

## Checklist of the Birds of Micronesia

Peter Pyle and John Engbring

For ornithologists visiting Micronesia, R.P. Owen's *Checklist of the Birds of Micronesia* (1977a) has proven a valuable reference for species occurrence among the widely scattered island groups. Since its publication, however, our knowledge of species distribution in Micronesia has been substantially augmented. Numerous species not recorded by Owen in Micronesia or within specific Micronesian island groups have since been reported, and the status of many other species has changed or become better known. This checklist is essentially an updated version of Owen (1977a), listing common and scientific names, and occurrence status and references for all species found in Micronesia as recorded from the island groups. Unlike Owen, who gives the status for each species only for Micronesia as a whole, we give it for each island group. The checklist is stored on a data base program on file with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) in Honolulu, and we encourage comments and new or additional information concerning its contents.

A total of 224 species are included, of which 85 currently breed in Micronesia, 3 have become extinct, and 12 have been introduced. Our criteria for species inclusion is either specimen, photograph, or adequately documented sight record by one or more observer. An additional 13 species (listed in brackets) are included as hypothetical (see below under status symbols). These are potentially occurring species for which reports exist that, in our opinion, fail to meet the above mentioned criteria.

The taxonomy and English and scientific names follow the American Ornithologist's Union (AOU) checklist (1983). When not included in the AOU checklist, we follow Slater (1972), King *et al.* (1975), Morony *et al.* (1975), Owen (1977a), and or Pratt *et al.* (1980). We have replaced the modifiers "Kusaie" and "Ponape" (Owen 1977a), with the now accepted, "Kosrae" and "Pohnpei." Order follows that of the AOU when possible. References used to place species not treated by the AOU include Morony *et al.* (1975), Owen (1977a), and King *et al.* (1975). Brackets surrounding the English name indicate that the species' occurrence is hypothetical in Micronesia as a whole. An asterisk (\*) following the English name indicates that annotations concerning the species' taxonomic or occurrence status can be found following the checklist.

Micronesian island groups are as defined in Owen (1977a) except for the Mariana Islands, where the Northern Marianas and Guam are herein considered separate entities. We do not include the Gilbert Islands, Nauru, or Ocean Island, and the reader is referred to Owen (1977a) for checklists of these islands. Islands and island groups included are Wake, the Marshall Islands, Kosrae, Pohnpei, Truk, the Northern Mariana Islands, Guam, Yap, and Palau.

For each occurrence, a single-letter status symbol is followed by a two-letter reference code. Status is based primarily on the literature cited in our "occurrence references" (see below). Casey (1966), Coultas (1931), Engbring and Pyle (in prep), Fefer and Harrison (1982), and Fefer and Shallenberger (1982) provide additional status information. Definitions of status symbols are as follows:

- R— Resident breeding, or presumed breeding species.
- E— Extinct species, formerly resident.
- I— Introduced residents. Certain populations may be semi-domestic. Species which are entirely domestic, such as Muscovy (*Cairina moschata*), and those which may have been established at one time but have since become extirpated, are not included. [Species in the latter category include Common Myna (*Acridotheres tristis*) in the Marshall Islands; House Sparrow (*Passer domesticus*) on Wake and, possibly, in the Marshall Islands; Nutmeg Mannikin (*Lonchura punctulata*) in Palau; and Java Sparrow (*Padda oryzivora*) on Guam].
- S— Seabird attracted to or near islands for feeding, roosting or, possibly, for breeding. No documented breeding records exist.
- P— Pelagic seabird (non-breeding) normally found well offshore. These include records up to 200 nautical miles from the islands.
- M— Migrant or wintering species.
- V— Vagrant. Non-migratory species or species occurring well out of normal migratory range. These are unlikely to return successfully to breeding grounds.
- H— Hypothetical. Occurrence is hypothetically or questionably documented. These include three categories: 1) Species reported by the reference as hypothetical or as an uncertain identification. 2) References to species pairs which are difficult to distinguish in the field (e.g. Common/Spotted Sandpiper, *Actitis hypoleucos/macularia*). We list these as hypothetical for the species we consider the most likely to occur. 3) Species recorded in general lists without reference, or difficult-to-identify migrant or vagrant species where accompanying description does not eliminate all other potentially occurring species. Species in this category are marked with an asterisk (\*), and our reasons for listing these as hypothetical are given at the end of the checklist.

Occurrence references are those which first adequately document the occurrence of the species in each island group. In some instances, initial hypothetical or otherwise inadequate reports are replaced by subsequent references with more adequate documentation. Baker (1951) or Amerson (1969) are listed as the reference for all records included (with adequate documentation) by them. We use the following reference codes in this checklist:

- |   |                                      |
|---|--------------------------------------|
| AC— U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (1979) | Jn— Jenkins (1978)                   |
| Ad— Anderson (1981)                     | Jo— Jouanin (1956)                   |
| Am— Amerson (1969)                      | Js— Jenkins (1983)                   |
| An— Anderson (1978)                     | Kg— King (1962)                      |
| As— Ashman (1983)                       | Kl— Kelso (1938)                     |
| Bd— Brandt (1961)                       | Kn— King (1976)                      |
| Be— Beck (1985)                         | Kr— Kridler (1979)                   |
| Bk— Baker (1951)                        | Ma— Marshall, J. (1957)              |
| Br— Brandt (1962)                       | Mr— Marshall, M. (1977)              |
| Bt— Brandt (1959)                       | MW— Maben and Wiles (1981)           |
| By— Bruyns (1964)                       | Oe— Owen (1974)                      |
| CL— Clapp and Laybourne (1983)          | On— Owen (1977a)                     |
| Cp— R. Clapp (pers. comm.)              | Op— R. Owen (pers. comm.)            |
| Dr— Drahos (1977)                       | Ow— Owen (1977b)                     |
| DS— Dixon and Starret (1952)            | Pa— Pratt, T. (pers. comm.)          |
| Du— Dunbar (1975)                       | PB— Pratt, H.D. and Bruner (1981)    |
| Eg— Engbring (1983b)                    | PE— Pyle and Engbring (in press)     |
| En— Engbring (1983a)                    | Pr— Pratt, H.D. <i>et al.</i> (1977) |
| EO— Engbring and Owen (1981)            | Pt— Pratt, T. (1984)                 |
| Fc— Finsch (1881)                       | Pz— Perez (1971)                     |
| Fi— Fisher (1950)                       | Ri— Ripley (1948)                    |
| Fn— Finsch (1880b)                      | RK— Rice and Kenyon (1962)           |
| Fo— Fosberg (1966)                      | Ro— Rothschild (1903)                |
| Ha— Hachisuka <i>et al.</i> (1943)      | Rp— Ripley (1951)                    |
| Hl— Hailman (1979)                      | Sc— Schipper (1985)                  |
| Hu— Huber (1971)                        | SK— Schreiber and Kleen (1968)       |
| Hy— Hayes (1985)                        | Tb— Tubb (1966)                      |
| Je— Jenkins (1981)                      | WG— Williams and Grout (in press)    |
| JK— Johnson and Kienholz (1975)         | Wi— G. Wiles (pers. comm.)           |
| JM— Johnston and McFarlane (1967)       |                                      |



Black-tailed Godwit. Kosrae. July 1983.

Photo by P. Pyle



Caroline Islands Ground-Dove. Pohnpei. June 1983.

Photo by P. Pyle

Checklist of the birds of Micronesia, with local distribution, status information, and references.

**SPECIES**

**ALBATROSSES**

[Short-tailed Albatross]  
Black-footed Albatross\*  
Laysan Albatross\*

**SHEARWATERS, PETRELS**

[White-necked Petrel]  
Tahiti Petrel\*  
Kermadec Petrel  
Bonin Petrel  
Black-winged Petrel  
Stejneger's Petrel\*  
Bulwer's Petrel\*  
Streaked Shearwater  
Flesh-footed Shearwater  
Wedge-tailed Shearwater  
Sooty Shearwater  
Short-tailed Shearwater  
Christmas Shearwater  
Townsend's Shearwater  
Audubon's Shearwater

**STORM-PETRELS**

Wilson's Storm-Petrel  
Leach's Storm-Petrel  
Band-rumped Storm-Petrel  
Matsudaira's Storm-Petrel\*  
Sooty Storm-Petrel

**TROPICBIRDS**

White-tailed Tropicbird  
Red-tailed Tropicbird

**BOOBIES**

Masked Booby\*  
Brown Booby  
Red-footed Booby

**PELICANS**

Australian Pelican

**CORMORANTS**

Little Pied Cormorant

**DARTERS**

[Oriental Darter]

**FRIGATEBIRDS**

Great Frigatebird  
Lesser Frigatebird\*

**HERONS, EGRETS,**

**BITTERNES**

Yellow Bittern  
Schrenk's Bittern  
Black Bittern  
Gray Heron  
Pacific Reef-Heron

**DIOMEDEIDAE**

*Diomedea albatrus*  
*Diomedea nigripes*  
*Diomedea immutabilis*

**PROCELLARIIDAE**

*Pterodroma externa*  
*Pterodroma rostrata*  
*Pterodroma neglecta*  
*Pterodroma hypoleuca*  
*Pterodroma nigripennis*  
*Pterodroma longirostris*  
*Bulweria bulwerii*  
*Calonectris leucomelas*  
*Puffinus carneipes*  
*Puffinus pacificus*  
*Puffinus griseus*  
*Puffinus tenuirostris*  
*Puffinus nativitatis*  
*Puffinus auricularis*  
*Puffinus lherminieri*

**HYDROBATIDAE**

*Oceanites oceanicus*  
*Oceanodroma leucorhoa*  
*Oceanodroma castro*  
*Oceanodroma matsudairae*  
*Oceanodroma tristrami*

**PHAETHONTIDAE**

*Phaethon lepturus*  
*Phaethon rubricauda*

**SULIDAE**

*Sula dactylatra*  
*Sula leucogaster*  
*Sula sula*

**PELECANIDAE**

*Pelecanus conspicillatus*

**PHALACROCORACIDAE**

*Phalacrocorax melanoleucos*

**ANHINGIDAE**

*Anhinga melanogaster*

**FREGATIDAE**

*Fregata minor*  
*Fregata ariel*

**ARDEIDAE**

*Ixobrychus sinensis*  
*Ixobrychus eurhythmus*  
*Ixobrychus flavicollis*  
*Ardea cinerea*  
*Egretta sacra*

	Wake (Wk)	Marshalls (Ms)	Kosrae (Ks)	Pohnpei (Pn)	Truk (Tk)	Northern Marianas (NM)	Guam (Gm)	Yap (Yp)	Palau (Pl)
	P-RK S-RK	P-Am P-Am		P-Hy		H-Bk P-Bk P-Du			H-PE
		H-On			P-Bk P-Mr	S-DS			
		P-Am P-Bk P-JK P-Cp R-Am		H-By	H-By P-By	P-DS		P-By	P-DS
		P-By S-Bk P-Sc P-Bk	S-Bk	S-By	S-Bk	R-DS	P-Bk	S-Fs	S-PE
	S-Ha	R-Bk	P-PE	P-Hy		P-Pt P-Pt S-Jo S-Bk	P-Dr S-Dr S-Bk	S-Fs	R-Bk
			R-Bk	R-Bk	R-Bk				
		P-Hu P-Hu P-Hu				P-Pt	P-MW		
			H-Hy	H-Hy		S-Pt S-Pt	P-Kn		P-EO
	R-Fo R-Fo	R-Bk R-Bk	R-Bk	R-Bk S-Bk	R-Bk S-Bk	R-Bk R-Bk	R-Bk	R-Bk	R-Bk S-By
	R-Fo R-Fo R-Fo	R-Am R-Bk R-Bk	S-Bk	R-Bk R-PE	R-Bk R-Bk	R-Bk R-Bk	H-Js S-Bk P-Bk	S-Bk	S-EO R-Bk R-Bk
									V-EO
									R-Bk
									H-Ri
	R-Fo	R-Bk S-Am	S-Bk S-PE	R-Bk	R-Bk	S-Bk S-Bk	S-Bk H-Bk	S-Bk S-Bk	R-OW S-Ow
					R-Bk	R-Bk	R-Bk	R-Bk	R-Bk V-Bk
						M-Pt	M-Bk		H-On
		R-Bk	R-Bk	R-Bk	R-Bk	R-Bk	R-Bk	R-Bk	R-Bk

\*See annotations following checklist.

## SPECIES

Intermediate Egret	<i>Egretta intermedia</i>
Little Egret	<i>Egretta garzetta</i>
Cattle Egret	<i>Bulbulcus ibis</i>
Green-backed Heron*	<i>Butorides striatus</i>
Japanese Night-Heron	<i>Gorsachius goisagi</i>
Malayan Night-Heron	<i>Gorsachius melanolophus</i>
Black-crowned Night-Heron	<i>Nycticorax nycticorax</i>
Rufous Night-Heron*	<i>Nycticorax caledonicus</i>
<b>GEESE, DUCKS</b>	<b>ANATIDAE</b>
Snow Goose	<i>Chen caerulescens</i>
Canada Goose*	<i>Branta canadensis</i>
Green-winged Teal	<i>Anas crecca</i>
Mallard*	<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>
Gray Duck*	<i>Anas superciliosa</i>
Northern Pintail	<i>Anas acuta</i>
Garganey*	<i>Anas querquedula</i>
Northern Shoveler	<i>Anas clypeata</i>
Gadwall*	<i>Anas strepera</i>
Eurasian Wigeon	<i>Anas penelope</i>
American Wigeon	<i>Anas americana</i>
Common Pochard	<i>Aythya ferina</i>
Canvasback	<i>Aythya valisineria</i>
Tufted Duck	<i>Aythya fuligula</i>
Greater Scaup	<i>Aythya marila</i>
<b>HAWKS, EAGLES</b>	<b>ACCIPITRIDAE</b>
Osprey*	<i>Pandion haliaetus</i>
Black Kite	<i>Milvus migrans</i>
Brahminy Kite	<i>Haliastur indus</i>
Japanese Sparrowhawk	<i>Accipiter gularis</i>
Chinese Goshawk	<i>Accipiter soloensis</i>
Common Buzzard*	<i>Buteo buteo</i>
<b>FALCONS</b>	<b>FALCONIDAE</b>
Eurasian Kestrel	<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>
[Northern Hobby]*	<i>Falco subbuteo</i>
[Oriental Hobby]	<i>Falco severus</i>
Peregrine Falcon	<i>Falco peregrinus</i>
<b>MEGAPODES</b>	<b>MEGAPODIDAE</b>
Micronesian Megapode	<i>Megapodius laperouse</i>
<b>FRANCOLINS, PHEASANTS, QUAIL</b>	<b>PHASIANIDAE</b>
Black Francolin	<i>Francolinus francolinus</i>
Blue-breasted Quail	<i>Coturnix chinensis</i>
Red Junglefowl	<i>Gallus gallus</i>
<b>RAILS, GALLINULES, COOTS</b>	<b>RALLIDAE</b>
Banded Rail	<i>Rallus philippensis</i>
Guam Rail	<i>Rallus owstoni</i>
Wake Rail	<i>Rallus wakensis</i>
Red-legged Crake	<i>Rallina fasciata</i>
Slaty-legged Crake	<i>Rallina eurizonoides</i>
Kosrae Rail	<i>Porzana monasa</i>
White-browed Rail	<i>Poliolimnas cinereus</i>
Bush-hen	<i>Amaurornis olivaceus</i>
Purple Swamphen	<i>Porphyrio porphyrio</i>
Common Moorhen	<i>Gallinula chloropus</i>
Eurasian Coot	<i>Fulica atra</i>

Wk	Ms	Ks	Pn	Tk	NM	Gm	Yp	Pl
				M-Ow	M-Bk	M-Bk	M-Bk	M-Bk
					M-Pa			M-Ow
	V-Sc		M-EO	M-Ow	M-PB	M-Dr	M-PB	M-Bk
				M-PE	M-EO	H-Js		M-Bk
								M-Bk
			V-Bd	M-Bk	M-Bk		M-Bk	M-Bk
				R-Bk	H-Cp		H-Fs	R-Bk
	V-Am							
	V-Sc							
	M-Bk				M-Bk			M-EO
	H-Am				R-Bk	E-Bk	H-Op	
				R-Bk			H-Fs	R-Bk
M-Fo	M-Bk			M-PE	M-Bk	M-Bk		M-Bk
H-JM					M-Bk	M-Dr		M-EO
M-JM	M-Am	M-Hy	M-Bk		M-Bk	M-Dr		
					V-Pt			
	V-Am			M-EO	M-Bk	M-MW	M-Bk	M-Ow
						V-MW		
						M-MW		
	V-Bk							
	V-Am				M-Bk	M-Bk	M-Bk	M-Bk
					M-Pt			
						M-Bk		M-Bk
					V-Pt			
								V-EO
						M-Bk		M-EO
					M-Pt			H-PB
					V-Pt			
					H-Pt	H-Js		
								H-On
						M-Bk	M-Bk	M-Bk
					R-Bk	E-Bk		R-Bk
						I-Dr		
						I-Bk		
	I-Am	I-Bk	I-Bk	I-Bk	I-Bk		I-Bk	I-Bk
								R-Bk
E-Ro						R-Bk		
								M-Bk
								R-Bk
		E-Bk						
	V-Bk		R-Ma	R-Bk		E-Bk	R-Bk	R-Bk
								V-EO
								R-Bk
					R-Bk	R-Bk		R-Bk
					M-Bk	M-Bk		

## SPECIES

**PRATINCOLES**

Oriental Pratincole  
[Small Pratincole]\*

**PLOVERS**

Black-bellied Plover  
Lesser Golden-Plover  
Mongolian Plover  
Greater Sand-Plover  
Snowy Plover  
Common Ringed Plover  
Little Ringed Plover  
Oriental Plover

**OYSTERCATCHERS**

Eurasian Oystercatcher

**STILTS**

Black-winged Stilt

**SANDPIPERS,  
WADERS, SNIPE**

Common Greenshank  
Nordmann's Greenshank  
Greater Yellowlegs\*  
Marsh Sandpiper  
Spotted Redshank  
Common Redshank  
Wood Sandpiper  
[Green Sandpiper]  
Wandering Tattler  
Gray-tailed Tattler  
Common Sandpiper\*  
Spotted Sandpiper  
Terek Sandpiper  
[Upland Sandpiper]\*  
Little Curlew  
Whimbrel  
Bristle-thighed Curlew\*  
Far Eastern Curlew\*  
Eurasian Curlew  
Black-tailed Godwit  
Bar-tailed Godwit  
Ruddy Turnstone  
Great Knot  
Red Knot  
Sanderling  
Rufous-necked Stint  
Temminck's Stint  
Long-toed Stint  
Pectoral Sandpiper  
Sharp-tailed Sandpiper  
Dunlin  
Curlew Sandpiper  
Broad-billed Sandpiper  
Buff-breasted Sandpiper  
Ruff

**GLAREOLIDAE**

*Glareola maldivarum*  
*Glareola lactea*

**CHARADRIIDAE**

*Pluvialis squatarola*  
*Pluvialis dominica*  
*Charadrius mongolus*  
*Charadrius leschenaultii*  
*Charadrius alexandrinus*  
*Charadrius hiaticula*  
*Charadrius dubius*  
*Charadrius veredus*

**HAEMATOPODIDAE**

*Haematopus ostralegus*

**RECURVIROSTRIDAE**

*Himantopus himantopus*

**SCOLOPACIDAE**

*Tringa nebularia*  
*Tringa guttifer*  
*Tringa melanoleuca*  
*Tringa stagnatilis*  
*Tringa erythropus*  
*Tringa totanus*  
*Tringa glareola*  
*Tringa ochropus*  
*Heteroscelus incanus*  
*Heteroscelus brevipes*  
*Actitis hypoleucos*  
*Actitis macularia*  
*Xenus cinereus*  
*Bartramia longicauda*  
*Numenius minutus*  
*Numenius phaeopus*  
*Numenius tahitiensis*  
*Numenius madagascariensis*  
*Numenius arquata*  
*Limosa limosa*  
*Limosa lapponica*  
*Arenaria interpres*  
*Calidris tenuirostris*  
*Calidris canutus*  
*Calidris alba*  
*Calidris ruficollis*  
*Calidris temminckii*  
*Calidris subminuta*  
*Calidris melanotos*  
*Calidris acuminata*  
*Calidris alpina*  
*Calidris ferruginea*  
*Limicola falcinellus*  
*Tryngites subruficollis*  
*Philomachus pugnax*

Wk	Ms	Ks	Pn	Tk	NM	Gm	Yp	Pl
	V-Sc			M-Ow		H-Js	M-PB	M-Ow
	M-Bk			M-Bk	M-Bk	M-Bk	M-Pr	M-Ow
M-Fo	M-Bk							
	M-Bk	M-Bk	M-PE	M-Bk	M-PE	M-Bk	M-Bk	M-Bk
		M-Bk		M-PE	M-Pt	M-WG	M-Bk	M-Bk
	H-Fn					M-WG		M-EO
	H-Bk					H-Pz	M-Bk	M-Ow
								M-EO
						V-MW		
								V-EO
				M-Bk	M-Pt	M-WG	M-Bk	M-Bk
						M-WG		
H-JM	V-Bk			M-PE	M-EO	M-Be	M-PE	M-Ow
				M-Ow		M-Je		
							M-PB	M-Ow
	M-H1			M-PE	M-Cp	M-Bk	M-Bk	M-Bk
								H-On
M-Fo	M-Bk							
	M-Am	M-Bk						
		H-Hy	H-EO	M-Bk	M-Bk	M-Bk	M-Bk	M-Bk
	V-Am							
					M-EO	M-WG	M-PE	M-Ow
						H-MW		
						M-WG		M-Ow
M-Fo	M-Bk	M-Bk	M-Bk	M-Bk	M-Oe	M-Bk	M-Bk	M-Bk
	M-Bk		M-Bk	M-PB	M-Bk	H-Kg	H-Fs	M-Bk
				M-PE		H-Je	M-PE	M-Bk
					M-EO			
	M-Sc	M-Hy		M-PE	M-Kr	M-Jn	M-Pr	M-Ow
	M-Am	M-Hy	M-Bd	M-Bk	M-Pt	M-Bk		M-Bk
M-Fo	M-Bk							
				M-PE				M-Bk
								M-Ow
M-JM	M-Bk	M-Hy	M-PE	M-PE	M-Pt	M-Bk	M-Bk	M-Ow
	M-JK			M-PE	M-Bk	M-WG	M-PB	M-Bk
					M-Pt			
				M-PE		M-Kg	M-PE	M-Bk
	M-Am		M-Bk		M-PE	M-WG		M-Ow
M-JM	M-Bk	M-Hy	M-Bk	M-Bk	M-Bk	M-Bk	M-Pr	M-Bk
M-JM			M-Ow		M-EO	M-WG		M-Ow
							M-PE	M-Bk
								M-Bk
	V-Am		V-PE					
	M-H1			M-PE	M-Pt	M-As		M-Ow

\*See annotations following checklist.



## SPECIES

**SWIFTS**

Island Swiftlet\*  
Fork-tailed Swift

**KINGFISHERS**

Sacred Kingfisher\*  
Micronesian Kingfisher  
Collared Kingfisher

**BEE-EATERS**

Rainbowbird

**ROLLERS**

Dollarbird

**SWALLOWS**

Barn Swallow  
Asian House-Martin

**CROWS**

Mariana Crow

**DRONGOS**

Black Drongo

**CUCKOO—SHRIKES**

Cicadabird

**THRUSHES, OLD WORLD****WARBLERS AND FLYCATCHERS**

Palau Bush-Warbler  
Lanceolated Warbler  
[Great Reed-Warbler]  
Nightingale Reed-Warbler\*  
Narcissus Flycatcher  
Gray-spotted Flycatcher  
Truk Monarch  
Yap Monarch  
Tinian Monarch  
Pohnpei Flycatcher\*  
Oceanic Flycatcher\*  
Guam Flycatcher\*  
Mangrove Flycatcher\*  
Palau Fantail  
Rufous Fantail  
Palau Morningbird  
Siberian Rubythroat  
Blue Rock-Thrush  
Eye-browed Thrush  
Dusky Thrush

**WAGTAILS, PIPITS**

Yellow Wagtail  
Gray Wagtail  
White Wagtail\*  
Red-throated Pipit

**WOOD-SWALLOWS**

White-breasted Wood-Swallow

**SHRIKES**

Brown Shrike

**APODIDAE**

*Aerodramus vanikorensis*  
*Apus pacificus*

**ALCEDINIDAE**

*Halcyon sancta*  
*Halcyon cinnamomina*  
*Halcyon chloris*

**MEROPIDAE**

*Merops ornatus*

**CORACIIDAE**

*Eurystomus orientalis*

**HIRUNDINIDAE**

*Hirundo rustica*  
*Delichon dasypus*

**CORVIDAE**

*Corvus kubaryi*

**DICRURIDAE**

*Dicrurus macrocercus*

**CAMPEPHAGIDAE**

*Coracina tenuirostris*

**MUSCICAPIDAE**

*Cettia annae*  
*Locustella lanceolata*  
*Acrocephalus arundinaceus*  
*Acrocephalus luscini*  
*Ficedula narcissina*  
*Muscicapa griseisticta*  
*Metabolus rugensis*  
*Monarcha godeffroyi*  
*Monarcha takatsukasae*  
*Myiagra pluto*  
*Myiagra oceanica*  
*Myiagra freycineti*  
*Myiagra erythrops*  
*Rhipidura lepida*  
*Rhipidura rufifrons*  
*Pitohui tenebrosa*  
*Luscinia calliope*  
*Monticola solitarius*  
*Turdus obscurus*  
*Turdus naumanni*

**MOTACILLIDAE**

*Motacilla flava*  
*Motacilla cinerea*  
*Motacilla alba*  
*Anthus cervinus*

**ARTAMIDAE**

*Artamus leucorhynchus*

**LANIIDAE**

*Lanius cristatus*

Wk	Ms	Ks	Pn	Tk	NM	Gm	Yp	PI
		R-Bk	R-Bk	R-Bk	R-Bk	R-Bk	H-Bk	R-Bk
	V-Sc				M-Pt			
	V-Sc		R-Bk			R-Bk	H-Bk	H-Op
					R-Bk			R-Bk
								R-Bk
								M-EO
			V-Eg				M-Pr	M-Bk
	M-Ad		M-EO	M-Bt	M-Bk	M-Bk	M-Bk	M-Bk
								M-EO
					R-Bk	R-Bk		
					I-Bk	I-Tb		
			R-Bk				R-Bk	R-Bk
							R-Bk	
								M-EO
								H-PE
	H-Fc	R-Bk	R-Bk	R-Bk	R-Bk	E-Bk	R-Bk	
								M-Bk
				R-Bk				M-Bk
							R-Bk	
					R-Bk			
						R-Bk		
								R-Bk
								R-Bk
			R-Bk		R-Bk	R-Bk	R-Bk	
								R-Bk
								R-Bk
								M-Bk
								M-Bk
								M-Bk
					V-Pt			
					M-Pt		M-Ow	M-Ow
						M-MW		M-EO
						H-Wi		M-Ow
								M-EO
								R-Bk
								M-EO

\*See annotations following checklist.

## SPECIES

**STARLINGS, MYNAS**

Pohnpei Mountain Starling  
Kosrae Mountain Starling  
Micronesian Starling  
Chestnut-cheeked Starling  
White-cheeked Starling

**HONEYEATERS**

Cardinal Honeyeater  
Golden Honeyeater

**WHITE-EYES**

Bridled White-eye\*  
Dusky White-eye  
Palau Greater White-eye  
Yap Greater White-eye  
Truk Greater White-eye  
Pohnpei Greater White-eye

**BUNTINGS**

Black-headed Bunting

**SPARROWS, WEAVERS**

Eurasian Tree-Sparrow

**MANNIKINS, FINCHES**

Blue-faced Parrotfinch  
Nutmeg Mannikin  
Chestnut Mannikin\*  
Hunstein's Mannikin\*

**STURNIDAE**

*Aplonis pelzelni*  
*Aplonis corvina*  
*Aplonis opaca*  
*Sturnus philippensis*  
*Sturnus cineraceus*

**MELIPHAGIDAE**

*Myzomela cardinalis*  
*Cleptornis marchei*

**ZOSTEROPIDAE**

*Zosterops conspicillatus*  
*Zosterops cinerea*  
*Megazosterops palauensis*  
*Rukia oleaginea*  
*Rukia ruki*  
*Rukia longirostra*

**EMBERIZIDAE**

*Emberiza melanocephala*

**PASSERIDAE**

*Passer montanus*

**ESTRILDIDAE**

*Erythrura trichroa*  
*Lonchura punctulata*  
*Lonchura malacca*  
*Lonchura hunsteini*

Wk	Ms	Ks	Pn	Tk	NM	Gm	Yp	Pl
			R-Bk					
		E-Bk						
		R-Bk						
					V-Bk			V-Bk
		R-Bk						
					R-Bk			
			R-Bk	R-Bk	R-Bk	R-Bk	R-Bk	R-Bk
		R-Bk	R-Bk					R-Bk
				R-Bk			R-Bk	
			R-Bk					
								V-Ow
	I-EO				I-Oe	I-Kg	I-PE	
		R-Bk	R-Bk	R-Bk				R-Bk
						I-Kg		I-Rp
				I-Bk				

**\*ANNOTATIONS**

The following species require clarification concerning aspects of their taxonomic or occurrence status as listed in this checklist. Some of them are recorded as "hypothetical" for one or more island groups. These pertain primarily to sight reports that we feel are insufficiently documented; our reasons are given below. Hypothetical records not explained here are either published as hypothetical or as "species pairs." Reasons are also given here for the omission of four species, Little Shearwater (*Puffinus assimilis*), Red-billed Tropicbird (*Phaethon aethereus*), Semipalmated Plover (*Charadrius semipalmatus*), and Arctic Tern (*Sterna paradisaeae*), which were included in Owen (1977a) but for which evidence of occurrence is so insufficient that we have not included them, even as hypothetical.

Black-footed Albatross (*Diomedea nigripes*). Formerly bred in the Northern Marianas (Jouanin 1959) and Wake (Rice and Kenyon 1962). The colonies have become extinct, hence the present "pelagic" status.

Laysan Albatross (*Diomedea immutabilis*). Formerly bred on Wake (Rice and Kenyon 1962), but breeding not reported there for many years. Occasional birds have been landing there recently (S. Fefer, pers. comm.), hence the present "seabird" status.

Tahiti Petrel (*Pterodroma rostrata*). We follow Owen (1977a) in listing this species for Truk. It is unclear from Baker (1951) where in the E. Caroline Islands this observation was made.

Stejneger's Petrel (*Pterodroma longirostris*). See annotation for Little Shearwater (*Puffinus assimilis*).

Bulwer's Petrel (*Bulweria bulwerii*). Bruyns (1964) lists sight records for Kosrae and Pohnpei without descriptions. Because of possible confusion with the Matsudaira's or Sooty Storm-Petrels (*Oceanodroma matsudairae* and *O. tristrami*) species which Bruyns did not report and which are likely to occur in the area, we choose to consider these records hypothetical.

Matsudaira's Storm-Petrel (*Oceanodroma matsudairae*). Hayes (1985) describes two birds of either this species or Sooty Storm-Petrel (*O. tristrami*) following a ship between Kosrae and Pohnpei. Because field separation of these two species is difficult, and because Matsudaira's is known to follow ships and Sooty is not, we list this record as hypothetical for Matsudaira's Storm-Petrel.

Little Shearwater (*Puffinus assimilis*). The specimen listed for the Marshalls (Amerson 1969), which had been the only record in Micronesia (Owen 1977a) has been re-identified as a Stejneger's Petrel (*Pterodroma longirostris*) (R. Clapp pers. comm.).

- Red-billed Tropicbird (*Phaethon aethereus*). Baker (1951) lists this species in his main text and Owen (1977a) records it as hypothetical for Micronesia based upon old and undocumented sight reports for the Marshalls and Kosrae (Finsch 1880a, 1880b). We choose to disregard these records based on lack of substantiation, unlikely occurrence, and probable confusion of this species with the similar juvenile White-tailed Tropicbird (*P. lepturus*).
- Masked Booby (*Sula dactylatra*). Listed for Guam without reference in Jenkins (1983).
- Lesser Frigatebird (*Fregata ariel*). Breeding in Palau might be inferred by Owen's (1977b) report that "one male . . . was seen on a nest on Helen Island." Because this would represent quite a breeding range extension, and because frigatebirds are known to sit on old booby nests, we choose to consider this a "seabird" species unless more positive evidence of nesting is obtained.
- Green-backed Heron (*Butorides striatus*). Listed for Guam without reference in Jenkins (1983).
- Rufous Night-Heron (*Nycticorax caledonicus*). Two are reported as sight observations by Fisher (1950) on Yap without substantiation. Details are needed to rule out other heron species.
- Canada Goose (*Branta canadensis*). Two birds observed by Schipper (1985) in the Marshalls were banded individuals that were captively raised in the Aleutians.
- Mallard (*Anas platyrhynchos*). The resident form of Mallard (*A.p. oustaleti*) of the Marianas has in the past been regarded as a distinct species. It is thought to derive from Mallard/Gray Duck ancestry, and is considered today as a form of Mallard. A record of the nominate, migratory form of Mallard also exists for the N. Marianas (Lemke 1984). Amerson (1969) cites Yocom (1964) who refers to "two flocks . . . consisting of about 12 birds each" on Kwajalein, seen by a doctor who was stationed there and was familiar with ducks as a hunter. This many Mallards would be an extraordinary number for the Marshalls and we feel that more substantiation is needed before official acceptance.
- Gray Duck (*Anas superciliosa*). Fisher (1950) refers to a sighting of two individuals on Yap. A description is needed to eliminate similar migratory species of ducks.
- Garganey (*Anas querquedula*). This vagrant is reported for Wake by Johnston and McFarlane (1967) without documentation. Details are needed to separate this from other teal species.
- Gadwall (*Anas strepera*). A report of this species in the Marshalls (Amerson 1969) can be traced to Yocom (1964) who cites a doctor (and hunter) as observing 200 ducks on Kwajalein, the "most numerous" of which were Gadwalls. This species would be a vagrant anywhere in the central Pacific, and a number this large is unlikely. We have chosen, therefore, to disregard this report.
- Osprey (*Pandion haliaetus*). Baker (1951) and Owen (1977a) list this species as resident based on Mayr's (1945) statement that it "apparently breeds" in Palau. There have been no subsequent references for breeding and we feel that more concrete evidence is needed before assuming it ever bred here. Thus, the "migrant" designation.
- Common Buzzard (*Buteo buteo*). In Palau, an immature *Buteo* is described and assigned to this species by Pratt and Bruner (1981). Although most likely this species, the bird was not well seen, and we feel that this variable and often difficult-to-identify species could have been confused with other Asiatic *Buteos*.
- Northern Hobby (*Falco subbuteo*). A sight record is listed for Guam without description in Jenkins (1983). Documentation is needed to distinguish this from other Asiatic falcons.
- Small Pratincole (*Glareola lactea*). Listed without reference for Guam in Jenkins (1983). This species would be a vagrant here and should be well documented. We have disregarded a report of this species from Saipan, N. Marianas (U.S. Army Corps of Engineers 1979).
- Semipalmated Plover (*Charadrius semipalmatus*). Finsch (1880b) reports an "uncertain" observation of "*Charadrius hiaticula*" in the Marshalls. Based perhaps on likelihood of occurrence, Baker (1951) assigns this record to *C. h. semipalmatus*. Semipalmated Plover has subsequently been split into a separate species from the nominate Common Ringed Plover. Amerson (1969) and Owen (1977a) follow Baker, and list Semipalmated Plover as hypothetical for the Marshalls. We regard Common Ringed Plover as being just as likely to occur in the Marshalls, and thus list Finsch's record as hypothetical for this species.
- Greater Yellowlegs (*Tringa melanoleuca*). This vagrant is reported by Johnston and McFarlane (1967) for Wake without documentation. Details are needed to separate this from the similar Lesser Yellowlegs (*T. flavipes*).
- Common Sandpiper (*Actitis hypoleucos*). A report of this species from Pohnpei (Engbring and Owen 1981) does not exclude the very similar Spotted Sandpiper (*A. Macularia*), although K. Guthrie (pers. comm.), who is responsible for the report, feels that the bird was not a Spotted. Common is by far the more regular of the two in Micronesia (Pyle and Engbring pers. obs.), and *Actitis* found in Pohnpei are almost certainly this species. However, a specimen of Spotted from the Marshalls (Amerson 1969), if correctly identified, indicates the potential for both species' occurrence. Without detailed documentation, reports of *Actitis* from the central Pacific should be considered as "species pair" records.
- Upland Sandpiper (*Bartramia longicauda*). On Guam, two birds are reported and described by Maben and Wiles (1981). We feel that the similar, and much more likely to occur, juvenile Ruff (*Philomachus pugnax*) should have been more fully eliminated before acceptance of such an extraordinary species record.
- Bristle-thighed Curlew (*Numenius tahitiensis*). King (1962) and Jenkins (1981) refer to sightings of this species on Guam without supporting details. Fisher (1950) refers to two birds observed (and collected?) on Yap, but gives no supporting details. We feel that descriptions are needed to separate this species from Whimbrel (*N. phaeopus*).

- Far Eastern Curlew (*Numenius madagascariensis*). Listed without reference for Guam in Jenkins (1983).
- Common Snipe (*Gallinago gallinago*). Reported without description for Wake by Johnston and McFarlane (1967). Details are needed to separate this from other snipe species.
- Arctic Tern (*Sterna paradisaea*). Amerson (1969) refers to a third-hand, undocumented sight record in Woodbury (1962) for the only record in the Marshall Islands and Micronesia (Owen 1977a). Due to the lack of any description and possible confusion with the very similar Common Tern (*S. hirundo*), we follow Clapp *et al.* (1983) who consider this record disregarable.
- Caroline Islands Ground-Dove (*Gallicolumba kubaryi*). Owen (1977a) and others consider this a subspecies of the White-throated Ground-Dove (*G. xanthonura*). We follow Goodwin (1970), who split these into species.
- Pohnpei Lory (*Trichoglossus rubiginosus*). This species is recorded from Namoluk Atoll, Truk, possibly as a vagrant blown there by a 1905 typhoon (Girschner in Marshall 1971). We suspect they more likely originated from caged birds brought to the Atoll as pets, and, therefore, have not included this record.
- Jungle Nightjar (*Caprimulgus indicus*). In addition to the resident form (*C. i. phalaena*), an Asian race (*C. i. jotaka*) has occurred in Palau as a migrant (Baker 1951).
- Island Swiftlet (*Aerodramus vanikorensis*). A variety of taxonomic treatments have been applied to this species. Owen (1977a) and other authors have divided the Micronesian population into two species, one in the Marianas and Palau, and the other in Kosrae, Pohnpei, and Truk. We follow Medway and Pye (1977) by treating it as a single species, and derive the common name from Pratt (in prep.). Baker (1951) cites Wigglesworth (1891) for apparently the only occurrence of this species on Yap. Because previous and subsequent ornithologists failed to find this species we suspect the possibility of specimen mislabeling and consider this record hypothetical.
- Sacred Kingfisher (*Halcyon sancta*). Under Micronesian Kingfisher (*H. cinnamomina pelewensis*), Baker (1951) records an August observation of a kingfisher with cinnamon underparts for Ulithi and Owen (pers. comm.) observed a similar bird on Helen Island, Palau. We think that these likely refer to the migratory Sacred Kingfisher, and thus list this species hypothetically for Yap and Palau.
- Nightingale Reed-Warbler (*Acrocephalus luscini*). Populations on Woleai and Lamotrek Atolls (Baker 1951) account for this species' presence in the Yap group.
- Guam, Mangrove, Oceanic, and Pohnpei Flycatchers (*Myiagra spp.*). Some authors including Owen (1977a), have considered these four as a single species. Our taxonomic treatment follows that suggested by H.D. Pratt (pers. comm.).
- White Wagtail (*Motacilla alba*). The AOU (1983) has recently split this species into the Black-backed (*Motacilla lugens*) and White (*M. alba*) Wagtails. Both the description (Owen 1977b) and a drawing of the Palau bird provided by Takesi Suzuki indicate that it did not have an eyeline, ruling out the Black-backed Wagtail, and indicating that it was a White Wagtail, probably of the subspecies *leucopsis* or *baikalensis*. The Guam bird did have a black eye-line and a gray back (Wiles pers. comm.) and could have been a first year bird of either Black-backed Wagtail or the *ocularis* subspecies of White Wagtail (see Morlan 1981). Thus the hypothetical designation under White Wagtail, the species of the pair that we consider more likely on Guam.
- Bridled White-eye (*Zosterops conspicillatus*). Owen (1977a) erroneously reports this species as occurring on Kosrae.
- Chestnut Mannikin (*Lonchura malacca*). We consider a report from Saipan, N. Marianas, (U.S. Army Corps of Engineers 1979) as disregarable.
- Hunstein's Mannikin (*Lonchura hunsteini*). Baker (1951) and Owen (1977a) indicate this to be an endemic resident of Pohnpei. There are no records previous to the 1930's however, and we feel that the present population was the result of introductions from New Ireland by the Japanese.

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