

GENERAL NOTES

Type locality of *Perisoreus canadensis capitalis* Ridgway.—The A. O. U. Check-List (Fourth ed., 1931) gives the type locality of *Perisoreus canadensis capitalis* as "Henry's Fork and Ft. Benton, Wyoming Terr. = Henry's Fork, southwestern corner of Sweetwater Co., Wyoming." The original description by Ridgway [Bull. Essex Inst., 5 (no. 11): 193, 1873] also lists the type locality as "Henry's Fork, Wyoming Terr.; F. V. Hayden."

Review of available records and other data discloses that for his 1873 paper, Ridgway had two specimens or cotypes of his new race of Rocky Mountain Jay. These were an adult and an immature specimen that was labeled "juv." and "young of year." The immature specimen, U. S. National Museum catalog number 18,440, was collected by Dr. J. A. Mullan on April 23, 1860, west of Fort Benton, Montana; the adult, U. S. National Museum catalog number 61,084, was collected on October 2, 1870, by Dr. F. V. Hayden's Rocky Mountain Expedition on Henry's Fork, which this paper will show to be in northeastern Utah rather than in Wyoming as indicated by the Check-List. Both specimens were mentioned in the same report by Mr. Ridgway. Inasmuch as the adult was treated first in his report and was the specimen upon which the principal description was based (and because an adult, rather than a constantly changing juvenile, is usually selected as a type or typical specimen) it seems not unreasonable to restrict the type locality to the place where the adult was collected despite the earlier date of the juvenile's collection.

The original label of the adult cotype in the National Museum states merely that the specimen was taken at Henry's Fork, without indicating the state or territory. The subsequently prepared red type label, however, lists the locality as "Henry's Fork, Wyoming Terr.; F. V. Hayden." The original printed label says, "F. V. Hayden, In Charge," without indicating who collected the bird. The Museum catalog, however, shows that the bird was received from F. V. Hayden but was collected on October 2, 1870, by H. D. Schmidt, who was an assistant to Dr. Hayden on the expedition.

A review of any good atlas will show that Henry's Fork originates in the Uinta Mountains of Summit County in northeastern Utah, flows in a northeasterly direction across the Utah-Wyoming line, and then winds eastward through southern Wyoming, re-entering Utah just before the junction with Green River. The habitat most favorable for the Rocky Mountain Jay is the portion of this area that lies south of the Utah-Wyoming boundary; the Wyoming portion is at a lower elevation, is much more level, and is largely destitute of tree growth where traversed by Dr. Hayden's expedition.

According to Dr. Hayden's annual report (U. S. Geological Survey, Preliminary Report on Wyoming and Portions of Contiguous Territories, chapter 5: 54-56, 1871) he and his party left Fort Bridger (about 22 miles north of the Utah-Wyoming border) by pack train on the morning of October 1, 1870, and during that day passed from Smith's Fork to Henry's Fork and up this stream to the foothills of the high Uintas, 29 miles south of Fort Bridger. On the following day (October 2) the party proceeded up Henry's Fork, riding "up to a point above the limits of arborescent vegetation . . . to a point 12,265 feet above the sea, and ascended to the summit of Gilbert's Peak." That night, at an elevation of 9,833 feet, they camped in an open meadow "at the source of one of the branches of Henry's Fork." During this day the party collected the specimen of the Rocky Mountain Jay that

later became one of the cotypes of *P. c. capitalis*. Other mountain forms were collected during the same day and included *Melospiza l. lincolni*, *Sitta canadensis*, *Penthestes atricapillus septentrionalis*, and *Corthylio calendula*.

From the evidence at hand it seems clear that the entire day was spent in Utah; consequently, the restricted type locality for *Perisoreus canadensis capitalis* should be listed as Henry's Fork, Utah.—ANGUS M. WOODBURY, *University of Utah, Salt Lake City, Utah*, AND CLARENCE COTTAM, *U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service*.

Records of Sharp-tailed Sparrows from Maryland and Virginia in the National Museum.—The description of the James Bay Sharp-tailed Sparrow as a distinct race by Todd,¹ and other recently published observations on the subspecies of this marsh sparrow have made it desirable to check the material in the United States National Museum with the new information that is now available. I now recognize five forms. To correct previously published records for these birds from Maryland, the revised identifications are listed below under the names I now accept; to these I have added records for other specimens in our collection from Virginia and the District of Columbia as a matter of interest to ornithologists in these sections.

Ammospiza caudacuta diversa

Maryland: Ocean City, April 29, 1929, August 13, 1926, October 6, 1928, November 9, 1929; Cornfield Harbor (on Potomac River, one mile above its mouth at Point Lookout), April 24, 1932, October 13, 1929; Chesapeake Beach, July 4, 1929; Green Run Inlet, August 22, 1937.

Virginia: Smith's Island, May 14, 1910, December 18, 1898; Wallops Island, May 27 and 28, 1913.

This very distinct race is the breeding form of the coastal area north, according to Montagna, to Rehoboth and Bethany Beach, and probably to Lewes, Delaware, and Tuckerton, New Jersey. The specimens recorded above from Wallops Island, taken by W. L. McAtee, constitute another southern nesting record. The two males obtained were breeding birds, as in June, 1913, with Mr. McAtee, I examined the bodies preserved in alcohol. A juvenile specimen taken on Pea Island, North Carolina, by Dr. Paul Bartsch has been recorded (Wilson Bull., 54: 256, 1942) through a misunderstanding as this race but proves to be the Seaside Sparrow (*Ammospiza m. maritima*), and there is question as to whether the bird breeds that far south. The Wallops Island record by McAtee may be near the southern nesting limit.

Ammospiza caudacuta caudacuta

Maryland: Cornfield Harbor, October 13, 1929.

Virginia: Smith's Island, December 18, 20, and 22, 1898.

This migrant from farther north should be common in the coastal marshes at the proper season.

Ammospiza caudacuta subvirgata

Maryland: Cornfield Harbor, October 13, 1929.

This bird also should be regular in migration.

Ammospiza caudacuta altera

Maryland: Ocean City, November 9, 1929; Cornfield Harbor, October 4, 1931.

Virginia: Four Mile Run, near Alexandria, Alexandria County, September 18, 1893.

¹ *Ammospiza caudacuta altera* Todd, Auk, 55: 117, 1938 (East Main, James Bay, Quebec). For discussion see Oberholser, H. C., Bull. Dept. Cons. State of Louisiana, 28: 652, 1938; Montagna, W., Wilson Bull., 54: 107-120, 1942; and Peters, J. L., Ann. Carnegie Mus., 29: 201-210, 1942.