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## A New Peruvian Race of *Crypturellus obsoletus*

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In recent years Chicago Natural History Museum has received from Celestino Kalinowski of Cuzco, Peru, a number of small but decidedly interesting collections of birds made in the Marcapata Valley, a source of the Río Inambari, which drains the eastern flank of the Andes in the Departments of Cuzco and Puno. While working over one of the earlier collections from Marcapata my associate, Mr. Melvin A. Traylor, noted that a single immature *Crypturellus* collected at San Andrés (2200 meters) June 8, 1951, differed considerably from any known species but the lack of adequate material discouraged formal action.

Recently two mature specimens of this bird were received in a collection made in the vicinity of Hacienda Cadena, some 20 kilometers from San Andrés and at a lower altitude (1400 meters). It is now certain that an undescribed tinamou of very distinctive appearance occupies the Subtropical Zone of the Marcapata Valley, and it is appropriate that this bird be named in honor of Mr. Traylor.

### *Crypturellus obsoletus traylori*, new subspecies

*Type*.—Chicago Natural History Museum No. 22971 (Conover Collection), from eight kilometers south of Hacienda Cadena, Marcapata Valley, Department of Cuzco, Peru. Altitude 1400 meters. Adult male collected September 5, 1960, by Celestino Kalinowski.

*Diagnosis*.—Nearest *C. o. punensis* (Chubb) of extreme southeastern Peru (north-central Puno) and Bolivia but sides of head and neck, and entire upper parts fuscous black; under parts much darker and more extensively chestnut; barring of the posterior flanks and lower belly blacker and more sharply defined.

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*Measurements.*—Male (type): wing, 151; exposed culmen,  $\pm$  22; tarsus, 43. Female: wing, 157; exposed culmen, 23; tarsus, 45.

*Range.*—Known only from San Andrés (altitude 2200 meters) and Hacienda Cadena (altitude 1400 meters) in the Subtropical Zone of the Marcapata Valley, Department of Cuzco, southeastern Peru.

*Discussion.*—The brown tinamou (*C. obsoletus*) of South America is a distinctive forest species characterized by brown or rufous upper parts, essentially ochraceous to chestnut under parts (pale buffy gray in *griseiventris*), and a fuscous (not black) head shading to pale gray on the throat. Barring is confined to the posterior under parts. The six forms recognized by Hellmayr and Conover (1942) are more or less isolated populations inhabiting the mountains of northwestern Venezuela, the eastern flank (chiefly) of the Andes south to Bolivia, the Río Tapajós, and northwestern Mato Grosso (Río Jamarý, Vilhena) south to eastern Paraguay, southeastern Brazil, and extreme northeastern Argentina (Misiones). Uniformity of plumage within the several races is usual, but *ochraceiventris* of Peru is relatively variable in respect to the brightness of the reddish upper parts and the extent of the ochraceous coloring on the under parts.

Two Peruvian races have virtually contiguous ranges in the Cuzco-Puno region but the characters of each appear to be retained with little or no modification even by populations in closest proximity. The northernmost form (*ochraceiventris*), distinguished by its distinctly chestnut rufous upper parts, is known both from the mountains of Huánuco, Junín, and Ayacucho, and from the lowlands of extreme eastern Cuzco (Balceadero, Río Nusiniscato) in the vicinity of Quincemil, lower Marcapata Valley. Birds from Ayacucho (Monterico) are said to form the transition to *punensis* but both Balceadero specimens in Chicago Natural History Museum agree well with more northern examples of *ochraceiventris* although the two specimens come from a locality scarcely 80 miles distant from the type locality of brown-backed *punensis*.

The black dorsal plumage of *traylori* is an abrupt and complete departure from the brown or rufous coloring common to all other races of *C. obsoletus*. As no bird of similar plumage has been found in other populations of this species it is unlikely that melanism accounts for the appearance of *traylori*. In saturation of its chestnut under parts the type of *traylori* is unmatched by any specimen of *C. obsoletus* that I have examined, but the somewhat paler female (same date and locality) agrees very well ventrally with exceptionally dark and richly colored individuals of both *ochraceiventris* (male,



Chinchao, Peru) and *punensis* (female, Incachaca, Bolivia) in Chicago Natural History Museum. It is noteworthy that the unique characters of *traylori* are evident even in immature birds, as shown by the plumage of a half-grown male (San Andrés) which differs from *ochraceiventris* and *punensis* of comparable age exactly as do the respective adults.

The status of *traylori*, whether a distinct species or but a well-marked race of *C. obsoletus*, is at present uncertain. Its presence in the Marcapata Valley, where another race of *obsoletus* also occurs (at a slightly lower altitude), strongly favors the former concept. However, the appearance of sympatry between *traylori* and *C. o. ochraceiventris* may be misleading, for the topography of the Cuzco-Puno region is so complex that the two populations may not, in fact, come into contact. For this reason I am inclined to consider *traylori* a race of *C. obsoletus* until more is known of its distribution.

SPECIMENS EXAMINED

*C. o. cerviniventris*.—Venezuela: La Azulita, Mérida, 1.

*C. o. castaneus*.—Ecuador: Concepción, Loreto, 1.

*C. o. ochraceiventris*.—Peru: Chinchao, Huánuco, 1; Chanchamayo, Junín, 5; Balceadero and Juajyumbé, lower Marcapata Valley, Cuzco, 3.

*C. o. traylori*.—Peru: San Andrés and Hacienda Cadena, middle Marcapata Valley, Cuzco, 3.

*C. o. punensis*.—Bolivia: Incachaca, Cochabamba, 9.

*C. o. griseiventris*.—Brazil: Santarém, Pará, 1; Caxiricatuba and Tauary, Río Tapajós, 5.

*C. o. obsoletus*.—Brazil: Fazenda Cayoá, São Paulo, 5; Puerto Segundo, Baía, 1; Río Grande, 1; Jaguariahyva, Paraná, 2.—Argentina: Santa Ana, Gisela, and Eldorado, Misiones, 6.—Paraguay: Santa Barbara, 1.

REFERENCE

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