

American Herring Gull. Dingle Harbour, Co. Kerry, Ireland. 8th April 2004.
Photo: Chris Batty.



List of Gulls - Part 2

with References

Compiled by Joe Hobbs



Introduction

This is the final version of the Gulls (Part 2) list, no further updates will be made. It includes all species of Gull that are included in the genus *Larus*. Grateful thanks to Chris Batty and Graham Prole for the cover images and all those who responded with constructive feedback. All images © the photographers.

Please note that this and other Reference Lists I have compiled are **not exhaustive** and are best employed in conjunction with other sources.

Joe Hobbs

Index

With some exceptions, the general order of species follows the International Ornithologists' Union World Bird List (**Gill, F. & Donsker, D.** (eds.) 2019. IOC World Bird List. Available from: <https://www.worldbirdnames.org/> [version 9.1 accessed January 2019]).

Final Version

Version 1.4 (February 2019).

Cover

Main image: American Herring Gull. Dingle Harbour, Co. Kerry, Ireland. 8th April 2004. Picture by Chris Batty.

Vignette: Lesser Black-backed Gull. Sean Walsh Park, Tallaght, Co. Dublin, Ireland. 14th July 2012. Picture by Graham Prole.

Species	Page No.
American Herring Gull [<i>Larus smithsonianus</i>]	36
Armenian Gull [<i>Larus armenicus</i>]	47
Belcher's Gull [<i>Larus belcheri</i>]	6
Black-tailed Gull [<i>Larus crassirostris</i>]	7
California Gull [<i>Larus californicus</i>]	16
Caspian Gull [<i>Larus cachinnans</i>]	40
Common Gull [<i>Larus canus</i>]	9
Glaucous Gull [<i>Larus hyperboreus</i>]	25
Glaucous-winged Gull [<i>Larus glaucescens</i>]	21
Great Black-backed Gull [<i>Larus marinus</i>]	16
Heermann's Gull [<i>Larus heermanni</i>]	8
Herring Gull [<i>Larus argentatus</i>]	32
Heuglin's Gull [<i>Larus heuglini</i>]	55
Iceland Gull [<i>Larus glaucooides</i>]	28
Kelp Gull [<i>Larus dominicanus</i>]	18
Lesser Black-backed Gull [<i>Larus fuscus</i>]	50
Olrog's Gull [<i>Larus atlanticus</i>]	7
Pacific Gull [<i>Larus pacificus</i>]	6
Ring-billed Gull [<i>Larus delawarensis</i>]	13

Short-billed Gull [<i>Larus brachyrhynchus</i>]	12
Slaty-backed Gull [<i>Larus schistisagus</i>]	48
Thayer's Gull [<i>Larus thayeri</i>]	30
Vega Gull [<i>Larus vegae</i>]	39
Western Gull [<i>Larus occidentalis</i>]	23
Yellow-footed Gull [<i>Larus livens</i>]	25
Yellow-legged Gull [<i>Larus michahellis</i>]	43

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Pacific Gull

Larus pacificus [Latham].

[*L.p. pacificus*] Tasmania & Victoria. Winters N to New South Wales.

[*L.p. georgii*] W Australia S & E to S Australia.

Treated by some as *Gabianus pacificus*.

Other names: Large-billed Gull, Australian Gull.

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Belcher's Gull

Larus belcheri [Vigors].

N Peru to N Chile in the vicinity of the Humboldt Current. Winters N to N Ecuador and S to C Chile.

Other names: Simeon's Gull, Simeon Gull, Band-tailed Gull.

'Simeon's' is most likely a region where the gull is found rather than commemorating an historic individual.

Admiral Sir Edward Belcher (1799-1877), British explorer who was in command of the failed Arctic expedition to locate Sir John Franklin in 1852.

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Olrog's Gull

Larus atlanticus [Olrog].

Coast of Argentina S of 11°S. Winters Atlantic coast of S Brazil, Uruguay & N Argentina.

Treated by some as a race of Belcher's Gull.

Claes Christian Olrog (1912-1985), Swedish ornithologist domiciled in Argentina who undertook field expeditions in Argentina, Brazil and Bolivia.

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Black-tailed Gull

Larus crassirostris [Vieillot]

S Kuril Islands, Sakhalin, Popov Island, Moneron Island & Peter the Great Bay (SE Far East Russia), Japan, Korea & E China. Winters S to N East China Sea & Taiwan Straits.

Other names: Temminck's Gull, Japanese Gull.

Coenraad Jacob Temminck (1778-1858), Dutch ornithologist, illustrator and collector who was the first director of the National Natural History Museum at Leiden from 1820 until his death.

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Heermann's Gull

Larus heermanni [Cassin].

Gulf of California S to Nayarit & Baja California (W Mexico). Winters N to C California.

Dr. Adolphus Lewis Heermann (1827-1865), American army physician and naturalist who made numerous scientific expeditions in the eastern and western North America.

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Common Gull

Larus canus [Linnaeus].

[*L.c. canus*] Iceland, Britain & Ireland E to White Sea. Winters Europe, N Africa & Persian Gulf.

[*L.c. heine*] The Kanin peninsula & area around Moscow E to NC Siberia (Russia). Winters SE Europe, Black & Caspian Seas.

[*L.c. kamtschatschensis*] NE Siberia. Winters SE Asia.

Other names: Mew Gull, Russian Common Gull (*heine*), Kamchatka Gull (*kamtschatschensis*).

Ferdinand Heine (1809-1894), German ornithologist and collector who amassed one of the largest private collection of specimens of the 19th century.

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Short-billed Gull

Larus brachyrhynchus [Richardson].

N Alaska & N Mackenzie region S to S British Columbia & N Saskatchewan. Winters S to coastal California.

Treated by del Hoyo *et al.* 1996 and the IOC as a race of Common Gull.

Other name: Mew Gull.

1st WP Record: [adult] 18th February 2003. Praia da Vitoria, Terceira, Azores. Peter Alfrey. Remained until 24th February at least (Alfrey & Ahmad 2007).

Adriaens, P. & Gibbins, C. 2016. Identification of the *Larus canus* complex. *Dutch Birding* 38(1): 1-63.

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Ring-billed Gull

Larus delawarensis [Ord].

N California, E Washington & British Columbia E to the Great Lakes & St Lawrence River. Winters S of breeding range and further S to US Gulf, C America & Greater Antilles with some to Ireland, Britain and wider Western Palearctic.

1st WP Record: [1st winter] 4th November 1945. Horta, Faial, Azores, recovered. It had been ringed at Penetang, Georgian Bay, Lake Huron, Ontario, Canada on 10th June 1945 (Cooke 1947).

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California Gull

Larus californicus [Lawrence].

[*L.c. californicus*] E Washington & the Great Basin region E to C Montana & Wyoming. Winters SW Canada to SW Mexico.

[*L.c. albertaensis*] Great Slave Lake (NW Territories), Alberta & W Manitoba to S Dakota. Winters SW Canada S to SW Mexico.

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Great Black-backed Gull

Larus marinus [Linnaeus].

Great Lakes, E Canada & coastal E USA S to N Carolina and S Greenland, Iceland, Britain, Ireland, NW France & Scandinavia E to White Sea. Winters S to W Indies and Iberia & extreme NW Africa.

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Kelp Gull

Larus dominicanus [Lichtenstein].

[*L.d. dominicanus*] Coastal S America, Falkland Islands, South Georgia, New Zealand & Australia.

[*L.d. vetula*] Coastal S Africa & Namibia.

[*L.d. judithae*] Kerguelen & the Crozet Islands (Indian Ocean).

[*L.d. melisandae*] Coasts of SW & S Madagascar.

[*L.d. austinus*] Antarctica.

Treated by del Hoyo *et al.* 1996 as monotypic.

Other names: Southern Black-backed Gull, Black-backed Gull, Dominican Gull, Cape Gull (*vetula*), Khoisan Gull (*vetula*), Kerguelen Kelp Gull (*judithae*), Chandeleur Gull (hybrid Kelp x American Herring Gull).

1st WP Record (*L.d. dominicanus*): [adult] 23rd April 1997. Zira Islet, Banc d'Arguin National Park, Mauritania (Pineau *et al.* 2001).

1st WP Record (*L.d. vetula*): January 1995. Jardin des Plantes Zoo, Paris, France. Remained until the following month. Originally assigned to category D but later upgraded to category A by the CAF (Jiguet *et al.* 2004).

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Glaucous-winged Gull

Larus glaucescens [J.F. Naumann].

Commander Island E thru the Aleutian Islands to S Alaska and SE to N Oregon. Winters Bering Sea to N Japan and S to Baja California.

Other names: Olympic Gull (hybrid Glaucous-winged x Western Gull), Puget Sound Gull (hybrid Glaucous-winged x Western Gull).

1st WP Record: [3rd. winter] 7th February 1992. La Restinga, El Hierro, Canary Islands. Remained until 10th February (de Juana & SEO 1998).

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Western Gull

Larus occidentalis [Audubon].

[*L.o. occidentalis*] NW Washington to C California.

[*L.o. wymani*] C California to C Baja California.

Other name: Wyman's Gull (*wymani*), Olympic Gull (hybrid Glaucous-winged x Western Gull), Puget Sound Gull (hybrid Glaucous-winged x Western Gull).

Luther Everet Wyman (1870-1928), American naturalist and one time Curator of Birds at Los Angeles Museum of History, Science & Art.

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Yellow-footed Gull

Larus livens [Dwight].

Gulf of California (NW Mexico).

Treated as a race of Western Gull by some.

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Glaucous Gull

Larus hyperboreus [Gunnerus].

[*L.h. hyperboreus*] Jan Mayen & Spitsbergen E to Taymyr peninsula. Winters S to CW Europe.

[*L.h. pallidissimus*] Taymyr peninsula E to the Bering Sea. Winters S to Japan.

[*L.h. barrovianus*] Alaska to W Canada. Winters S to CW USA.

[*L.h. leucereetes*] E Mackenzie R region E thru N Canadian archipelago to Greenland & Iceland. Winters S to CE USA.

Other names: Point Barrow Gull (*barrovianus*), Nelson's Gull (hybrid Glaucous x American Herring Gull), Viking Gull (hybrid Glaucous x Herring Gull).

Dr. Edward William Nelson (1855-1934), American ornithologist and founding President of the American Ornithologists' Union, who collected the type specimen of the form named after him.

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Iceland Gull

Larus glaucoides [B. Meyer]

[*L.g. glaucoides*] S & W Greenland. Winters S to N Europe.

[*L.g. kumlieni*] Baffin Island & Southampton Island (Canadian Territory of Nunavut) and in the vicinity of Ungava Bay (NW Quebec). Winters Gulf of Saint Lawrence & Newfoundland S to Virginia and Great Lakes region W to Minnesota with some to Britain & Ireland.

Other name: Kumlien's Gull (*kumlieni*).

'Kumlien's Gull is probably best regarded as a stable hybrid population of Iceland x Thayer's Gulls' Weir *et al.* 2000.

Thure Ludwig Theodor Kumlien (1853-1902), Swedish-American ornithologist, naturalist and taxidermist who contributed much to the knowledge of the natural history of Wisconsin and its birds and / or his son, **Ludwig Kumlien** (1853-1902), American ornithologist of Swedish descent who spent two years collecting in the Arctic including the type specimen.

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Thayer's Gull

Larus thayeri [W.S. Brooks].

Banks Island E to Hudson Bay & N Baffin Island and N thru Ellesmere Island to W Greenland. Winters Pacific coast from British Columbia S to Baja California.

The IOC regard Thayer's Gull as a form of Iceland Gull.

Col. John Eliot Thayer (1862-1933), American ornithologist, collector and banker who used his considerable wealth to fund natural history expeditions, including the one which collected the type specimen of this gull.

1st WP Record: [1st winter] 21st February 1990. The Lough, Cork, Ireland. Jim Wilson. Remained in the general area until 5th March (**O'Sullivan, O. & Smiddy, P.** 1990. 37th Irish Bird Report. *Irish Birds* 4(2): 246).

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Herring Gull

Larus argentatus [Pontoppidan].

[*L.a. argentatus*] Denmark & Fenno-Scandinavia to the Kola peninsula. Winters N & W Europe.

[*L.a. argenteus*] Iceland, Faroe Islands, UK, Ireland & W France to W Germany. Winters S to N Iberia.

Other names: Viking Gull (hybrid Glaucous x Herring Gull), European Herring Gull.

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American Herring Gull

Larus smithsonianus [Coues]

North America. Winters S to C America.

Treated by Collinson *et al.* 2008 to include the forms *vegae* and *mongolicus*.

Other names: Smithsonian Gull, Nelson's Gull (hybrid Glaucous x American Herring Gull), Chandeleur Gull (hybrid Kelp x American Herring Gull).

Dr. Edward William Nelson (1855-1934), American ornithologist and founding President of the American Ornithologists' Union, who collected the type specimen of the form named after him.

1st WP Record: [2nd winter] November 1937. Captured at sea in the North Atlantic 480km off the coast of Spain. The bird had been ringed as a chick on Kent Island, New Brunswick, Canada during August 1936 (Gross 1940).

Adriaens, P. & Mactavish, B. 2004. Identification of adult American Herring Gull. *Dutch Birding* 26(3): 151-179.

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Vega Gull

Larus vegae [Palmén].

[*L.v. vegae*] NC & NE Siberia (Russia). Winters Japan, Korea, S & E China and Taiwan.

[*L.v. mongolicus*] Mongolia & neighbouring parts of far eastern Russia, NE China and possibly South Korea. Winters S & E China, Korea & Japan.

Some authors disagree on the exact location of the border between the ranges of *vegae* and *heuglini*.

Both *vegae* and *mongolicus* treated by Collinson *et al.* 2008 as forms of American Herring Gull.

The form *mongolicus* treated as a race of Caspian Gull by Olsen & Larsson 2004.

Yésou 2001, concludes that *mongolicus* should be given species status under the Phylogenetic Species Concept (PSC).

Other names: East Siberian Gull, Mongolian Gull (*mongolicus*).

Birula's Gull (*L.v. birulai*) is treated by some as a form of *vegae* (or perhaps a hybrid) found in the northwest part of its range.

Aleksei Andreevich Byalynitsky-Birula (1864-1937), Russian arachnologist and ornithologist who was the author of several books on the taxonomy of scorpions.

1st WP Record: [adult] 10th January 2016. Duncannon, Co. Wexford, Ireland. Killian Mullarney.

Remained to 13th January (Mullarney 2016).

Collinson, J.M. et al. 2008. Species boundaries in the Herring and Lesser Black-backed Gull complex. *British Birds* 101(7): 340-363.

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- Yésou, P.** 2001. Phenotypic variation and systematics of Mongolian Gull. *Dutch Birding* 23(2): 65-82.
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Caspian Gull

Larus cachinnans [Pallas]

Black Sea E to Caspian Sea & E Kazakhstan and spreading to C Europe more recently. Winters mainly Black Sea, Middle East & Arabian Gulf and possibly NE Africa.

Treated by Olsen & Larsson 2004 to include the forms *barabensis* and *mongolicus*.

Other name: Pontic Gull.

- Bakker, Y. et al.** 2000. Caspian Gull identification gallery. *Birding World* 13(2): 60-74.
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Yellow-legged Gull

Larus michahellis [J.F. Naumann].

[*L.m. michahellis*] W & S Europe and NW Africa E thru Mediterranean to Black Sea.

[*L.m. atlantis*] Azores, Madeira & Canary Islands.

Form *lusitanius* treated by Olsen & Larsson 2004 as a race of Yellow-legged Gull found in N & NW Iberia.

Other name: Atlantic Gull (*atlantis*).

Georg Christian Karl Wilhelm Michahelles (1807-1834), Bavarian/German zoologist and physician who travelled in the Balkans and Greece studying the birds of the area.

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Armenian Gull

Larus armenicus [Buturlin].

Armenia to E Turkey & NW Iran. Winters SE Black Sea, E Mediterranean & N Red Sea.

Treated as a race of Yellow-legged Gull by some.

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Slaty-backed Gull

Larus schistisagus [Stejneger].

Cape Navarin & Kamchatka (NE Siberia) to Hokkaido, NE Honshu & Vladivostok. Winters S to Taiwan.

1st WP Record: [near-adult] 17th November 2008. Dumpiai Klaipeda, Lithuania. Vytautas Pareigis. Remained until 20th November and presumed same individual approximately 100' away at Riga, Latvia the following 13th to at least 18th April 2009, (Gibbins & Hackett 2009) & (LOFK Nr.171/08 confirmed record [online], Available from: <http://www.birdlife.lt/web/lod/lofk-patvirtinti-stebejimai> [Accessed March 2011]).

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Lesser Black-backed Gull

Larus fuscus [Linnaeus].

[*L.f. fuscus*] Baltic Sea regions of Finland & Sweden E to White Sea with small numbers N Norway. Winters Africa & SW Asia.

[*L.f. graellsii*] Iceland, Faroe Islands, Britain, Ireland, France & Iberia. Winters SW Europe S to W Africa.

[*L.f. intermedius*] Holland, Denmark & S Norway. Winters W Europe & W Africa.

Treated by Collinson *et al.* 2008 and IOC to include forms *heuglini* and *barabensis*.

Other name: Baltic Gull (*fuscus*).

Mariano de la Paz Graells (1809-1898), Spanish naturalist who Brehm called the 'Father of Spanish Natural History'.

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Heuglin's Gull

Larus heuglini [Bree].

[*L.h. heuglini*] Coast of N Russia from the Kola E to the mouth of the Yenisey. Winters Arabian Sea & Indian Ocean S to E Africa and W to S India.

[*L.h. taimyrensis*] Taimyr peninsula & offshore islands (C Siberia, Russia). Winters coastal areas of the East China Sea & South China Sea.

[*L.h. barabensis*] C Asian steppes. Winters Persian Gulf, Oman, Arabian Peninsula S to S Red Sea, Socotra & Indian Ocean coasts to W India.

Some authors disagree on the exact location of the border between the ranges of *L. vegae* and *heuglini*.

Form *taimyrensis* is not recognised by the IOC as a valid form and is treated by some as a hybrid-type, i.e. *heuglini* x *vegae*.

Form *taimyrensis* treated as full species by van Dijk *et al.* 2011.

Form *barabensis* treated as full species by van den Berg 2011.

Both *heuglini* and *barabensis* treated by Collinson *et al.* 2008 and IOC as forms of Lesser Black-backed Gull.

Form *barabensis* treated as a race of Caspian Gull by Olsen & Larsson 2004.

Other names: Siberian Gull, West Siberian Gull, Taimyr Gull (*taimyrensis*), Baraba Gull (*barabensis*), Steppe Gull (*barabensis*).

Theodor von Heuglin (1824-1876), German ornithologist, explorer and mining engineer who undertook several expeditions in Africa as well as travelling to Spitsbergen and Novaya Zemlya in 1870 and 1871.

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