

CHANGES IN THE AOU CHECKLIST RELEVANT TO NEW YORK STATE

The July 2003 issue of *The Auk* contained the 44th Supplement to *The American Ornithologists' Union Check-List of North American Birds*. There were several changes which apply to the current official New York State checklist, one of which is dramatic and which will take a lot of "getting used to." The, shall we say, "routine" changes are:

Change the English name of Rock Dove to Rock Pigeon

Change the genus of Eastern Screech-Owl from *Otus* to *Megascops*

Change the Latin name of Snowy Owl from *Nyctea scandiaca* to *Bubo scandiacus*

Delete entirely- Three-toed Woodpecker *Picoides tridactylus*
Replace with - American Three-toed Woodpecker *Picoides dorsalis*

Change the Latin specific name of Black-capped Chickadee - *Poecile atricapilla* to *Poecile atricapillus*

Change the Latin specific name of Ovenbird - *Seiurus aurocapillus* to *Seiurus aurocapilla*

And last, but certainly not least, the Order *Anseriformes* and the Order *Galliformes* will now be placed BEFORE the Order *Gaviiformes*.

The December issue of *The Kingbird* will carry a full discussion on these changes and their rationale as put forth in the 44th Supplement of *The Auk*.

For those of you who would like to know more and now, we refer you to :

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The Editor