



Hawk Migration Association of North America



Dear Hawkwatching Community,

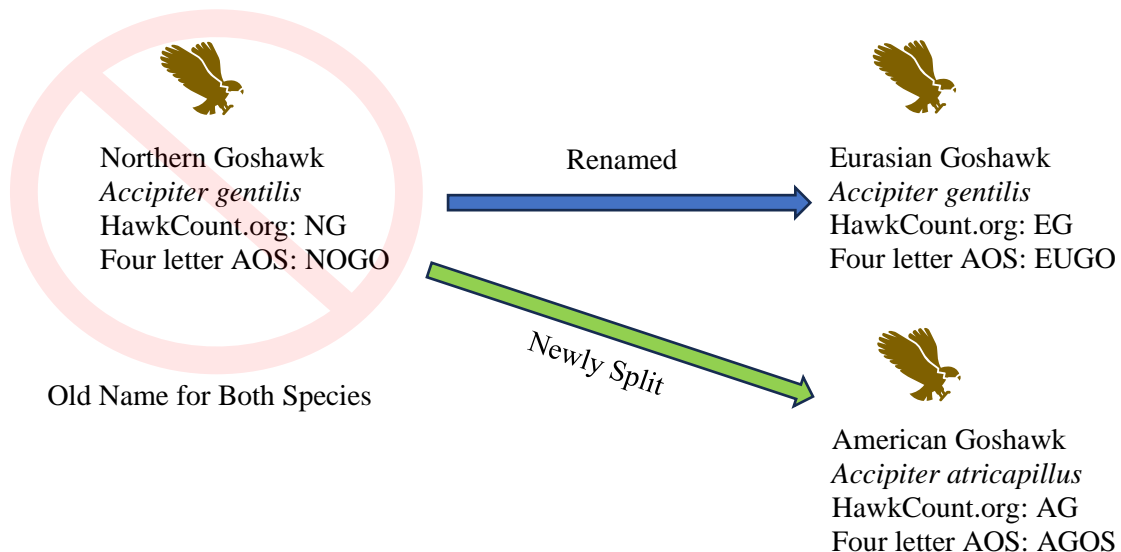
The Northern Goshawk, designated on HawkCount.org as NG, is getting its name changed to the American Goshawk (AG). Recent studies of vocalization patterns, morphology, and genetics reveal differences that justified the splitting of the species into discrete members as determined by Cornell Lab of Ornithology and adopted by the American Ornithological Society (AOS).

Technically, the American Goshawk (*Accipiter atricapillus*) is being split from the Northern Goshawk (*Accipiter gentilis*) which will now be called the Eurasian Goshawk (*Accipiter gentilis*).

It is important to remember that the raptors you have been counting have not changed, but rather, just their name. The new designation will distinguish the goshawks seen in North America from other goshawks found primarily on other continents (i.e., the Eurasian Goshawk).

Hawk counters should report the goshawks they count on HawkCount.org as AG – American Goshawk. These will be added to the counts from previous years that were designated as NG – Northern Goshawk, which will now be referred to as American Goshawks.

If this is confusing, just think of all of the goshawks that you have counted and have entered into HawkCount.org. They are all American Goshawks - AG.



Sincerely,
HMANA Data Committee
Contact Person: Brian M. Wargo, Committee Chair
wargo@hmana.org