

northwestern Sonora; I measured a sample from Puerto Peñasco, Sonora, which is not included in the figures as I have only nine male and four female specimens. On the basis of my specimens, these have somewhat smaller bills than *P. s. atratus*. I feel that we should defer changing the taxonomy of the saltmarsh Savannah Sparrows until additional information is available.

In conclusion, I see no justification in retaining either *P. s. oblitus* or *P. s. brooksi*. Careful field work along the coast of northern California is needed to clarify the status of the saltmarsh birds there. Many of the other subspecies are poorly differentiated, and all of the geographic variation among the non-saltmarsh localities is clinal. A careful analysis of plumage variation is needed. I suspect that it will appear reasonable to recognize only three subspecies of non-saltmarsh Savannah Sparrows, *P. s. sandwichensis* (large size), *P. s. savanna* (typical Savannah Sparrows), and *P. s. princeps* (large and pallid). However, because *P. s. sandwichensis* merges clinally into *P. s. savanna* (as defined above), I would prefer to recognize only two subspecies of non-saltmarsh Savannah Sparrows, *P. s. sandwichensis* and *P. s. princeps*. As mentioned in the introduction, a preliminary study (Zink et al. 1991) suggests that the large-billed Savannah Sparrows (*P. S. rostratus*) may be specifically distinct; the same may be true for "Belding's" sparrows. Biochemical studies (J. D. Rising and R. M. Zink, in prep.) of the typical Savannah Sparrows may help us better understand the relationships among the populations.

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