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A NEW ALASKAN RACE OF THE WINTER WRE

By Ira N. Gabrielson and Frederick C. Lincoln

In identifying Winter Wrens from Alaska a series of six skins in the Gabrielson collection appear to belong to a previously undescribed race which we have designated as

> Trogolodytes trogloydtes seguamensis sub. nov. Seguam Winter Wren

Type-No. 5614 (Collection Ira N. Gabrielson), a male collected on Seguam, June 30, 1946.

This is the palest and grayest of all the Aleutian races. In the skins available, the dark tips to the flank feathers are fewer and more scattered than in other races and the breast and belly are gray with little or no rufescence. The back is a lighter (less rufescent) brown than petrophilus to the east and more like tanagensis to the west, while the underparts are paler than either.

The six specimens on which this race is based, are all in worn breeding plumage. They were taken by Gabrielson as follows: A pair from Seguam, June 30, 1946; 2 females from Amukta, July 1, 1946; and a pair from Yunaska, June 24, 1946.

Average measurements:

2 males—wing 52.75—tail 29.00—exposed culmen—15.25 mm.

4 females—wing 48.25—tail 23.25—exposed culmen—14.94 mm.

Eight adults in comparable plumage from the Islands of the Four Mountains are somewhat more ochraceous on the underparts than these six birds from farther west. They are not as rufescent on the back as the birds from Unalaska, being more the color of tanagensis. They are, therefore, somewhat intermediate in color between the type of this race and petrophilus, but have the longer bill of this race.

Average of 6 males—wing 52.08—tail—26.00—exposed culmen 15.25

Average of 2 females—wing 46.25—tail—25.50—exposed culmen 14.00

The tails of all specimens are badly worn, so this measurement is not significant. Accordingly, although they are not quite as pale as the type of seguamensis, the length of the culmen-when compared with an average of 13.8 of ten males and 13.0 of three females of petrophilus -indicates that they belong to the former race and are so classified.



Gabrielson, Ira Noel and Lincoln, Frederick Charles. 1951. "A new Alaskan race of the winter wren." *Proceedings of the Biological Society of Washington* 64, 73–73.

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