

## Article

# An Operational Checklist of the Birds of Northwestern Italy (Piedmont and Aosta Valley)

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**Abstract:** This paper provides the fourth edition of the checklist of birds recorded in northwestern Italy (the Piedmont and Aosta Valley regions) and covers more than 300 years of ornithological data, including subspecies. This work updates the previous works published in 1981, 2003, and 2009, with the revision of the AERC codes and the addition of special annotations for several species. We also provide some new settings to make the bird checklist a more useful tool for all users, particularly scholars and professionals interested in biodiversity assessment and conservation reports. To this end, (a) new coding concerning population estimates and trends, as well as risk categories (Red List), is introduced; (b) bird lists are structured for analysis at two temporal levels: the General Checklist (GCL), covering the period from 1685 to 2022, and the Operational Checklist (OCL), covering the decade 2010–2019, providing periods of reference for comparison and analysis; and (c) an electronic spreadsheet is provided as part of the online Supplementary Materials to allow for further data analysis by readers, if necessary. The list presently contains 408 species and 444 taxonomic units, which consist of both subspecies and monotypic species. Each of them has been allocated to one of the AERC categories A, B, C, or D, while category E has been excluded. Since the publication of the previous list (2009), 19 species have been added. The avifauna currently breeding in the Piedmont and Aosta Valley regions comprises 197 species, with an additional 9 species that were once breeders but are now considered regionally extinct.

**Keywords:** birds; checklist; Italy; red list; Piedmont; Aosta Valley



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## 1. Introduction

Checklists are a complete count (inventory) of all species identified in a defined time within a given area or biota [1]. As a general rule, this metric, which is referred to as species richness, is the “most frequently and widely applied measure of biodiversity” [2].

This is the reason the species-level approach “will continue to be important foci of inventory, monitoring, and assessment efforts” [3], despite the “lack of an agreed and universally applied definition” [2]. Recently, molecular techniques of species discrimination have revolutionized the taxonomy of various animal groups, including birds [4], which has replaced phenotypic approaches [5,6].

Nevertheless, checklists remain essential tools for providing basic knowledge for biogeographical studies, biodiversity assessments, conservation reports, and citizen science programs. It is worth noting that checklists can be useful for comparisons over time and/or between areas/regions if (i) categories of phenology, population sizes and ranges, and conservation status of each species are precisely and consistently coded; and (ii) space and time, the two main variables related to species diversity [2], are clearly defined and of similar amplitude.

Due to their high mobility, birds require special assessments of species/population movements (resident vs. migratory), status (breeding vs. non-breeding), and temporal occurrence (regular vs. irregular/vagrants). This type of coding is almost unheard of among other terrestrial vertebrates. However, this same distinctive feature makes birds quickly responsive to environmental changes, combined with other biological and ecological traits. For this reason, birds are considered, on a large scale, “very useful (although still imperfect) indicators of species richness” and biodiversity [7].

As a matter of fact, among animals, birds are the taxonomic group where checklists are most commonly carried out and regularly updated at any spatial scale (from local to continental or worldwide scales, e.g., [8–10]).

In Italy, the first “modern” checklist of national birds was published by Arrigoni degli Oddi [11], followed by various updated versions [12–17]. Checklists of birds have been published since the early 1980s for each of the 20 Italian regions (some of which are listed in [18]).

In NW Italy, specifically the Piedmont and the Aosta Valley regions (hereafter, PAV), the first modern checklist was published more than forty years ago [19]. Since then, two other versions have been published, an update in 2000 [20] and an update in 2009 [21]. During the last decade, data collection has increased significantly due to the development and implementation of various citizen science repositories of ornithological data (Aves.Piemonte, eBird, iNaturalist, and Ornitho.it), which both ornithologists and bird-watchers are populating with thousands of data per year. In addition, regional avifauna has undergone important changes (decrease/increase or arrival/disappearance of some species/populations), as a likely consequence of the ongoing environmental and climatic changes.

Consequently, the aim of this study is primarily to provide an updated version of the birds of PAV that is based on information from available sources (published or not). Moreover, we developed some new settings to make the checklist a more useful tool (i.e., “responsive to real-life management and regulatory questions” [3]) for all users, in particular, scholars and professionals interested in biodiversity assessment and conservation reports.

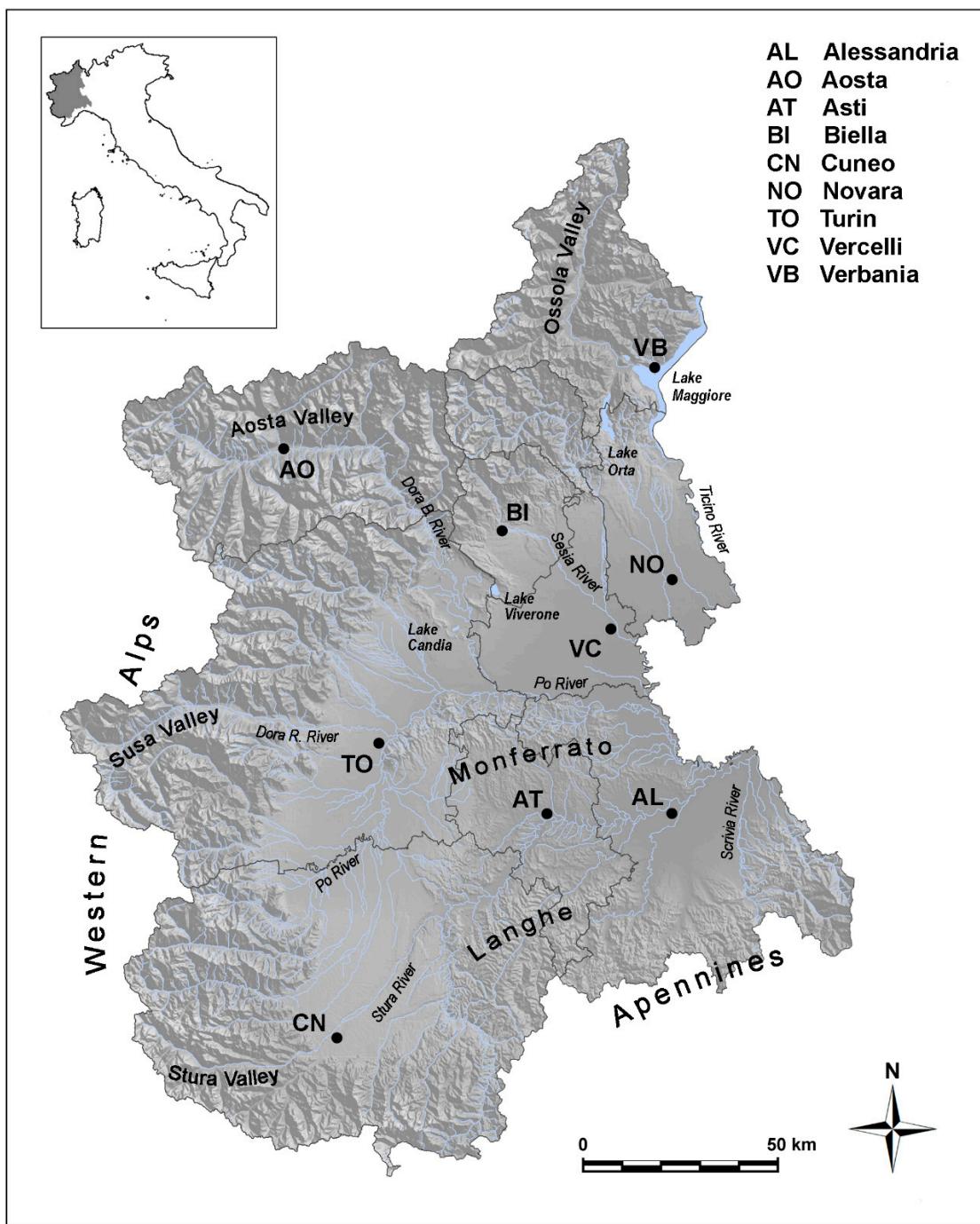
To this end, (a) new code concerning population estimates and trends, as well as the risk categories (Red List), is introduced; (b) the bird list is structured for analysis at two temporal levels: the General Checklist (GCL), covering from 1685 [22,23] to 2022, and the Operational Checklist (OCL), covering the decade 2010–2019, providing periods of reference for comparison and analysis with the previous checklist; and (c) an electronic spreadsheet is provided as online Supplementary Materials to allow for further data analysis by readers, if necessary.

## 2. Materials and Methods

### 2.1. Study Area

Piedmont and Aosta Valley ( $25,387 \text{ km}^2$  and  $3261 \text{ km}^2$ , respectively) are two administrative regions in northwestern Italy, a sector of the country that also includes the Ligurian region ( $5418 \text{ km}^2$ ), which is not considered in this study (Figure 1). The PAV region is divided into nine provinces, as shown in Figure 1, which are often referred to in the discussions in this paper. Overall, the PAV region covers  $28,648 \text{ km}^2$ , an extension equal to 9.5% of the total national area ( $n = 302,068 \text{ km}^2$ ). The average population density is 152.4 inhabitant/ $\text{km}^2$ .

The geography of the PAV region is mountainous for about half (49.7%) of its extension, whereas the remaining part includes hills (26.9%) and plains (23.4%). From a biogeographical point of view, the PAV region encompasses two main biogeographical regions, Alpine and Continental, with a limited extension of the Mediterranean region in the Southeastern part along the Apennines, and the Aosta Valley region falling entirely in the Alpine region [24–26].



**Figure 1.** Map of northwestern Italy (Piedmont and Aosta Valley, PAV). The nine provinces (the capital cities and administrative areas) are indicated on the map; the most important geographical sectors, lakes, and rivers are also indicated.

## 2.2. Main Sources of Ornithological Information

The main sources of information included previous checklists ranging from the historical [27,28] to the most recent, both regional [19–21] and local [29–31], including three recent and in-depth ornithological studies concerning large administrative sectors in the region [32–34]. Other information was sourced from the atlases of breeding [25,35,36], wintering [37], and migrating birds [38–41], as well as from the regional analysis of vagrant birds [42–44]. Other important sources of information were the “Resoconti Ornitologici Annuali” (Regional Ornithological Reports), published annually for 36 years (1979–2015) by the Gruppo Piemontese Studi Ornitologici F. A. Bonelli (GPSO) [45], as well as local

and recent reports published between 2007 and the present by the Torino Birdwatching ornithological group [46].

The population estimates (in size classes) were based on previous data [20] and upgraded with species maps from the Italian Atlas of Breeding Birds [36]. Other sources used for the population estimates were the Italian Breeding Bird Monitoring Program (MITO2000) [47], the Farmland Bird Index (FBI) project [48,49], 30 years (1979–2008) of census data of wintering waterfowl [50], and census data on the migration of raptors through the Alps [51].

The results of the Farmland Bird Index (FBI) project have also been used to estimate the population trends of many species, for example, Passeriformes [48,49].

When available, actual census data or specific estimates were used [52–62].

### 2.3. Taxonomy

The classification, taxonomy, and English names are based on the HBW-Birdlife Checklist [63], which is also used by the CISCO-COI Checklist of Italian birds [17]. The Italian bird names listed in the online spreadsheet are consistent with the most recent Italian bird checklist [17].

### 2.4. Coding System

Two different coding systems were applied. The first one (Table 1) refers to the General Checklist (GCL) (1685–2022) and is compatible with the coding system used by many national lists, in particular, the Italian checklist [17]. The alpha-numeric code comprises the AERC (alphabetical) category [64] followed by two numbers that represent (i) the general status (four classes, 1 to 4), and (ii) the breeding status (five classes, 0 to 4), as defined by the Swiss Bird Commission (CAvS) for the national checklist [65,66].

**Table 1.** Alpha-numeric codes were adopted for each taxon belonging to the GCL (1685–2022) (see text for details).

Category	Class	Code
AERC Categories	A	Taxon that has been recorded in a wild state at least once since 1 January 1950.
	B	Taxon that has been recorded in a wild state between 1800 and 1949.
	C	Taxon that has been released or escaped; species that have established self-supporting breeding populations in their own countries; birds coming from a category C population in another country (with the species not breeding in their own country).
	D	Every taxon, unless it is almost certainly a genuine vagrant (in which case it enters cat. A) or an escape from captivity (cat. E).
	E	Taxon recorded as introductions, human-assisted transportees, or escapees from captivity whose breeding populations (if any) are thought not to be self-sustaining.
General status	1	Regular: taxon recorded in at least 9 out of the last 10 years.
	2	Irregular: taxon recorded more than 10 times and in more than 5 years since 1950 but in fewer than 9 out of the last 10 years.
	3	Vagrant: taxon recorded 1–10 times or in 1–5 years since 1950.
	4	Taxon recorded at least once but not since 1950.
Breeding status	1	Regular breeder: recorded breeding in at least 9 out of the last 10 years.
	2	Irregular breeder: recorded breeding more than 3 times overall but in less than 9 out of the last 10 years.
	3	Occasional breeder: recorded breeding 1–3 times.
	4	Former breeder: taxa that regularly bred during an earlier period but have not been recorded breeding in the last 10 years.
	0	Taxon never recorded breeding.

The second coding system (Table 2) was defined specifically for the Operational Checklist (OCL) (2010–2019). It comprised two categories, with one option indicating inclusion and the other exclusion of each taxon in the GCL or OCL. These categories are represented by alpha mnemonic symbols that code for breeding status (three classes) and occurrence (phenology) (seven classes). It should be noted that for the OCL, we only considered species as breeding if they were defined as “Confirmed Breeding” according to the EBCC Categories [67]. However, we also considered species that have bred regularly according to the AERC (breeding in almost 9 of the 10 last years), even if there was only evidence of probable breeding [67] in some of the years in the last decade.

**Table 2.** Alphabetical codes defined for each taxon belonging to the OCL (2010–2019) (see text for details). In the Operational Checklist, the breeding status and occurrence codes are followed, where appropriate, by an “r” (taxon regularly present in at least nine of the ten years from 2010 to 2019) or an “i” (taxon irregularly present in less than nine of the ten years from 2010 to 2019).

Category	Class	Code
Occurrence	YR	Year-round/Resident: taxon present in all months of the year.
	YM	Year-round/Migrant/: migratory taxon, present in the region with a population partially resident.
	MS	Migrant/Summer: taxon present mainly from March/April to September/October.
	MW	Migrant/Winter: taxon present mainly from September/October to March/April.
	MT	Migrant/Strictly Transient: migratory taxon present in pre- and/or post-nuptial periods.
	VA	Vagrant: taxon recorded in total 1–10 times or in 1–5 years from 1950 and recorded almost once in the decade.
	VE	Former Vagrant, now Escaped: taxon recorded 1–10 times or in 1–5 years from 1950 but recorded only as escaped in the last decade.
Breeding Status	BC	Breeder/Confirmed
	BN	Breeder/New: not nesting in the previous decade, whether regular or irregular.
	BP	Breeder/Past: breeding in the previous but not in the present decade.

Three more criteria (range extension, population abundance, and population trend) were specifically applied to define the Red List (breeding species only) (see Table 3):

- (a) Range Extension: This value is measured with reference to the UTM  $10 \times 10$  km squares that comprise the regional area ( $n = 343$ ). The number of squares occupied by each species was extracted from the Italian Atlas of Breeding Birds [36]. This criterion includes four classes ranging from the more (with 10% of occupied squares or less) to the less vulnerable conditions (with more than 60% of occupied squares).
- (b) Population Abundance: This value represents the number of pairs occurring in the PAV region. The figure was based on previous estimates [20] and includes updated data collected through the Italian Breeding Bird Monitoring Program (MITO2000) [47] and the Farmland Bird Index (FBI) project [48,49]. This criterion includes seven size classes ranging from the most vulnerable (no more than 1–9 breeding pairs) to the class with the lowest risk (hundreds of thousands of breeding pairs). An additional class “0” was reserved for species not confirmed to be breeding.
- (c) Population Trend: The results of the Farmland Bird Index (FBI) project were used to estimate the population trends of many species, especially Passeriformes [48,49]. When available, actual census data or specific estimates were used [52–63]. Another source of information was the variation in the number of occupied squares between the Regional Atlas of Breeding Birds [25] and the Italian Atlas of Breeding Birds [36].

**Table 3.** Criteria, classes, and codes applied to define the Red List (conservation status) for each breeding taxon (See text for details).

Category	Class	Code
Range Extension	1	<10% of occupied UTM 10 × 10 km squares
	2	>10–<40% of occupied UTM 10 × 10 km squares
	3	>40–<60% of occupied UTM 10 × 10 km squares
	4	>60% of occupied UTM 10 × 10 km squares
Population abundance	0	Breeding not ascertained: only one or a few singing or territorial males.
	1	unit (1–9 pairs)
	2	tens (10–99 pairs)
	3	hundreds (100–999 pairs)
	4	thousands (1000–9999 pairs)
	5	tens of thousands (pairs)
Population Trend	6	hundreds of thousands (pairs)
	+	Increasing
	–	Decreasing
	=	Stable
Unknown/Insufficiently known		

Consequently, the conservation status of each breeding species was calculated by combining the different classes of each criterion. As shown in Table 4, five risk levels were defined, ranging from an “Acceptable Conservation status” (AC) to a taxon “Vanished in the last ten Years” as a local breeder in PAV, i.e., no longer reported as breeding in the decade 2010–2019. We named the five classes established here differently from the IUCN categories [68], taking into account the regional scale of our OCL. This is because the IUCN categories are based on different criteria and are applied to the species as a whole, whereas our analysis focuses on a local subset.

**Table 4.** Red List: risk levels expressed for each taxon belonging to the OCL (2010–2019) (see text for details).

Risk Level	Code
AC	Acceptable: taxon with range extension $\geq 2$ , abundance $\geq 3$ , and no clear sign of decreasing population trend in the last 10 years.
PA	Pay Attention: taxon with range extension $\leq 3$ and population abundance $> 2$ ; taxon with range extension $> 1$ is included here if its population trend is decreasing.
UN	Unsafe: taxon with range extension = 1 and population abundance = 2, but no clear sign of decreasing population trend in the decade 2010–2019; taxon with range extension = 2 is included here if its population trend is decreasing.
VP	Vanishing Prone: taxon with range extension = 1 and population abundance = 1; taxon with population trend = 2 is included here if its population trend is decreasing. We also include here taxa that are almost extinct as breeders but with probable breeding records in the current decade.
VY	Vanished in the last ten years: taxon ascertained as breeding in the previous decade (2000–2009) but no longer reported as certain or probable breeders [67] in the following decade (2010–2019).

The Red List categories were not applied to breeding species that escaped from captivity (AERC, category E).

### 3. Results

### 3.1. General Results

All the taxa recorded in PAV from 1 January 1685 to 31 December 2022 (338 years) are shown in Table 5. Each taxon (species and, where appropriate, subspecies) is listed in taxonomic order, together with its scientific and English name. The AERC category identifies the species belonging to the GCL, whereas the columns OC (occurrence), BR (breeding status), POP (population abundance), and RL (Red List) (see Tables 2–4) are reserved for species belonging to the OCL in 2010–2019. Numbered notes were added for n = 104 species (both for GCL and OCL) to illustrate any relevant points about their regional status. We also provide an open access spreadsheet in the Supplementary Materials, which includes all the information in Table 5, the Italian names for each taxon, and the scores we used to assess the Red List risk level for each breeding species in the decade 2010–2019. We also include all the records for the vagrant species, as well as notes, which are presented here following Table 5. The spreadsheet can be filtered in order to facilitate the analysis of the various categories presented in both the General and Operational Checklists, as well as the relevant information about each taxon.

**Table 5.** The General Checklist (GCL), 1685–2022, and Operational Checklist (OCL), 2010–2019, for the birds of Piedmont and Aosta Valley (PAV). Additional information on the status of some species is reported in Section 3.1.1. Both the complete GCL and complete OCL can be found in the spreadsheet in the Supplementary Materials.

**Table 5.** Cont.

Species Subspecies	GCL Updated to December 2022	English Name	AERC	OCL 2010–2019					
				OC	BR	POP	RL	Note	
<i>Oxyura leucocephala</i> (Scopoli, 1769)		White-headed Duck	B40						6
<i>Cygnus olor</i> (J. F. Gmelin, 1789)		Mute Swan	AC11	YR	BCr	2+	AC		
<i>Cygnus cygnus</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)		Whooper Swan	AE30	VE					7
<i>Cygnus columbianus</i> (Ord, 1815)		Tundra Swan	A30	VA					
<i>C. c. bewickii</i> Yarrell, 1830									
<i>Branta bernicla</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)		Brent Goose	AE30						
<i>B. b. bernicla</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)									
<i>Branta leucopsis</i> (Bechstein, 1803)		Barnacle Goose	DE10	YR					8
<i>Branta ruficollis</i> (Pallas, 1769)		Red-breasted Goose	A30	VA					
<i>Branta canadensis</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)		Canada Goose	DE10	YR					
<i>Anser anser</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)		Greylag Goose	AE12	YR	BN	1	AC	9	
<i>A. a. anser</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)			AE12	YR	BN	1	AC		
<i>A. a. rubrirostris</i> Swinhoe, 1871			A10	MWr					
<i>Anser fabalis</i> (Latham, 1787)		Bean Goose	A20	MWi					
<i>A. a. rossicus</i> Buturlin, 1933									
<i>Anser albifrons</i> (Scopoli, 1769)		Great White-fronted Goose	A20	MWi					
<i>A. a. albifrons</i> (Scopoli, 1769)									
<i>Anser erythropus</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)		Lesser White-fronted Goose	A30						10
<i>Clangula hyemalis</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)		Long-tailed Duck	A20	MTi					
<i>Somateria mollissima</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)		Common Eider	A20	MWi					
<i>S. m. mollissima</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)									
<i>Melanitta fusca</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)		Velvet Scoter	A10	MWr					
<i>Melanitta nigra</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)		Common Scoter	A20	MWi					
<i>Bucephala clangula</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)		Common Goldeneye	A10	MWr					
<i>B. c. clangula</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)									
<i>Mergellus albellus</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)		Smew	A20	MWi					
<i>Mergus merganser</i> Linnaeus, 1758		Goosander	A11	YMr	BCr	2+	UN	11	
<i>M. m. merganser</i> Linnaeus, 1758									
<i>Mergus serrator</i> Linnaeus, 1758		Red-breasted Merganser	A10	MWr					
<i>Alopochen aegyptiaca</i> (Linnaeus, 1766)		Egyptian Goose	E12	YR	BN	1			
<i>Tadorna tadorna</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)		Common Shelduck	AD12	YMr	BN	1	VP	12	
<i>Tadorna ferruginea</i> (Pallas, 1764)		Ruddy Shelduck	DE10	YMi					13
<i>Cairina moschata</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)		Muscovy Duck	E13	YR	BP				14
<i>Callonetta leucophrys</i> (Vieillot, 1816)		Ringed Teal	E23	YR					15
<i>Aix galericulata</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)		Mandarin Duck	CE11	YMr	BCr	2+	AC		
<i>Netta rufina</i> (Pallas, 1773)		Red-crested Pochard	AD11	YMr	BCr	1	VP	16	
<i>Aythya ferina</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)		Common Pochard	A12	YMr	BCi	1	VP	17	
<i>Aythya nyroca</i> (Güldenstädt, 1770)		Ferruginous Duck	AD12	YMr	BN	1	VP	18	
<i>Aythya collaris</i> (Donovan, 1809)		Ring-necked Duck	A30	VA					
<i>Aythya fuligula</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)		Tufted Duck	A11	YMr	BCr	2+	UN		
<i>Aythya marila</i> (Linnaeus, 1761)		Greater Scaup	A20	MWi					
<i>A. m. marila</i> (Linnaeus, 1761)									
<i>Spatula querquedula</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)		Garganey	A11	MSr	BCr	1	VP		

**Table 5.** Cont.

GCL Updated to December 2022		OCL 2010–2019					
Species Subspecies	English Name	AERC	OC	BR	POP	RL	Note
<i>Spatula clypeata</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)	Northern Shoveler	A13	YMr				19
<i>Sibirionetta formosa</i> (Georgi, 1775)	Baikal Teal	D30					
<i>Mareca strepera</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)	Gadwall	A12	YMr	BCi	1	VP	20
<i>M. s. strepera</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)							
<i>Mareca penelope</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)	Eurasian Wigeon	A10	MWr				
<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i> Linnaeus, 1758	Mallard	AC11	YMr	BCr	4=	AC	
<i>A. p. platyrhynchos</i> Linnaeus, 1758							
<i>Anas acuta</i> Linnaeus, 1758	Northern Pintail	A10	MWr				
<i>Anas crecca</i> Linnaeus, 1758	Common Teal	A10	YMr				21
<i>A. c. crecca</i> Linnaeus, 1758							
<b>Podicipediformes</b>							
Podicipedidae							
<i>Tachybaptus ruficollis</i> (Pallas, 1764)	Little Grebe	A11	YMr	BCr	3+	AC	
<i>T. r. ruficollis</i> (Pallas, 1764)							
<i>Podiceps grisegena</i> (Boddaert, 1783)	Red-necked Grebe	A10	MWr				22
<i>P. g. grisegena</i> (Boddaert, 1783)							
<i>Podiceps cristatus</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)	Great Crested Grebe	A11	YMr	BCr	3+	AC	
<i>P. c. cristatus</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)							
<i>Podiceps auritus</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)	Horned Grebe	A10	MWr				
<i>P. a. auritus</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)							
<i>Podiceps nigricollis</i> C. L. Brehm, 1831	Black-necked Grebe	A12	YMr	BN	1	VP	23
<i>P. n. nigricollis</i> C. L. Brehm, 1831							
<b>Phoenicopteriformes</b>							
Phoenicopteridae							
<i>Phoenicopterus roseus</i> Pallas, 1811	Greater Flamingo	A20	MTi				
<b>Columbiformes</b>							
Columbidae							
<i>Columba livia</i> J. F. Gmelin, 1789	Rock Dove	C11	YR	BCr	6+	AC	
<i>C. l. var. domestica</i>	Feral Pigeon						
<i>Columba oenas</i> Linnaeus, 1758	Stock Dove	A11	YMr	BCr	3+	AC	
<i>C. o. oenas</i> Linnaeus, 1758							
<i>Columba palumbus</i> Linnaeus, 1758	Common Woodpigeon	A11	YMr	BCr	6+	AC	
<i>C. p. palumbus</i> Linnaeus, 1758							
<i>Streptopelia turtur</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)	European Turtle Dove	A11	MSr	BCr	5—	PA	
<i>S. t. turtur</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)							
<i>Streptopelia decaocto</i> (Frivaldszky, 1838)	Eurasian Collared Dove	A11	YR	BCr	6+	AC	
<b>Pterocliformes</b>							
Pteroclidae							
<i>Syrrhaptes paradoxus</i> (Pallas, 1773)	Pallas's Sandgrouse	B40					
<i>Pterocles alchata</i> (Linnaeus, 1766)	Pin-tailed Sandgrouse	B40					
<i>P. a. caudacutus</i> (S. G. Gmelin, 1774)							
<b>Caprimulgiformes</b>							
Caprimulgidae							
<i>Caprimulgus europaeus</i> Linnaeus, 1758	European Nightjar	A11	MSr	BCr	3=	AC	24
<i>C. e. europaeus</i> Linnaeus, 1758		A10	MTr				
<i>C. e. meridionalis</i> E. J. O. Hartert, 1896		A11	MSr	BCr	3=	AC	



**Table 5.** *Cont.*

**Table 5.** Cont.

Species Subspecies	GCL Updated to December 2022	English Name	AERC	OCL 2010–2019				Note
				OC	BR	POP	RL	
<i>Microcarbo pygmaeus</i> (Pallas, 1773)	Pygmy Cormorant	A10	YMr					
<i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)	Great Cormorant	A11	YMr	BCr	3+	AC	48	
<i>P. c. carbo</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)		A30	VA					
<i>P. c. sinensis</i> (Staunton, 1796)		A11	YMr	BCr	3+	AC		
<b>Charadriiformes</b>								
Burhinidae								
<i>Burhinus oedicnemus</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)	Eurasian Thick-knee	A11	MSr	BCr	2+	UN	49	
<i>B. o. oedicnemus</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)								
Haematopodidae								
<i>Haematopus ostralegus</i> Linnaeus, 1758	Eurasian Oystercatcher	A20	MTi					
<i>H. o. ostralegus</i> Linnaeus, 1758								
Recurvirostridae								
<i>Recurvirostra avosetta</i> Linnaeus, 1758	Pied Avocet	A20	MTi					
<i>Himantopus himantopus</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)	Black-winged Stilt	A11	MSr	BCr	3—	PA		
<i>H. h. himantopus</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)								
Charadriidae								
<i>Pluvialis squatarola</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)	Grey Plover	A10	MTr					
<i>P. s. squatarola</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)								
<i>Pluvialis apricaria</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)	Eurasian Golden Plover	A10	MWr					
<i>P. a. apricaria</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)								
<i>Eudromias morinellus</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)	Eurasian Dotterel	A10	MTr					
<i>Charadrius hiaticula</i> Linnaeus, 1758	Common Ringed Plover	A10	MSr					
<i>C. h. hiaticula</i> Linnaeus, 1758								
<i>Charadrius dubius</i> Scopoli, 1786	Little Ringed Plover	A11	MSr	BCr	2—	UN		
<i>C. d. curonicus</i> J. F. Gmelin, 1789								
<i>Charadrius alexandrinus</i> Linnaeus, 1758	Kentish Plover	A23	MTi					50
<i>C. a. alexandrinus</i> Linnaeus, 1758								
<i>Vanellus vanellus</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)	Northern Lapwing	A11	YMr	BCr	4=	AC		
<i>Vanellus spinosus</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)	Spur-winged Lapwing	D30						51
<i>Vanellus gregarius</i> (Pallas, 1771)	Sociable Lapwing	A30	VA					
Scolopacidae								
<i>Numenius phaeopus</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)	Whimbrel	A10	MTr					
<i>N. p. phaeopus</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)								
<i>Numenius tenuirostris</i> Vieillot, 1817	Slender-billed Curlew	B40						52
<i>Numenius arquata</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)	Eurasian Curlew	A12	YMr	BCi	1	VP		53
<i>N. a. arquata</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)								
<i>Limosa lapponica</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)	Bar-tailed Godwit	A20	MTi					
<i>L. l. taymyrensis</i> Engelmoer and Roselaar, 1998								
<i>Limosa limosa</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)	Black-tailed Godwit	A11	MSr	BCr	1	VP		
<i>L. l. limosa</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)								
<i>Arenaria interpres</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)	Ruddy Turnstone	A20	MTi					
<i>A. i. interpres</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)								
<i>Calidris canutus</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)	Red Knot	A20	MTi					
<i>C. c. canutus</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)								
<i>Calidris pugnax</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)	Ruff	A10	MTr					

**Table 5.** Cont.

Species Subspecies	GCL Updated to December 2022	English Name	AERC	OCL 2010–2019				
				OC	BR	POP	RL	Note
<i>Calidris falcinellus</i> (Pontoppidan, 1763)		Broad-billed Sandpiper	A30	VA				
<i>C. f. falcinellus</i> (Pontoppidan, 1763)								
<i>Calidris ferruginea</i> (Pontoppidan, 1763)		Curlew Sandpiper	A10	MTr				
<i>Calidris temminckii</i> (Leisler, 1812)		Temminck's Stint	A10	MTr				
<i>Calidris alba</i> (Pallas, 1764)		Sanderling	A10	MTr				
<i>C. a. alba</i> (Pallas, 1764)								
<i>Calidris alpina</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)		Dunlin	A10	MTr				
<i>C. a. alpina</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)								
<i>Calidris maritima</i> (Brünnich, 1764)		Purple Sandpiper	A30					
<i>Calidris minuta</i> (Leisler, 1812)		Little Stint	A10	MTr				
<i>Calidris melanotos</i> (Vieillot, 1819)		Pectoral Sandpiper	A30	VA				
<i>Limnodromus scolopaceus</i> (Say, 1822)		Long-billed Dowitcher	A30					54
<i>Scolopax rusticola</i> Linnaeus, 1758		Eurasian Woodcock	A12	YMr	BCi	1	VP	55
<i>Gallinago media</i> (Latham, 1787)		Great Snipe	A20	MTi				
<i>Gallinago gallinago</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)		Common Snipe	A13	MWr				56
<i>G. g. gallinago</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)								
<i>Lymnocryptes minimus</i> (Brünnich, 1764)		Jack Snipe	A10	MWr				
<i>Steganopus tricolor</i> Vieillot, 1819		Wilson's Phalarope	A30					
<i>Phalaropus lobatus</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)		Red-necked Phalarope	A30	VA				
<i>Phalaropus fulicarius</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)		Red Phalarope	A30	VA				
<i>Actitis hypoleucos</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)		Common Sandpiper	A11	YMr	BCr	2—	UN	
<i>Actitis macularius</i> (Linnaeus, 1766)		Spotted Sandpiper	A30	VA				
<i>Tringa ochropus</i> Linnaeus, 1758		Green Sandpiper	A10	YMr				
<i>Tringa erythropus</i> (Pallas, 1764)		Spotted Redshank	A10	MTr				
<i>Tringa nebularia</i> (Gunnerus, 1767)		Common Greenshank	A10	YMr				
<i>Tringa totanus</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)		Common Redshank	A12	MSr	BCi	1	VP	57
<i>T. t. totanus</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)								
<i>Tringa glareola</i> Linnaeus, 1758		Wood Sandpiper	A10	MSr				
<i>Tringa stagnatilis</i> (Bechstein, 1803)		Marsh Sandpiper	A10	MTr				
Glareolidae								
<i>Cursorius cursor</i> (Latham, 1787)		Cream-colored Courser	A30					
<i>C. c. cursor</i> (Latham, 1787)								
<i>Glareola pratincola</i> (Linnaeus, 1766)		Collared Pratincole	A20	MTi				
<i>G. p. pratincola</i> (Linnaeus, 1766)								
Laridae								
<i>Hydrocoloeus minutus</i> (Pallas, 1776)		Little Gull	A10	YMr				
<i>Xema sabini</i> (Sabine, 1819)		Sabine's Gull	A30	VA				
<i>X. s. sabini</i> (Sabine, 1819)								
<i>Rissa tridactyla</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)		Black-legged Kittiwake	A20	MTi				
<i>R. t. tridactyla</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)								
<i>Larus genei</i> Brème, 1839		Slender-billed Gull	A30	VA				
<i>Larus ridibundus</i> Linnaeus, 1766		Black-headed Gull	A11	YMr	BCr	2=	UN	
<i>Larus pipixcan</i> Wagler, 1831		Franklin's Gull	A30	VA				
<i>Larus melanocephalus</i> Temminck, 1820		Mediterranean Gull	A10	MTr				
<i>Larus audouinii</i> Payraudeau, 1826		Audouin's Gull	A30	VA				



**Table 5.** Cont.

Species Subspecies	GCL Updated to December 2022	English Name	OCL 2010–2019						
			AERC	OC	BR	POP	RL	Note	
<b>Strigiformes</b>									
<b>Tytonidae</b>									
<i>Tyto alba</i> (Scopoli, 1769)		Common Barn Owl	A11	YMr	BCr	1	VP		
<i>T. a. alba</i> (Scopoli, 1769)			A11	YMr	BCr	1	VP		
<i>T. a. guttata</i> (C. L. Brehm, 1831)			A30	VA					
<b>Strigidae</b>									
<i>Glaucidium passerinum</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)		Eurasian Pygmy Owl	A11	YR	BCr	3+	PA		
<i>G. p. passerinum</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)									
<i>Athene noctua</i> (Scopoli, 1769)		Little Owl	A11	YR	BCr	4+	AC 63		
<i>A. n. noctua</i> (Scopoli, 1769)									
<i>Aegolius funereus</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)		Boreal Owl	A11	YMr	BCr	3=	PA		
<i>A. f. funereus</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)									
<i>Otus scops</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)		Eurasian Scops-Owl	A11	MSr	BCr	3+	AC		
<i>O. s. scops</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)									
<i>Asio otus</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)		Northern Long-eared Owl	A11	YMr	BCr	4-	PA		
<i>A. o. otus</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)									
<i>Asio flammeus</i> (Pontoppidan, 1763)		Short-eared Owl	A10	MWr					
<i>A. f. flammeus</i> (Pontoppidan, 1763)									
<i>Strix aluco</i> Linnaeus, 1758		Tawny Owl	A11	YR	BCr	4+	AC		
<i>S. a. aluco</i> Linnaeus, 1758									
<i>Bubo bubo</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)		Eurasian Eagle-Owl	A11	YR	BCr	2=	UN		
<i>B. b. bubo</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)									
<b>Accipitriformes</b>									
<b>Pandionidae</b>									
<i>Pandion haliaetus</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)		Osprey	A10	MTsr					
<i>P. h. haliaetus</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)									
<b>Accipitridae</b>									
<i>Elanus caeruleus</i> (Desfontaines, 1789)		Black-winged Kite	A30	VA					
<i>E. c. caeruleus</i> (Desfontaines, 1789)									
<i>Pernis apivorus</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)		European Honey-buzzard	A11	MSr	BCr	3+	AC		
<i>Gypaetus barbatus</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)		Bearded Vulture	BC11	YR	BN	1	VP 64		
<i>G. b. barbatus</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)									
<i>Neophron percnopterus</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)		Egyptian Vulture	A20	MTi					
<i>N. p. percnopterus</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)									
<i>Circaetus gallicus</i> (J. F. Gmelin, 1788)		Short-toed Snake-eagle	A11	MSr	BCr	2+	PA		
<i>Gyps fulvus</i> (Hablizl, 1783)		Griffon Vulture	AC10	MSr					
<i>G. f. fulvus</i> (Hablizl, 1783)									
<i>Aegypius monachus</i> (Linnaeus, 1766)		Cinereous Vulture	C10	MSr					
<i>Clanga pomarina</i> (C. L. Brehm, 1831)		Lesser Spotted Eagle	A30	VA					
<i>Clanga clanga</i> (Pallas, 1811)		Greater Spotted Eagle	A20	MWi					
<i>Aquila nipalensis</i> Hodgson, 1833		Tawny Eagle	B40						
<i>A. n. orientalis</i> Cabanis, 1854									
<i>Aquila heliaca</i> Savigny, 1809		Eastern Imperial Eagle	A30	VA					

**Table 5.** Cont.

Species Subspecies	English Name	AERC	OCL 2010–2019				
			OC	BR	POP	RL	Note
<i>Aquila chrysaetos</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)	Golden Eagle	A11	YR	BCr	3+	AC	65
<i>A. c. chrysaetos</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)							
<i>Aquila fasciata</i> Vieillot, 1822	Bonelli's Eagle	A30	VA				
<i>A. f. fasciata</i> Vieillot, 1822							
<i>Hieraetus pennatus</i> (J. F. Gmelin, 1788)	Booted Eagle	A10	MTr				
<i>Circus aeruginosus</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)	Western Marsh Harrier	A11	YMr	BCr	1	VP	
<i>C. a. aeruginosus</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)							
<i>Circus cyaneus</i> (Linnaeus, 1766)	Hen Harrier	A10	MWr				
<i>Circus macrourus</i> (S. G. Gmelin, 1770)	Pallid Harrier	A10	MTr				
<i>Circus pygargus</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)	Montagu's Harrier	A12	MSr	BCi	1	VP	66
<i>Accipiter nisus</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)	Eurasian Sparrowhawk	A11	YMr	BCr	4+	AC	
<i>A. n. nisus</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)							
<i>Accipiter gentilis</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)	Northern Goshawk	A11	YR	BCr	3+	AC	
<i>A. g. gentilis</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)							
<i>Haliaeetus albicilla</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)	White-tailed Eagle	A30	VA				
<i>Milvus milvus</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)	Red Kite	A12	YMr	BN	1	VP	67
<i>M. m. milvus</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)							
<i>Milvus migrans</i> (Boddaert, 1783)	Black Kite	A11	MSr	BCr	2+	PA	
<i>M. m. migrans</i> (Boddaert, 1783)							
<i>Buteo lagopus</i> (Pontoppidan, 1763)	Rough-legged Buzzard	A20	MWi				
<i>B. l. lagopus</i> (Pontoppidan, 1763)							
<i>Buteo buteo</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)	Eurasian Buzzard	A11	YMr	BCr	4=	AC	
<i>B. b. buteo</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)		A11	YMr	BCr	4=	AC	
<i>B. b. vulpinus</i> (Gloger, 1833)		A20	MTi				
<i>Buteo rufinus</i> (Cretzschmar, 1829)	Long-legged Buzzard	A20	MTi				
<b>Bucerotiformes</b>							
<b>Upupidae</b>							
<i>Upupa epops</i> Linnaeus, 1758	Common Hoopoe	A11	MSr	BCr	3=	AC	
<i>U. e. epops</i> Linnaeus, 1758							
<b>Coraciiformes</b>							
<b>Meropidae</b>							
<i>Merops persicus</i> Pallas, 1773	Blue-cheeked Bee-eater	A30					
<i>M. p. chrysocercus</i> Cabanis and Heine, 1860		A30	VA				
<i>M. p. persicus</i> Pallas, 1773		A30					
<i>Merops apiaster</i> Linnaeus, 1758	European Bee-eater	A11	MSr	BCr	4+	AC	
<b>Coraciidae</b>							
<i>Coracias garrulus</i> Linnaeus, 1758	European Roller	A11	MSr	BCr	1	VP	
<i>C. g. garrulus</i> Linnaeus, 1758							
<b>Alcedinidae</b>							
<i>Alcedo atthis</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)	Common Kingfisher	A11	YMr	BCr	3	AC	68
<i>A. a. ispida</i> Linnaeus, 1758		A20	MWi				
<i>A. a. atthis</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)		A11	YMr	BCr	3	AC	
<b>Piciformes</b>							
<b>Picidae</b>							

**Table 5.** Cont.

Species Subspecies	GCL Updated to December 2022	English Name	AERC	OCL 2010–2019				Note
				OC	BR	POP	RL	
<i>Jynx torquilla</i> Linnaeus, 1758		Eurasian Wryneck	A11	MSr	BCr	3—	PA	
<i>J. t. torquilla</i> Linnaeus, 1758			A10	MTr				
<i>J. t. tschusii</i> O. Kleinschmidt, 1907			A11	MSr	BCr	3—	PA	
<i>Picus canus</i> J. F. Gmelin, 1788		Grey-faced Woodpecker	B40					
<i>P. c. canus</i> J. F. Gmelin, 1788								
<i>Picus viridis</i> Linnaeus, 1758		Eurasian Green Woodpecker	A11	YR	BCr	4=	AC	69
<i>P. v. viridis</i> Linnaeus, 1758								
<i>Dryocopus martius</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)		Black Woodpecker	A11	YR	BCr	3+	AC	
<i>D. m. martius</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)								
<i>Leiopicus medius</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)		Middle Spotted Woodpecker	B40					
<i>L. m. medius</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)								
<i>Dryobates minor</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)		Lesser Spotted Woodpecker	A11	YR	BCr	3+	AC	
<i>D. m. buturlini</i> E. J. O. Hartert, 1912								
<i>Dendrocopos leucotos</i> (Bechstein, 1802)		White-backed Woodpecker	B40					
<i>D. l. lilfordi</i> (Sharpe and Dresser, 1871)								
<i>Dendrocopos major</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)		Great Spotted Woodpecker	A11	YR	BCr	5+	AC	
<i>D. m. pinetorum</i> (C. L. Brehm, 1831)								
<b>Falconiformes</b>								
<b>Falconidae</b>								
<i>Falco naumanni</i> Fleischer, 1818		Lesser Kestrel	A10	MTr				
<i>Falco tinnunculus</i> Linnaeus, 1758		Common Kestrel	A11	YMr	BCr	4=	AC	
<i>F. t. tinnunculus</i> Linnaeus, 1758								
<i>Falco vespertinus</i> Linnaeus, 1766		Red-footed Falcon	A10	MTr				
<i>Falco eleonorae</i> Gené, 1839		Eleonora's Falcon	A10	MTi				
<i>Falco columbarius</i> Linnaeus, 1758		Merlin	A10	MWr				
<i>F. c. aesalon</i> Tunstall, 1771								
<i>Falco subbuteo</i> Linnaeus, 1758		Eurasian Hobby	A11	MSr	BCr	3+	AC	
<i>F. s. subbuteo</i> Linnaeus, 1758								
<i>Falco biarmicus</i> Temminck, 1825		Lanner Falcon	AD30	VA				70
<i>F. b. feldeggii</i> Schlegel, 1843								
<i>Falco cherrug</i> J. E. Gray, 1834		Saker Falcon	AD30	VA				71
<i>F. c. cherrug</i> J. E. Gray, 1834								
<i>Falco peregrinus</i> Tunstall, 1771		Peregrine Falcon	A11	YMr	BCr	3+	AC	72
<i>F. p. calidus</i> Latham, 1790			A20	MWi				
<i>F. p. peregrinus</i> Tunstall, 1771			A11	YMr	BCr	3+	AC	
<b>Psittaciformes</b>								
<b>Psittacidae</b>								
<i>Myiopsitta monachus</i> (Boddaert, 1783)		Monk Parakeet	E12	YR	BCi	1		73
<i>M. m. monachus</i> (Boddaert, 1783)								
<b>Passeriformes</b>								
<b>Oriolidae</b>								
<i>Oriolus oriolus</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)		Eurasian Golden Oriole	A11	MSr	BCr	4=	AC	







**Table 5.** *Cont.*

**Table 5.** Cont.

Species Subspecies	English Name	AERC	OCL 2010–2019					
			OC	BR	POP	RL	Note	
<i>Turdus merula</i> Linnaeus, 1758	Eurasian Blackbird	A11	YMr	BCr	6+	AC		
<i>T. m. merula</i> Linnaeus, 1758								
<i>Turdus obscurus</i> J. F. Gmelin, 1789	Eyebrowed Thrush	A30						
<i>Turdus pilaris</i> Linnaeus, 1758	Fieldfare	A11	YMr	BCr	3–	PA		
<i>Turdus torquatus</i> Linnaeus, 1758	Ring Ouzel	A11	MSr	BCr	4–	PA		
<i>T. t. torquatus</i> Linnaeus, 1758		A10	MTr					
<i>T. t. alpestris</i> (C. L. Brehm, 1831)		A11	MSr	BCr	4–	PA		
<i>Turdus eunomus</i> Temminck, 1831	Dusky Thrush	A30	VA					
<i>Turdus atrogularis</i> Jarocki, 1819	Black-throated Thrush	B40						
Muscicapidae								
<i>Muscicapa striata</i> (Pallas, 1764)	Spotted Flycatcher	A11	MSr	BCr	4–	PA		
<i>M. s. striata</i> (Pallas, 1764)								
<i>Erithacus rubecula</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)	European Robin	A11	YMr	BCr	6=	AC		
<i>E. r. rubecula</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)								
<i>Cyanecula svecica</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)	Bluethroat	A13	MTr				95	
<i>C. s. svecica</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)		A23	MTi					
<i>C. s. cyanecula</i> (Meisner, 1804)		A10	MTr					
<i>Luscinia luscinia</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)	Thrush Nightingale	A30	VA					
<i>Luscinia megarhynchos</i> C. L. Brehm, 1831	Common Nightingale	A11	MSr	BCr	5=	AC		
<i>L. m. megarhynchos</i> C. L. Brehm, 1831								
<i>Tarsiger cyanurus</i> (Pallas, 1773)	Orange-flanked Bush Robin	A30	VA					
<i>Ficedula parva</i> (Bechstein, 1792)	Red-breasted Flycatcher	A30					96	
<i>Ficedula semitorquata</i> (Homeyer, 1885)	Semi-collared Flycatcher	A30						
<i>Ficedula hypoleuca</i> (Pallas, 1764)	European Pied Flycatcher	A13	MTr				97	
<i>F. h. hypoleuca</i> (Pallas, 1764)								
<i>Ficedula albicollis</i> (Temminck, 1815)	Collared Flycatcher	A24	MSi				98	
<i>Phoenicurus ochruros</i> (S. G. Gmelin, 1774)	Black Redstart	A11	YMr	BCr	5+	AC		
<i>P. o. gibraltariensis</i> (J. F. Gmelin, 1789)								
<i>Phoenicurus phoenicurus</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)	Common Redstart	A11	MSr	BCr	5+	AC		
<i>P. p. phoenicurus</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)								
<i>Monticola saxatilis</i> (Linnaeus, 1766)	Rufous-tailed Rock-Thrush	A11	MSr	BCr	3=	AC		
<i>Monticola solitarius</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)	Blue Rock-Thrush	A11	YR	BCr	2	UN		
<i>M. s. solitarius</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)								
<i>Saxicola rubetra</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)	Whinchat	A11	MSr	BCr	4–	PA		
<i>Saxicola torquatus</i> (Linnaeus, 1766)	Common Stonechat	A11	YMr	BCr	4–	PA		
<i>S. t. rubicola</i> (Linnaeus, 1766)								
<i>Oenanthe oenanthe</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)	Northern Wheatear	A11	MSr	BCr	4=	AC		
<i>O. o. leucorhoa</i> (J. F. Gmelin, 1789)		A30						
<i>O. o. oenanthe</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)		A11	MSr	BCr	4=	AC		
<i>Oenanthe deserti</i> (Temminck, 1825)	Desert Wheatear	A30	VA					
<i>O. d. deserti</i> (Temminck, 1825)								

**Table 5.** Cont.

Species Subspecies	GCL Updated to December 2022	English Name	AERC	OCL 2010–2019				
				OC	BR	POP	RL	Note
<i>Oenanthe hispanica</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)		Black-eared Wheatear	A20	MSi				
<i>O. h. hispanica</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)			A30	VA				
<i>O. h. melanoleuca</i> (Güldenstädt, 1775)			A30	VA				
<i>Oenanthe leucura</i> (J. F. Gmelin, 1789)		Black Wheatear	B40					
<i>O. l. leucura</i> (J. F. Gmelin, 1789)								
Regulidae								
<i>Regulus regulus</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)		Goldcrest	A11	YMr	BCr	4=	AC	
<i>R. r. regulus</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)								
<i>Regulus ignicapilla</i> (Temminck, 1820)		Common Firecrest	A11	YR	BCr	4+	AC	
<i>R. i. ignicapilla</i> (Temminck, 1820)								
Bombycillidae								
<i>Bombycilla garrulus</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)		Bohemian Waxwing	A20	MTi				
<i>B. g. garrulus</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)								
Prunellidae								
<i>Prunella collaris</i> (Scopoli, 1769)		Alpine Accentor	A11	YR	BCr	4=	AC	
<i>P. c. collaris</i> (Scopoli, 1769)								
<i>Prunella modularis</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)		Dunnock	A11	YMr	BCr	5=	AC	99
<i>P. m. modularis</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)								
Passeridae								
<i>Passer domesticus</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)		House Sparrow	A11	YR	BCr	3	PA	
<i>P. d. domesticus</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)								
<i>Passer italiae</i> (Vieillot, 1817)		Italian Sparrow	A11	YR	BCr	6=	AC	
<i>Passer montanus</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)		Eurasian Tree Sparrow	A11	YMr	BCr	5—	PA	
<i>P. m. montanus</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)								
<i>Petronia petronia</i> (Linnaeus, 1766)		Rock Sparrow	A11	YMr	BCr	2+	UN	
<i>P. p. petronia</i> (Linnaeus, 1766)								
<i>Montifringilla nivalis</i> (Linnaeus, 1766)		White-winged Snowfinch	A11	YMr	BCr	3—	PA	
<i>M. n. nivalis</i> (Linnaeus, 1766)								
Motacillidae								
<i>Anthus trivialis</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)		Tree Pipit	A11	MSr	BCr	5—	PA	
<i>A. t. trivialis</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)								
<i>Anthus cervinus</i> (Pallas, 1811)		Red-throated Pipit	A10	MTr				
<i>Anthus pratensis</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)		Meadow Pipit	A10	MWr				
<i>Anthus spinoletta</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)		Water Pipit	A11	YMr	BCr	5=	AC	
<i>A. s. spinoletta</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)								
<i>Anthus petrosus</i> (Montagu, 1798)		Rock Pipit	B40					
<i>A. p. littoralis</i> C. L. Brehm, 1823								
<i>Anthus richardi</i> Vieillot, 1818		Richard's Pipit	A30	VA				100
<i>A. r. richardi</i> Vieillot, 1818								
<i>Anthus campestris</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)		Tawny Pipit	A11	MSr	BCr	2	UN	

**Table 5.** Cont.

Species Subspecies	GCL Updated to December 2022	English Name	AERC	OCL 2010–2019				Note
				OC	BR	POP	RL	
<i>Motacilla flava</i> Linnaeus, 1758		Western Yellow Wagtail	A11	MSr	BCr	5—	PA	
<i>M. f. thunbergi</i> Billberg, 1828			A10	MTi				
<i>M. f. flavissima</i> (Blyth, 1834)			A30	VA				
<i>M. f. flava</i> Linnaeus, 1758			A10	MTr				
<i>M. f. beema</i> (Sykes, 1832)			A30	VA				
<i>M. f. feldegg</i> Michahelles, 1830			A20	MTi				
<i>M. f. iberiae</i> E. J. O. Hartert, 1921			A30	VA				
<i>M. f. cinereocapilla</i> Savi, 1831			A11	MSr	BCr	5—	PA	
<i>Motacilla cinerea</i> Tunstall, 1771		Grey Wagtail	A11	YMr	BCr	4+	AC	
<i>M. c. cinerea</i> Tunstall, 1771								
<i>Motacilla citreola</i> Pallas, 1776		Citrine Wagtail	A30	VA				
<i>M. c. citreola</i> Pallas, 1776								
<i>Motacilla alba</i> Linnaeus, 1758		White Wagtail	A11	YMr	BCr	5=	AC	101
<i>M. a. yarrellii</i> Gould, 1837			A30	VA				
<i>M. a. alba</i> Linnaeus, 1758			A11	YMr	BCr	5=	AC	
<b>Fringillidae</b>								
<i>Fringilla coelebs</i> Linnaeus, 1758		Common Chaffinch	A11	YMr	BCr	6=	AC	
<i>F. c. coelebs</i> Linnaeus, 1758								
<i>Fringilla montifringilla</i> Linnaeus, 1758		Brambling	A10	MWr				
<i>Coccothraustes coccothraustes</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)		Hawfinch	A11	YMr	BCr	3=	AC	
<i>C. c. coccothraustes</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)								
<i>Carpodacus erythrinus</i> (Pallas, 1770)		Common Rosefinch	A30	VA				
<i>C. e. erythrinus</i> (Pallas, 1770)								
<i>Pyrrhula pyrrhula</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)		Eurasian Bullfinch	A11	YMr	BCr	4—	PA	
<i>P. p. pyrrhula</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)			A20	MWi				
<i>P. p. europaea</i> Vieillot, 1816			A11	YR	BCr	4—	PA	
<i>Chloris chloris</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)		European Greenfinch	A11	YMr	BCr	5=	AC	
<i>C. c. chloris</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)			A10	MWr				
<i>C. c. aurantiiventris</i> (Cabanis, 1851)			A11	YMr	BCr	5=	AC	
<i>Linaria flavirostris</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)		Twite	A30					
<i>L. f. flavirostris</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)								
<i>Linaria cannabina</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)		Common Linnet	A11	YR	BCr	5—	PA	
<i>L. c. cannabina</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)								
<i>Acanthis flammea</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)		Redpoll	A11	YR	BCr	4—	PA	102
<i>A. f. cabaret</i> (Statius Müller, 1776)			A11	YR	BCr	4—	PA	
<i>A. f. flammea</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)			A30					
<i>Loxia pytyopsittacus</i> Borkhausen, 1793		Parrot Crossbill	A30					
<i>Loxia curvirostra</i> Linnaeus, 1758		Red Crossbill	A11	YMr	BCr	4=	AC	
<i>L. c. curvirostra</i> Linnaeus, 1758								
<i>Loxia leucoptera</i> J. F. Gmelin, 1789		Two-barred Crossbill	A30					
<i>L. l. bifasciata</i> (C. L. Brehm, 1827)								
<i>Carduelis carduelis</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)		European Goldfinch	A11	YMr	BCr	5—	PA	
<i>C. c. carduelis</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)								
<i>Carduelis citrinella</i> (Pallas, 1764)		Citril Finch	A11	YMr	BCr	3=	AC	
<i>Serinus serinus</i> (Linnaeus, 1766)		European Serin	A11	YMr	BCr	5=	AC	
<i>Spinus spinus</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)		Eurasian Siskin	A11	YMr	BCr	2	PA	

**Table 5.** Cont.

Species Subspecies	GCL Updated to December 2022	English Name	OCL 2010–2019				
			AERC	OC	BR	POP	RL
<b>Calciariidae</b>							
<i>Calcarius lapponicus</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)		Lapland Longspur	A30	VA			
<i>C. l. lapponicus</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)							
<i>Plectrophenax nivalis</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)		Snow Bunting	A20	MWi			
<i>P. n. nivalis</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)							
<b>Emberizidae</b>							
<i>Emberiza melanocephala</i> Scopoli, 1769		Black-headed Bunting	A12	MSi	BCi	1	VP
<i>Emberiza calandra</i> Linnaeus, 1758		Corn Bunting	A11	YMr	BCr	4—	PA
<i>E. c. calandra</i> Linnaeus, 1758							
<i>Emberiza cia</i> Linnaeus, 1766		Rock Bunting	A11	YR	BCr	5=	AC
<i>E. c. cia</i> Linnaeus, 1766							
<i>Emberiza hortulana</i> Linnaeus, 1758		Ortolan Bunting	A11	MSr	BCr	3—	PA
<i>Emberiza caesia</i> Cretzschmar, 1827		Cretzschmar's Bunting	A30				
<i>Emberiza cirlus</i> Linnaeus, 1766		Cirl Bunting	A11	YMr	BCr	5=	AC
<i>Emberiza citrinella</i> Linnaeus, 1758		Yellowhammer	A11	YR	BCr	5—	PA
<i>E. c. citrinella</i> Linnaeus, 1758							
<i>Emberiza leucocephala</i> S. G. Gmelin, 1771		Pine Bunting	A20	MWi			
<i>E. l. leucocephala</i> S. G. Gmelin, 1771							
<i>Emberiza schoeniclus</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)		Reed Bunting	A14	YMr	BP	0	VY
<i>E. s. schoeniclus</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)			A14	YMr	BP	0	VY
<i>E. s. intermedia</i> Degland, 1849			A20	MWi			
<i>Emberiza rustica</i> Pallas, 1776		Rustic Bunting	A30	VA			
<i>E. r. rustica</i> Pallas, 1776							
<i>Emberiza pusilla</i> Pallas, 1776		Little Bunting	A20	MWi			

### 3.1.1. Notes on Selected Taxa

1. *Coturnix japonica*: Singing males of presumed hybrid origin (*C. japonica* × *C. coturnix*) were reported by Caula and Beraudo [33]. Potential wild-born juveniles were also captured during ringing activities [38].
2. *Alectoris rufa*: Genetic evidence of hybridization between *A. rufa* and *A. chukar* was detected in Alessandria province in individuals introduced from captivity [69].
3. *Phasianus colchicus*: Introduced pheasants came from different subspecies (e.g., *P. c. colchicus*, *P. c. mongolicus*) and their hybrids.
4. *Bonasa bonasia*: The breeding range was historically restricted to the Ossola Valley [25]. A slow but progressive westward expansion to the Aosta Valley in the last few decades has been determined [34].
5. *Tetrao urogallus*: Last documented presence in Ossola Valley, with two birds shot in 1957 after decades of absence [70].
6. *Oxyura leucocephala*: Some recent observations of birds near a Wildfowl Center where a breeding program was established; most likely escaped individuals. A few individuals of Ruddy Duck *Oxyura jamaicensis* have also been reported.
7. *Cygnus cygnus*: Most, if not all, of the observations recorded from 2000 onward are attributed to escaped birds.
8. *Branta leucopsis*: Only two winter observations (AL 2010, 2011) were recorded as probably referring to wild birds, due to the date, location, and behavior [71,72].

9. *Anser anser*: Most migrating and/or wintering birds recorded in Italy are regarded as *A. a. rubrirostris* [73,74]. Breeding of some introduced *A. a. anser* pairs has been reported [36,73].
10. *Anser erythropus*: A specimen collected on the Po River (AL 1958) was presumed to be an *A. erythropus* × *A. albifrons* hybrid [75]. A genetic assessment of this specimen would be interesting given the results of [76].
11. *Mergus merganser*: First breeding was recorded in 1998 on Lake Maggiore. Since then, the population has regularly increased in terms of both numbers (about 20 pairs in 2019) and locations ([77] and GPSO unpubl.).
12. *Tadorna tadorna*: Confirmed breeding of 1–4 pairs (VC 2017–2022) [78].
13. *Tadorna ferruginea*: The presence of truly wild birds was previously questioned by Boano [79]. The current records refer to escaped birds or individuals from European feral populations.
14. *Cairina moschata*: A small self-sustaining population has been present since the early 2000s at Lake Orta [80]. This population has recently disappeared [73].
15. *Callonetta leucophrys*: After some observations during the breeding period in 2019, wild breeding of an escaped pair has recently been recorded in 2020 in CN province (GPSO unpubl.).
16. *Netta rufina*: First breeding was recorded in 2006 [81]. Breeding pairs increased from 2 to 7 (2019) in two sites along the rivers Tanaro and Po [61]. Like in other mainland sites in Italy, it is unknown whether the colonization was due to an extension of the natural range extension or was improved by the addition of escaped birds from Wildfowl Centers [73].
17. *Aythya ferina*: As in the past, breeding has been irregularly documented (NO 2009, 2012–2013; TO 2017) [32,82].
18. *Aythya nyroca*: Known for breeding at the beginning of the twentieth century [83], and reconfirmed as such, with growing numbers in the past decade (GPSO unpubl.). It is unclear whether escaped birds contributed to this expansion.
19. *Spatula clypeata*: Only two breeding records in the past [25]. A new successful breeding record was reported near a Wildfowl Center (CN 2020) [84].
20. *Mareca strepera*: After the first breeding record (VC 2007) [85], a noticeable increase in observations in various localities during breeding seasons has been documented in the last decade [86–88], but with very few documented breeding records.
21. *Anas crecca*: No reliable breeding records in the last thirty years. Therefore, the few records reported by Mingozi et al. [25] should be considered insufficiently documented.
22. *Podiceps grisegena*: Courtship and nest construction were recorded at Lake Viverone in 2018 without any other signs of breeding [89].
23. *Podiceps nigricollis*: Repeated breeding of 1–3 pairs at Lake Maggiore in 2009–2019 [32]. Considered here irregular, *contra* [36].
24. *Caprimulgus europaeus*: The Piedmont breeding population has been referred to as *C. e. meridionalis* due to its biometric measurements [90].
25. *Clamator glandarius*: Some observations of full-grown juveniles recorded in June–July [71,87] and one observation of a male offering food to a female (VC 2009) [91] are the only putative breeding records of the species.
26. *Crex crex*: Very few documented breeding events were known prior to the early 1950s [92,93]. A recent data review showed the regular presence of some singing males in two Alpine areas during the breeding period but without any evidence of breeding [94].
27. *Porzana porzana*: A single breeding event observed in 1984 [25].
28. *Zapornia parva*: First breeding records of single pairs with juveniles in two localities (CN, VC 2012) [95]. Other singing and territorial males were recorded in the same or nearby sites in 2011, 2013, and 2014, followed by a new breeding event in 2021 (VC) [96].

29. *Zapornia pusilla*: Given the detection difficulty of migrant birds, it is not surprising that only one observation has been recorded in the past decade (VC 2018) [89], whereas observations of the similar-in-behavior *Zapornia parva* have greatly increased.
30. *Porphyrio porphyrio*: The first observation of this species in the PAV region was documented in Vercelli province in 2020 [97].
31. *Porphyrio alleni*: The first record of this species in the PAV region was documented in Turin province in 2021 [97].
32. *Anthropoides virgo*: Aimassi and Boano [98] reassessed the historical Bonelli's record (CN 1802); two other records (TO 1955, NO 1958) are considered doubtful [99].
33. *Otis tarda*: The only record in this century (TO 2005) is likely to be related to the reintroduction project in Great Britain [42].
34. *Ciconia nigra*: After the first breeding record (1 pair, VC 1994) [100], the population was still small but breeding was regular, with four pairs present in 2016 [101].
35. *Ciconia ciconia*: Very few breeding records in the past [102]. As a result of a reintroduction project, the number of nesting pairs had increased to 47 pairs by 2014 [59].
36. *Platalea leucorodia*: Four pairs bred for the first time in PAV in a heronry (VC 1990) [103]; reconfirmed (2–3 pairs) in 1991 [104] and 2007–2008 [85].
37. *Threskiornis aethiopicus*: 572 breeding pairs in 2018 [58].
38. *Plegadis falcinellus*: Two breeding pairs in 2018 [58].
39. *Nycticorax nycticorax*: 2005 breeding pairs in 2018 [58].
40. *Ardeola ralloides*: 32 breeding pairs in 2018 [58].
41. *Bubulcus ibis*: 776 breeding pairs in 2018 [58].
42. *Ardea cinerea*: 1691 breeding pairs in 2018 [58].
43. *Ardea purpurea*: 42 breeding pairs in 2018 [58].
44. *Ardea alba*: 1–2 breeding pairs in 2016–2018 [32,58].
45. *Egretta garzetta*: 1984 breeding pairs in 2018 [58].
46. *Egretta gularis*: The subspecific attribution of the observed birds remains uncertain but what is certain is that *E. g. gularis* was reported in Lombardy along the Sesia River on the PVA border [42].
47. *Pelecanus onocrotalus*: Most recent observations are usually considered to be of doubtful origin or escaped birds. The oldest checklist record (AL 1685) reported in [20] is referred to as *Phoenicopterus roseus* [23].
48. *Phalacrocorax carbo*: *Ph. carbo sinensis* is common year-round, with the first breeding record in 1989 [105] and 716 breeding pairs in 2018 [58]. Observations of Cormorants with a “gular pouch angle” of about 50° which can be attributed to *Ph. carbo carbo* [106] were recently documented (GPSO, unpubl.); however, ring recoveries or genetic confirmations are lacking.
49. *Burhinus oedicnemus*: About 50 pairs were recorded in PAV in 2014 [52].
50. *Charadrius alexandrinus*: 4–6 breeding pairs were documented in 1984–1985 on a sandy island in the Sesia River [25]. There is only one other observation during a breeding period and in a similar habitat (Po River) in 2020 [107].
51. *Vanellus spinosus*: This species is considered to belong to AERC category A at an Italian scale [17], but we believe that it is more appropriate for AERC category D [108].
52. *Numenius tenuirostris*: The last two regional records, one in approximately 1960 [43] and the other in 1986 [109], both from Vercelli province, are insufficiently documented [20,42]. We thus consider this species to be in AERC category B.
53. *Numenius arquata*: First breeding records (1–2 pairs) in 1996 and 1998 near Biella [110], which were reconfirmed in 2014 (for details, see [73,111]).
54. *Limnodromus scolopaceus*: New to the region (VC 2020) [112].
55. *Scolopax rusticola*: Few breeding records [32,34,72,113], patchily distributed in the Alps and Apennines. The breeding occurrence of the species has been underestimated due to its elusive behavior.
56. *Gallinago gallinago*: Only two breeding records (CN 1958, AL 1986) [114,115].

57. *Tringa totanus*: The first breeding record was in 1994 in the rice fields of Vercelli province, where 1–5 pairs were regularly recorded up to 2002 [116]. Only 1–2 pairs were bred again from 2014 to 2017 [117].
58. *Larus michahellis*: First breeding pair observed in 1985. The population was estimated at 32 pairs in 2008 [118] but was included in the AC Red List category due to the very large (order 4) summer resident non-breeding population [119].
59. *Onychoprion fuscatus*: The only record from PAV (CN 1862) is considered doubtful, which aligns with the views of Boano and Mingozzi [43] and Brichetti and Fracasso [73].
60. *Sternula albifrons*: Once had regular breeding with more than a hundred pairs in 1998 [120]. This was reduced to 24–35 pairs in 2016–2017 [121] and to a single pair in 2020 along the Po River [107].
61. *Chlidonias leucopterus*: From 10 to 18 breeding pairs in the rice fields of Vercelli province during 1993–1999, now reduced to 1–2 pairs in 2018–2019 [117].
62. *Sterna paradisea*: The first record of this species in the PAV region was in Cuneo province in 2021 [97].
63. *Athene noctua*: Taxonomic analyses revealed that some individuals shared genetic characteristics with the western clade (*A. n. vidalii*) but without a clear correspondence with morphology [122–124].
64. *Gypaetus barbatus*: Following the reintroduction project, the first pair was breeding in 2010 in the Gran Paradiso National Park [125]. The PAV population began to grow, with six observed to be breeding in 2019 [126].
65. *Aquila chrysaetos*: More than 180 breeding pairs in 2013 [53,56].
66. *Circus pygargus*: On average, 8 pairs (max. 16) were breeding in the western half of the region, mostly in Cuneo province [127], followed by a strong decline and the last breeding confirmed in 2014 [87].
67. *Milvus milvus*: First breeding record TO 2018 [128]; 1–2 pairs yearly confirmed in the same area up to 2022 [129].
68. *Alcedo atthis*: Following the biometric evidence, the PAV breeding birds can be referred to as *A. a. atthis* [130], but two recoveries of ringed birds from Spain and France [38] indicate the arrival of individuals from the *A. a. isspida* range.
69. *Picus viridis*: The PAV population is considered to belong to the nominate subspecies [131,132].
70. *Falco biarmicus*: The occurrence of some escaped birds from falconry cannot be ruled out.
71. *Falco cherrug*: The occurrence of some escaped birds from falconry cannot be ruled out.
72. *Falco peregrinus*: About 150 breeding pairs were recently estimated [34,133]. Similarly to other large *Falco* species, the occurrence of some escaped birds from falconry cannot be ruled out.
73. *Myiopsitta monachus*: The first breeding was observed in PAV in 1997 [33], and the existence of small colonies (about 2–5 pairs in Cuneo and Turin provinces) has been confirmed up until 2014 [87].
74. *Lanius minor*: Documented as breeding until 2007 [85]. Afterward, breeding was irregularly observed in PAV, with little evidence of possible and one probable breeding in traditional sites in 2017 [134].
75. *Lanius excubitor*: The three museum specimens attributed to *L. e. homeyeri* [20] should be regarded as doubtful and need to be re-examined to avoid confusion with the nominal subspecies [135].
76. *Lanius senator*: Once an uncommon breeding species [25], it rapidly decreased after the last confirmed breeding in Alessandria province in 2005 [136]. Afterward, there were only sparse records of these birds during the breeding season, without any evidence of certain breeding. The certain breeding record reported by Lardelli et al. [36] was not supported by evidence. It would be useful to review the taxonomic attribution of

- the museum specimens of *L. s. niloticus* and *L. s. badius* given the results of Nasuelli et al. [137].
77. *Garrulus glandarius*: Keve [138] (1966) considered the Italian Jays to be *G. g. albipectus* but we did not find any clear differences with European *G. g. glandarius*, which is consistent with Shirirai and Svensson [139].
78. *Nucifraga caryocatactes*: The records attributed to *N. c. macrorhynchos* remain doubtful and need reassessment [21,29].
79. *Corvus monedula*: The occurrence of the nominate subspecies was confirmed only by the winter recovery of a ringed bird in Austria [39], but is likely less rare, as winter migrants often associated with the migrant *Corvus frugilegus* should come from the *C. m. monedula* (or *C. m. soemmerringii*) range.
80. *Remiz pendulinus*: Contra Pavia and Boano [21], there are documented breeding records up to 2002–2003 [32,33]. In the decade 2010–2019, only single singing males were observed at two sites (TO, VC 2010) [71].
81. *Calandrella brachydactyla*: The breeding population declined from 60–80 pairs [25] to 2 pairs in 1996 [31]. A few birds were still present in the breeding period at traditional sites up to 2008–2010 [71,85,91].
82. *Alauda arvensis*: Taxonomic information on the breeding population is insufficient. We agree with Shirirai and Svensson [140] and consider that *A. a. cantarella* is included in *A. a. arvensis*.
83. *Galerida cristata*: Localized breeders in southeastern Piedmont [25] have now significantly declined. Two breeding pairs were observed in 2016 in Novara province [32].
84. *Cisticola juncidis*: The first breeding was confirmed in 2020 in Vercelli province [117] but singing males and territorial pairs in variable numbers were observed in the same area in the last decade without certain breeding evidence [25,35].
85. *Acrocephalus melanopogon*: A female with a brood patch was ringed in early July 2013 [86] at a site regularly monitored during the breeding season, where the species is regularly present in winter [39].
86. *Acrocephalus schoenobaenus*: The only certain breeding record of the species in PAV was found in 2009 in Vercelli province [91], without any further breeding evidence in the following years.
87. *Locustella lusciniooides*: After the last confirmed breeding record at Lake Maggiore in 2015 [88], singing territorial males were observed in a few other wetlands and years without any proof of breeding, as in the decade 2000–2009, when the species was considered as an extinct breeder in PAV [21].
88. *Delichon urbicum*: We agree with Shirirai and Svensson [140] and include *D. u. meridionale* in the nominate subspecies.
89. *Cecropis daurica*: The breeding sites in Alessandria province have been deserted since 1984 [25] and thus the species was considered extinct as a breeder in PAV according to Pavia and Boano [21]. However, recently, 1–2 breeding pairs were observed between 2011 and 2015 in the Langhe area [72,86–88,95].
90. *Aegithalos caudatus*: The taxonomic assessment of the PAV birds is complex. In fact, birds morphologically resembling the subspecies *A. c. italiae* are not uncommon during the breeding period, whereas birds with a clear *A. c. europaeus* morphology prevail in winter. Although individuals with all-white heads have been recorded, there are no certain records of *A. c. caudatus*.
91. *Sylvia nisoria*: The former population in the Ossola Valley and surrounding areas (Lake Orta) declined from 10 pairs in the 1980s to 1 pair in 2007 [141], when the last breeding record in PAV was documented.
92. *Sylvia hortensis*: Always a very rare breeder in PAV [21,142]. More recently, only territorial males in the Aosta Valley in 1999 and 2009 [34]; in Apennines in 2003 [143]; and in Biella province in 2019–2021 [97,112,144] have been reported but always without any breeding evidence.

93. *Sylvia cantillans*: This species shows a fairly widespread breeding population in the alpine xerothermic areas of the Susa Valley, with some other scattered pairs. It is referred to as the taxon *S. c. iberiae* based on its morphology and genetic evidence [145]. In addition, single pairs in the Aosta Valley [34] and, although less certain, the southern valley of Cuneo province [146], can be referred to as the nominate subspecies based on their calls and morphology.
94. *Sylvia undata*: Rare breeder in the southern part of the region both in Alessandria [25] and Cuneo provinces (1999, 2007–2008) [33].
95. *Cyanecula svecica*: One breeding pair of the subspecies *C. s. svecica* was confirmed in 1983 near Lake Moncenisio (Susa Valley, but in French political territory) [25]. Since then, just one territorial pair has been observed in 2017 in the nearby Chisone Valley [82].
96. *Ficedula parva*: In addition to one historical record (1875), one more recent and reliable observation (2002), not yet accepted by Ornitho.it, has been reported for the Ossola Valley [147].
97. *Ficedula hypoleuca*: First confirmed breeding for PAV (and Italy) in 2021: a pair nested in May-June in a nest box in the Ossola Valley; however, a storm, unfortunately, destroyed the nest and the nestlings inside [148].
98. *Ficedula albicollis*: In the same Apennines valley of SE Piedmont where a little breeding population was discovered in 1983 [149], up until 2009 there were a few observations during the breeding period [91].
99. *Prunella modularis*: The breeding birds from the PAV Alps were confirmed as belonging to the nominate subspecies based on their morphology and genetics [150,151].
100. *Anthus richardi*: Seven records dated back to the 1800s but none of the five most recent observations (2007–2021) were documented with accompanying photos or sound recordings.
101. *Motacilla alba*: Regarding the *M. a. yarrellii* subspecies, two recent observations (VB 2018, BI 2022), both documented with accompanying pictures [152,153], confirm this taxon. Other records should be re-evaluated after a thorough analysis of the photographic documentation.
102. *Acanthis flammea*: An old record of *A. f. cabaret* correctly reported by Camusso [154] was previously mistakenly identified as *A. f. flammea* [21]. Therefore, there is only one accepted record of this taxon in PAV.
103. *Emberiza melanocephala*: Singing males have been regularly observed since 2001 [155], nest building was observed in 2013 [86], and a nest with eggs was found in 2022 [156] in the same area of the Northern Apennines in Alessandria province.
104. *Emberiza schoeniclus*: Once a relatively common breeder in marsh areas [25], although the population decreased in the last three decades, it is still considered a regular breeder with the nominate subspecies [21]. After 2009, only singing males have been found in less than ten sites, without evidence of certain breeding. The certain breeding record reported by Lardelli et al. [36] was due to an erroneous record (GPSO unpubl.).

### 3.1.2. Comments on the GCL and OCL

Overall, 408 species (444 taxa) were included in the GCL, whereas during the decade 2010–2019, 355 (87.0%) bird species (383 taxa, 86.3%) were relevant to the OCL for the same region. The 53 species excluded from the OCL with respect to the GCL were exclusively vagrant species. Additionally, it should be noted that since the previous checklist [21], eleven vagrant species (*Porphyrio porphyrio*, *Porphyrio alleni*, *Anthropoides virgo*, *Limnodromus scolopaceus*, *Xema sabini*, *Larus pipixcan*, *Larus hyperboreus*, *Sterna paradisaea*, *Aquila heliaca*, *Oenanthe deserti*, and *Motacilla citreola*) and six subspecies (*Caprimulgus europaeus meridionalis*, *Phalacrocorax carbo carbo*, *Larus canus heinei*, *Alcedo atthis isspida*, *Corvus monedula monedula*, and *Sylvia cantillans iberiae*) have been added to the GCL, as they were sufficiently documented. Four more species were escaped birds breeding in the region or elsewhere (*Branta canadensis*, *Alopochen aegyptiaca*, *Callonetta leucophrys*, and *Myiopsitta monachus*) and

one (*Geronticus eremita*) was a species involved in an ongoing introduction project [157]. Interestingly, one species (*Ficedula hypoleuca*) was documented for the first time as breeding in Italy in PAV [148].

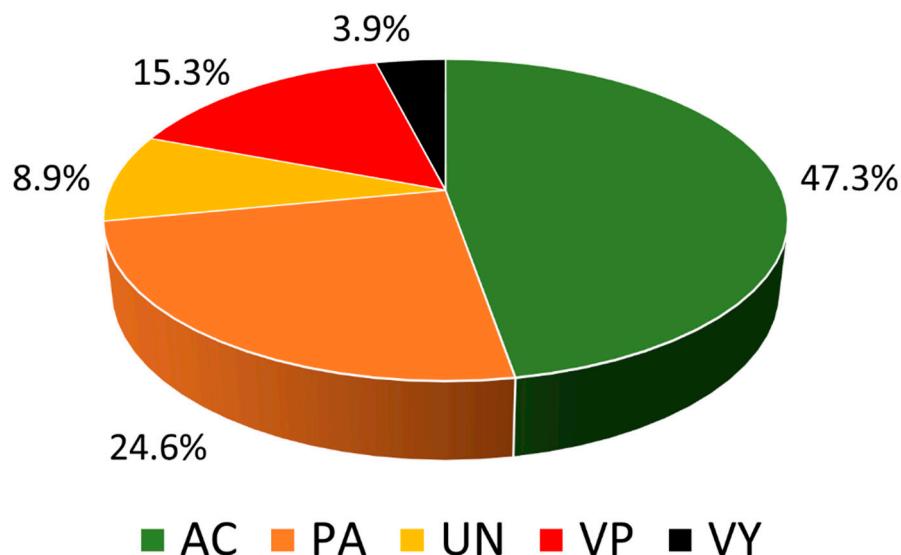
The GCL comprised 396 species in AERC categories A ( $n = 363$ ), B ( $n = 26$ ), and C ( $n = 7$ ). Twelve species in AERC categories D ( $n = 6$ ) and E ( $n = 6$ ) were considered for the scope of this list. All but 21 species were listed under one AERC category, and the exceptions are represented by species where some records concerned wild birds with a significant proportion of them being escaped individuals or individuals from established introduced populations. Among the recorded species, 268 (277 taxa) were considered to occur regularly and 47 (56 taxa) irregularly, whereas there were 93 (111 taxa) vagrants, 23 (26 taxa) of which have not been observed in PAV since 1950. Overall, 213 species in categories A–C have been recorded as breeding, with 174 of them considered regular breeders, 23 irregular breeders, 7 accidental breeders, and 9 former breeders.

The OCL included 355 bird species (383 taxa), 267 (276 taxa) of which were regularly observed, 47 (56 taxa) of which were irregularly observed, and 41 (51 taxa) of which were only accidentally recorded in PAV (i.e., vagrants). Among the taxa regularly or irregularly observed, 149 species (151 taxa) were observed in all the periods of the year and 48 species (57 taxa) were observed only during migration periods. The confirmed breeders include 197 species (200 taxa), 173 of which are regular breeders (175 taxa), 14 are irregular breeders, and 10 are new compared to the previous decade (*Anser anser*, *Alopochen aegyptiaca*, *Tadorna tadorna*, *Aythya nyroca*, *Podiceps nigricollis*, *Zapornia pusilla*, *Ardea alba*, *Gypaetus barbatus*, *Milvus milvus*, and *Cecropis daurica*). Another eight species nesting in the decade 2000–2009 (*Cairina moschata*, *Platalea leucorodia*, *Lanius minor*, *Lanius senator*, *Remiz pendulinus*, *Acrocephalus schoenobaenus*, *Sylvia nisoria*, *Sylvia undata*, and *Emberiza schoeniclus*) were not confirmed in 2010–2019 (see notes following Table 5 for more details).

### 3.2. Red List of Breeding Birds 2010–2019

According to our evaluation protocol (Table 3), almost half of the species (47.3%,  $n = 96$ , out of the 203 evaluated) (Figure 2) can be classified as having an acceptable conservation status (category AC). Of the remaining 107 species, 50 (24.6%) show signs of a decline in numbers or a restricted range/population that require conservation efforts (category PA). The other species are in need of urgent monitoring and conservation care and protocols, as 18 (8.9%) species are considered as having an unsafe conservation status (category UN) and 31 (15.3%) are on the verge of local extinction due to very small breeding populations (category VP). Finally, eight (3.9%) species can be confirmed extinct in the last decade (category VY): *Platalea leucorodia*, *Lanius minor*, *Lanius senator*, *Remiz pendulinus*, *Acrocephalus schoenobaenus*, *Sylvia nisoria*, *Sylvia undata*, and *Emberiza schoeniclus*). For some of them, indications of possible or probable breeding were irregularly collected (*Lanius minor*, *Lanius senator*, *Remiz pendulinus*, *Sylvia undata*, *Emberiza schoeniclus*) (see notes following Table 5).

The eight species that became extinct as breeders in the decade 2010–2019 (category VY) were added to the four species (*Tetrao urogallus*, *Crex crex*, *Sylvia hortensis*, and *Ficedula albicollis*) already considered extinct as breeders in PAV from the last checklist [21]. Among them, the only confirmed extinct species in the region is *Tetrao urogallus*. The others are uncertain due to insufficient or doubtful data (see Section 3.1.1).



**Figure 2.** Risk level (percentage classes) expressed for each breeding species ( $n = 203$ ) in PAV belonging to the Operational Checklist 2010–2019 (see Table 4 for details).

#### 4. Discussion

The 396 species listed (AERC categories A–C) in the GCL represent 71.9% of all species recorded at the national level ( $n = 551$ ), whereas the 204 breeding species represented 71.1% (Italy  $n = 287$ ) and the 90 vagrant species represented 67.7% (Italy  $n = 133$ ). The area of the PAV region represents 9.5% of the total national territory (Table 6).

**Table 6.** Total number of recorded species (AERC A–C categories), breeding species, and vagrant species on the national checklist and some regional checklists. The regions are ordered by surface area. Data source: Italy [17]; Piedmont and Aosta Valley, this work; Sicily [158]; Sardinia [159]; Apulia [160]; Veneto [161]; Latium [162]. See text for details.

	Italy	Piedmont and Aosta Valley	Sicily	Sardinia	Apulia	Veneto	Latium
Area ( $\text{km}^2$ )	302.068	28.648	25.832	24.100	19.541	18.345	17.232
%	100	9.5	8.6	8.0	6.5	6.1	5.7
Total $n$ of species (AERC A–C)	551	396	437	405	370	412	415
%	100	71.9	79.3	73.5	67.2	74.8	75.3
Number of breeding species	287	204	155	170	173	203	187
%	100	71.1	54.0	59.2	60.3	70.7	65.2
Number of vagrant species	133	90	120	112	88	56	92
%	100	67.7	90.2	84.2	66.2	42.1	69.2

The biogeographical significance of the figures can be assessed by comparing the PAV values (total species number as a proxy of general biodiversity; breeding number as a proxy of the landscape heterogeneity; and the vagrant number as a proxy of the relevance of the migratory pathways) to those of other regional checklists that are based on similar assumptions. The regions were also selected with reference to their geographical characteristics, i.e., the area extension (similar or minor to PAV), and to their continental or insular condition. Considering that differences among regions may reflect some methodological aspects (in particular, differences in systematic and nomenclature adopted by the various lists and variations in the level of ornithological investigation), a few considerations can be made with reference to Table 6.

Sicily, whose geographical extension is very similar to that of PAV, had the highest total number of species. Latium, whose territorial extension corresponds to about 60.1% of that of PAV, had a higher total number of species than PAV. The highest number of vagrant

species, very close to the national number, was in Sicily and Sardinia. Conversely, PAV had the highest number of breeding species, followed by Veneto, whereas Sicily had the lowest number.

These findings can be attributed to biogeographic patterns such as the species-area relationship and the island biogeography [163,164]. In addition, the strategic position with respect to the main migratory routes, as well as the high degree of ornithological investigation, could explain the high numbers of accidental species in Sicily and Sardinia. It is well known that many vagrants are encountered on seacoasts or little islands, where drift due to crosswinds can displace birds from their normal routes, especially during misty or rainy weather [165]. The relatively low number of species found in PAV with respect to other less extended regions may be a consequence of the geographic and landscape characteristics of the region. PAV is a mostly mountainous region with urbanized, densely cultivated lowlands and hilly areas with restricted woodland patches, and with relatively few lakes and wetlands areas. PAV is much less attractive to aquatic, marshland, or open-habitat bird species in comparison with other parts of Italy. In addition, the presence of the large alpine chain that surrounds the north and west of the region for more than half of its perimeter makes it marginal with respect to other migratory flyways. However, the relatively large number of breeding birds in this region, as well as the almost identical value of the Veneto region, can be at least partially explained by the great landscape diversity of the alpine chain, with its conspicuous altitudinal gradient.

A comparison of the data in the PVA Red List and that in the Italian Red List [165] reveals interesting aspects for further analysis. Despite the different criteria for assigning species to risk categories and grouping related categories, we can see a similar percentage of relatively safe species (55% LC in Italy vs. 47% AC in PAV), as well as more threatened or endangered species (20% EN-EX in Italy vs. 19% VP-VY in PAV). On the other hand, the number of species classified as being at an intermediate threat level in PVA (33% UN-PA), clearly exceeds that identified at the national level (20% NT-VU). This is likely influenced by the 5% of species not evaluated (data deficient) at the national level but could also be linked to the different survey areas, which inevitably entails smaller populations for many species at the regional level, consequently making them more worthy of attention.

## 5. Conclusions

As our work has the potential to be a useful tool for characterizing the avifauna of PAV, especially with the help of the online spreadsheet. Therefore, it is important to stress the necessity of more efficient data collection, in particular for breeding species, to adapt to environmental and climatic changes in the near future. Although birdwatching activities have increased significantly in the past year, most people have focused on birding in more suitable or productive spots or randomly looking for uncommon or rare observations. Although standardized monitoring efforts have also increased, they have mostly been focused on establishing bird communities and monitoring their trends using point counts or similar rapid assessment surveys. Although these methods are useful for estimating species richness and relative abundance [166], with an emphasis on the bird species related to the Farmland Bird Index [48,49], they are insufficient for in-depth research on breeding biology and ecology. More precise and repeatable surveys are needed for a greater number of breeding populations that can actually track trends in real numbers (and not only in orders of magnitude) over time [167].

For these reasons, over the next ten years (decade 2020–2029) more efficient, widespread, and focused efforts are needed for (a) better tracking of the trends of breeding species of major concern; and (b) locating and proving the confirmed status for all the breeding species in the PAV, with a particular emphasis on the species not recently documented or only found irregularly and/or in a very few localities in the region such as *Crex crex*, *Galerida cristata*, *Calandrella brachydactyla*, *Locustella lusciniooides*, and *Emberiza schoeniclus*. On the other hand, even more widespread species, such as *Phylloscopus sibilatrix*, *Sylvia borin*,

*Pyrrhula pyrrhula*, and *Coccothraustes coccothraustes*, consistently have very few confirmed breeding records each year, if any.

In conclusion, we stress the need for a more standardized approach to the regional checklist both in terms of category codes and the considered time frame. From this point of view, a decade is suggested as the best time frame for monitoring and comparing temporal changes in the same region and biodiversity differences between regions.

**Supplementary Materials:** The following supporting information can be downloaded at: <https://www.mdpi.com/article/10.3390/d15040550/s1>, Document S1: Boano et al. bird checklist\_Operational Checklist online.

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