselaar pers comm NB1 Flint <i>et al</i> 1984 mapped westernmost breeding ground just E of easternmost Kazakhstan, though IUCN map (Feb 2024) does include the last 100km of easternmost Kazakhstan. NB2 Commonly traded cagebird Harrop 2007.
PT	White-browed Rosefinch PT	<i>Carpodacus thura sensu lato</i> IOC2.0 accepts split of extralimital polytypic Chinese White-browed Rosefinch <i>C. [t.] dubius</i> as treated by Tietze <i>et al</i> 2013: ssp <i>feminis</i> , <i>dubius</i> , <i>deserticolor</i> . BLDZ map Jun 2020 of <i>C. thura</i> 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 <i>C. dubius</i> indicate an arbitrary contiguous boundary east of Bhutan almost due N of Tezpur in Assam.
1158	Himalayan White-browed Rosefinch	<i>Carpodacus thura sensu stricto</i> 2 ssp, <i>blythii</i> highly probably just in NE Afghanistan, nominate remote in E Himalayas. On NE Afghanistan-Pakistan border R&A 2005 (as <i>C. t. blythii</i> ; not linked to Blyth's Rosefinch, now <i>C. grandis</i> formerly <i>C. rhodochlamys grandis</i>), NE Afghanistan, Clements <i>et al</i> 1993. Mapped erroneously E Afghanistan Arlott 2007 in band Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan Afghanistan: error originating (?) in Grimmett <i>et al</i> 1998, as <i>C. t. blythii</i> after Roberts 1992; he & Grimmett <i>et al</i> 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 <i>blythii</i> not well documented. NB Subsequent to above, HBW15 now states distribution of <i>blythii</i> reaches NE Afghanistan; on H&M3 corrigenda list E Dickinson pers comm. R&A 2012 map in Pakistan exactly to E Afghan border; Ayé <i>et al</i> 2012 omit mention. BLDZ 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 <i>Callacanthus burtoni</i> . The nearest point of the main dsitribution lies 200km NE at Mingora, stretching continuously E along Himalayas to E of Bhutan.
Tietze <i>et al</i> 2013 established rosefinch clades		
Clade 2		
1159	Streaked Rosefinch	<i>Carpodacus rubicilloides</i> 2 ssp, likely <i>lucifer</i> found by WCS in Wakhan at 2900-3500m Dec 06 Ostrowski 2007 & mapped from there along Himalayas, 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 Karqil, in easternmost Pakistan, & 525km from Wakhan. Either WCS misidentified species (<i>eg</i> as <i>C. (rubicilla) severtzovi</i> Spotted Great Rosefinch, which does occur there), their birds were migrants, or possibly isolate populations exist (a pattern exhibited by several <i>Carpodacus</i> spp).
PT	Great Rosefinch PT	<i>Carpodacus rubicilla</i> Parent Taxon: IOC4.1 confirms <i>severtzovi</i> incipient species, and so lumps within <i>rubicilla</i> Tietze <i>et al</i> 2013. Although ID differences are present, molecular results indicate relatively low degree of separation in a Clade with <i>C. rubicilloides</i> . Nevertheless, we include an entry for <i>severtzovi</i> , 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 <i>rubicilla</i> or <i>diabolicus</i> . We align with H&M4 ssp groups.
1160	Caucasian Great Rosefinch (Great Rosefinch)	<i>Carpodacus (rubicilla) rubicilla</i> Group 1 : monotypic. IOC7.2 lump with <i>severtzovi</i> : of the 2 resident disjunct populations separated by at least 1600km, the nominate is in the Caucasus, and <i>severtzovi</i> in C Asia to China; we remain with separate treatment <i>pro tem</i> . See <i>severtzovi</i> account below. Other, extralimital taxa are mostly intermediate or very similar forms. NB David & Gosselin 2002 make case for <i>diabolicus</i> , not <i>diabolica</i> .

1161	Spotted Great Rosefinch {Great Rosefinch}	<i>Carpodacus (rubicilla) severtzovi</i>	Group 2: 3 spp., all in Region: group distribution follows IOC4.1, H&M4; <i>diabolicus</i> resident NE-most Afghanistan, C Asia to W Pamir & Alai ranges; <i>kobdensis</i> 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 <i>et al</i> 1998 map of <i>rubicilla</i> in E Afghanistan actually showed the R&A 2005/2012 <i>severtzovi</i> distribution! However Paludan 1959 sensibly assigned <i>diabolicus</i> to NE Afghanistan RB status, but were they actually <i>severtzovi</i> ? Although split remains problematical, because of intermediate forms between these 3 taxa, note that <i>diabolicus</i> lies between <i>rubicilla</i> & <i>severtzovi</i> . For the moment, best treat <i>severtzovi</i> & <i>diabolicus</i> as linked taxa, but <i>diabolicus</i> may be more closely related to Streaked Rosefinch <i>C. rubicilloides</i> of Tibet and points E&SE (HBW 15 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); <i>severtzovi</i> (including ' <i>diabolicus</i> ' N&E Tajikistan, E Uzbekistan Kyrgyzstan & neighbouring mountains of SE Kazakhstan) is linked with ssp <i>kobdensis</i> H&M4; seen in several locations near Eshekart and Jaman-su, Sarykat-Erkash state reserve, Kyrgyzstan May-Aug 2014 Knoblauch 2019. 'Common' Wakhan Roberts 1992. Probably this taxon Salang Pass 1970 Madge 1978. NB Busuttill & Ayé 2009 assign <i>severtzovi</i> to probable breeders Bamiyan (NE Afghanistan), which taxon (' <i>diabolicus</i> ' Ayé <i>et al</i> 2012) may be more closely related to extralimital Streaked Rosefinch <i>C. rubicilloides</i> HBW15 R&A 2012.
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Tietze *et al* 2013 established rosefinch clades

Clade 3b			
PT	Red-mantled Rosefinch PT	<i>Carpodacus rhodochlamys</i>	IOC v2.3 lists split, strongly supported by Tietze <i>et al</i> 2013, H&M4. <i>Pro tem</i> , 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.
1162	Blyth's Rosefinch (Greater Red-mantled Rosefinch)	<i>Carpodacus [rhodochlamys] grandis</i>	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 <i>et al</i> 2021. Afghanistan eastwards, K Roselaar pers comm, agreed Ayé <i>et al</i> 2012. Mapped Gilgit-Baltistan 2021 as SB to Wakhan border. Winter, more widespread. Mapped NE Afghanistan in Clements <i>et al</i> 1993. Mapped E Afghanistan, Grimmett <i>et al</i> 1998; BLDZ map Sep 2021 (still lumped with <i>rhodochlamys</i>) places Himalayan distribution limit in E to abut W limit of extralimital Crimson-browed Rosefinch <i>C. subhimachalus</i> exactly along Nepal W border. NB1 Paludan 1959 gives <i>C.r. grandis</i> as resident E & NW Afghanistan. Suggestion that NW Afghanistan residents refer to taxon below (formerly <i>C.r. rhodochlamys</i>) and E to <i>grandis</i> accepted IOC11.2, but note discordancy as follows: NB2 In Pakistan <i>grandis</i> is heavy-billed, originally a characteristic claimed for <i>rhodochlamys</i> as differentiating it from the former – Roberts 1992. NB3 There is no connection between the name 'Blyth's Rosefinch' & <i>C. thura blythii</i> .
1163	Red-mantled Rosefinch (Tien-Shan Red-mantled Rosefinch)	<i>Carpodacus [rhodochlamys] rhodochlamys</i>	Monotypic IOC3.3. Common resident NW Afghanistan & Uzbekistan IOC11.2, Tien Shan to Saur Mts SE Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b, breeds E Turkmenistan, SE Uzbekistan, SW Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan (but not E Pamirs) Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, vagrant Iran? – K Roselaar pers comm. NB some <i>C. rhodochlamys</i> × <i>C. grandis</i> 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	<i>Carpodacus synoicus</i>	IOC3.5 accepts split of extralimital taxa <i>salimalii</i> , <i>beicki</i> & <i>stoliczkae</i> as <i>Stoliczka's</i> Rosefinch <i>C. stoliczkae</i> , backed by Tietze <i>et al</i> 2013, H&M4, Collar 2017, Schweizer 2020.
1164	Sinai Rosefinch (Pale Rosefinch)	<i>Carpodacus synoicus</i>	Monotypic. Resident discontinuously Negev, Sinai deserts, Also NW Saudi (Mike Jennings <i>in litt</i>), resident NW Arabia perhaps 5000bp Jennings 2010. Tietze <i>et al</i> 2013 present case for splitting extralimital east Asian populations as <i>C. stoliczkae</i> . Egypt Avib, BE
1165	Stoliczka's Rosefinch {Pale Rosefinch}	<i>Carpodacus stoliczkae</i>	3 spp., only <i>salimalii</i> in Region, N&C Afghanistan; extralimital nominate in S Xinjiang, <i>beicki</i> further E. Tietze <i>et al</i> 2013 present case for splitting extralimital east Asian populations as <i>C. stoliczkae</i> , including <i>salimalii</i> NE Afghanistan (<i>contra</i> Paludan 1959 who limits to <i>C. salimalii</i> & is supported by Busuttill & Ayé 2009, Ayé <i>et al</i> 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.
1166	European Greenfinch	<i>Chloris chloris (Carduelis chloris)</i>	10 spp., 5 in Region: nominate common BM, PM, rare resident, WV Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b; <i>muehleri</i> Cyprus W Asia Minor; <i>chlorotica</i> SC Türkiye, Levant, W Jordan, NE Egypt; <i>bilkevitchi</i> NE Türkiye, Caucasus, N Iran, SW Turkmenistan; <i>turkestanica</i> C Asia, scarce resident, BM Syrdarya Valley E to Zaysan SE Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b. <i>C.c. bilkevitchi</i> & <i>turkestanica</i> Turkmenistan, Bukreev 1997 (now <i>turkestanica</i>). Breeds Türkiye, 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 <i>et al</i> 2012), Iran, Clement <i>et al</i> 1993, spreading in Kazakhstan, K Roselaar, pers comm. Winters N Afghanistan and R&A 2005. 1st record Kuwait Apr 2013 KORC . Egypt Avib, BE. NB Some earlier literature (eg Russian) placed in <i>Chloris</i> ; Arnaiz-Villena <i>et al</i> 2008 raised <i>Chloris</i> from subgenus to genus, which Sangster <i>et al</i> 2011, Zuccon <i>et al</i> 2012 support.
1167	Himalayan Greenfinch {Yellow-breasted Greenfinch}	<i>Chloris spinoides</i> Zuccon <i>et al</i> 2011 (formerly <i>Carduelis spinoides</i>)	2 spp., nominate just in Region, <i>heinrichi</i> remoter to E. Clement <i>et al</i> 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 <i>et al</i> 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 <i>et al</i> 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. Imaged at Thore Valley, Diامر, Gilgit-Baltistan, Pakistan Aug 2023 only 95km from Wakhan, Afghanistan Imran Shah Sep 2024 in litt . NB1 Late breeder, Jul-Oct. Documentation? On WBDB 2008 Afghanistan checklist as uncertain. NB2 Some earlier literature (eg Russian) placed in <i>Chloris</i> ; Arnaiz-Villena <i>et al</i> 2008 to raised <i>Chloris</i> subgenus to genus: IOC3.1 places in <i>Chloris</i> .
1168	Desert Finch (Black-billed Finch, Lichtenstein's Finch, Pink-winged Rosefinch, Quetta Rosefinch)	<i>Rhodospiza obsoleta (=Rhodopechys obsoleta)</i>	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 <i>et al</i> 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 <i>et al</i> 2017, Clement <i>et al</i> 1993, uncommon E&S Israel Perlman & Meyrav 2009, likely breeds Znouh/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 <i>et al</i> 2012; SE Türkiye Kirwan <i>et al</i> 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 Alshamlil <i>et al</i> 2021b, likely above 65 000bp Jennings 2010: 1st breeding Kuwait Feb 2013 KORC : found breeding Armenia Ananian <i>et al</i> 2013b Egypt Avib, BE
PT	Socotra Golden-winged Grosbeak PT	<i>Rhynchostruthus socotranus</i>	Parent Taxon case: Kirwan & Grieve 2007. Pre-split , endemic to SW Arabia, N Somalia, Socotra, Clement <i>et al</i> 1993. NB IOC v1.6 split includes extralimital Somali Golden-winged Grosbeak <i>R.[s.] louisae</i> , a path followed by del Hoyo <i>et al</i> 2016; alternatively, the 3 taxa may best be regarded as a superspecies. Shirihai & Svensson 2018 lump, pending any behavioural, vocalisation or molecular studies
1169	Socotra Golden-winged Grosbeak (Socotra Grosbeak)	<i>Rhynchostruthus socotranus (Rhynchostruthus [socotranus] socotranus)</i>	Monotypic. Endemic to Socotra Island. We treat as separate from Somali Golden-winged Grosbeak R.[s.] louisae. Jennings 2010 resisted split. Common Socotra c 4000bp (16 800+ind Porter & Suleiman 2022). Comparatively straightforward to find in wooded Wadi Ayhaft near Hadibo, Socotra Eriksen 2018. 1st nest & first vocalisation recording Jan 2022 Hering & Hering 2022b, 2023.

1170	Arabian Golden-winged Grosbeak	<i>Rhynchostruthus percivali</i> (<i>Rhynchostruthus [socotranus] percivali</i>)	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..
1171	Arabian Serin (Olive-rumped Serin)	<i>Crithagra rothschildi</i> (formerly <i>Serinus rothschildi</i>)	Monotypic. Transfer to <i>Crithagra</i> Zuccon <i>et al</i> 2012. SW Arabian endemic resident, Clement <i>et al</i> 1993, to at least 26°N (well above <i>menachensis</i>), K Roselaar pers comm, Jennings 2010, c 400 000bp. HBW15 remain with <i>Serinus</i> . Targeted by pet trade in Saudi Arabia for sale with KSA well out of normal breeding distribution Alshamli <i>et al</i> 2021a; 2 breeding records Eastern Province of former cagebirds Babbington & Meadows 2022.
1172	Yemen Serin	<i>Crithagra menachensis</i> (formerly <i>Serinus menachensis</i>)	Monotypic. Transfer to <i>Crithagra</i> Zuccon <i>et al</i> 2012. SW Arabian endemic, Clement <i>et al</i> 1993, W Yemen, highly localised resident breeder S Oman OBL7 ; K Roselaar pers comm. 1st documented record for Saudi Arabia was by Ben King in Apr 1977 Hogan 2024 . Smaller range than previous entry, c 100 000bp Jennings 2010. HBW15 remain with <i>Serinus</i> .
1173	Twite	<i>Linaria flavirostris</i> (<i>Carduelis flavirostris</i>) Zuccon <i>et al</i> 2012	9 sssp, 4 (H&M4) in Region: <i>brevirostris</i> S&E Türkiye, Caucasus, NW&N Iran; <i>kirghizorum</i> (H&M4 & Russians) N Kazakhstan, but now subsumed in <i>korejevi</i> Arend Wassink (map) <i>in litt</i> Dec 2014; common resident, scarce BM in sizeable W-E band mostly in N half of Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b. Resident S&E Türkiye Kirwan <i>et al</i> 2008, Caucasus, N Iran, N & SE CA, Afghanistan (<i>korejevi</i> Paludan 1959), N birds winter CA, Clement <i>et al</i> 1993, <i>contra</i> K Roselaar – N breeders winter Ukraine S Russia. Shukorov 1962 records, summer SW&W Turkmenistan, K Roselaar, pers comm (also E&S Türkiye, N&NW Iran): 17 recorded S of Sabkhat al-Jabboul, Syria Feb 2007 Hoffland & Keiji 2008 . NB Some earlier literature (eg Russian) placed in <i>Acanthis</i> .
1174	Eurasian Linnet (Common Linnet)	<i>Linaria cannabina</i> (<i>Carduelis cannabina</i>) Zuccon <i>et al</i> 2012	7 sssp, 3 in Region: nominate common PM W half Kazakhstan, very rare BM far N Kazakhstan, <i>bella</i> common BM, scarce resident NE to S-C Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b, winters SW Arabia; <i>bella</i> breeds Kazakhstan, Asia Minor, Levant-Caucasus, N Iran, Turkmenistan, N Afghanistan, Tien Shan, Altai; <i>mediterranean</i> W Asia Minor. <i>C.cann. fringillirostris</i> (now invalid) Turkmenistan, Bukreev 1997. Resident or breeder Türkiye, Levant, Caucasus, Kazakhstan, SW & SE CA, N Iran, Iraq, Afghanistan (<i>bella</i> Paludan 1959; N, R&A 2005), Tajikistan, Kyrgyzstan, E Uzbekistan, S Turkmenistan Ayé <i>et al</i> 2012, winters CA (K Roselaar pers comm) & to S, Clement <i>et al</i> 1993, 1st record Qatar Nov 2015 QBRC , 2nd al-Sailiya Sewage Treatment Plant Jan 2022 QBRC , 3rd Sailiya Mar 2023 QBRC . 5th UAE record Apr 2017 EBRC . Egypt Avib, BE. NB Some earlier literature (eg Russian) placed in <i>Acanthis</i> .
1175	Yemen Linnet	<i>Linaria yemenensis</i> (<i>Carduelis yemenensis</i>) Zuccon <i>et al</i> 2012	Monotypic. For some reason, H&M4 do not accept Zuccon <i>et al</i> 2012 recommendation & place in <i>Acanthis</i> . SW Arabian endemic, Clement <i>et al</i> 1993. Resident highlands from Taif south to SW Yemen c 200 000bp Jennings 2010.
PT	Redpoll	<i>Acanthis flammea</i>	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 sssp separately as shown, while noting that Amouret <i>et al</i> 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. <i>cabaret</i> 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 <i>et al</i> 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 was challenged within NACC, partly on the lack of field studies & geographic sampling coverage. NACC are studying revised analyses in 2024 submissions (<i>qv</i> in species accounts). However, IOC14.2 accepts the conclusions of Funk <i>et al</i> 2021. NB CSNA note that some sample sizes are insufficient for confident lumping and that there is a dearth of field studies into assortative mating DB47:1 49-50, & that there are similar cases amongst other species where lumping has not occurred, suggesting leaving redpolls with 3 species is prudent for the time being.
1176	Common Redpoll (≡ Mealy Redpoll some sources)	<i>Acanthis flammea flammea</i> (<i>Carduelis flammea</i>) Zuccon <i>et al</i> 2012	3 spp, only nominate in Region. Parkin & Knox 2010 suggest best treat <i>rostrata</i> & <i>flammea</i> (& <i>'islandica'</i>) jointly. Winters N CA, Caucasus, sometimes further S, Clement <i>et al</i> 1993, rare resident, BM, PM, E-most Kazakhstan common WV throughout Wassink 2015b. 1st Turkish record for 18 years at Altinpark, Ankara Nov 2023 imaged by Emin Yoğurtcuoğlu <i>in litt</i> . NB1 extralimital Lesser Redpoll C. <i>cabaret</i> proposed as third species Knox <i>et al</i> 2001, but Mason & Taylor 2015 conclusive in lumping. NB2 Some earlier literature (eg Russian) placed in <i>Acanthis</i> , which conclusion revived in Zuccon <i>et al</i> 2012; Arnaiz-Villena <i>et al</i> 2008 raised <i>Acanthis</i> subgenus to genus. NB3 IOC7.2 listed only <i>flammea</i> & <i>hornemanni</i> , whereas IOC7.3 splits out <i>cabaret</i> . We will continue to monitor developments while remaining with our present arrangement as being applicable to the OSME Region. NB4 Marthinsen <i>et al</i> 2008 (supported by Johnsen <i>et al</i> 2010) found no molecular differentiation between <i>hornemanni</i> , <i>flammea</i> & <i>cabaret</i> , so Collar 2013 counselled caution on conflicting morphological/reproductive isolation and molecular data as to assigning rank; borne out by Mason & Taylor 2015, whose conclusions, strongly supported by the much more detailed analysis by Funk <i>et al</i> 2021, were accepted in IOC14.2.
1177	Coues' Arctic Redpoll (Arctic Redpoll) (Hoary Redpoll); see Working Notes at right	<i>Acanthis flammea exilipes</i> (<i>Carduelis (hornemanni) exilipes</i>) Zuccon <i>et al</i> 2012	From Mason & Taylor 2015, best consider populations as <i>exilipes</i> -type & <i>hornemanni</i> -type: <i>hornemanni</i> -type solely in Nearctic (Parkin & Knox 2010 had suggested best treated as sssp pair, <i>hornemanni</i> & <i>exilipes</i>) Taxon limits unclear, so Clement <i>et al</i> 1993 distributions uncertain; <i>hornemanni</i> -type <i>sensu stricto</i> probably not applicable to old records Ayé <i>et al</i> 2012. Elsewhere, individuals wander widely to S in winter. Unfortunately Korelov's records lump <i>hornemanni</i> & <i>flammea</i> in Kazakhstan, K Roselaar pers comm, but 2 vagrancy records <i>hornemanni</i> -type Irtys valley Jan 2014 Wassink 2015a, 2015b, 3rd record 15 Mar 2020 Arend Wassink <i>in litt</i> to Rob Sheldon pers comm, 4th record Karamenv, Kustenai Mar 2020 Wassink <i>et al</i> 2021. NB1 Persuasive case made for <i>hornemanni</i> -type to be confined to High Nearctic & <i>exilipes</i> -type assigned to circumpolar lower-latitude populations (eg as in Fraser <i>et al</i> 2007). NB2 wintering population (claimed <i>exilipes</i> -type) to S of E Kazakhstan in China M&P 2000. NB3 Some earlier literature (eg Russian) had already placed in <i>Acanthis</i> . NB4 Though IOC14.1 listed both A. <i>flammea</i> & A. <i>hornemanni</i> , the latter being confined to the New World where the former is a vagrant (Greenland), IOC14.2 accepts the single-species arrangement based on Funke <i>et al</i> 2021. NB5 Collar 2013 counselled caution on conflicting morphological/reproductive isolation and molecular data as to assigning rank. NB6 Funk <i>et al</i> 2021 linked variation in geography and phenotype to a large chromosomal inversion ('supergene') and concluded that this inversion does not prevent reproduction, but instead maintains variation through a combination of environmental and sexual selection pressures.
1178	Red Crossbill (Crossbill, Common Crossbill)	<i>Loxia curvirostra</i>	19 (H&M4) sssp (20 IOC), 8 Nearctic, 1 Philippines, 10 Eurasia: 4 in Region; <i>guillemardi</i> Cyprus Informal name 'Cyprus Crossbill', Türkiye-Caucasus; <i>curvirostra</i> common WV Kazakhstan save SW Wassink 2015b, likely at least PM, winterer northern C Asia; <i>altaiensis</i> common resident E Kazakh Altai Wassink 2015b; <i>tianschanica</i> common resident C to N Tien Shan SE Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b. Resident Türkiye Caucasus, E Kyrgyzstan (<i>tianschanica</i> Ven 2002), some may winter S CA, Clement <i>et al</i> 1993. 1st record for Lebanon was pair shot Nov 2016 Ramadan-Jaradi <i>et al</i> 2017: 5 at Parod Galilee Israel Sep 2021 (possibly bred) Yoav Perlman <i>in litt</i> ; 3 Orumieh, West Azerbaijan Province Dec 2016 IBRC , vagrant Iran Khaleghizadeh <i>et al</i> 2017, 7th record Razavi Khorasan Mar-Apr 2022 IBRC . Vagrant Afghanistan (2 records 1973 & 78 Madge 2018) R&A 2005. Winter vagrant Iran Scott & Adhami 2006, 1st record Syria 2010 at Abu Qubays Aidek 2024, 2nd of 3 birds Aby Qubays Sep 2022 Aidek <i>per obs</i> . 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 <i>pytyopsittacus</i> (see ORL Hypothetical List), but distinct morphologically & mating assortatively Summers <i>et al</i> 2007, Johnsen <i>et al</i> 2010: Hill & Powers 2021 disagree with morphological distinctness. NB2 Cyprus ssp named 'Cyprus Crossbill' in DBWP 2011 .
PT	Two-barred Crossbill (White-winged Crossbill) PT	<i>Loxia leucoptera</i>	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.
1179	Eurasian Two-barred Crossbill	<i>Loxia (leucoptera) bifasciata</i>	English name informal@OSME. 2ssp, in nominate Nearctic, <i>bifasciata</i> vagrant in Region, irregular winter Kazakhstan Clements <i>et al</i> 1993. Rare breeder Kazakh Altai? G&G 2005; vagrant Ayé <i>et al</i> 2012, 6-record vagrant N & NE Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b. Breeds N&E of Region, N Eurasia-Siberia WP vagrant, Fraser <i>et al</i> 2007.

PT	Goldfinch, Common or European Goldfinch PT	<i>Carduelis carduelis</i>	Re Parent Taxon : Scott & Adhami 2006 (Iran) include <i>caniceps</i> (qv): del Hoyo <i>et al</i> 2016 & Collar 2017 agreed split. Likely some populations indeterminate status, but diagnosable. HBW15 status lacked data. H&M4 lists 2 groups. IOC14.2 accepted split of <i>caniceps</i> group with ssp <i>parapanisi</i> , <i>subulata</i> & <i>ultima</i> , citing del Hoyo <i>et al</i> 2026.
1180	European Goldfinch	<i>Carduelis carduelis</i>	Group 1, 10sspp, 5 in Region: <i>niediecki</i> Cyprus, W&SC Asia Minor, Levant, wintering SW Iran, Egypt; <i>brevirostris</i> E Türkiye, Transcaucasia, N Iran; <i>colchica</i> N Caucasus; <i>volgensis</i> common WV, occasional SV NW Kazakhstan, <i>frigoris</i> (subsumed in <i>major</i>) common resident NE Kazakhstan, common WV eastern 60% Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b. Resident Türkiye, Levant, Caucasus, CA (summer in N), Iran, Iraq (<i>niediecki</i> Moore & Boswell 1941-46), Caspian, Clement <i>et al</i> 1993, breeds arc round E Med, K Roselaar pers comm. In Arabia, c2000bp (<i>niediecki</i>) 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 <i>caniceps/parapanisi</i> text below. Egypt Avib. BE
1181	Eastern Goldfinch ('Grey-headed Goldfinch') {Grey-crowned Goldfinch}	<i>Carduelis caniceps</i> (Full sp as per IOC14.2)	English name informal@OSME. Group 2, all 4 ssp thought to occur in Region: <i>parapanisi</i> E Iran, NW Afghanistan, C Asia W Turkmenistan-Tien Shan, SE Kazakhstan extending to NW China, wintering S Iran-S Afghanistan & into Pakistan; <i>subulata</i> 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, <i>ultima</i> C Iran (SE Fars, Kirman). Taxon <i>parapanisi</i> breeds Turkmenistan, Bukreev 1997. CA (K-M&K 2005) Tajikistan Ivanov 1940, <i>parapanisi</i> NE Iran, W, SW&E Turkmenistan, N&C Afghanistan (<i>subulata</i> 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; <i>subulata</i> common resident, WV Kazakh Altai Wassink 2015b, <i>ultima</i> SE Iran K Roselaar pers comm: Ayé <i>et al</i> 2012 agree. Paludan 1959 <i>parapanisi</i> & <i>subulata</i> winter Afghanistan. NB Many authors refer to <i>C. parapanisi</i> .
1182	Red-fronted Serin (formerly Fire-fronted Serin, Gold-fronted Serin, or Finch)	<i>Serinus pusillus</i>	Monotypic. Resident disparate areas Syria Murdoch & Betton 2008, Türkiye, Caucasus, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan, (N Iraq Ararat <i>et al</i> 2011), Iran, Afghanistan, Clement <i>et al</i> 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 <i>et al</i> 2011. Rare winter Israel Perlman & Meyrav 2009, 8-record migrant Cyprus CBR11 , another (9th?) at Kouris Dam Nov 2023 Anders Gray <i>in litt.</i> , 4 or 5 there Dec 2023 Sam Jones <i>in litt.</i> . Single-record vagrant (a 1st for Saudi Arabia) 1994 in Eastern Province Babbington & Meadows 2022. Egypt Avib. BE
1183	European Serin	<i>Serinus serinus</i>	Monotypic. Resident Türkiye Kirwan <i>et al</i> 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, 4th record 2 at Pir-Gheib Fasarud, Darab, Fars Jan-Feb 2022 IBRC , 5th at Aliabad Forest Park, Nour-Abad-e, Lorestan Province Oct 2023 IBRC : males recorded holding territory Armenia Jul 2018 Raković <i>et al</i> 2018; uncommon winterer N Iraq Salim <i>et al</i> 2012), N migrants winter Levant (1st breeding record Apr 2015 Ramadan-Jaradi <i>et al</i> 2016), N Africa, Clement <i>et al</i> 1993, irregularly UAE Pedersen & Aspinall 2010. Egypt Avib, BE
1184	Syrian Serin (formerly Tristram's Serin)	<i>Serinus syriacus</i> Vulnerable	Monotypic. S Syria, N Israel, Clement <i>et al</i> 1993, SW Jordan K Roselaar pers comm, HBW15, Lebanon H&M4; winters Egypt. 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. A 2021 exploratory survey of 9 sites in C&N Lebanon found 384 birds in areas of open woodland and mature scrub, where access to water existed. These habitat patches are under risk during each period of power outage when the need for fuel for cooking results in vegetation clearance Ramadan-Jaradi <i>et al</i> 2023. Also in 2021, during baseline surveys of the Prince Mohammed bin Salman Royal Reserve, c135 birds were recorded wintering in the NW corner of the reserve, likely a regular occurrence, despite the 1st record for Saudi Arabia being in 2020 at Jebel al Lawz about 150km to the NE; the habitat comprised mainly acacia in the wadis, but shelterbelt eucalyptus & date palms were favoured roosts (all near water sources) Wilson <i>et al</i> 2023 (who also suggest a putative passage and winter range extension from SW Jordan through to the reserve's easternmost area; whether it might also hold a breeding population is uncertain. NB Earlier records of this species in Iraq, (Ticehurst <i>et al</i> 1926), come from an erroneous ID by Cox & Cheesman's collector, Vivian Stanley La Personne: these re-examined specimens now confirmed as European Serin <i>S. serinus</i> Porter 2014, thus validating ironically the 'no recent records Iraq' in Salim <i>et al</i> 2012. Unfortunately, H&M4 perpetuate the error.
1185	Eurasian Siskin	<i>Spinus spinus</i> (<i>Carduelis spinus</i>) Zuccon <i>et al</i> 2012	Monotypic. Breeds N Türkiye, Caucasus, N Iran Mountains (K Roselaar pers comm) (scarce Scott & Adhami 2006), winters across C OSME Region to Iran, Clement <i>et al</i> 1993, uncommon Israel Perlman & Meyrav 2009, vagrant Afghanistan Reeb 1977, R&A 2005, 8-record vagrant Oman 1981-2013 OBL7 , 10th record Sayq Plateau Nov 2023 OBRC . 5th Qatar record Irkayya Farm Dec 2021, 6th (3 birds) there Feb-Mar 2022 QRBC . Egypt Avib, BE. NB Some earlier literature (eg Russian) placed in <i>Spinus</i> ; AOU Checklist Supp 50 cites Arnaiz-Villena <i>et al</i> 2008 to raise <i>Spinus</i> subgenus to genus: IOC5.1 adopted. HBW15's sorely needed review of genus in Zuccon <i>et al</i> 2012.
		Calcaridae (Plectrophenacidae H&M4)	IOC v2.0 reverts to Calcaridae for the next two species, following Alström <i>et al</i> 2008b separation from <i>Emberiza</i> .
1186	Lapland Longspur (Lapland Bunting)	<i>Calcarius lapponicus</i>	5 ssp, 4 extralimital, only nominate in Region. Winters much of Kazakhstan, K-M&K (2005), Byers <i>et al</i> 1995, common PM, rare WV Wassink 2015b, elsewhere in C Asia. 2nd Turkish record Feb 2010 Kirwan <i>et al</i> 2014, 5th record Kızılırmak Delat Mar 2021 TBRC , 7th at Tirebolu, Giresun Oct 2023 TBRC , 8th record of two birds on Doğancılı coast of Istanbul Nov 2023 Çağan Abbasoğlu <i>in litt</i> TBRC . 1st Azarbaijan Iran record Oct 2017 SG40:1 113, 2nd Besh Barmao Dec 2021 SG44:1 232.
1187	Snow Bunting	<i>Plectrophenax nivalis</i>	4 ssp, 3 distantly extralimital, <i>vasowae</i> common WV much of Kazakhstan save S, in fluctuating numbers Wassink 2015b, overshoots elsewhere to S. (≡ <i>Calcarius nivalis</i> Klicka, Zink & Winker 2003) Winter vagrant Uzbekistan, Kyrgyzstan (K-M&K 2005), Byers <i>et al</i> 1995, irregularly Asia Minor H&E 1970, 9 at Kızılırmak Delta river mouth Dec 2021, Onder Kahraman <i>Birding Türkiye</i> website: 1st for Israel Dec 2013 SG36:1 ATR . 1st documented record Georgia, collected female, Feb 1976 Abuladze 2015. Budaqashvili & Javakhishvili 2024.
		Emberizidae	Emberizidae may yet be subdivided into several genera or more deeply into subgenera: Sangster <i>et al</i> 2015 regard the suggested genera (<i>Fringillaria</i> , <i>Granativora</i> , <i>Schoeniclus</i>) as subgenera; we await IOC consideration, still unaddressed IOC6.3. The phylogeny of Päckert <i>et al</i> 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 <i>et al</i> 2015, but not necessarily in taxonomic genus. We await further evaluation, but <i>pro tem</i> note proposed changes in Column C. Cai <i>et al</i> 2021, using Maximum Likelihood and Bayesian Inference phylogenetic analyses, related bunting diversification to open-habitat radiation revealing four Clades occupying open forest, desert/stony/dry shrubland, grassland/cultivation/scrub and savannah. However, changing conditions during the radiation forced several species to adapt to other habitats, and so the Clades do not align neatly with the original habitat set. Nevertheless, Cai <i>et al</i> 2021 strongly support the concept that buntings originated in the New World, expanding into the eastern Palearctic when the Bering Strait was dry, then continuing on via several pathways to Europe and Africa: though the ORL includes species of all 4 Clades of Cai <i>et al</i> 2021, mention is made in the species accounts only of those species forced to adapt to new habitats. NB Should the phylogeny of Päckert <i>et al</i> 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.
1188	Corn Bunting	<i>Emberiza calandra</i> (formerly <i>Miliaria calandra</i> to which TIF returns)	2 ssp, both in Region: nominate Asia Minor, Caucasus, N Iran; <i>buturlini</i> SE Türkiye-Iran, C Asia to S Kazakhstan, N Afghanistan, then extralimital China, wintering SW Asia. Alström <i>et al</i> 2008b synonymise in <i>Emberiza</i> : <i>buturlini</i> 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 Türkiye, Levant, Caucasus, Iraq Moore & Boswell 1956, N Iran, S&C CA (grasslands & semi-deserts all CA states Ayé <i>et al</i> 2012), winters Tigris-Euphrates, Gulf E Yemen border? - Byers <i>et al</i> 1995. Breeds N Afghanistan (Paludan 1959) R&A 2005. In Arabia, scarce WV & PM, but has bred Eastern province & probably UAE & N Oman c50bp Jennings 2010. Uncommon PM & WV Oman OBL7 . Egypt Avib BE. NB1 Vaurie in 1950s had placed in <i>Emberiza</i> . NB2 Cai <i>et al</i> 2021 conclude that the habitat of ancestral Corn Bunting, the oldest member of Clade IV , was desert/stony/dry shrubland, but it adapted to the appearance of grassland/cultivation/scrub.

1189	Yellowhammer	<i>Emberiza citrinella</i>	3 ssp, 2 in Region: nominate breeds NE Türkiye in small numbers Roselaar 1995, Turkish Thrace Özkan 2011; <i>erythrogegnys</i> common resident, BM, far N Kazakhstan, common PM, WV throughout Wassink 2015b, S to Karaganda (Séma 1985) & Lake Zaysan, K Roselaar pers comm W&O 2007; winters to S in all CA states Ayé <i>et al</i> 2012. Winters also Türkiye Kirwan <i>et al</i> 2008, 9-record irregular WV Cyprus CBR11 , Caucasus, N&C Iraq, N Iran, CA, Byers <i>et al</i> 1995, (accidental status Afghanistan Reeb 1977 amended to regular in N Ayé <i>et al</i> 2012), R&A 2005, 2nd record Kuwait Mar 2012 KORC. Egypt Avib, BE. NB1 Hybridises with Pine Bunting <i>E. leucocephalos</i> over wide area (N&E of NE Kazakhstan) Irwin <i>et al</i> 2009; see Ayé <i>et al</i> 2012 p310. Nikelski <i>et al</i> 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. NB2 Cai <i>et al</i> 2021 conclude that the habitat of ancestral Yellowhammer (Clade IV) was desert/stony/dry shrubland, but it adapted to the appearance of open forests, as did its recent split, Pine Bunting <i>E. leucocephalos</i> .
1190	Pine Bunting	<i>Emberiza leucocephalos</i>	2 ssp, 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 <i>leucocephalos</i> Ayé <i>et al</i> 2012, winters locally N, S Iran, Afghanistan (Paludan 1959), thinly CA, some Israel/Lebanon(?), Byers <i>et al</i> 1995, uncommonly N&C Iraq Salim <i>et al</i> 2012, 1st record S Iraq Najaf Desert Nov 2020 SG43:1 172. Vagrant Armenia (2 records Mar 1996 & Nov 2016 Ananias <i>et al</i> 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 . NB1 Hybridises with Yellowhammer <i>E. citrinella</i> over wide area (N&E of NE Kazakhstan) Irwin <i>et al</i> 2009; see Ayé <i>et al</i> 2012 p 310. Nikelski <i>et al</i> 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. NB2 Cai <i>et al</i> 2021 conclude that the habitat of ancestral Pine Bunting (Clade IV) was desert/stony/dry shrubland, but it adapted to the appearance of open forests, as did its recent split, Yellowhammer <i>E. citrinella</i> .
1191	Rock Bunting (Western Rock Bunting) (formerly called Meadow Bunting in E distribution)	<i>Emberiza cia</i> (TIF places in <i>Cia</i>)	6 ssp, 4 in Region: nominate N Asia Minor; <i>hordei</i> SW&SC Asia Minor, Levant; <i>pregeri</i> E Türkiye, Caucasus, SW&N Iran; <i>par</i> NE Iran, Afghanistan, C Asia to SW Altai, then E to China & Ladakh; <i>par</i> Turkmenistan, Bukreev 1997. RB Türkiye, 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 <i>et al</i> 2012; <i>par</i> common BM, very rare resident from western Tien Shan to Kalbinskiy Altai SE to NE Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b. Winters same general areas, Byers <i>et al</i> 1995; winters (may breed) N&C Iraq Salim <i>et al</i> 2012. Pale <i>par</i> RB & BM Afghanistan (Paludan 1969) N-Kazakh Altai (Kazakhstan W&O 2007), K Roselaar pers comm. Single-record vagrant (as 1st for Saudi Arabia) Eastern Province 1991 Babbington & Meadows 2022. 5th for Kuwait Abraha al-Habari, al Jahrah Apr 2022 KORC . NB <i>stracheyi</i> extralimital to E in NW Himalayas. not as shown in R&A 2005.
1192	Godlewski's Bunting (Eastern Rock Bunting)	<i>Emberiza godlewskii</i> (TIF places in <i>Cia</i>)	5 ssp E Palearctic distribution, 2 in Region: <i>decolorata</i> very rare breeder SE Kazakhstan, E Kyrgyzstan Ven 2002, vagrant Uzbekistan K-M&K 2005, winters E Tajikistan, Kyrgyzstan, map Byers <i>et al</i> 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, assessed as possibly breeding Katon-Karagay NP Jul 2023 Wassink 2024. Breeds small areas far SE Kazakhstan & far E Kyrgyzstan (<i>decolorata</i>), more migratory & at lower altitudes than Rock Bunting <i>E. cia</i> , Ven 2002, Ayé <i>et al</i> 2012. SE Kazakhstan 3rd breeding record 2006 Wassink 2009. N nominate vagrant to S Altai, south to Serebryansk, Katon-Karagay, Berel and Arshatay (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 & Rubinch 2001 Arend Wassink <i>in litt</i> Jan 2022. One imaged at Borit, Gojal, Gilgit-Baltistan, Pakistan Apr 2023 (Birds of Gilgit-Baltistan <i>in litt</i> May 2023), only 80km from Pakistan is probably first confirmed record for Pakistan. NB Li <i>et al</i> 2023 recommend a split of 3 southern ssp, <i>yunnanensis</i> , <i>khamensis</i> & <i>styani</i> (last-named not recognised by IOC) (all extralimital), leaving Godlewski's Bunting with the nominate, <i>omissa</i> & <i>decolorata</i> . <u>There is a perception that the case for splitting is narrow and so we await further developments. However, Berryman <i>et al</i> 2024 are a little less cautious, though prudently call for more comprehensive voice analysis for 'Yunnan Bunting' comprising <i>yunnansis</i> & ssp <i>khamensis</i> & <i>styani</i> (whether <i>omissa</i> is priority synonym for <i>styani</i> or only for some populations of <i>styani</i> is unclear).</u>
1193	Meadow Bunting (Long-tailed Bunting)	<i>Emberiza cioides</i> (TIF places in <i>Cia</i>)	5 ssp E Palearctic distribution, nominate may winter C Asia ranges, but only <i>tarbagataica</i> 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 <i>et al</i> 1995; breeds C&N Kyrgyzstan. In Russian Altai replaced by nominate, which winters in Kyrgyzstan and Kazakhstan, Kees Roselaar pers comm (unmentioned by Ayé <i>et al</i> 2012). 1st record for Uzbekistan Nov 2016 Emirates Bird Breeding Center for Conservation, Kyzilkum Desert Collar & Dolman 2020. 1st for Pakistan imaged at Borit, Gojal, Gilgit-Baltistan Apr 2021 (Birds of Gilgit-Baltistan <i>in litt</i> May 2023). NB Cai <i>et al</i> 2021 conclude that the habitat of ancestral Meadow Bunting (Clade IV) was desert/stony/dry shrubland, but it adapted to the appearance of open forests. From its current distribution, its habitat now includes grassland with adjacent shrubland and woodland.
1194	White-capped Bunting (Chestnut-breasted Bunting)	<i>Emberiza stewarti</i>	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 <i>et al</i> 1995. Vagrant 1992 UAE Aspinall & Porter 2011 2nd record Nov 2016 EBRC , Iran Mitchell 2017, last record 1973 Khaleghizadeh <i>et al</i> 2017. 3rd for UAE at Wadi Shees Park Oct 2023 DB46:6 411.
1195	Grey-necked Bunting	<i>Emberiza buchanani</i> (TIF places in <i>Glycyspina</i>)	3 ssp, all in Region: <i>cerrutii</i> E Türkiye, Caucasus- Iran, SW Turkmenistan, wintering India; nominate Afghanistan, C Asia Pamir & Alai, wintering Indian subcontinent; <i>neobscura</i> C Asia Kazakhstan, Tien Shan, E to China, WV India. SB, largely local, <i>cerrutii</i> mountains EC&SE Türkiye Kirwan <i>et al</i> 2008, E Caucasus, breeds SW, N&NW Iran Scott & Adhami 2006, rare NE Iraq Salim <i>et al</i> 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), <i>cerrutii</i> (SW) & <i>buchanani</i> 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 <i>et al</i> 1995. Common E Kazakh BM G&G 2005. N nominate breeds S&SE Iran Afghanistan Pamirs-N Tajikistan, <i>neobscura</i> common BM S-c, SE & E Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b, C&NE Uzbekistan Kyrgyzstan K Roselaar pers comm, Ayé <i>et al</i> 2012. NB in CA, breeding distribution seldom overlaps with Ortolan <i>E. hortulana</i> Ayé <i>et al</i> 2012.
PT	Cinereous Bunting PT (Ashy-headed Bunting, Strickland's Bunting)	<i>Emberiza cineracea</i>	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 <i>pro tem</i> interprets their conclusions as worthy of our 'don't know for sure' usage. IOC10.2 & H&M4 do not split.
1196	Western Cinereous Bunting ('Smyrna Bunting')	<i>Emberiza (cineracea) cineracea</i> (TIF places in <i>Glycyspina</i>)	Monotypic if split. W, SW&SC Asia Minor, wintering NE Africa. Breeds W&S Türkiye, 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; 5 at Kfar Adumim near Jerusalem Mar 2024 imaged by Yoav Perlman <i>in litt</i> . 1st for Georgia Apr 2019 DB41:3 203. Egypt Avib, BE. English name informal@OSME.

1197	Eastern Cinereous Bunting	<i>Emberiza (cinerea) semenowi</i> (TIF places in <i>Glycyospina</i>)	Monotypic if split: SE Türkiye, SW Iran, wintering southern NE Africa, SW Arabia. Breeds SE Türkiye & SW (Kees Roselaar pers comm) local & uncommon SB Zagros S to Khuzestan Iran Khaleghizadeh <i>et al</i> 2017, N Iraq Moore & Boswell 1956 (as taxon <i>cinerea</i>) where <i>semenowi</i> not uncommon Ararat <i>et al</i> 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 <i>et al</i> 2012 accept old record Turkmenistan. Two at oilrig NW Gulf 25 Aug 1985 <i>Sea Swallow</i> 36 : p19 (1987); one PM collected Tanb Island 1920 Ticehurst <i>et al</i> 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 (<i>in litt</i> 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 <i>et al</i> 2014. BLI yet to reappraise its Least Concern assessment. Brambilla <i>et al</i> 2016 establish that the EU Rural Development Programme should contain an agri-environment scheme for the conservation of bare soil, grassland & shrubs in its typical habitats, the optimum model being Appenine Italy's mosaic farming. Jiguet <i>et al</i> 2019a make unarguable case for hunting ban in France. Jiguet <i>et al</i> 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.			
1198	Ortolan Bunting	<i>Emberiza hortulana</i> (TIF places in <i>Glycyospina</i>) Vulnerable in W of distribution? IUCN 2020 assess as decreasing, but of Least Concern over entire range	Monotypic. Summer breeder E Med, W&S Türkiye Kirwan <i>et al</i> 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 Kazakhstan, W from Ural River to Saur Mts E-most Kazakhstan, common PM throughout Wassink 2015b. Winters Sudan, Byers <i>et al</i> 1995. Fairly common spring PM, uncommon autumn PM Oman OBL7 , vagrant Socotra Porter & Suleiman 2020, 2022; autumn migrant NW Afghanistan, R&A 2005. Egypt Avib, BE. Also in C Siberia N of Region, likely expanding E Rogacheva 1992. Jiguet <i>et al</i> 2016 record declines in 14 of 15 northern European countries, & call for data from Middle East & Central Asia. Jiguet <i>et al</i> 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 <i>et al</i> 2019b reveals the impact of light isotope ratio analysis in discriminating between fully wild and captive birds. Jiguet <i>et al</i> 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 isotope 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 <i>E. buchanani</i> Ayé <i>et al</i> 2012.
1199	Cretzschmar's Bunting	<i>Emberiza caesia</i> (TIF places in <i>Glycyospina</i>)	Monotypic. Breeds E Mediterranean, area of Jordan, Cyprus (Moderate increase farmland, strong increase forest 2006-2015 Hellicar 2016), W Syria, W, SW&S-C Türkiye (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 , 1st Qatar record Aspinall & Porter 2011, 2nd Irkkaya Farm Mar 2022 QBRC ; 1st & 2nd records UAE Jan 2011 & Mar 2013 EBRC , 3rd Abu Dhabi Mar 2019 DB41:2 134; winters Sudan W Red Sea, Nile, Byers <i>et al</i> 1995; single-record vagrant (2 birds 1991) Eastern Province Saudi Arabia, though it is a regular PM in W Saudi Arabia Babbington & Meadows 2022. Egypt Avib, BE
1200	Cirl Bunting	<i>Emberiza cirlus</i>	Monotypic. Westernmost Region breeding limit N Türkiye, Byers <i>et al</i> 1995, updated to N, W&SW Türkiye Kirwan <i>et al</i> 2008. Lone singers Georgia & NW Iran probably vagrants, K Roselaar pers comm. Vagrant Iran Scott & Adhami 2006, but no recent records until Jan 2025 at Borujerd, Lorestan officially 1st record IBRC . Egypt Avib, BE. NB1 Cai <i>et al</i> 2021 conclude that the habitat of ancestral Cirl Bunting, (an ancestor of Yellowhammer <i>E. citrinella</i> & Pine Bunting <i>E. leucophalos</i> & all members of Clade IV), was desert/stony/dry shrubland, but it adapted to the appearance of grassland/cultivation/scrub.
PT	House Bunting PT	<i>Emberiza striolata</i>	IOC2.0 accepts split, Kirwan & Shirihai 2007, Svensson <i>et al</i> 2009. H&M4 does not split, but lists groups, then transfers to new genus <i>Fringillaria</i> . Schweizer <i>et al</i> 2017 agree, and account for seeming intermediates, allotting them to <i>sahari</i> . Given the morphological data, which found no distinction between <i>E. striolata</i> 'jebelmarrae' & <i>E.s. striolata</i> , the clustering of all samples of <i>E. striolata</i> 'jebelmarrae' in a subclade within <i>E. sahari</i> 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 <i>et al</i> 2017, but it is closest to <i>sahari</i> /'jebelmarrae' populations 300km SSW in Chad; the nearest known <i>striolata</i> population is an isolate 1000km SE near Atbara, Sudan. We considered that the clustering data tends toward the Jebel Uweinat population probably being <i>sahari</i> ; 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 <i>assionina</i> rank
1201	Striolated Bunting (House Bunting) (Mountain Bunting)	<i>Emberiza [striolata] striolata</i> (H&M4 & TIF place in <i>Fringillaria</i>)	H&M4 group 2, partly African species, 4 ssp H&M\$, 3ssp IOC6.2, only nominate known in Region (occurs extralimally NE Sudan, Eritrea, Ethiopia & to Pakistan). Locally common resident much of Arabia, S Iran-C India, Byers <i>et al</i> 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 Irakaya Farm Nov 2018 QBRC , 1st & 2nd Kuwait records Aug & Nov 2013 KORC . uncommon Iran resident from Fays to Baluchistan Khaleghizadeh <i>et al</i> 2017, summer breeder SE Afghanistan (Jalalabad-Kabul valley, Niethammer & Niethammer 1967, Sayer & van der Zon 1981, Ayé <i>et al</i> 2012), possibly elsewhere in SE (breeds W Pakistan border), Kees Roselaar pers comm, SE Iran R&A 2005.
1202	House Bunting (Mountain Bunting)	<i>Emberiza [striolata] sahari</i> (H&M4 & TIF place in <i>Fringillaria</i>)	H&M4 group 1 monotypic post-split. Vast majority of post-split <i>sahari</i> -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 <i>et al</i> 2017) of small scattered populations in SW Egypt at Jebel Uweinat where 1st record for Egypt made in 1968, Misonne 1974, Goodman <i>et al</i> 1986; <i>pro tem</i> as stated in PT above, we think it likely that this population would cluster with <i>sahari</i> . NB BLDZ map Apr 2020 assigns this population to <i>E. striolata</i> .
PT	Cinnamon-breasted Bunting PT	<i>Emberiza tahapisi sensu lato</i> (H&M4 places in <i>Fringillaria</i>)	IOC4.1 splits Gosling's Bunting <i>E. goslingi</i> as monotypic, extralimital from Cinnamon-breasted Bunting, the former's distribution being extralimital from Eritrea, Ethiopia, SW Sudan & Central African Republic, but also west across much of the Sahel to Senegal and S Mauretania. <i>E. tahapisi sensu stricto</i> has 4 ssp; H&M4 does not split, but transfers <i>sensu lato</i> to new genus <i>Fringillaria</i> . BLDZ also split some time ago.
1203	Cinnamon-breasted Bunting (African Rock Bunting)	<i>Emberiza tahapisi sensu stricto</i> (H&M4 & TIF place in <i>Fringillaria</i>)	4 ssp, 2 wholly African mainland, 2 in Region: <i>arabica</i> resident SW Arabia, <i>tahapisi</i> (subsuming <i>insularis</i>) Socotra Kirwan 2007. Widespread highlands inland from Tihama, Dhofar Oman (c1Mbp mainland) & Socotra (12 000bp) Jennings 2010; may also breed Abd-al-Kuri, Socotra Island population 38 200+ind Porter & Suleiman 2022. Abundant resident breeder S Oman OBL7 . Egypt Avib
1204	Socotra Bunting	<i>Emberiza socotrana</i> (H&M4 & TIF place in <i>Fringillaria</i>) IUCN 2020 Assess as Near-Threatened, up from Vulnerable	Monotypic. Socotra island endemic, Byers <i>et al</i> 1995. Perhaps 1000bp Jennings 2010; Vulnerable. Distinctiveness emphasised in Schweizer & Kirwan 2014, who while noting its morphological resemblance to the African extralimital Cape Bunting <i>E. capensis</i> , emphasise its much closer relationship to the Striolated/House Bunting <i>E. striolata/sahari</i> & Cinnamon-breasted/Gosling's Bunting <i>E. tahapisi/goslingi</i> species groups (<i>goslingi</i> African extralimital), thus building upon Olsson <i>et al</i> 2013b & Olsson <i>et al</i> 2013c. Rarest endemic Socotra Island 3750+ind Porter & Suleiman 2022, first nest found Hering & Hering 2022d, 2023..
1205	Chestnut-eared Bunting (Grey-headed Bunting)	<i>Emberiza fucata</i> (TIF placed in <i>Spina</i> , but that name is not available, so now it is <i>Onychospina</i>)	Ayé <i>et al</i> 2012 reject: 'Accidental' Afghanistan ssp <i>arcuata</i> Paludan 1959 (R&A 2005 considered this 'doubtful'; a single juvenile specimen possibly mis-labelled); Kyrgyzstan record K-M&K 2005). However, Ayé <i>et al</i> 2012 accept the Uzbekistan records in Byers <i>et al</i> (1995), as do Koblik & Arkhipov 2014. Breeds N Pakistan, Grimmett <i>et al</i> 1998. Likely vagrant in Region, breeding up to Pakistan border, (in Chitral) Roberts 1992, Kees Roselaar, pers comm. Grimmett <i>et al</i> 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.. NB1 1st vagrancy to UK 2004, Fraser <i>et al</i> 2007, Shaw 2008, so must have crossed OSME Region. NB2 Cai <i>et al</i> 2021 conclude that the habitat of ancestral Chestnut-eared Bunting (Clade IV) was desert/stony/dry shrubland, but it adapted to the appearance of grassland/cultivation/scrub.

1206	Little Bunting	<i>Emberiza pusilla</i> (<i>Schoeniclus pusillus</i> H&M4, <i>Ocyris pusillus</i> TIF)	Monotypic. Common northernmost Russian open forest Rogacheva 1992. Very rare PM, accidental WV SW 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 <i>et al</i> 1995. Egypt Avib, BE. 1st - 7th Azerbaijan records Oct 2017 Fetting & Buddemeier 2021 trapping & sound-recording. SG40:1 , 1st for Georgia sound-recorded Choroki Delta Oct 2022, 2nd at Batumi Oct 2022 Budagashvili & Javakhishvili 2024; 10th for Türkiye Kizilirmak 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 vagrant Iran Khaleghizadeh <i>et al</i> 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 <i>in litt</i> ; 1st for Qatar Saliya Mar 2023 QBRC . 4th record (several birds) for Iran at Chenaran, Khorasan-e Razavi Dec 2024 IBRC . Vagrant Middle East Aspinall & Porter 2011.
1207	Yellow-browed Bunting	<i>Emberiza chrysophrys</i> (<i>Schoeniclus chrysophrys</i> H&M4, TIF <i>Ocyris chrysophrys</i>)	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 <i>et al</i> 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 <i>Schoeniclus</i> .
Global decline of up to 87% at an annual rate of -8.9% due to habitat loss Edenius <i>et al</i> 2016			
1208	Rustic Bunting	<i>Emberiza rustica</i> (TIF places in <i>Ocyris</i> , as does H&M4)	Monotypic. Breeds to N of region, possibly irregularly easternmost Kazakhstan, winters Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan (& E China), Byers <i>et al</i> 1995, very rare passage N&S Khorasan Iran Zarudny 1911, Khaleghizadeh <i>et al</i> 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 <i>et al</i> 2012, E Afghanistan R&A 2005, Jordan, Tebb & Hamidan 2002, Türkiye Kirwan <i>et al</i> 2008 5th record Mar 2009 Kirwan <i>et al</i> 2014, 12th Eskipazar, Trabzon Oct 2022 Emin Yoğurtcuoğlu <i>in litt</i> , 4 together Mar 2023 at Caycuma, Zonguldak, NE Türkiye, imaged by Alperen Köse, Emin Yoğurtcuoğlu <i>in litt</i> . 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 <i>et al</i> 2012. Egypt Avib, BE. Regular vagrant to WP, Fraser <i>et al</i> 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 <i>in litt</i> , one at Ma'ale HaHamisha late Jan 2022, 1 at Kiryat Anayim Feb 2022 Yoav Perlman <i>in litt</i> , vagrant Middle East Aspinall & Porter 2011, 1st for Cyprus Paphos Nov 2016 CRC , 2nd Akrotiri Gravel Pits Nov 2020 CRBC , 3rd at Akrotiri Marsh Oct 2023 DB45:6 416; 6-record vagrant Oman 1974-2010 OBL7 . 5th Lebanon record Dec 2021 Ramadan-Jaradi <i>et al</i> 2022. 2nd (some earlier records poorly documented) for Georgia found by Peter Afonin at Tbilisi Mar 2023, Budagashvili & Javakhishvili 2024.
Population decline of up to 94% since 1980 due in part to habitat loss Kamp <i>et al</i> 2015, but has become a widespread Chinese fad food via fringe Chinese medicine Wang <i>et al</i> 2019 (cited thus by Lees & Gilroy 2021).			
1209	Yellow-breasted Bunting	<i>Emberiza aureola</i> (<i>Schoeniclus aureolus</i> H&M4: TIF places in <i>Ocyris</i>) Critically Endangered	E Palearctic species, 2 spp, only nominate in Region, very rare breeding & PM NNE Kazakhstan; <i>ornatus</i> 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 <i>et al</i> 2015. Formerly bred N Kazakhstan & E Kazakh Altai, K Roselaar pers comm, W&O 2007 & perhaps elsewhere in Kazakhstan Ayé <i>et al</i> 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 <i>et al</i> 2017) to winter SE Asia, Byers <i>et al</i> 1995, the tiny main area in 2023 being private grasslands c5km WNW of Shwe Laung, Ayeyarwady (Irrawaddy) Delta, Myanmar, where over 6300 were counted Naing <i>et al</i> 2023; this site is in danger of conversion to agriculture. Vagrant Israel Perlman & Meyrav 2009, Gulf countries Aspinall & Porter 2011, rare PM Oman OBL7 , 1st since 2006 in UAE at Al Zorah Sep 2024 DB46:5 348; possible subject for stable-isotope ratio studies as per Fox & Bearhop 2008? Egypt Avib, BE
1210	Chestnut Bunting	<i>Emberiza rutila</i> (<i>Schoeniclus rutilus</i> H&M4: TIF places in <i>Ocyris</i>)	Monotypic. Breeds E taiga Krasnoyarsk Republic (recent spread?) N of region Rogacheva 1992. Vagrant Tajikistan, Byers <i>et al</i> 1995, accepted by Ayé <i>et al</i> 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, IBRC Eilat, photo Ito Shanni, seen briefly again 2 days later Yoav Perlman <i>in litt</i> IRDC .
1211	Black-headed Bunting	<i>Emberiza melanocephala</i> (H&M4 & TIF place in <i>Granativora</i>)	Monotypic. Breeds Asia Minor, Caucasus, E Med, Levant, Iraq, N, W Iran, (SW Turkmenistan Belousov 1990), Byers <i>et al</i> 1995, migrant in S&SE Afghanistan R&A 2005, perhaps so Ayé <i>et al</i> 2012. Čiković <i>et al</i> 2021 tagged migrating birds from Croatia to W-C India; loop migration occurred, the return migration shifted 1000km W of outward leg: long stopovers sandwiched the longest direct flights, Iranian Plateau on outward migration, less long stopovers 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 , 8th Doha May 2022 QBRC , 9th Sealine Beach Resort Sep 2022, 10th, 2 birds, Sep-Oct 2022 Saliya STP QBRC . Abundant SB N&NW Iran, abundant PM spring SE Iran Khaleghizadeh <i>et al</i> 2017; area of sympatry & hybridisation with Red-headed Bunting <i>E. bruniceps</i> S of Caspian in Iran expanding Gholamhosseini <i>et al</i> 2017: Gholamhosseini <i>et al</i> 2023 found that historical tendency for male hybrids to resemble <i>E. melanocephala</i> has reversed with the westward expansion of <i>E. bruniceps</i> into a much larger area of hybridisation along the S side of Caspian Sea. Egypt Avib, BE. NB1 Red- & Black-headed Buntings known to hybridise E Iran & possibly SE Caspian (perhaps on Russian side of Volga); males should be identifiable Ayé <i>et al</i> 2012. NB2 Cai <i>et al</i> 2021 conclude that the habitat of ancestral Black-headed Bunting (Clade III) was desert/stony/dry shrubland, but it adapted to the appearance of open forests.
1212	Red-headed Bunting	<i>Emberiza bruniceps</i> (H&M4 & TIF place in <i>Granativora</i>)	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 <i>E. melanocephala</i> S of Caspian in Iran expanding Gholamhosseini <i>et al</i> 2017. 2nd Azerbaijan record Absheron NP May 2023 DB45:3 207. Winters India, Byers <i>et al</i> 1995; vagrant Israel Perlman & Meyrav 2009, 3rd for Israel at Ezuz, Southern District Jun 2023 Phil Andrews, Yoav Perlman <i>in litt</i> . 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 , 10th at Flag Island Oct 2023 SG46:1 149. 1st for Egypt May 2016 de Rouck <i>et al</i> 2022, EORC ; also popular cagebird Aspinall & Porter 2011. NB1 Red- & Black-headed Buntings known to hybridise E Iran & possibly SE Caspian (perhaps on Russian side of Volga); males should be identifiable Ayé <i>et al</i> 2012. Gholamhosseini <i>et al</i> 2023 found that historical tendency for male hybrids to resemble <i>E. melanocephala</i> has reversed with the westward expansion of <i>E. bruniceps</i> into a much larger area of hybridisation along the S side of Caspian Sea. NB2 Cai <i>et al</i> 2021 place in Clade III, occupying desert/stony/dry shrublands.
1213	Black-faced Bunting	<i>Emberiza spodocephala</i> (<i>Schoeniclus spodocephala</i> H&M4 -case agreement subsidiary: TIF places in <i>Ocyris</i>)	Polytypic. Easternmost taxon <i>personata</i> proposed elevation to species rank as Masked Bunting in draft IOC12.1: Weissensteiner 2013, Weissensteiner <i>et al</i> 2014, Päckert <i>et al</i> 2015, Brazil 2018. Thinly widespread-locally common in riverside growth in Russian forest-steppe & subtaiga E to c90°E & 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 <i>et al</i> 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 <i>oligoxantha</i> (recently erected or resurrected?) may be valid Kees Roselaar <i>et al</i> 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, IRDC , 2nd at Maayan Zvi Feb 2023 Yoav Perlman <i>in litt</i> , then at Azuz, Negev, May-Jun 2023 DB45:4 276, 3rd DB46:1 62 ringed at Rubin wetland Nov 2023 Phil Andrews <i>in litt</i> . 4th confirmed record by Yotam Lenhardt & Lisa Flammat Poleg Marsh Apr 2024 Yoav Perlman <i>in litt</i> , 5th imaged May 2024 at Mashade Sabe, N Negev Yoav Perlman <i>in litt</i> . 1st for Iran at Bandar-e-Asaluyeh, Bushehr Province Nov 2023, imaged by Mahdi Nghibi. <i>Birding Iran in litt</i> , DB45(6) : 416 IBRC . NB Populations bear divergent cytochrome c oxidase 1 (CO1) lineages, potentially including cryptic taxa Kerr <i>et al</i> 2009: Collar 2017 notes elevation of extralimital taxon <i>personata</i> to sp, Masked Bunting of Japan.

1214	Pallas's Reed Bunting (Pallas's Bunting)	<i>Emberiza pallasi</i> (<i>Schoeniclus pallasii</i> H&M4 & TIF)	E Palearctic species, 4 ssp., only <i>polaris</i> known to occur in Region in Kazakh Altai. Locally common Krasnoyarsk Republic to N of Region, <i>polaris</i> in forest-steppe and shrub tundra, <i>pallasii</i> high in extralimital Sayan Mts Rogocheva 1992. Has occurred E Kyrgyzstan, E Kazakhstan, Byers <i>et al</i> 1995, common BM southern Altai 2100-2600m asl E-most Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b, winters S to E China. Common BM Kazakh Altai Arend Wassink <i>in litt</i> 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 <i>et al</i> 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 <i>et al</i> 2009.
1215	Common Reed Bunting	<i>Emberiza schoeniclus</i> (<i>Schoeniclus schoeniclus</i> H&M4 & TIF)	18 ssp., 10 perhaps 11+ breed or winter wetlands in the Region: <i>schoeniclus</i> SW Asia; <i>passerina</i> common PM, WV Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b, wintering Iran; <i>palliodor</i> scarce BM N to NE Kazakhstan common PM throughout Wassink 2015b, wintering SW&C Asia, Afghanistan & extraliminally; <i>incognita</i> common BM, occasional resident NW, N-C Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b, wintering Caspian & extraliminally to E of Region; <i>pyrrhuloides</i> common resident, rare BM across the Eurasian desert/semi-desert steppe of S Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b; <i>harterti</i> rare BM E-most Kazakhstan Wassink 2015b; <i>reiseri</i> W&C Türkiye; tsuschii Georgia-Sea of Azov; <i>caspius</i> E Türkiye, E Transcaucasia, NW&N Iran; <i>korejewi</i> SE Türkiye, Syria, SW&E Iran, S Turkmenistan. <i>E.s. pyrrhuloides</i> Turkmenistan, Bukreev 1997. Breeds W,C&E Türkiye Roselaar 1995: Türkiye, 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 <i>E. pusilla</i> , 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 <i>et al</i> 2012 grade 7 ssp in CA thus: 1. 'Northern group'; <i>harterti</i> (E Kazakhstan), <i>passerina</i> (PM,WV), <i>schoeniclus</i> (PM, WV) all darker overall & with finer bills than 2. 'Southern group'; <i>pyrrhuloides</i> (W to SE Kazakhstan), <i>korejewi</i> (SW&E Iran, S Turkmenistan); 3. 'Intermediate group'; <i>incognita</i> (N&C Kazakhstan), <i>palliodor</i> (N&NE Kazakhstan). However, H&M4 list 3 groups, not quite as above, but do not allocate extralimital <i>centralasiae</i> (actually NW China); we await IOC view on groupings. Uncommon winter migrant Israel Perlman & Meyrav 2009. NB1 Bill thickness may be basis of separation as species (reverting to Zarudny 1911?); DB2011 agree group 1, 'Thick-billed Reed Bunting' group, but no consensus on group compositions. NB2 Cai <i>et al</i> 2021 conclude that the habitat of ancestral Common Reed Bunting (Clade II) was open forests, but it adapted to the appearance of grassland, especially wet grassland.

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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BoA = Brown, LH, EK Urban, K Newman, CH Fry, S Keith. 1982-2013. *Birds of Africa, Vols I-VIII*. Academic Press (Vols I-VI). Helm (Vols VII & VIII). London. UK.

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CRC/CRBC = Cyprus Rare Birds Committee

CSNA = Commissie Systematiek Nederlandse Avifauna (Committee for Systematics of the Dutch Avifauna)

EORC = Egyptian Ornithological Rarities Committee (reconstituted 2010)

EBRC = Emirates Bird Records Committee

H&M3 = *Howard and Moore, 3rd edn*. 2003. E Dickinson (Ed). Helm. A&C Black, London, UK

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Ibis = The journal of the British Ornithologists' Union.

IBRC = Iran Bird Records Committee: iranbirdrecords.ir

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 Committee

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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