

Old Bird Names

*List created by Mark Stackhouse***

With additions by Tuula Rose

Names from the 1941 original edition of Peterson's Field Guide to Western Birds, matched with the current (AOU) names, and a bit of explanation for some:

- Short-billed Gull..... Mew Gull
Man-O'-War Bird Magnificent Frigatebird
Audubon's Warbler..... Yellow-rumped Warbler, in part (the western, yellow-throated sub-species)
American Egret..... Great Egret
Whistling Swan Tundra Swan
Rocky Mountain Jay..... Gray Jay, in part; this is one of three different subspecies of Gray Jay that Peterson names as full species, the others are Canada Jay and Oregon Jay. This is the one that occurs here in Utah.
Leucosticte..... Gray-crowned Rosy-Finch. Most people guessed this as simply Rosy-Finch (Leucosticte is the genus name for the Rosy-Finches), but Peterson gave this name specifically to what we know as Gray-crowned Rosy-Finch. There are actually four species of rosy-finches recognized by Peterson in 1941. He splits Hepburn's Rosy-Finch from Gray-crowned. The rosy-finches were three species until they were lumped in the wave of lumping that swept over the AOU in the 70's that also joined the flickers, the juncos, Audubon and Myrtle Warblers and Northern and Baltimore Orioles. The Rosy-Finches, the orioles and part of the flickers have since been re-split.
Baldpate..... American Wigeon
Mexican Goshawk* Gray Hawk
Dusky Grouse Blue Grouse
Pileolated Warbler..... Wilson's Warbler
Willow Thrush Veery
Alaska Longspur..... Lapland Longspur
Pigeon Hawk Merlin
Desert Sparrow Black-throated Sparrow
Long-tailed Chat..... Yellow-breasted Chat
Sparrow Hawk..... American Kestrel
Mexican Crested Flycatcher Brown-crested Flycatcher
Arkansas Goldfinch..... Lesser Goldfinch (black-backed form)
Marsh Hawk Northern Harrier
Sage Hen Sage Grouse
Calaveras Warbler Nashville Warbler
Holboell's Grebe Red-necked Grebe
Franklin's Grouse*..... Spruce Grouse
Mearn's Quail* Montezuma Quail
Florida Gallinule Common Moorhen
Linnet House Finch
Red-backed Sandpiper..... Dunlin
Sharpe's Seedeater White-collared Seedeater (sorry, missed an asterisk on this one)

Red-bellied Hawk.....Red-shouldered Hawk; some suggested this was the eastern subspecies of Red-shouldered Hawk, but Peterson has it as the race that occurs in central and southern California, which would presumably be the race that has occurred here in Utah.

Northern Phalarope Red-necked Phalarope

Hudsonian Curlew..... Whimbrel (there is some talk about returning to this name)

Green-backed Goldfinch Lesser Goldfinch (green-backed form)

Rivoli's Hummingbird..... Magnificent Hummingbird

Arctic Three-toed Woodpecker* . Black-backed Woodpecker

Wright's Flycatcher..... Dusky Flycatcher. This was an odd case, and almost everyone guessed it wrong. The confusion is because the scientific name for Gray Flycatcher is *Empidonax wrightii*, so of course the "Wright's Flycatcher" is Gray Flycatcher, right? No; Peterson has Gray Flycatcher, but the scientific name he has for that bird is the actual scientific name for Dusky Flycatcher (which he doesn't have). It is clear from the descriptions of the birds that what he calls Gray Flycatcher is indeed what we call Gray Flycatcher, and what he calls Wright's Flycatcher (*Empidonax wrightii*) is what we call Dusky Flycatcher. Did Peterson simply get the scientific names wrong? Who knows what happened here.

Plain Titmouse Juniper and Oak Titmouse

Western Gnatcatcher Blue-gray Gnatcatcher (in part)

Oregon Jay* Gray Jay (in part see above under Rocky Mountain Jay)

California Jay Western Scrub-Jay. Some guessed Island Scrub-Jay, but he has that as a separate species, Santa Cruz Jay.

Russet-backed Thrush Swainson's Thrush

Myrtle Warbler Yellow-rumped Warbler

American Scoter Black Scoter

Sennett's Warbler* Tropical Parula

Duck Hawk..... Peregrine Falcon

Grinnell's Waterthrush..... Northern Waterthrush

Plumbeous Gnatcatcher..... Black-tailed Gnatcatcher

From the 1979 edition of "The Art of Audubon, the Complete Birds and Mammals" with an introduction by Roger Tory Peterson.

Blue-winged Yellow Swamp-Warbler... Blue-winged warbler

Pine-Creeping Wood-Warbler..... Pine warbler

Black and White Creeping Warbler..... B&W warbler

Maryland Ground-Warbler Common yellowthroat

Common Troupial Scott's oriole

Plumed Partridge Mountain quail

Wandering Rice-Bird Bobolink

Arctic Ground-Finch Spotted Towhee

Aquatic Wood-Wagtail Louisiana waterthrush

** Taken from a "Bird Talk" e-mail from Mark Stackhouse