

APPENDIX A

The Clements Checklist follows the two AOS committees, NACC and SACC, but there are a small number of cases where the committees are not in alignment. Since the American Birding Association (ABA) and many other groups follow the species taxonomy of the NACC, we document these departures in detail below. Note that minor differences in checklist order occur as well, but are not detailed in full. Appendix B documents departures from the SACC.

eBird/Clements departures from the AOS North American Classification Committee (NACC) Check-List are detailed in full below:

SPLITS

- Comb Duck (*Sarkidiornis melanotos*): We split Knob-billed Duck (*Sarkidiornis melanotos*), of the Old World, and Comb Duck (*Sarkidiornis sylvicola*), of the New World, as separate species. Neither AOS committee has yet considered a proposal for these species, although the AOS-SACC is currently reviewing this species.
- Mallard (*Anas platyrhynchos*): We split Mexican Duck (*Anas diazi*), which occurs in Mexico and in the United States along the Mexican border, from the widespread Mallard (*Anas platyrhynchos*). Genetic divergence of Mexican Duck from Mallard is at comparable levels to other similar taxa that are recognized as species, such as American Black Duck *Anas rubripes* and Mottled Duck *Anas fulvigula* and hybridization between Mallard and Mexican Duck has not been demonstrated to occur at higher levels than between Mallard and other species in the Mallard complex. AOS-NACC did recently (2018) consider this proposal but did not elect to split and may reconsider this decision for 2020.

- Paltry Tyrannulet (*Zimmerius vilissimus*): We follow AOS-SACC in splitting Paltry Tyrannulet into four species: Guatemalan Tyrannulet (*Zimmerius vilissimus*), Mistletoe Tyrannulet (*Zimmerius parvus*), Spectacled Tyrannulet (*Zimmerius improbus*), and Venezuelan Tyrannulet (*Zimmerius petersi*). Guatemalan Tyrannulet occurs in the highlands of s. Mexico, Guatemala, Honduras, and El Salvador, Mistletoe Tyrannulet occurs primarily in lowland areas from Belize and s. Guatemala to w. Colombia, Spectacled Tyrannulet occurs in montane areas of n. Colombia and w. Venezuela, and Venezuelan Tyrannulet occurs in the coastal ranges of northern Venezuela. AOS-NACC has yet to consider a proposal to split these species.
- Purple Swamphen (*Porphyrio porphyrio*): Although considered a single species by NACC, it has recently been recognized that there are six species within Purple Swamphen, occurring roughly from west to east in the Old World as follows: Western Swamphen (*Porphyrio porphyrio*); African Swamphen (*Porphyrio madagascariensis*); Gray-headed Swamphen (*Porphyrio poliocephalus*); Black-backed Swamphen (*Porphyrio indicus*); Philippine Swamphen (*Porphyrio pulverulentus*); and Australasian Swamphen (*Porphyrio melanotus*). The species was recently added to the North American list because of an established, introduced population of Gray-headed Swamphen in Florida. Since that time, a vagrant African Swamphen has also appeared on Bermuda. The NACC [considered this split in 2016](#) but chose not to split Purple Swamphen at this time. AOS-NACC did recently consider this proposal but did not elect to split.
- Fork-tailed Swift (*Apus pacificus*) is considered a single species by the AOU, but split into four species by most other authorities, including eBird/Clements. Of those, only Pacific Swift (*Apus pacificus*) has occurred in North America (as a vagrant to Alaska). The other three species are Salim Ali's Swift (*Apus salimalii*), Blyth's Swift (*Apus leuconyx*), and Cook's Swift (*Apus cooki*), all of which are

non-migratory and unlikely to occur in North America. AOS-NACC did consider this proposal but did not elect to split.

- Stonechat (*Saxicola torquatus*) is considered a single species by the AOS, but split into three species by the British Ornithologists' Union (BOU) and others. We follow the three-way split in eBird, and thus have: European Stonechat (*Saxicola rubicola*), African Stonechat (*Saxicola torquatus*), and Siberian Stonechat (*Saxicola maurus*). All North American records pertain to Siberian Stonechat. Note that some authorities (e.g., IOC) further split Stejneger's Stonechat (*Saxicola [m.] stejnegeri*), and if that is followed, North American records would presumably be of this taxon, although not all records have been confirmed as *stejnegeri*. AOS-NACC did recently consider this proposal but did not elect to split.
- Hwamei (*Garrulax canorus*): In accord with most authorities, Chinese Hwamei (*Garrulax canorus*) and Taiwan Hwamei (*Garrulax taewanus*) are split by eBird, resulting in the common name difference between the NACC and eBird/Clements. AOs-NACC recently (2019) considered this split and elected not to adopt it.
- Dusky Thrush (*Turdus naumanni*): In accord with the British Ornithologists' Union (BOU) and others, we recognize the split of Dusky Thrush (*Turdus eunomus*) and Naumann's Thrush (*T. naumanni*), which the AOU retains as a single, lumped species: Dusky Thrush (*Turdus naumanni*). These two very different looking thrushes have both been reported from the AOU Area, although the two or three reports of Naumann's Thrush have not been documented by a specimen or photograph and thus are only considered hypothetical.

COMMON NAMES

- Eurasian Marsh-Harrier (*Circus aeruginosus*): In accord with prevailing usage elsewhere in the world, we use the name Eurasian Marsh-Harrier rather than Western Marsh Harrier. There are only a couple vagrant records from the Caribbean, giving the NACC a tenuous claim on a rarely-used name.
- Water Rail (*Rallus aquaticus*): The NACC added this species in 2017 based on records from Greenland, and opted to use the novel, hyphenated English names Western Water-Rail for *Rallus aquaticus* and Eastern Water-Rail for the extralimital *Rallus indicus*. eBird/Clements continues to use the more widely established names of Water Rail and Brown-cheeked Rail, respectively.
- Eurasian Moorhen (*Gallinula chloropus*): The Common Moorhen (*Gallinula chloropus*) was recently split into Old World and New World forms, Common Moorhen (*Gallinula gallinula*) and Common Gallinule (*Gallinula galeata*), respectively. These two species are genetically very different but almost identical in the field (although calls differ). We use the name Eurasian Moorhen to better describe its range and to avoid confusion with the previously lumped species (Common Moorhen *sensu lato*) species, which has a nearly worldwide distribution. [**Note:** it is very odd that NACC has chosen to refer to one of these species as gallinule and the other as moorhen. Globally, most *Gallinula* are known as moorhens.]

SCIENTIFIC NAMES

- Orinoco Goose (*Oressochen jubatus*): We follow SACC in using this name; NACC uses *Neochen jubata*.
- Paint-billed Crake (*Mustelirallus erythrops*): In accord with the most recent science, now adopted by SACC, we use the scientific name *Mustelirallus erythrops* for Paint-billed Crake, instead of *Neocrex erythrops* used by NACC.

- Colombian Crake (*Mustelirallus erythroptus*): In accord with the most recent science, now adopted by SACC, we use the scientific name *Mustelirallus colombianus* for Colombian Crake, instead of *Neocrex colombiana* used by NACC.
- In accord with SACC, we revise the genus on three antbirds:
 - Chestnut-backed Antbird (*Poliocrania exsul*): NACC uses *Mymeciza exsul*.
 - Dull-mantled Antbird (*Sipia laemosticta*): NACC uses *Mymeciza laemosticta*.
 - Zeledon's Antbird (*Hafferia zeledoni*): NACC uses *Mymeciza zeledoni*
- Pale-eyed Pygmy-Tyrant (*Atalotriccus pilaris*): In accord with SACC, we consider Pale-eyed Pygmy-Tyrant to be in the genus *Atalotriccus*.
- Green Manakin (*Xenopipo holochlora*): In accord with SACC, we consider Green Manakin to be in the genus *Xenopipo*.
- Dwarf Jay (*Cyanolyca nanus*): We follow Dickinson and Christidis (2014) in correcting this scientific name, while NACC still uses *Cyanolyca nana*.
- Greater Necklaced Laughingthrush (*Ianocincla pectoralis*): NACC considers this *Garrulax pectoralis*.

SEQUENCE

- The sequence of hawks and eagles differs substantially between eBird vs. NACC. eBird follows the most current research used by SACC, but needed to apply it worldwide. For this reason, Bald Eagle is placed below Accipiters on the eBird list (but not on the NACC list). It is our hope that NACC soon will follow this newer research. It was partially adopted in 2015 when White-tailed Hawk was moved by NACC to the Genus *Geronautes*, in accord with eBird and SACC.

- The sequence of some sparrows (towhees, *Zonotrichia*) has changed to follow the more recent phylogenies of American Emberizids already adopted by SACC. We expect NACC to address these same revisions in the near future.