

MEMORANDUM

MTAB-21  
June 26, 1973

TO : All Banders

FROM : Chief, Bird Banding Laboratory  
Office of Migratory Bird Management

SUBJECT: 1. A.O.U. Check-list changes

2. Red Crossbill data needed

3. Restriction on banding Monk Parakeets

4. 1972 bandings

5. Permit number on correspondence

1. The Thirty-second Supplement to the A.O.U. Check-list (*Auk*, 90:411-419) has been published by the Check-list Committee. This publication changes certain specified entries in the 1957 Check-list. Those changes which might alter the banding records sent to this office are summarized below:

- a. The "Great White Heron" is now considered a subspecies of the Great Blue Heron. Continue to use Species Numbers 192.0 and 194.0 for the appropriate populations.
- b. The "Blue Goose" is considered a color morph of the Snow Goose. Continue to use Species Numbers 169.0 and 169.1 for the appropriate color morphs.
- c. The "American Green-winged Teal" is considered a subspecies of the Green-winged Teal (or Common Teal), *Anas crecca*. Continue to use Species Numbers 138.0 and 139.0 for these populations.
- d. Thayer's Gull is now considered specifically distinct (*Larus thayeri*). Species Number 051.9 still applies.
- e. The Common Flicker (*Colaptes auratus*) is composed of three main populations in North America: "Yellow-shafted" (Species Number 412.0), "Red-shafted" (413.0), and "Gilded" (414.0). Continue to use these numbers for the appropriate populations.
- f. "Traill's Flycatcher" is divided into two species: the Willow Flycatcher (*Empidonax traillii*) and the Alder Flycatcher (*E. alnorum*). For schedules reporting either of these two species the birds normally must be identified by calls: The Willow sings the "fitz-bew" song type and the Alder is interpreted as

the "fee-bee-o" song type. Individuals whose identity cannot be ascertained (less than 5% possible error), should be designated as Traill's Flycatchers (Species Number 466.0). Add these two numbers to the species lists of the Banding Manual: Alder Flycatcher = 466.3; and Willow Flycatcher = 466.4.

- g. The "Black-eared Bushtit" is a color morph of the Common Bushtit. Delete this "species" and Species Number 745.0 from the Manual.
- h. The San Lucas Robin is considered a subspecies of the American Robin. Continue using 762.0 for this population.
- i. The Bahama Honeycreeper is considered a subspecies of the Bananaquit. Delete Species Number 815.2, use 635.0 for all bandings of this species.
- j. The "Myrtle Warbler" and "Audubon's Warbler" are considered separate subspecies of the Yellow-rumped Warbler (*Dendroica coronata*). Continue to report bandings of this species under the appropriate subspecies (i.e., Myrtle = 655.0; Audubon's = 656.0). Species Number 655.6 should be used only for these individuals that are Myrtle x Audubon's hybrids.
- k. The "Baltimore Oriole" and Bullock's Oriole" are separate subspecies of the Northern Oriole (*Icterus galbula*). Continue to report all bandings of this species under the appropriate subspecies (i.e., Baltimore = 507.0; Bullock's = 508.0). Hybrids should be reported under Species Number 507.8.
- l. The Great-tailed Grackle (*Cassidix mexicanus*) is considered a separate species from the Boat-tailed Grackle (*C. major*). Continue to use 513.9 and 513.0 respectively for these two species.
- m. The "Ipswich Sparrow" is considered a subspecies of the Savannah Sparrow. Continue to use 541.0 and 540.0 for each population.
- n. The "Cape Sable" and "Dusky" Seaside Sparrows are considered subspecies of the Seaside Sparrow. Continue to use 550.0, 551.0, and 551.1 for the appropriate population.
- o. The "White-winged," "Oregon," "Slate-colored," and "Guadalupe" Juncos are all considered subspecies of the Dark-eyed Junco (*Junco hyemalis*). The "Mexican" and "Baird's" Juncos are considered subspecies of the Yellow-eyed Junco, *J. phaeonotus*, (also of northern Middle America). Continue to use the earlier names and numbers of each of the junco populations. To prevent confusion as to which population the bander is referring, do not use "Dark-eyed Junco" on schedules. (If two or more populations are present in an area, some "Unidentified Dark-eyed Juncos" can be reported under Species Number 567.7.)

- p. Several other English names were changed (e.g., American Kestrel, Great Egret, Common Yellowthroat, and Gray Catbird). These names or previous names may be used on schedules.

The Bird Banding Laboratory will continue to print Certificates of Appreciation and Report to the Bander cards with the earlier Check-list names. The names are not being changed at the present so the general public can locate the bird's name in commonly available bird books.

2. Dr. A. R. Phillips (c/o Delaware Museum of Natural History, Post Office Box 3937, Greenville, Delaware 19807) is currently re-examining available Red Crossbill specimens and banding records for an analysis of the distribution of the various subspecies. He is most interested in receiving weight data from banders who have handled this species. Please send Dr. Phillips date, location, and other pertinent information for each weight measurement. Data used will be acknowledged in the forthcoming paper of this study.
3. Banders are instructed not to band and release Monk Parakeets. This exotic non-migratory species has recently established itself in a number of eastern and midwestern States. The Monk Parakeet feeds upon grains and fruits, in addition to harassing other birds, in its native land. Consequently it is regarded as a potential hazard in the United States. The species presently is not covered under the various migratory bird treaties. Our Bureau recently established a policy stating that the initiative for the control of Monk Parakeets living in the wild will be confined to the State fish and game or conservation agencies; however, the Bureau will provide technical assistance to the State agencies as Monk Parakeet management programs are developed. Consequently, any captured Monk Parakeets should be turned over to local conservation agency officials. Because they are non-migratory, the 24 hour time limitation that birds may be held in captivity does not apply.
4. Some time this fall we will be sending all active banders a listing of their 1972 bandings in a summarized format. We hope that each bander will review this data and advise the Bird Banding Laboratory of any errors which were entered into our computer files. Further information on this listing will be sent at that time.
5. Banders are requested to include the Federal banding permit number on all correspondence, after their name, and especially on the pink Recovery Report (Form 3-1807). Master permittees are requested to specifically advise all their subpermittees of this request. Your cooperation will help speed the processing of your correspondence.

  
George M. Jonkel

