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# BULLETIN

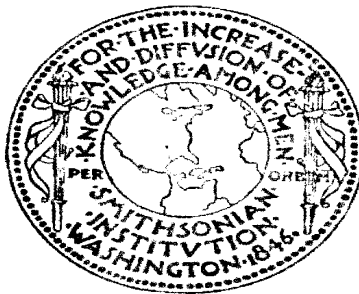
OF THE

UNITED STATES NATIONAL MUSEUM.

No. 50.

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PART VI.



WASHINGTON:

GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE.

1914.

eyebrows, lores, and "cravat" under chin white; lower parts white, marked with ragged, rather longitudinal, blotches of pale brownish or rusty, finely mottled with darker.

*Range*.—Desert region of southwestern United States and northwestern and central Mexico; Socorro Island, Revillagigedo group, off western Mexico. (Two species.)

KEY TO THE SPECIES AND SUBSPECIES OF *MICROPALLAS*.

a. General color of upper parts brownish gray or grayish brown; lighter bands on tail narrower, much paler buffy (white on inner webs); under parts with much more of white. (*Micropallas whitneyi*.)

b. Upper parts browner; under parts conspicuously blotched with cinnamon. (Southeastern California to southwestern New Mexico and Sonora.)

*Micropallas whitneyi whitneyi* (p. 807).

bb. Upper parts grayer; under parts not conspicuously (often not at all) blotched with cinnamon.

c. Paler, especially the markings on under parts, which have relatively less of white; wing shorter (averaging 105.5 in male). (Southern Lower California.)

*Micropallas whitneyi sanfordi* (p. 809).

cc. Darker, especially the markings on under parts, which have relatively more of white; wing longer (averaging 109.5 in male). (Lower Rio Grande Valley; south to east-central Mexico?)

*Micropallas whitneyi idoneus* (p. 810).

aa. General color of upper parts olive-brown; lighter bands on tail broader, deep cinnamon-buff; under parts with much less of white. (Socorro Island, western Mexico.).....*Micropallas graysoni* (p. 810)

**MICROPALLAS WHITNEYI WHITNEYI (Cooper).**

ELF OWL.

*Grayer phase.*

*Adults (sexes alike)*.—General color of upper parts brownish gray to grayish brown, the pileum, hindneck, back, scapulars, rump, upper tail-coverts, and lesser wing-coverts with more or less distinct small irregular spots of buff or pale tawny, these larger and deeper pale tawny or cinnamon-buff on forehead; an interrupted narrow collar of white across lower hindneck; outer webs of scapulars mostly white, margined terminally with blackish; middle and greater wing-coverts with a large, semi-ovoid spot of white on terminal or subterminal portion of outer web; secondaries crossed by about five series of semicircular spots of pale cinnamon-buff, these passing into white on outer edge; primary coverts with three series of dull cinnamon-buff spots; outer webs of primaries with about six conspicuous spots of cinnamon-buff (those on distal primaries more or less extensively white exteriorly), these not touching shafts; tail crossed by about four or five narrow, interrupted bands of pale brownish buffy or buffy and white, these not reaching shaft on either web; "eyebrow" (superciliary region) white, the feathers narrowly tipped with black; "face" (loral, suborbital, and auricular regions) cinnamon to cinnamon-buff, the last sometimes partly dull rusty whitish; a white malar or

Desert areas of southeastern California (San Bernardino County; Kern County?; Whetstone Mountains; Colorado River), Arizona (Fort Mojave; Fort Lowell; Tucson; Rillito Creek, near Tucson; Fuller's Ranch; Big Sandy Creek; Benson; Dragoon Mountains; Santa Cruz River, Pima County; Pinal County), southwestern New Mexico (Apache, Grant County), and Sonora (Cerro Blanco).

*Athene whitneyi* COOPER, Proc. Calif. Ac. Sci., ii, 1861, 118 (Ft. Mojave, Arizona; coll. Calif. Geol. Survey).—COUES, Ibis, 1866, 260, in text.

[*Athene*] *whitneyi* GRAY, Hand-list, i, 1869, 43, no. 435.

*Micrathene whitneyi* COUES, Proc. Ac. Nat. Sci. Phila., 1866, 51 (Ft. Mojave, Arizona); Check List, 1873, no. 331; Birds Northwest, 1874, 320.—ELLIOT, Illustr. New and Unfig. Am. Birds, i, 1868, pl. 29 and text.—COOPER, Orn. Calif., 1870, 442 (Ft. Mojave, Arizona).—RIDGWAY, in Baird, Brewer, and Ridgway, Hist. N. Am. Birds, iii, 1874, 87, part; Am. Nat., viii, 1874, 239 (Rillito Creek, near Tucson, Arizona); Proc. U. S. Nat. Mus., iii, 1880, 192; Nom. N. Am. Birds, 1881, no. 411.—SHARPE, Cat. Birds Brit. Mus., ii, 1875, 224.—BREWSTER, Bull. Nutt. Orn. Club, vii, 1883, 27 (Camp Lowell, Arizona; descr. young, nest, and eggs, etc.).—AMERICAN ORNITHOLOGISTS' UNION, Check List, 1886, no. 381, part.—SCOTT, Auk, iii, 1886, 424 (Pima and Pinal counties, Arizona).

[*Micrathene*] *whitneyi* COUES, Key N. Am. Birds, 1872, 207, part.—SCLATER and SALVIN, Nom. Av. Neotr., 1873, 117, part.

[*Micrathene*] *whitneyi* COUES, Key N. Am. Birds, 2d ed., 1884, 576, part.—RIDGWAY, Man. N. Am. Birds, 1887, 267, part.

*Micropallas whitneyi* AMERICAN ORNITHOLOGISTS' UNION COMMITTEE, Suppl. to Check List, [March] 1889, 21, part; Check List, abridged ed., 1889, and 2d ed., 1895, no. 381, part; 3d ed., 1910, 178, part.—ANTHONY, Auk, ix, 1892, 362 (Apache, s. w. New Mexico).—BENDIRE, Life Hist. N. Am. Birds, (i), 1892, 411, pl. 12, fig. 13 (egg).—RIDGWAY, Condor, iv, 1902, 18 (Kern Co., California, May 10, 1882).—LOOMIS, Auk, xix, 1902, 80 (San Bernardino Co., California, April 20, 1898).—BROWN (H.), Auk, xx, 1903, 43, 44 (Colorado Valley, Arizona).—SMITH (A. P.), Condor, ix, 1907, 197 (Whetstone Mts., California, up to 5,000 ft.).—VISHER, Auk, xxvii, 1910, 281 (Pima Co., Arizona).

*M[icropallas] whitneyi* RIDGWAY, Man. N. Am. Birds, 2d ed., 1896, 267, part.

[*Micropallas*] *whitneyi* SHARPE, Hand-list, i, 1899, 299, part.

#### MICROPALLAS WHITNEYI SANFORDI Ridgway.<sup>a</sup>

##### SANFORD'S ELF OWL.

Similar to *M. w. whitneyi*, but much grayer above and (in the gray phase, at least) with much less of cinnamon-buff on face and little if any rusty brown or cinnamon on under parts; gray phase with ground color of upper parts between mouse gray and hair brown, without distinct, if any, darker vermiculations; brown phase similar in coloration to the grayer phase of *M. w. whitneyi* but slightly darker; wing averaging decidedly shorter, tail averaging longer.

<sup>a</sup> New subspecies. (Type, no. 234166, adult male, coll. U. S. Nat. Mus., Miraflores, Lower California, June 24, 1912; W. W. Brown, jr. Presented by Dr. L. C. Sanford.)

*Adult male*.—Length (skins), 124–142 (133); wing, 99–109.5 (105.5); tail, 47.5–53 (50); culmen, from cere, 8–9 (8.5).<sup>a</sup>

*Adult female*.—Length (skins), 115–139 (129); wing, 102–109.2 (104.9); tail, 45.5–52.5 (49.2); culmen, from cere, 8–9.5 (8.7).<sup>a</sup>

Southern Lower California (Miraflores; Victoria Mountains).

*Micrathene whitneyi* (not *Athene whitneyi* Cooper) BELDING, Proc. U. S. Nat. Mus., v, 1883, 549 (Miraflores, s. Lower California; notes).—AMERICAN ORNITHOLOGISTS' UNION, Check List, 1886, no. 381, part.

*M[icrathene] whitneyi* COUES, Key N. Am. Birds, 2d ed., 1884, 576, part.—RIDGWAY, Man. N. Am. Birds, 1887, 267, part.

*Micropallas whitneyi* AMERICAN ORNITHOLOGISTS' UNION COMMITTEE, Suppl. to Check List, 1889, 21, part; Check List, abridged ed., 1889, and 2d ed., 1895, no. 381, part; 3d ed., 1910, 178, part.—BRYANT (W. E.), Proc. Calif. Ac. Sci., ser. 2, ii, 1889, 285 (Victoria Mts. and Miraflores, s. Lower California).—BREWSTER, Bull. Mus. Comp. Zool., xli, pt. i, 1902, 99 (Miraflores, Lower California; crit.).

#### MICROPALLAS WHITNEYI IDONEUS Ridgway.<sup>b</sup>

##### TEXAN ELF OWL.

Similar to *M. w. sanfordi* in grayness of upper parts and absence of distinct cinnamonaceous blotches on under parts, but under parts with more white and with markings darker.

*Adult male*.—Length (skins), 136–139 (137.5); wing, 108.5–110.5 (109.5); tail, 49.5–50 (49.7); culmen, from cere, 8.5–9 (8.7).<sup>c</sup>

Lower Rio Grande Valley in Texas (Hidalgo, Hidalgo County; Brownsville, Cameron County); south to Puebla (San Salvador el Verde; Tehuacán), Valley of Mexico, and Guanajuato, east-central Mexico?<sup>d</sup>

(?) *Micrathene whitneyi* (not *Athene whitneyi* Cooper?) FERRARI-PEREZ, Proc. U. S. Nat. Mus., ix, 1886, 165 (San Salvador el Verde, Puebla; Guanajuato).

*Micropallas whitneyi* SENNETT, Auk, vi, 1889, 276 (Hidalgo, Texas, April 5, 1889).—SALVIN and GODMAN, Biol. Centr.-Am., Aves, iii, 1897, 37, part (Guanajuato; Valley of Mexico; San Salvador el Verde, Puebla).

#### MICROPALLAS GRAYSONI (Ridgway).

##### SOCORRO ELF OWL.

Similar to *M. whitneyi*, but coloration much browner (the plumage without any gray admixture), "eyebrows" and lores cinnamon-buff (instead of white), subauricular or post-malar patch buffy (instead

<sup>a</sup> Five specimens.

<sup>b</sup> New subspecies. (Type, no. 80966, adult male, coll. American Museum, five miles from Hidalgo, Texas, April 5, 1889; F. B. Armstrong.)

<sup>c</sup> Two specimens.

<sup>d</sup> Specimens, representing each of the above-mentioned Mexican localities, may be referable to this form. One from Puebla is somewhat darker, however, than the two Texan examples; but without a larger series of specimens the status of Mexican birds can not be determined. (Measurements are given on p. 808.)